

The City Council of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina convened for an Action Review on Monday, June 10, 2019, at 5:06 p.m. in Room 267 of the Charlotte Mecklenburg Government Center with Mayor Vi Lyles presiding. Councilmembers present were Tariq Bokhari, Ed Driggs, Larken Egleston, Julie Eiselt, Justin Harlow, LaWana Mayfield, James Mitchell, Greg Phipps and Braxton Winston, II.

**ABSENT UNTIL NOTED:** Councilmembers Dimple Ajmera, and Matt Newton.

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**ITEM NO. 1: MAYOR AND COUNCIL CONSENT ITEM QUESTIONS**

**Marie Harris, Strategy and Budget** said in front of you have the questions you have asked so far; if you will take a minute to look over those and let me know if you have any additional questions. On Item No. 12 it looks like there is a typo within the explanation, but we will follow-up to make sure it is correct. It looks like it is inverted under the very last Business Investment Grant; I'm going to clarify that with ED, and we will get a corrected version to you.

**Councilmembers Ajmera and Newton arrived at 5:07 p.m.**

**Councilmember Mayfield** said Item No. 42, we've had conversations on and off regarding land banking and land trust and what I want us to consider is in order to be more progressive in addressing the needs we have; this particular property is one that unfortunately due to a fire 65% of the structure; it over and beyond the amount for repair but the tax value of this property is around \$77,000. The land is what is important and as we are seeing multiple developments that are happening because of hedge funds and investment companies, I would really like for us to have a real conversation regarding how we do condemnation and if there is an opportunity for us to gain access to the land; I know we have conversations where we say we don't want to be land owners, but we are land owners. We own multiple pieces of land throughout the City that we look at either self-leasing and/or selling. Here is an opportunity for us to at least be able to capture that land in order to put some stipulations on it for true workforce or mixed income housing in the future opposed to what we have seen in other areas where condemnations have been done and now what is happening are \$500,000 homes are being built on those pieces of land with little to no cost because the only thing they are having to pay is the difference for the demolition. I wanted to share that with full Council to see if starting tonight opposed to yeah, let's talk about it and move it forward if we can either delay this vote in order to have an opportunity in Committee or in Strategy Session to have a real conversation around it to look at being proactive now on the ground.

Ms. Harris said that's a good thing to have in mind when you're looking at properties moving forward. This particular one is in an interim, that means the property owner still maintains and is not currently for sale, but as we move forward and build criteria around the programs you mentioned for gaining affordable housing, that definitely should be considered, but this particular one is not currently for sale.

Ms. Mayfield said tell me when of our In Rems have been for sale. So, when we're talking about our impact, impact, the intent, and the intent addressing Blythe in the community with homes that we have identified for In Rem's and the impact is happening on the ground is we're losing these lights to hedge funds and investors.

**Mayor Lyles** said I understand.

**Councilmember Winston** said I agree with Ms. Mayfield though. It's something that we have talked about. I was hoping that there's something that might've come up during this budget cycle, especially with the conversations that we've had around opportunities zones; we have to do things differently in terms of being more aggressive and identifying properties, where we might say hey, we're going to make this \$4,000 investment in demolishing it. Why don't we be proactive and say well start that conversation. I think we need a strategy and a policy that kind of deals with things a little differently, because ownership as Mayfield said,

ownership is our stake. It's that fulcrum that we can create to be part of larger conversations in changing neighborhoods, and I don't think we've done that well enough at this point in time.

Mayor Lyles said I would agree with both Councilmembers Mayfield and Braxton Winston on this, because you brought it up several times. How do we do things differently? I've asked the City Attorney to take a look at how we could look at in rems and regards to lab tank. There are some issues I think that we have to go through. We already on an interim place a lien against that property for that fourth, whatever the cost of the demolition is. I think that we have to actually begin to address that and a policy way so that we're not, you know, choosing one or the other.

Mr. Baker, if you can come back to us and have what we need to do legally to do that, and then as well, we can look at it in terms of asking the Manager to come back with a number of Emirates that we have underway and where they're located, so that a determination can be made both legally, as well as on the policy side of what we could do, and if we could have that in August, I think we could move a little. We have a meeting in August that we can move on, but I think we do need to do some research.

