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SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING

HELD:

Tuesday, May 25, 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

PAT ROGAN, VICE-PRESIDENT

ROBERT MCGOFF

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 MS. EVANS: 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 MS. EVANS: Here.

13 MS. KRAKE: Mrs. Evans, would you
14 like to dispense with the reading of the
15 minutes?

16 MS. EVANS: Yes.

17 MS. KRAKE: THIRD ORDER. 3-A.

18 APPLICATIONS WITH THE DECISIONS RENDERED BY
19 THE ZONING HEARING BOARD ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL
20 14, 2010.

21 MS. EVANS: Are there any comments?
22 If not, received and filed.

23 MS. KRAKE: 3-B. AGENDA FOR THE CITY
24 PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING TO BE HELD MAY
25 19, 2010.

1 MS. EVANS: Are there any comments?
2 If not, received and filed.

3 MS. KRAKE: 3-C. MINUTES OF THE
4 COMPOSITE PENSION BOARD MEETING HELD ON
5 APRIL 28, 2010.

6 MS. EVANS: Are there any comments?
7 If not, received and filed. Clerk's notes,
8 please.

9 MS. KRAKE: The first thing we have
10 is in doing some research in our office we
11 came across an agreement that was made
12 between the City and the Keystone Landfill
13 and that agreement says that for the 30
14 years of the expected life of the landfill,
15 which is also the length of our contract at
16 Keystone, for every year starting in 2000
17 and continuing until the 2020, the city will
18 receive a donation of equipment equivalent
19 in value to \$100,000 per year. This
20 equipment will include motorcycles,
21 Packmasters, police cars, section trucks and
22 any other equipment necessary for the health
23 and safety of city residents.

24 We did find that in the year 2000
25 the city received five police motorcycles.

1 In 2001, one Packmaster truck. In 2002, two
2 police cars and one refuse section.

3 We then directed a request to Mike
4 Lynady, the fleet manager, to give us a list
5 of all our other equipment received from
6 this day up until -- that date up until now.
7 He replied that our request must go to his
8 director, Jeff Brazil. And I did hear also
9 hear in the mean time from Stu Renda that
10 for the past three years the city has
11 received nothing because the Director of
12 DPW, Jeff Brazil, was saving up for
13 something big.

14 (During Mrs. Krake speaking, Mr.
15 McGoff takes the dais for the meeting.)

16 MS. EVANS: Mrs. Krake, if you could
17 please send a letter to Jeff Brazil and a
18 copy to the mayor as well asking for what
19 project -- or what equipment rather they
20 envision becoming the purchase after three
21 years of accumulated savings plus any
22 additional years.

23 Further, it seems apparent from the
24 research that was performed by our office,
25 and I thank you very much for some excellent

1 research, the city obviously has the option
2 to request equipment other than for the DPW.
3 As you indicated, motorcycles have been
4 purchased, perhaps police cars could be
5 purchased, and so I'd like the information
6 as soon as possible from Mr. Brazil or the
7 mayor on the intended purchase so that
8 council can determine if it, too, agrees
9 that that is what is most necessary at this
10 point in time.

11 I know we've had police officers
12 purchasing their own police cars for several
13 years now and I believe we they are the only
14 municipality in the State of Pennsylvania to
15 do that. Some people might call that
16 creativity or thinking out of the box, I
17 would call it humiliation and we should be
18 purchasing police cars for our police
19 department.

20 MR. LOSCOMBE: Mrs. Evans, just to
21 follow-up on that, I was thinking the same
22 thing. Mr. Brazil is speaking for all of
23 the departments or -- I mean, this should go
24 through the police, the fire, all of the
25 department heads if the equipment wasn't

1 specified specifically for DPW. I mean, I
2 know the other departments sorely need
3 equipment, too, so if you could just maybe
4 forward it to the other department heads.
5 Thank you.

6 MS. EVANS: Thank you, Mr. Loscombe.
7 Mrs. Krake?

8 MS. KRAKE: Thank you. We have
9 several other responses.

10 MR. HUGHES: If I could, I might be
11 a glutton for punishment, but I think that
12 with that council should look into
13 legislation to maybe require before any
14 items are received from Keystone Landfill
15 that has to come before council to be
16 authorized. And that way right now there is
17 a credit of over \$300,000 council would have
18 control over how that money is spent.

19 MS. EVANS: Thank you for that
20 suggests.

21 MR. HUGHES: I think we should have
22 the solicitor's office draft that
23 legislation and not me.

24 MS. EVANS: Well, then we shall make
25 that request, Mrs. Krake, of Solicitor

1 Patterson.

2 In addition, this has jogged my
3 memory about I believe it's the tipping fee
4 or the tonnage fee and we need legislation
5 on that as well.

6 MS. KRAKE: Yes.

7 MS. EVANS: So if we can please
8 remind the legal department that these are
9 very important issues and council would like
10 to see this in the spirit of cooperation
11 coming before it as soon as possible.

12 MS. KRAKE: Yes. We received a
13 phone call from John Darcy, board president
14 of ECTV, and he wanted to let us know that
15 the response we read last week from Tom
16 Welby that he concurred with everything that
17 Mr. Welby indicated in that letter.

18 We have a response from Officer
19 Herchik, the blight officer, and first he
20 indicated he had received our letter
21 concerning the property at 328 Prescott
22 Avenue. He then responded to investigate
23 these issues and he attached an entire
24 police report documenting the issues and the
25 solutions and they are available to be

1 looked at in council's office if anyone in
2 the public would like to review them.

3 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

4 MS. KRAKE: The fire inspectors
5 answered our letter, and I must say within
6 the same day that it was sent to them, very
7 quick response, in response to our request
8 regarding the fire which occurred at 1102
9 Moltke Avenue, October 22, 2009, the fire
10 department released the property shortly
11 after the fire. They say, "The fire
12 department has no control over the current
13 conditions which exist there and would
14 suggest that we contact License and
15 Inspections," which we did and we very have
16 not received a response from them.

17 We also received a response from
18 Mrs. Moran, the Human Resources Director,
19 who is in response to our question, "Is
20 there a system in place to sort health care
21 claims by active and non-active employees?"

22 She tells us, "The active employees
23 receive health insurance through Aetna.
24 Retired employees through Blue Cross and
25 Blue Shield. By virtue of this fact, the

1 active retirees are not the same health care
2 provider and they are detached from each
3 other.

4 In addition, each plan is separate
5 to isolate employees as dictated by their
6 status. All monthly billing reflects claim
7 charges by subgroup. Both Aetna and Blue
8 Cross and Blue Shield provide the system
9 with source claims by subgroup.

10 In closing, the accuracy is reviewed
11 by the Human Resource Office, Office of
12 Business Administrator, City Controller and
13 the Health Care Costs Containment
14 Committee."

15 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

16 MS. KRAKE: We received a response
17 from Linda Aebli, Director of OECD, this is
18 concerning the status of the Crisp Avenue
19 Bridge. She tells us, "It's privately
20 funded by the CDBG recovery in the amount of
21 \$150,000. Since this funding is involved,
22 the office will be required when all
23 paperwork and plans are provided and
24 approved and in place to prepare the spec
25 book to include these requirements and place

1 a legal ad in the Times to bid this project.

2 Until that time, the Department of
3 Public Works, Mr. Brian Swanson, the city
4 engineer, have been overseeing it."

5 She then refers to her monthly
6 report submitted to Councilman Rogan, that
7 the permit was approved by the Department of
8 Environmental Protection in April and
9 submitted to the state. OECD placed signage
10 at the sight stating the project is partly
11 funded the American Recovery and
12 Reinvestment Act. If we have any further
13 questions, feel free to contact her.

14 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

15 MS. KRAKE: We also received a
16 response from George Cornelius, Secretary of
17 DCED. This is a concerning the grievance
18 arbitration awards letter. He thanks us for
19 our letter and appreciates council reaching
20 out to inform them of our objections to
21 appealing the grievance arbitration award.

22 "The city's elected leadership has
23 an obligation to defend the interests of the
24 city taxpayers against any arbitration award
25 that is contrary to the provisions of the

1 plan. We trust that the city's elected
2 leadership being mindful of the impact of
3 the arbitration awards and council's
4 fiduciary obligation to act responsibly to
5 uphold fiscal principals of the plan.

6 Please extend to council DCED's
7 appreciation for supporting the Act 47
8 Financial Recovery process, for taking the
9 necessary steps to reestablish the city's
10 fiscal health and improve it's long-term
11 prospects. I appreciate how difficult the
12 task is. I wish you the very best."

13 MS. EVANS: Well, evidently the
14 gentleman doesn't understand that council
15 was acting on behalf of the taxpayers and
16 trying to save money, but by preventing such
17 an additional appeal so the logic of the
18 letter in my opinion is a bit out of line.

19 MS. KRAKE: Next we have letters
20 that have not been responded to in a timely
21 fashion, they missed their deadline. First
22 is from Attorney Kelly, second request
23 regarding "Do people pay a fee to park at
24 Nay Aug Park?"

25 We have no response to that.

1 MS. EVANS: Let's do a Right-to-Know
2 on that then, Mrs. Krake, because we have
3 been waiting now for months to get a simple
4 answer yes or no and what they are charging
5 if so.

6 MS. KRAKE: Yes. And this letter
7 was sent to the Director of DPW, business
8 administrator, and police chief and that was
9 regarding the signalized intersections in
10 downtown Scranton which need to be improved
11 on none of them have answered or indicated
12 any response to our request.

13 MS. EVANS: Let's send that a second
14 and final time and we could indicate that if
15 those administrators are not interested in
16 the project then perhaps council would have
17 to begin to move on the project singularly.

18 MS. KRAKE: Thank you.

19 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

20 MS. KRAKE: We have not received a
21 written response for Mr. O'Hora, the flood
22 project coordinator, concerning the 200
23 block of North Cameron Avenue.

24 We have not -- a second request to
25 Mr. Dougher concerning at Nay Aug Park. No

1 written request on that, also -- or written
2 reply on that, also.

3 Two letters addressed to the blight
4 officer have gone unanswered.

5 MS. EVANS: Let's resubmit to the
6 blight officer in that he has provided some
7 responses, perhaps he is inundated at this
8 point with blight issues since they are so
9 widespread throughout the city.

10 The issue of Cameron Avenue, send a
11 Right-to-Know on that, please.

12 MS. KRAKE: Yes. Thank you. We
13 have three requests gone unanswered from the
14 business administrator, one was a second
15 request, one was a third, and the other one
16 was a second.

17 MS. EVANS: Do a Right-to-Know,
18 please. And let's closely observe the
19 deadlines and should those deadlines be
20 violated, as they have been in the past by
21 the BA, then I would ask Attorney Hughes to
22 take over the issue legally.

23 MS. KRAKE: We have ten requests to
24 the DPW director, Jeff Brazil, that have
25 gone unanswered, and 13 to the Director of

1 Licensing and Inspections, Mr. Seitzinger,
2 that have gone unanswered.

3 MS. EVANS: Well, let's retain those
4 in the files and certainly council is
5 overseeing the work of the departments, we
6 are not micromanaging, but we are observing
7 what is being done, what fails to be done
8 for the people of Scranton, and as a result
9 let's say adjustments will be occurring in
10 next year's budget.

11 MS. KRAKE: That's all we have.

12 MS. EVANS: Thank you, Mrs. Krake.
13 Do any council members have announcements?
14 Mr. Joyce?

15 MR. JOYCE: No.

16 MS. EVANS: I have a few. The
17 weekly schedule for street cleaning is as
18 follows: May 24 to 28, Oram Street to
19 Washburn Street and May 31 to June 4 Spring
20 Street to Oak Street.

21 A benefit for Patsy McCue-Gilbride,
22 a 10-year Scranton School District employee
23 and wife of Tom "Blacky" Gilbride will be
24 held at Holy Rosary Center, West Market
25 Street in Scranton on Saturday, June 12,

1 from 6 to 10 p.m. Entertainment, food and
2 drinks will be provided. Tickets are \$10
3 and are available at the door or by calling
4 Judy Watkins at 343-2317 or our good friend,
5 Kay Garvey, at 561-8601 or 346-9754.

6 The Scranton Lackawanna County
7 Taxpayers' Association will meet in
8 Thursday, May 27, at 6 p.m. in city council
9 chambers.

10 On Saturday, June 5, the Crohn's and
11 Collatis Walk are be held at Nay Aug Park in
12 the area across from the Everhart Museum at
13 CMC beginning at 4 p.m. For more information
14 contact the Scranton Chapter at 457-6651,
15 and that's it.

16 MS. KRAKE: FOURTH ORDER. CITIZENS'
17 PARTICIPATION.

18 MS. EVANS: Our first speaker is
19 Bill Jackowitz.

20 MR. JACKOWITZ: Good evening, City
21 Council. Bill Jackowitz, South Scranton
22 resident, member of the Taxpayers'
23 Association, Master Sergeant United States
24 Air Force retired.

