

COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF SCRANTON

HELD:

Tuesday, April 28th, 2026

LOCATION:

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Maria McCool, RPR
Official Court Reporter

C O U N C I L M E M B E R S :

THOMAS SCHUSTER - PRESIDENT

PATRICK FLYNN, VICE PRESIDENT

MARK MCANDREW

JESSICA ROTHCHILD

SEAN MCANDREW

FRANK VOLDENBERG, CITY CLERK

KATHY CARRERA, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

THOMAS GILBRIDE, ESQ., COUNCIL SOLICITOR

(Pledge of Allegiance.)

MR. SCHUSTER: Please remain standing for a moment of silent reflection for our service men and women throughout the world and for those who have passed away in our community. Roll call, Miss Carrera.

MS. CARRERA: Dr. Rothchild.

DR. ROTHCHILD: Here.

MS. CARRERA: Mr. Sean McAndrew.

MR. SEAN MCANDREW: Present.

MS. CARRERA: Mr. Mark McAndrew.

MR. MARK MCANDREW: Present.

MS. CARRERA: Mr. Flynn.

MR. FLYNN: Here.

MS. CARRERA: Mr. Schuster.

MR. SCHUSTER: Present. Before we get started with our regular meeting tonight, we are going to have a proclamation for Miss Ann Marie Regan if the family would like to come up to the front in front of the dais and we'll read that proclamation.

DR. ROTHCHILD: **WHEREAS**, the **COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SCRANTON** is desirous of honoring **ANNE MARIE E. REGAN**, a local trailblazer in

1 women's politics here in Scranton and within
2 Lackawanna County and;

3 **WHEREAS, Anne Marie** was one of seven
4 children born to the late Frank and Claire
5 MacDonald Regan and;

6 **WHEREAS, Anne Marie** was a lifelong
7 resident of the Bellevue section of Scranton
8 and a member of Holy Cross and St. Patrick's
9 Parish and;

10 **WHEREAS, Anne Marie** graduated from
11 West Scranton High School in 1949 and attended
12 Lackawanna Junior College while working as a
13 switchboard operator at Scranton Dry Goods and;
14 **WHEREAS, Anne Marie** started as a receptionist,
15 then an auditor in the City Controller's office
16 under the administrations of the late Mayors
17 Hanlon, Schmidt, Walsh and Peters and;

18 **WHEREAS, Anne Marie** served as a
19 member of the Scranton City Democratic
20 Committee and in 1972 was elected to the
21 Pennsylvania Democratic State Committee and;

22 **WHEREAS, Anne Marie** was the first
23 woman elected to a Lackawanna County row office
24 and was re-elected six times, serving as
25 Recorder of Deeds from 1974 to 1998 until her

1 retirement and;

2 WHEREAS, along with her 40+ years of
3 public service to the city and county, **Anne**
4 **Marie** celebrated her Irish Catholic heritage
5 with both her immediate and extended family
6 through the years.

7 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that
8 on **TUESDAY, April 28, 2026**, Scranton City
9 Council wishes to honor **Anne Marie Regan** for
10 achieving a "first" in local politics and
11 paving the way for future generations. Thank
12 you.

13 MR. REGAN: President Schuster, Vice
14 President Flynn, Dr. Rothchild, and two
15 McAndrews and, Sean, are you guys brothers?

16 MR. SEAN MCANDREW: No.

17 MR. REGAN: Well, I do want to say
18 thank you to all of you individually and
19 collectively for this wonderful presentation on
20 behalf of my sister.

21 I'd like you to know something else
22 about Ann Marie that you wouldn't normally
23 know. She was one of the most compassionate
24 people you would ever meet. You see, in my
25 dad's mid70s he began to lose his sight. By

1 his mid80s he was legally blind. He also
2 started to lose his hearing.

3 Ann Marie took care of him at home
4 24/7, 365, got him up in the morning, got him
5 washed, dressed, fix his breakfast, fixed his
6 lunch before she left herself, came home at
7 night, fixed his dinner, got him back in bed
8 again. And she did that for six years.

9 There's not many people who would do
10 that today. It's easier to put the older
11 folks like me in a facility. But she wouldn't
12 do it. She wouldn't think of it. So Ann Marie
13 never married. But this is a small part of her
14 family. She had 24 nieces and nephews.

15 And she treated every one of them
16 like they were her own children. She was
17 there for their births, there for their
18 confirmations and there for their high school
19 graduations, college graduations, their
20 weddings and on and on and on.

21 They were always remembered. And
22 all of these partial family members can testify
23 that she was just one terrific aunt. She was
24 not known as Ann Marie. She was ReRe all her
25 life, Aunt ReRe.

1 So again, thank you so very much. I
2 will treasure this. And this will be posted.
3 I live in a continuing care facility. But I
4 live independently. I have an apartment. And
5 this is going to be framed and go on a wall
6 outside of my apartment for all of my friends
7 and neighbors to see. Thank you so very much.

8 MR. SCHUSTER: Please dispense with
9 the reading of the minutes.

10 MR. VOLDENBERG: THIRD ORDER.

11 3-A. LACKAWANNA COUNTY PLANNING
12 COMMISSION SUBDIVISION AND LAND DEVELOPMENT
13 EVALUATION REPORTS RECEIVED APRIL 20TH, 2026.

14 MR. SCHUSTER: Are there any
15 comments on Third Order items? If not,
16 received and filed. Do any Council members
17 have any announcements at this time?

18 All right. No announcements at this
19 time. We'll go right into Fourth Order. Our
20 first speaker is Joan Hodowanitz.

21 MS. HODOWANITZ: Joan Hodowanitz,
22 Scranton. Let me just preface my remarks by a
23 message to Mayor Cagnetti. I don't know if
24 she's in town today, but if she is, she should
25 have been up here. When a resident of the city

1 is recognized by a proclamation, she should be
2 up here as the Mayor.

3 A few weeks ago, when we had a
4 police officer recognized for saving a life,
5 she wasn't up here, just -- just my personal
6 observation. And, you know, she wants a future
7 in politics, maybe she ought to think about her
8 priorities.

9 Okay, Saturday, there was an
10 interesting article in the paper Amendolaro
11 Boutique moving to new location in Scranton.
12 The boutique is currently on Spruce Street,
13 also known as Biden Street, moving to the 500
14 block of Wyoming.

15 And it's interesting to see why he
16 is moving. The big thing is parking, he said.
17 It's actually getting worse. And it goes on.
18 He believes the parking situation worsened
19 after the switch from meters to kiosks.

20]Quote, the kiosks, number one,
21 never work. Residents and people who work
22 downtown park their cars and use the Pango app
23 all day. The meters told people where to park.
24 When they took those out, now it's just a free
25 for all. In front of my stores, if people park

1 out of sync, you're losing two spots. It goes
2 on.

3 The customers who come on the daily
4 are driving and they have nowhere to park
5 because I see the same cars on the street. The
6 residents who live downtown come home from work
7 at 5:30 on Friday, park the car on the street,
8 and it sits there until Monday when they go
9 back to work.

10 I had a customer this Saturday say
11 she had to drive around the block four times
12 and ended up parking down on Penn and walking.
13 When City Council had that idea of paying for
14 parking on Saturdays, part of me wanted it to
15 go through because you would get those people
16 off the streets.

17 You can always find a parking spot
18 on that block on Wyoming, the 500 block.
19 That's where he's moving to. And if people
20 don't want to pay to park, there is free
21 parking on the block before it.

22 Tom Grudis, who owns the optical
23 shop is leaving in a couple weeks. And then
24 you're going to have three vacant storefronts
25 right in a row. I don't want to see the

1 downtown be vacant. But I've expressed my
2 concerns for parking, and they did nothing
3 about it.

4 Well, okay, he's got some issues and
5 some good points. I don't drive anymore,
6 haven't driven since 2012. So I don't have
7 that kind of skin in the game as a downtown
8 resident. But have you noticed that they're
9 digging up almost every downtown street and the
10 potholes abound everywhere? So it's not just
11 a matter of parking.

12 I mean, you take your life in your
13 hands just to drive downtown right now. But my
14 big issue is, I would like to see more business
15 owners in the downtown area, more workers and
16 more residents come to a forum like this and
17 express their concerns and their suggestions
18 about how to improve the situation.

19 You got to keep in mind that people
20 work downtown, people who own businesses, and
21 a lot of the downtown residents pay taxes to
22 the city of Scranton. And their issues should
23 be heard and they should be given the
24 consideration they're due.

25 I mean, if not, why are they

1 bothering to pay taxes? So I just wish you
2 would sometimes think about that. And just so
3 you haven't forgotten, I'm still waiting for
4 the Commissioners to give me the list of people
5 whose residents were finally put on the tax
6 rolls so that I can create my wall of shame for
7 those people. Thank you.

8 MR. SCHUSTER: Thank you. Next is
9 Mike Mancini.

10 MR. MANCINI: Thank you, Council
11 President Schuster. Good evening, Council,
12 residents of Scranton. Tonight, part eight of
13 my series, the state of Scranton. You said
14 nothing.

15 I chose this topic for tonight
16 simply because when ignored and those like me
17 also ignored with legitimate questions and
18 concerns, it's not a good look. The safety of
19 our city is nonnegotiable.

20 Over the years, I have brought up
21 many concerns like changing the police testing
22 system, which caused the shortage of amazing
23 officers and the structural change of the whole
24 department.

25 A very personal topic to me fell on

1 deaf ears, opioid-related deaths without
2 justice. Only 2 percent get closure like I did
3 for the passing of my only child, an active
4 United States Marine.

5 While Council focuses on unregulated
6 synthetics, my focus remains on unwanted
7 deaths. My closure will be to correct this
8 tragedy issue locally. There have been zero
9 prosecutions made by our Scranton Police
10 Department for opioid-related deaths since the
11 arrival of this administration.

12 Just over two years ago there were
13 arrests made involving two individuals and over
14 a pound of fentanyl right in front of a
15 magistrate's office in West Scranton. There
16 was also a pill press found in our city and a
17 chopper overhead today.

18 The change in the structure of the
19 police department without a study or
20 consultation with Council or police testing
21 causing a shortage, has our residents noticing
22 the difference. Serious police activity is
23 more than just an uptick.

24 These calls are not just isolated
25 incidents. Our residents notice, continue to

1 lose good neighbors because we're starting to
2 lose neighborhoods to gangs, drugs, and
3 unlawful weapons. Other than using these words
4 uptick and isolated incidents, Paige Cagnetti,
5 you chose to say nothing.

6 Being in denial does not fix the
7 safety issues and concerns of our residents.
8 There's crime in Scranton and it will continue
9 to get worse unless Council acts. Allow me to
10 now to address the other major concern, our
11 roads and infrastructure.

12 It seems the progress is starting to
13 deliver some results with pave cuts and
14 potholes. First, the pave cuts, our
15 neighborhoods never should have been left in
16 poor condition throughout the winter.

17 Fines should have been levied for
18 each cut on every block impacted. Instead, the
19 administration used the excuse no teeth
20 ordinance as the reason for the poor
21 conditions, the same ordinance that collected
22 millions of dollars in the past.

23 I blame the massive number of
24 potholes of the ninth DPW Director of the
25 administration for hiring a complete failure.

1 Instead of allowing the DPW employees to use
2 their experience and talent, he continuously
3 makes costly mistakes.

4 He is clueless and needs to resign.
5 Costly damages to vehicles and Paige Cagnetti
6 said nothing. As a Council majority, you can
7 demand answers. You also have subpoena powers.
8 Use the first on the IT Director.

9 Hearing Council member Mark McAndrew
10 last week talking about social media posts made
11 by the IT Director during business hours is
12 alarming. Directing it at a sitting Council
13 member goes beyond good taste and reason both.

14 Use one of your elected powers and
15 make him accountable for his actions. I would
16 like to also recommend that you use subpoena
17 powers for his emails. From what I understand,
18 he's working on other business websites while
19 sitting in this very building. He needs to
20 resign.

21 I can understand the majority
22 Council of the past frustrated over the issues
23 and concerns that I spoke about tonight. I can
24 understand the unwillingness by the -- by the
25 administration to address your issues. I know

1 how you feel. You don't address my concerns.

2 This is a new majority. It needs to
3 become focused on the same concerns that I and
4 others address weekly, discussions and next
5 steps will either help or hinder our residents,
6 choose to become better than councils in the
7 past because we deserve and need the best
8 today, either engage or become part of the
9 problem.

10 Next week, part nine, how to correct
11 these many concerns. Good evening, Council and
12 the good residents of Scranton.

13 MR. SCHUSTER: Thank you. Next is
14 Lee Morgan.

15 MR. MORGAN: Good evening Council,
16 Lee Morgan, just for the benefit of the
17 residents, today, I gave the City Council and
18 Mayor a request. On March 6th, I asked the
19 City Council to craft legislation on behalf of
20 the -- of the citizens of Scranton and for the
21 benefit of the public trust.

22 The first of these requests was to
23 fund a feral cat program enhancing the present
24 one located at Nay Aug Park because the city is
25 being overrun by feral and abandoned cats. I

1 also requested the city to return the public
2 component of ECTV to make it a complete
3 government and educational channel.

4 The third matter I brought to the
5 attention of City Council was to petition the
6 PUC to lower water and sewer rates in the city.
7 I am looking for written answers to my
8 questions from the council and mayor under my
9 First Amendment right to petition my
10 government.

11 I will wait for 30 days for a
12 response. And then I gave you my address. But
13 I'm going to -- I'm going to do a couple more
14 requests. But, you know, speakers come up here
15 and talk, and I appreciate what everybody says
16 here.

17 But really, the Council hasn't
18 represented this city very well in the whole 40
19 years I've been here coming to these council
20 meetings. It's not a personal shot on people.
21 You know, when you get elected to government
22 office, you have to have a plan.

23 You have to know what you want to
24 accomplish. We don't elect people anywhere to
25 oppose one group or another because the people

1 you're supposed to represent are the residents.

2 And for the city streets to look the
3 way they do and for the decay of the
4 neighborhoods, there's just no excuse for it,
5 wasting a grant money. But you know the most
6 troubling thing of it all is an unwillingness
7 to pick up an ink pen and try to make a change
8 in the legislature to help the residents.

9 Nonprofits were never designed to
10 take over a city. And that's exactly what's
11 happening here. This city is being consumed by
12 numerous nonprofits. The law was never created
13 to push a burden like that on residents. And
14 it's beyond out of control. And the couple
15 dollars that they give us doesn't equal
16 anything, nothing.

17 So all you do is you force the
18 residents into utter poverty. There's just no
19 excuse for it. There's no excuse for a lot of
20 things, no excuse for no answers for
21 homelessness, storms, you know, no -- just no
22 enhancement to anything.

23 Flooding in this city for 100 years,
24 bridges under -- with under 14 foot of
25 clearance under them anywhere in the city, I

1 mean, it's just there's no investment in the
2 city. It's like a political fun fest.

3 I mean, getting elected, cheering
4 everybody on and talking politics, there has to
5 be a time when politics ends. The state
6 representatives and the state senators aren't
7 doing any better.

8 And the country is disintegrating.
9 We have people in Ivy League colleges that
10 can't read or write. We have school boards
11 that aren't functioning. We have decay across
12 our whole country.

13 And then we have a president like
14 Joe Biden who gets elected, who doesn't know
15 who he is. And the political system knew it.
16 The Democratic Party knew that he wasn't with
17 it. They knew it. He said right on the news
18 that he created -- his party and himself had
19 created the best voter fraud organization in
20 the history of the country, and it was true.

21 You know, in the future, they're
22 going to write the history of this country. I
23 don't know what's going to be left because
24 bringing people from the third world here, of
25 course, they think they're in paradise.

1 But that's because in the countries
2 they come from, they have no rights. They're
3 like animals there. And we're losing our
4 rights here. And Europe is in a major decline.
5 So when we look to our elected government,
6 we're locked out of it. You're locked out of
7 City Hall.

8 I tried to give this to the Council,
9 and to the Mayor, got no response on the phone,
10 none. People can't conduct business here.
11 They're locked out of their own halls of power.
12 The people they elect them -- that are electing
13 them, don't want to hear them.

14 There's been no real change in this
15 city. Look at it. There's not a shopping
16 center in downtown Scranton where people can
17 buy groceries. The roads are a mess. I
18 appreciate people come here and talk about how
19 they've saw some improvement. I haven't seen
20 any. I think they're much worse.

21 And I don't think you want to answer
22 my questions. And I don't expect an answer,
23 but that just goes to prove how hollow you are
24 with the lack of ability. Thank you.

25 MR. SCHUSTER: Thank you. Next is

1 Les Spindler.

2 MR. SEAN MCANDREW: Mr. Voldenberg,
3 I know -- I believe I saw on the budget -- in
4 the budget meeting the other day that the
5 Street Cats do get funding from the city. Can
6 we confirm that? And if so, what -- what does
7 it go to?

8 MR. VOLDENBERG: I will, sir.

9 MR. SEAN MCANDREW: Thanks.

10 MR. SCHUSTER: So I'll just chime in
11 there. So Animal Control, when it came to
12 Animal Control, we -- Council raised the line
13 item \$58,000 from '25 to '26. And then Streets
14 Cats and Dogs has an increase in \$5,000 from
15 '25 to '26. So they've been given an increase
16 of 5,000.

