

1 SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING

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HELD:

Monday, March 19, 2018

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:

PATRICK ROGAN, PRESIDENT

TIM PERRY, VICE PRESIDENT

WAYNE EVANS

WILLIAM GAUGHAN

KYLE DONAHUE

LORI REED, CITY CLERK

KATHY CARRERA, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

AMIL MINORA, ESQUIRE - SOLICITOR

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

3 MR. ROGAN: Roll call, please.

4 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Perry.

5 MR. PERRY: Here.

6 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Donahue.

7 MR. DONAHUE: Here.

8 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Evans.

9 MR. EVANS: Here.

10 MR. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

11 MR. GAUGHAN: Here.

12 MR. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

13 MR. ROGAN: Here.

14 MR. EVANS: I make a motion to
15 correct a typographical error as found on
16 Item 7-B, the MOU --

17 MR. ROGAN: Second --

18 MR. EVANS: -- with ECTV.

19 MR. ROGAN: Second.

20 MS. EVANS: -- in the fourth whereas
21 clause in both the resolution and MOU
22 correct a numerical amount to read \$133,334.

23 MR. ROGAN: Is there a second?

24 MR. DONAHUE: Second.

25 MR. ROGAN: There is a motion on the

1 floor and second to correct a typographical
2 error. On the question? All those in favor
3 signify by saying aye?

4 MR. PERRY: Aye.

5 MR. DONAHUE: Aye.

6 MR. EVANS: Aye.

7 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

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

10 Dispense with the reading of the
11 minutes.

12 MS. REED: THIRD ORDER. 3-A.
13 MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
14 MEMBERS OF THE SCRANTON HOUSING AUTHORITY
15 HELD FEBRUARY 5, 2018.

16 MR. ROGAN: Are there any comments?
17 If not, received and filed.

18 MS. REED: 3-B. CONTROLLER'S REPORT
19 FOR THE MONTH ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 2018.

20 MR. ROGAN: Are there any comments?
21 If not, received and filed.

22 Do any council members have
23 announcements at this time? I have two
24 announcements to make, there was a very
25 brief executive session held regarding

1 potential litigation, and that is all.

2 MS. REED: FOURTH ORDER. CITIZENS'
3 PARTICIPATION.

4 (The following speakers offered
5 public comment: Les Spindler spoke on city
6 business. Ron Ellman spoke on general
7 matters of concern. Lee Morgan spoke on
8 city business. Bob Bolus spoke on city
9 business. Jack Finnerty spoke on general
10 matters of concern. Joan Hodowanitz spoke
11 on city business. Edward Macarchick spoke
12 on city business. Dave Dobrzyn spoke on
13 general matter of concern. Marie Schumacher
14 spoke on city business. Marge Kravitz spoke
15 on city business.)

16 MS. REED: 5-A. MOTIONS.

17 MR. ROGAN: Mr. Perry, any motions
18 or comments?

19 MR. PERRY: Yes, I have a couple of
20 comments. Thank you very much. First of
21 all, I want to thank Jack for coming in to
22 talk about the Albright Library. I can't
23 wait to get in there to see the renovations.
24 It's been overstated, but I don't think it
25 would be overstated enough how much of a

1 treasure in the community the Albright is
2 and, you know, some with the new age -- the
3 new millenials coming up, the age, let's not
4 forget about the beauty of a book and what
5 it actually does mean to sit down and enjoy
6 a book in a non-distracted way without
7 seeing messages pop up and being distracted
8 three other ways, it's just a very mind
9 clearing thing to enjoy a book.

10 I know Mrs. Hodowanitz you carry the
11 water for the library an awful lot and we
12 thank you, and like Mrs. Schumacher my card
13 has also expired, long expired, probably a
14 lot longer than yours, but I'll make that
15 commitment that when I'm here next week I
16 will have my new library card and be putting
17 it to use for sure and I can't wait to go
18 see it. 125 years, very nice and I hope
19 there is 125 years more to come from the
20 Albright.

21 Mr. Spindler, nine out of ten times
22 we fall on the same side of an issue. With
23 the dangerous dog legislation, and I know I
24 have said it before but you speak on it an
25 awful lot and I owe you, you know, a direct

1 opinion to it and I'm just not on the side
2 of a dangerous dog legislation. If there
3 was a legislation for harsher penalties for
4 unfit or abusive owners that would create a
5 situation, I would be 100 percent for it. I
6 would back it in a second, but just to
7 segregate out one certain breed I just can't
8 get behind on right now.

