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SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING

HELD:

Thursday, May 14, 2015

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:

- ROBERT MCGOFF, PRESIDENT
- PATRICK ROGAN, VICE-PRESIDENT
- WAYNE EVANS
- JOSEPH WECHSLER
- WILLIAM GAUGHAN

- LORI REED, CITY CLERK
- JAMIE MARCIANO, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK
- AMIL MINORA, SOLICITOR

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

3 MR. MCGOFF: Roll call, please.

4 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Wechsler.

5 MR. WECHSLER: Here.

6 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Rogan.

7 MR. ROGAN: Here.

8 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Evans.

9 MR. EVANS: Here.

10 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Gaughan.

11 MR. GAUGHAN: Here.

12 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. McGoff.

13 MR. MCGOFF: Here.

14 MS. REED: THIRD ORDER. 3-A. CHECK
15 RECEIVED FROM COMCAST, REPRESENTING THE CATV
16 FRANCHISE FEE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$227,082.51.

17 MR. MCGOFF: Are there any comments?

18 If not, received and filed.

19 MS. REED: 3-B. MINUTES OF THE
20 REGULAR MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF SCRANTON
21 HOUSING AUTHORITY HELD APRIL 6, 2015.

22 MR. MCGOFF: Are there any comments?

23 If not, received and filed.

24 MS. REED: 3-C. TAX ASSESSOR'S RESULTS
25 REPORT FOR HEARING DATE HELD APRIL 29, 2015.

1 MR. MCGOFF: Are there any comments?
2 If not, received and filed.

3 MS. REED: 3-D. TAX ASSESSOR'S
4 REPORT FOR HEARING DATE TO BE HELD JUNE 3,
5 2015.

6 MR. MCGOFF: Are there any comments?
7 If not, received and filed. Are there any
8 announcements from council?

9 MR. EVANS: Yeah. The Connors Park
10 memorial day dedication will take place on
11 June 1, the time is yet to be set. It's
12 going to be some time that day to dedicate
13 the memorial at Connors Park.

14 MR. MCGOFF: This Saturday, May 16,
15 at 11 a.m. the Armed Forces Day parade will
16 be held. The parade route begins at Gino
17 Merli Veteran's Center on Penn Avenue and
18 proceeds throughout the downtown ending at
19 courthouse square. Again, this Saturday,
20 the Armed Forces Day parade, at the Gino
21 Merli Center at 11:00 to the courthouse
22 square.

23 Just to note, election day is
24 Tuesday, May 19, we encourage all to please
25 get out and vote. Even in a primary

1 election votes are important. It is your
2 important to voice your opinion. On that
3 day, city hall will be closed, however, DPW
4 is working and there will be refuse pickup
5 on that day.

6 Next Thursday, May 21, there will be
7 a public hearing at 6:00 p.m. for the
8 transfer of a liquor license for use at 306
9 Penn Avenue as required by the Pennsylvania
10 Liquor Control Board. That is Item 5-C on
11 tonight's agenda.

12 And last announcement, next
13 Thursday, May 21, is Red Nose day, I would
14 offer that anyone who wishes to wear a red
15 nose that day is entitled to tell a joke as
16 long it is within reason, acceptable by the
17 TV and others so feel free.

18 MS. REED: FOURTH ORDER. CITIZENS'
19 PARTICIPATION.

20 MR. MCGOFF: Charlie Charlesworth.
21 I would like to add, first of all, welcome
22 back, Mr. Charlesworth. Mr. Charlesworth
23 was at a caucus a number of months ago and
24 with him is Mr. Bernie McGurl who we welcome
25 back to our council chambers.

1 MR. MCGURL: Thank you,
2 Mr. President. We are here tonight just to
3 let everybody know that we are working with
4 the city in cooperation with the Lackawanna
5 County River Corridor Association, our other
6 affiliate, Lackawanna Valley Conservancy,
7 and the Lackawanna Valley Chapter of Trout
8 Unlimited on a project known as Sweeney's
9 Beach, and we have a handout that we would
10 like to give to the members of the public
11 here this evening, and we have a
12 presentation panel and I've got a sketch map
13 that we have just provided members of
14 council.

15 And what this project is, we
16 identified about two acres of city-owned
17 property that's actually part of the
18 Pinebrook recreation area at Chick Feldman
19 field and it borders on the Lackawanna
20 River. It's one of the few spots in
21 Scranton where one can approach the river
22 over what is the approximate original
23 topography and you are not separated by a
24 retaining wall or a railroad grade or a
25 flood control levy and the fact that it was

1 city-owned and it's accessible but it has
2 been undeveloped, it gave us some cause for
3 consideration. So we have proposed a lease
4 from the city to our organizations and it's
5 a 25-year lease and it's renewable.

6 And the reason for that is we are
7 interested in securing funding to make
8 improvements to the property both grants and
9 private fundraising that we would do and the
10 lease is modeled after other leases that the
11 city has with various community
12 organizations such as the Marine Corp League
13 up at the Mattes Community Center on East
14 Mountain, the United Neighborhood Centers in
15 the Bellevue Center building, and the
16 Forioni building up in West Side and several
17 other organizations, the Keyser Valley
18 Community Center for the Keyser Valley
19 Neighborhood Association.

20 So it gives us equity under the law
21 so when we are applying for state grant in
22 often cases there may be a requirement that
23 we have some form of equity in collaboration
24 with the city to be the grant applicant,
25 that would relieve the city of the need to

1 be the grant applicant and we have some
2 perhaps a little bit more flexibility in
3 securing some funds for it under those
4 purposes.

5 So we have preliminary plans drawn
6 up and the idea is to create a river access
7 point where the public could go to actually
8 access the river for fishing and boating.
9 We have basically a bend in the river where
10 there is a nice gravel beach and you could
11 safely land and launch canoes and kayaks,
12 probably a couple of dozen at a time because
13 it's a big gravel point guard at the bend in
14 the river and it's also a nice spot to
15 gradually wade into the river to go fly
16 fishing or casting fishing.

17 So we are looking at making some
18 improvements on the parking area that would
19 use pave cuts millings so that rain water
20 would infiltrate. We are looking at doing
21 green technology, green infrastructure
22 wherever we can here. We have salvaged
23 boulders from the retaining walls at the old
24 Linden Street overpass of the railroad that
25 was out of commission for a few years. We

1 worked with the city and PennDOT to salvage
2 those railroad abutment stones. We placed
3 them on the property and we are going to be
4 using them to create landscape terraces on
5 the property. We are going to create a
6 public assembly area, there will be pathways
7 to access the river and parking areas and
8 areas where we will try to suppress the
9 knotweed invasive vegetation that's very
10 prevalent down there, open that up and have
11 a lawn area that can be mowed and then we
12 are going to be doing plantings of native
13 trees and vegetation so it will be basically
14 enhance the whole park.