That property today will not be on the market tomorrow, but it may be on the market as quickly as like if they're five heirs or 25 heirs, they can be around. So, doing some research around how we could move on those would be important. So, I unless there's someone that would have a disagreement on that, then we will proceed in that way to address this issue.

**Councilmember Phipps** said I think in this particular instance, if we have Mr. Ben Krise to give us the history on this; this particular property is in the hands of a consortium, a type ownership that's sort of like an absentee owner or whatever that owns a cluster of homes throughout the City. So, I don't know if this one would fit that criteria as much as right now. I know it's a blight for that particular Hidden Valley neighborhood, and it's beyond repair, vagrants and everything, but the land certainly is something that could be something that could be explored if that person chooses to do it, but this particular In Rem property. I don't know if it fits their criteria that you were looking at.

Mayor Lyles said I don't think that we've got the criteria that council would approve before she had. So, I think that Ms. Mayfield understands that she's asking us for a delay, or what I would say is we can approve the demolition, but we haven't done is really looked at those liens in a way to enforce them and what position we would be in for those. So, if we do this one, because it is a blighted situation, I would really say to the council that by the time it gets to us has been six months, and so the neighborhoods really need to see that. Then we could look at the lien and make sure that our liens are enforced and perhaps if there's some action that we could have Mr. Baker that would be more expedient than please let us know that as quickly as we can and then we'll go faster as fast as we can.

Ms. Mayfield said for clarification, we've been having this conversation for several years, and part of the challenge is our current process, meeting the cost of the demolition anywhere from five to almost \$10,000. One, we just helped that land owner remove a blighted building off of that land, which makes it even easier for them to sell it once it's a vacant piece of land. So, we just paid for that too. The way our current process is set up is it sits on the deed. So, we're still now holding accountable these absentee landlords and these individuals that come in and purchase properties, and because of that property they're bringing down those properties are no sense that bring it down to quality of life as well as the property values and neighborhoods. So, they are basically creating the biggest challenge that we have in community with there being little to no penalties for it. So, the penalty goes on too deep. So, whenever they sell that, for whatever amount they sell that home for, that's covered. They're still not being held accountable, but if we move forward and continue down the direction that we've been doing, we impacted intent. Yes, the intent is to help build up the neighborhood and remove blight, but the impact of that is we just use tax dollars to remove this blight, and they get to sit on it and then turn them out and sell the land for whatever amount.

I'm still asking for us to do a deferral for this tonight, because we keep having these conversations saying we'll talk about it next time, and it's now been multiple years, but it will

be helpful to know language wise, is there a way for us to have better enforcement on the front end opposed to the current process of just putting it onto the lien on the deed, and if so, how can we move forward so that we can change some of these conversations? It's not going to be for every conversation, but there is a way that we should be rethinking impact, especially in areas where we're seeing major development happening. We know where the light rail is going. We know where investments are being made, and we know we have bad actors, that own property in our community. That's just sitting back and waiting for the opportunity financially.

**Councilmember Ajmera** said when there is a lien that's been applied, would that apply to the property, land or the structure or all of it?

**Patrick Baker, City Attorney** said the property, the land.

Ms. Ajmera said so, even if it was to be demolished it would still be on the land, right?

Mr. Baker said yeah, the demolition makes the theoretical and more valuable when you have the blight off the property.

Ms. Ajmera said I really like on this one how there are several options that were provided, so that helps us understand how so many options were considered; in terms of the value that is provided here, which is I think a 77,000, is that the most recent assessed value or is it from 2011?

Ms. Harris said I think it's the current. It's the current as of now.

Ms. Ajmera said I think as we look at overall the process, we are also out to look at the market value, especially when we have reassessments that happens every eight years or even if you were to go to the four-year process. I think looking at the market value comparison versus the tax assessed value would probably be more accurate. So, in one of the options that that a staff is putting together, if you can also look at the market value and see if that would differ then the assessed value and see if that percentage would actually be lower, because I know currently there is- So, the repair cost is greater than 65% of the value, and that's why the recommendation is for demolishing. So, I wonder if there was a market value instead of the tax assessed value, what would be their percentage?