9 You know, I hope you will let me off
10 the hook on that, but you do make another
11 point about the -- and it comes up from time
12 to time about the nonprofits, so if you
13 promise to let me off the hook on the
14 dangerous dog legislation I promise that I'm
15 going to start making some extra phone calls
16 and I'll follow-up and I'll have some
17 answers to you on what can be done through
18 the state side on getting some more
19 involvement from nonprofits in the city, all
20 right? Promise deal?

21 What else do we have to get into?
22 Last week -- or actually two weeks ago we
23 had a speaker from the Hill talk about some
24 of the roads on Ash and Clay and they are
25 being dug up and the water company so we

1 have a commitment from the water and the gas
2 company that they are going to do some temp
3 fills, they may have already started the
4 temp fills on that street. Not yet, Mrs.
5 Jefferies? We'll get that out soon and as
6 soon as I get that I'll update it on when
7 they start that and they are committing to
8 do a full repave on that soon, as soon as the
9 plants start opening and they get done, but
10 they are well aware of the issue and I'll
11 keep you guys abreast on that, and that's
12 all I have right now.

13 MR. ROGAN: Thank you very much.
14 Mr. Donahue, do you have any motions or
15 comments?

16 MR. DONAHUE: Yes. I would just
17 like to briefly comment on the meeting
18 between county commissioners last week
19 regarding reassessment. It's my opinion
20 that the city was blind sided with what can
21 best described as a circus. For one, city
22 officials were not aware it was going to be
23 a public meeting until 20 minutes before the
24 meeting began. Personally, if I was
25 informed of the meeting I would have made

1 sure I would have been there. The meeting
2 really only produced an opportunity for the
3 majority county commissioners to once again
4 spew their false narrative that reassessment
5 will force people from their homes. That is
6 simply not true. Reassessment is necessary
7 to modernize our current tax structure, to
8 make it fair and equitable according to
9 current property values.

10 When people say that Scranton is 20
11 years behind the times this is the perfect
12 example of that except we are 50 years
13 behind the times. In order to build a
14 foundation for a 21st century economy, we
15 must be willing to change with the times.
16 That requires leadership. The only reason
17 reassessment is still an issue is lack of
18 leadership. True leadership requires
19 courage and intellect to make tough
20 decisions that are in the best interest of
21 all citizens. Unfortunately, we are
22 severely lacking in true leadership at the
23 moment. Thank you.

24 MR. ROGAN: Thank you. Mr. Evans,
25 do you have any motions or comments.

1 MR. EVANS: Yes, I do. Thank you.
2 First of all, I took a tour this morning of
3 the restored and refurbished Scranton Public
4 Library so I would like to thank Jack
5 Finnerty, the library's director, and Joan
6 Hodowanitz for acting as my tour guides this
7 morning, taking the time out of their
8 schedules to give me a very comprehensive
9 look at all the work that was done at the
10 library. You know, to say our library is a
11 jewel would be an understatement.

12 I'd like to talk briefly about the
13 meeting held with the county commissioners
14 and their staff on the subject of
15 reassessment last Tuesday. First of all,
16 I'd like to thank the county commissioners
17 for the invitation. The City of Scranton
18 currently has a very good working
19 relationship with the county, but with that
20 said, this issue is not going away and we
21 are going to have make some very difficult
22 decisions in the very near future.

23 I'd like to discuss first some
24 takeaways that I have on the meeting. First
25 of all, the inclusion of Mr. Ted Wompol, the

1 city administrator for the City of
2 Wilkes-Barre was a last minute surprise to
3 the entire sitting contingent. While Mr.
4 Wompol was very cordial, and I'm sure very
5 good at what he does for Wilkes-Barre I
6 found his inclusion at the meeting a
7 distraction as to what we were really trying
8 to accomplish which was to have an honest,
9 face-to-face discussion and conversation
10 with three county commissioners on the
11 subject of reassessment so I found the whole
12 situation unnecessary, and in my opinion a
13 bit of a misdirection played by the county
14 so that's all say about that particular
15 issue.

16 When I asked the two county
17 commissioners -- two of the county
18 commissioners under what circumstances, if
19 any, would they do a reassessment, I never
20 received an answer. I was just looking for
21 a framework to continue the conversation. I
22 was just looking for an opening or some hope
23 that we could find some common ground. So
24 it was extremely disappointing that we got
25 instead were more sound bites about hurting

1 senior citizens and people losing their
2 homes a narrative that has no basis in fact
3 or reality but certainly can make for good
4 political talking points. Of course, this
5 is a long used narrative that has been part
6 of the no reassessment playbook from the
7 beginning of time.

