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SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING

HELD:

Tuesday, March 16, 2010

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:

JANET EVANS, PRESIDENT
(Not present)

PAT ROGAN, VICE-PRESIDENT

ROBERT MCGOFF
(Not present)

FRANK JOYCE

JOHN LOSCOMBE

NANCY KRAKE, CITY CLERK

CATHY CARRERA, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

BOYD HUGHES, SOLICITOR

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

3 MR. ROGAN: Roll call, please.

4 MS. CARRERA: Mr. McGoff. Mr.
5 Rogan.

6 MR. ROGAN: Here.

7 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Loscombe.

8 MR. LOSCOMBE: Here.

9 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Joyce.

10 MR. JOYCE: Here.

11 MS. CARRERA: Mrs. Evans.

12 MR. ROGAN: Just for the record, I
13 received a call from Mrs. Evans who was
14 unable to attend the meeting tonight due
15 to physical limitations. And I also
16 received a note from the Mr. McGoff who has
17 a family illness and will also not attend
18 today. Please dispense with the reading of
19 the minutes.

20 MS. KRAKE: THIRD ORDER. 3-A.
21 ZONING HEARING BOARD DECISIONS RENDERED AT
22 THE MEETING HELD MARCH 10, 2010.

23 MR. ROGAN: Are there any comments?
24 If not, received and filed. Mrs. Krake, do
25 we have clerk's notes this week?

1 MS. KRAKE: Yes, we do. We have
2 several responses. Some of them are very
3 lengthy, so I'll just give a brief summary
4 of them, but they will be available in the
5 clerk's office and council does have a copy
6 of all of them.

7 The first response is from Electric
8 City Television. In response to our
9 questions regarding program guide they tell
10 us the audio program guide runs in
11 ten-minute intervals on our community
12 calendar. Currently the guide displays the
13 next four programs in the cue. We are
14 working with Televue to develop an enhanced
15 on-air program guide that will display the
16 next 24 hours of programming. We will also
17 feature an extended two to three-day program
18 grid on our website.

19 Regarding our live web streaming and
20 video on demand. In March 2009, Electric
21 City TV applied and was subsequently
22 approved for a state grant to purchase the
23 necessary equipment to encode and host video
24 content on our website. At the time of
25 this letter, we are still waiting to receive

1 the funds from the state to implement life
2 web streaming of all our programming.

3 Regarding the audio of Scranton City
4 Council meetings, Scranton Council meetings
5 are monitored from the live broadcast on
6 Channel 19. Audio is taken from the
7 in-house sound system, fed to our mixer and
8 goes out directly over the air. Adjustments
9 are made for individuals who speak either
10 too close or too far from the microphone.
11 However, if a speaker has their microphone
12 completely turned off we must rely on the
13 signal from the nearest open mic causing
14 sound levels to be lower and often times
15 distorted. Every effort is made to keep the
16 audio level as even as possible across the
17 nine microphone setup. This is from Mark
18 Migliore, executive director of ECTV.

19 Our next answer is from Attorney
20 Paul Kelly who represents the Civil Service
21 Commission. At the Civil Service
22 Commission's March 10 meeting, the
23 commission directed him to respond. He did
24 call our office on March 8 and he did tell
25 us that the commission did not meet in

1 February due to closure of city hall on the
2 10th and lack of quorum on the reconvene
3 date of February 16, hence the delay in this
4 response.

5 Further, he has been directed by the
6 commission to advise you that any future
7 requests for information that is plainly
8 posted on the Commission's bulletin board
9 located in city hall across from the fire
10 chief's office will be responded to by
11 advising the requester to retrieve the
12 information itself from the bulletin board.

13 So, I think he is saying that if we
14 are going to ask for something that's on the
15 board we should first look at the board,
16 however, I don't know how we would know
17 what's on the board, but enclosed he has the
18 current active police promotion list and a
19 copy of the commission's August 8, 2008,
20 resolution setting the minimum passing
21 scores for both written and oral
22 examinations. So we do have all of this
23 backup here, which we are not going to read
24 this evening.

25 MR. ROGAN: Okay, great.

1 MS. KRAKE: Our next response is
2 from Chief Elliott: "Today I received a
3 copy of the letter Mayor Doherty requesting
4 a meeting with me. I am willing to sit down
5 and discuss any concerns you have regarding
6 public safety. Please contact his secretary
7 to setup a meeting."

8 This was are cc'd to John Loscombe
9 and Stephanie Walker, who is the mayor's
10 secretary.

11 Our next response is also from chief
12 Elliott. This is subject is an abandoned
13 vehicle. He says, "I received your letter
14 dated March 5, 2010, regarding a reported
15 abandoned vehicle in front of the 1318 South
16 Irving Avenue. There is a procedure in
17 place for handling abandoned vehicles and I
18 will have officers follow the procedures/law
19 regarding such rather than be given an order
20 of what to do by council. Thank you for the
21 information. Chief."

22 MR. ROGAN: Well, I hope that the
23 chief would address the problem.

24 MS. KRAKE: Yes. Our next response
25 is from the Scranton Parking Authority.

1 This is concerning Buona Pizza. He is
2 instructed -- this is from, excuse me,
3 Robert Scopelitti, the executive director of
4 the Parking Authority. He says he has
5 instructed his enforcement officers to
6 monitor, as they always have, and he is
7 enclosed a list of tickets issued in that
8 area and a log sheet. Please be advised
9 that we are down to four enforcement
10 officers and they cover the downtown area
11 along with the three hospitals. When Buona
12 Pizza calls he wants them there immediately
13 and that's not always possible. We will
14 continue to monitor this problem.

15 MR. ROGAN: Okay.

16 MS. KRAKE: Our next request -- or
17 excuse me, our next response is from the
18 Parking Authority and they are letting us
19 know that due to the extensive nature of our
20 request concerning the prospectuses on the
21 bond issue that they will expect to respond
22 within the next 30 days.

23 MR. ROGAN: Thirty days?

24 MS. KRAKE: Yes.

25 MR. ROGAN: Okay.

1 MS. KRAKE: And actually they name
2 the date. "Please expect a response by
3 April 5, "and advising us that we will have
4 a cost for copies of 25 cents per page.

5 Next we have a response from Daron
6 Northeast. Daron Northeast is no longer
7 manufacturing the product out of the
8 Scranton location. All of the manufacturing
9 equipment has been relocated. The company
10 had a great deal of inventory in Scranton,
11 therefore, it has taken quite a bit of time
12 to arrange that material and transport it.

13 As evidence of the significant
14 decrease in product at the present time that
15 process is still going on and we will
16 continue to work to remove the remaining
17 items out of the location. And that's
18 signed by Daron Northeast Ownership.

19 MR. ROGAN: Okay.

20 MS. KRAKE: Finally, we have a
21 response from the Scranton Sewer Authority
22 that I will very briefly describe. Actually
23 they answered our letter very clearly and
24 very precisely, and as you can see provided
25 a lot of backup, and this will be in the

1 council office for whoever would like to
2 look at it.

3 The first point of interest, they
4 tell us there are two major projects being
5 undertaken by the Scranton Sewer Authority
6 in both the short and long-term. The first
7 project is the Chesapeake Bay project, which
8 they go onto describe. Next, is the second
9 project -- excuse me, the second project is
10 the combined sewer overflow strategy, which
11 also they go and to describe in length.