25 Memorial day, Monday, 31 May, 2010,

1 let us not forget what Memorial Day is all
2 about, especially the younger generation,
3 the high school students and college
4 students. It is the veteran, not the
5 preacher, who has given us the freedom of
6 religion. It is the veteran, not the
7 reporter, who has given us freedom of the
8 press. It is the veteran, not the poet, who
9 has given us freedom of speech. It is the
10 veteran, not the campus organizer, who has
11 given us freedom to assemble. It is the
12 veteran, not the lawyer, who has given us
13 the right to a fair trial. It is the
14 veteran who salutes the flag. It is the
15 veteran who serves under the flag. It is
16 the veteran, not the politician, that gives
17 us the right to vote.

18 Eternal rest, grant them, oh, Lord,
19 and let perpetual light shine upon them.
20 God bless all veterans.

21 The Armed Forces Day parade was the
22 largest number of participants than normal.
23 The crowd again smaller than it should be.

24 First of all, I would like to
25 congratulate the winners of the primary

1 election and thank the other candidates for
2 their time and effort that was put into the
3 campaigns. Only one can win.

4 Secondly, I also would like to thank
5 the police and Chief Elliott for starting
6 the skateboard park and the clubhouse for
7 the youths of Scranton, it is about time.
8 Lee Morgan has been speaking this for years,
9 but then again, from what I understand this
10 was mostly from donations, but again, it's a
11 good start.

12 Serving in the United States Navy
13 you were responsible for your actions.
14 Serving in the United States Air Force,
15 United States Army, United States Marine
16 Corp and the United States Coast Guard you
17 were also responsible for your actions. The
18 time has come to hold the Mayor of Scranton,
19 Christopher A. Doherty, responsible for his
20 actions for the last eight and a half years
21 along with his rubber stampers council
22 members.

23 Mayor Doherty is not always correct,
24 so anyone who votes "yes" for him all of the
25 time is not voting for the residents, they

1 are voting for themselves and the mayor.

2 Also, the mayor is not always wrong
3 either, so a "no" vote each and every time
4 is just as bad the "yes" vote.

5 When Mayor Doherty took office the
6 city was distressed, in debt and had no
7 contact with the firefighters and police
8 officers. Eight and a half years later
9 nothing has changed except the debt has
10 increased to \$89 million and the long-term
11 debt, including the authorities' debt, has
12 increased into the hundreds of millions of
13 dollars. The taxpayers are responsible for
14 the authorities' debt if they cannot pay it
15 off.

16 Furthermore, Mayor Doherty paid \$1
17 million to get the bond rating raised only
18 to have it lowered again to junk bond
19 rating.

20 Mayor Doherty attempted to run and
21 hide in Harrisburg, but was rejected.
22 Harrisburg politicians sent him back to
23 Scranton and now the voters of the 22nd
24 Senatorial district also sent him back to
25 Scranton. Mayor, you have no where else to

1 go except to the first floor office in city
2 hall and work on the problems that you and
3 your rubber stampers gave to the residents,
4 taxpayers of Scranton. Get back to work for
5 the citizens, not yourself, and please stop
6 with the Business Weekly magazine article
7 getting old and boring.

8 Scranton is a good place to raise
9 your children. Juvenile crime is on the
10 rise, violent crime is on the rise,
11 mercantile taxes are too high and businesses
12 are fleeing the city faster than the
13 residents. Projects in the city are
14 started, but very rarely are they completed.
15 Mayor, you have no choice but to work for
16 council and the citizens. You have three
17 and a half more years left with this city
18 council. I hope to see you in attendance at
19 city council meetings, and I also hope to
20 see you having your administrators also
21 attend city council meetings so we can work
22 these problems out. This is the best time.
23 You got three and a half years to work
24 together, let's start doing it right now.

25 Improve the neighborhoods. You have

1 tried to improve the downtown, you have had
2 some minor successes. Scranton will never
3 be New York City. No jobs and money
4 available to draw people to the downtown.
5 You are selling the city to the University
6 of Scranton, Lackawanna College and now a
7 medical college which, by the way, you had
8 absolutely nothing to do with. Politicians
9 in much higher positions were responsible.

10 I will be waiting patiently to see
11 what type of jobs Scranton residents will be
12 offered by the medical school, Lackawanna
13 College and the University of Scranton.

14 As far as the 9,000 jobs that you so
15 proudly stated that you created in Scranton,
16 nobody bought that story in the 22nd
17 Senatorial District. Mayor Doherty, attend
18 council meetings, work with council, but
19 more importantly work with the citizens and
20 taxpayers of Scranton, the city that you
21 were elected to govern. You were not
22 elected to governor, lieutenant governor, or
23 state senator. Earn your pay and start
24 turning the City of Scranton around. Find a
25 way to negotiate the contracts, lower the

1 wage tax, bring in business other than bars
2 and restaurants. Paint the streets, put
3 more police officers on the street. May I
4 finish?

5 MS. EVANS: Yes.

6 MR. JACKOWITZ: And most
7 importantly, have the distressed city status
8 removed or file bankruptcy. Lee Morgan has
9 also suggested that. You can run on your
10 record, but no one has paid attention to
11 your record and you were defeated by an
12 overwhelming margin. Your accomplishments
13 are very few. You have three and a half
14 years to bring the city back by working with
15 Scranton City Council, neighborhood
16 associations, and the residents of Scranton.
17 I hope you chose to do just that, not run.

18 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Les
19 Spindler.

20 MR. SPINDLER: Good evening. Les
21 Spindler, city resident and homeowner,
22 taxpayer. Approximately a week and a half
23 ago there was an article in the Doherty
24 newsletter about the City is going to
25 challenge the decision on the health care

1 arbitration, and the mayor read a quote --
2 or he had a quote I'm going to read. "We
3 want to negotiate a settlement that will not
4 only be good for the bargaining members, but
5 also the taxpayers."

6 That's because all of a sudden Mayor
7 Doherty wants to do something for the good
8 of the taxpayers. If he really meant that
9 they wouldn't appeal all of these
10 arbitration losses which today to date has
11 cost us over \$1.4 million as reported in the
12 Times-Tribune last year, so it's probably
13 more than that now, so he really doesn't
14 care about the taxpayers, he only cares
15 about himself.

16 Last year, again, the Times-Tribune
17 reported about violent crime rising 19
18 percent in the city. Now, last week in the
19 paper, "Violent juvenile crime is on the
20 rise," and still we have beat cops. We
21 still are not -- we are still not giving the
22 test to put new beat cops on the street. I
23 don't know what has to happen for the beat
24 cops to be hired. I think Chief Elliott has
25 to get on the ball here.

1 lie. A finished report was given to
2 Attorney Cullen, he gave one to Scott
3 Schaeffer for Channel 16 and Steve Corbett
4 from WILK, and I have documentation to that
5 effect right now. May I approach Council,
6 Mrs. Evans?

7 MS. EVANS: Yes.

8 (Mr. Spindler approaches the dais.)

9 MR. SPINDLER: As you can see on the
10 bottom I have two names highlighted that
11 were identified by two Scranton detectives
12 and it says plainly on there, and in the
13 back there are the reports from the people
14 that filed the complaints. Now, it's there
15 in black and white. Chief Elliott continues
16 to say that he didn't have the report and he
17 does, I think he has some questions to
18 answer. I think he should be brought before
19 council and if he doesn't show up he should
20 be subpoenaed. And also maybe we can get
21 the detectives in there -- in here to answer
22 the questions if council would like to do
23 that.

24 But, as I said, it's in black and
25 white and there is -- I'm told by an

1 attorney there is a two-year statute of
2 limitations on that, Attorney Hughes, is
3 that true?

4 MR. HUGHES: I have no idea.

5 MR. SPINDLER: Okay, that's what I
6 was told. One year is up now. I think they
7 want to sit on it this report for two years
8 and then nothing can be done, so we have one
9 year to look into this now. So I would
10 appreciate if council tried to do something.
11 Thank you for your time.

12 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Ron Ellman.

13 MR. ELLMAN: Hello, Council. Ronnie
14 Ellman, member of the Taxpayers'. Those men
15 that just left here are our enemy, they are
16 not our friend. Just sitting here and
17 listening to them they have are like thieves
18 in the night and stolen millions of dollars
19 of our tax money and property, and just
20 sitting here with posters and their suits
21 and soft spoken is not working. What we
22 need is money. You don't want to hear them
23 talk about money. You can't put close to
24 1,000 people in those 400 apartments and
25 have 200 cars. That's nonsense.

1 street.

2 You know, I know everybody is sick
3 and tired of hearing the facts, they have
4 over 150 properties and they are worth over
5 100 million. If you take these 400
6 apartments, let's just say they rent for
7 \$500 a piece, right, which isn't very much,
8 500 to 400 would be \$200,000 a month times
9 12. I think that's \$2,400,000. If you
10 charge them \$1,000 a bed just on the 400
11 apartments that's only \$400,000, it leaves
12 them \$2 million and they are so greedy they
13 are going to tell you to go to blazes, but
14 you got to work out something like that.

15 Charge them for parking places. The
16 Forum, I saw in the paper a couple of years
17 ago, where they are charging so much a
18 parking place. You got to get money out of
19 these people. You know, the city just can't
20 keep going on. I just don't think you five
21 hear us. I really don't.

22 MS. EVANS: Mr. Ellman, we do hear
23 you and as we pledged we are -- we are
24 pursuing the nonprofits.

25 MR. ELLMAN: Yeah, but it's not what

1 you are going to do, it's what you are doing
2 right now. You know, ten or 20 years is not
3 going to help me. It's not going to help
4 these people across the street because I
5 talked to them, like I said, two weeks ago.
6 It's just heartbreaking to hear these
7 stories. I'm not even going to go into
8 that.

9 If you don't do something right now
10 it would be like taking a compass from this
11 building and making a circle of a mile
12 around here, it would all be nonprofits,
13 because that's where it's going. The heart
14 of our inner city is going to them with no
15 taxes involved, you know?

16 Well, I'll get off of that. I'd
17 like to thank all of the people that voted.
18 It seemed like a good turnout in the city.
19 Democracy only works when people participate
20 in it and speak up like they do in here.
21 That's why I like this place so much.

22 And I got a little question for you,
23 Miss Janet, and you don't have to answer.
24 I'm not saying it to embarrass you, but if
25 Mr. Doherty moved on and you were next for

1 mayor, would you have supported someone else
2 like maybe Mr. McGoff or would you have run?
3 Because I think you have so many benefits
4 and things, I was always wondering about
5 that. I don't want to put you on --

6 MS. EVANS: Um --

7 MR. ELLMAN: You can say you don't
8 want to answer.

9 MS. EVANS: Mr. Ellman, I think I
10 probably all I can say is if I had wanted to
11 be the mayor I would have run to be mayor
12 and I think I would have had very good
13 chance of being the mayor, but instead I'm
14 not here on city council and we have a new
15 council that is working very hard for the
16 people, and we are representing people and
17 fighting for you every day in ways you see,
18 in ways you don't see, but it's going on.
19 It's going on.

20 MR. ELLMAN: I'm not belittling
21 council because I'd say 99 percent of things
22 I hear are just very favorable for the
23 council.

24 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

25 MR. ELLMAN: But I think by your

1 answer you are telling me you would have
2 supported Brother McGoff running for mayor.

3 MS. EVANS: No comment.

4 MR. ELLMAN: Well, I thank you. Can
5 I say something real quick? I have people
6 asking me things because they don't want to
7 get in trouble with their neighbors, you
8 know, tell me things to say here. This will
9 just take a second. I had a big list of
10 things and one of them on School Street,
11 now, I don't know where School Street -- I
12 don't know where School Street is, I'm not
13 familiar next to that Gardener School, there
14 is a man that parks his car on the sidewalk
15 I was told and painted -- he painted it for
16 his car on the sidewalk and so the kids
17 can't go on it. Now, I have never seen it.
18 I don't know exactly what I'm talking about,
19 and further down the street a block, half a
20 block, somebody told me there is a junkie
21 car been across the sidewalk for a couple of
22 years, an old Camaro or something.

23 MS. EVANS: That's also on School
24 Street?

25 MR. ELLMAN: No, right down from

1 Gardner and School Street. I think that's
2 the one or 200 block along there. And
3 across the street on the 2,000 block of
4 North Main next to the old library there is
5 an iron fence and a house and there is some
6 people parked their car against the iron
7 fence where pedestrians can't get by. I
8 have seen that from a distance, you know, I
9 don't know.

10 MS. EVANS: Mr. Ellman, if you
11 could, this would be very helpful for us, if
12 you were able to write that down for us, and
13 then give it to Ms. Carrera before you leave
14 this evening then we can get on it.

15 MR. ELLMAN: Yeah, I'd have a
16 list -- I'd need a roll of toilet paper to
17 write it down.

18 MS. EVANS: That's all right. Just
19 keeping writing and keep giving it to us.
20 Thank you very much.

21 MR. ELLMAN: Thank you.

22 MR. LOSCOMBE: Mr. Ellman, just one
23 quick thing, I know you have been patient
24 for many years as has everyone else, we are
25 in office here, the majority, for less than

1 six months, and I assure you we are working
2 on a lot of projects, so you will see things
3 come to fruition down the road, so don't be
4 disappointed at this point.

5 MR. ELLMAN: I saw where you went.

6 MR. LOSCOMBE: I also went to the
7 zoning meeting.

8 MR. ELLMAN: I saw that.

9 MR. LOSCOMBE: The zoning did
10 approve the University for their parking and
11 everything, I asked them for a continuance
12 because some of the neighbors weren't
13 properly informed and there was a lot more
14 questions to be asked, but they approved it
15 that evening, so that's beyond our scope at
16 that level.