8 So also during the meeting we were
9 reminded about the results of the ballot
10 question. Again, a question ruled invalid
11 by the Courts, written to fail and supported
12 by a truncated effort to educate the public.
13 It was even suggested at the meeting that we
14 should wait for a state solution to the
15 problem. I would also say this, we have
16 been waiting nearly 50 years for the county
17 to reassess and even longer for the state to
18 fix the system so for me that is completely
19 a nonstarter.

20 Quite honestly, I'm not sure where
21 we are right now with the process. I do
22 know that I, as a councilman, certainly does
23 not want to enter into a lawsuit with
24 another governing body. That's the last
25 thing any of us want, but we have a

1 fiduciary responsibility to the taxpayers
2 and our property owners to ensure that there
3 is fairness and tax equity in the system
4 that determines their property assessment
5 and ultimately their tax bill. That does
6 not exist today in any shape or any form.
7 The commissioners share that fiduciary
8 responsibility, even more so since they are
9 the ones that are charged with the ultimate
10 task to maintain tax equity.

11 I know once we get on the path of a
12 lawsuit there is no turning back, that
13 relationships built over the years will be
14 strained and intergovernmental cooperation
15 could become more difficult, but do we
16 really have a choice? In many ways we have
17 hit the wall with this issue and it's
18 extremely frustrating. I would like to give
19 a simple analogy of where I think we are
20 right now. When you are trying to convince
21 someone who truly believes the earth is flat
22 you can provide all of the documentation,
23 all of the proof, all of the data that you
24 have access to and at the end of the day you
25 will never, ever convince them that the

1 earth is round. That's where we are at
2 right now in our conversation with the
3 county on reassessment and it's a sad state
4 of affairs.

5 So, finally, I would ask the leaders
6 of every school district, every Borough,
7 every township and every city in Lackawanna
8 County this simple question, if the City of
9 Scranton decides to file a lawsuit against
10 Lackawanna County to force a countywide
11 reassessment will you join us? To those
12 individuals you can reach me at
13 Wayne.Evans19@Verizon.net if you would like
14 to discuss this further. It's time to get
15 off the sidelines and get in the game.
16 That's all I have for now. Thank you.

17 MR. ROGAN: Thank you, Mr. Evans,
18 very well said. Mr. Gaughan, any motions or
19 comments?

20 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes, thank you. Just
21 to answer Mrs. Hodowanitz's question about
22 the Arcadis study on storm water, Mrs. Reed
23 met with the city solicitor who is the point
24 person for this project. The Arcadis group
25 was in city hall recently and met with the

1 city solicitor, the city planner, DPW
2 director and the city engineer. After that
3 meeting, the city solicitor followed up with
4 labor costs and our city planner provided
5 the company with mileage of MS-4 piping and
6 inlets, which would be the storm grates
7 throughout the city. Mr. King has worked
8 with the county on their aerial photos which
9 determine MS-4 and impervious surfaces.
10 According to the city solicitor, Arcadis
11 should have everything they need at this
12 point so the status is we are waiting on
13 that draft report.

14 In addition to that, the city has
15 been approved for a Chesapeake Bay grant in
16 the amount of \$25,000 with a city match of
17 \$25,000. The city solicitor is going to
18 follow-up with Arcadis in two weeks and she
19 stressed that they have everything they need
20 for a preliminary report, so the city at
21 this point from what I understand does not
22 need to give any more information, Arcadis
23 has everything they need and now it's about
24 issuing a report.

25 The report, from what the city

1 solicitor has reported, should contain the
2 information as to what to form, an
3 authority, a private entity with city labor,
4 another city department, so that's going to
5 be the crux of the studies. What are we
6 creating to deal with the storm water issue.
7 So I hope that answers the question and then
8 we'll look forward to the report. And to
9 answer your other question, I hope that once
10 the report is issued, we can ask Arcadis to
11 come in and present that to the public and
12 the city council.

13 The second thing that I had in my
14 notes, as Ms. Hodowanitz actually mentioned
15 this in her comments, was regarding the
16 controller's report for February. As I was
17 going through it, I had marked down the
18 \$377,00 to Needle, Goldenziel, Pasquale and
19 Consagra, P.C., and \$105,00 to Fabcore,
20 Incorporated. So, Mrs. Reed, if we could
21 find out from the I don't know if it would
22 be the Law Department or the business
23 administrator a little bit of a
24 clarification on that if we are talking
25 about court awards or lawsuits.

1 We did get an update from the city
2 engineer, he is coming in I believe April 9
3 to give council an update on bridge projects
4 throughout the city, specifically, the West
5 Lackawanna Avenue bridge.