17 But if we could get that update on
18 Street Cats and Dogs, how they're doing in the
19 building on Ash Street if they're still using
20 that and what the capacity is.

21 MR. VOLDENBERG: I'll get an update,
22 Sir.

23 MR. SCHUSTER: Thank you. Mr.
24 Spindler, sorry.

25 MR. SPINDLER: Good evening,

1 Council, Les Spindler, city resident,
2 homeowner. President Schuster, last week, you
3 spoke about Emiliani Trucking on Dorothy
4 Street. A couple days before that -- well, I
5 ran out of time last week. I was going to
6 speak about them.

7 Walking my dog I bumped into Mr.
8 Emiliani, the owner, asked him if he knew what
9 was going on on the bottom Euclid. He thought
10 they were just putting the decorative wall up
11 with a sign. So I told him everything they're
12 doing.

13 He said, I don't know how our trucks
14 are going to make it. He said we can't turn
15 onto Farr Street. Have you seen what they did?
16 There's no way trucks are going to make the
17 turn to go up Euclid. They didn't talk to
18 anyone. They didn't talk to Emilianis.

19 There's no -- my -- I have a Toyota
20 Corolla. I'm barely able to fit around where
21 the turn is. There's no way a fire truck is
22 going to fit up there. An 18 wheeler won't be
23 able to fit up there.

24 And Dorothy Street is the only
25 street that trucks are supposed to go up and

1 down because the other ones are narrow and the
2 wires are low. They didn't discuss -- whoever
3 managed this -- was in charge of it, they don't
4 know what they're doing. I mean, it's
5 ridiculous.

6 They didn't talk to anybody that
7 it's going to affect. I mean, my five-year-old
8 granddaughter could have designed that project
9 better than whoever did it. Like I said, my
10 little small car barely makes that turn.

11 You people should go over and look
12 at that. No way an 18 wheeler is going to make
13 that turn to go up Dorothy. No -- and the fire
14 trucks, again. Fire Chief Judge was here
15 awhile ago and said every second counts in a
16 fire and people are still coming down the wrong
17 way. Friday, I was up by the corner of Dorothy
18 and Sumner at the stop sign.

19 And I looked down to where they're
20 doing that project and an ambulance went out
21 the wrong way, an ambulance. Maybe it was an
22 emergency. Ambulances should be able to come
23 and go as they please. You know, they probably
24 didn't want to go around and detour because
25 every second counts. The project is

1 ridiculous, I mean, just totally ridiculous.

2 Next thing, my favorite subject, the
3 Green Ridge Street Bridge Project. They
4 weren't there Friday. It was a beautiful day.
5 I didn't drive there yesterday. Today, they
6 were there for a couple hours in the morning.
7 That was it. A few weeks ago about three in
8 the afternoon, I was sitting in traffic on the
9 bridge.

10 Traffic was backed up in both
11 directions, couldn't move. If an emergency
12 vehicle had to come through, they weren't
13 getting through. I talked about this before.
14 It's ridiculous. It's a safety issue. These
15 people should be there every day getting that
16 project done.

17 It's unbelievable. They come and
18 work when they please, I guess. I don't know
19 what's going on. They should be there every
20 single day till that project is done.

21 I see where the kratom legislation
22 is in Eighth Order now. I don't know why you
23 people are even negotiating with the Mayor.
24 She against everything that everybody else
25 wants.

Next thing, the data centers, you know, I don't know a lot about them. But to me, it's jobs. It's progress. Nobody wants anything in their backyard, no progress. I think I brought this up before.

All the kids, they go away to college and they never come back. And one of my daughters is an example. She graduated from Pitt 10 years ago. She's now -- she's still in Pittsburgh raising her family there. I would love to have her here.

I have two grandchildren in Pittsburgh. I only see them once or twice a year. There's nothing for young -- young

1 people to do here. There's no family
2 sustaining jobs that want to come here because
3 they know how it is here. It's -- nobody wants
4 anything done.

5 I mean, 200 data centers in one
6 county in Virginia. And we don't want a couple
7 of them here. They must be doing something
8 right there. And I know months ago on the
9 news, there was a story that a bunch of people
10 from here went down to that county and got all
11 the information.

12 So I don't know what came of it.
13 But I don't know how they could have 200 there
14 and everything is fine with the electric and
15 the water. Everybody's against it here. Thank
16 you for your time.

17 MR. SCHUSTER: Thank you. Would
18 anyone else like to address Council?

19 MR. LITTLE: Hello, Scranton,
20 Council, Rik Little. We're coming up on the
21 250th anniversary of the United States of
22 America on July 4th when the Declaration of
23 Independence was written.

24 And -- and that is the first law of
25 America. We hold these truths to be self

1 evident that all men are created equal that
2 they're endowed by their Creator with certain
3 unalienable rights, that are among these rights
4 are life, liberty and pursuit of happiness.

5 And yet, certain parts of that
6 government we established with the Declaration
7 and the US Constitution have been under assault
8 since the very beginning. And looking back on
9 it, they've been under assault by the very
10 people that we were fighting against, people
11 that were taxing us, people were taking our
12 guns away, the British.

13 And we can see it now, institutions,
14 in Scranton, they try to hide these -- these
15 institutions. I remember going through hell
16 over there at the courthouse just trying to
17 watch the judicial process just to see how it
18 works.

19 And they -- they have set up a
20 government within a government in the judiciary
21 where there's just nowhere to go. I mean, you
22 have to get a lawyer. You have to -- you have
23 to pay this fee, that fee. And it goes on
24 forever.

25 I saw a very disturbing thing on the

1 internet, the Judiciary Committee meeting for
2 the State of Pennsylvania, and, you know,
3 they're voting on things. And the people are
4 asking, you know, what's the name of this bill,
5 you know, because they know all they have to do
6 is get the person in the room to say yes or not
7 say anything, and it becomes law.

8 Our country was overrun with people
9 hell bent on destroying this country when Biden
10 opened the borders. That election is
11 completely, I mean, I've seen enough evidence
12 that, no, Biden was not elected.

13 It really started with Obama --
14 started with Obama in 2012 with the NDAA, which
15 thing -- which made it so news media can't be
16 sued. But they have it that way with medicine.
17 All the great things that Robert F. Kennedy
18 did, there's -- there's no immune -- there's
19 still immunity from prosecution for things like
20 Monsanto poisons.

21 And when I see the City Council, you
22 know, stepping up to the health and safety
23 thing with the kratom thing, it really bothers
24 me because I just read the caveat of it, you
25 know, about all these, you know, you got

1 kratom, which is a natural leaf from a tree
2 that, you know, our soldiers in Vietnam chewed
3 to stay awake on the jungle trail.

4 But in the big picture, the forces
5 to be, the globalist forces to be, are here to
6 still spraying the aluminum and barium and all
7 kinds of stuff from the sky. And it's cancer
8 this time. That's what the new Covid is, is
9 cancer. And I saw the Mayor. I saw this
10 little flyer announcing the Mayor spoke at the
11 school there.

12 And the schools are just one of the
13 problems. The judiciary is a problem. The Bar
14 Association is now a problem. But elections
15 are the problem. And, you know, I read in the
16 paper that Bill Gaughan is the head of the
17 Election Committee, you know. And before that,
18 it was the lawyer Frederickson who ran the
19 Election Committee.

20 And everything is geared around
21 democracy. But it's not real democracy. There
22 has -- if the mayor spent \$5 million on police
23 stuff, they should get a robot. They should
24 get a robot who's programmed with all the laws
25 so there's one place, not everybody's phone,

1 not -- not the websites, not the Google, a
2 robot who's going to tell you what the law is
3 and make things clearer for the people that
4 would take care of the judiciary and the media
5 in one shot. Thank you.

6 MR. SCHUSTER: Thank you. Would
7 anyone else like to address Council?

8 MR. COYNE: Good evening, Council,
9 Tom Coyne, Minooka. First, I have a request
10 for an update on the replacement street signs
11 at Schlager and Sumner streets. And hopefully
12 we can get a spring update for Miss Jeffries on
13 the rollout of the signed program for this
14 year.

15 Going back to prior sessions, Weston
16 Field, you may not remember, but I do. You
17 asked multiple times if it could be locked
18 after the shooting that happened at the
19 basketball court and it went out to the street
20 in front of Weston Field.

21 The Mayor responded that that could
22 not be locked because ambulances needed access
23 to it. You talked about bolt cutters or master
24 keys. And you were told by the Mayor, we can't
25 lock Weston Field because the gate needs to be

1 open for ambulances, evidently 24/7 even when
2 the facility is closed because ambulances
3 evidently have no way to get into locked
4 buildings.

5 Why was the homeless and other poor
6 funding last year never spent for what it was
7 allocated for? Has the homeless issue been
8 solved? Are they all housed? Are they all
9 taken care of? Obviously, if there was money
10 in the budget last year that wasn't spent and
11 we've had so many Unsheltered Task Force
12 meetings, it must mean that revenue wasn't
13 needed, that every homeless person out there
14 has had all of their needs taken care of.

15 It's either that or money that was
16 allocated for that just wasn't important enough
17 to be actually looked at and distributed
18 because that was too much of a difficulty for
19 the person who runs the Unsheltered Task Force
20 to take care of the homeless and the hungry in
21 our own community.

22 I guess this week, there's probably
23 still no news on the Gerrity gift cards. I
24 know we had one in the news for the handout
25 during the Mayor's campaign that hit the Times.

1 But I haven't heard anything about I believe it
2 was 100 others that were allocated or somewhere
3 in that neck of the woods.

4 Onto the data centers, it's in
5 Eighth Order, but we need to get something on
6 the book, anything into the book even if it's a
7 shell. And then as long as it's not on the
8 books, anything, they have free rein to put it
9 anywhere.

10 Toss a shell on there that says
11 data centers are only allowed by special
12 exception and then go ahead and refine it. But
13 at least get it on the books beforehand because
14 if it's not -- if there is nothing on the books
15 beforehand, it's open for everywhere and you
16 don't want to try and legislate this after the
17 gateway where they already had their foot in
18 because once they have your foot in and you're
19 still thinking about it, you've already lost.

20 So at least please put something
21 simple on the books saying it's by special
22 exception. Then refine it because at least
23 that way the city has protections going forward
24 to actually evaluate it.

25 Moving on, I sent you an e-mail on

1 the 300 block of Cedar Avenue. Has there been
2 an area traffic study for that area? I see the
3 Section 2 map on it shows the block directly
4 where the building is. It doesn't show you the
5 area. It shows one block.

6 When we put in a stop sign
7 someplace, we have to have some massive study
8 to put in a stop sign or yield sign or a light.
9 Has there been an equivalent study done impact
10 for that neighborhood itself? The church on
11 Davis Street, the zone has been approved. And
12 I guess last Council for new crosswalk
13 equipment and safety lights to be put in that
14 very section.

15 How has that been addressed with the
16 3 -- in the 3100 Cedar Avenue study? Since we
17 have one project already paid for, legislated
18 and on the books for that area, has that been
19 meshed together with what's happening with the
20 3100 coming before us?

21 And again, some of the images I sent
22 to you, you see obstructed views where you
23 cannot see to make turns in that area if you
24 are pushed in one direction. You have large
25 hills that become ice sheets in the winter

1 where going down them is extremely hazardous
2 and you are moving off of the wider street and
3 pushing traffic intentionally into smaller
4 streets that have been cut down even beyond the
5 street that they are existing.

6 Change it to no parking on one side.
7 That's the reasonable way to go. Thank you and
8 good night.

9 MR. SCHUSTER: Thank you.

10 MR. VOLDENBERG: FIFTH ORDER. 5-A.
11 MOTIONS.

12 MR. SCHUSTER: Dr. Rothchild, do you
13 have any motions or comments?

14 DR. ROTHCHILD: Yes, I do. I just
15 have a couple. First off, just wanted to give
16 an update on a property that I had brought up
17 last week that a resident was asking about
18 whether or not it was on the demolition list.
19 This was 1610 Roselynn Street.

20 I did receive confirmation that this
21 property is currently included on the
22 demolition list. But it's priority score range
23 below that of other more pressing properties
24 and the prioritization helps ensure that
25 available funding is allocated in alignment

1 with the highest need demolition cases. And at
2 this time the coordinators continue to
3 investigate the property for potential
4 inclusion in the next round of demo projects.

5 And I also received someone who
6 contacted me about downed wires at 135 South
7 Cameron Avenue. They did first contact PP & L.
8 They said it wasn't there. Then they were
9 talking to Xfinity. They said they weren't
10 there for them.

11 So they're just trying to find out
12 whose wires they belong to and how they could
13 get them taken care of. They're concerned
14 about, you know, children in the neighborhood
15 potentially being able to reach them.

16 MR. VOLDENBERG: I'll take care of
17 it, Dr. Rothchild.

18 DR. ROTHCHILD: Thank you. And
19 that's all that I have.

20 MR. SCHUSTER: Thank you very much.
21 Mr. Sean McAndrew, do you have any motions or
22 comments?

23 MR. SEAN MCANDREW: Yeah, I have a
24 few. So some updates regarding some response
25 that I received from my questions from last

1 week. The last two weeks I've been asking
2 regarding the city having a dedicated ambulance
3 service.

4 I know there was some concerns the
5 Mayor said to Councilman Schuster and Attorney
6 Gilbride in a meeting. I asked for those
7 concerns to be put in writing. I received the
8 response that the Chair and the Cochair of the
9 Public Safety Committee could meet with Chief
10 Judge to be educated on the matter.

11 So then I followed up asking, well,
12 I'm neither the Chair or the Cochair, so can I
13 please meet with him and have it recorded so we
14 have an official statement from the city? The
15 response I got was, we have requested an update
16 from Finch and Associates regarding ambulances
17 services in the city.

18 I believe Finch and Associates is a
19 company that they are using as an consultant
20 the last few years regarding ambulance
21 services. So it looks like, you know, I asked
22 for -- I asked for their concerns in writing.
23 I can't get it. They offered other Council
24 members to meet with Chief Judge.

25 But when I ask, it just gets

1 ignored. I can't even get an answer. It's
2 like getting to the point where you really
3 can't make this stuff up. But I was doing some
4 research. In October, 2024, in an article
5 Chief Judge said from an emergency management
6 perspective, if you called me at any given time
7 and asked me how many ambulances are currently
8 on duty in the time city, I couldn't tell you.

9 The Lackawanna County 911 Center
10 couldn't tell you. And under the city's
11 charter, it's our responsibility to provide EMS
12 services to our residents. Now, let's let that
13 sink in. Seven years under this Mayor Cagnetti
14 administration, they've known they have been
15 violating the Charter and it hasn't been
16 addressed.

17 We are a city that cannot definitely
18 say how many ambulances are on duty at any
19 given time, yet we are responsible for
20 providing the service to our residents. That
21 alone should be enough to demand immediate
22 action. Other municipalities have dedicated
23 ambulance services. Scranton does not.

24 Instead, the administration
25 continues to ignore my request to put their

1 concerns in writing or discuss openly and
2 transparently. I am frankly shocked that after
3 commissioning a study and having years of
4 discussion -- because this has been brought up
5 by previous councils, the city still does not
6 have a defined path forward, no timeline, no
7 plan, just more ignoring questions and delays.

8 It's not a complicated task. It's
9 about accountability, transparency and making
10 sure when somebody calls 911, help is there.
11 Scranton residents deserve better. Now, we
12 have a company who is doing the services now.
13 All they're asking for from when they came to
14 caucus a few years ago is to have a written
15 agreement at zero cost to us.

16 My understanding, there will more
17 ambulances on the road dedicated just staying
18 in Scranton. Why is that something we would
19 not entertain right now? I understand maybe
20 the bigger plan is to have our fire department
21 do it. But until then, we have to have
22 something better.

23 Having our fire department doing it
24 is going to cost a ton of money and it's going
25 to take a lot of time. So the fact that we

1 can't even get answers on something that's
2 free, like, if we had a contract and they
3 weren't telling us and we couldn't answer that
4 question how many ambulances in service were on
5 the road, then we could call them in and hold
6 them accountable.

7 You know, if the service wasn't
8 great, we could hold them accountable. We have
9 nothing to do that. And it's really shocking
10 to me. So I'm going ask again if I would have
11 a meeting with Chief Judge. But also, if they
12 don't want to answer me in writing, they don't
13 want to have a meeting with just me, let's call
14 the Mayor and let's call the Fire Chief Judge
15 into a caucus to address the concerns. If you
16 could send that down, Frank?

17 MR. VOLDENBERG: I'll reach out,
18 sir.

19 MR. SEAN MCANDREW: Awesome. Thank
20 you. So we had a finance meeting yesterday,
21 myself and Councilwoman Rothchild went. It was
22 a very good meeting getting an update on how
23 the budget is performing right now. We are
24 going to be getting an update hopefully by the
25 end of May and the beginning of June regarding

1 PEL's five year projections for the city.

2 I know there was a state of the city
3 address that was, you know, done last week and,
4 you know, was pretty positive. But my concern
5 is, there is some things that aren't being
6 said. We have an LST Tax issue, which right
7 now if the state doesn't change some wording,
8 we're going to be short around 3 million
9 dollars.

10 How are we going to cover that cost?
11 The next question would be regarding the
12 finances, the PEL's five year projection, it's
13 not done yet. But when I asked if there a
14 projection or how is it looking, they are
15 saying obviously our expenses are outperforming
16 our revenue.