17 MR. ELLMAN: You were like attacking
18 a mount tan with a shovel, weren't you?
19 Thank you.

20 MR. LOSCOMBE: Thank you,
21 Mr. Ellman.

22 MR. ROGAN: Mark Phillips.

23 MR. PHILLIPS: I want to talk about
24 the Scranton Code, about parking in that
25 alleyway and parking between the building.

1 You know what I'm talking about. I got a
2 thing about an article in the newspaper, I
3 gave you guys a copy about the parking guy,
4 they are talking about they enforce every
5 ordinance, how come when I call they are not
6 enforcing it? I found out last Thursday
7 their laziness. They don't want to ticket
8 the people in the alley. Now, we are paying
9 taxes and we got lazy cops sitting down in
10 Luzerne Street where the Price Chopper used
11 to be sitting there hour and a half. I saw
12 a lady in the Mobile gas station she was
13 there over an hour. Well, I looked in and--
14 I looked in and I couldn't see her no place
15 and I thought where could she be? Sleeping?

16 And I want to complain about the
17 house inspector. Now, you seen a picture in
18 this alley there is no -- where the guy is
19 parking there is no easement, and they
20 cited me. Now, between the house and
21 the alley you need an easement or egress,
22 whatever you want to call it, it's a
23 right-of-way. How come they are not
24 enforcing it?

25 Now, the other thing I want to talk

1 about is the house -- I mean, the zone. I
2 have been in West Side, I bought a house at
3 1620 Luzerne Street. When I bought it 16
4 years ago the former owners were Sparacino.
5 They were the moving company. Now, that
6 house told me my property wasn't commercial.
7 When I bought it, I bought it off of --
8 where did I put it -- off of these people
9 and I got the same thing as this. This is
10 my neighbor. It's a commercial property. I
11 still got -- they say about grandfathered
12 in, I stool got the safe that Sparcinos used
13 on the property, so I should be
14 grandfathered in what everybody is telling
15 me, but I can't see no records or no
16 documents from this zoning or the house
17 authority. How come?

18 MR. ROGAN: What was that address
19 again? What was the address again?

20 MR. PHILLIPS: Which one?

21 MR. ROGAN: Was is Sloan Street you
22 said?

23 MR. PHILLIPS: Luzerne.

24 MR. ROGAN: Oh, Luzerne.

25 MR. JOYCE: 1620.

1 MR. ROGAN: 1620 Luzerne.

2 MR. PHILLIPS: The property next to
3 it is 1614 it's commercial right here. I
4 had the same thing when my bought my house
5 sixteen years ago the same thing, but that
6 was a different house there.

7 MR. ROGAN: Well, I think that would
8 be an issue for the zoning board. We could
9 ask them ---

10 MR. PHILLIPS: Well, how come I
11 didn't change in 16 years and I didn't get
12 no notice?

13 MR. ROGAN: I don't know. I've
14 always been on council for four months.

15 MR. PHILLIPS: I know. How come I
16 get fed lies every time I call for that
17 easement? They said it was the cop's
18 responsibility.

19 MR. ROGAN: I'm familiar with the
20 situation, I drove by there.

21 MR. PHILLIPS: Just lies. Another
22 thing the mayor lies and he lies right here,
23 he says that. Now, the going for the money.
24 Somebody better clean up their act.

25 MR. ROGAN: Maybe you should take it

1 up with the mayor.

2 MR. PHILLIPS: That's a jerk. These
3 people know it.

4 MR. ROGAN: Cara Dancey.

5 MS. DANCEY: Cara Dancey, resident.
6 I'm here to support Mark and I, too, live at
7 1620 Luzerne Street. The parking is
8 atrocious there. There is no way that I can
9 get in and out of my driveway because the
10 cars are parked there and also the children
11 play hide and seek behind the cars so it's
12 very difficult to go down that alleyway and
13 I know there could be an accident, so I just
14 wanted to say that and thank you very much.

15 MR. ROGAN: Thank you. Bob Bolus.

16 MR. JOYCE: Perhaps before Mr. Bolus
17 comes up and speaks, Mrs. Krake, if you can
18 send a letter to Chief Elliott notifying him
19 of the situation in that 1,600 block of the
20 court behind Luzerne Street and some of the
21 problems that people are having maybe he
22 could send over a patrol car to check it
23 out.

24 MR. ROGAN: I spoke to Mr. Phillips
25 on the phone I think it was about two or

1 three weeks ago and he said that the police
2 were up there multiple times, but it's just
3 a persistent problem, so I guess we could
4 send him another request.

5 MR. JOYCE: Yeah.

6 MR. BOLUS: Okay, thank you. Bob
7 Bolus, Scranton. A couple of issues bring
8 me to council this evening, one was that I
9 had raised several weeks ago about
10 containers, you know, storage containers in
11 the city and if there is an ordinance
12 against them or whatever it was and council
13 was going to look into that issue because we
14 have had an issue over open containers, you
15 know, you will see them like PODS are CVS
16 they are parked in the yard and we are in
17 that business as well and we have them.

18 And we were told originally by the
19 city solicitor, Gene Hickey, that they were
20 filing an injunction to have us remove them,
21 but they weren't doing anything else in the
22 city and I asked about the ordinance. If
23 there isn't one to advise us one way or the
24 other, and I brought that up to council and
25 I was hoping council had an answer on it or

1 could get me an answer as soon as possible
2 because we are having an issue about it
3 right now on East Mountain.

4 The other issue that brings me is
5 the issue I raised about the Hartman family
6 up there, Todd Hartman, built a home,
7 encroached on an easement that we use. The
8 police were called twice today up there. We
9 have a water main problem. The neighbor
10 next door was trying to stop them then
11 Hartman came home, he parked on the
12 easement, prevented me from even using my
13 own driveway, and he was being protected by
14 the city. Again, the solicitor when we
15 raised the fact that he had built his home
16 over a 16 1/2 foot city-owned piece of
17 property, a right-of-way, a waterway from
18 the dam, and Gene Hickey had said, "Well,
19 once they give him a permit that was
20 permission."

21 Of course, Attorney Hughes corrected
22 Mr. Hickey. We need something done now.
23 You know, we can't keep having the police
24 having to come up. My life has been very
25 disrupted by their actions, threatening, I

1 have been assaulted in the driveway by one
2 of the neighbor's kids, and it's on and on
3 and on it's got to come to an end and that's
4 why I'm here before council.

5 If the city has given him permission
6 in a subdivision or building permit without
7 even a highway occupancy permit to go ahead
8 and build on a city-owned piece of property
9 I'd like to know how he could do that and
10 get away it and I'm asking council to
11 intervene at this point.

12 If you are looking what you are
13 approving tonight from 7-A right on through
14 a whole bunch of properties that are being
15 sold for revenue. Why is it the political
16 atmosphere in the city is allowing Hartman
17 to be on a city-owned piece of property and
18 not pay a dime for it yet causing the
19 disruption of my life and my peace and
20 enjoyment of my property, getting away with
21 what he could do in the City of Scranton.

22 And this was done by the solicitor's
23 office claiming first they didn't own it,
24 when we showed them the deed to it they said
25 they didn't own it. They allowed him to

1 build on it and it's created nothing but
2 trouble and you can't build on city-owned
3 property, it should either put up for sale
4 or he has to remove his or not.

5 He was advised by a certified letter
6 before he built that he was building on
7 city-owned property and yet he continued to
8 go along, there has been nothing but
9 aggravation and trouble up there and it's
10 got to come to an end. I mean, twice the
11 police had to come up there today to tell
12 him move off the easement and he is
13 threatening to tow me off my property.

14 Now, the city allowed this to
15 happen, Gene Hickey allowed this to happen.
16 Gene Hickey supported him trying to get an
17 injunction against us at taxpayers' expense
18 to remove the containers we had there, and
19 this is why I'm asking the city about the
20 ordinance regarding these containers. There
21 are storage containers that are used all
22 over the city. Now, why am I being
23 selective enforced and nobody else is? And
24 that has got to come to a head.

25 I mean, you know, getting assaulted

1 in your driveway and harassed on a daily
2 basis, you know, and the city supporting it
3 from the law department. Now, I don't know
4 what political favors he owed or somebody
5 owes him, but I don't owe him anything. I
6 just want the quiet enjoyment of my property
7 and I need council to intervene at this
8 juncture to get an answer for me if you
9 would.

10 MS. EVANS: Mr. Bolus, I came in
11 late during your presentation, are you
12 asking for council to verify that the
13 property of which are speaking is
14 city-owned, and if so did the -- I think you
15 say that the legal department had stated to
16 either you or your attorney that it's not
17 city-owned property?

18 MR. BOLUS: That's correct, Mrs.
19 Evans. We showed them the deed to it. It
20 was surveyed out, it's black and white, it's
21 owned by the City of Scranton. They just
22 turned a blind eye and issued a permit to
23 allow them to build a home through it and
24 that's something you can't do, and he built
25 knowing full well he was on city-owned

1 property and now the city is entitled to
2 revenue from all of the properties just as
3 you are giving the property tonight why
4 should somebody that had a political
5 influence on the school board or whatever be
6 allowed to get something for nothing in the
7 city. It's got to go out for bid and if he
8 can bid it he can own it. If he doesn't bid
9 it, he doesn't own it and he will have to
10 move his house if someone outbids him. It's
11 to the benefit of the City. The city
12 ignored this in the law department, and
13 that's why I'm asking for intervention from
14 the city right now.

15 We are spending thousands of dollars
16 in legal fees fighting a battle that we
17 shouldn't have to fight because of the
18 city's negligence.

19 MS. EVANS: I understand what you
20 are saying, but I'm also contemplating that
21 if the legal department gave you the answer
22 that it's not city-owned, it would seem that
23 they are going to provide the same answer to
24 city council.

25 MR. BOLUS: No, they have changed

1 that answer now. They have admitted the
2 city owns it.

3 MS. EVANS: Oh, okay.

4 MR. BOLUS: There is no question now
5 it's owned by the City of Scranton.

6 MS. EVANS: Then we will look into
7 it and see if there is anything we can do.

8 MR. BOLUS: If I may, I know I took
9 some time on this, but, you know, we see
10 Dunmore is in trouble, we see Scranton is in
11 trouble, but nobody is looking at Keystone
12 Landfill. Now, there were agreements way
13 before this 2000 agreement regarding the
14 leachate line coming from Dunmore, and I
15 have raised this many, many times. Dunmore
16 knows it's a source of revenue to bail them
17 out and Scranton has to join in with
18 Scranton to charge a fee for using that
19 leachate line for millions of dollars.

20 MS. EVANS: I agree, but I think
21 what the problem has been and I believe
22 council learned this by listening to
23 Mr. Barrett's presentation when he last
24 attended a public caucus, it's the Scranton
25 Sewer Authority who is receiving that money

1 instead of Scranton and Dunmore.

2 MR. BOLUS: Well, I'm with you 100
3 percent on that, they could charge to treat
4 the affluent going through the line. My
5 issue is just like they are a host community
6 in Dunmore and Throop for the garbage that's
7 being dumped, I want us as a host community
8 for the line to come through Scranton and
9 charge so much per gallon to allow them to
10 run the line through here. We don't care
11 what the Sewer Authority gets. They haven't
12 managed their assets either, so, you know,
13 manage the rest of the people so by putting
14 the leachate line as a host community as
15 well as the gas line out of the Alliance
16 Landfill, we could bring millions of dollars
17 into the City and into Dunmore to pull them
18 out of trouble, and just by buying a few
19 pieces of equipment doesn't absolve Keystone
20 Landfill for us to turn a blind eye like
21 they did in Dunmore. "Buy us a garbage
22 truck and we don't see anything else going
23 on."

24 In Scranton, "Buy us a motorcycle,"
25 and that's what I'm getting away from.

1 one question? Are you currently in
2 litigation with Mr. Hartman?

3 MR. BOLUS: Yes, I am.

4 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you.

5 MR. BOLUS: And Mr. Hartman is here.
6 I'm sure he could speak very well for
7 himself. He's had a big mouth all day.

8 MR. MCGOFF: Excuse me, that's
9 uncalled for.

10 MR. BOLUS: Well, I think it was
11 because he can --

12 MR. MCGOFF: I asked one question.

13 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

14 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you.

15 MS. EVANS: Our next speaker is Jim
16 Jim Strisnecki.

17 MR. STRISNECKI: Good evening,
18 Council. My name is Jim Strisnecki,
19 resident of Scranton, Weston Field area. I
20 know I normally speak about city issues, but
21 I'm not here to talk about city issues and
22 at the same time I am, okay? I'm here as a
23 spokesperson for the Weston Field Friends of
24 James T. Reddington, I don't know if any of
25 yours ever heard of the name, James. T.

1 Reddington. Bob, you may have heard of him,
2 right? Do you know Jimmy? Okay, that's
3 what I'm here to speak about, if I may?

