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SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING

HELD:

Thursday, April 11, 2013

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
- FRANK JOYCE, VICE-PRESIDENT
- ROBERT MCGOFF
- PAT ROGAN
- JOHN LOSCOMBE
(Not Present.)
- NANCY KRAKE, CITY CLERK
- JAMIE MARCIANO, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK
- BOYD HUGHES, SOLICITOR

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

3 MS. EVANS: Roll call, please.

4 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. McGoff.

5 MR. MCGOFF: Here.

6 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Rogan.

7 MR. ROGAN: Here.

8 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Loscombe. Mr.
9 Joyce.

10 MR. JOYCE: Here.

11 MS. MARCIANO: Mrs. Evans.

12 MS. EVANS: Here. Dispense with the
13 reading of the minutes, please.

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

15 MINUTES OF THE REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY'S
16 REGULAR MEETING HELD JANUARY 2ND, FEBRUARY
17 6TH AND MARCH 6TH OF 2013.

18 MS. EVANS: Are there any comments?
19 If not, received and filed.

20 MS. KRAKE: 3-B. SINGLE TAX OFFICE
21 CITY FUNDS DISTRIBUTED COMPARISON FOR
22 2012-2013.

23 MS. EVANS: Are there any comments?
24 If not, received and filed.

25 MS. KRAKE: 3-C. MINUTES OF THE

1 SCRANTON HOUSING AUTHORITY'S REGULAR MEETING
2 HELD MARCH 4, 2013.

3 MS. EVANS: Are there any comments?
4 If not, received and filed.

5 Do we verify any clerk's notes
6 tonight, Mrs. Krake?

7 MS. KRAKE: No, Mrs. Evans.

8 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Do any
9 council members have announcements at this
10 time?

11 MR. ROGAN: Yes, just to repeat from
12 last week, South Scranton Home fair, which
13 is open to all residents of Scranton, will
14 be held on Monday, April 29, from 12 to 6,
15 and if they have any questions they can
16 contact our office as well, OECD will be
17 having a booth regarding first-time
18 homebuyer programs and different services
19 that they offer.

20 And also, in observance of Earth
21 Day, Lackawanna County Recycling Center will
22 hold a one-day event for electronic
23 recycling. It's free of charge from 9 a.m.
24 to 4 p.m. on April 20, and that's 3400
25 Boulevard Avenue, and they could call

1 963-6868 for details. Thank you.

2 MS. EVANS: Councilman Loscombe is
3 unable to attend tonight's meeting.

4 Beatles, Burgers and brews, a
5 fundraiser benefiting United Neighborhood
6 Centers of Northeastern Pennsylvania will be
7 held on Tuesday, April 23, from 5 to 8 p.m.
8 at Morgan's, 315 Greenridge Street in
9 Scranton. Tickets are \$20 and include music
10 by the Fab 3, burgers, vegiburgers and hot
11 dogs as well as draft beer from 6 to 8 p.m.

12 For more information or to purchase
13 tickets, call 570-346-0759 or go to
14 www.UNCNEPA.org.

15 The Fraternal Order of Eagles No.
16 314 in Scranton will conduct it's annual
17 spring craft fair on April 20, 2013, from 10
18 a.m. to 3 p.m. Expect to find all manner of
19 handmade goods including items from the
20 Pampered Chef, Avon and Nina Bella Candles
21 among others. Food will be available for
22 purchase. For further information call the
23 club at 961-5495, and that's it.

24 MS. KRAKE: FOURTH ORDER. CITIZENS'
25 PARTICIPATION.

1 MS. EVANS: Our first speaker this
2 evening is Giovanni Piccolino.
3 Mr. Piccolino obviously isn't in attendance
4 and so we'll go to our next speaker, Bill
5 Jackowitz.

6 MR. JACKOWITZ: Good evening,
7 Scranton City Council. Bill Jackowitz,
8 South Scranton resident.

9 MS. EVANS: Good evening.

10 MR. JACKOWITZ: First of all, I
11 would like to compliment Scranton City
12 Council for bringing in the state
13 representatives and the state senator last
14 week, although, I believe it's a little bit
15 too late, I have been advocating this for
16 about ten years every year to have a meeting
17 and to have a caucus with these people, you
18 know, and basically the only thing I have
19 learned last week that everything is going
20 is the Republican's fault. Republicans got
21 blamed for everything. The last Republican
22 that I can remember being elected in the
23 City of Scranton was Brian Reap, and I
24 believe that was about 12 years ago, so I
25 don't know how we can blame the republicans

1 for everything.

2 Everyone elected in this city,
3 including the school board, the county
4 commissioners, are all Democrats. The mayor
5 is a Democrat, the city controller is a
6 Democrat, all five council members are
7 Democrats, the city has been distressed
8 going on 22 years and the Democrats have
9 been in control of this city.

10 Prior to Governor Corbett being
11 elected we had a Democratic governor,
12 Governor Rendell. The head of the Senate
13 and the Democratic party was inmate Mellow.
14 He was the head of the Senate. All our
15 representatives have been Democrats.
16 Belardi, Gaynor Cawley and so on and so
17 forth.

18 Our city council were Democrats. We
19 had Murphy city council, we had DiBileo city
20 council, we had Gatelli city council, we had
21 McGoff city council, and now we have Evans
22 city council. All Democrats, but yet last
23 week the Republicans were blamed for
24 everything. I don't understand it. It's a
25 little bit too late. This should have been

1 15 years ago, ten years ago when you had the
2 Democratic people there and we would no
3 longer be distressed possibly, but we were
4 ignored.

5 The Gatelli council ignored us, the
6 McGoff council ignored us, the Murphy
7 council ignored us, and so did the DiBileo
8 council, and where are we at? We are going
9 on 22 years of being distressed, but yet we
10 are going to blame the Republicans for it.
11 Unbelievable.

12 The sequestration, I know a lot
13 about it, you know why? I deal with it
14 every day. Every single day I deal with the
15 sequestration, okay? That was proposed by
16 President Obama. It was approved by a
17 Democratic Senate and approved by a
18 Republican Congress. It's what it's all
19 about. It's not, you know, whose fault is
20 it, it's the Democrats fault, the
21 Republicans fault and the Independents
22 fault, okay? This blame game has got to
23 stop. Everybody is blaming everybody,
24 nobody accepts responsibility.

25 The bottom line is the city going on

1 22 years of being distressed. We have a \$17
2 million bill that's going to be due to pay
3 the police and firefighters. Do we have the
4 money available to pay that? I'm asking,
5 yes or no?

6 MR. JOYCE: Not at the present time,
7 we would have to borrow it.

8 MR. JACKOWITZ: When is it due?

9 MR. JOYCE: It's due at the end of
10 June.

11 MR. JACKOWITZ: What happens if the
12 borrowing isn't approved? Have we got
13 anybody to approve and going to say they are
14 going to give us money?

15 MR. JOYCE: We have had meetings
16 with --

17 MR. JACKOWITZ: I'm not asking a
18 meeting, I'm saying do you have anything
19 that says the people are going to give us
20 the money? June 30 is not too far away.

21 MR. JOYCE: There is nothing set in
22 stone.

23 MR. JACKOWITZ: Okay, so what
24 happens then, that's my question. What's
25 the backup plan? If we don't get the money

1 what's the backup plan?

2 MR. JOYCE: We would accrue interest
3 on what we owe until we did.

4 MR. JACKOWITZ: Okay, what are we
5 going to do about the 5.5 million for the
6 retirees and the health care plan? What are
7 we going to do about that? That's due, too,
8 I believe, on the 30th of June. What are we
9 going to do about that?

10 MR. JOYCE: That's not due on the
11 30th of June, let me get my cash flow sheet,
12 the majority of the pension payments are due
13 in October.

14 MR. JACKOWITZ: Okay. What are we
15 going to do about that? Do we have approval
16 on that? Is the money coming? Is the mayor
17 and the administration working on this? Is
18 the business administrator working on this?

19 MR. JOYCE: They are working on it
20 and they are discussing it with potential --

21 MR. JACKOWITZ: What's the results?
22 What right now what is the answer, what are
23 the results? You don't have to --

24 MR. JOYCE: We don't have it set in
25 stone as of right now.

1 MR. JACKOWITZ: So, in other words,
2 we don't have it.

3 MR. JOYCE: As of right now.

4 MR. JACKOWITZ: I think the
5 taxpayers need to know that. I think they
6 need to know that and they need to be
7 advised at least every month on whether or
8 not we have the money or not because the
9 taxpayers are the ones that have to pay the
10 bill, and I understand you guys are
11 taxpayers, too, so you should be just as
12 worried about it and concerned about it as I
13 am and the other citizens are.

14 The fire in the 500 block of
15 Lackawanna Avenue, that's what happens when
16 you got vacant buildings. We have \$30
17 million worth of vacant buildings sitting on
18 the 500 block of Lackawanna Avenue, and I
19 understand that building that was on fire
20 was not part of the Renaissance problems, I
21 understand that.

22 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

23 MR. JACKOWITZ: But we still have
24 vacant buildings sitting there that were
25 approved by Scranton City Council and the

1 mayor. When are we going to get those
2 buildings filled so we don't have any more
3 fires on vacant buildings sitting on the 500
4 block of Lackawanna Avenue.

5 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

6 MR. JACKOWITZ: You're welcome.

7 MS. EVANS: Sal Zumo. Les Spindler.

8 MR. SPINDLER: Good evening,
9 Council. Les Spindler, city resident, and
10 homeowner and taxpayer.

11 MS. EVANS: Good evening.

12 MR. SPINDLER: First of all, my
13 thoughts and prayers go out to the Barrasse
14 family. I know Mike very well, I don't know
15 his wife that well. I know Cody when he was
16 a little boy. He and my daughter played
17 soccer together. I helped coach him in East
18 Scranton in the soccer league. He was a
19 wonderful kid and he is going to be missed.
20 May he rest in peace.