17 So there will be shortfalls. That
18 is not being said. That is not being
19 addressed. But I do think we start -- we need
20 to have those hard questions with the city and
21 the finance department sooner than later. So
22 hopefully when June comes and we get that five
23 year projection, not only can we call PEL in
24 and the administration to discuss that, but
25 also to start discussing the budget a little

1 bit more openly for 2027 so we're not shocked
2 when November -- the second week of November
3 comes and there is possibly tax increases.

4 I have some residents concerns,
5 Frank, if you could pass down we have 108 South
6 Main Avenue, there's a shop there that is
7 selling -- I don't know what they are actually
8 selling there; but a lot of the items are on
9 the streets -- on the street and on the steps
10 of the building.

11 So I'm not sure if that's a safety
12 hazard when people walk by or are walking into
13 the shop. So could we have code enforcement
14 check that out?

15 MR. VOLDENBERG: I will, sir.

16 MR. SEAN MCANDREW: And then there's
17 a house -- and I'll give you the actual address
18 because I think other Council members are going
19 to bring this up too, a house on 1100 block of
20 St. Ann Street if we could have code
21 enforcement go over to.

22 MR. VOLDENBERG: I'll take care of
23 it, sir.

24 MR. SEAN MCANDREW: All right. And
25 that is all I have. Thank you.

1 MR. SCHUSTER: Thank you very much.
2 When we're looking future caucuses or summer
3 caucuses, Frank, if we could just tentatively
4 schedule PEL in for sometime in June, maybe
5 towards the end of June so once that projection
6 is up we could have them in to speak to.

7 MR. VOLDENBERG: I will, Mr.
8 Schuster.

9 MR. SCHUSTER: Thank you very much.
10 Mr. Mark McAndrew, do you have any motions or
11 comments?

12 MR. MCANDREW: Yeah, just a couple.
13 So, you know, I'd like to accept the gracious
14 invitation by Chief Judge regarding ambulance
15 services. And if I do, I'll take you with me,
16 Councilman McAndrew.

17 MR. SEAN MCANDREW: Thanks.

18 MR. MCANDREW: But I think it would
19 be a better idea like you mentioned, let's have
20 a caucus. They've been here hashing out the
21 whys, hows, and the pros and cons of having
22 ambulance services in the past. So, you know,
23 things have changed. It's been a couple years.

24 I'd rather have that discussion
25 openly in a caucus form so all of you are

1 informed as the concerns they might, yay or nay
2 for it instead of just meeting with one, two,
3 or three Council persons.

4 I think, you know, for transparency
5 sake, we all work for you guys, even the Fire
6 Chief and, you know, so I would much rather --
7 you could tell him thank you for his gracious
8 invitation. But I think it would be more
9 fitting and we have -- we seem to have a pretty
10 much open caucus calendar coming up.

11 Let's see if we can -- instead of
12 that, let's invite them in and see if they'll
13 entertain that instead.

14 MR. VOLDENBERG: I'll arrange that,
15 sir.

16 MR. MARK MCANDREW: Thank you. All
17 right. So I inquired because we constantly
18 get complaints about parks that aren't being
19 locked at night, especially Novembrino. It's
20 been an issue for a couple years. It's not a
21 secret. It was brought up recently.

22 So I asked as I did last year,
23 what's the schedule? What's the process? Is
24 there a checklist? How is it -- how are we
25 locking these parks and how are we -- knowing

1 that they're being locked because we're told
2 they're not by our residents.

3 And we appreciate that they come to
4 us and tell us that. But they shouldn't have
5 to -- these parks that we spent a lot of money,
6 a lot of tax money, a lot of your money through
7 Covid. But we need to secure them. So I
8 asked, okay, so who's doing it, like, who,
9 when, where, what's the checklist.

10 So what I got was Crowley Park is
11 locked at dusk and unlocked at 6 a.m. by
12 Marywood Campus Police. Sweeney Beach is
13 locked by the Scranton Police Department at
14 dusk and unlocked by park staff at
15 approximately 7 a.m., during the three warmer
16 seasons.

17 During the winter, the road access
18 gate was closed during weekend because of fewer
19 people, okay? And, you know, the weekend
20 requires overtime hours for park staff. Foot
21 traffic can still do through by cars cannot.

22 Novembrino Park or Novembrino Splash
23 Pad/Park is locked at dusk at approximately 6
24 p.m. Well, we're hoping that's occurring but
25 we're old otherwise -- during the winter months

1 at approximately 8 p.m. During summer months,
2 the park director will be coming back out to
3 lock the park because workers leave the 3 p.m.

4 In the event that the park's
5 director is unable to do so, the director will
6 allocate the responsibility to another
7 individual. So it looks like there's a plan in
8 place. We'll just have to monitor and make
9 sure.

10 And the good neighbors around there
11 will let us know because they always do.
12 They're our eyes and ears. And we're glad to
13 have them.

14 Weston Field back road gates will
15 remain closed to cars so they cannot drive back
16 to the gates -- back gates. The parking lot
17 will remain open because there are sports that
18 occur on these fields in the evening. And they
19 will still need access to parking and the
20 field.

21 The city is saying we're looking
22 into natural barriers to prevent cars from
23 driving onto the field from the parking lot.
24 That shouldn't be hard at all obviously. So I
25 hope there's another strategy besides waiting

1 for a couple bushes to grow to prevent that.

2 The Scranton Police Department
3 provided information last week on 52 incidents
4 at Weston Field, building checks happen anytime
5 the alarm shows for any reason including a
6 cleaning person arriving and not turning off
7 the alarm in time.

8 Okay, so there's -- there's some
9 procedure in place there, a fire alarm that
10 needed to be reset, etc. Other incidents were
11 related to the removal of Code Blue individuals
12 from the building, which were also the reason
13 for two of the four cases the SPD provided
14 information about that.

15 So, all right, I'm glad we got some
16 information, some feedback, some type of
17 strategy that's in place. Let's hope that it
18 all occurs, all right. So next up, Mr. Coyne
19 asked about the Gerrity gift cards. We've been
20 talking about that for a couple of years.

21 I inquired a couple years about it.
22 So let's finally, you know, get some answers,
23 ask administration the questions that Mr. Coyne
24 relayed to these gift cards. It shouldn't be a
25 secret. All right. So someone came to me

1 regarding the new pickleball courts that are
2 going to be at Nay Aug that are going to be
3 opening soon.

4 And to be honest with you, I don't
5 know if there's six or eight. I'm not sure.
6 So don't quote me on the amount. But this
7 individual, you know, came to me with, you
8 know, so I had more questions than details at
9 this point.

10 So what was brought to my attention
11 is on the weekend that two of these courts are
12 going to be utilized by a private entity as for
13 a league. I mean, I get the little leagues are
14 owned by the city. But they have -- that's a
15 nonprofit type of organization.

16 They fundraise for sustainability,
17 pay the bills. They get the grass cut. They
18 get the uniforms. That's different. No one at
19 these little leagues benefit personally. When
20 they do, they're caught and it's against the
21 law.

22 So but I'm hearing -- now like I
23 said, this -- we need to look it and it's
24 something we should look into it before we get
25 these courts opening being used. All I did

1 real quickly was look at the code for parks and
2 recreation.

3 City parks shall be open daily to
4 all citizens on absolute equal terms. And none
5 shall be given special privilege therein or
6 permitted to make use of them for any purpose
7 not practically common to all. And not in --
8 consonance with proper uses of the park.

9 So that tells me that the type of
10 behavior or something's that being put together
11 violates. Like I said, little league,
12 they're -- they're maintained. We own them.
13 We try to maintain them the best we can.

14 But they do a lot of sustainability
15 by themselves with their great booster
16 organizations and fundraisers. But what I'm
17 hearing, okay, is on Sunday there will be
18 someone that -- and I'm not against leagues, I
19 mean, you know, but how -- so, Solicitor
20 Gilbride, can you please reach out to the city
21 and just ask a couple -- poke around and ask a
22 couple questions?

23 I mean, like I said, I have more
24 questions than details. The details I have is
25 it's going to happen. The details I have is

1 two parks that are going to be allowed to be
2 run by a private individual for leagues.

3 So that seems to violate the code.
4 And that prevents people that say come to -- on
5 Sunday and there's no available -- all the
6 other courts are being used, what happens to
7 them? Like I just said, I read the code.

8 Guess who paid for this? You guys
9 paid for this. Covid money paid for this.
10 Federal dollars paid for this. No one should
11 benefit financially utilizing -- utilizing
12 these courts. I hope that's not the case.

13 Like I said, I have more details
14 than questions. But let's get some of these
15 questions asked because who made this decision
16 if this is true? Like I said, if this is true,
17 who authorized this? And we have a parks and
18 rec authority that's supposed to vote on things
19 through their entity.

20 They are in charge of the park. The
21 administration in this building is not in
22 charge of the park. They don't make them
23 decisions. Sometimes they like to think they
24 do. But it's clear to me that the authority --
25 so was this decided by the authority with a

1 vote? I don't know.

2 That is probably a good question.

3 Or was this just decided by the administration
4 and/or the Parks Director without, you know,
5 consulting the authority or going to the formal
6 process? Like I said, I'm not sure if all of
7 these details are forthcoming yet.

8 But we have to ask the questions now
9 before these parks open and some stuff happens
10 that probably doesn't follow the code, if you
11 could please just, you know, craft some type of
12 e-mail inquiring with some bullets and see if
13 we get some answers to this.

14 ATTY. GILBRIDE: Yes.

15 MR. MCANDREW: Thanks. And that is
16 all I have.

17 MR. SCHUSTER: Thank you. Mr.
18 Flynn, do you have any motions or comments at
19 this time?

20 MR. FLYNN: Thank you. Just
21 briefly, there was some good conversations had
22 earlier this week on the pending kratom
23 legislation. There's going to be more
24 conversations later this week, so happy that
25 it's moving forward in a collaborative way but

1 that progress isn't being impeded.

2 As long as that continues, happy to
3 have those conversations and look forward to
4 continuing them. That's all I have. Thank
5 you.

6 MR. SCHUSTER: Thank you very much.
7 Yeah, I'd like to echo those comments as well.
8 It seems like we're moving in a positive
9 direction. We're moving the ball forward. And
10 as long as that continues to happen, we're open
11 to the discussion.

12 We did get a lot of responses back
13 to the questions that were brought forward last
14 week concerning the one-way street change on
15 the 3100 of Cedar Avenue. There was probably
16 too many to read off tonight.

17 But we asked about the City Engineer
18 on the project, why the City Engineer was doing
19 the project and not someone else. And it was
20 stated that the City Engineer typically
21 performs small traffic studies as part of their
22 normal scope of work for the city.

23 That was one. We discussed about
24 signage if there's going to be possible signage
25 or if that was a recommendation that was made

1 as the church may be now used as a cut through
2 because of the one way change.

3 And it was stated that City
4 Engineers will recommend adding private lot, no
5 cut through signage at the church. They also
6 had some discussions with the Pastor of the
7 church as well.

8 There was some questions about the
9 funeral processions and the routes that they
10 will take. And it was stated that the city
11 engineers did discuss the funeral processions
12 and the route changes. That was discussed with
13 the Pastor of the church, Father McDonnell.

14 And they're stating that at this
15 point in time the two-way traffic on Cedar
16 during these events at the church is more of a
17 safety issue than changing it to a one way. It
18 was stated that the study wasn't signed.

19 And we did get back that the study
20 was sent to the city for review and used the
21 Law Department and it was signed and sealed by
22 Paul Mandogello{phonetic}. They sent an
23 attachment with that. When I asked about some
24 of those several options because it seemed like
25 there was several options that were put out

1 there including that one way -- two way with
2 no parking on one side, I wanted to know where
3 those options came from or how they were
4 decided upon.

5 But they let me know that the City
6 Planning Commission and Zoning did not approve
7 it but that the status of the street became an
8 issue during the review of that land
9 development when they were talking about the
10 building of the apartment building.

11 So I'm going to take more of a look
12 at these questions and these answers and see
13 where we're going through there. We did ask
14 about the S-shaped serpentine pattern that's
15 going to be needed to navigate through the
16 neighborhood at this point in time.

17 And it said that the city engineers
18 do not recommend additional changes. But this
19 is the plan that they had. And they recommend
20 that impacts of a change will be monitored
21 after it's implemented. And if there was
22 additional changes that need to be made, they
23 will recommend those later.

24 And then in looking at some of the
25 old Planning Commission --- not some of the

1 old, but some of the past planning commission
2 and zoning meetings, I did notice that on April
3 22nd, the Planning Commission was meeting.
4 They were going to discuss the complete streets
5 policy that was going to be presented to City
6 Council.

7 So I did ask for a copy since it
8 will be coming in front of us, I asked for
9 Planning Commissions Complete Streets Policy to
10 review. And the answer I got back was that
11 it's being considered as a part of Planning
12 Commission to propose to Council for adoption.

13 It's about making new or renovated
14 street projects more friendly to the
15 environment and that the Planning Commission
16 meeting last week they agreed that they're
17 going to have members of the commission edit
18 the draft before it's sent to Council as a
19 comprehensive plan for general guidance.

20 So I'm curious to see this Complete
21 Street's plan and what the Planning Commission
22 is drafting and hope to see that soon since it
23 will be coming before this body. I did ask
24 questions -- Mr. McAndrew stated about the
25 finance meeting and some of the discussion that

1 was had there.

2 I did notice with our first quarter
3 Controller's Report for the first time in my
4 tenure here, our expenditures exceeded our
5 revenues. So I had asked about that. And I
6 asked if there was any projected the
7 shortfalls.

8 And the first answer that we got
9 back was they're not projecting any shortfalls.
10 But they did make an update that in the March
11 Controller's Report we did exceed -- our
12 expenditures did exceed revenue. But by April,
13 there would be an update and that that was not
14 the case that the city caught up by April.

15 And that as of 4/23, the city
16 collect 1.7 revenue through April and we were
17 not -- there wasn't a shortfall after the month
18 of April. We have some questions that were
19 brought up in Fourth Order about the
20 Unsheltered Task Force, about those homeless
21 outreach initiatives of \$31,000 and hunger
22 initiatives as well as the budget of 15,000
23 that only 8,600 were spent.

24 I know that Mr. Sean McAndrew asked
25 for an itemization of this. But the answer I

1 got back for this question was that the
2 administration works with the Unsheltered Task
3 Force and Hunger Task Force to determine best
4 use of those funds on an annual basis.

5 So it did not really answer the
6 question of why the whole portion of that money
7 was spent. But hopefully we'll get some more
8 of that in those itemizations. We did have
9 some other questions regarding feral cats.

10 And as I said earlier in the
11 meeting, the line item for Animal Control has
12 been raised from '25 to '26 about \$58,000.
13 And we did increase the line item for Street
14 Cats and Dogs, \$5,000, which is an increase all
15 around when it comes to stray animals and
16 feral cats in city.

17 But it's a good opportunity to ask
18 for an update on Street Cats and Dogs, so that
19 was asked. So I'm curious to see the update
20 from them. Other than that, that's all I have
21 for this evening.

22 MR. VOLDENBERG: 5-B. FOR
23 INTRODUCTION - A RESOLUTION - APPOINTMENT OF
24 JOSEPH LOFTUS AS A MEMBER OF THE SCRANTON
25 MUNICIPAL RECREATION AUTHORITY TO REPLACE NORMA

1 JEFFRIES FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE ON JUNE 17, 2029.

2 MR. SCHUSTER: At this time I'll
3 entertain a motion that Item 5-B be introduced
4 into its proper committee.

5 MR. FLYNN: So moved.

6 DR. ROTHCHILD: Second.

7 MR. SCHUSTER: On the question? All
8 those in favor of introduction signify by
9 saying aye.

10 DR. ROTHCHILD: Aye.

11 MR. SEAN MCANDREW: Aye.

12 MR. MARK MCANDREW: Aye.

13 MR. FLYNN: Aye.

14 MR. SCHUSTER: Aye. Opposed? The
15 ayes it and so moved.

16 MR. VOLDENBERG: 5-C. FOR
17 INTRODUCTION - A RESOLUTION - RESOLUTION FOR
18 PLAN REVISION FOR NEW LAND DEVELOPMENT LOCATED
19 AT 1721 N. MAIN AVENUE.

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

23 MR. SEAN MCANDREW: So moved.

24 MR. MARK MCANDREW: So moved.

25 DR. ROTHCHILD: Second.

1 MR. FLYNN: Second.

2 MR. SCHUSTER: On the question? All
3 those in favor of introduction signify by
4 saying aye.

5 DR. ROTHCHILD: Aye.

6 MR. SEAN MCANDREW: Aye.

7 MR. MARK MCANDREW: Aye.

8 MR. FLYNN: Aye.

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

11 MR. VOLDENBERG: SIXTH ORDER. No
12 business at this time.

13 SEVENTH ORDER. 7-A. FOR
14 CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES - FOR
15 ADOPTION - RESOLUTION NO. 42, 2026 - RESOLUTION
16 RECOGNIZING APRIL, 2026 AS "PENNSYLVANIA 811
17 SAFE DIGGING MONTH".

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

21 DR. ROTHCHILD: Second.

22 MR. SCHUSTER: On the question?
23 Roll call, please.

24 MS. CARRERA: Dr. Rothchild.

25 DR. ROTHCHILD: Yes.

1 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Sean McAndrew.