12 They are responding to our second
13 point of the interest, which was the number
14 of employees. They say two employees were
15 hired in 2002; one in 2003; two in 2004; ten
16 in 2005; 13 in 2006; 13 in 2007; 12 in 2008
17 and 12 in 2009. There have not been any
18 employees hired during 2010. During the
19 same period 20 employees left the employment
20 of the Scranton Sewer Authority. And he
21 goes onto describe some of those issues
22 there.

23 Also, when they say the Scranton
24 Sewer Authority has been unable -- or has
25 been able to undertake much the work

1 in-house because of the increase in manpower
2 and capital equipment additions.

3 Lastly, a civil suit was filed by
4 the EPA against the Scranton Sewer Authority
5 on September 29, 2009. The Sewer Authority
6 intends to aggressively defend itself
7 against this lawsuit and this effort is
8 underway.

9 And that's all we have.

10 MR. ROGAN: Thank you, Mrs. Krake.
11 FOURTH ORDER. The first speaker is Andy
12 Sbaraglia.

13 MR. SBARAGLIA: Andy Sbaraglia,
14 citizen of Scranton. Fellow Scrantonians,
15 we are up to 7-B I guess is on the agenda
16 for final passage. I was here originally
17 and I stood at this podium hen they actually
18 went from ten 10,000 to 20,000. As I stated
19 before, since that time our findings has
20 deteriorated in this city. This is the
21 first step and one of the first steps to get
22 us out of distressed status, to keep track
23 of where our money is going. Like I always
24 said, it's like your house. You gotta try
25 to keep it within your means. The city has

1 not done that. I am glad you are finally
2 getting around to trying to correct some of
3 it.

4 You mentioned the Sewer Authority,
5 when does an authority become a public
6 utility? As you know, when Mr. Barrett was
7 here he said that we took in a lot of sewage
8 from a lot of different areas outside of the
9 city, outside of Dunmore. I was just
10 wondering, when does the authority become a
11 utility? I mean, if you taking in quite a
12 bit from everywhere else you are no longer
13 Scranton Sewer Authority, you may be a
14 public utility. I wish somebody would look
15 into that and see what it is if we get the
16 status of that. Are they an authority or
17 are they a utility?

18 There is lot of things you could say
19 about the city, but like I said before,
20 things are starting to go in the right
21 direction. That's the best thing I can say.
22 It's been a long time coming. I mean, I've
23 went through a lot, a lot of councils, and I
24 have watched what happens in the city, I
25 watched give-aways. We sold our golf course

1 that was generating money for the city, and
2 the money is gone. All that money they got
3 for the golf course has been gone. What did
4 they do with it, they made some improvements
5 up at Nay Aug, but them improvements are not
6 going to last. They got to be kept up and
7 that means you have a liability up at Nay
8 Aug and you are going to have to spend a lot
9 of money just to keep that park like it is,
10 but the money could have came from the golf
11 course, that money was generated they told
12 me up to a quarter of a million dollars,
13 sometimes even more into the city coffers.
14 Why they sold it, I'll never know.

15 There is a lot of other things that
16 went up. Have you been noticing our
17 government has been selling off a lot of
18 public assets which I strictly am against.
19 I know you can't do anything about the
20 county, and you can't do a lot about what
21 was done in the city because it's been done
22 and you weren't there, but when you sell off
23 a public asset you are taking money from the
24 people of Scranton that they have put their
25 life into, their savings into it, and

1 selling it off and a lot of it was a give
2 away. Central was a give away, but like I
3 say, you had nothing to do with that, but
4 still it falls back on the taxpayers. No
5 matter what you give away eventually it
6 falls back on the taxpayers and it's just
7 ashamed that I watched a lot of the assets of
8 the city be squandered, but I thank you
9 anyway.

10 MR. ROGAN: Thank you. Mike Murphy.

11 MR. MURPHY: Hi. My name is Mike
12 Murphy, I'm a resident of Scranton. I
13 appeared before council last year to promote
14 the idea of community gardens and appeal to
15 the public for their participation in
16 support of the same. Here tonight I would
17 like to publically acknowledge and thank the
18 people and parties that made two such
19 gardens possible last year and very quickly.
20 For land, Catholic Social Services,
21 Monsignor Joe Kelly and Steve Monsilla. For
22 a garden at Valley View Terrace, Scranton
23 Housing Authority. We had three entities
24 contributing money, Citizen's, Gerrity's and
25 Penn Security for a total of \$375, a \$175

1 was spent and 200 left over that we hope to
2 use for seed money for this year.

3 For materials everything from
4 fertilizer to flowers, from potting soil to
5 seed, I'd like to thank the following:
6 Blooming Idiots, Eckle's Farm, Floral Haven,
7 Flower Tent, Flowers by Betty, Georgetti's,
8 the Mulberry Bush, and the Greenridge
9 Assembly of God.

10 People responsible for the logistics
11 and support of that kind of progress
12 coordinating the all of the contributors in
13 the efforts I'd like to thank Sister Mary
14 Alice Jacquinet of the Friends of the Poor
15 and Sister Carlene Boulder.

16 For actual labor done for anything
17 from tilling the soil to planting I'd like
18 to thank Craig Evans of Clarity Sound
19 Protections who tilted one of our plots that
20 were made available and then the Career Link
21 students and volunteers at Valley View,
22 especially Bill Hoffer, for their
23 contributions.

24 I'd especially like to thank three
25 individuals that were instrumental in all of

1 this, everything from soliciting the funds
2 to those three previous entities I mentioned
3 to garnering contributions of flowers and
4 plants to actual planting and all of the
5 physical labor involved and those are Susan
6 Conaboy, Mary Beth Webber and Cathy
7 Schneider, so I'd like to offer my thanks to
8 them and offer to join me in applauding
9 those people for their civic contributions.

10 If I could just say a couple of more
11 words about community gardens real quick.
12 That term has come to denote most familiarly
13 to people the idea of taking a large track
14 of land and subdividing it into parcels that
15 are then either leased or rented to
16 individuals usually to garnish some sort of
17 income, and I think that's a wonderful use
18 of land especially for city-owned or tax
19 delinquent properties, the revenues of which
20 could be then applied to outstanding tax
21 delinquencies. However, our focus is more
22 on families, groups and organizations, and
23 say that you are a homeowner or you and a
24 couple of your neighbors want to augment
25 your grocery list by putting in a garden,

1 give us a call, we'll help you with the site
2 assessment, soil, sampling and the actual
3 planting and all of the incidentals that go
4 along with the garden.

5 If you are a group or organization
6 we are also planning on offering seedling
7 workshops where you would grow your
8 seedlings for later transplanting into the
9 garden, avoiding the costs and also enjoying
10 the process of that, satisfaction of that
11 process.

12 I think this would be particularly
13 appealing to anybody, teachers or schools
14 that have land available because it could
15 integrate a lot of the principals that goes
16 into gardens, the botany involved, the seed
17 development and plant development or
18 biology, along to the math aspects needed to
19 consider in plotting out your garden with
20 plant size and spacing, to the environmental
21 sensibility or sensitivity we are hoping to
22 incorporate the kids.

23 If you have a church, you are a
24 member of a church and you would like to
25 have a garden for the benefit of your

1 congregation or if you could like to donate
2 some of it to area food kitchens, we would
3 be glad to be involved in those processes.