6 I believe it was Mrs. Schumacher or
7 Ms. Hodowanitz mentioned the credit rating.
8 I, too, would like to know if the credit
9 rating -- the city's credit rating has been
10 effected at all by the lawsuits if we could
11 find that out I'd appreciate it.

12 And the last comment that I have,
13 last week it was reported that Mr. Casciano,
14 the former business administrator, took a
15 position in the Office of Economic and
16 Community Development so Tuesday of last
17 week I had asked to send an e-mail to the
18 mayor's office asking for the salary of that
19 position, the job title and a job
20 description. I received a reply last Friday
21 that they were going to forward my request
22 up to the Humane Resources Department and
23 then I got a response today from the Human
24 Resources Department that this issue was
25 discussed at a PEL meeting and I still

1 didn't get the answer.

2 So I would like to know, again, and
3 I'm not sure why this is some kind of big
4 secret what is the salary for Mr. Casciano
5 and his new position? What is the job
6 title? What is the job description? We
7 have heard from the mayor that he will be
8 working on -- be the point person for
9 Scranton Tomorrow and some other things to
10 be more efficient, I just want to make sure
11 that if we are combining positions and we
12 are combining salaries that we are not
13 circumventing the budgetary process and if
14 that is the case I would like to know if
15 that is, in fact, the right way to do it.
16 And that is all I have this week. Thank
17 you.

18 MR. ROGAN: Thank you very much.
19 Just to follow-up on a couple of items that
20 my colleagues brought up and I will say on
21 the reassessment issues my colleagues really
22 hit the nail on the head. I was part of a
23 meeting last week that was well-reported,
24 and as was mentioned by Councilman Donahue,
25 going into the meeting myself, Councilman

1 Evans and the administration had no clue
2 that this was an open meeting where more
3 than two council members would have been
4 able to attend the meeting.

5 Furthermore, council was under the
6 impression that there would be a slew of
7 media at the meeting, which is fine, but
8 some advance notice would have been
9 appreciated.

10 Furthermore, the presence of the
11 Wilkes-Barre city administrator being at
12 this meeting to really talk on why they did
13 not favor reassessment in Wilkes-Barre
14 really was a grand distraction from what we
15 were trying to accomplish and what the
16 commissioners were trying to do as far as
17 pushing their agenda. One of the county
18 commissioners didn't even know that this
19 gentlemen was invited to the meeting. That
20 was the first question asked at the meeting
21 was who invited him? Not that I object to
22 other people being at the meeting but the
23 meeting, as we understood it, was supposed
24 to be between city officials and county
25 officials, not officials from Luzerne

1 County.

2 Regarding the reassessment, like I
3 said, my colleagues really did hit the nail
4 on the head, but there is one real world
5 example I just want to give. For those of
6 who don't know I do work in real estate and
7 I had a closing today of a home in Scranton
8 that, fortunately, sold very, very quickly
9 and the total tax bill between city, county
10 and school for this property was \$859.02
11 total, so if you look at your tax bill and
12 see what you are paying now, again, it is a
13 small home so i don't want to misrepresent,
14 it is a two-bedroom home, smaller home,
15 their city total on this property, total
16 taxes \$315.45. So I would ask do you think
17 it's fair that there is somebody out there
18 paying \$315 in total taxes, city taxes?
19 Look at your tax bill and see what you are
20 paying. I would guarantee that 99 percent
21 of you out there are paying more than that
22 amount.

23 This is the inequity that we talk
24 about. And the cost for the city to provide
25 police protection and fire protection to

1 that home is practically the same as it is
2 to every other home in the city, and our
3 system is based on property values, it is a
4 lower valued property so even after
5 reassessment this person's taxes will remain
6 lower than average, but that there are homes
7 with taxes this low, three blocks -- and
8 this home sold in three days, by the way.

9 Two blocks down the street there is
10 another home that's for sale, literally
11 three blocks down the street, same
12 neighborhood, the total tax bill for this
13 home is over \$3,400 a year so almost four
14 times what the other property is paying. So
15 you can see where there is an inequity.
16 Now, again, the other home is a little bit
17 larger, it's a little bit newer, but they
18 are practically in the same neighborhoods,
19 very similar homes. So, obviously, the
20 person paying \$3,400 is paying too much in
21 tax when a neighbor a couple of blocks away
22 is paying less than \$900 a year between all
23 three taxing bodies.

24 When we talk about fairness and the
25 inequities in the tax system this is what we

1 are talking about. Unfortunately, some of
2 the county commissioners, one commissioner
3 in particular keeps using scare tactics to
4 get people to believe that people are going
5 to lose their homes because of a
6 reassessment and, you know, continues to go
7 on about that, but there is not fairness.
8 Fifty years ago when this home was assessed,
9 it was probably assessed properly, but
10 through the last 50 years you could even
11 look through our neighborhoods and see how
12 much some neighborhoods have gotten
13 dramatically better, some neighborhoods have
14 gotten worse and that is not reflected in
15 our current tax system.