2 MR. SEAN MCANDREW: Yes.

3 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Mark McAndrew.

4 MR. MARK MCANDREW: Yes.

5 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Flynn.

6 MR. FLYNN: Yes.

7 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Schuster.

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

10 MR. VOLDENBERG: 7-B. FOR
11 CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY
12 DEVELOPMENT - FOR ADOPTION - RESOLUTION NO.
13 43, 2026 - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER
14 APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO APPROVE THE
15 EXECUTION AND SUBMISSION OF THE GRANT
16 APPLICATION BY THE CITY OF SCRANTON TO THE
17 PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION &
18 NATURAL RESOURCES FOR UP TO \$175,000.00 IN
19 FUNDS FOR PHASE 2 OF THE ALL-INCLUSIVE
20 PLAYGROUND THAT AIMS TO CREATE AN ACCESSIBLE
21 SPACE THAT SERVES INDIVIDUALS OF ALL AGES AND
22 ABILITIES.

23 MR. SCHUSTER: What is the
24 recommendation of the Chairperson from the
25 Committee on Community Development?

1 MR. SEAN MCANDREW: As Chairperson
2 for the Committee on Community Development, I
3 recommend final passage of Item 7-B.

4 MR. SCHUSTER: On the question?

5 DR. ROTHCHILD: Second.

6 MR. SCHUSTER: On the question?

7 Roll call, please.

8 MS. CARRERA: Dr. Rothchild.

9 DR. ROTHCHILD: Yes.

10 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Sean McAndrew.

11 MR. SEAN MCANDREW: Yes.

12 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Mark McAndrew.

13 MR. MARK MCANDREW: Yes.

14 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Flynn.

15 MR. FLYNN: Yes.

16 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Schuster.

17 MR. SCHUSTER: Yes. I hereby
18 declare Item 7-B legally and lawfully adopted.

19 MR. VOLDENBERG: EIGHTH ORDER. FILE
20 OF THE COUNCIL NO. 7, 2026.

21 MR. SCHUSTER: This ordinance amends
22 provisions to the zoning ordinance for the City
23 of Scranton related to data centers.

24 MR. VOLDENBERG: 8-B. FILE OF THE
25 COUNCIL NO. 8, 2026.

1 MR. SCHUSTER: And this ordinance
2 amends provisions to the zoning ordinance for
3 the City of Scranton related to data centers.
4 And these ordinances have been tabled until a
5 public hearing can be held at a later date.

6 MR. VOLDENBERG: 8-C. File of
7 Council No. 12, 2026.

8 MR. SCHUSTER: This ordinance
9 regulates the sale and/or distribution of
10 kratom or chemically modified derivatives for
11 human consumption or ingestion by minors.

12 MR. VOLDENBERG: 8-D. FILE OF THE
13 COUNCIL NO. 13, 2026.

14 MR. SCHUSTER: And this ordinance
15 regulates]the sale and/or distribution of
16 kratom or chemically modified derivatives for
17 human consumption of ingestion.

18 These ordinances have both been
19 tabled for additional input and information
20 currently in process with both the city and
21 Lackawanna County.

22 If there's no further business, I'll
23 entertain a motion to adjourn.

24 MR. SEAN MCANDREW: Motion to
25 adjourn.

1 MR. SCHUSTER: This meeting is
2 adjourned. Good night.
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C E R T I F I C A T E

I hereby certify that the proceedings and evidence are contained fully and accurately in the notes taken by me of the above-cause and that this copy is a correct transcript of the same to the best of my ability.



Maria McCool, RPR
Official Court Reporter

(The foregoing certificate of this transcript does not apply to any reproduction of the same by any means unless under the direct control and/or supervision of the certifying reporter.)

\$	3	ABILITIES ^[1] - 58:22 ability ^[2] - 19:24, 62:7 able ^[4] - 21:20, 21:23, 22:22, 34:15 abound ^[1] - 10:10 above-cause ^[1] - 62:5 absolute ^[1] - 47:4 accept ^[1] - 41:13 access ^[3] - 29:22, 43:17, 44:19 ACCESSIBLE ^[1] - 58:20 accomplish ^[1] - 16:24 accountability ^[1] - 37:9 accountable ^[3] - 14:15, 38:6, 38:8 accurately ^[1] - 62:4 achieving ^[1] - 5:10 action ^[1] - 36:22 actions ^[1] - 14:15 active ^[1] - 12:3 activity ^[1] - 12:22 acts ^[1] - 13:9 actual ^[1] - 40:17 adding ^[1] - 51:4 additional ^[3] - 52:18, 52:22, 60:19 address ^[10] - 13:10, 14:25, 15:1, 15:4, 16:12, 25:18, 29:7, 38:15, 39:3, 40:17 addressed ^[3] - 32:15, 36:16, 39:19 adjourn ^[2] - 60:23, 60:25 adjourned ^[1] - 61:2 administration ^[11] - 12:11, 13:19, 13:25, 14:25, 36:14, 36:24, 39:24, 45:23, 48:21, 49:3, 55:2 administrations ^[1] - 4:16 adopted ^[2] - 58:9, 59:18 adoption ^[1] - 53:12 ADOPTION ^[2] - 57:15, 58:12 affect ^[1] - 22:7 afternoon ^[1] - 23:8 AGES ^[1] - 58:21 ago ^[7] - 8:3, 12:12, 22:15, 23:7, 24:20, 25:8, 37:14 agreed ^[1] - 53:16 agreement ^[1] - 37:15 ahead ^[1] - 31:12	AIMS ^[1] - 58:20 alarm ^[3] - 45:5, 45:7, 45:9 alarming ^[1] - 14:12 alignment ^[1] - 33:25 ALL ^[2] - 58:19, 58:21 ALL-INCLUSIVE ^[1] - 58:19 Allegiance ^[1] - 3:1 allocate ^[1] - 44:6 allocated ^[4] - 30:7, 30:16, 31:2, 33:25 allow ^[1] - 13:9 allowed ^[2] - 31:11, 48:1 allowing ^[1] - 14:1 almost ^[1] - 10:9 alone ^[1] - 36:21 aluminum ^[1] - 28:6 amazing ^[1] - 11:22 ambulance ^[7] - 22:20, 22:21, 35:2, 35:20, 36:23, 41:14, 41:22 ambulances ^[9] - 22:22, 29:22, 30:1, 30:2, 35:16, 36:7, 36:18, 37:17, 38:4 Amendment ^[1] - 16:9 Amendolario ^[1] - 8:10 amends ^[2] - 59:21, 60:2 America ^[2] - 25:22, 25:25 amount ^[1] - 46:6 AN ^[1] - 58:20 AND ^[4] - 7:12, 58:13, 58:15, 58:21 Animal ^[3] - 20:11, 20:12, 55:11 animals ^[2] - 19:3, 55:15 ann ^[1] - 40:20 Ann ^[5] - 3:20, 5:22, 6:3, 6:12, 6:24 ANNE ^[1] - 3:25 Anne ^[8] - 4:3, 4:6, 4:10, 4:14, 4:18, 4:22, 5:3, 5:9 anniversary ^[1] - 25:21 announcements ^[2] - 7:17, 7:18 announcing ^[1] - 28:10 annual ^[1] - 55:4 answer ^[9] - 19:21, 19:22, 36:1, 38:3, 38:12, 53:10, 54:8, 54:25, 55:5	answers ^[7] - 14:7, 16:7, 17:20, 38:1, 45:22, 49:13, 52:12 anytime ^[1] - 45:4 apartment ^[3] - 7:4, 7:6, 52:10 app ^[1] - 8:22 APPLICATION ^[1] - 58:16 apply ^[1] - 62:22 APPOINTMENT ^[1] - 55:23 appreciate ^[3] - 16:15, 19:18, 43:3 APPROPRIATE ^[1] - 58:14 approve ^[1] - 52:6 APPROVE ^[1] - 58:14 approved ^[1] - 32:11 APRIL ^[2] - 7:13, 57:16 April ^[7] - 1:7, 5:8, 53:2, 54:12, 54:14, 54:16, 54:18 area ^[7] - 10:15, 24:14, 32:2, 32:5, 32:18, 32:23 arrange ^[1] - 42:14 arrests ^[1] - 12:13 arrival ^[1] - 12:11 arriving ^[1] - 45:6 article ^[2] - 8:10, 36:4 AS ^[2] - 55:24, 57:16 Ash ^[1] - 20:19 assault ^[2] - 26:7, 26:9 ASSISTANT ^[1] - 2:9 Associates ^[2] - 35:16, 35:18 Association ^[1] - 28:14 AT ^[1] - 56:19 attachment ^[1] - 51:23 attended ^[1] - 4:11 attention ^[2] - 16:5, 46:10 Attorney ^[1] - 35:5 ATTY ^[1] - 49:14 auditor ^[1] - 4:15 Aug ^[2] - 15:24, 46:2 aunt ^[1] - 6:23 Aunt ^[1] - 6:25 authority ^[4] - 48:18, 48:24, 48:25, 49:5 AUTHORITY ^[1] - 55:25 authorized ^[1] - 48:17 AUTHORIZING ^[1] - 58:13 available ^[2] - 33:25,
'	4			
'25 ^[3] - 20:13, 20:15, 55:12 '26 ^[3] - 20:13, 20:15, 55:12	4/23 ^[1] - 54:15 40 ^[2] - 5:2, 16:18 42 ^[1] - 57:15 43 ^[1] - 58:13 4th ^[1] - 25:22			
1	5			
1.7 ^[1] - 54:16 10 ^[1] - 24:20 100 ^[2] - 17:23, 31:2 108 ^[1] - 40:5 1100 ^[1] - 40:19 12 ^[1] - 60:7 13 ^[1] - 60:13 135 ^[1] - 34:6 14 ^[1] - 17:24 15,000 ^[1] - 54:22 1610 ^[1] - 33:19 17 ^[1] - 56:1 1721 ^[1] - 56:19 18 ^[2] - 21:22, 22:12 1949 ^[1] - 4:11 1972 ^[1] - 4:20 1974 ^[1] - 4:25 1998 ^[1] - 4:25	5 ^[1] - 28:22 5,000 ^[1] - 20:16 5-A ^[1] - 33:10 5-B ^[2] - 55:22, 56:3 5-C ^[2] - 56:16, 56:21 500 ^[2] - 8:13, 9:18 52 ^[1] - 45:3 5:30 ^[1] - 9:7			
	6			
	6 ^[2] - 43:11, 43:23 6th ^[1] - 15:18			
	7			
	7 ^[2] - 43:15, 59:20 7-A ^[3] - 57:13, 57:20, 58:9 7-B ^[3] - 58:10, 59:3, 59:18			
2	8			
2 ^[3] - 12:2, 32:3, 58:19 200 ^[3] - 24:12, 25:5, 25:13 2012 ^[2] - 10:6, 27:14 2024 ^[1] - 36:4 2026 ^[10] - 1:7, 5:8, 7:13, 57:15, 57:16, 58:13, 59:20, 59:25, 60:7, 60:13 2027 ^[1] - 40:1 2029 ^[1] - 56:1 20TH ^[1] - 7:13 22nd ^[1] - 53:3 24 ^[1] - 6:14 24/7 ^[2] - 6:4, 30:1 250th ^[1] - 25:21 28 ^[1] - 5:8 28th ^[1] - 1:7	8 ^[2] - 44:1, 59:25 8,600 ^[1] - 54:23 8-B ^[1] - 59:24 8-C ^[1] - 60:6 8-D ^[1] - 60:12 811 ^[1] - 57:16			
	9			
	911 ^[2] - 36:9, 37:10			
	A			
	a.m ^[2] - 43:11, 43:15 abandoned ^[1] - 15:25			

48:5 Avenue^[5] - 32:1, 32:16, 34:7, 40:6, 50:15 AVENUE^[1] - 56:19 awake^[1] - 28:3 awesome^[1] - 38:19 awhile^[1] - 22:15 aye^[2] - 56:9, 57:4 Aye^[10] - 56:10, 56:11, 56:12, 56:13, 56:14, 57:5, 57:6, 57:7, 57:8, 57:9 ayes^[2] - 56:15, 57:10	big^[3] - 8:16, 10:14, 28:4 bigger^[1] - 37:20 bill^[1] - 27:4 Bill^[1] - 28:16 bills^[1] - 46:17 births^[1] - 6:17 bit^[1] - 40:1 blame^[1] - 13:23 blind^[1] - 6:1 block^[10] - 8:14, 9:11, 9:18, 9:21, 13:18, 32:1, 32:3, 32:5, 40:19 Blue^[1] - 45:11 boards^[1] - 18:10 body^[1] - 53:23 bolt^[1] - 29:23 book^[2] - 31:6 books^[5] - 31:8, 31:13, 31:14, 31:21, 32:18 booster^[1] - 47:15 borders^[1] - 27:10 born^[1] - 4:4 bothering^[1] - 11:1 bothers^[1] - 27:23 bottom^[1] - 21:9 Boutique^[1] - 8:11 boutique^[1] - 8:12 breakfast^[1] - 6:5 Bridge^[1] - 23:3 bridge^[1] - 23:9 bridges^[1] - 17:24 briefly^[1] - 49:21 bring^[1] - 40:19 bringing^[1] - 18:24 British^[1] - 26:12 brothers^[1] - 5:15 brought^[9] - 11:20, 16:4, 24:10, 33:16, 37:4, 42:21, 46:10, 50:13, 54:19 budget^[6] - 20:3, 20:4, 30:10, 38:23, 39:25, 54:22 building^[9] - 14:19, 20:19, 32:4, 40:10, 45:4, 45:12, 48:21, 52:10 buildings^[1] - 30:4 bullets^[1] - 49:12 bumped^[1] - 21:7 bunch^[1] - 25:9 burden^[1] - 17:13 bushes^[1] - 45:1 business^[6] - 10:14, 14:11, 14:18, 19:10, 57:12, 60:22	businesses^[1] - 10:20 buy^[1] - 19:17 BY^[3] - 57:14, 58:11, 58:16	certify^[1] - 62:3 certifying^[1] - 62:24 Chair^[2] - 35:8, 35:12 Chairperson^[3] - 57:18, 58:24, 59:1 CHAMBERS^[1] - 1:12 change^[9] - 11:23, 12:18, 17:7, 19:14, 33:6, 39:7, 50:14, 51:2, 52:20 changed^[1] - 41:23 changes^[3] - 51:12, 52:18, 52:22 changing^[2] - 11:21, 51:17 channel^[1] - 16:3 charge^[3] - 22:3, 48:20, 48:22 charter^[1] - 36:11 Charter^[1] - 36:15 check^[1] - 40:14 checklist^[2] - 42:24, 43:9 checks^[1] - 45:4 cheering^[1] - 18:3 chemically^[2] - 60:10, 60:16 chewed^[1] - 28:2 Chief^[8] - 22:14, 35:9, 35:24, 36:5, 38:11, 38:14, 41:14, 42:6 child^[1] - 12:3 children^[3] - 4:4, 6:16, 34:14 chime^[1] - 20:10 choose^[1] - 15:6 chopper^[1] - 12:17 chose^[2] - 11:15, 13:5 church^[6] - 32:10, 51:1, 51:5, 51:7, 51:13, 51:16 citizens^[2] - 15:20, 47:4 city^[40] - 5:3, 7:25, 10:22, 11:19, 12:16, 15:24, 16:1, 16:6, 16:18, 17:2, 17:10, 17:11, 17:23, 17:25, 18:2, 19:15, 20:5, 21:1, 31:23, 35:2, 35:14, 35:17, 36:8, 36:17, 37:5, 39:1, 39:2, 39:20, 44:21, 46:14, 47:3, 47:20, 50:22, 51:10, 51:20, 52:17, 54:14, 54:15, 55:16, 60:20 City^[17] - 4:15, 4:19, 5:8, 9:13, 15:17, 15:19, 16:5, 19:7,	27:21, 50:17, 50:18, 50:20, 51:3, 52:5, 53:5, 59:22, 60:3 CITY^[6] - 1:1, 2:8, 2:9, 3:24, 58:14, 58:16 city's^[1] - 36:10 Claire^[1] - 4:4 cleaning^[1] - 45:6 clear^[1] - 48:24 clearance^[1] - 17:25 clearer^[1] - 29:3 CLERK^[2] - 2:8, 2:9 closed^[3] - 30:2, 43:18, 44:15 closure^[2] - 12:2, 12:7 clueless^[1] - 14:4 Cochair^[2] - 35:8, 35:12 code^[6] - 40:13, 40:20, 47:1, 48:3, 48:7, 49:10 Code^[1] - 45:11 Cognetti^[4] - 7:23, 13:4, 14:5, 36:13 collaborative^[1] - 49:25 collect^[1] - 54:16 collected^[1] - 13:21 collectively^[1] - 5:19 college^[2] - 6:19, 24:18 College^[1] - 4:12 colleges^[1] - 18:9 coming^[8] - 16:19, 22:16, 25:20, 32:20, 42:10, 44:2, 53:8, 53:23 comments^[6] - 7:15, 33:13, 34:22, 41:11, 49:18, 50:7 Commission^[6] - 52:6, 52:25, 53:3, 53:12, 53:15, 53:21 COMMISSION^[1] - 7:12 commission^[2] - 53:1, 53:17 Commissioners^[1] - 11:4 commissioning^[1] - 37:3 Commissions^[1] - 53:9 Committee^[9] - 4:20, 4:21, 27:1, 28:17, 28:19, 35:9, 57:19, 58:25, 59:2 committee^[2] - 56:4, 56:22
B backed^[1] - 23:10 backyard^[2] - 24:9, 24:16 ball^[1] - 50:9 Bar^[1] - 28:13 barely^[2] - 21:20, 22:10 barium^[1] - 28:6 barriers^[1] - 44:22 basis^[1] - 55:4 basketball^[1] - 29:19 BE^[1] - 5:7 Beach^[1] - 43:12 beautiful^[1] - 23:4 became^[1] - 52:7 become^[4] - 15:3, 15:6, 15:8, 32:25 becomes^[1] - 27:7 bed^[1] - 6:7 beforehand^[2] - 31:13, 31:15 began^[1] - 5:25 beginning^[2] - 26:8, 38:25 behalf^[2] - 5:20, 15:19 behavior^[1] - 47:10 believes^[1] - 8:18 Bellevue^[1] - 4:7 belong^[1] - 34:12 below^[1] - 33:23 benefit^[4] - 15:16, 15:21, 46:19, 48:11 bent^[1] - 27:9 best^[5] - 15:7, 18:19, 47:13, 55:3, 62:6 better^[6] - 15:6, 18:7, 22:9, 37:11, 37:22, 41:19 beyond^[3] - 14:13, 17:14, 33:4 Biden^[4] - 8:13, 18:14, 27:9, 27:12	C calendar^[1] - 42:10 Cameron^[1] - 34:7 campaign^[1] - 30:25 Campus^[1] - 43:12 cancer^[2] - 28:7, 28:9 cannot^[4] - 32:23, 36:17, 43:21, 44:15 capacity^[1] - 20:20 car^[2] - 9:7, 22:10 cards^[3] - 30:23, 45:19, 45:24 care^[9] - 6:3, 7:3, 29:4, 30:9, 30:14, 30:20, 34:13, 34:16, 40:22 CARRERA^[16] - 2:9, 3:8, 3:10, 3:12, 3:14, 3:16, 57:24, 58:1, 58:3, 58:5, 58:7, 59:8, 59:10, 59:12, 59:14, 59:16 Carrera^[1] - 3:7 cars^[5] - 8:22, 9:5, 43:21, 44:15, 44:22 case^[2] - 48:12, 54:14 cases^[2] - 34:1, 45:13 cat^[1] - 15:23 Catholic^[1] - 5:4 Cats^[5] - 20:5, 20:14, 20:18, 55:14, 55:18 cats^[3] - 15:25, 55:9, 55:16 caucus^[5] - 37:14, 38:15, 41:20, 41:25, 42:10 caucuses^[2] - 41:2, 41:3 caught^[2] - 46:20, 54:14 caused^[1] - 11:22 causing^[1] - 12:21 caveat^[1] - 27:24 Cedar^[4] - 32:1, 32:16, 50:15, 51:15 celebrated^[1] - 5:4 center^[1] - 19:16 Center^[1] - 36:9 centers^[6] - 24:6, 25:5, 31:4, 31:11, 59:23, 60:3 certain^[2] - 26:2, 26:5 certificate^[1] - 62:21			