15 We will be looking also to make an
16 access pathway up to the parking lot at the
17 Chick Feldman field area as well over the
18 long-term so right now we have got the
19 preliminary plans made, we have permit
20 applications to the county conservation
21 district and the State Department of
22 Environmental Protection for permits to work
23 in and along the edge of the river in this
24 location because we are and along the flood
25 plane areas, and we are ready to go and get

1 the lease developed with the city and we've
2 got some initial funding -- we have about
3 what, 20 --

4 MR. CHARLESWORTH: \$22,000.

5 MR. MCGURL: \$22,000 of initial
6 funds, some grant funds from the State Trout
7 Unlimited Program and also from the
8 Lackawanna County Reinvest Program and we
9 are looking for additional funds. We have a
10 potential initial budget of about \$130,000 o
11 improvements that we would like to make over
12 the next several years and we are hoping to
13 make at least some initial improvements this
14 summer so that the site can be a little bit
15 more amenable when we have the Trout
16 Unlimited National Convention here in
17 September.

18 So we will be working over there
19 this summer and we will be looking for
20 volunteers, we will be sending announcements
21 out saying we are going to need folks to
22 come over help knock down the knotweed and
23 clear the brush and there is some -- there
24 is some homeless camps over there and we are
25 going to clean that up in the next few weeks

1 as well.

2 So that's the situation, we just
3 wanted to advise everybody that we are in it
4 for the long-term and we are looking forward
5 to working with the city on this project.

6 MR. MCGOFF: Would you or
7 Mr. Charlesworth wish to speak to the
8 convention that is coming just to let the
9 public know about that?

10 MR. CHARLESWORTH: Sure. First, I'd
11 like to say that at its completion this will
12 be known as an environmental education
13 center and we will be offering the use of it
14 to Lackawanna College and the two
15 universities from the city and also the high
16 schools in the city where if the students
17 would be over there will be able to go over
18 there and study environmental issues that
19 have to do with the river and other
20 environment issues that have to do with the
21 water quality. The project will also
22 increase the trout habitat that's in the
23 river and will help clean up the water
24 quality in the river and reduce the
25 temperature.

1 The Trout Unlimited National
2 Convention is coming here September 16th
3 through the 20th. We anticipate it being
4 the largest national convention Trout
5 Unlimited has ever had, and as I mentioned
6 to council before, there is two reasons why
7 Trout Unlimited is coming here and that is
8 that the Lackawanna River has been listed as
9 one of the 100 best trout streams in North
10 America in a recent publication, a book that
11 was published in November, and that and the
12 fact that the population base between Boston
13 and Washington, D.C., represents 25 percent
14 of the total population of America and we
15 are right dead center in the middle of the
16 that and we are looking forward to having
17 about 450 to 500 people visiting our fine
18 city.

19 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you very much.
20 Thank you, Mr. McGurl and Mr. Charlesworth.

21 MR. MCGURL: Just one more item
22 while I have the podium for one second, I
23 want to invite everyone to Lackawanna
24 Riverfest which is going to be held
25 Saturday, May 30, and it's our annual canoe

1 race, starts up in Blakely and Archbald in
2 the morning, but we have our finish line set
3 up at the Olive Street bridge. There will
4 be bands, there will be music, the show
5 mobile, tents, food vendors will be there
6 all afternoon. The canoe race is coming in.
7 We have our regatta at 3:00 and we have the
8 duck race at 4:00 so we would like to invite
9 everyone to join us to celebrate the river
10 on Saturday, May 30. Thank you.

11 MR. GAUGHAN: Thank you.

12 MR. MCGOFF: Bill Jackowitz.

13 MR. JACKOWITZ: Good evening,
14 Scranton City Council, Jamie, stenographer,
15 Lori, Mail, even though he is running out on
16 me, good evening to you. I'm here tonight
17 to promote a ziti dinner that's the Dante
18 Literary Society is going to be holding on
19 the 23rd of May from 4 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
20 Tickets for the dinner are \$10. You can
21 either get ziti with meatballs or ziti with
22 chicken and broccoli. If you just want ziti
23 alone it's a \$7.00 ticket, naturally adults
24 beverages will be provided and be there and,
25 like I said, tickets are \$10, I have tickets

1 with me if anybody would like to purchase
2 some tickets after the meeting, I'll be
3 available after the meeting. Again, it's on
4 the 23rd of May from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.
5 takeout or sit in, whichever way you would
6 like it.

7 Also, after the ziti dinner we are
8 going to have a DJ upstairs, the Northeast
9 Social Dance Club will be holding dancing up
10 there and that will be from 8:00 until 11:00
11 p.m., so you can eat your ziti, have a
12 couple of cool ones and then go upstairs and
13 work it off by dancing, and I understand
14 that most of the people on city council are
15 good dancers so I'm sure we can get you guys
16 up there with your favorite sweetheart and
17 do some dancing, and the cost for the dance
18 is it only five bucks, so it's from 8 until
19 11, and again, this is on the 23rd of May up
20 at the Dante Literary Society at 1916
21 Prospect Avenue.

22 Basically that's about it, so I hope
23 to see you all here, I hope to see some of
24 you, I'd like to see you all up there on the
25 23rd of May, but I'd like to see some of you

1 up there, it's a good time to socialize with
2 the public, get to meet some of the voters
3 and residents of the city, have a good time,
4 have something to eat and have an adult
5 beverage or two and do some dancing so hope
6 to see you there. Thank you.

7 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you,
8 Mr. Jackowitz. Jane Smedley.

9 MS. SMEDLEY: Good evening, Council.
10 My name is Jane Smedley. I represent a
11 entity known as 16th Ward, LLC, and we are
12 on your agenda this evening for a liquor
13 license transfer from Clarks Summit to
14 downtown Scranton. For simple location
15 purposes, it's in the 300 block of Penn
16 Avenue, and I just wanted to introduce
17 myself as well as our client, Mr. Stepkoff,
18 who is in the back in case you have any
19 questions. Thank you.

20 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you. Doug
21 Miller.

22 MR. MILLER: Good evening, Council.
23 Doug Miller, Scranton. It's been quite
24 sometime since I have been present at a
25 council meeting, but I have certainly been

1 well informed of what's transpired in recent
2 weeks and, you know, unfortunately, not a
3 whole lot of progress. You know, it's comes
4 a point where you just have to step back a
5 little bit because it gets to be just very
6 frustrating when you see the events that
7 have just transpired in this city for the
8 last ten plus year. And now we elect a new
9 administration and anew council and we hear
10 the grand plan and the story line that you
11 we are going to move the city forward and
12 all of these things are going to take place
13 and that the residents had some reason for
14 optimism, but that just hasn't happened and,
15 you know, when you look to try and see some
16 light at the end of the tunnel at this point
17 I just don't see that realistically at this
18 time. It's not negativity, it's reality.
19 That's where we are at this time.