4 MS. EVANS: Yes.

5 MR. STRISNECKI: Okay? Okay. Jimmy
6 was born and raised in Scranton, okay? He
7 went to public schools. Jimmy was a 1965
8 graduate of Scranton Technical High School.
9 Jimmy worked local in a few of the plants
10 around here and in 1966 Jimmy joined the US
11 Marines. He was shipped overseas to
12 Vietnam, okay, and in 1967, March 23, Jimmy
13 was killed in action over in Vietnam, okay?

14 And what we are doing is come this
15 Thursday at Cathedral Cemetery at 1:00 we
16 are going to Honor Jimmy. We did this last
17 year. What it is is Jimmy no longer has
18 family in this area except for a niece, but
19 we took it upon ourselves all of the friends
20 from the neighborhood and whoever else we
21 could gather, we meet up at the cemetery,
22 okay? And we are asking anybody that went
23 to school with Jimmy back in '65 that
24 graduated with him that's watching the TV
25 and friends of his if they can show up and

1 at the cemetery it would really be
2 appreciated.

3 MS. EVANS: Sir, are you -- at 1:00
4 are you meeting say at the entrance to the
5 cemetery or --

6 MR. STRISNICKI: We will meet right
7 at -- right at Jimmy's grave actually, okay?

8 MS. EVANS: But would people all
9 know where that is?

10 MR. STRISNICKI: Yeah, I'm sure they
11 will, Mrs. Evans. It's right to -- all the
12 way in the back of the cemetery is where it
13 is. I don't have the plot number, I should
14 have, that's my fault, okay, I should have
15 taken it down, but I don't know, but if I
16 could read had this here, if I can go a
17 little further with this. I don't have the
18 plot number, I wish I did, but I don't, but
19 I'm sure what we're going to do it's going
20 to be on Thursday, May 27, at 1 p.m. at
21 Cathedral Cemetery. We plan on honoring a
22 true friend and hero and a marine that was
23 killed in Vietnam 43 years ago on March 23,
24 1967. Excuse me. In attendance there
25 will be a few of Jimmy's best friends and

1 fellow marines from the second battalion,
2 fifth marine, Echo Company.

3 By the way, Mr. Joseph Sylvestri and
4 Bob Warren, who was with Jimmy the day he
5 got killed, also come and visit his grave
6 site every year, which is very nice. Bob
7 comes in -- actually comes from Florida,
8 Jimmy comes from Wrigley Park, PA, and they
9 visit his grave site every year, and like I
10 said, Jimmy has no one. His mom has passed
11 away and his sister has passed away, and we
12 think that is very -- you know, and they
13 will be there Thursday, also.

14 There is going to be some local
15 media there and politicians and friends of
16 the forgotten also will be there. And in
17 closing, we are asking if you know of
18 someone who knew Jimmy please give them a
19 call and let them know about this honoring.
20 It would appreciated, okay?

21 MS. EVANS: Thank you so much.

22 MR. STRISNICKI: Thank you so much.
23 Appreciate it.

24 MS. EVANS: Teri Suseck.

25 MS. SUSECK: Good evening, Council.

1 I live on the South Side of Scranton at 729
2 Saginaw Street directly across from Hilltop
3 Manor and I was here in March to complain
4 about their throwing the trash out in
5 plastic bags that be ripped and torn open
6 and homeowners all on the Saginaw Side and
7 also on South Webster are getting this trash
8 blown on their property, and we have been
9 trying to pick it up on a daily basis and
10 still nothing has been done about it, you
11 know, a couple months of have passed. The
12 same thing, putting your trash out in bags.

13 I don't understand why federally
14 subsidized through HUD, they are being --
15 the City of Scranton is being subsidized
16 through HUD why they don't have dumpsters
17 and why this continues.

18 MS. EVANS: Well, we will again talk
19 to or send notification to the Housing
20 Authority.

21 MS. SUSTECK: No, we already tried
22 that. I tried that.

23 MS. EVANS: I know. The Housing
24 Authority is an autonomous body. It does
25 not answer to Scranton City Council.

1 MS. SUSTECK: Oh, I spoke to a woman
2 from HUD, the director of multi-family
3 subsidized housing, she called subsidized
4 housing and was told that, oh, yes, that
5 lady is a complainer, we have a dumpster
6 there. That's what she told HUD.

7 MS. EVANS: And there is no
8 dumpster.

9 MS. SUSTECK: There is no dumpster.
10 Everybody knows. I sent pictures now to HUD
11 to prove my point.

12 MR. ROGAN: I was up there when were
13 running, too, and there was garbage. There
14 was garbage everywhere and I remember we
15 sent a letter on behalf of her to the
16 Housing Authority and nothing has been done.

17 MS. EVANS: Nothing has been done.
18 Well, the Housing Authority also would not
19 come to council to discuss any of these
20 issues as well. We are going to do our best
21 again this week to talk to the Director of
22 Housing Authority and request that a
23 dumpster is placed in that area.

24 MS. SUSTECK: And the other thing I
25 also came about is we live next to -- we are

1 between 721 and we are 729, there is a lot
2 between -- an empty lot between the two
3 homes and we had complained one year ago
4 lodging -- I lodged a written complaint with
5 the Scranton Police Department on this lot
6 because it has not been maintained, the
7 grass has grown to be at least two feet
8 high, the fence is delapidated and falling
9 down and nothing has been done about that.

10 I went to the safety -- Public
11 Safety Department to complain after a
12 year -- I was told they were sending him a
13 letter out, the owner, and then after a year
14 nothing has been done. I went recently like
15 about a week and a half ago and the woman
16 told me, oh, well -- first, she tried to say
17 we couldn't locate him and then she said,
18 "Oh, we've got him, but we didn't send a
19 letter yet."

20 Now, you tell me why it's taken one
21 year to this day why somebody from the
22 Public Safety Department can't send a letter
23 out for the owner to mow their property and
24 why Scranton hasn't done it themselves.

25 MS. EVANS: Well, actually, when

1 it's not city-owned property it should be
2 maintained by the owner, but I think an
3 inspector, licensing inspections and permits
4 should and handling this as opposed to the
5 police department. So, Mrs. Krake, if we
6 can please send that message to Officer
7 Herchik tomorrow morning and you said again
8 it's a lot, an empty lot located between
9 721--

10 MS. SUSTECK: And 729 Saginaw.

11 MS. EVANS: -- and 729 Saginaw?

12 MS. SUSTECK: Yes. And someone else
13 also complained about that. There's a
14 neighbor that -- actually, the neighbor at
15 721 she had told me the same day I came down
16 here to the Public Safety Department she had
17 called, too.

18 MS. EVANS: Okay.

19 MS. SUSTECK: And we haven't heard
20 anything yet, and the grass has been like
21 that for like two years, two years.

22 MS. EVANS: There are many, many,
23 too many lots like that decoratively
24 decorating our entire city.

25 MS. SUSTECK: And the other thing is

1 I don't understand why it's subsidized
2 housing, federally subsidized housing, why
3 this was allowed to go on for years and
4 years and years, you know, with no
5 dumpsters, you know, people putting out
6 their trash like that?

7 MS. EVANS: Agreed.

8 MS. SUSTECK: I mean, what's
9 happening to the federal money, the HUD
10 money with this trash pick up? I mean,
11 where are the dumpsters. All your other
12 sites, all your other subsidized housing
13 have dumpsters that are screened off, and
14 yet nothing is being done. I mean, it's
15 ludicrous that I have to go to the head of
16 HUD and complain because nothing has been
17 done.

18 MS. EVANS: I agree.

19 MR. JOYCE: Who is the person from
20 HUD that you spoke to?

21 MS. SUSTECK: Okay, wait a minute.
22 Hang on. Her name Elaine Vargin. Would you
23 like her number?

24 MR. JOYCE: Yeah.

25 MS. SUSTECK: It's area code

1 215-861-7561 and I just recently sent her
2 photographs to prove and she should have
3 received them by now.

4 MS. EVANS: Very good.

5 MS. SUSTECK: Thank you.

6 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

7 MR. JOYCE: Thank you.

8 MS. EVANS: Dave Dobrzyn.

9 MR. DOBRZYN: Good evening, Council.
10 Dave Dobrzyn. First of all, somebody
11 brought a handful of rings out from the
12 lady's bathroom and asked me to --

13 MS. EVANS: They are mine. Oh, my
14 goodness. Thank you, Mr. Dobrzyn.

15 MR. DOBRZYN: I could have went down
16 to the Pawn Shop. Dave Dobrzyn, resident of
17 Scranton and so forth. First of all, I'd
18 like to address the situation with Comcast
19 that exists with their boxes, their digital
20 boxes. I don't know if it can be seen here,
21 I'll try and get a bigger poster maybe next
22 week with the taxpayers, but there is four
23 oval-shaped buttons on the left-hand front
24 of your set, the digital box, and the one
25 in-between the channel display, and it runs

1 horizontal, if you press that your volume
2 will increase by approximately 100 percent.
3 Every time that box is disconnected or reset
4 or reprogrammed it reverts back to a volume
5 of 15 and with the maximum volume of 30, and
6 on the bottom of your screen it will appear
7 that a different set of bars than what your
8 regular remote would have for your
9 television and it will increase the volume
10 by approximately 100 percent, so it's
11 strictly with the box.

12 And, also, if you are missing
13 Channel 19 and you have plain old regular
14 cable, basic, you have to go into the seek
15 mode on your television and you will be able
16 to pick it up because I couldn't pick it up
17 for a couple of months and then somebody
18 mentioned that, yeah, I can't get it and I
19 put it in the seek mode, but it's this
20 button right here and in-between the display
21 channel, channel display, and it's a
22 horizontal button, these are channel up and
23 downs and that's the lower volume, but a lot
24 of the complaints probably evolve around
25 this not being maximized out, so it could

1 really improve the audibility of the program
2 you are watching.

3 Okay, on the lights, we mentioned we
4 had some visually impaired people here and I
5 have been walking around town and watching
6 different things and part of the problem
7 from what I can gather is our state law.
8 There isn't any absolutely red light. You
9 can turn -- you can turn on a red in some
10 cases and unless it's -- so no matter what
11 we ever did for people that were visually
12 impaired or physically impaired we may have
13 to change the state law back to the good old
14 days and that's all there is to it because
15 currently the green light flashes and you
16 can make a right-hand turn and then the walk
17 sign is illuminated at the same time. So,
18 you know, it's like run for your life if you
19 have a crazy driver coming up the street.

20 And on these blight issues, Marie
21 addressed this the last time, but the only
22 thing I would urge is that if a house is
23 occupied and it's blighted to try and go
24 easy and work with these people because the
25 only worse than a blighted house next door

1 is a blighted condemned house next door that
2 nothing is ever going to done with it, so
3 when we adopt these ordinances please try
4 and if it's old Aunt Millie I don't what we
5 can do for her, but certainly closing her
6 house down and having it sitting there for
7 ten years until somebody breaks in or starts
8 it on the fire isn't the answer either. I'm
9 sure you people understand that, but there's
10 no problem there.

11 And on some of these issues with
12 people getting impatient with you, I get
13 disturbed about how people expect everything
14 in this country, and it's nationally, to
15 change overnight and they don't. It doesn't
16 happen overnight. It's never going to
17 happen overnight. You are not going to turn
18 an economy around overnight that's besieged
19 by foreign trade packs or whatever have you
20 and energy issues.

21 And finally that trash situation, we
22 need barrels. We really need barrels.
23 Either that or an ordinance that people
24 cannot put our garbage until the morning if
25 they don't plan to have a barrel. Let them

1 get up at 6:00 in the morning and put it out
2 before they go to work because otherwise the
3 animals get into it and it's all over, and
4 it looks like litter and it's not litter
5 it's just plain trash hanging around.

6 MS. EVANS: Thank you, Mr. Dobrzyn.

7 MR. DOBRZYN: Thank you and have a
8 good night. Golden parrot once again goes
9 to BP because they did it big time this
10 time. All right.

11 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

12 MR. DOBRZYN: Have a good week.

13 MS. EVANS: Marie Schumacher.

14 MS. SCHUMACHER: Good evening,
15 Council. Marie Schumacher, city resident
16 and member of the taxpayers' group. Two
17 things that came up tonight. First of all,
18 those vehicles and capital items that are
19 being procured should be on the capital
20 budget. Those should be there and it should
21 just show who is paying. That has always
22 been the case. I don't think you need
23 special legislation, you just need to
24 enforce the capital budget preparation and
25 tracking.

1 MS. EVANS: Well, actually, I think
2 you have to have legislation though to
3 accept any type of donation or contribution
4 to the city. It's got to come before
5 Scranton City Council, but what I think
6 maybe Solicitor Hughes might have been
7 intending here is that council can have a
8 role in the decision making.

9 MS. SCHUMACHER: Well, that may be
10 but, I mean, it should be part of -- the
11 decision making you get to approve the
12 capital budget and those items should be in
13 the capital budget that's sent here and
14 that's the time you approve it, not as a
15 separate thing. If they can't plan to do in
16 August what they are going to purchase the
17 next year that would be pathetic, and I
18 think they are capable of doing that.