21 Moving on, I was walking through
22 town the other day and noticed the traffic
23 lights and the Walk/Don't Walk signs at the
24 corner of Washington and Linden just on the
25 end of the block here they are not

1 believe it was the Scranton Recreation
2 Authority who applied for it so it never
3 came before Scranton City Council and my
4 understanding would be that, yes, it likely
5 can be used only for that purpose, and in
6 addition no matching funds are required from
7 the city.

8 MR. SPINDLER: Well, I just think
9 that's a waste of money, there are many more
10 important items that be fixed in city and
11 the streets they are just a mess.

12 That's all I have for tonight.
13 Thank you for your time.

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

16 MR. SBARAGLIA: Andy Sbaraglia,
17 citizen of Scranton. Fellow Scrantonians, I
18 read in here, let's start with your "B"
19 here, I guess it's 5-B, you are telling me
20 we are not going to pay Keystone Landfill
21 this year and next year we are going to be
22 making double payments?

23 MR. JOYCE: That is accurate, yes.

24 MR. SBARAGLIA: That's accurate.
25 Two of you people will probably not be

1 sitting on this council when this happens, I
2 wish maybe the other three that is going to
3 be sitting there looks at it very, very
4 closely. You can't just keep passing debt
5 off, it just don't work and it never will
6 work.

7 Now, I might as well talk about
8 South Side Complex. I brought it up last
9 week and it always comes back to bite you.
10 It's like a mad dog always to come around
11 and bite you again if you let them bite you
12 once. To people of Scranton let them really
13 see some of the background, I wish
14 Mr. Phillips was here because he used to use
15 that field a lot more with his baseball
16 team, but our dear mayor for some reason or
17 another got into cahoots with the University
18 of Scranton and tapped him on the back and
19 said, "Hey, how about giving us the South
20 Side Complex there. I mean, forget about
21 the City of Scranton, what do we care about
22 them people. We are the City of Scranton.
23 The University of Scranton, we are the
24 city."

25 So a deal was worked out and the

1 mayor hired, like you said last week, a firm
2 to go and lobby all of the legislature.
3 That money that was put in that-- that was
4 put with the flood money way back when and
5 actually probably would be a flood plain
6 again if that dike ever broke, but anyway,
7 he went, he took the money that they gave
8 him, I think it was like a million
9 something, a million 200 thousand or
10 something like that, I don't have the exact
11 figures in my head, but he said, "I'm going
12 to build you a field. Lights and all of
13 this."

14 Did you ever see that field? It's
15 in the field of dreams in his head is where
16 we got our field. Now the gall of this
17 University going to the county and said,
18 "Hey, we are good friends with you, how
19 about you give us \$8 million so we can fix
20 up the complex that the mayor said was bad?"

21 This is how it works. It's just
22 galls me that we are going to spend money
23 that they are well able to spend and then
24 cut off all of these relief programs. Does
25 that make sense? This is one reason why

1 when you see it on the ballot they get rid
2 of them county commissioners you voted for
3 them to get rid of them and have a study
4 commission. They got to go. There is no
5 question about it. This deal is being
6 destroyed any way you look at it. We are
7 being destroyed as the people of Scranton.
8 Money that could be used for other things
9 are being poured into the University. What
10 do we get from them, a slap on the back
11 saying, "Good suckers, you go -- we'll hire
12 anyone's daughter to clean one of our
13 latrines in University."

14 Anybody that makes a good buck is
15 out of Scranton. Just remember that. When
16 you go there and ask how many of our
17 professors actually live in Scranton or how
18 many of the top echelon live in Scranton
19 there is some there I know, but there isn't
20 a lot. A lot of them got out of the area
21 and that's the way it goes.

22 I'll bring up the thing, I ain't
23 said anything about the meters at Pub
24 Charles, what I said to you I already said
25 to you on the matter, and really no sense

1 bringing it up again, but the University you
2 got to make them pay. I don't care what you
3 have to do. If you have to lobby them down
4 this Harrisburg when they are reviewing this
5 nonprofits, go down and lobby it. Go down
6 there. Let our people that were here
7 introduce you to all of the other
8 legislators and senators and explain the
9 problem. That's the only way you are going
10 get any action. To set up here and talk
11 like we are doing now does nothing. Even if
12 you get -- it came before you, a vote saying
13 no does nothing. You got to be progressive
14 and not no vote, no votes don't matter.

15 I sat up there and watched Billy and
16 you, Janet, go through a lot of things. Did
17 it matter? No. Maybe it made you in your
18 head said it, but it didn't matter to the
19 people of Scranton. They are suffering.
20 Maybe instead of that no vote you should
21 have went out there and pressed more hands
22 to get some of the people that were there
23 that were doing all of these things, one was
24 the mayor. You should have tried to get rid
25 of him long ago, but, unfortunately,

1 everybody kept voting for him.

2 And I visited with a lot of people
3 where they come up and told me, "Look what
4 he did for Nay Aug? Look what he did for
5 this park? Look what he did for that park?"

6 I said in the end you are going to
7 pay for it because everything you get at Nay
8 Aug has to be maintained. There is no
9 question about it. You build a wooden
10 building you are going to have take care of
11 that wooden building for the rest of your
12 life, if you live here that long. There is
13 no sense saying anymore. Thank you.

14 MS. REKUS: Good evening, Council.
15 Tracy Rekus, West Side resident. I come
16 here today as a parent of a young child I
17 see there is nothing to do in this city for
18 the children. Everything that you can do
19 there is bar right down the street or there
20 is movie theaters, but you have to pay for
21 them, and the children are walking the
22 streets.

23 The pools are not open, and I know
24 it's the mayor's fault because Pat was
25 telling me a couple of weeks ago, I was

1 suggesting to him that we should do
2 fundraisers to get the pools open in every
3 community in this city. The money could go
4 to taking care of the pools or even having
5 the children that cannot pay to get in the
6 pools have them for fees. You can also have
7 fees for the pool themselves. You could
8 have low fees for the children and higher
9 fees for the adults, like Weston Park I have
10 seen there are fees for that.

11 And there is -- as a parent of a
12 special needs child we do not have, as far
13 as I know, we don't have any parks for
14 special needs kids. We go up to McDade
15 because there is a park up there for the
16 children with special needs, and it's just
17 easier for him to get around.

18 And we need more activities for the
19 kids where they don't get in trouble and I
20 was told there is no curfew for the kids in
21 this city. I believe that there should be
22 even an 11:00 curfew for the kids that are
23 under 18 because I live by the high school
24 and there are kids walking the streets at
25 sometimes two or three o'clock in the

1 morning and where are the parents?

2 There is also, I don't know if you
3 have seen the news, but St. Joseph's had
4 budget cuts and the telethon is incontinent
5 so if anyone wants to donate the checks
6 could be made out to St. Joseph's Center.
7 My child is a recipient of that money. He
8 goes to physical therapy and he goes to
9 speech therapy.

10 There is also a recycling event up
11 at the Abington Library this weekend if you
12 want to get all of your stuff gone before
13 the 20th as well.

14 And April 23 to 24 Pizza by Pappas
15 there is the benefit for the autism. They
16 are going to donate half the sales of the
17 pizza to the Northeast Regional Autism
18 Center at the Friendship House, so if anyone
19 wants good pizza go over there on the 23rd
20 and the 24th, so thank you.

21 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

22 MS. REKUS: And also, Frank, we were
23 talking about that house across the street
24 from my house.

25 MR. JOYCE: Yes.

1 MS. REKUS: It's owned by Wells
2 Fargo and the address is 421-42 South Hyde
3 Park.

4 MR. JOYCE: Thanks.

5 MS. REKUS: Thank you.

6 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Is there
7 anyone else?

8 MR. DOBRZYN: Good evening, Council.
9 Dave Dobrzyn, resident of Scranton, taxes
10 paid. Haven't got my trash bill yet, they
11 picked it up last week, my recyclables, by
12 the way.

13 MS. EVANS: I believe the garbage
14 fee, is from what I have heard anyway, it
15 should be sent out tomorrow so I would
16 expect next week hopefully residents will be
17 receiving it.

18 MR. DOBRZYN: Hopefully they will
19 pick my recycling out. Maybe they don't
20 like my campaign signs up out front.

21 On 7-A and 7-B tonight, if you can't
22 get any compensation out of these people who
23 are eliminating parking meters please put it
24 on hold if you can.

25 Okay, now, some different things

1 have come to my attention this week, a lot
2 of talk about school boards and so forth and
3 I got an idea for our senators and state
4 assemblymen, they sit on tax returns, the
5 amount they could spend is based on how much
6 the average person in the community goes
7 backwards on wages, so there are not
8 constantly looking for increases in property
9 tax to offset the wage taxes that they are
10 not going to get because they sent all of
11 our jobs over somewhere -- to some other
12 country, third world toilet.

13 Now, this county sales tax, how is
14 that supposed to be split up here because we
15 are going after a sale's tax with the
16 presumption that it's going to compensate us
17 for our lack of property tax revenue, but if
18 the county is getting two-thirds of it, and
19 we are one-third of the population in the
20 county then where is the advantage to it? I
21 don't see one because we are paying our own
22 taxes and they are getting two-thirds of the
23 tax anyway or 60 percent of it and that's
24 what I understand it to be. So, in other
25 words, once again, it's a Trojan horse.

1 Thank you, county commissioners, and please
2 keep that in mind when it comes to fruition
3 because basically if that be the case we
4 don't need it.

5 And once again, you were just
6 reminded on the park authorities, but here
7 we have kids that wouldn't know where to go
8 and nothing to do all summer and we are
9 polishing the sliding boards and charging
10 all the more.