20 You know, we listened to a few
21 speakers earlier talking about the
22 Lackawanna Heritage Valley Trail, and those
23 are some of the good things that go in this
24 community and we don't want to overlook
25 those things, but ultimately we are in a

1 position now where we just see residents
2 fleeing this city on a daily basis. You
3 know, you have had the LST tax that this
4 council has already passed, I wasn't here to
5 speak on it while he was on agenda, but I
6 certainly raised my objection prior to that.
7 It's not a solution to turn this city
8 around, it's just another added poison that
9 councils and administrations just continue
10 to inject into this city, it's just another
11 way to just kill the city off once and for
12 all. We can go back and continue to place
13 this on the residents of his city because
14 that's the easy way to do it.

15 You know, in the words of past
16 council president Janet Evans I believe she
17 used to use the term it's the lazy mans way
18 of doing things and, you know,
19 unfortunately, that's the philosophy we have
20 in this city is we take the lazy approach to
21 just about everything that comes forward to
22 us because we don't have any creativity. I
23 sometimes question the fact whether or not
24 the people we have elected are even capable
25 of doing their job, that's a scary thought

1 but it's something that we really need to at
2 this point seriously consider because
3 electing somebody based on political
4 affiliation or the amount of money they
5 spent is not a vision for this city, it's
6 only just going to lead us to a path of
7 destruction and that's where we are right
8 now.

9 You know, people may not appreciate
10 the things I'm saying but it's come to the
11 point where the truth needs to be heard. We
12 can't be sugarcoating things anymore. It's
13 nice to talk about how we believe the city
14 is moving forward and we believe that all of
15 the taxes and everything else that we just
16 keep placing on the same people over and
17 over is going to ultimately put us back into
18 some sort of fiscal solvency it's not going
19 to happen and people are leaving. My
20 generation, forget it, they are done. They
21 are not coming back. We can say that much.
22 They are done. Now we just have to worry
23 about our seniors because they are
24 ultimately what we have left here. They
25 make up predominantly for the most part the

1 majority of the population at this point and
2 the fear that I have is that at some point
3 we are going to lose that senior population
4 not to, you know, sound morbid here, but
5 that's going to happen some day and then
6 what are we going to do? We are going to
7 see the city's population go from 70,000 to
8 50,000 to 40,000 to 30,000 and then what's
9 going to be left? We are not going to have
10 anything to hold our heads up high over.

11 And, you know, I just don't see
12 where we are going at this point. You know,
13 we talk about the quality of life, there
14 really is no quality of life in this city.
15 You know, I appreciate the intent of the
16 focus is to target blight, but we really
17 haven't addressed those issues. We haven't
18 really stood up and took responsibility for
19 who really caused the blight in this city,
20 and as I have said before, I think we need
21 to ask ourselves one question, did the
22 residents of this city really cause the
23 blight or is it because we elected people
24 who just continue to just take everything
25 out of -- everything that residents have at

1 this point and they have nothing left to
2 give and they don't have the ability to
3 maintain their property.

4 You know, tearing things down and
5 condemning homes and citing people and
6 fining them, again, it's the lazy man's way
7 of doing things. We need leadership in this
8 city and it needs to start now. You know,
9 we have an election on Tuesday, you know,
10 I'm hoping the residents of this city will
11 go out and vote and those who weren't
12 registered I'm hoping will become registered
13 for November, and we need to start taking
14 control of our city, this is our community
15 and we can't tolerate what goes on around
16 here anymore. I'm pretty fed up with it. I
17 have been fed up with it for a long time and
18 I know a lot of people that come to these
19 meetings are fed up, and a lot of people
20 that you don't see here anymore they have
21 given up, and I can't say I don't blame
22 them.

23 And, you know, we blame the wrong
24 people for a lot of the things that go on in
25 this city and we want to blame the City

1 Controller for a lot of things that go on,
2 let's keep in mind one thing, and I'll wrap
3 up in a moment here, of all that's
4 transpired in the city, we have gone through
5 administrations and councils, but the one
6 thing has always remained consistent and
7 it's always been in that office, and I hope
8 the residents will remember that. Thank
9 you.

10 MR. MCGOFF: Joan Hodowanitz.

11 MS. HODOWANITZ: Joan Hodowanitz,
12 Scranton resident and taxpayer. Does anyone
13 have any idea how much we paid Rossi &
14 Company for the 2013 audit?

15 MR. MCGOFF: Offhand I do not. I
16 know it's a matter of public record and
17 could be easily obtained.

18 MS. HODOWANITZ: I know. I found
19 out from the Controller's Office this week,
20 we paid \$48,000 to Rossi & Company. That
21 wasn't the cost of the audit, we also paid
22 Baker and Tilly \$46,292 so that audit cost
23 us \$94,292. Now, SB & Company who was
24 awarded the contract for the 2014 audit put
25 a figure of \$40,000. However, if you recall

1 we put out a request for bids for an audit
2 company to help our administrative people
3 work with the independent auditor to do the
4 2014 audit, so we have no idea really what
5 we are going to be paying for the 2014
6 audit. I do not recall seeing legislation
7 come forward to council on who is going to
8 be the audit firm selected to help do the
9 municipal audit functions upstairs. Is that
10 legislation forthcoming or does anybody
11 know? The bids were opened several weeks
12 ago?

13 MR. MCGOFF: Mrs. Reed, could you --

14 MS. REED: Yes, the legislation will
15 be forthcoming.

16 MS. HODOWANITZ: So it is
17 forthcoming.

18 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you.

19 MS. HODOWANITZ: Okay, thank you,
20 because I will be interested to see, you
21 know, who Mr. Bulzoni is recommending
22 because we are going to be paying another
23 high price for our independent audit for
24 2014. Do not under estimate the importance
25 of a timely and comprehensive audit. It is

1 important to the city, especially one in
2 financial distress that says it has the
3 objective of reestablishing it's financial
4 credibility so hopefully the 2014 audit will
5 be completed before the end of this year,
6 hopefully it will not cost \$94,000.

7 On a different note, Mr. McGoff, I
8 thank you for publicizing the Armed Forces
9 parade day on May 16. I do hope that those
10 who have the time will go out and recognize
11 the military personnel and veterans who
12 participate in that event. We owe them
13 quite a bit of gratitude. Thank you.