Mayor Lyles said I think that's a fair question to ask and have how that would impact the policy change and how much it would cost to calculate, so we can- Again, I think we've got to come back with some parameters in doing this. I think you can decide tonight. Ms. Mayfield's suggestion is the delay. The request is going to go forward to the manager and the attorney to review opportunities for doing that, because I do think that is a valid question when we're having land and we know what's going on in our marketplace. You guys decide what you want to do about the In Rem tonight. I think Mr. Phipps was making a case. Ms. Mayfield has made a case and then you can vote on it as I will say, let's pull that one out, Item Number 42, for separate vote.

Mr. Phipps said but regardless of the amount of votes, we still could entertain a big review of the process.

Mayor Lyles said the process, that will go on no matter what, and I think what we've asked the city attorney to do with is that if there's something that's immediate that we can do that would improve what our goal is with the idea of keeping this property available for housing, then that's what we wish we would do, but I think we're going to have additional work to do in terms of the manager providing how many we do a year, where they are, things like that. There needs to be some parameters, but you guys decide on that 42 tonight as a separate though

Mayor Lyles said Item Nos. 35 and 36 were pulled for comments.

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**ITEM NO. 2: AGENDA OVERVIEW**

There was no agenda overview presented.

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**ITEM NO. 3: TRAFFIC CALMING UPDATE**

**Liz Babson, Transportation Director** said I'll be with you tonight providing an update on our neighborhood traffic calming policy, along with Chief Johnson from the fire department. So, we're here tonight, because there have been a number of changes and we want to share with you that information so you've got the most current information and we're here to talk about our neighborhood traffic calming policy, which you're familiar with because you've updated changes in November of 2018 just last year, but there are also some new changes in the north counter fire code that we would like to share with you this evening, and it's important to note that CDOT and the Fire Department are working very closely together to find a solution. The neighborhood traffic calming policy again was updated by you in November. It was really to align the city's goals with that neighborhood traffic calming policy in support of vision zero, and it was really about slowing travel speeds down, especially on our residential streets. The North Carolina Fire Code was also updated and implemented changes at about that same time, and as we've gone through the evaluation process, we're noticing that we've got some challenges, but we're here tonight to share with you some of the solutions that we're working toward, because we believe we have some solutions so we can continue to offer safer streets and also not at the expense of emergency response times. So again, just as a reminder, the traffic calming policy was updated, and it was really to bring a 20 year old policy up to date to reflect the community and City Council's vision about vision zero and making our streets safer for all of our residents.

**Chief Reginald Johnson, Fire** said the 2015 international fire code was adopted by the General Assembly summer of last year with an implementation date of January 1st of 2019. This basically gives the fire code the final approval for any traffic calming devices. The change in this fire code was really because traffic calming does affect response times. We have an FPA 1710 standard that we need to make sure that we're maintaining, response times in the area. That is one of the reasons why that fire code changed. For us it's very important that we that we review these changes or these a correction, the installation of traffic calming devices. We have an ISO accreditation of one class one. We also, uh, are about 83% of meeting the uh, NFTA standard.

So, shortly after you adopted the change in policy in November of 2018, CDOT got a significant number of requests for traffic calming devices. We have been working with CDOT to evaluate each one of those are planning. Our strategic planning division, evaluates each one of the calming devices that has to be installed. We evaluate current response times in that area. We evaluate the number of incidents in that area, as well as the GIS tracking of our fire apparatus as it travels through the City. If the traffic calming is going to affect any one of those or increased response times, then we need to have another alternative traffic calming device, and I have to just reiterate this, the Charlotte Fire Department is on board with CDOT and onboard with Vision Zero. We do believe in traffic safety, but we also need to have a balance of emergency response times. So, we have a balance of traffic safety as well as making sure that we're meeting our obligation of our mission.