11 And, of course, that caught my eye
12 this morning, the grants for the South Side
13 Complex, and basically that money was taken
14 away to provide tax relief for real estate
15 companies. That's where that money went.
16 We compensated one year because we increased
17 the real estate tax, the transfer tax. I
18 remember the meeting and I remember when it
19 was proposed so they knocked a percentage or
20 so off of the transfer tax and they
21 subsidized it with the money from the golf
22 course and the South Side Complex and
23 everybody else and that's just wonderful.

24 But if you ever settled on a house,
25 well, Pat, you just did recently, 15 percent

1 goes into just silly fees. You know, you
2 used to have 20 percent down, now you have
3 to have 20 percent down and it goes to silly
4 fees. At least then you owned 20 percent of
5 the house, you know, and it's crazy. It's
6 just thousands of dollars here or a
7 thousands of dollars there on a house. It's
8 totally disgusting in the state. It really
9 needs reform.

10 MR. ROGAN: I met with the Greater
11 Scranton Board of Realtors a few weeks ago
12 and they had a lot of good ideas on
13 different proposals and what they are doing
14 across the city in other areas, one is to
15 rehab properties throughout the city that
16 aren't in disrepair and get families living
17 in them, which is what we need, to get our
18 tax base up in the city and have more
19 people, you know, living here. And you are
20 right, you know, you don't --

21 MR. DOBRZYN: And most of the costs
22 are an atrocity and points, it just goes on
23 and on and on.

24 MR. ROGAN: Right, I just went
25 through it a few months ago and the down

1 payment isn't the problem, it's all of the
2 add-ons and then the reality transfer is a
3 killer, which the city and the state --

4 MR. DOBRZYN: That's why when I was
5 buying house in '02 that's when I first
6 realized that my blood pressure was beyond
7 -- unfortunately, I didn't take advantage of
8 that warning.

9 Now, social security CGI and that
10 also applies to veterans and so forth. Once
11 again, we did with the sequester, but Obama
12 gets the golden parrot for that because the
13 average person on social security in this
14 town lives on about minimum wage. And, by
15 the way, it's also veterans and it's 600
16 days in some cities for a veteran to get
17 treatment from the VA, to get under the care
18 of the VA.

19 Now, what do you do with a person
20 with PTSD and a couple of firearms laying
21 around his house and, you know, the guy
22 can't even get into the VA to get some
23 medication or something. It's really -- or
24 even just therapy, you know, for wounds and
25 stuff like that. Some places it's 600 days

1 and I don't know who thinks that this is
2 acceptable in Congress, but it's certainly
3 not.

4 And another golden parrot goes, I'll
5 make it dual tracking in the home mortgage,
6 homes taken without justification. Now,
7 they were supposed to get \$125,000
8 compensation, the typical compensation for a
9 non-veteran is \$500 and they pay \$250 an
10 hour with an average of \$10,000 paid to
11 consultants to decide who to give the
12 \$500to. That's my mighty white of them.
13 Have a great day and thank you and don't
14 forget to bawk, bawk, bawk.

15 MS. EVANS: Is there anyone else?

16 MR. EVANS: Good evening, Council.
17 My name is Greg Evans.

18 MS. EVANS: Good evening.

19 MR. EVANS: Scranton resident and
20 Scranton small business owner. I want to
21 comment on Item 6-A and ECTV and I just
22 wanted to thank you for working to maintain
23 the transparency that ECTV provides. I know
24 many people stay home and are lucky to watch
25 television in their homes that it's

1 inconvenient for them to come here at 6:00
2 because they have work, so I think it's a
3 great asset to have and I thank you for
4 maintaining that and for improving in
5 Scranton.

6 And Item 7-B regarding the parking
7 lot on North Penn Avenue and Linden Street.
8 Out of curiosity, how many meters are being
9 removed?

10 MR. JOYCE: Three.

11 MR. EVANS: Three.

12 MS. EVANS: But two are double
13 headed meters so actually it's a total of
14 five.

15 MR. EVANS: Okay. And another
16 thing, this may sound contradicting even
17 though, you know, we are looking to generate
18 revenue and everything, but I think it's a
19 good move actually to approve this because
20 this parking lot is for a current downtown
21 business owner who already houses other
22 small businesses in downtown Scranton and
23 basically by him providing parking he is not
24 really so much in competition with our
25 parking garages, as the parking study said

1 we should discourage private parking, but I
2 don't think this is a deterrent at all.

3 Moreover, I think it actually
4 encourages further investment in Scranton
5 inviting people to his building as tenants
6 and having that parking readily available so
7 I appreciate you passing this as well.

8 And one last question, because it's
9 a large hot topic right now, the food trucks
10 in downtown Scranton, and I was wondering if
11 anything has been drafted to amend that
12 legislation yet that has been passed along
13 your way? There has been a lot of talk
14 about it, but I don't know if there has been
15 a discussion yet?

16 MS. EVANS: No.

17 MR. EVANS: That is all. Thank you.

18 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Is there
19 anyone else?

20 MS. SCHUMACHER: Good evening,
21 Council. Marie Schumacher, city resident
22 and taxpayer.

23 MR. JOYCE: Good evening.

24 MS. SCHUMACHER: First a couple of
25 questions from the past, I guess, Frank, the

1 parking tax how many of the persons who are
2 billed have responded?

3 MR. JOYCE: Most have responded. I
4 spoke with the business administrator, there
5 are a few private lot owners who have not
6 paid as of yet and they will be billed as
7 delinquent. Also, the University of
8 Scranton is suing for the -- on the basis
9 that they are nonprofit and --

10 MS. SCHUMACHER: You can do that
11 doing Fifth Order, if you would, I just
12 needed to know --

13 MR. JOYCE: Okay, I will mention
14 that.

15 MS. SCHUMACHER: -- give the
16 statistics. And the rental registrations,
17 Mr. McGoff, will you providing them during
18 Fifth Order?

19 MR. MCGOFF: No, I will not.

20 MS. SCHUMACHER: Okay. I hope we
21 get back on track with that. I would also
22 like to know that fire in the 600 block of
23 Hemlock I noticed the paper said that it
24 dislocated 12 people and I just wonder if
25 those apartments are registered and how many

1 apartments there in that building. That
2 would be nice to know.

3 And have we had any MBRO sign-ups of
4 yet?

5 MS. EVANS: I had spoken with the BA
6 about this week and --

7 MS. SCHUMACHER: Just yes or no.

8 MS. EVANS: -- he is currently
9 working with a company to take over the
10 management of the program.

11 MS. SCHUMACHER: Okay. Thank you.
12 And then following up on Bill Jackowitz's
13 questions on the loans, can you shed any
14 light on the interest rates that are being
15 discussed with the potential lenders?

16 MS. EVANS: There hasn't been any
17 discussion yet on the interest rates.

18 MS. SCHUMACHER: Okay, and then to
19 get back to the agenda, hopefully, I'll get
20 beyond this, but 3-B unless the figures that
21 I copied in the Clerk's Office were already
22 adjusted for the 22 percent it would appear
23 that we are about \$375,000 behind last year
24 in collections, you know, if you disagree or
25 agree that would be -- you know, Fifth Order

1 would be fine because I have got a lot I'd
2 like to cover.

3 5-B, wasn't this already done either
4 late last year or early this year on the
5 trash?

6 MR. ROGAN: I believe it was in the
7 budget.

8 MR. JOYCE: It was in the budget,
9 yes.

10 MS. EVANS: It's included in the
11 budget, but this is the legislation now that
12 will provide for that.

13 MS. SCHUMACHER: Okay, and then on
14 the 7-A and B is it normal to seek approval
15 after the fact instead of before the work
16 commences? And with regard to 7-B, when you
17 pass this tonight will File of Council 100
18 of 2009 be modified de facto or should that
19 have not been in this piece of legislation
20 amended to instruct -- make that instruction
21 because that's the official parking meters
22 are supposed to be and where they are not
23 supposed to be, so I would think that should
24 be amended to instruct the modification of
25 that.

1 6-A, Mr. Joyce, maybe during again
2 Fifth Order you could tell us how much will
3 remain in the RE-RE account after the
4 \$20,000 withdrawal, that would be of
5 interest, and that's actually a good segue
6 way back into what I started last week on
7 the OECD loan portfolio, only two of the
8 UDAG loans are current, the other three are
9 in default with two of the three in Chapter
10 7 bankruptcy and the other in litigation.
11 It appears this pot of funding will be
12 drying up before too long.

13 Other statistics on the loan
14 portfolio, of the 24 commercial industrial
15 loans 50 percent are in default ranging from
16 one payment late to 56 payments late as of
17 the end of the last calendar year. The
18 amounts still owed on these troubled loans
19 at the end of the last calendar year is \$1.2
20 million. The amount outstanding on the UDAG
21 loans in default is slightly over \$400,000.

22 Of the 11 CDBG, CDBG loans, two did
23 not have their first payment due until
24 February 1 of this year, so there is a
25 question about whether or not they agreeable

1 to pay. Six are in default with 12-31-12
2 outstanding balances totaling \$614,560 with
3 the lack of payment ranging from five to 67
4 payments late. May I complete this section?

5 MS. EVANS: Yes.

6 MS. SCHUMACHER: Thank you. Of the
7 five enterprise zone loans, three are in
8 default with 12-31 balances owed of \$1.1
9 million and a range of 18 to 51 payments
10 late. Of the three EDA loans two are in
11 default ranging from 22 to 53 payments late
12 and outstanding balances of slightly over
13 \$558,000. Perhaps I'll have more on that at
14 a future date, but since the wage tax draws
15 \$1.65 for every dollar of real estate taxes
16 jobs are critical and our loan portfolio is
17 in abysmal shape even though you can't tell
18 that from the HUD account, which is probably
19 on the --caper, so I will probably talk
20 about that more later. Thank you.

21 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

22 MS. FRANUS: Fay Franus, Scranton.
23 I don't know what meeting Mr. Jackowitz was
24 at last week but the one I was at was
25 nothing like what he said. You didn't sit

1 there and blame the Republicans, you
2 actually asked Mr. Haggerty, Tom Welby and
3 Senator Blake if they would help you in so
4 many different ways. You brought issues to
5 them and they would not commit to one thing.
6 You, Mrs. Evans, had stated that you met
7 with Mr. Blake many times prior to that and
8 got no where.