19 The next thing, the signalization, I
20 reported on that project I believe back in
21 March, I'll double check it, but I have
22 talked to PennDOT. They are now in charge
23 of the signalization project, the city's
24 portion is complete and I believe it was
25 March of 2011 that they said it would be bid

1 out so --

2 MR. LOSCOMBE: May, I believe the
3 first.

4 MS. SCHUMACHER: Whatever, I'll
5 double check it, but that's -- the other
6 thing when you start talking about vehicles
7 there were aborted budget meetings that
8 Mrs. Gatelli was going to hold several years
9 ago during the month of August, but one
10 thing that came up at the one meeting that
11 did occur was that there was a low and
12 moderate income area where it was eligible
13 for a fire truck, and I don't think that was
14 ever pursued and, of course, a new fire
15 truck for that would allow the rest to
16 domino out so that the oldest one in the
17 fleet, and they are all pretty old, could be
18 either sold or junked or whatever, but I
19 think that should be looked at as well.

20 And, now, I would also like to thank
21 Chief Davis for moving on the Dunmore
22 situation. I think it's tragic what's
23 happened, but at least he took some action
24 and I'm happy about that.

25 And now if I could I would like to

1 give you two handouts?

2 (Ms. Schumacher approaches the
3 dais.)

4 MS. SCHUMACHER: The first. As you
5 will note, is an article from the most
6 current Forbes' magazine on Houston, the
7 model city, and you can read it all, but I
8 would just like to read two paragraphs.

9 "So what does Houston have that
10 these other cities lack? Opportunity.
11 Between 2000 and 2009, Houston's employment
12 grew by 260,000. Greater New York City,
13 with nearly three times the population of
14 Houston, has added only 96,000 jobs. The
15 Chicago area has lost 258,000 jobs; San
16 Francisco has lost 217,000; Los Angeles,
17 168,000; and Boston 100,004.

18 Politicians in big cities talk about
19 jobs, but by keeping taxes, fees and
20 regulatory barriers high they discourage the
21 creation of the jobs, at least in the
22 private sector. A business in San Francisco
23 and Los Angeles never know what bizarre new
24 costs will be imposed by city hall. In New
25 York or Boston you can thrive as a nonprofit

1 executive, high-end consultant or financier,
2 but if are the owner of the business that
3 wants to grow you are out of luck."

4 And I think that should be taken --
5 should be heeded.

6 The other thing I provided to you
7 tonight because I want to pick up -- I
8 picked up on what Andy Sbaraglia said, those
9 properties that you are planning to sell
10 tonight. Now, I don't know -- I have given
11 you a map, which is from the Assessor's
12 Office, the map numbers that are boxed are
13 the properties that are you going to be
14 voting on tonight. The streets that are
15 hatched are actually paper streets, they do
16 not exist, and I have some real concerns
17 about this whole project. I have a concern
18 about the environmental impact. I don't
19 know if you have to sell these, but if they
20 have to be sold I have a concern in that I
21 don't know, and if you can answer this
22 tonight it will alleviate my question, but
23 if the laws that currently exist are
24 grandfathered in at the time of purchase, I
25 think this whole project needs to be tabled

1 and has to be looked at better, and if you
2 don't have to sell them, I would suggest
3 that you might want to consider auctioning
4 them, because I went over there this
5 afternoon to double check on where the roads
6 existed and a "For Sale" sign had appeared
7 since the last time I was over there and I
8 talked to the real estate agent when I got
9 back to the house, there are two lots -- if
10 may finish?

11 MS. EVANS: Yes.

12 MS. SCHUMACHER: Two lots going down
13 Birch Street, and one -- and then they were
14 actually sold and it fell through because
15 the individual could not get the financing,
16 but there is a three-quarter acre lot that
17 was -- that is on sale for \$24,000 and a 1/3
18 of an acre lots that's on sale for \$19,000,
19 and if you look at what you are planning to
20 accept for those, that's quite a difference
21 and I think the taxpayers should be
22 protected.

23 And I would suggest that if you
24 haven't been up there to see it's totally --
25 it's right now it's totally wooded and I

1 would assume you can see how contiguous
2 these are that it's planned as a development
3 and would have to go, of course, before the
4 planning board, but the storm water
5 situation on that side of the mountain is
6 like pretty much nonexistent and I know when
7 Froud Avenue was extended down to Birch
8 Street there was a lot of -- a lot of dirt
9 was moved and people who had lived in a home
10 on Blucher Avenue and never had water in
11 their basement suddenly got water in their
12 basement, and if all of these trees are
13 striped out of there there is going to be
14 nothing to absorb the water and I just have
15 a great fear and I think it behooves some
16 more examination before you go ahead and
17 approve this tonight.

18 And remember, also, that we had I
19 believe the Medallises over in Tripp Park
20 also had problems, so there is something
21 lacking in our regulations that allow these
22 developments to come in and not properly
23 deal with the storm water and then the
24 taxpayers probably in that Tripp Park area
25 will get stuck paying for that fix, and I

1 don't want that to happen on my East
2 Mountain either, so I would ask that you
3 table them and do some more studying
4 tonight. Thank you.

5 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Is there
6 anyone else that would like to address
7 council?

8 MR. SLEDENZSKI: You didn't forget
9 me, did you, Janet?

10 MS. EVANS: Oh, Chrissy.

11 MR. SLEDENZSKI: Never forget me, do
12 you. Hey, Jack. Well, Janet, we lost
13 another one yesterday. We got brutalized.

14 MS. EVANS: What?

15 MR. SLEDENZSKI: 15/nothing.

16 MR. LOSCOMBE: Oh, Chrissy.

17 MR. SLEDENZSKI: It wasn't even
18 funny either. We played terrible. So I'll
19 tell you right now, Jack, it will be a good
20 year, but these girls play their hearts out
21 all season long. Thank you.

22 MS. EVANS: Thanks, Chris.

23 MR. HARTMAN: Good evening, Council.
24 Todd Hartman, 1621 Birch Street, East
25 Mountain section of town and I also own a

1 home at 1207 Moltke Avenue that I'm selling,
2 resident of East Mountain for just about 45
3 years. Some of you know me, some you have
4 don't. I came to council prior to some of
5 you guys sitting here. I have only been to
6 council once, this is my second time, okay,
7 and hopefully my last.

8 We do have an issue, I'm not going
9 to discuss me and my neighbor's problems,
10 what we do have is this thing with the
11 spillway on the lake. Five years I
12 purchased that land and my neighbor has a
13 house there a little longer than that. This
14 land was purchased probably six or seven
15 years ago that my neighbor is insinuating
16 that the city owns. It went through a
17 subdivision, our taxes were paid, our
18 permits were all paid, we were issued
19 building permits for our property.

20 I sit here and I listen for weeks,
21 every other week that my neighbor is here,
22 I'm not here, he complains about
23 Mr. Hartman. Mr. Hartman is not the only
24 neighbor. It has to go through two other
25 properties before it hits Mr. Hartman's

1 house.

2 Now, on the down side of me is
3 another neighbor, he owns the property next
4 to me where Mr. Bolus has this scene that
5 it's an easement, but the land is owned by
6 next door neighbor where the easement sets
7 on.

8 What the problem is here is we
9 had -- I had spoken to Gene Hickey many
10 months ago that the city was going to remedy
11 this thing with the spillway of the lake,
12 okay? Over the 45 years that I have been up
13 there, that spillway has always run down
14 Birch Street, at the rear of Birch. If it
15 ran down to where my neighbor assumes it's
16 supposed to run you would have to take
17 probably in the vicinity of 30 homes that
18 are there, at least going back to the
19 1900's, okay, the early 19000's.

20 My problem is I get kicked around
21 every two weeks here and I don't come, I'm
22 not that type of person. I'm not, you know,
23 I'm not politically there anymore, I sat on
24 a school board, my neighbor thinks I'm a
25 politician, I'm not. I did community

1 service. He talked about the PODS, they
2 were 54-foot trailer that were set on the
3 side of my house that I could not see my
4 daughter and son get off the bus stop. They
5 were over ten feet high.

6 Than there was a trailer at the end
7 with three bull's eye on it because somebody
8 had vandalized my neighbor's car, probably
9 he thinks it was me, I don't know, you know,
10 that was never said to me, but I assume
11 because he put bull's eyes in front of my
12 house that he assumed it was me.

13 Now, as far as the officers today
14 coming up there, I was home -- I wasn't
15 home, I was at work, I talked to my
16 neighbor. He didn't call them so evidently
17 my neighbor must have called them, the one
18 that lives in the rear of Birch Street.

19 Now, my thing with council is this
20 spillway thing with the lake for the 16 1/2
21 foot easement that spills out of Mountain
22 Lake has to be addressed. I have owned this
23 land for quite so many years, and so have my
24 neighbors. It's been kicked around in this
25 community and nothing has been done. Hickey

1 told me he was going to take care of it and
2 it isn't done. The responsibility is
3 probably going to come back to me, and I'm
4 going to have pay my attorney to take care
5 of this. If I do have to do this, this is
6 not a threat, I am going to have to come
7 after the city for taking their
8 responsibility to take care of this
9 spillway. If doesn't go there, like I said,
10 I'm up there almost 45 years, it's always
11 gone down the rear of Birch in behind the
12 homes. If I have to get my neighbors, I'll
13 bring my neighbors in.

14 The other thing is with these PODS
15 that were on the side of my house for 9 1/2
16 months, you know, if they were in Greenridge
17 or South Side or they were in, you know,
18 somebody else's neighborhood it wouldn't
19 have happened, okay, but it was in front of
20 my house, okay, on the side of my house. I
21 own two properties in East Mountain, one is
22 \$2,000 a year in property taxes and the
23 other one is just about \$5,000, so that's
24 \$7,000 that I pay in property taxes.

25 My neighbor doesn't live there. He

1 just drives through and drives back. That's
2 what he does. Right now he has a water
3 problem up there with his water service
4 that's been broken for well over a month,
5 okay? I called the city's permits and
6 licensing, I didn't get a return call, I
7 want to know if he has a permit to do it
8 like I had permits for my home, and I had to
9 have my sewer and my water, my electric. I
10 had to pay all my permits, I'm wondering if
11 he has his.

12 Now, I left a voicemail for
13 Mr. Seitzinger and I hope he would return my
14 call tomorrow, but if he doesn't, you know,
15 I'm going to have to call my attorney and
16 react the same way, and I'm not trying to be
17 a burden here, you guys know I don't come
18 here, and I hope I never have to come again,
19 but I need this remedied because if it isn't
20 remedied I'm going to have take my and my
21 family and my two children, the money out of
22 their pockets and their education, to sit
23 here and play games with attorneys. You
24 know, it's an easement next door to my
25 house, he is sitting here complaining that I

1 blocked the easement, I did not block the
2 easement. That's someplace else. He
3 blocked the easement for 9 1/2 months that I
4 had to look at these trailers on the side of
5 my house that I built in Scranton, the
6 second one, and I have to deal with this.

7 You know, my family shouldn't have
8 to deal with this, you know, I did my 9 1/2
9 months penance with it. I don't think he
10 should be able to turn around and pull
11 trailers back in. The easement thing will
12 be straightened out by our attorneys, but
13 the spillway for the lake if it isn't -- if
14 isn't addressed in a timely fashion I'm
15 going to have to address it, but I'm going
16 to have come back after the City of Scranton
17 and I don't want to do that. I like the
18 City of Scranton, I represented the Scranton
19 School District for 12 years, I'm not a
20 politician per se as he tells me.

21 I didn't call favors in. If I
22 called favors in they you think they would
23 have sat there for 9 1/2 months. I can't
24 call favors like that, John, you know that.

25 MS. EVANS: I think I am beginning

1 to understand how the magistrate might feel,
2 we have been hearing two sides of one story,
3 but I'm certainly not a magistrate, and
4 again, though I understand what you are
5 saying Mr. Hickey made it very clear to city
6 council in an unrelated case that council
7 cannot -- well, council has no authority
8 over any department, council can't even
9 speak with a department head unless it gains
10 permission, and so I think the best advice I
11 could give everyone is to contact, because I
12 know there is difficulty reaching department
13 heads, I have heard that many, many times.
14 Sometimes, you know, they can't be reached
15 then there are numerous complaints when
16 calls have never been returned, but I think
17 maybe the best avenue available to everyone
18 right now is to seek a meeting with the
19 mayor and the mayor can direct the law
20 department to write any necessary
21 legislation on that that will solve this
22 problem for everyone involved hopefully and
23 then it comes to city council, but city
24 council really cannot order Mr. Hickey to
25 take action on any of this.

1 MR. HARTMAN: I understand that,
2 Mrs. Evans. I'm here for the reason being
3 every two weeks I'm getting bashed here by
4 neighbor I want the City of Scranton and the
5 people that actually watch this and you five
6 people to understand what's going on there.
7 I'm raising two children. I have had to
8 notify the District Attorney's Office over
9 other issues that have transpired there and
10 I'm just getting tired of it. I'm tired of
11 my neighbor bashing me every two weeks here
12 like I don't have the time to come here
13 every week or every two weeks or once a
14 month, I have other things and you guys have
15 other issues to address. I don't need to be
16 bashed by an individual who doesn't live
17 here, just votes here, and sits there and
18 chronically complains about me. I'm not the
19 only one the issue here. I have two
20 neighbors.