16 I'd like to reiterate Councilman
17 Evans call to other school districts in
18 Lackawanna County and other municipalities
19 in Lackawanna County to contract us and if
20 push does come to shove and the
21 commissioners refuse to consider
22 reassessment and basically stonewall the
23 city, legal action is the only recourse. So
24 at that point in time if a follow-up meeting
25 occurs and we determine a reassessment isn't

1 going to happen through these meetings,
2 council and the mayor have one decision to
3 make. It's whether to let the status quo
4 remain and not have a reassessment or to
5 bring legal action. Personally, I think we
6 should bring legal action. Council -- the
7 previous council took a vote and it was a
8 4-1 vote to proceed in that manner. That's
9 something that it may come to, but if does I
10 know for myself I would much prefer for it
11 to be Scranton and a number of other
12 municipalities filing that suit instead of
13 Scranton on a stand alone basis. Because
14 even at our meeting one of the county
15 solicitors tried to, you know, say that the
16 issues regarding reassessment are unique to
17 Scranton because of higher taxes, but the
18 lack of new construction is prevalent
19 throughout Lackawanna County.

20 Even in some of the areas where
21 homes are selling very, very quickly because
22 of the lack of reassessment new homes are
23 not being built and that's a problem. We do
24 need growth within our county and within our
25 city to help grow our tax base. So, again,

1 I'd like to urge all of those other
2 officials to reach out to any number of us,
3 call our office, call the mayor's office if
4 you would like to be a part of a potential
5 lawsuit. We hope it doesn't come to that,
6 but if it does we are preparing to take
7 those steps.

8 And I know one of our speakers did
9 ask about the reassessment so I think that
10 pretty much answers the question, it is not
11 being put on the back burner. It's
12 something that is still very active in my
13 mind and with all of our council members.
14 That is all.

15 MS. REED: 5-B. FOR INTRODUCTION -
16 AN ORDINANCE - AMENDING FILE OF THE COUNCIL
17 NO. 12, 1996, (AS AMENDED), ENTITLED "THE
18 CITY OF SCRANTON SUBDIVISION AND LAND
19 DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE" (SALDO), TO AMEND
20 THE APPROVAL PROCESS FOR LOT LINE
21 ADJUSTMENTS, ANNEXATIONS AND MINOR REVISIONS
22 OF APPROVED PLANS.

23 MR. ROGAN: At this time, I'll
24 entertain a motion that Item 5-B be
25 introduced into its proper committee.

1 MS. PERRY: So moved.

2 MR. EVANS: Second.

3 MR. ROGAN: On the question?

4 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes, on the question,
5 I just want to read a portion of a letter
6 that was sent as backup to this legislation
7 from our city planner kind of explaining
8 what this legislation is all about.
9 According to Mr. King, our city planner,
10 this amendment would allow for staff
11 approval of certain minor subdivision plans
12 instead of approval by the city planning
13 commission. This amendment would only apply
14 to lot line adjustments as defined in the
15 subdivision and land development ordinance.
16 A lot line adjustment is the movement of
17 property line without the creation of any
18 new lots, for example, the transfer of a
19 small portion of property to your neighbor.
20 The planning commission has been tasked with
21 handling a great deal of these in the last
22 few years requiring applicants to wait for
23 monthly commissioners some undue delays in
24 these minor matters. In my experience, the
25 commission has never received any comments,

1 questions or concerning from the public
2 regarding these types of subdivisions.
3 Thank you.

4 MR. ROGAN: Anyone else on the
5 question.

6 MR. EVANS: On the question, as a
7 former planning commission member I totally
8 agree with Mr. King's thought process in
9 this because it is almost silly to have a
10 full board of the planning commission meet
11 if the only thing on the agenda sometimes
12 would be minor lot line adjustments that
13 could be taken care of administratively
14 within his office. So this is a great idea.
15 It makes for effective government and it
16 streamlines the process and saves time for
17 the applicant as well so I fully support
18 this.

19 MR. ROGAN: All those in favor of
20 introduction signify by saying aye.

21 MR. PERRY: Aye.

22 MR. DONAHUE: Aye.

23 MR. EVANS: Aye.

24 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

25 MR. ROGAN: Aye. Opposed? The ayes

1 have it and so moved.