9 Mr. Blake was saying that people in
10 Allentown and the people in Harrisburg they
11 are hurting, too. But John Blake doesn't
12 represent those people. He represents the
13 people in Scranton, Archbald and up the
14 line. Why should he be worried about the
15 people in Allentown and Harrisburg?

16 Here's what I see, I see John Blake,
17 Haggerty and Marty Flynn not giving an inch
18 to the people in their districts, not
19 representing the people that they are
20 elected to represent. They are taking care
21 of whoever they are taking care of, but they
22 are taking care of people. They are not
23 taking care of the constituents. So none of
24 this crap about the Republicans, that's not
25 what you are saying, you were trying

1 desperately over and over and again asking
2 them would you help, could you please help.
3 You presented it in many different ways and
4 they never committed to one thing. It was
5 like a nightmare.

6 I mean, anybody who saw this in the
7 paper, the paper wrote a whole different
8 story but what happened wasn't what they
9 wrote. What happened is what happened at
10 council. If anybody saw the council
11 meetings was a completely different story.
12 I don't how many times you had to ask them,
13 each one of you, and not one of them would
14 say, yes, they will. So what does that tell
15 you? They are taking care of their friends
16 and they will continue to. John Blake is
17 best friends with Senator Mellow. What does
18 that tell you? I can't even believe they
19 elected him, but anyway.

20 Another issue -- oh, first. These
21 people that come to council every week and
22 they keep on saying that you don't do this
23 and you don't do that and you don't do this
24 and why didn't you get us out of distress?
25 Don't they realize that you have tried

1 everything you possibly can. I mean, what
2 else do they -- here you had an example last
3 week asking the state to help. The state
4 put us in this position to start with. They
5 kept us in distress. What more could you
6 do? It's the senators and the
7 representatives that aren't helping us.
8 They could change that, but they are not
9 willing to. So all these people come here
10 and why don't you do this. I'd like to know
11 if they were up there what they would. Talk
12 is cheap. I'm sick of hearing it. I'm sick
13 of hearing that you are getting blamed for
14 things that you are not doing when all you
15 do is try every day. They should be in your
16 shoes for half an hour.

17 Another thing, talk about free
18 enterprise, the food trucks, Eat the Fork,
19 is it? Eat the Fork? What the Fork? You
20 still eat the food from What the Fork, but
21 anyway, I've had the food from What the
22 Fork, I pulled over in my car and get it and
23 ran, meaning I could stop there, grab
24 something to eat and go home. It's
25 delicious. I mean, instead of going to a

1 restaurant. Sometimes you don't feel like
2 going to a restaurant. They are not taking
3 business away from restaurants. I mean,
4 they are only there two days a week. They
5 pay for their permits, they pay for the
6 parking spaces after using them and the
7 meters. It's all greed if you ask me from
8 these restaurants who don't want the
9 competition. Competition is good.

10 How about if there is a clothing
11 store on one block and another clothing
12 store moves in three doors away, are they
13 going to try to make them move? What's the
14 difference? There is no difference. These
15 food trucks serve a purpose, for people on
16 the go, people want something quick, people
17 don't want to get dressed to go to a
18 restaurant. They are very handy, they are
19 great for people that work in Scranton and
20 in the offices. If the mayor tries to push
21 this that they can't be within 500 feet that
22 should be outlawed.

23 And, Mr. McGoff, are you against
24 this and for what reason would you ever be
25 against someone trying to have a business

1 and make a living and that they are there
2 two days a week?

3 MR. MCGOFF: Can I address it when I
4 speak?

5 MS. FRANUS: Pardon me?

6 MR. MCGOFF: Can I address that
7 during motions? I'll answer that.

8 MS. FRANUS: The only thing is when
9 you say something I can't reply it, that's
10 the only thing. So where does that get me?

11 MR. MCGOFF: Well, I was trying to
12 save your time. Sometimes you object when
13 we do answer.

14 MS. FRANUS: Oh, no, not at all, Mr.
15 McGoff.

16 MR. MCGOFF: I'm not opposed to the
17 food trucks whatsoever.

18 MS. FRANUS: Oh, you're not? I'm
19 glad to hear that. So, quite honestly, Mr.
20 Rogan, are you against it or for it?

21 MR. ROGAN: No, I actually, met with
22 Mario last week and spoke to him and I think
23 that there has to be a balance struck that
24 works for everyone. I think he has a great
25 business and the other food trucks do as

1 well.

2 MS. FRANUS: You're right.

3 Mr. Joyce?

4 MR. JOYCE: No, I'm not opposed to
5 the food trucks if they pay their fair
6 share.

7 MS. FRANUS: Mrs. Evans?

8 MS. EVANS: I'm not opposed to them
9 either, but I agree with Councilman Rogan
10 that we need a balanced approach because we
11 don't want any of the businesses hurt.

12 MS. FRANUS: No, but if you put
13 something like 500 feet from a restaurant
14 there wouldn't be any place for any of these
15 food trucks to go. It can't be that kind of
16 stiff thing. I don't what you can do.

17 MS. EVANS: Well, actually there is
18 no legislation before city council, nothing
19 has been sent by the administration in this
20 regard and nothing has been drafted by city
21 council.

22 MS. FRANUS: But when it is I hope
23 you take into consideration that these
24 people have to make a living as well and
25 they are serving a good deed to the public.

1 I mean, they are very handy. Like I said,
2 competition is good, isn't it? So,
3 everybody, go to What the Fork, the food
4 truck.

5 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

6 MR. MILLER: Good evening, Council.
7 Doug Miller, Scranton. Before I get into a
8 lot of issues tonight I just want to start
9 off by thanking the Scranton Fire Department
10 and the police department and all those
11 involved in the attending to the fire in the
12 500 block of Lackawanna Avenue last night,
13 obviously certainly the situation could have
14 been a lot worse than it was, and I'm just
15 glad to see that, you know, nobody was
16 harmed and that, you know, we would be able
17 to move on and hopefully that portion of the
18 block can be restored and back to it's
19 normal shape at, you know, at a good time.

20 In regard to a lot of discussion
21 that took place tonight, I would like to go
22 back and discuss a few of the comments
23 Mr. Sbaraglia made tonight because I thought
24 he probably made a lot of sense tonight,
25 more sense than some of the other speakers I

1 listened to, nothing personal to the other
2 speakers, but he addressed and touched on
3 the lot of the issues that I have talked
4 about in the past, particularly the
5 nonprofits and the harm they have caused the
6 city.

7 And I know this is a touchy subject
8 and many people think that we are picking on
9 nonprofits, this has nothing to do with
10 picking on nonprofits, this has to do with
11 the reality of the situation where the
12 reality of the situation is the nonprofits
13 in this town have gotten a free ride for far
14 too long and the ones who carry their loan
15 are the taxpayers of this city and I think
16 that it needs to come to an end and it needs
17 to come to an end now.

18 Last week we had our state
19 legislators and Senator Blake here
20 discussing that issue and I'm helpful that
21 legislation from the Commonwealth will come
22 forward that will force nonprofits to pay
23 their fair share once and for all. We've
24 talked about the University a lot because
25 they're the best example we can use. It's

1 my belief they have gotten the biggest free
2 ride out of all of them for at least the 12
3 years of this administration because it's
4 been about who can we take care of, who can
5 we protect, and that's a philosophy that
6 this administration has played for the last
7 12 years and that's why we are in the
8 situation we are in today because rather
9 than doing the right thing they chose to
10 take the approach of who contributed to my
11 campaign, who do I owe a favor to, who can I
12 get a job for, that's a philosophy all
13 through town, city government, school
14 district, county, it's everywhere and now is
15 the time for it to stop.

16 I believe that the residents in this
17 city have suffered enough and we continue to
18 go back to them time and time again and
19 place the financial burden on them, and it's
20 not fair because they have paid enough.
21 It's people like the University who have,
22 you know, given us their, you know, to them
23 it's their whopping \$175,000 a year. That's
24 a complete joke. They obtain services that
25 the residents of this city pay for each and

1 every year, they get it for nothing and it's
2 not right. And so now is the time to take
3 action, hold them accountable, and put them
4 in their place once and for all because I,
5 for one, am very frustrated and I've about
6 had it and I think now is the time that
7 something needs to happen.

8 You know, we listened to a lot of
9 empty promises in my opinion from our
10 legislators who came up with just about
11 every excuse other than coming up with
12 actual solutions for us. Blaming the
13 Republicans, blaming this one, blaming that
14 one, the blame game days are over. Now is
15 the time to come together and find solutions
16 and represent our constituents.

17 You know, we heard about how, you
18 know, we are talking about what's going on
19 in Harrisburg and Reading and other
20 municipalities in the Commonwealth, you
21 know, nothing personal or nothing against
22 them we are not concerned about them, we are
23 concerned about our city right now and these
24 officials have an obligation to represent
25 their constituents that elected them. We

1 are not concerned about their opinions on
2 what's going on in Harrisburg. That's not
3 what the discussion is about, the discussion
4 is how do we save Scranton and they very an
5 obligation to help do that.

6 As I said last week, we understand
7 that the legislators didn't cause the
8 problem or that Harrisburg itself didn't
9 cause the problem, we caused the problem
10 ourselves by electing the wrong people
11 obviously at the end of the day we only have
12 ourselves to blame, but at the same time
13 these legislatures do have an obligation to
14 help us. I think it was put very well last
15 week that we are the dying child and we need
16 the parents, who is our legislatures, to
17 come in and save us and if we can't have any
18 commitment from them I just don't see at
19 this point in time where the help is going
20 to come from because it's not coming from
21 PEL and it's not coming from DCED because
22 they have been here for 22 years and they
23 have done nothing to help us and I can't see
24 any help from them at this point in time.
25 It's also my opinion that we should try to

1 separate ourselves from them because they
2 have nothing but cause harm.