21 MS. EVANS: Well, he could on
22 property though --

23 MR. HARTMAN: I have three neighbors
24 that are next door to me. It's always
25 Hartman, Hartman, Hartman.

1 MS. EVANS: Yes.

2 MR. HARTMAN: I understand. They're
3 nice people, they are great neighbors, but
4 I'm not going to sit here and get bashed.
5 Like I said, I will call Seitzinger again.
6 If it does not occur I will file suit
7 against this city for nonenforcement or not
8 taken in a timely fashion. I don't want to
9 do that. I'm not that type of person, but I
10 have to do what I have to do, and I thank
11 you for your time and good luck to each and
12 every one of you.

13 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Is there
14 anyone else who cares to address council?

15 MR. MORGAN: Good evening, Council.

16 MS. EVANS: Good evening.

17 MR. MORGAN: I'd just like to
18 address the city's I guess financial
19 situation a little bit today. You know, you
20 read the paper, you see that Dunmore is
21 going through similar problems and from what
22 I have read at this point they are seriously
23 considering bankruptcy, and I have to say
24 that I agree with them, and I have to say
25 that I hope that council and the mayor sit

1 down and talk out the problems that the city
2 has, but it's been kicked around even before
3 Mr. Murphy was on council that bankruptcy
4 was probably the best avenue of approach for
5 the city, and council itself said today that
6 they have an obligation to the taxpayers and
7 the residents of this city financially, and
8 I just think that maybe we should really
9 give that some serious consideration because
10 I don't think it's possible to dig our way
11 out of this debt to be honest with you. We
12 have no control over the authorities, we
13 just have a rolling debt, and you watch the
14 downturn in the world itself and the thing
15 that happened in Greece isn't an isolated
16 issue. There is even talk that America
17 won't be able to make it's debt payment
18 soon, so maybe it's time to really take a
19 good hard look at bankruptcy.

20 I mean, if we are going to talk
21 about, you know, making budget cuts there
22 is, you know, some discussions that I have
23 heard that residents have had about the
24 amount of money that council may be
25 considering cutting and they just don't

1 think it's enough, you know, it's just not
2 enough. They are talking millions, I'm
3 talking at least seven, and where would the
4 seven million come from. I don't know
5 because, you know, I have asked you before
6 and council hasn't broke the budget down in
7 sections and started going through it line
8 item by line item.

9 And I agree with what some other
10 people here have said --

11 MS. EVANS: Actually, Mr. Morgan, if
12 I could just interrupt for a second, each
13 council member is -- I don't know, I'm not
14 getting any status reports from them, but
15 they can be working on the budget, I know I
16 have been working on the budget, I know
17 Mr. Joyce has been working on the budget as
18 Finance Chair. This isn't something we are
19 allowing for the 11th hour. There is
20 ongoing work.

21 MR. MORGAN: Well, I make my
22 statements from the questions I asked this
23 council and, Mrs. Evans, you had stated to
24 me before you that had not broken the budget
25 down and broke it up among the council

1 members, so I go by what you say.

2 MS. EVANS: No, I'm not assigning
3 them portions of the budget, I'd like
4 everyone to look at the budget in it's
5 entirety and come up with all of their
6 suggestions and then all of that will be
7 combined.

8 MR. MORGAN: Okay, so you are all
9 looking at different sections of the budget,
10 would that be a true statement?

11 MS. EVANS: We are looking at the
12 budget in it's entirety, each one of us. We
13 are looking through every section of the
14 budget line item by line item, but I have
15 not delegated, for example, "Mr. Joyce, you
16 are just going to handle the BA's Office,"
17 or "Mr. Loscombe, I'm just going to have you
18 look into the police department."

19 I would like everyone looking at
20 everything.

21 MR. MORGAN: So what you are stating
22 is that you are collectively looking at the
23 budget together, is that when you are saying
24 or are you saying that you are just going
25 rough shot, there is no focus on this look

1 at the budget, is that what you are saying?
2 I'm trying to understand what you are saying
3 to me because if it's not focused --

4 MS. EVANS: It's focused.

5 MR. MORGAN: Okay. Well, I
6 certainly hope so. How much -- how much are
7 you considering cutting out of the budget at
8 this point?

9 MS. EVANS: That I can't tell you
10 because I think it's very unrealistic for
11 anyone to say, for example, as you have,
12 that I would do 10 percent cuts across the
13 board because you certainly do have to
14 examine line item by line item, department
15 by department, services that are absolutely
16 essentially, those that can be done without.

17 MR. MORGAN: So you have no target?

18 MS. EVANS: Pardon?

19 MR. MORGAN: You have no focus, no
20 target on what you are trying to cut?

21 MS. EVANS: Yes, I do. I have
22 explained that to you previously.

23 MR. MORGAN: No, you haven't.

24 MS. EVANS: And I have made budgets
25 before and, Mr. Morgan, you are certainly

1 welcome --

2 MR. MORGAN: Well, I have seen
3 proposals you've made, but I haven't seen a
4 budget you have made, I have seen proposals
5 you have made.

6 MS. EVANS: What you can do, which
7 would be very helpful I think for everyone,
8 you can get a copy of the budget --

9 MR. MORGAN: I have a copy.

10 MS. EVANS: Oh, that's wonderful.
11 Go through it and submit to council your \$7
12 million in cuts.

13 MR. MORGAN: I think that that's how
14 you got in trouble when you got in Court
15 last time because it was a discussion held
16 at a kitchen table and there was no focus to
17 it and I believe Judge Minora threw it out.
18 Now, I could be wrong and you could furnish
19 us with the transcripts of that hearing, but
20 I think that that proved that there was no
21 focus.

22 MS. EVANS: No, that --

23 MR. MORGAN: And no --

24 MS. EVANS: -- that wasn't -- that
25 wasn't the point of it, Mr. Morgan.

1 MR. MORGAN: What was it then?

2 MS. EVANS: That there was no focus.
3 You weren't in attendance at those hearings.

4 MR. MORGAN: The Scranton Times
5 reported it and stated -- well, can you
6 please furnish us with the transcripts? The
7 City must have them.

8 MS. EVANS: I don't know if the City
9 has them or not.

10 MR. MORGAN: Can I make a request
11 here tonight to have access to the
12 transcripts if they exist because, you know,
13 I would like to know what was actually said
14 in that courtroom then because it's --
15 either the Scranton Times lied in their
16 reporting or there is something going on
17 because the Scranton Times' reporter that
18 discussions were held by yourself,
19 Mr. Rogan, Mr. Joyce in your home.

20 MS. EVANS: And I --

21 MR. MORGAN: And the other thing is
22 who are the experts because evidently when
23 the judge ruled I'd like to know what the
24 testimony was so that I can be more informed
25 when I try to speak to this council. I

1 mean, I just think it's important for all of
2 the residents of this city to know how this
3 council is functioning and what you are
4 looking at and if -- to be bluntly honest, I
5 mean, I just can't see this city continuing
6 to carry the debt it carries and I just
7 can't see how he we can keep talking about
8 blight and overtaxation and then not have a
9 structured plan to look at the budget and
10 not have a target by how much we are going
11 to cut because that's what communities do.
12 I mean, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
13 finds itself in a budget fix that's beyond
14 belief and as everybody in this -- well,
15 hopefully in this Commonwealth can
16 understand there is countries collapsing
17 under their debt, okay? But this city has
18 been distressed status for decades, okay,
19 and we have all heard the singing and the
20 dancing and all the chanting, but the
21 reality is there has been no solutions.

22 And if there was a -- if your plan
23 was legal and it had any basis to it the
24 judge wouldn't have threw it out.

25 MS. EVANS: Well, I respect your

1 opinion, but I intend to disagree. There
2 have been permanent solutions offered, they
3 have not been accepted --

4 MR. MORGAN: The only --

5 MS. EVANS: And I am looking forward
6 to your seven million in cuts.

7 MR. MORGAN: Well, here's what I'd
8 like --

9 MS. EVANS: Thank you, Mr. Morgan.

10 MR. MORGAN: I would like to have a
11 copy of the transcripts. Could that be --

12 MS. EVANS: You probably could ask
13 the Court for that.

14 MR. MORGAN: Well, no, I'm asking
15 the council of this city.

16 MS. EVANS: Well, the Council
17 doesn't have it, so you would have to go to
18 the courthouse and --

19 MR. MORGAN: Well, I'd have to go to
20 the law department, but somebody has to have
21 the transcripts.

22 MR. HUGHES: If I could, we never
23 ordered the transcripts, we do not have a
24 copy of the transcripts. There was no
25 reason to spend thousands of dollars to get

1 a transcript --

2 MR. MORGAN: Thank you.

3 MR. HUGHES: -- when we never
4 intended to take an appeal. You could order
5 a copy of the transcripts if you want to pay
6 for them.

7 MS. EVANS: Thank you, Attorney
8 Hughes. Is there anyone else that would
9 like to address council?

10 MS. FRANUS: Fay Franus. I was just
11 sitting back there just listening to this, I
12 would say had this council is very focused
13 on the budget completely, and what you said
14 was very clear. Each one of you are going
15 to look at every part of the budget
16 entirely. That's what it should be and
17 that's what you said. I don't know what he
18 didn't pick up on that.

19 As far as that hearing goes, I was
20 there, and to me it was very, very
21 political. Judge Mazzone and almost every
22 other judge in this county to me, in my
23 opinion, they should be checked into by the
24 FBI. I have been to many hearings in front
25 of these judges and every time they come up

1 with a silly excuse as to why the person
2 that was in front of them didn't win they
3 were such ridiculous reasons because the
4 average person can't keep on fighting and
5 going to the Commonwealth Court and the
6 Supreme Court and they know it, that's why
7 they take advantage of the average person
8 because nobody can -- I used to think that
9 when you went in front of a judge you would
10 get justice. Not in this county. It will
11 never happen. Never, ever happen.

12 Judge Mazzoni had his mind made up
13 from the very beginning. Absolutely had his
14 mind made up. I find it very strange that
15 Mayor Doherty when he was a council person
16 he amended the budget of Mayor Connors after
17 it was passed, nothing was said about that.
18 How come he did it? I don't get it. Well,
19 I do get it. I get it completely. One hand
20 washes the other and phone calls are made
21 and things are taken care of.

22 Solicitor Hughes was wonderful.
23 Talk about a brilliant mind. I'm so glad we
24 have someone that intelligence representing
25 city council. He is to be commended very,

1 very highly. I was very impressed with him.
2 He fought a good fight. The deal was in.
3 And you had every right to go in front of a
4 judge to represent the people to save us
5 money. Some hint, why even bother because
6 you have a budget coming. Because it was
7 money that could be saved, that's why you
8 are here to fight for us and that's what you
9 did and I thank you for that, as does
10 everybody else in the city.

11 You did what you were supposed to do
12 and said you would do when you got elected.
13 You can't ask for more than that. Too bad
14 the judges don't do the jobs they are
15 supposed to do. They are there for so many
16 years they're -- can't touch them and they
17 know it, so we are at their mercy
18 unfortunately. That's all. Thank you.

19 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Is there
20 anyone else who cares to address council?

21 MS. KRAKE: 5-A. MOTIONS.

22 MS. EVANS: Mr. McGoff, any comments
23 or motions?

24 MR. MCGOFF: Very briefly. I just
25 wanted to go back to Miss Schumacher's

1 article that she gave us on "Houston, the
2 model city." As I read through it something
3 struck me as -- it says, "But Houston's
4 biggest advantage cannot be reduced to
5 numbers. Ultimately, it is ambition not
6 style that sets Houston apart. Texas
7 urbanites are busy constructing new suburban
8 town centers, reviving intercity
9 neighborhoods and expanding museums,
10 recreational areas and other amenities. In
11 contrast with recession battered places like
12 Phoenix, Houston remains remarkably open to
13 migrants from the rest of America and
14 abroad."

15 I think those are a couple of
16 telling things for the future,
17 the willingness to invest in your own city
18 and also the willingness to accept new
19 people and new ideas that can help the city
20 grow, so thank you for the article. It does
21 present some interesting ideas for the city
22 of Scranton and for the future of the City
23 of Scranton, and that's all. Thank you.

24 MS. EVANS: Thank you, Mr. McGoff.
25 Mr. Rogan?

1 MR. ROGAN: Yes. Thank you. Before
2 I get into what I have here, Mr. Jackowitz
3 brought up the armed service, I think it was
4 Mr. Jackowitz, brought up the armed service
5 parade. It was nice to see a much bigger
6 crowd this year than last year and hopefully
7 next year's parade will be even bigger.

8 Next, I have on the report from OECD
9 for the last few months and I would like to
10 report on some of the highlights of this
11 report. The Homebuyer's Program in February
12 there was six applications received, six
13 approved and zero closed. In March there
14 were six more received, two approved and two
15 closed. And in April zero were received one
16 was approved and one was closed.

17 The Home Housing Rehabilitation
18 Program, in March there were three bid
19 openings, 16 were contacted for
20 verification, one as approved and there were
21 eight total rehab projects under contract.
22 In April 2010, there was one bid opening, 15
23 contacted for verification, one approved and
24 nine total projects -- or there were nine
25 total rehab projects.

1 Next is Lackawanna Neighbors, the
2 HOME Program, and they purchased at property
3 on 208 Pittston Avenue in 2009, and during
4 the last month the contractor has completed
5 vinyl siding, stabilized the front porch and
6 installed new railings. They installed a
7 heating system and the electrical system and
8 the home is now 80 percent completed and the
9 renovations should be done in June of this
10 year.