COMMITTEE [2] - 57:14, 58:11
common [1] - 47:7
community [2] - 3:7, 30:21
COMMUNITY [1] - 58:11
Community [2] - 58:25, 59:2
company [2] - 35:19, 37:12
compassionate [1] - 5:23
complaining [1] - 24:13
complaints [1] - 42:18
Complete [2] - 53:9, 53:20
complete [3] - 13:25, 16:2, 53:4
completely [1] - 27:11
complicated [1] - 37:8
component [1] - 16:2
comprehensive [1] - 53:19
concern [2] - 13:10, 39:4
concerned [1] - 34:13
concerning [1] - 50:14
concerns [16] - 10:2, 10:17, 11:18, 11:21, 13:7, 14:23, 15:1, 15:3, 15:11, 35:4, 35:7, 35:22, 37:1, 38:15, 40:4, 42:1
condition [1] - 13:16
conditions [1] - 13:21
conduct [1] - 19:10
confirm [1] - 20:6
confirmation [1] - 33:20
confirmations [1] - 6:18
cons [1] - 41:21
CONSERVATION [1] - 58:17
consideration [1] - 10:24
CONSIDERATION [2] - 57:14, 58:11
considered [1] - 53:11
consonance [1] - 47:8
constantly [1] - 42:17
Constitution [1] - 26:7
consultant [1] - 35:19
consultation [1] - 12:20
consulting [1] - 49:5
consumed [1] - 17:11
consumption [2] -

60:11, 60:17
contact [1] - 34:7
contacted [1] - 34:6
contained [1] - 62:4
continue [3] - 12:25, 13:8, 34:2
continues [3] - 36:25, 50:2, 50:10
continuing [2] - 7:3, 50:4
continuously [1] - 14:2
contract [1] - 38:2
control [2] - 17:14, 62:23
Control [3] - 20:11, 20:12, 55:11
Controller's [3] - 4:15, 54:3, 54:11
conversations [3] - 49:21, 49:24, 50:3
coordinators [1] - 34:2
copy [2] - 53:7, 62:5
corner [1] - 22:17
Corolla [1] - 21:20
correct [3] - 12:7, 15:10, 62:6
cost [3] - 37:15, 37:24, 39:10
costly [2] - 14:3, 14:5
COUNCIL [7] - 1:1, 1:12, 2:10, 3:23, 59:20, 59:25, 60:13
Council [34] - 5:9, 7:16, 9:13, 11:10, 11:11, 12:5, 12:20, 13:9, 14:6, 14:9, 14:12, 14:22, 15:11, 15:15, 15:17, 15:19, 16:5, 16:17, 19:8, 20:12, 21:1, 25:18, 25:20, 27:21, 29:7, 29:8, 32:12, 35:23, 40:18, 42:3, 53:6, 53:12, 53:18, 60:7
council [2] - 16:8, 16:19
Councilman [2] - 35:5, 41:16
councils [2] - 15:6, 37:5
Councilwoman [1] - 38:21
countries [1] - 19:1
country [6] - 18:8, 18:12, 18:20, 18:22, 27:8, 27:9
counts [2] - 22:15, 22:25

COUNTY [1] - 7:11
county [6] - 5:3, 24:11, 24:12, 24:14, 25:6, 25:10
County [4] - 4:2, 4:23, 36:9, 60:21
couple [15] - 9:23, 16:13, 17:14, 21:4, 23:6, 25:6, 33:15, 41:12, 41:23, 42:20, 45:1, 45:20, 45:21, 47:21, 47:22
course [1] - 18:25
court [1] - 29:19
Court [2] - 1:24, 62:11
courthouse [1] - 26:16
courts [5] - 46:1, 46:11, 46:25, 48:6, 48:12
cover [1] - 39:10
Covid [3] - 28:8, 43:7, 48:9
COYNE [1] - 29:8
coyne [2] - 45:18, 45:23
Coyne [1] - 29:9
craft [2] - 15:19, 49:11
create [1] - 11:6
CREATE [1] - 58:20
created [4] - 17:12, 18:18, 18:19, 26:1
Creator [1] - 26:2
crime [1] - 13:8
Cross [1] - 4:8
crosswalk [1] - 32:12
Crowley [1] - 43:10
curious [2] - 53:20, 55:19
customer [1] - 9:10
customers [1] - 9:3
cut [5] - 13:18, 33:4, 46:17, 51:1, 51:5
cuts [2] - 13:13, 13:14
cutters [1] - 29:23

D

dad's [1] - 5:25
daily [2] - 9:3, 47:3
dais [1] - 3:21
damages [1] - 14:5
data [6] - 24:6, 25:5, 31:4, 31:11, 59:23, 60:3
date [1] - 60:5
daughters [1] - 24:19
Davis [1] - 32:11
days [2] - 16:11, 21:4
deaf [1] - 12:1

deaths [3] - 12:1, 12:7, 12:10
decay [2] - 17:3, 18:11
decided [3] - 48:25, 49:3, 52:4
decision [1] - 48:15
decisions [1] - 48:23
Declaration [2] - 25:22, 26:6
declare [2] - 58:9, 59:18
decline [1] - 19:4
decorative [1] - 21:10
dedicated [3] - 35:2, 36:22, 37:17
Deeds [1] - 4:25
defined [1] - 37:6
definitely [1] - 36:17
delays [1] - 37:7
deliver [1] - 13:13
demand [2] - 14:7, 36:21
demo [1] - 34:4
democracy [2] - 28:21
Democratic [3] - 4:19, 4:21, 18:16
demolition [3] - 33:18, 33:22, 34:1
denial [1] - 13:6
department [5] - 11:24, 12:19, 37:20, 37:23, 39:21
DEPARTMENT [1] - 58:17
Department [4] - 12:10, 43:13, 45:2, 51:21
depressed [1] - 24:15
derivatives [2] - 60:10, 60:16
deserve [2] - 15:7, 37:11
designed [2] - 17:9, 22:8
desirous [1] - 3:24
destroying [1] - 27:9
details [6] - 46:8, 47:24, 47:25, 48:13, 49:7
determine [1] - 55:3
detour [1] - 22:24
development [1] - 52:9
Development [2] - 58:25, 59:2
DEVELOPMENT [3] - 7:12, 56:18, 58:12
difference [1] - 12:22
different [1] - 46:18
difficulty [1] - 30:18

DIGGING [1] - 57:17
digging [1] - 10:9
dinner [1] - 6:7
direct [1] - 62:23
Directing [1] - 14:12
direction [2] - 32:24, 50:9
directions [1] - 23:11
directly [1] - 32:3
Director [4] - 13:24, 14:8, 14:11, 49:4
director [3] - 44:2, 44:5
discuss [5] - 22:2, 37:1, 39:24, 51:11, 53:4
discussed [2] - 50:23, 51:12
discussing [1] - 39:25
discussion [4] - 37:4, 41:24, 50:11, 53:25
discussions [2] - 15:4, 51:6
disintegrating [1] - 18:8
dispense [1] - 7:8
distributed [1] - 30:17
distribution [2] - 60:9, 60:15
disturbing [1] - 26:25
dog [1] - 21:7
Dogs [4] - 20:14, 20:18, 55:14, 55:18
dollars [4] - 13:22, 17:15, 39:9, 48:10
done [7] - 23:16, 23:20, 24:4, 25:4, 32:9, 39:3, 39:13
Dorothy [4] - 21:3, 21:24, 22:13, 22:17
down [9] - 9:12, 22:1, 22:16, 22:19, 25:10, 33:1, 33:4, 38:16, 40:5
downed [1] - 34:6
downtown [10] - 8:22, 9:6, 10:1, 10:7, 10:9, 10:13, 10:15, 10:20, 10:21, 19:16
DPW [2] - 13:24, 14:1
Dr [4] - 3:8, 5:14, 33:12, 34:17
dr [2] - 57:24, 59:8
DR [12] - 3:9, 3:23, 33:14, 34:18, 56:6, 56:10, 56:25, 57:5, 57:21, 57:25, 59:5, 59:9
draft [1] - 53:18
drafting [1] - 53:22

dressed [1] - 6:5 drive [5] - 9:11, 10:5, 10:13, 23:5, 44:15 driven [1] - 10:6 driving [2] - 9:4, 44:23 drugs [1] - 13:2 Dry [1] - 4:13 due [1] - 10:24 During [1] - 44:1 during [8] - 14:11, 30:25, 43:15, 43:17, 43:18, 43:25, 51:16, 52:8 dusk [3] - 43:11, 43:14, 43:23 duty [2] - 36:8, 36:18	Engineer [3] - 50:17, 50:18, 50:20 Engineers [1] - 51:4 engineers [2] - 51:11, 52:17 enhancement [1] - 17:22 enhancing [1] - 15:23 ensure [1] - 33:24 entertain [5] - 37:19, 42:13, 56:3, 56:21, 60:23 entity [2] - 46:12, 48:19 environment [1] - 53:15 equal [3] - 17:15, 26:1, 47:4 equipment [1] - 32:13 equivalent [1] - 32:9 especially [1] - 42:19 ESQ [1] - 2:10 established [1] - 26:6 etc [1] - 45:10 Euclid [2] - 21:9, 21:17 Europe [1] - 19:4 evaluate [1] - 31:24 EVALUATION [1] - 7:13 evening [7] - 11:11, 15:11, 15:15, 20:25, 29:8, 44:18, 55:21 event [1] - 44:4 events [1] - 51:16 everywhere [2] - 10:10, 31:15 evidence [2] - 27:11, 62:4 evident [1] - 26:1 evidently [2] - 30:1, 30:3 exactly [1] - 17:10 example [1] - 24:19 exceed [2] - 54:11, 54:12 exceeded [1] - 54:4 exception [2] - 31:12, 31:22 excuse [5] - 13:19, 17:4, 17:19, 17:20 EXECUTION [1] - 58:15 existing [1] - 33:5 expect [1] - 19:22 expenditures [2] - 54:4, 54:12 expenses [1] - 39:15 experience [1] - 14:2 EXPIRE [1] - 56:1	express [1] - 10:17 expressed [1] - 10:1 extended [1] - 5:5 extremely [1] - 33:1 eyes [1] - 44:12 F facility [3] - 6:11, 7:3, 30:2 fact [1] - 37:25 failure [1] - 13:25 family [6] - 3:20, 5:5, 6:14, 6:22, 24:21, 25:1 Farr [1] - 21:15 Father [1] - 51:13 favor [2] - 56:8, 57:3 favorite [1] - 23:2 federal [1] - 48:10 fee [2] - 26:23 feedback [1] - 45:16 fell [1] - 11:25 fentanyl [1] - 12:14 feral [4] - 15:23, 15:25, 55:9, 55:16 fest [1] - 18:2 few [6] - 8:3, 23:7, 24:13, 34:24, 35:20, 37:14 fewer [1] - 43:18 field [2] - 44:20, 44:23 Field [5] - 29:16, 29:20, 29:25, 44:14, 45:4 fields [1] - 44:18 FIFTH [1] - 33:10 fighting [1] - 26:10 FILE [3] - 59:19, 59:24, 60:12 File [1] - 60:6 filed [1] - 7:16 final [2] - 57:19, 59:3 finally [2] - 11:5, 45:22 finance [3] - 38:20, 39:21, 53:25 finances [1] - 39:12 financially [1] - 48:11 Finch [2] - 35:16, 35:18 fine [1] - 25:14 Fines [1] - 13:17 fire [6] - 21:21, 22:13, 22:16, 37:20, 37:23, 45:9 Fire [3] - 22:14, 38:14, 42:5 first [11] - 4:22, 7:20, 14:8, 15:22, 25:24, 29:9, 33:15, 34:7,	54:2, 54:3, 54:8 First [2] - 13:14, 16:9 fit [3] - 21:20, 21:22, 21:23 fitting [1] - 42:9 five [4] - 22:7, 39:1, 39:12, 39:22 five-year-old [1] - 22:7 fix [2] - 6:5, 13:6 fixed [2] - 6:5, 6:7 Flooding [1] - 17:23 flyer [1] - 28:10 Flynn [3] - 3:14, 5:14, 49:18 flynn [2] - 58:5, 59:14 FLYNN [9] - 2:3, 3:15, 49:20, 56:5, 56:13, 57:1, 57:8, 58:6, 59:15 focus [1] - 12:6 focused [1] - 15:3 focuses [1] - 12:5 folks [1] - 6:11 follow [1] - 49:10 followed [1] - 35:11 foot [4] - 17:24, 31:17, 31:18, 43:20 FOR [12] - 1:1, 55:22, 56:1, 56:16, 56:17, 56:18, 57:13, 57:14, 58:10, 58:12, 58:18, 58:19 Force [5] - 30:11, 30:19, 54:20, 55:3 force [1] - 17:17 forces [2] - 28:4, 28:5 foregoing [1] - 62:21 forever [1] - 26:24 forgotten [1] - 11:3 form [1] - 41:25 formal [1] - 49:5 forthcoming [1] - 49:7 forum [1] - 10:16 forward [6] - 31:23, 37:6, 49:25, 50:3, 50:9, 50:13 four [2] - 9:11, 45:13 Fourth [2] - 7:19, 54:19 framed [1] - 7:5 FRANK [1] - 2:8 Frank [4] - 4:4, 38:16, 40:5, 41:3 frankly [1] - 37:2 fraud [1] - 18:19 Frederickson [1] - 28:18 free [4] - 8:24, 9:20, 31:8, 38:2	Friday [3] - 9:7, 22:17, 23:4 friendly [1] - 53:14 friends [1] - 7:6 front [6] - 3:21, 8:25, 12:14, 29:20, 53:8 frustrated [1] - 14:22 fully [1] - 62:4 fun [1] - 18:2 functioning [1] - 18:11 fund [1] - 15:23 funding [3] - 20:5, 30:6, 33:25 fundraise [1] - 46:16 fundraisers [1] - 47:16 FUNDS [1] - 58:19 funds [1] - 55:4 funeral [2] - 51:9, 51:11 future [4] - 5:11, 8:6, 18:21, 41:2 G game [1] - 10:7 gangs [1] - 13:2 gate [2] - 29:25, 43:18 gates [3] - 44:14, 44:16 gateway [1] - 31:17 Gaughan [1] - 28:16 geared [1] - 28:20 general [1] - 53:19 generations [1] - 5:11 Gerrity [2] - 30:23, 45:19 gift [3] - 30:23, 45:19, 45:24 Gilbride [2] - 35:6, 47:20 GILBRIDE [2] - 2:10, 49:14 given [5] - 10:23, 20:15, 36:6, 36:19, 47:5 glad [2] - 44:12, 45:15 globalist [1] - 28:5 Goods [1] - 4:13 Google [1] - 29:1 government [7] - 16:3, 16:10, 16:21, 19:5, 26:6, 26:20 gracious [2] - 41:13, 42:7 graduated [2] - 4:10, 24:19 graduations [2] - 6:19 grandchildren [1] - 24:23
--	--	---	--	---