3 In regards to the \$17 million that
4 was brought up tonight on the Supreme Court
5 ruling, we understand that's June 30 that we
6 have an obligation to come up with that
7 money, I understand the frustration, I'm
8 just as frustrated as at any other
9 residents, but I think that speakers and
10 those at home need to realize that I think
11 council understands the seriousness of the
12 situation. I think we sometimes come up
13 here and speak as if, you know, council
14 doesn't understand that's a serious
15 situation. I think, you know, maybe we need
16 to dust our glasses off and kind of, you
17 know, come out of the fog a little bit and
18 understand that council does understand it's
19 a serious situation.

20 You know, I'll go back to August, if
21 you don't think it's serious, you know,
22 council and the administration came together
23 so when we come here, you know, we need to
24 understand that these things take time and
25 council and the administration need to work

1 together to obtain a loan. Those things
2 don't happen overnight, but just because
3 each week don't hear an update doesn't mean
4 that the council and the administration
5 isn't working on it. You know, these things
6 go on behind the scenes and things and
7 discussions take place and when we ask
8 questions of our elected officials,
9 particularly council, then we should expect
10 the answers in return.

11 You know, you ask a question, you
12 are going to get an answer, there is no
13 holding, you know, your time. That's part
14 of the dialogue we have here, and with that
15 said and done, that's all I have tonight.
16 Thank you.

17 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

18 MR. SLEDZENSKI: Frankie. Janet,
19 how are you?

20 MS. EVANS: Hi, Chris.

21 MR. SLEDZENSKI: Well, last night
22 there was a fire, these guys downstairs do a
23 good job. Boys, keep it up down there.
24 Thank you.

25 MS. EVANS: Thank you, Chris.

1 MR. ZUMO: Good evening. My name is
2 Sal Zumo from Greenridge.

3 MR. JOYCE: Good evening.

4 MR. ZUMO: And I'm appearing here
5 tonight because I have problem on my
6 property and I'd like to get some help from
7 somebody. I have seen the mayor on a number
8 of occasions, but in my yard I have a creek
9 that goes through my yard for years and we
10 had a cinder block wall put up there and
11 it's been up over maybe 70 years. It was
12 taken down when they moved the pipe in the
13 yard and after they moved the pipe in the
14 yard and the wall was down I find out that
15 all of this flooding that I have been
16 getting in my house and my cellar, I've
17 taken out and had to have three furnaces put
18 in plus all of the stuff and have to have my
19 house jacked up and fixed up over the years,
20 and I find out that the creek that was
21 coming down from Dunmore with all of this
22 water going over my pool and took my pool
23 out, it was up to \$30,000, and the fact when
24 they had taken this down and opened it up I
25 find out that the water that was coming down

1 in my yard was going in a two-foot pipe at
2 the other side of the wall and there was no
3 way a two-foot pipe can ever take the water
4 that was coming down because that flood my
5 yard and driveway at least 10 to 12, 15
6 inches at time.

7 And I just wondering, I asked the
8 mayor to come up and my neighbor has now
9 taken the -- the wall has been taken down,
10 my neighbor has put a sump back in there
11 that's in my driveway and I can't get any
12 help from anybody and I just wondering who
13 can help me and get my yard straightened out
14 and get the wall put back up. It's been up
15 there for 70 years, the cinder block wall,
16 and I would like to see it put back up there
17 because I don't want my neighbor to open my
18 yard with, he has taken the fence off me.

19 Now, who did I go to and what kind
20 of help can I get and where did I start?

21 MS. EVANS: Mr. Zumo?

22 MR. ZUMO: Yes.

23 MS. EVANS: You said you went to see
24 the mayor?

25 MR. ZUMO: I beg your pardon?

1 MS. EVANS: You went to see the
2 mayor about this situation?

3 MR. ZUMO: I can't quite hear.

4 MS. EVANS: Did you go to see the
5 Mayor Doherty --

6 MR. ZUMO: Oh, yes.

7 MS. EVANS: -- about this? When did
8 you go?

9 MR. ZUMO: About four times in the
10 last four or five months, and he was going
11 to do something and nothing has ever
12 happened. He was going to send
13 Mr. Campbell, but Mr. Campbell had been down
14 there and saw it and said he can't do
15 anything. The man that's taking where the
16 line is now he is over in my yard and he is
17 not going to move it. That's exactly it,
18 and they are not telling him to move it.

19 MS. EVANS: Well, I can talk to the
20 mayor about your situation and remind him of
21 your visits and that he had promised to help
22 you.

23 MR. ZUMO: They all promise but
24 nobody has been out there yet and now I have
25 the man up at Capouse Avenue I asked when I

1 moved by garage if I moved the garage off of
2 it I had the back of my yard I moved that
3 back three or four foot and put a brick back
4 of my roof to carry the water out to the
5 creek, out the gutter to carry the water out
6 to the creek and my neighbor in the back he
7 decided he would take over and he filled in
8 the garage to put the dirt right up to my
9 garage that the water come down and couldn't
10 go through the bottom of my basement and
11 took out might have furnace and my heating
12 system that's going inside and he laughs at
13 me and says he not doing a thing, he won't
14 do a thing to take my garage, he hs filled
15 it in.

16 So I have neighbors taking my
17 ground. The lady up the street -- my
18 neighbor next door asked me if he could take
19 the hedges out, I said, yes, he took two
20 foot, three foot of my ground. The lady up
21 the street she has got a fence over in my
22 yard, she thinks that belongs to her because
23 it's fence is over there. So I'm having
24 between all of the neighbors that I have
25 going on there I can't get a piece of

1 property to myself.

2 On top of that, Mr. Meehan from
3 O'Hara's, that was the other contractor,
4 come down and pitched my sidewalk, it has a
5 45 degree angle in it, and he said they are
6 going to put new sidewalks in for me and put
7 fix the garage out to the street, that's
8 thing got a 45 degree angle in the sidewalk
9 on my property and if somebody slips, I'm
10 not going to be responsible for it and I
11 can't get him to come down and do a thing
12 about it so --

13 MS. EVANS: Now, this is a company
14 that you hired?

15 MR. ZUM0: Not that I hired, the
16 state hired. Mr. Meehan is the O'Hara
17 Company up in Dunmore that had the contract
18 with the state in removing the creek and he
19 is one that put the 45 degree angle in
20 there. I said, "Somebody is going to get
21 hurt."

22 "Well, we'll be back, we'll put all
23 new sidewalks in for you and fix the
24 driveway and do this and do that," all I
25 have is more problems. I have four or five

1 people out grabbing my property.

2 MS. EVANS: Well, I think we can --

3 MR. ZUMO: And Mr. Doherty didn't
4 show up once, he sent Mr. Campbell out again
5 Id said, "What good is he going to do? He
6 is not going to do anything?"

7 MR. HUGHES: Mrs. Evans, if I could,
8 Sal, I think there is a two issues here just
9 from what you stated. The first is that I
10 think that's St. John's creek. What's the
11 name of that creek that --

12 MR. ZUMO: No, that was Mellow
13 Creek.

14 MR. O'HARA: I'm sorry, yeah, Meadow
15 Creek, Mr. Meehan his company is Fabcor,
16 although he is part of, you, now, the
17 O'hora, you know, contractors.

18 MR. ZUMO: Yes.

19 MR. HUGHES: But I think the company
20 that had the contract here is Fabcor,
21 anything that was -- if damage that was done
22 to your property, including the sidewalks
23 not putting them in properly, the city
24 should go after Fabcor to have them correct
25 those problems. If that meant taking the

1 wall down or whatever was done in the
2 construction Fabcor would be responsible for
3 it.

4 I think some of the other issues is
5 the lady coming over three feet on your land
6 and putting up a fence, you know, the city
7 has no control over that. That would be up
8 to you to have a survey and then, you know,
9 the other people, whatever they are doing
10 there, if they are interfering with your
11 property that be would be a private dispute,
12 you know, based on a survey as to what your
13 property line is that they are now
14 encroaching on your property.

15 But the issue as to the Meadow
16 Creek, I think it's Meadow brook Creek, I
17 forget, it's been years since I have, you
18 know, looked at that, but anything that was
19 done by the contractor to your property that
20 has caused damage to your property that
21 contractor would be responsible for, and I
22 think this is the flood control project when
23 they put -- some of that was open, they
24 replaced the pipe, the big pipe in there, I
25 think the city ended up putting a grant on

1 this, I think it was a US Army, I think the
2 US Army designed it, the Army Corp of
3 Engineers designed it so I think the proper
4 thing there would be that anything that was
5 done by the contractor claims should be made
6 in writing, I don't know who the flood
7 control officer is, but I know there was
8 somebody here that was in charge of the
9 project. Maybe that would be the thing, to
10 find out who was in charge of the project,
11 who is responsible for that Meadow Creek
12 flood control project and then once that's
13 in and you have a claim on that, once we
14 find out who it is then the city could take
15 up that portion of it.

16 MR. ZUMO: How could they take when
17 they put the cinder block wall up I would
18 have no way of knowing who was on the other
19 side of the thing, but when they took the
20 cinder wall down and when they just now
21 rerouted this pipe is when it come to light
22 that my flooding for the last ten, 15 years
23 has been the fact that they put the pipe in
24 that was --

25 MR. HUGHES: Who took the wall down?

1 Was it Fabcor? Meehan? The contractor, did
2 they take the wall down?

3 MR. ZUMO: Yes, the city took it
4 down. It's been up there for 70 years.

5 MR. HUGHES: It's not -- it was the
6 city project, it was designed by the Army
7 Corp of Engineers, it was bid and Meehan was
8 the contractor.