So, as Ms. Babson has mentioned, we've been working together for some time now to try to come up with some solutions. Speed humps will increase our speed time for sure. So, we've looked at speed tables and speed cushions. This is an example of where even though you see a gap in there, that's only significant enough for a fire apparatus to pass through but won't allow a car to pass through it at regular speed or high speed. So, these are just some examples that we're looking at as far as some solutions to that. CDOT it's going to be installing these and four locations throughout the city, and over the next three months, our strategic planning division is going to look at the data from these particular areas to see what type of impact it may have on our emergency response times. At that time, we can come back, evaluate that data and make a final determination if this is the avenue that we're going to be going. As I stated before, it is a balance between traffic, safety, pedestrian safety, bike

safety, and also making sure we meet our emergency response times. Again, just tying it into an NFTA standard, our ISO class one rating as well as our accreditation.

Ms. Babson said so in closing, as the Chief mentioned, we've got four test locations we're going to be looking at throughout the summer. That really introduces to new types of designs, and it's important to note that those are designs that aren't currently in our tool box. We really just have one speed hump design, and that's the one that we have found is extremely problematic and looking at our emergency response times. So, in working together, we've done some preliminary evaluations with the Fire Department, and we've come up with both the cushions and the speed tables. Those will vary depending on volumes on the street, because the cushions are not able to withstand high volumes of traffic, and so we're testing both of those devices, so we can get the right solutions within our tool box to be able to continue to implement the neighborhood traffic calming policy. As the Chief said, it's really about finding that right balance between our traffic safety goals and continuing to provide a high level of emergency response to our residents, and we fully anticipate that with these new options that we'll be back on track within a couple of months. It'll give the fire department some real-time data so that we can do that evaluation, and with that we'll take any questions that you might have.

**Councilmember Harlow** said because we're trying to align with CDOT the new policy with CFD, or we just pressing pause on all the requests? Also, you said we're, we're piloting at four locations. Where are those locations and how are they selected?

Ms. Babson said I can get the four locations for you, but I don't know them right off the top of my head, so I can provide that answer in a follow up, or I can share it with you. Now, if I could step away and call a friend, but the importance immediately then. She's available immediately. So, I'll ask Cathy Dennis, who's our Public Service Division Manager to come up and answer that question, but to just share with you, we are not putting a pause on the requests. The requests are still coming in. Many of the residents that are submitting their requests right now and have been for the last several months are not going to see a delay at all, because we have to go through a pretty extensive evaluation process on the traffic side before fire then even does their evaluation and then we'll start the petition process. So, some of our earlier residents that submitted within the program may see a slight delay, but I will share with you what we're finding is that the benefit of the cushions, for example, the installation is so fast that we make up that difference just by having a different tool in the tool box. So, we're excited about

**Cathy Dennis, Transportation** said so, for the first location, where we're doing the speed tables and those are constructed of asphalt, those have already been installed. There are two of them on West Craighead, between Tryon and Graham. So, if you drive that stretch in, that's in Councilmember Egleston's district. You may recall there was a citizen who had worked with us pretty extensively, regarding some safety issues over there. So that traditional speed humps we were concerned weren't, weren't going to work there for fire response times, but they are in place now. So, we are working with CFD to collect the data to make sure that the response times are adequate, and the speed cushions are in three locations, and we selected those locations for different reasons. The first one was done on a very low volume street, and it was unique and in a way that it's near a high school, and this was used the streets used for some cut through traffic. High school students, and it's in Councilmember Bokhari's district, and it's called Windsor drive, and it's off of Runnymede, kind of near Selwyn. That neighborhood came together, and I have to say it's the closest thing I've ever seen to a 100% supported petition. So, they came together and presented a petition to us that had a hundred percent support. So, that's speed cushion on that street, will go in if the weather cooperates by the end of this week. There were two on Orange Street, also in council member Egleston's district. The unique nature of that is that when that neighborhood petitioned previously for speed humps, they were approved, and they were going to self-fund them, because they met all of the warrants, and then something happened with the neighborhood association, and it just sort of died on the vine, and then when they came back to us and asked for speed humps, we were kind of in this strange place where we are right now with the Fire Department, and we offered to them instead the solution with the speed cushions, and we said, hey, to soften the blow, how about if we go ahead and donate them to you if you'll agree to be part of our pilot program? So, there I'm getting those

speed cushions to have them on Orange Street. The final location is on Cherry crest, and we chose Cherry Crest, because it is one of our most highly requested historically one of the streets in council member Mei fields district and is really kind of the perfect location to pilot these. So, the volumes there are a little bit higher but not over 3000 vehicles per day, which is kind of the cutoff between the speed tables and the speed cushions.