14 MR. MCGOFF: That thank you should
15 go to Mrs. Reed because she put it on my
16 cheat sheet tonight.

17 MS. HODOWANITZ: Lori, an oorah to
18 you.

19 MR. MCGOFF: Ron Ellman.

20 MR. ELLMAN: Thank you, Council.
21 Good to see everyone tonight. It's been
22 brought to attention several times that
23 sometimes I support Mr. Courtright and other
24 times I badmouth the poor fellow. Let me
25 say this about that, I understand that he

1 undertook an extremely challenging job and
2 he was young and inexperienced to me he is
3 young. I know how much he must have wanted
4 the job because I talked to him a couple of
5 times, you know, before the election at
6 meetings and all, instead of a good strong
7 administration he failed himself with the
8 people he got backing him. I'm trying not
9 to offend anybody, I'm weighing my words.

10 Mr. Amoroso I was told this week by
11 a very knowledgeable person that he is
12 definitely a conflict of interest
13 representing the city and being paid by
14 Lackawanna College. You can't ask him for
15 donations or whatever when they are paying
16 him not to do that. I think he should
17 return the money immediately or resign
18 because you are going to have a problem with
19 this, it's not going to go away and you
20 people know it's not proper what's going on
21 and that's part of your administration it
22 needs to be proper, it needs to have
23 integrity. You have lost a lot of integrity
24 hiring Bulzoni. You broke your own law that
25 was there to keep this from happening.

1 And I'd like to know as soon as
2 possible you people when somebody stands
3 here and asks you for something you say next
4 week. I'm 79 years old, I might not have
5 next week, you know? I'd like to know who
6 paid Amoroso's company for that ten-minute
7 telephone poll and I'd like to know the
8 results of it. They asked questions for ten
9 minutes and I never heard nothing, I didn't
10 see nothing in the paper. It must have been
11 quite an expense.

12 Well, the public has been
13 disappointed with this administration since
14 its start. We realize right away that our
15 new futuristic mayor with all of these
16 promises just wasn't going to happen. He is
17 not meeting his own goals. I talked to some
18 people say this administration can be turned
19 around and I personally don't think it can
20 but, you know, I'm willing to wait and see
21 but Mr. Courtright needs to take the reins
22 of this city immediately. He is always in
23 the background. People want to see him come
24 out and do something for the city and he
25 hasn't done that, you know. I have told you

1 above the river I assume it's a flood plain.
2 And if we are going to pour money into a
3 flood plain that's not a very smart idea. I
4 would like to see the city engineer even
5 look at that and attempt the elevations or
6 the state or somebody check the elevations
7 on this property.

8 MR. GAUGHAN: Mr. Sbaraglia, that's
9 in the legislation that when they do come
10 forward with an exact plan he has to check
11 that out so that is in the legislation.

12 MR. SBARAGLIA: But it's marked as a
13 flood plain even on the literature they gave
14 us and it's not very -- you know, it's not a
15 very good idea to get rid of anything that's
16 a flood plain.

17 Okay, let me get on. When you had
18 amusement tax that you put out you had tweak
19 it because the bartenders complained. I see
20 Mr. Evans is complaining about the rental
21 agreement, he thinks that should be tweaked,
22 too. Why are you passing legislation that
23 has to be changed? Don't you look at it and
24 think of everything that could go wrong with
25 it before you put it out there? A lot of

1 the legislation you put out is actually
2 ridiculous, and I don't think you are
3 improving the quality of life in Scranton
4 other than making people hate each other.
5 That's about the only quality of life you
6 have done. The only good thing about we are
7 going to have election Tuesday, I hope
8 somebody uses their head instead of going
9 out and voting their name. That's the worst
10 think you could do. The Democratic party
11 has ruined Scranton, there is no question
12 about it, even those who said they weren't
13 Democrats went along with the Democrats.
14 The city has been destroyed by one party and
15 there is no question about that. You turn
16 your back on anything. Mr. McGoff, you were
17 in charge of the some of that pension, it
18 falls back on you, too, because you were in
19 charge giving out pensions with the Pension
20 Board. You are on that board along with
21 roles and the mayor and various people I
22 guess from the city.

23 Obviously, there was a huge failure
24 in the pension system and you can't hide
25 about the fact that it belongs partly to

1 you. If you took a more active issue when
2 these things are coming up maybe we wouldn't
3 be where we are now. We have been coming a
4 long time before council. The only thing
5 you are really pointing out to us is
6 everybody has a nose and an opinion because
7 -- an opinion, but we didn't give you
8 opinions we give you suggestions. There is
9 a big difference between a suggestion and an
10 opinion. All of this trouble that the city
11 has and to yet nobody read the contracts
12 thoroughly on this ord understood them or
13 anything. We lost a lot of money when we
14 did the last selling our delinquencies. We
15 lost a lot of money when we took them 108
16 loans and set out there and never looked or
17 followed through on them knowing that the
18 city was responsible for them 108 loans that
19 they were paid. These things came before
20 you.

21 I know you are only part-time, but
22 you still citizens of Scranton. Your
23 children want to live in Scranton, I hope.
24 I told mine to get out, but yours might want
25 to, and they are going to be stuck with what

1 you are doing and that's the bad thing about
2 it. The population of Scranton is probably
3 around 72,000, I think. We got a thousand
4 people on pension or active -- 600 on
5 pension and another 400 active, meaning
6 1,000, and if you look at the numbers there
7 it's one out of 72 people. You got 72
8 people producing one employee or partial
9 authority or retiree of the city and out of
10 that 72 how many are children or how many
11 live in the high-rise? You got to look at
12 the demographic before you start the
13 grandioso plans.

14 I fought with Mayor Doherty many,
15 many times, but the only thing I agreed with
16 him is we can only afford half the
17 government we can't afford, that was the
18 only thing he really made sense to me.

19 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you,
20 Mr. Sbaraglia. Anyone else?

21 MR. BERGERHOFF: How's it going, I'm
22 Dave Bergerhoff from the City of Scranton.
23 I wasn't going to speak tonight, but after
24 listening to Dougy Miller, and I know the
25 sentiment, I know it is depressing, let's

1 just leave it at that, but if you trying to
2 get people out to vote in the primaries you
3 have you to be optimistic. There are good
4 candidates on the ballot. If you don't like
5 the people that are up there, you don't like
6 the way the city is going then you got to
7 come out. Dougy has a lot of complaints, a
8 lot of people have complaints, that's all we
9 hear is complaints, we don't hear solutions.