4 Bottom line is any organization,
5 there is plenty of schools that kids need to
6 do community service. If you affiliated
7 with a nursing home the benefits of
8 horticultural therapy are incalculable. If
9 are a Girl Scout Troop, Boy Scout Troop, if
10 you -- what our goal here is to take what is
11 generally considered unproductive areas,
12 teach people responsible organic gardening
13 principals and stewardship and transforming
14 them hopefully into areas, plots and
15 projects that we could be proud of here in
16 Scranton.

17 There is a lot of movement towards
18 this green stuff and there is a lot of
19 grants available. What I'm hoping to do is
20 move this to and invite people to take
21 initiative. If you want a seedling workshop
22 get --

23 MR. ROGAN: You can finish up.

24 MR. MURPHY: Can I use council as
25 far as some place to contact, that's the

1 only thing I'm --

2 MR. ROGAN: Sure.

3 MR. MURPHY: -- reluctant to give my
4 number out, but any parties that are
5 interested in a community garden of this
6 nature to contact council and then I'll call
7 numbers from you guys. Thanks for your
8 time.

9 MR. ROGAN: Thank you. Sounds good.
10 Les Spindler.

11 MR. SPINDLER: Good evening,
12 Council. Les Spindler, city resident and
13 homeowner. First of all, I want to echo
14 what Andy said about council. You are doing
15 a great job no matter what your critics are
16 saying on-line. I have been coming here for
17 nine years. This is the first council
18 that's really doing things for the taxpayer
19 and not doing things for what Mayor Doherty
20 and his rubber stampers want to. It will
21 take time from what's been done in the last
22 eight years, but keep up the good work. You
23 are doing a great job and good luck in
24 court.

25 MR. ROGAN: Thank you.

1 MR. JOYCE: Thank you.

2 MR. LOSCOMBE: Thank you.

3 MR. SPINDLER: As a taxpayer I was
4 very disheartened to hear what Mayor Doherty
5 said last week about all citizens' requests
6 have to go through him. As someone that's
7 running for an important seat like State
8 Senator, to me that's not very voter
9 friendly. You'd think in his position he
10 would be voter friendly and doing what's
11 right for the taxpayers, but that doesn't
12 sound like he wants to do that. So on
13 election day I hope everybody in this city
14 remembers that and doesn't vote for him for
15 Senator.

16 Moving on, something Mayor Doherty
17 said in the paper last week about the budget
18 cuts that council wants to do. He said --
19 suggesting the changes could risk the
20 health, safety and welfare of the city's
21 residents. After eight years of our police
22 and firefighters not having a raise, all of
23 a sudden Chris Doherty is concerned about
24 the safety of the citizens of this city? He
25 wasn't too concerned for the last eight

1 years. Now that council wants to cut the
2 budget, he is concerned about safety.

3 Also, he hired an incompetent police
4 chief that let's 13 police cars go out of
5 commission and not do anything about it.
6 That doesn't sound like the mayor's
7 concerned about safety. Also, the police
8 chief doesn't give the test to hire seven
9 beat officers which we are down now, we were
10 supposed to have 10, and we only have three.
11 Again, that doesn't sound like the mayor is
12 too concerned about safety.

13 I don't know what he taking about in
14 the newspaper. What council is doing isn't
15 go to hurt the safety of the citizens of
16 this city. They are more concerned with
17 saving the taxpayers money, and it will not
18 hurt the safety of the citizens. So, as I
19 said, keep up the good work, you are doing a
20 great job, and that's all I have this week.
21 Thank you.

22 MR. ROGAN: Thank you.

23 MR. LOSCOMBE: Thank you, Les.

24 MR. ROGAN: Jean Suetta.

25 MS. SUETTA: Jean Suetta. How you

1 are doing?

2 MR. LOSCOMBE: Hi.

3 MR. ROGAN: Good.

4 MS. SUETTA: Did anybody find out
5 the status of North Scranton?

6 MR. ROGAN: No, but I did find out
7 about Kildaire's for you. Not Kildaire's,
8 Molly Brannigan's.

9 MS. SUETTA: I read that in the
10 paper on page four and they answered my
11 question for your. Another thing, Cathy
12 Gavern that owns Stirna bought the building
13 next door to her, oh, maybe two years ago
14 and we ripped it down for her with the
15 condition that she was supposed to pave the
16 parking lot. Now, there is no paving of any
17 parking lot up there. I know Chief Elliott
18 is her son-in-law, but that is neither here
19 nor there.

20 Another thing I want to -- you know
21 the holes they fixed on Albright Avenue?
22 Boy, did they come back with a vengeance.
23 Now they twice as big and twice as deep.
24 That's how good of a job they did.

25 MR. ROGAN: I think we'll send

1 another letter to the DPW.

2 MS. SUETTA: Well, to the head?
3 They ain't gonna answer. You got to send it
4 to Doherty.

5 MR. ROGAN: We'll send it to Mayor
6 Doherty as well.

7 MS. SUETTA: I'll sign it.

8 MR. ROGAN: Okay.

9 MS. SUETTA: Another thing, I want
10 to thank everybody that come out to the
11 Irish Heart Association down at Lackawanna
12 County Stadium and help us make the
13 boutonnières and corsages for the people
14 that are in the hospitals and the nursing
15 homes, we finished way ahead of time, so
16 maybe I did some good last week because
17 there was a lot of volunteers that come
18 down.

19 MR. ROGAN: That's good.

20 MS. SUETTA: And I want to say thank
21 you to all of them.

22 MR. ROGAN: Thank you.

23 MS. SUETTA: Have a good one.

24 MR. ROGAN: Ron Ellman.

25 MR. ELLMAN: See, it goes nice and

1 smooth until I get up here. In Sunday's
2 paper, I don't know if everybody saw it, the
3 little article about the Right-to-Know law,
4 and the editorial. A couple of months ago
5 or a month and a half ago I asked Mr. Renda
6 on the Right-to-Know law about the building
7 permits, I have been here once, I phoned
8 three or four times and they refused to give
9 me any information on the building permits
10 because the mayor is very fearful of this
11 knowledge it seems. I got a sheet that
12 tells you, you know, how much a building
13 permit is and so forth and there is a
14 considerable amount of money involved in
15 building permits that he has deleted year
16 after year. I think something ought to be
17 done, I think he doesn't have -- it's just
18 time to terminate his power of deleting
19 building permits, you know, I don't know if
20 they have given him -- what he is doing with
21 it, between if he can't give them a KOZ I
22 guess he forgives a building permit, but
23 this money ought to be recovered. This is
24 terrible. If anybody investigates it you
25 will find out very easily. He deletes it

1 for his friends and associates.

2 And I'd also like to say something
3 about Brenda Williams, because it's going to
4 involve taxpayers. When this happened I
5 heard like everybody, you know, when it was
6 the topic of conversation and an immediate
7 neighbor came over to me and said when
8 Brenda Williams would get moody and
9 aggressive they tried to get the family
10 involved and they absolutely refused to have
11 anything in the world to do with this poor
12 woman. You know, now they are coming out of
13 the woodwork with all of this bleeding heart
14 stuff and it's going to take the taxpayers
15 for another ride.