9 MR. ZUMO: Yes.

10 MR. HUGHES: So I think this is a
11 flood control project, I don't know who the
12 flood control officer is, but that
13 contractor would be responsible. I mean,
14 probably end up suing the city and the city
15 would have to bring the contractor in it as
16 to the damage to the contractor did to your
17 property, but the contractor would be
18 responsible for removing the wall and the
19 way that they reinstalled the sidewalks.
20 That's the contractor, that's their
21 responsibility.

22 MR. ZUMO: Whose responsibility was
23 it to take it from the a ten-foot pipe or
24 the ten-foot pipe taking the water on the
25 other side of the wall and reducing it to a

1 two-foot pipe?

2 MR. HUGHES: I have no idea. All I
3 know is that the Army Corp of Engineers was
4 the one, I think it was the Army Corp of
5 engineers project, there was federal monies
6 east involved that the city received and
7 probably state monies in order to implement
8 that project. The design, I don't know
9 anything about it. I don't think it was a
10 ten -- I can't see how they went from a
11 ten-foot pipe to a two-foot pipe. I have no
12 idea.

13 MR. ZUMO: No, and I didn't either.
14 I never knew that because I'm getting these
15 floods and I have my cellar, I had to have
16 my house blocked up again and I spent an
17 awful lot of money in my basements.

18 MR. HUGHES: I understand, but what
19 we have to find out is that there is a flood
20 control officer that was in charge of the
21 project and I think they should probably
22 contact Mr. Zumo. I don't know who the
23 flood control officer is, but as I remember
24 it this project was designed by the Army
25 Corp. There was federal funds involved,

1 state funds, they came into the city as
2 grants and the city ended up bidding the
3 project and Fabcor was the one that built
4 the project. So I think you should find
5 out, have that flood control officer write a
6 letter or call Mr. Zumo and we could at
7 least start there.

8 MS. EVANS: Yes. Mrs. Krake, if you
9 could send a letter.

10 MR. ZUMO: Okay, now what can you
11 recommend now that my neighbor he has now
12 put a fence up against my garage so I can't
13 walk on my own property. He is claiming
14 that now. I'm getting all kinds of problems
15 with the neighbors.

16 MR. HUGHES: Sal, I understand but
17 I think that the thing is there is things
18 that the city could help you with such as
19 with the construction and damage that was
20 caused by the construction. There is other
21 things that are matters if a neighbor is
22 doing something and encroaching on your
23 property and taking over part of your
24 property that, you know, the city can't do
25 anything with that. That's a private

1 problem.

2 MR. ZUMO: I understand that and I
3 appreciate that. I just was whatever you
4 can do to get me straightened out from the
5 city and we Meehan's problem was O'hora what
6 their contract was because I can't get them
7 to put the wall back up and I'm getting --
8 and my neighbors now moved into my driveway
9 and they won't even tell him to get his
10 stuff out of there.

11 MR. HUGHES: Well, if they took the
12 wall down they have to replace the wall, you
13 know? I mean, if the contractor comes in as
14 part of construction process, takes down
15 your wall, they damage your wall they have
16 to put it back up.

17 MR. ZUMO: Thank you. That's what I
18 need.

19 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

20 MR. ZUMO: Is there any other
21 questions you have for me that you want. I
22 just got all my people and neighbor asked me
23 could he take the hedges out and I said yes,
24 the next thing I know they come and told me
25 he has three foot of your ground and fence

1 on my ground, o, that's why I'm going
2 through. Each side of me, each grabbing my
3 ground.

4 MS. EVANS: Thank you, Mr. Zumo.

5 MR. ZUMO: Well, if there is nothing
6 else, anything you want me to answer I'll
7 answer it now for you I hope. I appreciate
8 any help you can et me and take care of the
9 situation for me. Thank you.

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

12 MS. KRAKE: FIFTH ORDER. 5-A.
13 MOTIONS.

14 MS. EVANS: Councilman McGoff, do
15 you have any comments or motions tonight?

16 MR. MCGOFF: Briefly. First, if I
17 do leave before the meeting I would like to
18 leave to try and get to the viewing of Cody
19 Barrasse. I was unable to get there this
20 afternoon, I would not have gotten into the
21 church for the viewing before the meeting.

22 A couple of very quick things. I
23 too, would like to commend the Scranton Fire
24 Department for the great work that they did
25 last evening on the 500 block of the

1 Lackawanna Avenue. They saved two adjoining
2 businesses and I think they do a great job
3 and they did a great job last night and I
4 think it's important that we commend them
5 when these things do take place.

6 As far as the food trucks, and I
7 have -- I know I had some questions about
8 the operation of the food trucks in the
9 downtown, my question was not in opposition
10 to those trucks being there, my only
11 question had to do with, as Councilman Rogan
12 said before, is are the food trucks
13 operating on a level playing field with the
14 existing businesses and that was my
15 question. If they are, then the speakers
16 were right. Competition is a great thing
17 and there should be competition. As long as
18 it is fair competition, and that was all I
19 was looking to accomplish.

20 As far as the talk about distances
21 and all, at this point in time there is no
22 legislation before us dealing with that and
23 I don't know that, you know, what will
24 happen if, in fact, there is, you know, but
25 we will discuss it at that time and, you

1 know, deal with it. But again, I had no
2 opposition, and again, from what I have
3 heard the food that is obtainable and can be
4 purchased in these food trucks is excellent
5 and well worth, you know, the effort to get
6 to them.

7 And you know, maybe they do, you
8 know, they do offer a great competition,
9 maybe it helps improve other restaurants in
10 the downtown by the fact that they are
11 there, so if further things come along we
12 will deal with them at that time.

13 As far as the parking lot ingress
14 and egress, if I have to leave before the
15 actual vote on it, I'm in favor of the
16 legislation that is before us. I think that
17 in many cases we sometimes put too much
18 emphasis on the dollars and cents of what's
19 taking place. I think what we need to do in
20 this case, at least my perspective, is that
21 there needs to be a balance between the lost
22 of, you know, meter revenue and the
23 investment that these people have made in
24 the neighborhood. That area is better for
25 what they have done and because the state is

1 requiring them to remove these meters I
2 don't think that we should hinder what they
3 have done in that part of the city. As
4 Attorney Pascale said, they have made a
5 great investment over the years in the
6 downtown and in the City of Scranton and
7 that is the balance I think for the loss of
8 the meter revenue. They are doing
9 something, they are making an investment in
10 the City of Scranton and that's what we
11 should encourage other businesses to do.

12 And the last thing very fast, I was
13 not here last week for the caucus, and I
14 apologize, just was unable to attend, and I
15 don't want to defend all the state
16 legislators or I don't know what was said,
17 but I do know the situation that they are
18 placed in. In speaking with the
19 individually, I know that many of them want
20 to help the City of Scranton, the problem is
21 that they can't do it alone. They can't go
22 to the state legislature and say, "Do this."

23 They must concern themselves with
24 what's going on in other communities,
25 whether it's Reading, Harrisburg, Erie,

1 those are the votes that they need in order
2 to get legislation passed that would be a
3 benefit to the City of Scranton, and I'm
4 sure that they are working on our behalf
5 because I have spoken to most of the people
6 that were here last week about the
7 situations and I think it's going to be a
8 long process to get anything done at a state
9 level. Many of the things that have been
10 suggested have been tried before and
11 hopefully that with some pressure or
12 lobbying on our behalf and from other
13 communities that perhaps the state will see
14 fit to do something to benefit the cities of
15 this Commonwealth that are in difficult
16 situations. Hopefully that will take place
17 over the course of the next year, two years,
18 whatever, but we do need their help and I
19 think that they are working on our behalf.
20 And that's all I have. Thank you.

21 MS. EVANS: Thank you. And,
22 Councilman Rogan tonight.

23 MR. ROGAN: Yes, thank you. I would
24 also like to thank our fire department for
25 the great job they did last night with the

1 fire in the 500 block of the Lackawanna
2 Avenue and I live in West Scranton and from
3 my house I could see the smoke billowing
4 from the downtown and, boy, I'll tell you,
5 when I first heard about it and saw pictures
6 on Facebook and, you know, and heard from
7 friends that were down there I thought we
8 were going to lose two great businesses in
9 the downtown, Buona Pizza and on the other
10 side Scranton Leiderkranz, and I spoke to
11 Giovanni Piccolino last night from Buona
12 Pizza and he wanted to express his thanks as
13 well to the fire department for the great
14 job they did.

15 And, you know, there is nothing
16 against volunteer firefighters, but this
17 just shows why we need a professional fire
18 department in the City of Scranton. That
19 500 block could have all went up and
20 thankfully because of their hard work it was
21 just contained to one vacant building so
22 that's a very, very good job by the fire
23 department and they deserve kudos for a job
24 well done.

25 On 7-A, Item 7-A and 7-B, I will

1 also be voting "yes" on this legislation and
2 I agree with other comments that were made
3 both at the podium and by council members
4 that I think one of the big problems the
5 city has had is that people don't want to
6 come here to invest here because they say
7 the city won't work with them. They said,
8 you know, they will stonewall us every time,
9 you know, we try to do something and I
10 walked in here tonight and I honestly didn't
11 know how I was going to vote on this issue.
12 It is the state that wants the meters
13 removed, it wasn't, you know, the business
14 owner and I think we need to encourage
15 business in the downtown, so I will be
16 voting "yes" on that.

17 And also when it comes to
18 encouraging business, on the issue of the
19 food trucks I agree with some of my
20 colleagues and some speakers as well on that
21 issue, if there was a proposal to make a 500
22 foot law of the downtown I would oppose
23 that. I don't think that we are to ban --
24 and that's essentially what it would do is
25 ban food trucks from the downtown, and I

1 agree I don't think a food truck is a direct
2 competitor of the sit down restaurant, it's
3 a completely different venue. You know,
4 it's like comparing a takeout pizza to a sit
5 down meal. You know, it's kind of in that
6 realm where, you know, if go to a food truck
7 and you only have a little bit of time and
8 want to get some good food you can go there
9 and get something. If you have, you know,
10 an hour to spare you are more likely to go
11 to the restaurant.