10 I would like to see council step up
11 every once in while and come up with ideas.
12 Maybe I don't know a lot about this new
13 project or staying alongside the river here,
14 but at least it's something that I can agree
15 with because I think the river is important
16 to the City of Scranton. I love
17 Wilkes-Barre, I love what they did with
18 their waterfront down there, I kayak the
19 Lackawanna River, I kayak the Susquehanna
20 River, I go onto Harvey's Lake so I
21 appreciate these projects. Knowing that te
22 city is broke I want them privately funded
23 and I want them to get it through other
24 people through charity. I don't think the
25 city has to be involved in granting money to

1 him. I don't ever like when government puts
2 out grants because we always know that there
3 is some working behind the scenes that got
4 that money and that blood money where it
5 went, just like when we are talking about
6 these audits. Now, maybe it's all up and up
7 fair, legal, whatever, but people don't
8 believe that because the way the government
9 runs.

10 I don't want to get up here and be
11 negative and I don't want to see negative
12 campaigning. Tuesday is very important.
13 People need to turn out, not 20, 25, percent
14 for the primaries, maybe 30 percent in
15 general, get out and vote. Vote someone
16 new. If the people who don't vote would
17 just vote for a completely different
18 candidate they would run the city. It's so
19 ridiculous to me that the people who don't
20 vote even think they have a voice. I could
21 sit here all day and insult you, you can't
22 vote for or against me because you are not
23 even registered. Stop your complaining, get
24 out and get registered, vote make a
25 difference in the general election, do

1 something and if you want to be part of the
2 solution that's the solution. You are not
3 going to have a right in the city, you are
4 not going to take over the world with
5 communism or whatever these silly other
6 ideas are. There is not much you can do in
7 a country like this except vote and voting
8 works when people actually go out and vote.
9 Stop voting for names, stop voting for
10 letters and stop voting for leaders. Thank
11 you.

12 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you, Mr.
13 Bergerhoff. Anyone else who wishes to
14 address council?

15 MS. SCHUMACHER: Good evening,
16 Council. Marie Schumacher. I had my
17 comments for tonight prepared and then
18 something happened today that I don't know
19 if it made me want to throw up or cry or
20 maybe both. On my way to take the little
21 guy to school every morning there is a home
22 at the corner of Derby Avenue and Burke
23 Street and it's obvious that it's vacant
24 because there is some weathered telephone
25 books on the front porch, but other than

1 that it's beautiful. It's got a new roof,
2 it's got new siding, and the only problem
3 that happened is a couple of the weeks ago
4 it had a pine tree that was very close to
5 the house, it got uprooted and it's leaning
6 against the house and as soon as I saw it I
7 did write a letter to the woman hoping that
8 she has her mail forwarded so I don't know
9 if she received it, but nothing has been
10 done about that.

11 However, when I went to school this
12 morning I did see three white pieces of
13 paper had been added including the --
14 blocking the "No Trespassing" sign that she
15 has on her door. It, one, was a quality of
16 life ticket for the tree, and the other was
17 the code I guess on the tree, on the damaged
18 tree, but the other was a notice that her
19 property had been condemned since 2012, she
20 had done nothing, and I apologize, I was
21 going to take a picture of it and a picture
22 of this so I could be accurate, but
23 unfortunately my phone decided to stop
24 working, and how delapidated it was and
25 nothing had been done since 2012. I mean,

1 anybody with 2020 eyesight could see
2 something had been done with it. You don't
3 have to look inside of it. New siding, new
4 -- and it was signed -- well, I don't know
5 about that, but the quality of life one was
6 signed by badge number one, P. Hinton.

7 You know, I don't know what our LIPS
8 Department does, I had that same thing
9 happen to me. Perfectly good house over ten
10 years ago, and maybe that's why it's tearing
11 a scar off of what's going on and what's
12 happening with this woman, perfectly good
13 house that I had legal responsibility for, I
14 think you have a constitutional right to
15 have a vacant property as long as you
16 maintain it. That house was maintained. I
17 go up and one day there is a condemned sign
18 on it, and when I inquired I was told how
19 terrible it was, the fact that there had
20 been no heat on, that it would probably have
21 to be -- it was deteriorated, it would
22 probably have to be torn down and all of
23 this stuff. Fortunately, I had brought up
24 from Virginia the receipts for all of these
25 utilities that had been paid. I also,

1 of migrating from a segregated land and
2 improvements taxation to a single assessed
3 total value millage? Keep in mind these are
4 all things that the budget said we were
5 going to do this year so you're aware. Are
6 you satisfied that the refuse fee collection
7 will meet or exceed that projected in the
8 budget? How did EIT collections
9 year-to-date compare with 2014? This is a
10 little bit off the premise, will the budget
11 be amended to reflect a full-year increased
12 LST revenue instead of the 9 months revenue
13 that was in the budget? What is the status
14 of the LIPS fee structure review? Will
15 there be a public hearing on any proposed
16 changes? The budget mentions a continued
17 expansion of the parking meter program in
18 2015, what is the status of this expansion?
19 May I finish?

20 MR. MCGOFF: Please.

21 MS. SCHUMACHER: Thank you. Last
22 June the state agreed to buy the city
23 software. Has this happened and what is the
24 expected benefit? The HUD finance paving
25 RFP was in the paper, please provide the

1 assumed streets that are covered by the RFP?
2 When do we expect a decision on the SAFER
3 grant application award? Have any
4 alternative funding methods to support the
5 pilot program been identified and what are
6 they? If not, when will these be
7 identified? What percent of the parking
8 meter revenue has been applied to meet the
9 SPA debt and will this percent constant for
10 the balance of the year? What is the status
11 of the evaluation of meter rates by zone?
12 What is the status of the Nay Aug user fee
13 evaluation? Only two more. And is 5-D on
14 tonight's agenda the result of the
15 determination made of a city sale of
16 delinquent tax claims, and I have on here
17 and if so what percent of claim value will
18 the third party receive; and finally, is the
19 budget for lawsuit payments sufficient to
20 cover the expected outflow? I would like
21 the answers to those next week and I will
22 have it in somebody's in-basket tonight.
23 Thank you.

24 MR. MCGOFF: Anyone else?

25 MR. EVANS: If I may, I'd like to

1 comment on what Mrs. Schumacher mentioned
2 about the condemnation policy, I am
3 absolutely dead set against the current
4 policy as it stands. I think we are
5 condemning far too many properties and I
6 certainly agree that vacant properties
7 should not be condemned because they are
8 vacant.

9 MS. SCHUMACHER: May I just, because
10 what that said it was the property was going
11 to be demolished. That's what that letter
12 said.