16 Something has to be done, you know,
17 the city is in such bad shape. I parked my
18 car at the mall last week and walked over to
19 the post office and then back. You know,
20 local businesses are there the heart of our
21 community if they haven't been KOZ's by the
22 mayor downtown and, you know, they pay
23 our -- they pay taxes and all we hear about
24 it padded payrolls around here. You try to
25 get something done at the Sewer Authority, I

1 phoned them yesterday. I didn't get no
2 where. I was just asking about my bill.
3 The lady got mad and said she is going to
4 mail me the sheet. I asked a simple
5 question about my bill, you know. All of
6 that the help it looked like somebody could
7 send something intelligent.

8 I don't know. The city is going to
9 pot you know, and I wouldn't want you guy's
10 job, I'll tell you. But on this
11 Right-to-Know law I guarantee you that
12 office upstairs will not -- you can't
13 squeeze something out of them. It shouldn't
14 be like this. You ought to go in there and
15 find out and they should tell you something.
16 You shouldn't have to be told to write a
17 letter to the Attorney General's Office in
18 Harrisburg and blah, blah, blah. That
19 information it's open except, you know, when
20 you have something to hide.

21 I have been telling you for two
22 years, I sure welcome an investigation of
23 this city. It's about time the graft and
24 corruption, it's terrible and it's no
25 secret. You know, people just been talking

1 openly for years about how bad it is here.

2 I had somebody ask me about my
3 bride, Ms. Rosie, and I think she is feeling
4 good because I took her up to the corner
5 today to get a quart of beer and a pack of
6 cigarettes, so I figure she is on the road
7 back to good health, and if you would like
8 I'd like to give you this, Mr. Joyce. This
9 is a sheet that they gave me.

10 MR. JOYCE: Yes, you can bring it
11 up.

12 MR. ELLMAN: You are talking about a
13 building permit is very expensive. You can
14 have that. I really don't need that. He is
15 not going to do nothing for me.

16 MR. JOYCE: Thank you.

17 MR. ELLMAN: If you just glance, you
18 are talking about a considerable amount of
19 money that's been dissolved, it's gone.

20 MR. ROGAN: Mr. Ellman, could you
21 please go back to the podium so those at
22 home could hear?

23 MR. ELLMAN: Sir?

24 MR. ROGAN: Could you go back to the
25 podium so folks at home can hear.

1 MR. ELLMAN: Thank you.

2 MR. ROGAN: Thank you. Dave

3 Dobrzyn.

4 MR. DOBRZYN: Good evening, Council.
5 Dave Dobrzyn, resident of Scranton and
6 member of the Taxpayers' Association. I am
7 going to start varying from the general
8 team. As I said last week, I'm leaving you
9 guys to do it. You want to do without the
10 benefit of my advice unless you ask for it.
11 I'm sure you can do it. I sure you can.

12 But anyway, I have been -- I do
13 quite a bit of walking around town and on
14 Stafford and Meadow we have the bridge
15 project over the brook, well, Stafford and
16 Meadow are getting torn up like, it looks
17 like somebody took a plow to it, so whatever
18 you can do to contact the state officials as
19 long as they are running tri axles over our
20 street and tearing them up maybe they should
21 feel free to pave them once they are done
22 with most of their work.

23 And I took a little walk the other
24 day, I have a map if you can't understand
25 it, but back by the Salvation Army on River

1 Street there's a the Salvation Army Store
2 and there is no access that I could see from
3 another direction except possibly off of
4 Route 307, but there is a huge dump site at
5 the back of that property where the
6 bridge -- the old Erie Railroad Bridge goes
7 over Route 307, and it looks like about four
8 medium size dump trucks full of singles,
9 sinks, boards, parts of boards.

10 MR. ROGAN: Is that behind the
11 building?

12 MR. DOBRZYN: Yeah. Yeah. It's --
13 you actually have to follow the Erie Bridge
14 back, back to the old Erie line, there is an
15 old railroad line goes back through there
16 and I walked through there, and you back
17 right to where the bridge crosses over 307.
18 It's a beautiful view of the towns, but now
19 there is an area there it must be almost as
20 big as this area here that's piled up with
21 singles and boards and scrap lumber and old
22 -- there is a sink laying there, some tires,
23 and what have you, and from what I can
24 determine the most likely route is that --
25 is straight through the parking lot at

1 Salvation Army.

2 Now, they do have a fence around
3 that and if they are not locking their gates
4 at night they really should be contacted and
5 asked to please do so, because it's
6 horrendous. There is quite a pile and it's
7 getting bigger every week, so somebody is
8 sneaking in there and dumping all -- I'll
9 give you this here, just point out the dump
10 site.

11 MR. ROGAN: Thank you.

12 (Mr. Dobrzyn approaches the dais and
13 confers with Mr. Loscombe about the map.)

14 MR. DOBRZYN: One other comment that
15 just came to mind once again, you people
16 aren't the favorites up in Clarks Summit
17 because there is another letter from Clarks
18 Summit worried about what council is doing,
19 so maybe they would like to pay taxes and
20 come down here and vote, you know. Lots of
21 houses for sale. Cheaper, too. Have a good
22 night.

23 MR. ROGAN: Thank you. Marie
24 Schumacher.

25 MS. SCHUMACHER: Okay. Good

1 evening, Council.

2 MR. ROGAN: Good evening.

3 MR. JOYCE: Good evening.

4 MS. SCHUMACHER: I hate to belabor
5 the point. My name is Marie Schumacher, I'm
6 sorry, but back to BRT Ice and the agreement
7 that the city has with them. I did go
8 on-line after my conversation with
9 Mr. Hughes last week and I went on the
10 county website to their LANDEX system and I
11 did find a recording of a memorandum, and as
12 a matter of fact, the memorandum is titled,
13 "Memorandum of Lease, 30 years, 20 November
14 '02." And it was recorded on August 14,
15 2006.

16 The memorandum states, which is
17 dated the 10th of July, 2006, states in
18 point six: "This memorandum is intended for
19 recording purposes only and does not modify,
20 supercede, diminish, add to or change all or
21 any of the terms off the lease in any
22 respect."

23 Yet the only lease that I have been
24 able to find is that -- the one of 2002,
25 Resolution No. 67 of 2002, and it was only

1 for 99 years. It said, and I will read it
2 again, I have read it before, but the rent
3 portion says: "This lease provides for
4 payment of rent as follows: Lessee shall
5 pay \$600,000 to lease or as rent for the
6 lease premises. Lessee shall make minimum
7 annual payments every 12 months beginning on
8 the date hereof in the amount of no less
9 than \$1. Provided, however, that any unpaid
10 rent under this Paragraph A shall be paid to
11 lessee to lessor in a lump sum within 30
12 days following the occurrence of the last to
13 occur of: One, vacation of the leased
14 premises by DPW in total as on the date
15 provided for hereunder; or, two,
16 certification of the leased land by the City
17 of Scranton Planning Commission as with the
18 Redevelopment area as that term is defined
19 by law, approval of Redevelopment contract
20 for the leased land including transfer of
21 the leased land through lessee by the SRA
22 and approval of said Redevelopment contract
23 by the Scranton City Council."

24 Now, again, that was 2002. In 2006,
25 at some point, and I was unable to find when

1 -- this is a resolution, no number, it was
2 4-C on an agenda, but I went through all of
3 the 2006 agendas and I could not find -- it
4 says at the top it was tabled and never
5 introduced, so apparently it was on an
6 agenda, but I can't -- again, I can't find
7 it. I did go through every single one early
8 this morning and that is the one that said
9 it changed the terms that it said, "The lump
10 sum, the purchase price subject to all of
11 the terms, covenants and conditions of this
12 agreement, the Authority agrees to sell the
13 property to the Redeveloper for, and the
14 Redeveloper agrees to purchase the property
15 from the Authority and pay, therefore, the
16 amount of \$600,000 to be paid in 20 yearly
17 installments of \$30,000 per year at no
18 interest beginning the date of closing
19 herein referred to as the purchase price."