2 MS. REED: 5-C. FOR INTRODUCTION - A
3 RESOLUTION - APPOINTMENT OF TARA MAN
4 SHANKAR, 840 WHEELER AVENUE, SCRANTON,
5 PENNSYLVANIA, 18510, AS A MEMBER OF THE
6 HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION, EFFECTIVE
7 FEBRUARY 27, 2018. MR. SHANKAR WILL BE
8 REPLACING RABBI MOSHE SAKS WHO RESIGNED ON
9 SEPTEMBER 18, 2017. MR. SHANKAR WILL FILL
10 THE UNEXPIRED TERM OF RABBI MOSHE SAKS WHICH
11 IS SCHEDULED TO EXPIRE ON OCTOBER 14, 2018.

12 MR. ROGAN: At this time, I'll
13 entertain a motion that Item 5-C be
14 introduced into its proper committee.

15 MR. PERRY: So moved.

16 MR. EVANS: Second.

17 MR. ROGAN: On the question? All
18 those in favor of introduction signify by
19 saying aye.

20 MR. PERRY: Aye.

21 MR. DONAHUE: Aye.

22 MR. EVANS: Aye.

23 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

24 MR. ROGAN: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
25 have it and so moved.

1 MS. REED: 5-D. FOR INTRODUCTION -
2 A RESOLUTION - RE-APPOINTMENT OF JOSEPH
3 DEANTONA, 1331 CORNELL STREET, SCRANTON,
4 PENNSYLVANIA 18504 AS A MEMBER OF THE BOARD
5 OF THE SCRANTON LACKAWANNA HEALTH AND
6 WELFARE AUTHORITY FOR AN ADDITIONAL FIVE (5)
7 YEAR TERM. MR. DEANTONA'S PRIOR TERM EXPIRED
8 ON DECEMBER 31, 2017 AND WAS HELD
9 OVER TO FEBRUARY 21, 2018. HIS NEW TERM
10 WILL BE EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 21, 2018 AND WILL
11 EXPIRE ON DECEMBER 31, 2022.

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

15 MR. PERRY: So moved.

16 MR. EVANS: Second.

17 MR. ROGAN: On the question? All
18 those in favor of introduction signify by
19 saying aye.

20 MR. PERRY: Aye.

21 MR. DONAHUE: Aye.

22 MR. EVANS: Aye.

23 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

24 MR. ROGAN: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
25 have it and so moved.

1 MS. REED: 5-E. FOR INTRODUCTION -
2 A RESOLUTION - RE-APPOINTMENT OF JOHN
3 GRANAHAN, 1504 PRICE STREET, SCRANTON,
4 PENNSYLVANIA 18504 AS A MEMBER OF THE BOARD
5 OF THE SCRANTON LACKAWANNA HEALTH AND
6 WELFARE AUTHORITY FOR AN ADDITIONAL FIVE (5)
7 YEAR TERM. MR. GRANAHAN'S PRIOR TERM EXPIRED
8 ON DECEMBER 31, 2017 AND WAS HELD OVER TO
9 FEBRUARY 21, 2018. HIS NEW TERM WILL BE
10 EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 21, 2018 AND WILL EXPIRE
11 ON DECEMBER 31, 2022.

12 MR. ROGAN: At this time, I'll
13 entertain a motion that Item 5-E be
14 introduced into its proper committee.

15 MR. PERRY: So moved.

16 MR. EVANS: Second.

17 MR. ROGAN: On the question? All
18 those in favor of introduction signify by
19 saying aye.

20 MR. PERRY: Aye.

21 MR. DONAHUE: Aye.

22 MR. EVANS: Aye.

23 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

24 MR. ROGAN: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
25 have it and so moved.

1 MS. REED: 5-F. FOR INTRODUCTION -
2 A RESOLUTION - RE-APPOINTMENT OF WILLIAM
3 LAZOR, 677 MARY STREET, SCRANTON,
4 PENNSYLVANIA 18508 AS A MEMBER OF THE BOARD
5 OF THE SCRANTON LACKAWANNA HEALTH AND
6 WELFARE AUTHORITY FOR AN ADDITIONAL FIVE (5)
7 YEAR TERM. MR. LAZOR'S PRIOR TERM EXPIRED ON
8 DECEMBER 31, 2015 AND WAS HELD OVER TO
9 FEBRUARY 21, 2018. HIS NEW TERM WILL BE
10 EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 21, 2018 AND WILL EXPIRE
11 ON DECEMBER 31, 2020.