13 MR. EVANS: I know the exact
14 property you are talking about. I'll check
15 with Mr. Hinton tomorrow and see if that's
16 on the demolition list because certainly
17 that is a building that should not be
18 demolished. I agree 100 percent and I know
19 council we are talking about this, you know,
20 part of the mayor's blight committee was
21 going to address the condemnation policy so
22 we are hoping to get there soon because it's
23 something that really has to be addressed,
24 we have far too many properties that are
25 being torn down that don't need to be torn

1 down so I'll look into that for you.

2 MR. WECHSLER: Just one comment
3 while you're commenting on that, Mr. Hinton
4 has made considerable efforts to get ahold
5 of this person who owns this property and
6 has not returned any of his calls, any of
7 his letters, so Mr. Hinton's hands are kind
8 of tied if the owner of the property doesn't
9 respond to these notices. The owner of the
10 property has a responsibility to take that
11 tree down. Where -- I'm not sure where you
12 are coming on this. If a tree fell on my
13 property, it would be my responsibility to
14 take it down. I don't see why this person
15 is relieved from that responsibility because
16 they are out of town, I don't understand
17 that.

18 MR. MCGOFF: Mr. Ungvarsky.

19 MR. EVANS: I would say though, too,
20 I agree with what you are saying Mr. Hinton
21 is doing a great job, but it's not the fact
22 of the tree, I think it's the condemnation
23 policy in general.

24 MR. WECHSLER: But this person has
25 not responded to Mr. Hinton over repeated

1 months of contact.

2 MR. MCGOFF: I'm sorry,
3 Mr. Ungvarsky, please.

4 MR. UNGVARSKY: Good evening, city
5 council. I believe there may be another one
6 over in West Side that I have heard about
7 under the same conditions. I wish to thank
8 down for telling me about the dikes being
9 mowed by a company, however, that was not
10 the question that I was interested in. I
11 was wondering where the two riding mowers,
12 the brush cutter, and the pickup truck are.
13 Does anyone know what happened to them?

14 MR. MCGOFF: I'm not aware of where
15 they are at this point in time,
16 Mr. Ungvarsky. We can certainly ask DPW if
17 they are in possession.

18 MR. UNGVARSKY: Well, they are
19 probably with the asphalt paver and the cold
20 patch truck.

21 On the quality of life, a few weeks
22 ago I asked if the people would be given
23 notice about the violation, I did not get a
24 response, but apparently no, they are given
25 the ticket right there on the sight. Also,

1 I asked how long they had to pay and I
2 didn't get an answer to that, does anyone
3 know?

4 MR. MCGOFF: I do know that they can
5 cited on the spot.

6 MR. EVANS: Correct.

7 MR. MCGOFF: That they can be handed
8 the ticket at that point in time. I do not
9 know what the time period is for payment.

10 MR. EVANS: If the problem is not
11 corrected within 48 hours they get another
12 ticket, but the whole point is to use common
13 sense, the inspectors should use common
14 sense when they are out there, they
15 shouldn't cite anybody that doesn't need to
16 be cited. If somebody is willing to work
17 with them they should work with them.

18 MR. UNGVARSKY: On the policeman
19 that's patrolling, does anyone know the
20 times that he is on - on what shift he is
21 working right now?

22 MR. EVANS: That's the COM-D
23 patrolman in the Hill Section? COM-D patrol
24 in the hill?

25 MR. UNGVARSKY: COM-D controls the

1 Hill section, yes.

2 MR. EVANS: And that's what you are
3 referring to. I'm not sure, we'll find out
4 for you.

5 MR. UNGVARKSY: But is he patrolling
6 during the high crime times?

7 MR. EVANS: I don't know.

8 MR. UNGVARSKY: Does he work Fridays
9 nights and Saturday nights?

10 MR. EVANS: Historically they did.
11 Now, when I was involved in the neighborhood
12 association they used to work a 6 to 2 a.m.
13 shift. I'm not sure what the current policy
14 is, we could find out.

15 MR. UNGVARSKY: Okay, that would be
16 great. This council has raised more taxes,
17 more fines, and more fees. I understand now
18 that it's going to be sued by a landlord
19 here in the city, city council was warned
20 about things like this. The thing is you do
21 not take the time to explain. You sit up
22 there, you read the agenda, you take your
23 votes, and that is it. It's no wonder the
24 people in this city are worked up and I
25 believe, especially with this quality of

1 life, you are going to be finding more
2 problems than you ever thought you've have.
3 Thank you.

4 MR. MCGOFF: Anyone else?

5 MR. REED: FIFTH ORDER. 5-A.

6 MOTIONS.

7 MR. MCGOFF: Mr. Wechsler?

8 MR. WECHSLER: Thank you,
9 Mr. McGoff, just a few things this evening.
10 First of all, I would like to thank the DPW
11 for taking care of some repairs that were
12 requested. They are doing a fine job, DPW
13 doing requests in a timely fashion and they
14 have taken care of the repairs that are
15 being requested.

16 Today we had a few stories in the
17 newspaper regarding state activity on
18 pensions and on property tax relief, I'm
19 hoping that both of these efforts provide us
20 with some results because these two issues
21 are major concerns of us, especially the
22 pension plans. Finally, this is getting the
23 concentration and the effort that it
24 deserves on a state level. We have been
25 working on here in our little corner of the

1 world trying to do the things that we can do
2 so, once again, I'm happy to see that this
3 is happening.

4 In regards to some of the comments
5 that have been made, the goal of the
6 inspections are not to condemn properties,
7 but when a person will not answer a letter
8 or a phone call what are we to do? That
9 tree is leaning on that property. I don't
10 understand why that person is not
11 responsible or held responsible to take care
12 of that property. I don't think it's -- the
13 city will do it if it becomes an emergency,
14 but I don't think it's fair for the citizens
15 to pay for somebody being irresponsible and
16 not taking care of their property and that I
17 don't understand.

18 I did receive a request from a
19 constituent regarding some pothole problems
20 on the 300 block of Hughes Street, I will be
21 getting with Mrs. Reed about that later on
22 tonight. That is all I have for right now.
23 Thank you.

24 MR. MCGOFF: Mr. Rogan?

25 MR. ROGAN: Very briefly, I would

1 just like to remind everyone to vote this
2 Tuesday, it is your duty to go out and vote
3 many people have fought and died for that
4 right and I hope to see everyone at the
5 polls. That's all. Thank you.

6 MR. MCGOFF: Mr. Evans.

7 MR. EVANS: Very briefly as well, I
8 attended the fallen police officers memorial
9 service yesterday organized by the FOP, it
10 was a somber, respectful reminder to all of
11 that each day a police officer begins that
12 shift, their shift, the potential for real
13 danger is always there. In our current
14 society there have been many that want
15 to demonize our men and women in blue. I
16 would like to personally thank them for what
17 they do for us each and every day. That's
18 all I have. Thank you.