granddaughter ^[1] - 22:8 GRANT ^[1] - 58:15 grant ^[1] - 17:5 grass ^[1] - 46:17 great ^[3] - 27:17, 38:8, 47:15 Green ^[1] - 23:3 groceries ^[1] - 19:17 group ^[1] - 16:25 grow ^[1] - 45:1 Grudis ^[1] - 9:22 guess ^[4] - 23:18, 30:22, 32:12, 48:8 guidance ^[1] - 53:19 guns ^[1] - 26:12 guys ^[3] - 5:15, 42:5, 48:8	hit ^[1] - 30:25 Hodowanitz ^[2] - 7:20, 7:21 HODOWANITZ ^[1] - 7:21 hold ^[3] - 25:25, 38:5, 38:8 hollow ^[1] - 19:23 Holy ^[1] - 4:8 home ^[3] - 6:3, 6:6, 9:6 homeless ^[5] - 30:5, 30:7, 30:13, 30:20, 54:20 homelessness ^[1] - 17:21 homeowner ^[1] - 21:2 honest ^[1] - 46:4 honor ^[1] - 5:9 honoring ^[1] - 3:24 hope ^[4] - 44:25, 45:17, 48:12, 53:22 hopefully ^[4] - 29:11, 38:24, 39:22, 55:7 hoping ^[1] - 43:24 hours ^[3] - 14:11, 23:6, 43:20 house ^[2] - 40:17, 40:19 housed ^[1] - 30:8 human ^[2] - 60:11, 60:17 hunger ^[1] - 54:21 Hunger ^[1] - 55:3 hungry ^[1] - 30:20	incidents ^[4] - 12:25, 13:4, 45:3, 45:10 included ^[1] - 33:21 including ^[2] - 45:5, 52:1 inclusion ^[1] - 34:4 INCLUSIVE ^[1] - 58:19 increase ^[4] - 20:14, 20:15, 55:13, 55:14 increases ^[1] - 40:3 Independence ^[1] - 25:23 independently ^[1] - 7:4 individual ^[3] - 44:7, 46:7, 48:2 individually ^[1] - 5:18 individuals ^[2] - 12:13, 45:11 INDIVIDUALS ^[1] - 58:21 information ^[5] - 25:11, 45:3, 45:14, 45:16, 60:19 informed ^[1] - 42:1 infrastructure ^[1] - 13:11 ingestion ^[2] - 60:11, 60:17 initiatives ^[2] - 54:21, 54:22 ink ^[1] - 17:7 input ^[1] - 60:19 inquired ^[2] - 42:17, 45:21 inquiring ^[1] - 49:12 Instead ^[1] - 13:18 instead ^[5] - 14:1, 36:24, 42:2, 42:11, 42:13 institutions ^[2] - 26:13, 26:15 intentionally ^[1] - 33:3 interesting ^[2] - 8:10, 8:15 internet ^[1] - 27:1 introduced ^[2] - 56:3, 56:21 INTRODUCTION ^[2] - 55:23, 56:17 introduction ^[2] - 56:8, 57:3 investigate ^[1] - 34:3 investment ^[1] - 18:1 invitation ^[2] - 41:14, 42:8 invite ^[1] - 42:12 involving ^[1] - 12:13 Irish ^[1] - 5:4 isolated ^[2] - 12:24,	13:4 issue ^[8] - 10:14, 12:8, 23:14, 30:7, 39:6, 42:20, 51:17, 52:8 issues ^[5] - 10:4, 10:22, 13:7, 14:22, 14:25 IT ^[3] - 5:7, 14:8, 14:11 Item ^[6] - 56:3, 56:21, 57:20, 58:9, 59:3, 59:18 item ^[3] - 20:13, 55:11, 55:13 itemization ^[1] - 54:25 itemizations ^[1] - 55:8 items ^[2] - 7:15, 40:8 itself ^[1] - 32:10 Ivy ^[1] - 18:9	L lack ^[1] - 19:24 Lackawanna ^[5] - 4:2, 4:12, 4:23, 36:9, 60:21 LACKAWANNA ^[1] - 7:11 land ^[1] - 52:8 LAND ^[2] - 7:12, 56:18 large ^[1] - 32:24 last ^[15] - 14:10, 21:2, 21:5, 30:6, 30:10, 32:12, 33:17, 34:25, 35:1, 35:20, 39:3, 42:22, 45:3, 50:13, 53:16 late ^[2] - 4:4, 4:16 law ^[5] - 17:12, 25:24, 27:7, 29:2, 46:21 Law ^[1] - 51:21 lawfully ^[2] - 58:9, 59:18 laws ^[1] - 28:24 lawyer ^[2] - 26:22, 28:18 leaf ^[1] - 28:1 league ^[2] - 46:13, 47:11 League ^[1] - 18:9 leagues ^[4] - 46:13, 46:19, 47:18, 48:2 least ^[3] - 31:13, 31:20, 31:22 leave ^[1] - 44:3 leaving ^[1] - 9:23 Lee ^[2] - 15:14, 15:16 left ^[3] - 6:6, 13:15, 18:23 legally ^[3] - 6:1, 58:9, 59:18 legislate ^[1] - 31:16 legislated ^[1] - 32:17 legislation ^[3] - 15:19, 23:21, 49:23 legislature ^[1] - 17:8 legitimate ^[1] - 11:17 Les ^[2] - 20:1, 21:1 levied ^[1] - 13:17 liberty ^[1] - 26:4 life ^[4] - 6:25, 8:4, 10:12, 26:4 lifelong ^[1] - 4:6 light ^[1] - 32:8 lights ^[1] - 32:13 line ^[3] - 20:12, 55:11, 55:13 list ^[3] - 11:4, 33:18, 33:22
H Hall ^[1] - 19:7 halls ^[1] - 19:11 handout ^[1] - 30:24 hands ^[1] - 10:13 Hanlon ^[1] - 4:17 happiness ^[1] - 26:4 happy ^[2] - 49:24, 50:2 hard ^[2] - 39:20, 44:24 hashing ^[1] - 41:20 hazard ^[1] - 40:12 hazardous ^[1] - 33:1 head ^[1] - 28:16 health ^[1] - 27:22 hear ^[1] - 19:13 heard ^[2] - 10:23, 31:1 hearing ^[5] - 6:2, 14:9, 46:22, 47:17, 60:5 held ^[1] - 60:5 HELD ^[1] - 1:4 hell ^[2] - 26:15, 27:9 Hello ^[1] - 25:19 help ^[3] - 15:5, 17:8, 37:10 helps ^[1] - 33:24 hereby ^[3] - 58:8, 59:17, 62:3 heritage ^[1] - 5:4 herself ^[1] - 6:6 hide ^[1] - 26:14 high ^[1] - 6:18 High ^[1] - 4:11 highest ^[1] - 34:1 hills ^[1] - 32:25 himself ^[1] - 18:18 hinder ^[1] - 15:5 hiring ^[1] - 13:25 history ^[2] - 18:20, 18:22	I ice ^[1] - 32:25 idea ^[2] - 9:13, 41:19 ignore ^[1] - 36:25 ignored ^[3] - 11:16, 11:17, 36:1 ignoring ^[1] - 37:7 images ^[1] - 32:21 immediate ^[2] - 5:5, 36:21 immune ^[1] - 27:18 immunity ^[1] - 27:19 impact ^[1] - 32:9 impacted ^[1] - 13:18 impacts ^[1] - 52:20 impeded ^[1] - 50:1 implemented ^[1] - 52:21 important ^[1] - 30:16 improve ^[1] - 10:18 improvement ^[1] - 19:19 IN ^[1] - 58:18	J JEFFRIES ^[1] - 56:1 Jeffries ^[1] - 29:12 JESSICA ^[1] - 2:5 Joan ^[2] - 7:20, 7:21 jobs ^[2] - 24:8, 25:2 Joe ^[1] - 18:14 JOSEPH ^[1] - 55:24 Judge ^[7] - 22:14, 35:10, 35:24, 36:5, 38:11, 38:14, 41:14 judicial ^[1] - 26:17 judiciary ^[3] - 26:20, 28:13, 29:4 Judiciary ^[1] - 27:1 July ^[1] - 25:22 JUNE ^[1] - 56:1 June ^[4] - 38:25, 39:22, 41:4, 41:5 jungle ^[1] - 28:3 Junior ^[1] - 4:12 justice ^[1] - 12:2	K KATHY ^[1] - 2:9 keep ^[1] - 10:19 Kennedy ^[1] - 27:17 keys ^[1] - 29:24 kids ^[1] - 24:17 kind ^[1] - 10:7 kinds ^[1] - 28:7 kiosks ^[2] - 8:19, 8:20 knowing ^[1] - 42:25 known ^[3] - 6:24, 8:13, 36:14 kratom ^[6] - 23:21, 27:23, 28:1, 49:22, 60:10, 60:16	

LITTLE [1] - 25:19
live [3] - 7:3, 7:4, 9:6
local [2] - 3:25, 5:10
locally [1] - 12:8
located [1] - 15:24
LOCATED [1] - 56:18
location [1] - 8:11
LOCATION [1] - 1:10
lock [2] - 29:25, 44:3
locked [11] - 19:6,
 19:11, 29:17, 29:22,
 30:3, 42:19, 43:1,
 43:11, 43:13, 43:23
locking [1] - 42:25
LOFTUS [1] - 55:24
look [9] - 11:18, 17:2,
 19:5, 22:11, 46:23,
 46:24, 47:1, 50:3,
 52:11
Look [1] - 19:15
looked [2] - 22:19,
 30:17
looking [6] - 16:7,
 26:8, 39:14, 41:2,
 44:21, 52:24
looks [2] - 35:21, 44:7
lose [4] - 5:25, 6:2,
 13:1, 13:2
losing [2] - 9:1, 19:3
lost [1] - 31:19
love [1] - 24:22
low [1] - 22:2
lower [1] - 16:6
LST [1] - 39:6
lunch [1] - 6:6

M

MacDonald [1] - 4:5
magistrate's [1] -
 12:15
mail [2] - 31:25, 49:12
MAIN [1] - 56:19
Main [1] - 40:6
maintain [1] - 47:13
maintained [1] - 47:12
major [2] - 13:10, 19:4
majority [3] - 14:6,
 14:21, 15:2
managed [1] - 22:3
management [1] -
 36:5
Mancini [1] - 11:9
MANCINI [1] - 11:10
Mandogello{
phonetic} [1] - 51:22
map [1] - 32:3
March [2] - 15:18,
 54:10
Maria [2] - 1:24, 62:10

Marie [13] - 3:20, 4:3,
 4:6, 4:10, 4:14, 4:18,
 4:22, 5:4, 5:9, 5:22,
 6:3, 6:12, 6:24
MARIE [1] - 3:25
Marine [1] - 12:4
Mark [4] - 3:12, 14:9,
 58:3, 59:12
mark [1] - 41:10
MARK [8] - 2:4, 3:13,
 42:16, 56:12, 56:24,
 57:7, 58:4, 59:13
married [1] - 6:13
Marywood [1] - 43:12
massive [2] - 13:23,
 32:7
master [1] - 29:23
matter [3] - 10:11,
 16:4, 35:10
mayor [2] - 16:8,
 28:22
Mayor [12] - 7:23, 8:2,
 15:18, 19:9, 23:23,
 28:9, 28:10, 29:21,
 29:24, 35:5, 36:13,
 38:14
MAYOR [1] - 58:13
Mayor's [1] - 30:25
Mayors [1] - 4:16
MCANDREW [28] -
 2:4, 2:6, 3:11, 3:13,
 5:16, 20:2, 20:9,
 34:23, 38:19, 40:16,
 40:24, 41:12, 41:17,
 41:18, 42:16, 49:15,
 56:11, 56:12, 56:23,
 56:24, 57:6, 57:7,
 58:2, 58:4, 59:1,
 59:11, 59:13, 60:24
McAndrew [12] - 3:10,
 3:12, 14:9, 34:21,
 41:10, 41:16, 53:24,
 54:24, 58:1, 58:3,
 59:10, 59:12
McAndrews [1] - 5:15
McCool [2] - 1:24,
 62:10
McDonnell [1] - 51:13
mean [14] - 10:12,
 10:25, 18:1, 18:3,
 22:4, 22:7, 23:1,
 25:5, 26:21, 27:11,
 30:12, 46:13, 47:19,
 47:23
means [1] - 62:22
media [3] - 14:10,
 27:15, 29:4
medicine [1] - 27:16
meet [4] - 5:24, 35:9,
 35:13, 35:24

meeting [14] - 3:18,
 20:4, 27:1, 35:6,
 38:11, 38:13, 38:20,
 38:22, 42:2, 53:3,
 53:16, 53:25, 55:11,
 61:1
meetings [3] - 16:20,
 30:12, 53:2
MEMBER [1] - 55:24
member [4] - 4:8,
 4:19, 14:9, 14:13
members [5] - 6:22,
 7:16, 35:24, 40:18,
 53:17
men [2] - 3:5, 26:1
mentioned [1] - 41:19
meshed [1] - 32:19
mess [1] - 19:17
message [1] - 7:23
meters [2] - 8:19, 8:23
mid70s [1] - 5:25
mid80s [1] - 6:1
might [1] - 42:1
Mike [1] - 11:9
million [2] - 28:22,
 39:8
millions [1] - 13:22
mind [1] - 10:19
Minooka [1] - 29:9
minors [1] - 60:11
minutes [1] - 7:9
Miss [3] - 3:7, 3:19,
 29:12
mistakes [1] - 14:3
modified [2] - 60:10,
 60:16
moment [1] - 3:4
Monday [1] - 9:8
money [9] - 17:5, 30:9,
 30:15, 37:24, 43:5,
 43:6, 48:9, 55:6
monitor [1] - 44:8
monitored [1] - 52:20
Monsanto [1] - 27:20
month [1] - 54:17
MONTH" [1] - 57:17
months [3] - 25:8,
 43:25, 44:1
Morgan [2] - 15:14,
 15:16
MORGAN [1] - 15:15
morning [2] - 6:4, 23:6
most [2] - 5:23, 17:5
motion [4] - 56:3,
 56:21, 60:23, 60:24
MOTIONS [1] - 33:11
motions [4] - 33:13,
 34:21, 41:10, 49:18
move [1] - 23:11

moved [5] - 56:5,
 56:15, 56:23, 56:24,
 57:10
moving [9] - 8:11,
 8:13, 8:16, 9:19,
 31:25, 33:2, 49:25,
 50:8, 50:9
MR [92] - 3:3, 3:11,
 3:13, 3:15, 3:17,
 5:17, 7:8, 7:10, 7:14,
 11:8, 11:10, 15:15,
 19:25, 20:2, 20:8,
 20:9, 20:10, 20:21,
 20:23, 20:25, 25:17,
 25:19, 29:6, 29:8,
 33:9, 33:10, 33:12,
 34:16, 34:20, 34:23,
 38:17, 38:19, 40:15,
 40:16, 40:22, 40:24,
 41:1, 41:7, 41:9,
 41:12, 41:17, 41:18,
 42:14, 42:16, 49:15,
 49:17, 49:20, 50:6,
 55:22, 56:2, 56:5,
 56:7, 56:11, 56:12,
 56:13, 56:14, 56:16,
 56:20, 56:23, 56:24,
 57:1, 57:2, 57:6,
 57:7, 57:8, 57:9,
 57:11, 57:18, 57:22,
 58:2, 58:4, 58:6,
 58:8, 58:10, 58:23,
 59:1, 59:4, 59:6,
 59:11, 59:13, 59:15,
 59:17, 59:19, 59:21,
 59:24, 60:1, 60:6,
 60:8, 60:12, 60:14,
 60:24, 61:1
MS [16] - 3:8, 3:10,
 3:12, 3:14, 3:16,
 7:21, 57:24, 58:1,
 58:3, 58:5, 58:7,
 59:8, 59:10, 59:12,
 59:14, 59:16
multiple [1] - 29:17
MUNICIPAL [1] -
 55:25
municipalities [1] -
 36:22
must [2] - 25:7, 30:12

N

name [1] - 27:4
narrow [1] - 22:1
NATURAL [1] - 58:18
natural [2] - 28:1,
 44:22
navigate [1] - 52:15
nay [1] - 42:1