12 That being said, I do think what
13 needs to happen is there needs to be a sit
14 down meeting between owners of the food
15 trucks the owners of the brick and mortar
16 restaurants downtown, the mayor, couple of
17 members of city council to make an
18 agreement. Something could absolutely be
19 worked out where everyone is happy. And
20 again, this is just like I said before, the
21 lack of the cooperation that we have seen
22 between government and private business in
23 the city where it doesn't make sense if the
24 administration were just send down an
25 ordinance and, here, you can pass it either

1 yes or no, you know, we need to negotiate it
2 out before it gets to that point where it
3 works for everyone involved.

4 And like I said, if there was
5 something to come down it would be
6 completely, you know, to take the food
7 trucks out of the downtown I'd vote "no." I
8 know in big cities Philadelphia and New York
9 they are becoming a knew craze, you know,
10 where there is competitions and, you know,
11 they are very popular and I know in Scranton
12 we need to encourage all businesses in the
13 city not just -- you can't pick one over
14 another. So hopefully that's something that
15 the mayor will be interested in working out
16 as well as the food truck vendors and the
17 brick and mortar business owners so
18 hopefully that all come together and we'd
19 have an agreement that works for everyone.

20 Two other issues, we did receive a
21 response from my question to Berkheimer
22 regarding Carl Greco and paying city taxes,
23 and I'll red that off, it says, "Nancy" --
24 this was addressed to our city clerk, Nancy
25 Krake.

1 "In response to council's inquiry,
2 we do not have a taxpayer in our file by the
3 name of Carl Greco paying EIT in the area
4 near the city. If you have an address for
5 the taxpayer, please provide it."

6 So I will be providing that address,
7 if you don't have it already, and we could
8 send a follow-up to see if, in fact,
9 Mr. Greco does owe taxes to the city as well
10 as the federal government.

11 MS. EVANS: Mr. Rogan, our office
12 has already involved and moving this along
13 because we got that response previously and
14 I believe Mrs. Krake has been in touch with
15 the Single Tax Office and so we are taking
16 an alternate route in order to double check
17 and cover all of the basis.

18 MR. ROGAN: I know a lot of
19 taxpayers when that article went in the
20 paper I know my e-mail box and phone was
21 blowing up with people very upset about
22 somebody who made over a million dollars
23 from the taxpayers owing a million dollars
24 to the federal government and I think
25 everyone deserves to know if, in fact, he

1 owes money to the city as well.

2 And that is all I have for tonight.

3 Thank you.

4 MS. EVANS: Thank you. And,
5 Councilman Joyce, do you have any comments
6 or motions?

7 MR. JOYCE: I do. First, I want to
8 commend the Scranton Fire Department for the
9 work that they did in taking care of last
10 nights fire on the 500 block of Lackawanna
11 Avenue. I echo the comments of my
12 colleagues, they did a great job in
13 containing the fire and they deserve to be
14 commended for doing so.

15 Secondly tonight, we received some
16 information from Mr. McGowan. Our current
17 cash balance is at \$11.3 million and we have
18 \$200,000 in accounts payable.

19 Third, over the past week I attended
20 a meeting with business administrator Ryan
21 McGowan as well as Mayor Doherty and other
22 members of the banking community to address
23 funding for the Supreme Court award. Also
24 present at this meeting was Council
25 President Janet Evans. At the meeting

1 various revenue categories were discussed.
2 For instance, real estate taxes, refuse
3 revenues, the parking tax, the amusement
4 tax, rental registration as well as the
5 license and permits fees among others.

6 To elaborate further, in regard to
7 real estate taxes so far the city has seen a
8 22.7 percent increase in the real estate tax
9 revenue in comparison to the last year.
10 This amount is consistent with the amount of
11 the tax increase that occurred late last
12 year.

13 Secondly, in regard to refuse
14 revenue, overall refuse revenue was budgeted
15 at a lower amount than previous years due to
16 the fact that refuse revenue was under
17 performing in previous years. So far, Ryan
18 McGowan, our BA, projected that we are on
19 target to hit refuse revenue in the amount
20 of \$3.95 million. Refuse bills are being
21 sent out and it's expected that they will
22 receive the greatest influx of refuse
23 revenue in late April later this month and
24 in May.

25 Third, concerning the parking tax

1 the amount that was budgeted this year was
2 \$225,000. This amount was budgeted at a
3 lower amount than PEL's original projection
4 last year. That was done due to some
5 nonpayers. For instance, the University of
6 Scranton did not pay the parking tax and is
7 currently suing the city for an exemption to
8 the tax. The University of Scranton does
9 not believe that they are subject to paying
10 the tax on the parking lots and garages that
11 they collect revenue from.

12 Since the University of Scranton is
13 taking an issue with the parking tax, other
14 nonprofits are taking issues with it as
15 well. At the present time Lackawanna
16 College and Marywood have not paid the tax
17 either. Lackawanna College, Marywood, as
18 well as a few other private parking lots
19 that have not paid the tax will all be
20 billed as delinquent in the future.

21 Fourth, in regard to the amusement
22 tax bills are in the process of being sent
23 out and will be sent out on a quarterly
24 basis. The majority of the revenue from the
25 amusement tax is expected to be made during the

1 concert season at the Toyota Pavilion, which
2 is located in Scranton. As far as the tax
3 itself is concerned, it was also discussed
4 to amend the tax to charge \$1 surcharge on
5 concert tickets rather than a certain
6 percentage. This is analogous to what's
7 being done in Wilkes-Barre Township.

8 Fifth, concerning rental
9 registration, we are finally seeing revenue
10 this year from the registration rental
11 units. In fact, so far the city has
12 realized over \$80,000 in rental registration
13 revenue. With this in mind, it's projected
14 that the city will hit the \$100,000 target
15 that was budgeted for this year.

16 Sixth, as far as license and permit
17 revenue is concerned, Ryan McGowan, our BA,
18 projects that we will be on target to
19 realize budgeted revenue amounts. The
20 Geisinger expansion, which is a large
21 contributing factor to the license and
22 permit revenue that is expected for this
23 year is still scheduled to happen.

24 For the first two months of the year
25 the city has received \$339,101, just to give

1 you update after where we are. In
2 communication with the business
3 administrator's office, I have requested the
4 cash flow report for the first three months
5 of the year. So far, the cash flow report
6 for the first two months of the year was the
7 only document that was prepared. Once I
8 received the cash flow report for the first
9 three months of the year I will further
10 elaborate on where we are as far as revenue
11 and expenditures are concerned.

12 And I do have some citizens'
13 requests tonight. First, West Scranton
14 residents have informed me that the lot
15 located at 1130 Rock Street is in deplorable
16 condition. The vacant lot contains beer
17 cans, bottles and other debris. The
18 residents would like to see this lot cleaned
19 up as they fear it's a home for rats, which
20 have been a problem in the area.

21 Mrs. Krake, please notify Director
22 Seitzinger of the situation and ask him to
23 rectify the scenario in the best way that he
24 sees fit.

25 West Scranton residents have

1 informed me that the lot located at 529
2 Hampton Street and at the corner of Hampton
3 Street and Sixth Avenue are in poor
4 condition. Both lots contain trash build up
5 and falling down trees. Residents in nearby
6 homes have informed me that these lots are
7 the cause of rodent infestation and would
8 like to see something done.

9 Mrs. Krake, please add this to the
10 list or add this locations on Hampton Street
11 in the list of the issues to address with
12 Director Seitzinger.

13 A West Scranton resident residing at
14 712 Eynon Street has informed me that a hole
15 has opened up in her driveway and fears that
16 it could be due to a mine subsidence. This
17 is becoming problematic as she does not want
18 to see her home eventually sink in the years
19 to come.

20 Mrs. Krake, please notify Director
21 Dougher of this situation and ask him to
22 visit the site to see if there is any way
23 that the DPW can fill the hole.

24 Residents living in the 1100 of
25 Eynon Street have informed me that Raven

1 Place, which is located directly behind
2 Eynon Street has been paved, however, since
3 it has been paved there has been a great
4 deal of the water runoff due to the manner
5 in which the paving was done.

6 Mrs. Krake, please add this to the
7 list of issues to address with Director
8 Dougher.

9 Residents living in the Cloverfield
10 area of West Scranton have informed me that
11 there are many speeding motorists in the
12 five to seven hundred blocks of West Elm
13 Street and fear that the situation will
14 eventually lead to an accident given that
15 there are many children in the neighborhood.

16 Mrs. Krake, please forward this to
17 Chief Graziano and ask him to send an
18 officer to the site to monitor the
19 situation.

20 Residents living in the 500 block of
21 West Elm Street have also informed me that
22 there are trailers being parked at the end
23 of the block, which is considered an R-1
24 zone. Parking of the tractor trailers is
25 causing a great amount of dust in the area

1 and residents would like to see something
2 done.

3 Mrs. Krake, please add this to the
4 list of issues to address with Director
5 Seitzinger.

6 And finally, a resident in West
7 Scranton living at 615 Bromley Avenue has
8 informed me there was recent done on the
9 roadway by TSC which has lead to a great
10 deal of water run off on the resident's
11 property during rainy days. The resident
12 would like to see something done about the
13 situation as it is damaging the resident's
14 property.

15 Mrs. Krake, please add this to the
16 list of issues to address with Director
17 Dougher. And that's all.

18 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Good
19 evening, undoubtedly we are all aware of the
20 epidemic of gun violence in our country and
21 the proposed ways in which to reduce it.
22 Although a majority of Americans have made
23 it clear that they support increased gun
24 control and demand action now, some of our
25 elected officials in US Congress and Senate

1 choose to ignore the voices of the majority.
2 Some in Congress have even threatened to
3 filibuster critical votes pertaining to
4 increased gun control.