11 Moving on, the United Neighborhood
12 Community Development Corporation, our
13 subrecipient for the NSP funding, purchased
14 their first foreclosed property at 629 and
15 631 Cedar Avenue on April 23, and the
16 rehabilitation work on that property will
17 begin in the near future. The funding is in
18 place for Phase II of construction of the
19 Connell building and the rehab began in
20 April of 2010.

21 The South Scranton Little League
22 handicap bathrooms were installed on May 1,
23 2010, just three days before the opening of
24 the season. Te South Scranton Little League
25 is hosting the Challenge Relief for disabled

1 children and the bathrooms are now
2 handicapped accessible for those children.

3 And finally, the new tree planting
4 project entitled "Tree Vitalist" will begin
5 June 12, 2010. This project is made
6 available through a grant through the
7 Department of Conservation and Natural
8 Resources along with an additional funding
9 from the Community Development Block Grant.
10 A sealed quote was received by the city
11 controller and was awarded to the Mulberry
12 Bush on March 1, 2010. And that is a
13 summary of the report that I received.

14 I have a very long list of citizens'
15 requests that I will read off from the last
16 week: Nature Kennedy School a lot of the
17 residents have been complaining that the
18 teachers aren't parking in the parking lot
19 because the parking lot is being used as a
20 playground for the children, and the old
21 playground is now an addition to the
22 building, and residents report there are 38
23 to 40 employees and they are short on
24 parking spaces on Saginaw and Windfield to
25 Prospect Avenue during school hours. Can we

1 please send a letter to the school board
2 asking them if they have any remedy for this
3 problem, and the resident would also like
4 the zoning board to be made aware of this
5 situation.

6 Could we please send a follow-up
7 letter to Mark Seitzinger? I know there
8 was-- I went down on Mineral Avenue and
9 they're all abandoned homes, the newspaper
10 did an article on it, can you please ask him
11 if there has been any progress made in that
12 neighborhood?

13 Could we please send a letter to
14 Chief Elliott as well as Mr. Dougher asking
15 that the proper action be taken to prevent
16 people from parking on the grass at Nay Aug
17 Park.

18 This is a letter from a resident of
19 West Elm Street in West Scranton. Can we
20 please send another letter to Chief Elliott
21 telling him that speeding cars continue to
22 be a problem on the 700 block of West Elm
23 Street, and I know we sent a letter in the
24 past, but he reports that it continues to be
25 a problem because people use West Elm as a

1 shortcut when school is getting out.

2 Also, on West Elm Street there is a
3 vacant lot with overgrowth at 706 and 708,
4 and traffic flow at Fifth Avenue in the 500
5 block of West Elm Street should be monitored
6 to determine if an additional stop sign is
7 needed.

8 And finally, I have a list of
9 potholes to be sent to DPW. They are the
10 100 block of Meadow Avenue, the 300 block of
11 Boland Court, the intersection of River
12 Street and Cedar Avenue, Hemlock Street and
13 Crown Avenue, Myrtle Street and Prescott
14 Avenue, the 1600 and 1700 blocks of Olive
15 Street, Lackawanna Avenue and Wyoming Avenue
16 in front of Boscov's, the 500 block of
17 Willow Street and in front of 705 West Elm
18 Street, and that is all.

19 MS. EVANS: Thank you, Mr. Rogan.
20 Mr. Loscombe, any comments or motions?

21 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes. Thank you, Mrs.
22 Evans, I have a few. First of all, I, too,
23 would like to recognize Chief Elliott and
24 the Police Athletic League on their skate
25 park that they constructed in west side. I

1 happened to be on Jackson Street on another
2 situation checking out a citizen's complaint
3 and I noticed them working across the street
4 and I took a walk over and Mr. Elliott, you
5 know, showed me the ramps and the program
6 that they have there, they have a game room
7 and everything there, so I think it's pretty
8 good for the kids. It would be nice if we
9 could get more of these throughout the city,
10 but so far it's a great start and it's going
11 to be supervised, which is good, also.

12 Mr. Jackowitz, you looked good in
13 the parade the other day. I had my
14 granddaughters with me. I was asked a
15 couple of questions last week by Josh
16 Gryzinski from the Times and, you know, in
17 the interest of editorialism I know they
18 have to reduce what you say to save some
19 paper space, but I did want to read my
20 statement in whole on the questions I was
21 asked. First I was asked, you know, what my
22 response would be if we --if we would work
23 together with the administration in the
24 future now pending the outcome of the
25 election, basically that was the gist of it,

1 and my response, which I had put in writing
2 because it was easy than discussing over the
3 phone, was that "Mayor Doherty and his
4 administration will have to learn to work
5 with city council from this point on. City
6 council has often stated publically that we
7 would be willing to meet with the mayor
8 and/or his administration on any issue as
9 long as the meetings were open and
10 transparent. That is what this new council
11 majority stands for and that's what the
12 taxpayers deserve. We would sincerely like
13 to work with the mayor for the betterment of
14 our city. I know that we have many
15 philosophical differences on where our
16 efforts should be directed in our city,
17 however, I do believe that we were always
18 open to responsible discussion. Although
19 the mayor's priorities continually seem to
20 be focused on the parks and the downtown, I
21 personally believe that we have to train our
22 focus back to the neighborhoods, elimination
23 of blight, negotiating fair contracts with
24 the city labor force, comprehensive street
25 paving, increasing PILOTS, payment in lieu

1 of taxes, and removing our distressed city
2 status.

3 We should also be providing a safe
4 and healthy environment for all of our city
5 residents and I am always willing, as long
6 as my -- along with my colleagues, to work
7 with the mayor and his administration in an
8 effort to accomplish these goals for the
9 residents."

10 Another comment I was asked on, but
11 apparently it might have got it in too late,
12 they didn't have anything in the newspaper
13 regarding this, but my comment based on the
14 latest arbitration appeals or action to
15 vacate, and some of the wording in that
16 article got me a little bit. For the
17 administration to state it would be
18 irresponsible for the city not to appeal the
19 arbitration awards because it puts the city
20 in a position of violating the Commonwealth
21 Court order and a single arbitrator doesn't
22 have the authority to order the city to
23 violate the Commonwealth order. It's the
24 typical thumb your nose at the taxpayer
25 response that this administration has been

1 noted for.

2 On the contrary, this administration
3 has followed a pattern of irresponsibility
4 since it's beginning by appealing every
5 decision that was not rendered in his favor.
6 The amount of taxpayer dollars involved in
7 these appeals to the legal fees,
8 accumulating interest and penalties alone
9 exhibits the bad faith by the city that was
10 mentioned by the arbitrator in his latest
11 decision, and it also serves to shed light
12 on where I believe the irresponsibility --
13 the irresponsibility is really born.

14 The Commonwealth Court ruling that
15 is referred to by the administration as
16 their bases the appeal did not alter one
17 word of the health care language in the
18 existing contracts. In fact, the
19 arbitrator's had pointed out in their
20 decisions the health care provisions
21 contained in the 1993 agreement through the
22 most recent negotiated labor agreement
23 remain unchanged and by failing to retain
24 the services of a competent health care
25 administrator acceptable to the unions the

1 city has violated the June 29, 2000 side
2 agreement concerning the health care
3 benefits available to the effected
4 bargaining unit employees.

5 This quote was taken from the
6 Charles D. Long decision of April 16, 2010,
7 "under the union's guidance, the health care
8 committee -- the health care committee's
9 meaningful moves resulted in the savings of
10 nearly \$5 million dollars in the first year
11 alone before the Doherty administration
12 terminated the health care consultant's and
13 administrator's contract. This has resulted
14 in disarray that you find with the current
15 health care consultants and their refusal to
16 perform an independent audit that has been
17 previously authorized."

18 The arbitrator had strongly worded
19 his decision and stated that the city has
20 acted in bad faith, so I ask you, who is
21 being irresponsible? As a result of these
22 strongly worded recent arbitration awards,
23 City Council President Janet Evans and
24 myself had met with the mayor and it's
25 solicitor, along with the business

1 administrator, in an effort to ask him to
2 consider not appealing these decisions as we
3 felt that the cost would continue to rise
4 and resolve these decisions without appeal
5 would send a good message to the unions and
6 possibly open the impasse to towards some
7 good faith negotiations by the city.

8 Apparently, this administration is
9 still unable to face the reality of it's
10 continuing irresponsibility. And that's all
11 I have. Thank you.

12 MS. EVANS: Thank you, Mr. Loscombe.
13 Mr. Joyce, any comments or motions?

14 MR. JOYCE: Yes, just a few. First
15 and foremost, I would just like to take the
16 opportunity to thank everyone that went out
17 to vote in last Tuesday's primary election.
18 Regardless of who you supported, it's
19 honorable that you went out there and made
20 your voice heard.

21 Secondly, according to some recent
22 mail received from Rossi & Rossi, council
23 has been informed that there is still a
24 number of outstanding items that the
25 business administration office as well as

1 the tax office and I believe the
2 Redevelopment Authority need to provide to
3 Rossi & Rossi in order to have our audit
4 completed and this audit was originally
5 scheduled to be completed on May 31.

6 So with this in mind, Mrs. Krake,
7 could you please send a letter to Mr. Renda
8 and the BA's Office and ask him if all of
9 the outstanding -- all of the outstanding
10 matters have been resolved with Rossi &
11 Rossi.

12 Also, tonight, I have a few
13 citizens' requests. One, I have been
14 informed by a few residents who take their
15 dogs up to the dog park up at Connell Park
16 that the waste disposal dispensers were
17 smashed apart, and in addition all of the
18 bags that the city has supplied were also
19 missing. And, you know, it's a real shame
20 to see people go up there and destruct these
21 things when they benefit a lot of the
22 residents of the city.

23 Mrs. Krake, would you please send a
24 letter to Mr. Dougher and notify him of that
25 situation and also ask to have these boxes

1 replaced along with the bags.

2 Secondly, I have been informed by a
3 Minooka resident that the manhole in the
4 2700 block of Hamm Court is sticking up in
5 the middle of the Court causing some
6 problems for some folks that travel
7 throughout the area. The resident informed
8 me that originally the manhole was even with
9 the road, however, part of the road appeared
10 to sink in a little built, so that's causing
11 the manhole to rise above the pavement, and
12 I know from speaking to the resident he
13 actually bent a rim on his tire. With this
14 this mind, can you please send a letter to
15 Mr. Brazil asking him to check into this
16 area and get it fixed.

17 Also, I have been informed by a
18 resident that lives on Pequest Drive that
19 the road in front of 115 Pequest is torn
20 apart making it difficult for the resident
21 of that house to maneuver his wheelchair in
22 and out when people are picking him up for
23 various appointments and to go to the store
24 and whatnot.

25 Mrs. Krake, can you also add this to

1 the letter to Mr. Brazil asking him to
2 prepare this area of road for the resident?

3 And, finally, council has been
4 contacted by an employee of the Career
5 Technology Center regarding the road
6 conditions on Greenbush and Reese Streets.
7 These are the two streets that go into and
8 out of the Career Technology Center up in
9 the North Scranton area right on the border
10 of Dickson City, and I have traveled up
11 these roads and I was up there during the
12 election and many of the residents also
13 notified me that these roads haven't been
14 paved in probably three decades.

15 With that in mind, can you also add
16 that to the letter and ask if these streets
17 are scheduled to be paved at any time in the
18 near future. And that's all I have for
19 tonight.

20 MS. EVANS: Thank you, Mr. Joyce.
21 Good evening. First, I ask all of you to
22 remember in your prayers Mrs. Pica, mother
23 of Richard Pica, a retired officer of the
24 Scranton Fire Department. Mrs. Pica passed
25 away today. She was 90 years old and we

1 will all keep her family and friends in our
2 thoughts and prayers.

3 Like most of my honorable
4 colleagues, I am very disappointed that the
5 mayor chose to appeal two recent health care
6 arbitration decisions rendered against the
7 city administration. Legal action will only
8 continue to waste taxpayer money.
9 Unfortunately, the mayor didn't listen or
10 agree with council's advice, but hopefully
11 now that he has lost the senatorial election
12 he will be more focused and willing to work
13 together with others on crucial financial
14 issues facing our city and it's people.

15 Next, city council's action on two
16 important issues continues to be held up by
17 the administration. Since I raised the
18 request for building of professional
19 services on March 30, 2010, no legislation
20 has been written and sent to council by the
21 legal department.

22 Also, legislation to amend the 2010
23 budget to create the position for rental
24 registration coordinator and to transfer
25 money per the business administrator from

1 professional services to the salary account
2 in Licensing, Inspections and Permits for
3 the position has not been written or sent to
4 council. The professional services
5 legislation may save the taxpayers money and
6 will open the process to many local
7 businesses. The rental registration
8 legislation would create a new source of
9 revenue for the city and until it is
10 received and approved the position of rental
11 registration coordinator cannot be
12 advertised and hired.

13 While the administration seems to be
14 occupied with costly legal appeals, it's
15 missing these opportunities to save and to
16 create new revenue streams. The time for
17 pledging cooperation and communication with
18 city council through the newspaper is over.
19 Talk is idle. It is time now for tangible
20 examples of cooperation and it can begin
21 this week with professional services and
22 rental registration coordinator legislation.