20 This was referred through the legal
21 department from the Scranton Redevelopment
22 Authority. Now, because I don't know the
23 date of this, I don't know how it coincides
24 with the filing of that agreement which even
25 though it said it made no material changes

1 in the -- or respect to the earlier lease,
2 does have a memorandum. Point four of that
3 memorandum states, "Under the lease, lessee
4 is granted an option to purchase the leased
5 land upon the occurrence of specific terms
6 and conditions provided for in the lease
7 which option is exercisable by the lessee
8 according to the specific and unambiguous
9 terms of the lease.

10 There is then a small addendum to
11 that reality tax statement. It says, "This
12 is a transfer of property subject to a
13 ground lease for 198 years which is
14 payable--" if I may complete this?

15 MR ROGAN: Yes, please.

16 MS. SCHUMACHER: "Which is payable at
17 \$1 per year and \$600,000 at the end of the
18 term. According to the present value
19 calculation of Thomas P. Rainey, CPA,
20 attached hereto and incorporated herein by
21 reference, the present value is \$23.89,"
22 which is what Mr. Hughes said. But I would
23 like to ask council if they could make a
24 search to find out if there was, in fact,
25 another resolution or an ordinance that

1 between 2002 to 2006. I can't believe
2 anybody would have voted for that and even
3 though the documentation states that there
4 were no changes made it appears that an
5 entirely different lease was substituted
6 when the filing was made, and if so I think
7 it's probably something criminal and if you
8 can't find any action by the council other
9 than the two items that I have here I would
10 like to know to what state authority I take
11 this for further action.

12 MR. ROGAN: Yes. I definitely think
13 it's something council should look into.

14 MS. SCHUMACHER: Thank you.

15 MR. ROGAN: Thank you. Is there
16 anyone else who would like to address
17 council?

18 MR. JACKOWITZ: Good evening,
19 Council. Bill Jackowitz, South Scranton
20 resident, member of the Taxpayers'
21 Association. Saturday Molly Brannigan's was
22 open and from my understanding, correct me
23 if I'm wrong, but from my understanding they
24 used their own license for the one day; is
25 that correct? Does anybody know?

1 MR. ROGAN: It was Molly Brannigan's
2 location, but it is owned by the same owner
3 as Kildaire's.

4 MR. JACKOWITZ: Yeah, that's who is
5 going to own it, but my understanding is
6 they used Molly Brannigan's license for one
7 day. That's what -- the way I interpreted
8 the story in the newspaper. Now, I could
9 have misinterpreted it.

10 MR. HUGHES: If I could, I would
11 suggest that you call the Pennsylvania
12 Liquor Control Board. From what I
13 understand, they had stocked it with beer on
14 Friday, they did not have the license, they
15 had to remove everything. The license was
16 not issued by the Pennsylvania Liquor
17 Control Board until Saturday morning at 8:00
18 at which time they brought all of the beer
19 back in, the beer distributors did.

20 MR. JACKOWITZ: Whose license did
21 they use?

22 MR. HUGHES: I have no idea. I
23 think it would be -- I would call the
24 enforcement division of the Pennsylvania
25 Liquor Control Board and think they would

1 probably give you the information.

2 MR. JACKOWITZ: Okay, because my
3 point is that if they used Molly Brannigan's
4 license then I think Molly Brannigan's
5 should repay the city out of the profits
6 that they made, the money that they owe us
7 for past utility bills and rents. If it was
8 used by Kildaire's license then that's a
9 totally different subject, but we really
10 need to find that out.

11 Home Depot is creating 250 jobs in
12 Pittston with competitive salaries. Lame
13 duck mayor Doherty created 9,000 new jobs in
14 Scranton with no salaries. Lie. Why you
15 may ask, because no jobs were created.

16 Okay, 100 employees laid off at the
17 Taylor; 82 employees laid off in Jessup,
18 which is very close to the Scranton area,
19 some of those people that probably work in
20 those areas are Scranton residents. Cinram
21 DVD to layoff more employees. Again, I
22 suggest that you contact Mayor Doherty. He
23 will show you how to go about suing Scranton
24 citizens or maybe give you a no show job
25 with the City of Scranton. Then again, he

1 may hire you to one of the 9,000 jobs that
2 he created in Scranton which no one has been
3 able to find so far.

4 Mr. Hughes, I have a question for
5 you, if you don't mind, I know you had a
6 busy day today, so have I. When the
7 Scranton Redevelopment Authority sells the
8 completed garage project to the Scranton
9 Parking Authority, do they sell at the
10 construction cost or do they add to it and
11 make the profit?

12 MR. HUGHES: I have no idea.

13 MR. JACKOWITZ: Is there any way we
14 can find that out?

15 MR. HUGHES: The only way would be
16 in the deed from the Redevelopment Authority
17 to the Scranton Parking Authority. If there
18 is consideration recorded it would have been
19 exempt under the Pennsylvania Realty
20 Transfer Tax as conveyance between two
21 municipal -- well actually, between two --
22 between two authorities so it would be no
23 tax paid, they could have put a dollar in
24 there, I have no idea --

25 MR. JACKOWITZ: Okay.

1 MR. HUGHES: -- what that would be.

2 MR. JACKOWITZ: Because I believe
3 that Scranton Redevelopment Authority can
4 sell properties for redevelopment, so that
5 is a source of income for them which I guess
6 allows them to do bonds on their own. This
7 is just my interpretation. If a profit is
8 made on the sale of the Scranton Parking
9 Authority, then the taxpayers pay to have
10 the garage built, taxpayers pay to buy it
11 from themselves, and also paid the Scranton
12 Redevelopment Authority a profit so they can
13 have an income to go out and get more loans
14 and bonds. So we really need to look into
15 that because if that's happening, I'm not
16 sure if it is, but I really would request
17 that someone would look into that.

18 Mr. Baker of the Housing Authority
19 threatens to sue the City of Scranton. He
20 has 16 federal charges against him, one in
21 my case I believe would be too many. The
22 mayor is suing the city and there is a case
23 going on right now, there is a couple more.
24 Only in the doomed City of Scranton could
25 legislative branches and executive branches

1 called Spurling's best places. Scranton,
2 Pennsylvania, stay away, this was posted
3 1-21-2006. A declining town run by good old
4 boys network. I have to agree with that.

5 6-10-2009, Scranton, PA, no
6 opportunity. Bad city. Lived in Scranton
7 four months could not find an average income
8 job. Told by the locals it all depends on
9 who you know. I also agree with that.

10 6-1-2008. Only visit Scranton if
11 you are a fan of the "Office." Other than
12 visiting the landmarks on the show, there is
13 nothing else to do in Scranton. Good place
14 to visit, but not the most exciting place to
15 live.

16 And per capita income in Scranton as
17 I was on there today looking at it is
18 \$16,194. We are ranked 1,954 in
19 Pennsylvania out of 2,800 cities, so that's
20 not a very good ranking. These are all
21 facts, no supposition. Thank you.