12 MR. ROGAN: At this time, I'll
13 entertain a motion that Item 5-F be
14 introduced into its proper committee.

15 MR. PERRY: So moved.

16 MR. EVANS: Second.

17 MR. ROGAN: On the question? All
18 those in favor of introduction signify by
19 saying aye.

20 MR. PERRY: Aye.

21 MR. DONAHUE: Aye.

22 MR. EVANS: Aye.

23 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

24 MR. ROGAN: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
25 have it and so moved.

1 MS. REED: 5-G. FOR INTRODUCTION -
2 A RESOLUTION - RE-APPOINTMENT OF DAVID
3 PHANEUF, 1812 ACADEMY STREET, SCRANTON,
4 PENNSYLVANIA 18504 AS A MEMBER OF THE BOARD
5 OF THE SCRANTON LACKAWANNA HEALTH AND
6 WELFARE AUTHORITY FOR AN ADDITIONAL FIVE (5)
7 YEAR TERM. MR. PHANEUF'S PRIOR TERM EXPIRED
8 ON DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND WAS HELD OVER TO
9 FEBRUARY 21, 2018. HIS NEW TERM WILL BE
10 EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 21, 2018 AND WILL EXPIRE
11 ON DECEMBER 31, 2019.

12 MR. ROGAN: At this time, I'll
13 entertain a motion that Item 5-G be
14 introduced into its proper committee.

15 MR. PERRY: So moved.

16 MR. EVANS: Second.

17 MR. ROGAN: On the question? All
18 those in favor of introduction signify by
19 saying aye.

20 MR. PERRY: Aye.

21 MR. DONAHUE: Aye.

22 MR. EVANS: Aye.

23 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

24 MR. ROGAN: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
25 have it and so moved.

1 MS. REED: 5-H. FOR INTRODUCTION -
2 A RESOLUTION - RE-APPOINTMENT OF JERRY
3 WEINBERGER, ESQ. 611 NORTH WEBSTER AVENUE,
4 SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA 18510 AS A MEMBER OF
5 THE BOARD OF THE SCRANTON LACKAWANNA HEALTH
6 AND WELFARE AUTHORITY FOR AN ADDITIONAL FIVE
7 (5) YEAR TERM. MR. WEINBERGER'S PRIOR TERM
8 EXPIRED ON DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND WAS HELD
9 OVER TO FEBRUARY 21, 2018. HIS NEW TERM
10 WILL BE EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 21, 2018 AND WILL
11 EXPIRE ON DECEMBER 31, 2019.

12 MR. ROGAN: At this time, I'll
13 entertain a motion that Item 5-H be
14 introduced into its proper committee.

15 MR. PERRY: So moved.

16 MR. EVANS: Second.

17 MR. ROGAN: On the question? All
18 those in favor of introduction signify by
19 saying aye.

20 MR. PERRY: Aye.

21 MR. DONAHUE: Aye.

22 MR. EVANS: Aye.

23 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye.

24 MR. ROGAN: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
25 have it and so moved.

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

3 SEVENTH ORDER. 7-A. FOR
4 CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE -
5 FOR ADOPTION - FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 8,
6 2018 - AMENDING FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 95,
7 2015, AN ORDINANCE, ENTITLED "AMENDING FILE
8 OF THE COUNCIL NO. 79 OF 2015, AN ORDINANCE
9 AMENDING FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 145 OF 2007
10 ENTITLED "AN ORDINANCE RENAMING THE
11 EMERGENCY AND MUNICIPAL SERVICES TAX
12 ("EMST") TO LOCAL SERVICE TAX ("LST") AND BY
13 IMPOSING A WITHHOLDING OF \$52.00 FOR THE
14 CALENDAR YEAR 2015 AND THE SAME SHALL REMAIN
15 IN FULL FORCE AND EFFECT ANNUALLY THEREAFTER
16 BY INCREASING THE LOCAL SERVICES TAX
17 WITHHOLDING FROM \$52.00 TO \$156.00 FOR THE
18 CALENDAR YEAR 2015, AND PROVIDING FOR AN
19 EXEMPTION FROM TAXATION FOR ANY PERSON
20 WHOSE TOTAL EARNED INCOME AND NET PROFITS
21 FROM ALL SOURCES WITHIN THE MUNICIPALITY IS
22 LESS THAN \$15,600.00 FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR
23 2015 UNDER AND PURSUANT TO THE LOCAL TAX
24 ENABLING ACT, ACT 511 OF 1965, P.L. 1257, 53
25 P.S. §6924.101 ET. SEQ. AND THE