Nay [2] - 15:24, 46:2
NDAA [1] - 27:14
neck [1] - 31:3
need [8] - 15:7, 31:5,
 34:1, 39:19, 43:7,
 44:19, 46:23, 52:22
needed [4] - 29:22,
 30:13, 45:10, 52:15
needs [5] - 14:4,
 14:19, 15:2, 29:25,
 30:14
negotiate [1] - 24:5
negotiating [1] - 23:23
neighborhood [3] -
 32:10, 34:14, 52:16
neighborhoods [3] -
 13:2, 13:15, 17:4
neighbors [3] - 7:7,
 13:1, 44:10
nephews [1] - 6:14
never [7] - 6:13, 8:21,
 13:15, 17:9, 17:12,
 24:18, 30:6
new [6] - 8:11, 15:2,
 28:8, 32:12, 46:1,
 53:13
NEW [1] - 56:18
news [5] - 18:17, 25:9,
 27:15, 30:23, 30:24
Next [3] - 15:13, 23:2,
 24:6
next [7] - 11:8, 15:4,
 15:10, 19:25, 34:4,
 39:11, 45:18
nieces [1] - 6:14
night [4] - 6:7, 33:8,
 42:19, 61:2
nine [1] - 15:10
ninth [1] - 13:24
NO [5] - 57:15, 58:12,
 59:20, 59:25, 60:13
Nobody [2] - 24:8,
 24:15
nobody [1] - 25:3
none [2] - 19:10, 47:4
nonnegotiable [1] -
 11:19
nonprofit [1] - 46:15
nonprofits [1] - 17:12
Nonprofits [1] - 17:9
NORMA [1] - 55:25
normal [1] - 50:22
normally [1] - 5:22
notes [1] - 62:5
nothing [8] - 10:2,
 11:14, 13:5, 14:6,
 17:16, 24:25, 31:14,
 38:9
notice [3] - 12:25,
 53:2, 54:2

noticed [1] - 10:8 noticing [1] - 12:21 November [2] - 40:2 Novembrino [3] - 42:19, 43:22 NOW [1] - 5:7 nowhere [2] - 9:4, 26:21 number [2] - 8:20, 13:23 numerous [1] - 17:12	49:9, 50:10 opened [1] - 27:10 opening [2] - 46:3, 46:25 openly [3] - 37:1, 40:1, 41:25 operator [1] - 4:13 opioid [2] - 12:1, 12:10 opioid-related [2] - 12:1, 12:10 opportunity [1] - 55:17 oppose [1] - 16:25 Opposed [2] - 56:14, 57:9 optical [1] - 9:22 options [3] - 51:24, 51:25, 52:3 ORDER [5] - 7:10, 33:10, 57:11, 57:13, 59:19 Order [5] - 7:15, 7:19, 23:22, 31:5, 54:19 ordinance [8] - 13:20, 13:21, 59:21, 59:22, 60:1, 60:2, 60:8, 60:14 ordinances [2] - 60:4, 60:18 organization [2] - 18:19, 46:15 organizations [1] - 47:16 OTHER [1] - 58:13 otherwise [1] - 43:25 ought [1] - 8:7 outperforming [1] - 39:15 outreach [1] - 54:21 outside [1] - 7:6 overhead [1] - 12:17 overrun [2] - 15:25, 27:8 overtime [1] - 43:20 own [5] - 6:16, 10:20, 19:11, 30:21, 47:12 owned [1] - 46:14 owner [1] - 21:8 owners [1] - 10:15 owns [1] - 9:22	Pango [1] - 8:22 paper [2] - 8:10, 28:16 paradise [1] - 18:25 Parish [1] - 4:9 Park [3] - 15:24, 43:10, 43:22 park [13] - 8:22, 8:23, 8:25, 9:4, 9:7, 9:20, 43:14, 43:20, 44:2, 44:3, 47:8, 48:20, 48:22 park's [1] - 44:4 parking [13] - 8:16, 8:18, 9:12, 9:14, 9:17, 9:21, 10:2, 10:11, 33:6, 44:16, 44:19, 44:23, 52:2 parks [8] - 42:18, 42:25, 43:5, 47:1, 47:3, 48:1, 48:17, 49:9 Parks [1] - 49:4 part [7] - 6:13, 9:14, 11:12, 15:8, 15:10, 50:21, 53:11 partial [1] - 6:22 parts [1] - 26:5 Party [1] - 18:16 party [1] - 18:18 pass [1] - 40:5 passage [2] - 57:20, 59:3 passed [1] - 3:6 passing [1] - 12:3 past [5] - 13:22, 14:22, 15:7, 41:22, 53:1 Pastor [2] - 51:6, 51:13 path [1] - 37:6 PATRICK [1] - 2:3 Patrick's [1] - 4:8 pattern [1] - 52:14 Paul [1] - 51:22 pave [2] - 13:13, 13:14 paving [1] - 5:11 pay [5] - 9:20, 10:21, 11:1, 26:23, 46:17 paying [1] - 9:13 PEL [2] - 39:23, 41:4 PEL's [2] - 39:1, 39:12 pen [1] - 17:7 pending [1] - 49:22 Penn [1] - 9:12 Pennsylvania [2] - 4:21, 27:2 PENNSYLVANIA [2] - 57:16, 58:17 People [1] - 19:10 people [35] - 5:24, 6:9, 8:21, 8:23, 8:25,	9:15, 9:19, 10:19, 10:20, 11:4, 11:7, 16:20, 16:24, 16:25, 18:9, 18:24, 19:12, 19:16, 19:18, 22:11, 22:16, 23:15, 23:23, 24:12, 25:1, 25:9, 26:10, 26:11, 27:3, 27:8, 29:3, 40:12, 43:19, 48:4 percent [1] - 12:2 performing [1] - 38:23 performs [1] - 50:21 permitted [1] - 47:6 person [4] - 27:6, 30:13, 30:19, 45:6 personal [3] - 8:5, 11:25, 16:20 personally [1] - 46:19 persons [1] - 42:3 perspective [1] - 36:6 Peters [1] - 4:17 petition [2] - 16:5, 16:9 PHASE [1] - 58:19 phone [2] - 19:9, 28:25 pick [1] - 17:7 pickleball [1] - 46:1 picture [1] - 28:4 pill [1] - 12:16 Pitt [1] - 24:20 Pittsburgh [2] - 24:21, 24:24 place [4] - 28:25, 44:8, 45:9, 45:17 PLAN [1] - 56:18 plan [7] - 16:22, 37:7, 37:20, 44:7, 52:19, 53:19, 53:21 Planning [7] - 52:6, 52:25, 53:3, 53:9, 53:11, 53:15, 53:21 PLANNING [1] - 7:11 planning [1] - 53:1 PLAYGROUND [1] - 58:20 Pledge [1] - 3:1 point [4] - 36:2, 46:9, 51:15, 52:16 points [1] - 10:5 poisons [1] - 27:20 poke [1] - 47:21 Police [4] - 12:9, 43:12, 43:13, 45:2 police [7] - 8:4, 11:21, 12:19, 12:20, 12:22, 24:1, 28:22 policy [1] - 53:5 Policy [1] - 53:9	political [2] - 18:2, 18:15 politics [5] - 4:1, 5:10, 8:7, 18:4, 18:5 poor [3] - 13:16, 13:20, 30:5 portion [1] - 55:6 positive [2] - 39:4, 50:8 possible [1] - 50:24 possibly [1] - 40:3 posted [1] - 7:2 posts [1] - 14:10 potential [1] - 34:3 potentially [1] - 34:15 potholes [3] - 10:10, 13:14, 13:24 pound [1] - 12:14 poverty [1] - 17:18 power [1] - 19:11 powers [3] - 14:7, 14:14, 14:17 PP [1] - 34:7 practically [1] - 47:7 preface [1] - 7:22 present [4] - 3:11, 3:13, 3:17, 15:23 presentation [1] - 5:19 presented [1] - 53:5 PRESIDENT [2] - 2:2, 2:3 president [2] - 5:13, 18:13 President [3] - 5:14, 11:11, 21:2 press [1] - 12:16 pressing [1] - 33:23 pretty [2] - 39:4, 42:9 prevent [2] - 44:22, 45:1 prevents [1] - 48:4 previous [1] - 37:5 priorities [1] - 8:8 prioritization [1] - 33:24 priority [1] - 33:22 private [3] - 46:12, 48:2, 51:4 privilege [1] - 47:5 problem [4] - 15:9, 28:13, 28:14, 28:15 problems [1] - 28:13 procedure [1] - 45:9 proceedings [1] - 62:3 process [4] - 26:17, 42:23, 49:6, 60:20 processions [2] - 51:9, 51:11
O				
Obama [2] - 27:13, 27:14 observation [1] - 8:6 obstructed [1] - 32:22 Obviously [1] - 30:9 obviously [2] - 39:15, 44:24 occur [1] - 44:18 occurring [1] - 43:24 occurs [1] - 45:18 October [1] - 36:4 OF [13] - 1:1, 3:24, 55:23, 55:24, 58:15, 58:16, 58:17, 58:19, 58:21, 59:20, 59:24, 60:12 offered [1] - 35:23 office [4] - 4:15, 4:23, 12:15, 16:22 officer [1] - 8:4 officers [1] - 11:23 Official [2] - 1:24, 62:11 official [1] - 35:14 OFFICIALS [1] - 58:14 old [4] - 22:7, 43:25, 52:25, 53:1 older [1] - 6:10 ON [3] - 56:1, 57:14, 58:11 once [3] - 24:24, 31:18, 41:5 one [29] - 4:3, 5:23, 6:15, 6:23, 8:20, 14:14, 15:24, 16:25, 24:11, 24:12, 24:18, 25:5, 28:12, 28:25, 29:5, 30:24, 32:5, 32:17, 32:24, 33:6, 42:2, 46:18, 48:10, 50:14, 50:23, 51:2, 51:17, 52:1, 52:2 one-way [1] - 50:14 ones [1] - 22:1 open [7] - 30:1, 31:15, 42:10, 44:17, 47:3,	P	p.m [3] - 43:24, 44:1, 44:3 Pad/Park [1] - 43:23 paid [5] - 32:17, 48:8, 48:9, 48:10 Paige [2] - 13:4, 14:5		

proclamation [3] - 3:19, 3:22, 8:1 program [2] - 15:23, 29:13 programmed [1] - 28:24 progress [4] - 13:12, 24:8, 24:9, 50:1 project [8] - 22:8, 22:20, 22:25, 23:16, 23:20, 32:17, 50:18, 50:19 Project [1] - 23:3 projected [1] - 54:6 projecting [1] - 54:9 projection [4] - 39:12, 39:14, 39:23, 41:5 projections [1] - 39:1 projects [2] - 34:4, 53:14 proper [3] - 47:8, 56:4, 56:22 properties [1] - 33:23 property [3] - 33:16, 33:21, 34:3 propose [1] - 53:12 pros [1] - 41:21 prosecution [1] - 27:19 prosecutions [1] - 12:9 protections [1] - 31:23 prove [1] - 19:23 provide [1] - 36:11 provided [2] - 45:3, 45:13 providing [1] - 36:20 provisions [2] - 59:22, 60:2 public [4] - 5:3, 15:21, 16:1, 60:5 Public [1] - 35:9 PUC [1] - 16:6 purpose [1] - 47:6 pursuit [1] - 26:4 push [1] - 17:13 pushed [1] - 32:24 pushing [1] - 33:3 put [11] - 6:10, 11:5, 31:8, 31:20, 32:6, 32:8, 32:13, 35:7, 36:25, 47:10, 51:25 putting [1] - 21:10	37:7, 39:20, 45:23, 46:8, 47:22, 47:24, 48:14, 48:15, 49:8, 50:13, 51:8, 52:12, 53:24, 54:18, 55:9 quickly [1] - 47:1 Quote [1] - 8:20 quote [1] - 46:6	5:9 REGAN [3] - 3:25, 5:13, 5:17 regarding [9] - 34:24, 35:2, 35:16, 35:20, 38:25, 39:11, 41:14, 46:1, 55:9 regular [1] - 3:18 regulates [2] - 60:9, 60:15 rein [1] - 31:8 related [5] - 12:1, 12:10, 45:11, 59:23, 60:3 relayed [1] - 45:24 remain [3] - 3:3, 44:15, 44:17 remains [1] - 12:6 remarks [1] - 7:22 remember [2] - 26:15, 29:16 remembered [1] - 6:21 removal [1] - 45:11 renovated [1] - 53:13 REPLACE [1] - 55:25 replacement [1] - 29:10 Report [2] - 54:3, 54:11 Reporter [2] - 1:24, 62:11 reporter [1] - 62:24 REPORTS [1] - 7:13 represent [1] - 17:1 representatives [1] - 18:6 represented [1] - 16:18 reproduction [1] - 62:22 request [3] - 15:18, 29:9, 36:25 requested [2] - 16:1, 35:15 requests [2] - 15:22, 16:14 requires [1] - 43:20 ReRe [2] - 6:24, 6:25 research [1] - 36:4 reset [1] - 45:10 resident [5] - 4:7, 7:25, 10:8, 21:1, 33:17 Residents [1] - 8:21 residents [20] - 9:6, 10:16, 10:21, 11:5, 11:12, 12:21, 12:25, 13:7, 15:5, 15:12, 15:17, 17:1, 17:8, 17:13, 17:18, 36:12,	36:20, 37:11, 40:4, 43:2 resign [2] - 14:4, 14:20 RESOLUTION [6] - 55:23, 56:17, 57:15, 58:12 RESOLVED [1] - 5:7 RESOURCES [1] - 58:18 responded [1] - 29:21 response [5] - 16:12, 19:9, 34:24, 35:8, 35:15 responses [1] - 50:12 responsibility [2] - 36:11, 44:6 responsible [1] - 36:19 results [1] - 13:13 retirement [1] - 5:1 return [1] - 16:1 revenue [4] - 30:12, 39:16, 54:12, 54:16 revenues [1] - 54:5 review [3] - 51:20, 52:8, 53:10 REVISION [1] - 56:18 Ridge [1] - 23:3 ridiculous [4] - 22:5, 23:1, 23:14 rights [4] - 19:2, 19:4, 26:3 Rik [1] - 25:20 road [4] - 37:17, 38:5, 43:17, 44:14 roads [2] - 13:11, 19:17 Robert [1] - 27:17 robot [3] - 28:23, 28:24, 29:2 roll [3] - 3:7, 57:23, 59:7 rollout [1] - 29:13 rolls [1] - 11:6 room [1] - 27:6 Roselynn [1] - 33:19 ROTHCHILD [13] - 2:5, 3:9, 3:23, 33:14, 34:18, 56:6, 56:10, 56:25, 57:5, 57:21, 57:25, 59:5, 59:9 Rothchild [7] - 3:8, 5:14, 33:12, 34:17, 38:21, 57:24, 59:8 round [1] - 34:4 route [1] - 51:12 routes [1] - 51:9 row [2] - 4:23, 9:25 RPR [2] - 1:24, 62:10	RULES [1] - 57:14 Rules [1] - 57:19 run [1] - 48:2 runs [1] - 30:19
S				
S-shaped [1] - 52:14 SAFE [1] - 57:17 safety [7] - 11:18, 13:7, 23:14, 27:22, 32:13, 40:11, 51:17 Safety [1] - 35:9 sake [1] - 42:5 sale [2] - 60:9, 60:15 Saturday [2] - 8:9, 9:10 Saturdays [1] - 9:14 saving [1] - 8:4 saw [5] - 19:19, 20:3, 26:25, 28:9 schedule [2] - 41:4, 42:23 Schlager [1] - 29:11 Schmidt [1] - 4:17 School [1] - 4:11 school [3] - 6:18, 18:10, 28:11 schools [1] - 28:12 SCHUSTER [36] - 2:2, 3:3, 3:17, 7:8, 7:14, 11:8, 15:13, 19:25, 20:10, 20:23, 25:17, 29:6, 33:9, 33:12, 34:20, 41:1, 41:9, 49:17, 50:6, 56:2, 56:7, 56:14, 56:20, 57:2, 57:9, 57:18, 57:22, 58:8, 58:23, 59:4, 59:6, 59:17, 60:1, 60:8, 60:14, 61:1 Schuster [8] - 3:16, 5:13, 11:11, 21:2, 35:5, 41:8, 58:7, 59:16 sCHUSTER [1] - 59:21 scope [1] - 50:22 score [1] - 33:22 SCRANTON [4] - 1:1, 3:24, 55:24, 58:16 Scranton [26] - 4:1, 4:7, 4:11, 4:13, 4:19, 5:8, 7:22, 8:11, 10:22, 11:12, 11:13, 12:9, 12:15, 13:8, 15:12, 15:20, 19:16, 25:19, 26:14, 36:23, 37:11, 37:18, 43:13, 45:2, 59:23, 60:3				
Q				
quarter [1] - 54:2 questions [19] - 11:17, 16:8, 19:22, 34:25,				