**Councilmember Phipps** said would it be inappropriate to say that perhaps we were a little bit overzealous in our approach to approving the traffic calming policy without the input at the front end of a CFD, or am I misinterpreting that?

Ms. Babson said so, the Chief and I were just conferring to make sure that we would say the same thing, but no, I don't believe it was premature and quite honestly, um, council member Phipps, it's important to note that a lot of this wasn't, um, obvious until we went through the analysis, so if you remember, we've put a pause on our traffic calming policy. So, we haven't done this type of evaluation with the Fire Department for many, many years, and so it wasn't until we started with the new policy and that coordinated effort with the Fire Department that we recognized now, in addition to that, we have new state requirements that we have to meet, so we've worked to strike that balance.

Mr. Phipps said okay. So, in our policies right now, do we have any language in there that approvals would be subject to evaluation and analysis by CFD, so that people won't get the impression that just because they applied that this come into their neighborhoods?

Ms. Babson said yes, absolutely. That was part of what you as a council adopted back in November. That was one of the big changes was recognizing that coordination with Fire Department was very important.

**Councilmember Eiselt** said how do the speed cushions work versus the speed tables, and how does it slow down individual traffic versus the firetrucks?

Ms. Babson said so, the Chief can probably respond to the impact of the fire far better than I can. Um, but just to tell you how it works as if you were in an automobile, the table is similar to your current hump, but it's slightly flattened at the top, and the approaches are lengthened a little bit, so it still has some impact on the vehicle, the normal automobile, but it's designed such that it has a much less impact on the fire truck. Similarly, the cushions are the devices where there are three sections across the road, and so the spacing of those are such that an automobile cannot avoid going over that hump with at least one of their wheel paths, but it's spaced such that the fire truck can go right the middle.

**Mayor Lyles** said I've seen those in parking decks.

Ms. Babson said you can't avoid slowing down without any; it's far more uncomfortable to do it on one side of your car.

**Councilmember Winston** said when we're calculating our response times, do we eliminate calls to neighborhoods that have speed bumps in there?

Mr. Johnson said no, we don't eliminate any of our calls when it comes to that. So yes, we currently are calculating our response times with current traffic calming devices.

**Councilmember Driggs** said are there any instances where the analysis suggests that the traffic calming is called for, but we don't have funding and maybe residents are told if you want to pay it, we'll do it, but otherwise you get in line?

Ms. Babson said so, if I followed your question correctly, I don't know that we've ever given that response to a community, not since the adoption by City Council back in November or we now pay for traffic calming, but certainly as we accept new requests, we are starting to realize that there's going to come a point in time where we have more requests than we currently have funding to install those.

Mr. Driggs said but was there a time before then?

Ms. Babson said oh, absolutely, that's the way the process has been for the last eight years.

Mr. Driggs said it isn't currently, but you think that we might get back to a little bit of a constraint on our funding flow

Ms. Babson said given current funding and the requests that are out there. I anticipate that we're okay, but as more requests come in, we'll have to look at that and see if we need additional funding and that'll come through a request in your budget process.

Mr. Driggs said but it wouldn't involve going back to the old practice of inviting the neighbors to pay for it?

Ms. Babson said no.

Mayor Lyles said I have a question for the Chief; while we've been talking about traffic calming and some of our neighborhoods, and I particularly remember in Councilmember Harlow's district, we have on street parking and very narrow streets. So, I don't know whether that's a traffic calming device without intent, but it seems to me that that's still a question for how your trucks move through there, and what do they do, and I've often wondered about the size of our trucks as well as when we are in our, I would call our pre-1950s neighborhoods. How we look at equipment differently. I know in a lot of cities, they have smaller trucks, but I also don't know if a smaller truck get through some of our more narrow streets. Parking's allowed on both sides of the street. I know this is an issue for our sanitation trucks as well. Not to ask you about doing it now, but it seems to me that that might be one of the issues that we may need to address. You've talked about what's included in your response times. I wondered if those were also issues for you, and if so, could you come back and let us know that yes?