22 MR. ROGAN: Thank you. Is there
23 anything else that would like to address
24 council?

25 MR. TALIMINI: Good evening,

1 Council. Joe Talimini, City of Scranton.
2 First of all, very unpleasant task. I'd
3 like to thank you, Mr. Rogan and also Mr
4 Joyce, Mr. Hughes, and Mrs. Krake for a
5 very, very long and tedious day in Court. I
6 was along with you in county court, federal
7 court, county court, federal court, and you
8 earned your money today, there is no
9 question about that and I'm sure you are
10 going to earn it tomorrow as well.

11 MR. HUGHES: Thank you.

12 MR. TALIMINI: I would like to
13 mention something because it's very, very
14 pertinent and we have a young people here
15 tonight and I hope they would pay particular
16 attention to this. Today a federal grand
17 jury handed down 40 indictments against two
18 Lackawanna County Commissioners. Those
19 indictments include fraud, racketeering, tax
20 invasion, conspiracy to commit fraud,
21 engaging in monetary transactions which are
22 illegal, mail fraud, wire fraud, conspiracy
23 to commit theft or bribery, bribery
24 concerning any programs receiving federal
25 funds and a wealth of other things.

1 I would like to just wrap it up by
2 telling you one thing that was mentioned by
3 the attorney for the federal government and
4 that is that a civic servant is appointed or
5 elected to serve the public not himself, and
6 this is what's been going on for a long
7 time. We made very much light of the fact
8 that Luzerne County was under severe
9 investigation, well, now it's hit home and I
10 think it's incumbent upon everybody, our
11 television viewers, people in the audience
12 and especially you young people to be aware
13 of something. When you commit the crime,
14 and these are only alleged crimes, but when
15 you commit the crime be prepared to do the
16 time.

17 And to give you an example, one
18 gentleman who was indicted faces a total
19 maximum of 364 years in prison and
20 \$7,750,000 in fines. The other gentleman
21 faces 193 years in prison and \$3,250,000 in
22 fines. This is in addition to \$450,000 that
23 each is expected to pay up to the federal
24 government in the case of forfeiture, so
25 it's something that will be in the

1 newspapers tomorrow.

2 We have an ongoing situation in the
3 county court where the mayor is suing city
4 council, and this is most distressing. I
5 have been laboring this fact for three
6 almost four years now, and finally somebody
7 has to pay attention, and whether the voters
8 and the citizens of this city pay attention
9 or not, these are the facts. You will read
10 about them in tomorrow's paper, I'm sure.
11 Thank you very much.

12 MR. ROGAN: Thank you.

13 MR. NEARHOOD: Good evening, members
14 of council. My name is Ray Nearhood. I
15 live on Cherry Street in Scranton. I'm here
16 tonight not over a big issue, it's very
17 small issue, but it was very aggravating to
18 me today. Yesterday I was a victim of a
19 crime. Someone got my credit card and debit
20 card information and made purchases on-line.

21 Now, the on-line retailer contacted
22 me. Now, in order for them to have
23 discussions with our police department here
24 in Scranton they need a police report. So I
25 went to the police department and I said,

1 "Look, I need a police report to send to
2 WalMart."

3 They said that will be, "Fifteen
4 dollars."

5 I said, "What?" I said, "I'm a
6 crime victim and you are charging me \$15 for
7 a police report so I can send it to that
8 retailer so that retailer can discuss my
9 information with your investigators."

10 "Fifteen dollars."

11 You know, I sat and I started
12 thinking, if by some miracle this person is
13 arrested, God knows why they wouldn't be and
14 they would have to give a delivery address
15 and name as to where they were delivering
16 it, and this person gets arrested and the
17 defense attorney goes to the police
18 department and says, "I want a copy of the
19 police report," does the defense attorney
20 and the criminal have to pay \$15? You know
21 they don't, and I think Mr. Hughes will tell
22 you that; right?

23 MR. HUGHES: I have no idea. I
24 don't practice criminal law.

25 MR. NEARHOOD: Okay. You know that

1 if the criminal asks for a copy of the
2 police report you have to turn that over to
3 them and you can't charge them for it, but
4 me as the victim of a crime I get charged,
5 and every other victim of crimes get charged
6 to get a police report.

7 You know, we are victimized not only
8 by the perpetrator of the crime, but we are
9 being victimized by the city. And you have
10 an ordinance, I went down to see the mayor,
11 by the way, earlier, he wasn't there, but I
12 did talk to his secretary and they said,
13 "Well, this is a council problem, council
14 deals with this, you know, the mayor has
15 nothing to do with it."

16 I beg to differ because the mayor
17 voted for this ordinance and also has signed
18 here as a committee finance reports
19 favorably on the ordinance from 1999. Your
20 File of council, File 30 1999 ordinance.

21 And what I'm asking council to do is
22 something very simple, give the victim of a
23 crime a copy of the police report if they so
24 request it just as you would give it to the
25 criminal if the criminal lawyer asks for it.

1 You know, I don't think that I'm asking for
2 a lot.

3 MR. ROGAN: What was the number on
4 that ordinance again?

5 MR. NEARHOOD: File of Council No.
6 30, 1999, an ordinance amending the File of
7 Council No. 1980 of 1994; okay? I mean, I
8 understand with an accident report, hey, you
9 are in an accident, you pay the \$15 bucks,
10 your insurance company reimburses you for
11 it, okay? If you want to do that, fine, I
12 understand that. Nobody is reimbursing me,
13 okay? And truthfully I'm going to get my
14 money back even though I read the police
15 report and it says that nothing was stolen
16 from me, the \$1,350 is out of my account. I
17 will get it back, yes, but, you know -- so
18 I'm really not the victim because I think
19 under criminal law the victim isn't the
20 victim, actually the victim is the
21 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, so if you want
22 the 15 bucks, ask the Commonwealth of
23 Pennsylvania for it not me.

24 So it's not something -- you know,
25 it's not something huge, I'm not going to

1 come in and throwing all kinds of aspersions
2 about people and everything, I just think
3 that out of the common decency and common
4 fairness we allow the victim access to the
5 incident report, and I'm hoping that maybe
6 I'll get to talk to a detective once it gets
7 assigned it a detective. So that's all.

8 MR. LOSCOMBE: I do agree with you.
9 I mean, if it's a motor vehicle accident
10 that's one thing. This is the first time I
11 think -- I know we are made aware of this.
12 I don't know it was ever brought up before,
13 but according to Mrs. Krake I do have
14 approval to meet with Chief Elliott now, the
15 mayor gave me approval, so I will present
16 that to him, also.

17 MR. NEARHOOD: Okay. Like I said,
18 it wasn't a big thing, but it was
19 aggravating, you know?

20 MR. LOSCOMBE: I understand under
21 the circumstances definitely, without a
22 doubt. I hope we get this straightened out
23 for you.

24 MR. ROGAN: You don't want to
25 victimized twice. That's basically what it

1 is.

2 MR. NEARHOOD: Right. Hey, I know
3 the city needs money, okay? I understand
4 that. But, you know, I watched this health
5 care debate going on and I keep thinking,
6 you know, one of the taxes they are looking
7 at putting on is if you need a hip
8 replacement they are going to tax you.
9 Like, wait a minute, you are taxing the
10 victim here? You know, so that's all I'm
11 asking. Please look into this ordinance and
12 look at changing it. I understand if some
13 third party comes in and wants a copy of the
14 incident report then charge them, fine, not
15 a big deal, but if victim comes in and says,
16 "Look, I have been victimized. I'm the
17 victim of this crime, I need and I should
18 have access to a copy of this report."