screwing ^[1] - 24:1 sealed ^[1] - 51:21 SEAN ^[17] - 2:6, 3:11, 5:16, 20:2, 20:9, 34:23, 38:19, 40:16, 40:24, 41:17, 56:11, 56:23, 57:6, 58:2, 59:1, 59:11, 60:24 Sean ^[6] - 3:10, 5:15, 34:21, 54:24, 58:1, 59:10 seasons ^[1] - 43:16 Second ^[3] - 56:25, 57:1, 59:5 second ^[5] - 22:15, 22:25, 40:2, 56:6, 57:21 secret ^[2] - 42:21, 45:25 Section ^[1] - 32:3 section ^[2] - 4:7, 32:14 secure ^[1] - 43:7 see ^[21] - 5:24, 7:7, 8:15, 9:5, 9:25, 10:14, 23:21, 24:24, 26:13, 26:17, 27:21, 32:2, 32:22, 32:23, 42:11, 42:12, 49:12, 52:12, 53:20, 53:22, 55:19 seem ^[1] - 42:9 self ^[1] - 25:25 selling ^[2] - 40:7, 40:8 senators ^[1] - 18:6 send ^[1] - 38:16 sent ^[5] - 31:25, 32:21, 51:20, 51:22, 53:18 series ^[1] - 11:13 Serious ^[1] - 12:22 serpentine ^[1] - 52:14 served ^[1] - 4:18 SERVES ^[1] - 58:21 service ^[6] - 3:5, 5:3, 35:3, 36:20, 38:4, 38:7 services ^[7] - 35:17, 35:21, 36:12, 36:23, 37:12, 41:15, 41:22 serving ^[1] - 4:24 sessions ^[1] - 29:15 set ^[1] - 26:19 seven ^[2] - 4:3, 36:13 SEVENTH ^[1] - 57:13 several ^[2] - 51:24, 51:25 sewer ^[1] - 16:6 shall ^[2] - 47:3, 47:5 shame ^[1] - 11:6 shaped ^[1] - 52:14	sheets ^[1] - 32:25 shell ^[2] - 31:7, 31:10 shocked ^[2] - 37:2, 40:1 shocking ^[1] - 38:9 shooting ^[1] - 29:18 shop ^[3] - 9:23, 40:6, 40:13 shopping ^[1] - 19:15 short ^[1] - 39:8 shortage ^[2] - 11:22, 12:21 shortfall ^[1] - 54:17 shortfalls ^[3] - 39:17, 54:7, 54:9 shot ^[2] - 16:20, 29:5 show ^[1] - 32:4 shows ^[3] - 32:3, 32:5, 45:5 side ^[2] - 33:6, 52:2 sight ^[1] - 5:25 sign ^[5] - 21:11, 22:18, 32:6, 32:8 signage ^[3] - 50:24, 51:5 signed ^[3] - 29:13, 51:18, 51:21 signify ^[2] - 56:8, 57:3 signs ^[1] - 29:10 silent ^[1] - 3:4 simple ^[1] - 31:21 simply ^[1] - 11:16 single ^[1] - 23:20 sink ^[1] - 36:13 sister ^[1] - 5:20 sits ^[1] - 9:8 sitting ^[3] - 14:12, 14:19, 23:8 situation ^[2] - 8:18, 10:18 six ^[3] - 4:24, 6:8, 46:5 SIXTH ^[1] - 57:11 skin ^[1] - 10:7 sky ^[1] - 28:7 small ^[3] - 6:13, 22:10, 50:21 smaller ^[1] - 33:3 social ^[1] - 14:10 soldiers ^[1] - 28:2 SOLICITOR ^[1] - 2:10 Solicitor ^[1] - 47:19 solved ^[1] - 30:8 someone ^[4] - 34:5, 45:25, 47:18, 50:19 someplace ^[1] - 32:7 something's ^[1] - 47:10 sometime ^[1] - 41:4 sometimes ^[2] - 11:2,	48:23 somewhere ^[1] - 31:2 soon ^[2] - 46:3, 53:22 sooner ^[1] - 39:21 sorry ^[1] - 20:24 South ^[2] - 34:6, 40:5 SPACE ^[1] - 58:21 SPD ^[1] - 45:13 speaker ^[1] - 7:20 speakers ^[1] - 16:14 special ^[3] - 31:11, 31:21, 47:5 spent ^[6] - 28:22, 30:6, 30:10, 43:5, 54:23, 55:7 Spindler ^[3] - 20:1, 20:24, 21:1 SPINDLER ^[1] - 20:25 Splash ^[1] - 43:22 sports ^[1] - 44:17 spot ^[1] - 9:17 spots ^[1] - 9:1 spraying ^[1] - 28:6 spring ^[1] - 29:12 Spruce ^[1] - 8:12 St ^[2] - 4:8, 40:20 staff ^[2] - 43:14, 43:20 standing ^[1] - 3:4 start ^[2] - 39:19, 39:25 started ^[5] - 3:18, 4:14, 6:2, 27:13, 27:14 starting ^[2] - 13:1, 13:12 State ^[2] - 4:21, 27:2 state ^[5] - 11:13, 18:5, 18:6, 39:2, 39:7 statement ^[1] - 35:14 States ^[2] - 12:4, 25:21 stating ^[1] - 51:14 status ^[1] - 52:7 stay ^[1] - 28:3 staying ^[1] - 37:17 stepping ^[1] - 27:22 steps ^[2] - 15:5, 40:9 still ^[11] - 11:3, 20:19, 22:16, 24:20, 27:19, 28:6, 30:23, 31:19, 37:5, 43:21, 44:19 stop ^[3] - 22:18, 32:6, 32:8 storefronts ^[1] - 9:24 stores ^[1] - 8:25 storms ^[1] - 17:21 story ^[1] - 25:9 strategy ^[2] - 44:25, 45:17 stray ^[1] - 55:15	Street ^[14] - 8:12, 8:13, 20:5, 20:18, 20:19, 21:4, 21:15, 21:24, 23:3, 32:11, 33:19, 40:20, 55:13, 55:18 street ^[12] - 9:5, 9:7, 10:9, 21:25, 29:10, 29:19, 33:2, 33:5, 40:9, 50:14, 52:7, 53:14 Street's ^[1] - 53:21 Streets ^[2] - 20:13, 53:9 streets ^[6] - 9:16, 17:2, 29:11, 33:4, 40:9, 53:4 structural ^[1] - 11:23 structure ^[1] - 12:18 studies ^[1] - 50:21 study ^[8] - 12:19, 32:2, 32:7, 32:9, 32:16, 37:3, 51:18, 51:19 stuff ^[4] - 28:7, 28:23, 36:3, 49:9 SUBDIVISION ^[1] - 7:12 subject ^[1] - 23:2 SUBMISSION ^[1] - 58:15 subpoena ^[2] - 14:7, 14:16 sued ^[1] - 27:16 suggestions ^[1] - 10:17 summer ^[2] - 41:2, 44:1 Sumner ^[2] - 22:18, 29:11 Sunday ^[2] - 47:17, 48:5 supervision ^[1] - 62:23 supposed ^[3] - 17:1, 21:25, 48:18 sustainability ^[2] - 46:16, 47:14 sustaining ^[1] - 25:2 Sweeney ^[1] - 43:12 switch ^[1] - 8:19 switchboard ^[1] - 4:13 sync ^[1] - 9:1 synthetics ^[1] - 12:6 system ^[2] - 11:22, 18:15	talent ^[1] - 14:2 task ^[1] - 37:8 Task ^[5] - 30:11, 30:19, 54:20, 55:2, 55:3 taste ^[1] - 14:13 tax ^[3] - 11:5, 40:3, 43:6 Tax ^[1] - 39:6 taxes ^[2] - 10:21, 11:1 taxing ^[1] - 26:11 teeth ^[1] - 13:19 tentatively ^[1] - 41:3 tenure ^[1] - 54:4 TERM ^[1] - 56:1 terms ^[1] - 47:4 terrific ^[1] - 6:23 testify ^[1] - 6:22 testing ^[2] - 11:21, 12:20 THAT ^[2] - 58:20, 58:21 THE ^[14] - 1:1, 3:24, 55:24, 57:14, 58:11, 58:13, 58:14, 58:15, 58:16, 58:19, 59:20, 59:24, 60:12 themselves ^[1] - 47:15 THEREFORE ^[1] - 5:7 therein ^[1] - 47:5 they've ^[5] - 19:19, 20:15, 26:9, 36:14, 41:20 thinking ^[1] - 31:19 THIRD ^[1] - 7:10 third ^[2] - 16:4, 18:24 Third ^[1] - 7:15 THOMAS ^[2] - 2:2, 2:10 three ^[4] - 9:24, 23:7, 42:3, 43:15 throughout ^[2] - 3:5, 13:16 timeline ^[1] - 37:6 TO ^[6] - 55:25, 56:1, 58:14, 58:16, 58:18, 58:20 today ^[5] - 6:10, 7:24, 12:17, 15:8, 15:17 Today ^[1] - 23:5 together ^[2] - 32:19, 47:10 Tom ^[2] - 9:22, 29:9 ton ^[1] - 37:24 tonight ^[5] - 3:18, 11:12, 11:15, 14:23, 50:16 took ^[2] - 6:3, 8:24 topic ^[2] - 11:15, 11:25
				T
				tabled ^[2] - 60:4, 60:19

toss ^[1] - 31:10 totally ^[1] - 23:1 towards ^[1] - 41:5 town ^[1] - 7:24 Toyota ^[1] - 21:19 traffic ^[6] - 23:8, 32:2, 33:3, 43:21, 50:21, 51:15 Traffic ^[1] - 23:10 tragedy ^[1] - 12:8 trail ^[1] - 28:3 trailblazer ^[1] - 3:25 transcript ^[2] - 62:6, 62:21 transparency ^[2] - 37:9, 42:4 transparently ^[1] - 37:2 treasure ^[1] - 7:2 treated ^[1] - 6:15 tree ^[1] - 28:1 tried ^[1] - 19:8 troubling ^[1] - 17:6 truck ^[1] - 21:21 Trucking ^[1] - 21:3 trucks ^[4] - 21:13, 21:16, 21:25, 22:14 true ^[3] - 18:20, 48:16 trust ^[1] - 15:21 truths ^[1] - 25:25 try ^[4] - 17:7, 26:14, 31:16, 47:13 trying ^[2] - 26:16, 34:11 Tuesday ^[1] - 1:7 TUESDAY ^[1] - 5:8 turn ^[5] - 21:14, 21:17, 21:21, 22:10, 22:13 turning ^[1] - 45:6 turns ^[1] - 32:23 twice ^[1] - 24:24 two ^[12] - 5:14, 9:1, 12:12, 12:13, 24:23, 35:1, 42:2, 45:13, 46:11, 48:1, 51:15, 52:1 two-way ^[1] - 51:15 type ^[4] - 45:16, 46:15, 47:9, 49:11 typically ^[1] - 50:20	62:23 uniforms ^[1] - 46:18 United ^[2] - 12:4, 25:21 unlawful ^[1] - 13:3 unless ^[2] - 13:9, 62:23 unlocked ^[2] - 43:11, 43:14 unregulated ^[1] - 12:5 Unsheltered ^[4] - 30:11, 30:19, 54:20, 55:2 unwanted ^[1] - 12:6 unwillingness ^[2] - 14:24, 17:6 up ^[34] - 3:21, 6:4, 7:25, 8:2, 8:5, 9:12, 10:9, 11:20, 16:14, 17:7, 21:10, 21:17, 21:22, 21:23, 21:25, 22:13, 22:17, 23:10, 24:3, 24:10, 25:20, 26:19, 27:22, 33:16, 35:11, 36:3, 37:4, 40:19, 41:6, 42:10, 42:21, 45:18, 54:14, 54:19 UP ^[1] - 58:18 update ^[12] - 20:17, 20:21, 29:10, 29:12, 33:16, 35:15, 38:22, 38:24, 54:10, 54:13, 55:18, 55:19 updates ^[1] - 34:24 uptick ^[2] - 12:23, 13:4 US ^[1] - 26:7 uses ^[1] - 47:8 utilized ^[1] - 46:12 utilizing ^[2] - 48:11 utter ^[1] - 17:18	20:21, 33:10, 34:16, 38:17, 40:15, 40:22, 41:7, 42:14, 55:22, 56:16, 57:11, 58:10, 59:19, 59:24, 60:6, 60:12 vote ^[3] - 24:2, 48:18, 49:1 voter ^[1] - 18:19 voting ^[1] - 27:3	wires ^[3] - 22:2, 34:6, 34:12 wish ^[1] - 11:1 wishes ^[1] - 5:9 woman ^[1] - 4:23 women ^[1] - 3:5 women's ^[1] - 4:1 wonderful ^[1] - 5:19 woods ^[1] - 31:3 wording ^[1] - 39:7 words ^[1] - 13:3 workers ^[2] - 10:15, 44:3 works ^[2] - 26:18, 55:2 world ^[2] - 3:5, 18:24 worse ^[3] - 8:17, 13:9, 19:20 worsened ^[1] - 8:18 write ^[2] - 18:10, 18:22 writing ^[4] - 35:7, 35:22, 37:1, 38:12 written ^[3] - 16:7, 25:23, 37:14 wrote ^[1] - 24:3 Wyoming ^[2] - 8:14, 9:18
			W
		wait ^[1] - 16:11 waiting ^[2] - 11:3, 44:25 walk ^[1] - 40:12 walking ^[3] - 9:12, 21:7, 40:12 wall ^[3] - 7:5, 11:6, 21:10 Walsh ^[1] - 4:17 wants ^[6] - 8:6, 23:25, 24:4, 24:8, 24:15, 25:3 warmer ^[1] - 43:15 washed ^[1] - 6:5 wasting ^[1] - 17:5 watch ^[1] - 26:17 water ^[2] - 16:6, 25:15 weapons ^[1] - 13:3 websites ^[2] - 14:18, 29:1 weddings ^[1] - 6:20 week ^[14] - 14:10, 15:10, 21:2, 21:5, 30:22, 33:17, 35:1, 39:3, 40:2, 45:3, 49:22, 49:24, 50:14, 53:16 weekend ^[3] - 43:18, 43:19, 46:11 weekly ^[1] - 15:4 weeks ^[4] - 8:3, 9:23, 23:7, 35:1 West ^[2] - 4:11, 12:15 Weston ^[5] - 29:15, 29:20, 29:25, 44:14, 45:4 wheeler ^[2] - 21:22, 22:12 WHEREAS ^[8] - 3:23, 4:3, 4:6, 4:10, 4:14, 4:18, 4:22, 5:2 whole ^[4] - 11:23, 16:18, 18:12, 55:6 whys ^[1] - 41:21 wider ^[1] - 33:2 winter ^[4] - 13:16, 32:25, 43:17, 43:25	
			X
			Xfinity ^[1] - 34:9
			Y
			year ^[9] - 22:7, 24:25, 29:14, 30:6, 30:10, 39:1, 39:12, 39:23, 42:22 years ^[16] - 5:2, 5:6, 6:8, 11:20, 12:12, 16:19, 17:23, 24:20, 35:20, 36:13, 37:3, 37:14, 41:23, 42:20, 45:20, 45:21 yesterday ^[2] - 23:5, 38:20 yield ^[1] - 32:8 young ^[2] - 24:25
			Z
			zero ^[2] - 12:8, 37:15 zone ^[1] - 32:11 Zoning ^[1] - 52:6 zoning ^[3] - 53:2, 59:22, 60:2
			“
			“first” ^[1] - 5:10

unable ^[1] - 44:5 unalienable ^[1] - 26:3 unbelievable ^[1] - 23:17 under ^[10] - 4:16, 16:8, 17:24, 17:25, 26:7, 26:9, 36:10, 36:13,	
U	

vacant ^[2] - 9:24, 10:1 vehicle ^[1] - 23:12 vehicles ^[1] - 14:5 Vice ^[1] - 5:13 VICE ^[1] - 2:3 Vietnam ^[1] - 28:2 views ^[1] - 32:22 violate ^[1] - 48:3 violates ^[1] - 47:11 violating ^[1] - 36:15 Virginia ^[2] - 24:11, 25:6 Voldenberg ^[1] - 20:2 VOLDENBERG ^[19] - 2:8, 7:10, 20:8,	V

62:23 uniforms ^[1] - 46:18 United ^[2] - 12:4, 25:21 unlawful ^[1] - 13:3 unless ^[2] - 13:9, 62:23 unlocked ^[2] - 43:11, 43:14 unregulated ^[1] - 12:5 Unsheltered ^[4] - 30:11, 30:19, 54:20, 55:2 unwanted ^[1] - 12:6 unwillingness ^[2] - 14:24, 17:6 up ^[34] - 3:21, 6:4, 7:25, 8:2, 8:5, 9:12, 10:9, 11:20, 16:14, 17:7, 21:10, 21:17, 21:22, 21:23, 21:25, 22:13, 22:17, 23:10, 24:3, 24:10, 25:20, 26:19, 27:22, 33:16, 35:11, 36:3, 37:4, 40:19, 41:6, 42:10, 42:21, 45:18, 54:14, 54:19 UP ^[1] - 58:18 update ^[12] - 20:17, 20:21, 29:10, 29:12, 33:16, 35:15, 38:22, 38:24, 54:10, 54:13, 55:18, 55:19 updates ^[1] - 34:24 uptick ^[2] - 12:23, 13:4 US ^[1] - 26:7 uses ^[1] - 47:8 utilized ^[1] - 46:12 utilizing ^[2] - 48:11 utter ^[1] - 17:18	

20:21, 33:10, 34:16, 38:17, 40:15, 40:22, 41:7, 42:14, 55:22, 56:16, 57:11, 58:10, 59:19, 59:24, 60:6, 60:12 vote ^[3] - 24:2, 48:18, 49:1 voter ^[1] - 18:19 voting ^[1] - 27:3	