Mr. Johnson said I can do that.

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#### **ITEM NO. 4: EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN**

**Chief Reginald Johnson, Fire** said I am also the executive director for the Charlotte Mecklenburg Emergency Management Office, and if you don't know, since 2002, that office has fallen under the Fire Department under our direction. We provide emergency services, emergency management services to knowing the City and the County, but all the towns as well, so up to 1.1 million people. So, we're moving forward, we're going to be talking about the emergency operations plan. This plan was last updated in 2012, so it's right for an update. We have a 2019 update. We have had a third party come in and do an evaluation to make sure that we move forward with our EOP, that it's ADA compliant. It's also an FPA 1600 standard compliant as well as a meets the emergency management accreditation program requirements so that you will see the plan going forward is that this plan will be evaluated and updated every five years.

The EOP basically is a framework or if you want to call it a game plan as to how we're going to respond the base plan of how we're going to respond to emergencies, disasters, whether they're natural or human made, whether they're planned or an immediate response. It's a multi-disciplined approach. So, it's not only public safety agencies, but it's also includes other departments and nongovernmental organizations, private as well as faith based, but one thing that the EOP does do, it clearly defined responsibilities. So, the City has certain responsibilities. The County has certain responsibilities, the towns as well, and it sets priorities as well, preserve life property and the environment.

So, let me go back one cause I forgot to mention something. So, let's talk about when the EOP gets activated. It's very important that we do that. The EOP can be activated either by myself; the Director of Emergency Management, which is Deputy Chief Bono; the City Manager, Mr. Jones; County manager, as well as any of the town managers can activate the EOP. This will also activate the EOC, which can either be in a monitoring mode, partial activation, or full activation mode.

So, next steps, we will have an RCA for you on June 24th, which will also include the EOP, for you all to review. We're asking that you sign this. Cornelius and Huntersville have already reviewed the EOP and signed it. We have to get signatures from every town as well as the County and the City. If you have any questions at that time, we'll be more than willing to address those, and there are a number of annexes to the plan as well, but those we'd have to talk about in a different environment.

**Councilmember Winston** said her reports that we have lost UIC funding. Is that accurate?

Mr. Johnson said at this point in time, yes.

Mr. Winston said I remember when I first came on, I remember getting briefed about this. I know that funding, played a large role in helping us in this emergency management role. Is that correct?

Mr. Johnson said that is correct.

Mr. Winston said how is our efforts are around this plan now that we have lost that kind of bucket of funding? Or is there any change?

Mr. Johnson said well, there's no change to that at this point in time, and the loss of USC funding really didn't have much to do with his plan. There's a larger picture to that as far as the amount of funding that the U.S. Congress afforded [inaudible] funding. We're still in the process of trying to address and appeal of that ruling.

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#### **ITEM NO. 5: COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE**

**Taiwo Jaiyeoba, Planning Director** said I'm thank you for the opportunity to update you on our comprehensive plan today. I'm just going to speak quickly to where we've been and what's for us on our agenda. I start with this quote from that great philosopher, Marcus Jones, who happens to be a City Manager. He was asked by the media in December, 2016, what does the future hold for Charlotte? He said the future is bright, because we are having the conversations that all the cities are shying away from. I do know that as we solve this stuff, tough, tough issues, people are going to come here and ask us how did we do it? So, as long as we think we engage in the community and we have a table that's inclusive there, we're taking everybody's ideas and concepts into account, then we're going to come up with a plan that dictates who we will be in the future. So, we've kind of held on to that statement, in terms of how we've been doing our engagement.