1 MUNICIPALITIES RECOVERY ACT, ACT 47 OF 1987,
2 P.L. 246, 53 P.S. §11701.101 ET. SEQ. AND
3 THEIR RESPECTIVE AMENDMENTS" EFFECTIVE
4 RETROACTIVE TO JANUARY 1, 2018. THIS TAX IS
5 EXPECTED TO GENERATE APPROXIMATELY
6 FOUR-MILLION EIGHT-HUNDRED TEN-THOUSAND
7 (\$4,810,000.00) DOLLARS IN REVENUE IN
8 CALENDAR YEAR 2018 BY ENABLING THE CITY OF
9 SCRANTON TO CONTINUE TO LEVY THE LOCAL
10 SERVICES TAX AT THE FISCAL YEAR 2017 RATE
11 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018 FOR A TOTAL MAXIMUM
12 LOCAL SERVICES RATE OF ONE HUNDRED FIFTY SIX
13 (\$156.00) DOLLARS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2018
14 EFFECTIVE RETROACTIVE TO JANUARY 1, 2018 AND
15 PROVIDING FOR AN EXEMPTION FROM TAXATION FOR
16 ANY PERSON WHOSE TOTAL EARNED INCOME AND NET
17 PROFITS FROM ALL SOURCES WITHIN THE
18 MUNICIPALITY IS LESS THAN \$15,600.00 FOR THE
19 CALENDAR YEAR 2018.

20 MR. ROGAN: What is the
21 recommendation for 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. DONAHUE: Second.

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

4 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Perry.

5 MR. PERRY: Yes.

6 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Donahue.

7 MR. DONAHUE: Yes.

8 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Evans.

9 MR. EVANS: Yes.

10 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

11 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

12 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

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

15 MS. REED: 7-B. FOR CONSIDERATION
16 BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES - FOR ADOPTION -
17 RESOLUTION NO. 20, 2018 - AUTHORIZING THE
18 MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS
19 TO EXECUTE AND ENTER INTO AN AMENDMENT TO
20 THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BY AND
21 BETWEEN THE CITY OF SCRANTON ("CITY") AND
22 ELECTRIC CITY TELEVISION ("ECTV") SETTING
23 FORTH THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS REGARDING THE
24 OBLIGATIONS OF ECTV TO THE CITY AND THE
25 DISBURSEMENT AND USE OF EDUCATIONAL AND

1 GOVERNMENTAL ("EG") CAPITAL GRANT FUNDS BY
2 AMENDING SECTION 3(b)(ii) OF THE MEMORANDUM
3 REGARDING THE DISBURSEMENT OF THE REMAINING
4 TWO (2) INSTALLMENTS AS MORE FULLY DESCRIBED
5 IN EXHIBIT "A" ATTACHED HERETO AND
6 INCORPORATED HEREIN BY REFERENCE HERETO.

7 MR. ROGAN: As Chair for the
8 Committee on Rules, I recommend final
9 passage of Item 7-B.

10 MR. PERRY: Second.

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

13 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Perry.

14 MR. PERRY: Yes.

15 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Donahue.

16 MR. DONAHUE: Yes.

17 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Evans.

18 MR. EVANS: Yes.

19 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

20 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

21 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

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

24 MS. REED: 7-C. FOR CONSIDERATION
25 BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES - FOR ADOPTION -

1 RESOLUTION NO. 21, 2018 – RE-APPOINTMENT OF
2 SANTA J. CORBY A/K/A/ SANDY CORBY, 401
3 WILLIAMSBURG LANE, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA
4 18504 AS A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF THE
5 SCRANTON PARKING AUTHORITY FOR AN ADDITIONAL
6 FIVE (5) YEAR TERM. MRS. CORBY'S PRIOR TERM
7 EXPIRED ON JUNE 1, 2017 AND WAS HELD OVER TO
8 FEBRUARY 21, 2018. HER NEW TERM WILL BE
9 EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 21, 2018 AND WILL EXPIRE
10 ON JUNE 1, 2022.

11 MR. ROGAN: As Chair for the
12 Committee on Rules, I recommend final
13 passage of Item 7-C.

14 MR. PERRY: Second.

15 MR. ROGAN: On the question? Roll
16 call, please.

17 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Perry.

18 MR. PERRY: Yes.

19 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Donahue.

20 MR. DONAHUE: Yes.

21 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Evans.

22 MR. EVANS: Yes.

23 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

24 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes.

25 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

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

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

MR. PERRY: Motion to adjourn.

MR. ROGAN: Meeting adjourned.

C E R T I F I C A T E

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3 I hereby certify that the proceedings and
4 evidence are contained fully and accurately in the
5 notes of testimony taken by me at the hearing of the
6 above-captioned matter and that the foregoing is a true
7 and correct transcript of the same to the best of my
8 ability.
9
10
11

12 _____
13 CATHENE S. NARDOZZI, RPR
14 OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER
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