19 That's all.

20 MR. ROGAN: Absolutely.

21 MR. NEARHOOD: Without having to pay
22 for it.

23 MR. JOYCE: I'll personally look
24 into this ordinance and also look into the
25 ordinance that you recall is File of Council

1 30, 1999, and what that actually amended to
2 see if we had a more friendly procedure for
3 victims of crimes in the past.

4 MR. NEARHOOD: I mean, really all
5 you need to do is amend it to simply say
6 that the victim of a crime is entitled to a
7 single --

8 MR. ROGAN: You can finish.

9 MR. NEARHOOD: The victim named in
10 the report or victims have access to and can
11 receive a copy of the incident report.
12 However, third parties or others, you know,
13 let them pay. That's fine.

14 MR. ROGAN: Right. I agree.

15 MR. NEARHOOD: That's all, you know.
16 Okay?

17 MR. ROGAN: Thank you.

18 MR. NEARHOOD: Thank you.

19 MR. ANCHERANI: Good evening.

20 Nelson Ancherani, First Amendment Rights.
21 First off, I'm going to comment about the
22 lawsuit the mayor filed in response to
23 council overriding his veto of the amending
24 of the 2010 budget. The slimes reported in
25 an article titled, "Judge held Scranton City

1 Council's cuts as mayor sues."

2 Roger -- it's by Roger DePugh.

3 Roger writes about the mayor and I quote,

4 "He goes onto say, 'It would illegal

5 terminate 12 employees and will illegally

6 reduce the salaries of 14.'"

7 I have here a breakdown of the city

8 employees, no names, just positions from

9 2001 through 2010. This council comes no

10 where near eliminating positions in this

11 budget as the mayor eliminated in his last

12 nine budgets. Between your amended budget

13 and the mayor's budget, there is a net loss

14 of one position. Did he forget that he

15 eliminated the traffic maintenance division

16 this year which consisted of five employees

17 plus five Single Tax Office employees?

18 Traffic maintenance employees repair traffic

19 signals, they do signs, they paint the

20 intersection and crosswalks and other

21 traffic related duties. We'll spend more

22 money to contract their work out to private

23 entities.

24 Where is the reduction of salaries

25 in 2002 illegal? Police and fire are still

1 at 2002 pay rate levels and if it wasn't for
2 the courts we wouldn't have the 7 1/2
3 percent raise that the Courts gave us.

4 By reducing the salaries of the
5 favored to 2002 rates, and giving the 7 1/2
6 percent raise, that puts the favorite
7 employees on the level playing field with
8 the police and fire.

9 In the past, prior to this
10 administration, management raises amounts
11 were equal to what the other unions got.
12 Since 2002, positions were eliminated or
13 lost by this administration. In 2002, there
14 were 141 regular and 29 federal grant police
15 officers. This year, there are 145 regular
16 and school resource officers. There are
17 supposed to be ten COM-D officers and there
18 are only two of them assigned to work. The
19 reason the other eight aren't working, but
20 yet are funded by the federal government, is
21 supposedly because we supposedly because we
22 have 17 police officers off injured or on
23 comp. Why don't we utilize the regular
24 officers and put more officers on the
25 street? Is it because you will have to pay

1 overtime for regular officers?

2 One of the mayor's points in the
3 lawsuit: "The city's response to fire,
4 police and weather-related emergencies will
5 suffer."

6 Hire regular officers for COM-D.
7 That eliminate one of those supposedly
8 problems. Point of interest, we are now
9 down to two federally funded police officers
10 from 29 in 2002. In the police budget in
11 2002 there were 191 police officers and
12 miscellaneous employees. This year there
13 are 161 total. So when the mayor says this
14 council will illegally terminate 12
15 employees, were those 40, 40 other positions
16 lost since 2002 illegally terminated?

17 Among the mayor's other points he
18 claims council's amendment would result in
19 immediate and irreparable harm to those who
20 positions or salaries were cut. Immediate
21 and irreparable harm. What about the city
22 employees who were never given a raise by
23 this mayor? At least the employees who had
24 their salaries cut aren't being asked to
25 give back the money they already received.

1 Oh, and I know the argument that
2 will brought up, the police were given an
3 offer that they didn't bring back to their
4 members. And I say to that, because I was
5 on the negotiating team, that it wasn't the
6 unions who sabotaged the talks. At one
7 point all parties shook hands and the talks
8 stalled when the mayor didn't respond. He
9 left his negotiating team high and dry.

10 "The law department staff will be
11 cut and it's ability to hire outside council
12 will be limited including council for labor
13 issues."

14 Yeah, so he won't be able to hire
15 \$600 an hour outside law firms to fight the
16 unions. He spent approximately 1 million on
17 one attorney alone. Council, you should
18 have taken the full amount of professional
19 services from the law department instead of
20 just 95,000. When I said 40 positions
21 that's 40 less positions that we have now in
22 2010 than we had in 2002. Thank you.

23 MR. ROGAN: Thank you. Is there
24 anyone else who would like to address
25 council? FIFTH ORDER.

1 MS. KRAKE: FIFTH ORDER. 5-A.

2 Motions.

3 MR. ROGAN: Yes. As some you know,
4 today myself, Mr. Joyce, Mrs. Evans,
5 Mr. Hughes and Mrs. Krake were in Court for
6 approximately seven hours, so needless to
7 say it was a very long day so I'll keep my
8 comments very brief tonight.

9 I received many citizens' request
10 this week, I'm sorry if I haven't gotten
11 back to you right away, we have been
12 preparing for court all week, and the only
13 one I want to mention is I received numerous
14 calls about the Crisp Avenue Bridge in West
15 Scranton and I know it's something that
16 Mrs. Evans was working on and so was
17 Mr. Courtright when he was on council, so I
18 will talking to them this week along with
19 Linda Aebli from OECD to see what the status
20 of the bridge is. And that is all for
21 today. Mr. Loscombe?

22 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes. Thank you,
23 Mr. Rogan. I was out of town all week so I
24 have very few. Just a couple of
25 announcements. Just a remainder again, all

1 through lent St. Lucy's parish at 949
2 Scranton Street on Fridays from 3:00 to 6:30
3 p.m. have clam chowder, pizza and certain
4 weekly specials available. You could call
5 the orders in, walk-ins are most welcome,
6 and there is a special bake sale this
7 Friday.

8 The Dante Club at 1916 Prospect
9 Avenue has a clam chowder sale on Fridays
10 through lent. I believe the time is from 11
11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

12 And there will a benefit dinner for
13 pancreatic cancer in loving memory of Angela
14 Price held by Angie's Angels at the
15 Fraternal Order of Eagle's hall at 493
16 Meridian Avenue in Scranton. Dinner will be
17 five to seven and there will be
18 entertainment by DJ Daddy from seven to ten.
19 Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased at the
20 door. There will be basket raffles and
21 ribbon pops are for sale. All proceeds will
22 be going to the American Cancer Society. If
23 you have any questions you can call Bill
24 Leggett at 383-1788.

25 And just a couple of quick comments,

1 Mr. Jackowitz was mentioning the lawsuit
2 earlier with the city and the city council
3 and a few others, I just wanted to clarify
4 for the viewers and for those that
5 understand, it is the mayor of the city who
6 is suing city council for a budget that we
7 overrode where we were saving nearly
8 \$700,000. We are not suing anyone. I just
9 wanted to clarify that.