So, especially over the last three months, we've been out in the community almost on a daily basis we have really touched with I've been able to touch roughly over 1500 people, whether through face to face or through social media, over a quarter of a million of Charlotteans have actually been able to go on our emails and also on our social media posts and Instagram posts as well as multiple community workshops, surveys and pop pops as well. This slide here actually breaks down for you, in terms of demographics, whether it's by race or age or income, the people that have been attending a number of our meetings and, and also compare those demographics with, well, what the city actually has right now. For example, you see that the city has about 58% population white people. What you see in the inner circle is the 50% we were able to touch white folks through our engagement, 33% black. We were able to touch 35%. So, we try to mirror where our city's demographics is today and what we've been doing, but we also identified areas where we really need to do more work. For example, our city makeup of Hispanic Americans is for 10%. We've only been able to reach about 7%. We want to definitely make sure we improve on that. The same thing with age. We want to make sure that we continue to reach people at 25 years old and younger, and same thing with income as well to make sure that we do more in terms of reaching people who earn about \$50,000 a year or less than that. So, we have a whole lot where we drill down into who has been attending, but you have this in front of you.



The outcome of these various engagements has been one of the things we've been hearing from our community is division that shallow teams have is to create an authentic, equitable, and integrated city, as we go into the future. We broke that down. You've seen these elements before, which really are division elements that make up the comprehensive plan, but also specific goals such as how do people get to walk? How do we make sure that we create a vibrant arts and culture community, and also where do we, what do we talk about when we talk about the health of our city as well as the importance of sustainability as well. Not only have we been reaching the community, but we've also been generating some reports as well as findings of those reports. We have three reports that we've generated over the last few months. The first one obviously looking at about 30 plus different policy plans and did an audit of these policy plans as the first one. We found a few things that we lack an overarching vision. Most of our area plans, you know there are certain good things in there that just need to be applicable citywide, but the fact is that people continue to ask us to advance our sustainability initiative as a city. We talked about our growth factors report. We developed a report as well, which of course you all know this, we're the 16th largest city by population in the country right now. So, everybody knows we're growing, but the benefits are equal, and we continue to have challenges in how we disperse growth opportunities as well as pressures. We then also delivered on a build city equity atlas, which really focused a lot on differences between the art and the wedge, as well as how we need to make sure that we continue to have a balance [inaudible] approach to our people can have access to fire services, police services, in such an equitable manner in or city. All these reports are definitely available for us.

The next step for us is where we are. That blue circle is we're finishing phase one right now, which has focused on developing our community vision and values. Every community meeting started with that guiding vision that you all developed some time ago, and we kind of built off of that, but we've been developing a lot of a values workshop with our community but also with our planning commission as well. So, over the next several months or we are going to be doing really, we'll be developing scenarios for how we're going to grow, and we're looking at different cities in the Country, as well as how we need to make sure that we continue to have a balance, and I could [inaudible] approach to our people can have access to fire services, police services in such an equitable manner, uh, in our city. All these reports are definitely available for us. The next step for us is where we are, where we actually are. That blue circle is we're finishing phase one right now, which has focused on developing our community vision and values. Uh, every community meeting started with that guiding vision that you all developed some time ago and we kind of built off of that. But we've been developing a lot of a values workshop with our community but also with our Planning Commission as well.

So, over the next several months or we are going to be doing really, we'll be developing scenarios for how we're going to grow, and we're looking at different cities in the country, in terms of what they are doing right now. What the scenario plan is really to help us, and when I say us, not just us as staff, but you the elected officials and the community in terms of helping us to make informed decisions about our future but also how there are going to be tradeoffs. We need to understand the impacts of our choices as we grow into the future and be able to estimate what the impact of future growth and development patterns will be. We know definitely that we cannot continue to do business that way we've been doing it, in terms of how growth and development patterns are for our city. So, over the next several months it will involve some games playing by the community and our Planning Commission as well; that, really, we'll talk about where will this growth go and how will they really impact us as we go into the future.