19 MR. MCGOFF: Mr. Gaughan.

20 MR. GAUGHAN: Thank you. The street
21 sweeper is scheduled to be in the west
22 Scranton area from Oram Street to Washburn
23 Street May 18 to May 22. This past Saturday
24 I took part in the Greenridge Neighborhood
25 Association Scranton Notre Dame Club Crowley

1 Park clean up. I was amazed by the amount
2 of volunteers who came out and worked hard
3 to clean up that park. I think that the
4 city should sponsor neighborhood park clean
5 ups each spring and summer. We should set
6 up a program that focuses on physical
7 service, local university and college
8 engagement, youth development, and expanding
9 volunteer opportunities. Local businesses
10 could provide supplies like tools, paint,
11 mulch and other things to demonstrate the
12 concern for the quality of life in Scranton.
13 Other cities in Pennsylvania and throughout
14 the country have neighborhood park clean ups
15 each year. They have registration on their
16 website for individuals, groups and
17 neighborhood associations. I think it would
18 be beneficial to make this an annual event
19 with support from local leaders.

20 On Saturday, I saw neighbors in the
21 community unite for a great cause. I
22 believe that if the city committed to
23 facilitating the clean up of each
24 neighborhood park every year the neighbors
25 would love to be involved and would love to

1 help out.

2 I am working on scheduling a meeting
3 with Mayor Courtright and DPW Director
4 Gallagher within the next week or two to
5 discuss this idea and others.

6 I attended the Weston Field
7 Bullshead neighborhood meeting last night,
8 or on Tuesday night, there were several
9 requests from residents that our office has
10 forwarded to the appropriate departments.
11 The residents of the neighborhood
12 association are also interested in doing a
13 neighborhood walk with members of the police
14 department and Licensing and Inspections.
15 Similar walks are held in North Scranton and
16 South Side and have proven to be very
17 successful. Our office has reached out to
18 Chief Graziano to try and facilitate a
19 neighborhood walk and Chief Graziano is
20 going to get -- or the president of the
21 Bullshead neighborhood association is going
22 to get in contact with Chief Graziano.

23 We did request to send a letter to
24 Mayor Courtright for a public caucus with
25 Mayor Courtright, Henry Amoroso from HJ

1 Strategies, and Dave Bulzoni to update us on
2 the state of the city and the state of all
3 of the things Mrs. Schumacher had kind of
4 touched on that were in the recovery plan
5 and in the Amoroso plan. We have not heard
6 a response yet and if my colleagues would
7 agree I would hope we could send that letter
8 again and get this meeting set up with the
9 next few weeks because I think it's very
10 important that we get an update similar to
11 the one that that we had last June or July I
12 believe.

13 MR. EVANS: If I may add, I talked
14 to Mr. Amoroso at the state of the city
15 address and he was very excited at the
16 prospect of coming before council again so
17 I'm sure that he would definitely want to
18 come up so I think that's a great idea.

19 MR. GAUGHAN: Yeah, Mrs. Reed, if
20 you could see that letter again and ask
21 that he get a response before next Thursday,
22 please. And that is all I have for this
23 week. Thank you.

24 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you, Mr. Gaughan.
25 I was at my doctor the other day and he told

1 me that maybe the problems I have speaking
2 would get better if I didn't talk as much so
3 he told me that I shouldn't talk very much
4 at the meetings, but some things just -- I
5 just have to -- I need to respond to.

6 One of the speakers said that I was
7 responsible for things that happened with
8 the Pension Board and that I would just like
9 to respond that I was not on the Pension
10 Board in 2002 when all of this took place, I
11 wasn't even on council at that time. All of
12 the problems that with the Pension Board
13 took place in 2002, they were discovered --
14 or around 2002, they were only discovered
15 recently so that they can be addressed and I
16 have been attending the meetings so we can
17 address those problems.

18 Also, this council is not
19 responsible for -- yes, we have raised taxes
20 and some fees, not even close to what the
21 prior council did, so to brand us as having
22 raised taxes higher than any other council
23 is incorrect.

24 And as far as information from
25 council, I believe that we have been more

1 day, we talked about the idea that there
2 should be -- from now until the end of the
3 year there should be something, some plan
4 for addressing the issues that are in the
5 recovery plan or in the Amoroso plan. There
6 should be a timeline of some sort that we
7 can look at. Now, we don't need to provide
8 everything, but there should be a timeline.
9 We are addressing the parking issue. You
10 know, we are addressing, you know, the LST,
11 where it's going, and all of these things we
12 should have before us so that we can
13 accomplish what is in the recovery plan,
14 what is in the Amoroso plan and perhaps the
15 caucus with the mayor and with Mr. Amoroso
16 and Mr. Bulzoni we can work out something of
17 that nature so that we can all be aware of
18 where the city is going and the progress
19 that it may be making. That's it.

20 MS. REED: 5-B. FOR INTRODUCTION -
21 AN ORDINANCE - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND
22 OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO ENTER
23 INTO A LEASE AGREEMENT WITH THE LACKAWANNA
24 RIVER CORRIDOR ASSOCIATION, THE LACKAWANNA
25 VALLEY CONSERVANCY, AND THE LACKAWANNA

1 VALLEY CHAPTER OF TROUT UNLIMITED KNOWN AS
2 SWEENEY'S BEACH LOCATED ON THE EAST BANK OF
3 THE LACKAWANNA RIVER APPROXIMATELY 1000 FEET
4 DOWNSTREAM FROM THE POPLAR STREET BRIDGE
5 SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA FOR A TEN (10) YEAR
6 PERIOD WITH FOUR (4) CONSECUTIVE FIVE (5)
7 YEAR RENEWAL TERMS AT TENANT'S OPTION.

8 MR. MCGOFF: At this time I'll
9 entertain a motion that Item 5-B be
10 introduced into its proper committee.

11 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

12 MR. WECHSLER: Second.

13 MR. MCGOFF: On the question?

14 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes, on the question.

15 First, I would just like to thank
16 Mr. Charlesworth and Mr. McGurl tonight and
17 giving that presentation. I think this is
18 an outstanding project and they should be
19 commended for their efforts. Mr. Sbaraglia
20 had brought up about the flood plain, and I
21 will just read this, this is right in the
22 legislation just for clarification purposes.
23 That the plans and specifications for tend
24 improvement will be submitted to the city
25 engineer and approved by the city prior to

1 construction. And that is all I have.