23 City council did not receive monthly
24 reports regarding OECD activities for
25 February, March and April 2010 from Linda

1 Aebli until May 10, and Mr. Rogan provided
2 you with an update of that information this
3 evening. However, the May 10 report
4 noticeably does not contain the monthly
5 activities for all OECD loans. This
6 complete information was provided to the
7 previous council, but Mrs. Aebli appears to
8 have difficulty sending the same information
9 to this new council.

10 When Ms. Aebli needed the assistance
11 of council in January and again in April for
12 the Connell building project at the 11th
13 hour. Council responded appropriately and
14 provided what was required of it's office.
15 Council now expects that Ms. Aebli will
16 reciprocate and provide council with
17 complete monthly reports.

18 Mrs. Krake, please contact Miss
19 Aebli tomorrow to request all loan
20 activities from December 2009 up to and
21 including April 2010 by May 28. Also,
22 remind Miss Aebli that the complete May
23 report will be due by June 4.

24 Next, the spike in youth crime
25 demands the hiring of additional COM-D or

1 beat patrol officers for Scranton's
2 neighborhoods. Mrs. Krake, please send
3 letters to Mayor Doherty, Chief Elliott and
4 Ms. Aebli on behalf of city council
5 requesting the hiring of the additional
6 COM-D officers and inquiring when we can
7 expect the hiring to occur.

8 In addition, Mrs. Krake, please send
9 letters to Representative Ken Smith and
10 Kevin Murphy requesting a meeting to discuss
11 the legal stalemate of blight issues facing
12 Scranton. Include the information regarding
13 the Bunker Hill property and the Moltke
14 Avenue properties examples. A Tuesday
15 caucus would be preferable at 5:30 at their
16 convenience. However, if state legislative
17 duties prevent their attendance at a public
18 caucus, please schedule a meeting on a
19 Thursday or Friday when both gentleman are
20 available in the very near future. Scranton
21 needs their assistance on the state level to
22 solve the blight problems that are beyond
23 the state's control.

24 Also, please send to Senator Mellow
25 a letter on behalf of Scranton City Council

1 urging his support in 2010 for House Bill
2 1946, the separation of city and school
3 taxes in the City of Scranton.

4 And finally, I have a few citizens'
5 requests: Residents report that sidewalks
6 along bridges citywide are dirty and
7 littered with trash and debris. Please
8 address these sidewalks areas when possible.

9 South Side residents report that
10 during holidays flowers and Christmas trees
11 are sold at the overgrown previously
12 reported area at the top of Meadow Avenue
13 and River Street. As cars travel to Route
14 or Interstate 81 and East Mountain, they
15 pull off to make purchases thereby causing
16 traffic problem. Residents fear the flower
17 sales may occur again for Memorial Day.
18 Please address this issue and forward a
19 written report to council.

20 City residents state they have
21 witnessed a police officer on duty at CMC
22 during nighttime hours until 5 a.m. Please
23 verify this information and provide an
24 explanation for this police placement.

25 And, finally, a display trailer for

1 metal roofs is parked at the corner of the
2 gas station located at the intersection of
3 River Street and Meadow Avenue. Drivers
4 can't see around the corner and visibility
5 is blocked when checking for vehicles
6 pulling out of the gas station. Several
7 city residents report they have called 911
8 regarding the safety hazard, but nothing has
9 been done. In fact, I was -- I got another
10 message about it just today that there was a
11 very -- pardon?

12 MR. MCGOFF: It's parked in the
13 parking lot?

14 MS. EVANS: It's in the parking lot
15 of the gas station, yes, and I believe there
16 are concrete steps placed leading up into
17 the inside of the trailer and, as I said, I
18 received another message just this afternoon
19 that someone again very nearly had a
20 terrible accident because again they cannot
21 see any of the vehicles pulling out of the
22 that gas station.

23 So if we could contact the
24 appropriate city departments tomorrow
25 morning, Mrs. Krake, before we have an

1 actual accident, and that's it.

2 MS. KRAKE: 5-B. NO BUSINESS AT
3 THIS TIME.

4 SIXTH ORDER. NO BUSINESS AT THIS
5 TIME.

6 SEVENTH ORDER. 7-A. FOR
7 CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE -
8 FOR ADOPTION- FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 18, 2010 -
9 SALE OF TAX DELINQUENT PROPERTY MORE
10 COMMONLY KNOWN AS FROUDE AVENUE, SCRANTON,
11 PENNSYLVANIA, TAX MAP NO. 16809-040-009 TO
12 ROBERT KOLANKOSKI, 254 MAIN STREET, DUPONT,
13 PENNSYLVANIA, 18641, FOR THE CONSIDERATION
14 OF \$8,000.00.

15 MS. EVANS: What is the
16 recommendation of the Chair for the
17 Committee on Finance?

18 MR. JOYCE: As Chairperson for the
19 Committee on Finance, I recommend final
20 passage of Item 7-A.

21 MR. ROGAN: Second.

22 MS. EVANS: On the question? Roll
23 call, please?

24 MS. CARRERA: Mr. McGoff.

25 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

1 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

2 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

3 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Loscombe.

4 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes.

5 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Joyce.

6 MR. JOYCE: Yes.

7 MS. CARRERA: Mrs. Evans.

8 MS. EVANS: Yes. I hereby declare
9 Item 7-B legally and lawfully adopted.

10 MS. KRAKE: 7-B. FOR CONSIDERATION
11 BY THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE - FOR ADOPTION-
12 FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 19, 2010 - SALE OF TAX
13 DELINQUENT PROPERTY MORE COMMONLY KNOWN AS
14 SIEBECKER AVENUE, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA,
15 TAX MAP NO. 16809-040-011 TO ROBERT
16 KOLANKOSKI, 254 MAIN STREET, DUPONT,
17 PENNSYLVANIA, 18641, FOR THE CONSIDERATION
18 OF \$6,500.00.

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

22 MR. JOYCE: As Chairperson for the
23 Committee on Finance, I recommend final
24 passage of Item 7-B.

25 MR. ROGAN: Second.

1 MS. EVANS: On the question? Roll
2 call, please?

3 MS. CARRERA: Mr. McGoff.

4 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

5 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

6 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

7 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Loscombe.

8 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes.

9 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Joyce.

10 MR. JOYCE: Yes.

11 MS. CARRERA: Mrs. Evans.

12 MS. EVANS: Yes. I hereby declare
13 Item 7-B legally and lawfully adopted.

14 MS. KRAKE: 7-C. FOR CONSIDERATION
15 BY THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE - FOR ADOPTION-
16 FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 20, 2010 - SALE OF TAX
17 DELINQUENT PROPERTY MORE COMMONLY KNOWN AS
18 SIEBECKER AVENUE, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA,
19 TAX MAP NO. 16809-050- 005 TO ROBERT
20 KOLANKOSKI, 254 MAIN STREET, DUPONT,
21 PENNSYLVANIA, 18641, FOR THE CONSIDERATION
22 OF \$6,500.00.

23 MS. EVANS: What is the
24 recommendation of the Chair for the
25 Committee on Finance?

1 MR. JOYCE: As Chairperson for the
2 Committee on Finance, I recommend final
3 passage of Item 7-C.

4 MR. ROGAN: Second.

5 MS. EVANS: On the question? Roll
6 call, please?

7 MS. CARRERA: Mr. McGoff.

8 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

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 MS. CARRERA: Mrs. Evans.

16 MS. EVANS: Yes. I hereby declare
17 Item 7-C legally and lawfully adopted.

18 MS. KRAKE: 7-D. FOR CONSIDERATION
19 BY THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE - FOR ADOPTION-
20 FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 21, 2010 - SALE OF TAX
21 DELINQUENT PROPERTY MORE COMMONLY KNOWN AS
22 ROLLIN AVENUE, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, TAX
23 MAP NO. 16809-050-007 TO ROBERT KOLANKOSKI,
24 254 MAIN STREET, DUPONT, PENNSYLVANIA,
25 18641, FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF \$5,000.00.

1 MS. EVANS: What is the
2 recommendation of the Chair for the
3 Committee on Finance?

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

7 MR. ROGAN: Second.

8 MS. EVANS: On the question? Roll
9 call, please?

10 MS. CARRERA: Mr. McGoff.

11 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

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 MS. CARRERA: Mrs. Evans.

19 MS. EVANS: Yes. I hereby declare
20 Item 7-D legally and lawfully adopted.

21 MS. KRAKE: 7-E. FOR CONSIDERATION
22 BY THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE - FOR ADOPTION-
23 FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 22, 2010 - SALE OF TAX
24 DELINQUENT PROPERTY MORE COMMONLY KNOWN AS
25 MILLER AVENUE, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, TAX

1 MAP NO. 16810-010-024 TO ROBERT KOLANKOSKI,
2 254 MAIN STREET, DUPONT, PENNSYLVANIA,
3 18641, FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF \$6,000.00.

4 MS. EVANS: What is the
5 recommendation of the Chair for the
6 Committee on Finance?

7 MR. JOYCE: As Chairperson for the
8 Committee on Finance, I recommend final
9 passage of Item 7-E.

10 MR. ROGAN: Second.

11 MS. EVANS: On the question? Roll
12 call, please?

13 MS. CARRERA: Mr. McGoff.

14 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

15 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

16 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

17 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Loscombe.

18 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes.

19 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Joyce.

20 MR. JOYCE: Yes.

21 MS. CARRERA: Mrs. Evans.

22 MS. EVANS: Yes. I hereby declare
23 Item 7-E legally and lawfully adopted.

24 MS. KRAKE: 7-F. FOR CONSIDERATION
25 BY THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE - FOR ADOPTION-

1 FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 23, 2010 - SALE OF TAX
2 DELINQUENT PROPERTY MORE COMMONLY KNOWN AS
3 KERR STREET, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, TAX MAP
4 NO. 16810-010-025 TO ROBERT KOLANKOSKI, 254
5 MAIN STREET, DUPONT, PENNSYLVANIA, 18641,
6 FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF \$7,000.00.

7 MS. EVANS: What is the
8 recommendation of the Chair for the
9 Committee on Finance?

10 MR. JOYCE: As Chairperson for the
11 Committee on Finance, I recommend final
12 passage of Item 7-F.

13 MR. ROGAN: Second.

14 MS. EVANS: On the question? Roll
15 call, please?

16 MS. CARRERA: Mr. McGoff.

17 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

18 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

19 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

20 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Loscombe.

21 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes.

22 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Joyce.

23 MR. JOYCE: Yes.

24 MS. CARRERA: Mrs. Evans.

25 MS. EVANS: Yes. I hereby declare

1 Item 7-F legally and lawfully adopted.

2 MS. KRAKE: 7-G. FOR CONSIDERATION
3 BY THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE - FOR ADOPTION-
4 FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 24, 2010 - SALE OF TAX
5 DELINQUENT PROPERTY MORE COMMONLY KNOWN AS
6 KERR STREET, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, TAX MAP
7 NO. 16810-010-026 TO ROBERT KOLANKOSKI, 254
8 MAIN STREET, DUPONT, PENNSYLVANIA, 18641,
9 FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF \$7,000.00.

10 MS. EVANS: What is the
11 recommendation of the Chair for the
12 Committee on Finance?

13 MR. JOYCE: As Chairperson for the
14 Committee on Finance, I recommend final
15 passage of Item 7-G.

16 MR. ROGAN: Second.

17 MS. EVANS: On the question? Roll
18 call, please?

19 MS. CARRERA: Mr. McGoff.

20 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

21 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

22 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

23 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Loscombe.

24 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes.

25 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Joyce.

1 MR. JOYCE: Yes.

2 MS. CARRERA: Mrs. Evans.

3 MS. EVANS: Yes. I hereby declare
4 Item 7-G legally and lawfully adopted.

5 MS. KRAKE: 7-H. FOR CONSIDERATION
6 BY THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE - FOR ADOPTION-
7 FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 25, 2010 - SALE OF TAX
8 DELINQUENT PROPERTY MORE COMMONLY KNOWN AS
9 ROLLIN AVENUE, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, TAX
10 MAP NO. 16810-010-027 TO ROBERT KOLANKOSKI,
11 254 MAIN STREET, DUPONT, PENNSYLVANIA,
12 18641, FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF \$3,000.00.

13 MS. EVANS: What is the
14 recommendation of the Chair for the
15 Committee on Finance.

16 MR. JOYCE: As Chairperson for the
17 Committee on Finance, I recommend final
18 passage of Item 7-H.

19 MR. ROGAN: Second.

20 MS. EVANS: On the question? Roll
21 call, please?

22 MS. CARRERA: Mr. McGoff.

23 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

24 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

25 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

1 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Loscombe.

2 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes.

3 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Joyce.

4 MR. JOYCE: Yes.

5 MS. CARRERA: Mrs. Evans.

6 MS. EVANS: Yes. I hereby declare
7 Item 7-H legally and lawfully adopted. And
8 on behalf of council we all wish you a very
9 safe and happy Memorial Day weekend. I'll
10 entertain a motion to adjourn.

11 MR. MCGOFF: So moved.

12 MS. EVANS: Meeting 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