10 I received a call this afternoon
11 right after I got back from Mr. Brazil. He
12 got the approval to have me meet with him,
13 so I did setup an appointment for this
14 Friday morning, I will be meeting with
15 Mr. Brazil, DPW director and Paul O'Hora to
16 go over several of the flood issues and I
17 will be able to report that meeting next
18 Tuesday.

19 The other thing just as we are
20 sitting here, Mrs. Krake was reading some of
21 the responses before. It appears to me that
22 our responses to citizens' requests are
23 being met with an air of arrogance all of a
24 sudden by some of the responders. I hope
25 that they realize they are working for the

1 people, too, and that they don't stimey us
2 in our effort to answer your questions and
3 get help for whatever you need. That's all
4 I have to say. Thank you.

5 MR. ROGAN: Thank you. Mr. Joyce?

6 MR. JOYCE: Yes, just a few quick
7 comments. Tonight on item 7-B we will be
8 voting on possibly lowering the bidding
9 threshold and I just wanted to reiterate my
10 support and my continuing support for Item
11 7-B. You know, this is a good action in my
12 opinion for both government and business, I
13 see a lot of benefits to this, and one of
14 the most important benefits is that it
15 really provides transparency in addition to
16 possibly saving the city costs in the
17 long-run for being able to obtain better
18 prices for services and I think that it
19 could really benefit a lot more local
20 businesses in their ability to get involved
21 with the government process, and that's all
22 I really have for tonight.

23 MR. ROGAN: Thank you, Mr. Joyce.
24 Mrs. Krake?

25 MS. KRAKE: 5-B. NO BUSINESS AT

1 THIS TIME. 6-A. NO BUSINESS AT THIS TIME.
2 SEVENTH ORDER. 7-A.

3 MR. LOSCOMBE: Mrs. Krake, I would
4 like to make a motion to appoint Mr. Rogan
5 as temporary chairman for the Committee on
6 Rules before you read 7-

7 MR. JOYCE: Second.

8 MR. ROGAN: Motion has been made and
9 seconded. On the question? All those in
10 favor signify by saying aye?

11 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

12 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

13 MR. ROGAN: Aye. Opposed? Motion
14 is approved.

15 MS. KRAKE: Thank you. 7-A. FOR
16 CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE -
17 FOR ADOPTION - FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 13, 2010-
18 AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE
19 CITY OFFICIALS TO ACCEPT FUNDS FROM THE BJA
20 FY 09 EDWARD BYRNE MEMORIAL JUSTICE
21 ASSISTANCE GRANT (JAG) PROGRAM LOCAL
22 SOLICITATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$50,618.00 AND
23 DISBURSE SAID FUNDS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE
24 GRANT APPLICATION.

25 MR. ROGAN: What is the

1 recommendation of the Chairperson for the
2 Committee on Finance?

3 MR. JOYCE: As Chairperson for the
4 Committee on Finance, I recommend final
5 passage of Item 7-A.

6 MR. LOSCOMBE: Second.

7 MR. ROGAN: On the question? Roll
8 call, please?

9 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

10 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

11 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Loscombe.

12 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes.

13 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Joyce.

14 MR. JOYCE: Yes.

15 MR. ROGAN: I hereby declare Item
16 7-A legally and lawfully adopted.

17 MS. KRAKE: 7-B. FOR CONSIDERATION BY
18 THE COMMITTEE ON RULES - FOR ADOPTION - FILE
19 OF COUNCIL NO. 14, 2010 - AMENDING THE
20 ADMINISTRATIVE CODE OF THE CITY OF SCRANTON,
21 PENNSYLVANIA, SECTION 6-14-CONTRACTS,
22 SUBSECTION (A) TO REDUCE THE AMOUNT ABOVE
23 WHICH COMPETITIVE BIDDING IS REQUIRED FROM
24 \$20,000.00 TO \$10,000.00, AND TO REDUCE THE
25 AMOUNT ABOVE WHICH QUOTES MUST BE OBTAINED

1 FROM \$5,000.00 TO \$4,000.00.

2 MR. ROGAN: As temporary Chairperson
3 for the Committee on Rules, I recommend
4 final passage of Item 7-B.

5 MR. JOYCE: Second.

6 MR. ROGAN: On the question? I
7 would just like to reiterate my support once
8 again. I believe that this will be make
9 government more open. It will be, as I said
10 before, both pro taxpayer and pro small
11 business, and I urge the mayor to sign this
12 into law. Roll call, please?

13 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

14 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

15 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Loscombe.

16 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes.

17 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Joyce.

18 MR. JOYCE: Yes.

19 MR. ROGAN: I hereby declare Item
20 7-B legally and lawfully adopted.

21 MS. KRAKE: 7-C. FOR CONSIDERATION
22 BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES - FOR ADOPTION -
23 RESOLUTION NO. 9, 2010 - APPOINTMENT OF ANDY
24 SBARAGLIA, 2410 NORTH MAIN AVENUE, SCRANTON,
25 PENNSYLVANIA, 18508, AS A MEMBER OF THE

1 SCRANTON REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY FOR A FIVE
2 (5) YEAR TERM TO REPLACE MR. ROBERT TIMLIN
3 WHOSE TERM EXPIRED ON FEBRUARY 4, 2010 AND
4 MR. SBARAGLIA'S TERM WILL EXPIRE ON FEBRUARY
5 3, 2015.

6 MR. ROGAN: As temporary Chairperson
7 for the Committee on Rules, I recommend
8 final passage of Item 7-C.

9 MR. LOSCOMBE: Second.

10 MR. ROGAN: On the question? Roll
11 call, please?

12 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

13 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

14 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Loscombe.

15 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes.

16 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Joyce.

17 MR. JOYCE: Yes.

18 MR. ROGAN: I hereby declare Item
19 7-C legally and lawfully adopted.

20 MS. KRAKE: 7-D. FOR CONSIDERATION
21 BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES - FOR ADOPTION -
22 RESOLUTION NO. 10, 2010 - APPOINTMENT OF
23 GIOVANNI PICCOLINO, 2639 BIRNEY AVENUE,
24 SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, 18505, AS A MEMBER
25 OF THE SCRANTON PARKING AUTHORITY. MR.

1 PICCOLINO WILL FILL THE UNEXPIRED TERM OF
2 MRS. KATHLEEN MCDONNELL WHO RESIGNED
3 FEBRUARY 17, 2010. MR. PICCOLINO'S TERM
4 WILL BE EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 18, 2010 THROUGH
5 JUNE 1, 2010.

6 MR. ROGAN: As temporary Chairperson
7 for the Committee on Rules, I recommend
8 final passage of Item 7-D.

9 MR. LOSCOMBE: Second.

10 MR. ROGAN: On the question? Roll
11 call, please?

12 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

13 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

14 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Loscombe.

15 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes.

16 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Joyce.

17 MR. JOYCE: Yes.

18 MR. ROGAN: I hereby declare Item
19 7-D legally and lawfully adopted.

20 MR. JOYCE: At this time I would
21 like to make a motion to adjourn.

22 MR. ROGAN: Adjourned.
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C E R T I F I C A T E

I hereby certify that the proceedings and evidence are contained fully and accurately in the notes 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