2 Thank you.

3 MR. MCGOFF: All those in favor of
4 introduction signify by saying aye.

5 MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

6 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

7 MR. EVANS: Aye.

8 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

9 MR. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed? The
10 ayes have it and so moved.

11 MS. REED: 5-C. FOR INTRODUCTION -
12 AN ORDINANCE - APPROVING THE TRANSFER OF A
13 RESTAURANT LIQUOR LICENSE CURRENTLY OWNED BY
14 KOSMART ENTERPRISES, INC. NO. R-14852 TO
15 16TH WARD, LLC. FOR USE AT 306 PENN AVENUE,
16 SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA AS REQUIRED BY THE
17 PENNSYLVANIA LIQUOR CONTROL BOARD.

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

21 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

22 MR. WECHSLER: Second.

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

1 MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

2 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

3 MR. EVANS: Aye.

4 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

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

7 MS. REED: 5-D. FOR INTRODUCTION -
8 A RESOLUTION - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND
9 OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE
10 AND ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH PUBLIC ASSET
11 MANAGEMENT FOR THE SALE OF OUTSTANDING CITY
12 REAL ESTATE TAX LIENS.

13 MR. MCGOFF: At this time I'll
14 entertain a motion that Item 5-D be
15 introduced into its proper committee.

16 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

17 MR. WECHSLER: Second.

18 MR. MCGOFF: On the question?

19 MR. ROGAN: Yes, on the question, we
20 did have a very informative caucus to answer
21 a lot of the questions I had regarding this
22 legislation, and I do have a few other
23 things I want to look into before making a
24 final decision, but I will vote to move this
25 along.

1 MR. EVANS: On the question, my
2 comment also would be that I do appreciate
3 BA Bulzoni's conservative approach to this
4 legislation versus past years where, you
5 know, the money was much higher and 1.5
6 million is very doable and it won't cause us
7 a problem down the road.

8 MR. WECHSLER: Just one more
9 comment, Mr. McGoff, the interesting thing
10 that I found out at the caucus today was the
11 reason why this program should be more
12 successful than the prior program is the
13 fact that the city and the company that it
14 employs to do our collections are doing a
15 much better job in collecting the taxes and
16 the delinquent taxes and if they weren't so
17 successful this program would not work, so I
18 was happy to hear that.

19 MR. GAUGHAN: And final comment, I
20 would just say that I do think that the
21 caucus was very informative, this is a
22 creative method of financing and I did find
23 it very interesting that within the
24 legislation, and it was mentioned back in
25 the caucus that while the Public Asset

1 Management is the purchaser of these liens,
2 they say in their RFP, in response to the
3 RFP, that they believe the best purchaser
4 would be a local land bank, and they go onto
5 say that in the event that Scranton does
6 form a land bank these liens can be readily
7 transferred to that bank. So I feel like a
8 broken record because we bring up land banks
9 so often, but it is something that I'm very
10 passionate about and before my term is up I
11 am hoping that I will see a land bank here
12 in Scranton and Lackawanna County. Thank
13 you.

14 MR. EVANS: Before my term is up I
15 expect to see land banks.

16 MR. MCGOFF: And one last thing, I
17 did ask questions about prior, a prior sale
18 of tax liens and the problems that the city
19 had with that legislation and with that
20 program and we were assured that with the
21 current legislation and with the contractual
22 changes that were made that that would not
23 happen again and the city would not incur
24 the problems that it did in the past. And
25 again, it is a way of securing funding up

1 front and it is certainly revenue that we
2 desperately need. All those in favor of
3 introduction signify by saying aye.

4 MR. WECHSLER: Aye.

5 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

6 MR. EVANS: Aye.

7 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

8 MR. MCGOFF: Aye. Opposed? The
9 ayes have it and so moved.

10 MS. REED: SIXTH ORDER. 6-A. NO
11 BUSINESS AT THIS TIME.

12 SEVEN ORDER. 7-A. FOR CONSIDERATION
13 BY THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE- FOR ADOPTION -
14 FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 98, 2015 - AMENDING
15 FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 58, 2014, AN
16 ORDINANCE "ENTITLED GENERAL CITY OPERATING
17 BUDGET 2015" BY CREATING A NEW REVENUE
18 ACCOUNT NO. 01.331.33121 QUALITY OF LIFE
19 ENFORCEMENT TICKETS.

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

23 MR. EVANS: As Chairperson for the
24 Committee on Finance, I recommend final
25 passage of Item 7-A.

1 MR. ROGAN: Second.

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

4 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Wechsler.

5 MR. WECHSLER: Yes.

6 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Rogan.

7 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

8 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Evans.

9 MR. EVANS: Yes.

10 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Gaughan.

11 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

12 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. McGoff.

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

15 MS. REED: 7-B. FOR CONSIDERATION
16 BY THE COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT-
17 FOR ADOPTION - RESOLUTION NO. 145, 2015 -
18 ACCEPTING THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE
19 HISTORICAL ARCHITECTURE REVIEW BOARD
20 ("HARB") AND APPROVING THE CERTIFICATE OF
21 APPROPRIATENESS FOR MAC SIGN SYSTEMS, 232
22 SOUTH SHERMAN AVENUE, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA
23 FOR THE INSTALLATION OF FRAMEWORK TO BE 5'
24 WIDE BY 12' HIGH IN A BLACK MATTE FINISH FOR
25 FOUR (4) BANNER FRAMES, THREE (3) BANNERS

1 ARE 5'X13' AND ONE (1) BANNER IS 4'X6'
2 INSTALLED FLUSH TO THE BUILDING IN EXISTING
3 MORTAR JOINTS AT 420 NORTH WASHINGTON
4 AVENUE, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA.

5 MR. MCGOFF: What is the
6 recommendation of the Chair for the
7 Committee on Community Development?

8 MR. ROGAN: As Chairperson for the
9 Committee on Community Development, I
10 recommend final passage of Item 7-B.

11 MR. WECHSLER: Second.

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

14 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Wechsler.

15 MR. WECHSLER: Yes.

16 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Rogan.

17 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

18 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Evans.

19 MR. EVANS: Yes.

20 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Gaughan.

21 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

22 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. McGoff.

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

25 Prior to adjournment, I would just

1 like to remind people of the Armed Forces
2 Day parade starting at 11:00 at the Gino
3 Merli Center. Please, come down and enjoy
4 the parade.

5 Secondly, again, we would like to
6 encourage everyone to get out Tuesday on
7 election day and vote. It is not a gift
8 that you receive, it's a duty that you have,
9 so, please, get out and vote.

10 If there is no further business,
11 motion to adjourn.

12 MR. ROGAN: Motion to adjourn.

13 MR. MCGOFF: This meeting is
14 adjourned.

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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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