5 At the same time, efforts sprouted
6 in several Republican lead states such as
7 South Dakota, Kansas and Missouri to allow
8 trained teachers to carry guns into the
9 classroom while the NRA calls for armed
10 officers in every American school, both of
11 which were ill-conceived and ill-fated
12 responses to the epidemic of gun violence.

13 Rather than decreasing gun violence
14 against our children and school personnel,
15 such measures would create a very real
16 possibility of increasing violence from
17 within schools.

18 On the other hand, the States of
19 Connecticut, New York, Maryland and Colorado
20 have passed significant gun control measures
21 to better protect their children and youth
22 and have listened to the voices of their
23 citizens. The State of Pennsylvania can
24 ill-afford to ignore stricter gun control
25 measures and stand on the sidelines.

1 Equally troubling, many of our
2 federal legislatures seem to lack the
3 courage and resolve to take significant
4 steps to provide stricter gun controls laws
5 of late and thereby reduce gun violence in
6 our nation.

7 Therefore, with my colleagues'
8 agreement, I ask Mrs. Krake to forward
9 letters to Congressmen Matt Cartright and
10 Lou Barletta and Senators Bob Casey and Pat
11 Toomy asking them to vote to ban
12 military-style assault weapons, set a ten
13 ground limit for magazines, approve
14 universal background checks to include gun
15 shows and on-line transactions, require
16 reporting of lost or stolen firearms and
17 approve the current Senate bill that would
18 increase the difficulty for criminals and
19 individuals suffering with mental illnesses
20 who could pose a threat to themselves or
21 others to obtain firearms, a measure that is
22 supported by nine out of ten Americans,
23 including a majority of the gun owners.

24 All of the aforementioned measures
25 deserve a vote in both the Senate and the

1 Congress and the Council of the City of
2 Scranton urges our elected leaders to
3 protect our children and youth, make our
4 schools safer, and represent the will of the
5 majority of your constituents by voting to
6 approve stronger and stricter gun laws.

7 Our elected leaders have the
8 opportunity to reduce gun violence in our
9 country. They must reaffirm the American
10 tradition of responsible gun ownership and
11 act now to stop guns from reaching the hands
12 of the dangerous individuals who would use
13 them to commit acts of the violence.

14 Also, Mrs. Krake, please forward
15 similar letters to State Senator John Blake
16 and Representatives Marty Flynn and Kevin
17 Haggerty requesting their aggressive pursuit
18 in support of the enactment of the
19 aforementioned measures in the Commonwealth
20 of the Pennsylvania. Do I have the
21 agreement of my colleagues to send this
22 letter?

23 MR. ROGAN: I would abstain if it
24 were a vote just because of my position.

25 MS. EVANS: No, it's not a vote,

1 request to have the county Tax Assessor's
2 Office review the status of all of
3 nonprofits to determine whether each meets
4 the criteria for property tax. Council
5 wished to ensure that all properties off the
6 tax rolls deserve to remain so similar to
7 the procedure followed in Allegheny County
8 last month where nearly 3,000 letters were
9 mailed by the Office of Property Assessment
10 to nonprofits asking each to complete a
11 three-page application and explain why the
12 property meets a 2012 State Supreme Court
13 decision that qualifies them for tax
14 exemptions as a public charity.

15 In his letter, however, Attorney
16 Frederickson from Lackawanna County states,
17 "We have determined that the proper
18 procedure to follow in challenging a
19 nonprofit status is for the municipality to
20 conduct an investigation into the standing
21 of the various nonprofit organizations
22 located within its jurisdiction."

23 Now, it is evident that the county
24 commissioners have no intention to review
25 the status of any nonprofits either in

1 Scranton or in any portion of Lackawanna
2 County. Rather, they seem to have chosen to
3 guard the status quo whereby nonprofits
4 increasingly devour taxable property for use
5 that will never be reviewed for compliance
6 with the criteria for tax exemption while
7 the city and county taxpayers will continue
8 to pay not only for their taxes, but the
9 taxes of all nonprofits.

10 This decision marks a third time in
11 which the county commissioners have refused
12 the request of Scranton City Council to help
13 the taxpayers.

14 And finally, I have two citizens'
15 requests: Pave Hollister Avenue in North
16 Scranton, which borders a portion of Weston
17 Park. Now, this same request was made in
18 2012 and it received no action. North
19 Scranton residents note that the majority of
20 the streets included on the 2013 paving list
21 are outside of North Scranton and so they
22 are asking for a fair share of the paving
23 program.

24 Residents report that the Halsey
25 Court, which is littered with huge potholes

1 in which parts of the road are missing, has
2 not been paved in 50 years. Nevertheless,
3 drivers access it and as a shortcut onto
4 Landis Street. These residents are upset to
5 learn that surrounding streets and courts
6 such as Snyder Avenue, Acker Avenue and
7 Griffiths Court are being paved. Please
8 send letters to Mayor Doherty and DPW
9 Director Dougher requesting the paving of
10 Hollister Avenue and Halsey Court, and
11 that's it.

12 MS. KRAKE: 5-B. AUTHORIZING THE
13 MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS
14 TO PROCURE A FORBEARANCE ON PAYMENTS TO
15 THE KEYSTONE SANITARY LANDFILL IN THE AMOUNT
16 OF ONE MILLION DOLLARS (\$1,000,000.00) FOR
17 YEAR 2013 AND TO REPAY SAID AMOUNT IN THIRTY
18 SIX (36) CONSECUTIVE MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF
19 TWENTY SEVEN THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED
20 SEVENTY-SEVEN DOLLARS AND SEVENTY-EIGHT
21 CENTS (\$27,777.78) PER MONTH BEGINNING
22 JANUARY 15, 2014, AND ENDING ON DECEMBER 15,
23 2016.

24 MS. EVANS: At this time I'll
25 entertain a motion that Item 5-B be

1 introduced into its proper committee.

2 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

3 MR. JOYCE: Second.

4 MS. EVANS: On the question? All
5 those in favor of introduction signify by
6 saying aye.

7 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

8 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

9 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

10 MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
11 have it and so moved.

12 MS. KRAKE: SIXTH ORDER. 6-A.

13 READING BY TITLE - FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 17,
14 2013 - AN ORDINANCE - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR
15 AND OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO
16 DISBURSE \$20,000.00 FROM THE ACCOUNT INTO
17 WHICH REPAYMENT OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT ACTION
18 GRANTS (UDAG) ARE DEPOSITED (UDAG REPAYMENT
19 ACCOUNT), FOR AN OPERATING GRANT TO ECTV,
20 THE CITY'S PEG CHANNEL OPERATOR.

21 MS. EVANS: You've heard reading by
22 title of Item 6-A, what is your pleasure?

23 MR. ROGAN: I move that Item 6-A
24 pass reading by title.

25 MR. JOYCE: Second.

1 MS. EVANS: On the question? All
2 those in favor signify by saying aye.

3 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

4 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

5 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

6 MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
7 have it and so moved.

8 MS. KRAKE: SEVENTH ORDER. 7-A.
9 FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC
10 WORKS FOR ADOPTION – FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 15,
11 2013 - AUTHORIZING EXCAVATIONS ON THE 200
12 BLOCK OF PENN AVENUE AND 300 BLOCK OF LINDEN
13 STREET TO PERMIT MOTOR VEHICLE INGRESS,
14 EGRESS AND REGRESS INTO A PARKING LOT AT THE
15 CORNER OF PENN AVENUE AND LINDEN STREET FOR
16 NGP ENTERPRISES, LLC.

17 MS. EVANS: What is the
18 recommendation of the Chair for the
19 Committee on Public Works?

20 MR. MCGOFF: As Chair for the
21 Committee on Public Works, I recommend final
22 passage of Item 7-A.

23 MR. ROGAN: Second.

24 MS. EVANS: On the question? Roll
25 call, please?

1 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. McGoff.

2 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

3 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Rogan.

4 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

5 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Joyce.

6 MR. JOYCE: Yes.

7 MS. MARCIANO: Mrs. Evans.

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

10 Can we have the motion to appoint a
11 temporary chair to the Public Safety
12 Committee, please?

13 MR. ROGAN: I make a motion to
14 appoint Councilman Joyce temporary chair for
15 Public Safety.

16 MR. MCGOFF: Second.

17 MS. EVANS: On the question? All
18 those in favor signify by saying aye.

19 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

20 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

21 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

22 MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
23 have it and so moved.

24 MS. KRAKE: 7-B. FOR CONSIDERATION
25 BY THE COMMITTEE ON PUBIC SAFETY FOR

1 ADOPTION -FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 16, 2013 -
2 AUTHORIZING THE REMOVAL OF PARKING METERS ON
3 PENN AVENUE (200 BLOCK) AND LINDEN STREET
4 (300 BLOCK) IN THE CITY OF SCRANTON TO
5 PROVIDE AN INGRESS AND EGRESS FROM PENN
6 AVENUE AND LINDEN STREET TO A PARKING LOT
7 FOR NGP ENTERPRISES, LLC.

8 MS. EVANS: What is the
9 recommendation of the acting Chair for the
10 Committee on Public Safety?

11 MR. JOYCE: As the acting
12 Chairperson for the Committee on Public
13 Safety, I recommend final passage of Item
14 7-B.

15 MR. ROGAN: Second.

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

18 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. McGoff.

19 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

20 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Rogan.

21 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

22 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Joyce.

23 MR. JOYCE: Yes.

24 MS. MARCIANO: Mrs. Evans.

25 MS. EVANS: Yes. I hereby declare

1 Item 7-B legally and lawfully adopted.

2 Before we adjourn for the night, I'd
3 like to thank Mr. Charlie Newcomb for
4 running tonights cameras and making this
5 meeting available to all of our viewers at
6 home.

7 If there is no further business,
8 I'll entertain a motion to adjourn.

9 MR. JOYCE: Motion to adjourn.

10 MS. EVANS: This meeting is
11 adjourned.

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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