We've been meeting with our colleagues, whether at the Charlotte Mecklenburg schools or our parks and recreation department, as well as all the entities out there that we know we really need to work with, but we know that there are huge challenges in front of us. So, we've kind of put all these big questions, in different pockets. If we're going to be an inclusive and diverse community, how can we make our city more affordable and minimize impacts of gentrification, while also making it a better place to live for everyone? These are questions that we're going to be asking over the next several months as we engaged the community during this phase two; if we're going to be livable and connected community, how do we retain the identity of a diverse existing neighborhoods, manage traffic congestion, provide

confident, convenient mobility options as our city grows? How do we help exist enables to be clean, healthy, and inviting? How do we support small and local businesses and help all businesses to thrive in a way that also increases upward mobility? How can we support heart and music and education to enhance existing culture? How can we ensure that enough service and infrastructure in place so new growth does not lead to too much growth in one place and then you know the pressure of it in another place? How do we work across jurisdictions such as county, such as schools to make sure that we're managing our growth, but at the center and edge is? This is our challenge over the next several months as we work with the community, as we engage different entities, the plan is to come to you in fall and share with you some draft, a preferred growth scenario so you can also respond to that. That's where we are today. We've made a lot of strides in terms of engaging our community, but we want to continue to make sure that we do that. We know the things that drive your priority, and we know that at the end of the day it's about creating healthy and complete neighborhood for Charlotte so that it's a place where people can choose to believe and choose to age in place as they come to our community. So, thank you very much. I'd be glad to take questions.

**Mayor Lyles** said I think these big questions are so important to where we're going. I think there are lots of ideas and opinions about them, and the difficulty that we will have is taking, I think all of the ideas, opinions, and practical aspects of this to actually form a vision out of those answers, because I guess what I'm saying is you can have all these questions, but we have to have some metric by which we want to see how to choose appropriately the answers. So, I think the questions are great. I think having a community answer those questions in an open form will be easier than actually having to drill them down. So, I know we've got a ways to go, but I think the questions are really, really well formed.

**Councilmember Eiselt** said I wish we could do this tomorrow. It's exciting. It's necessary. It's important. It's probably, I think the most transformational thing will do while any of us are on council. That said, it's going to take a while. It has to be intentional, as you mentioned, it has to be collaborative with people in the community, and I'm really struggling right now with the rate of growth that we have and the rezonings that we have to not have any tools that we know are listed up there right now that hopefully eventually we will have. So, if you look at the comment about coordinated growth and development, growth is guided in an intentional manner that equitably distributes benefits and impacts, and we talk about transportation. As I have mentioned, I'm really having a tough time with our rezonings. We look at these things at a point in time. I've asked staff to give me information. For instance, on Providence Road, we've got a number of big rezonings coming up on providence road. We've had a number in the past two years, some that aren't completed yet. We have some that are the pipeline that we don't know about, and we don't have a transportation plan for providence road that's going to do anything to alleviate what's already of a major problem, and so I don't, you know, I, I would love to ask for guidance from you how we go about doing this now, because once they're built, they're built and then we don't have the opportunity to go back and say, well, now we know we should've been doing this differently.

So, you know, if we look at our 2030 transit plan, can't we do something right now to say, let's focus our density beyond TOD I mean, that's a great start, but shouldn't we be focusing our density on where we say our transit routes are going to go in the future, and is there any way that we can discuss that now, especially when we're voting on density that is not including affordable housing that is taking away our permeable land. We're not connecting it to environmental impacts. We're losing our tree canopy. So, I just don't know what we can do about it. Now.

Mr. Jaiyeoba said I think the question here is we can't wait until the comprehensive plan is ready. What can we do in the meantime between now and then? There is no easy answer to that. I'll be very realistic with you. Development is going to continue to happen, and we're going to continue to have to say no to some and yes to some. We just have to make sure that when we do so, by saying no to a development simply because of density and because of its impact on traffic doesn't take it away, because even if you say no to that development because of density, it's going to be built somewhere else, probably even farther out there was increasing sprawl. So, saying no to it because it may result in more traffic trips on, on providence doesn't necessarily take away the congestion issue.

I think those are the things that you had to really grapple with right now. Do we make the decisions today to say yes to development that would result in more vehicular trips, more um, house in density with the thought process that there will be transit provision along certain corridors in the future. Yes, you might have to make that decision, but on June 17 somewhere when you're having your um, launch time briefing for Rezone, I will give you some ideas as to what we're thinking between us and housing as well as CDOT and on transit how we think we can handle some of these things going forward, because we are dancing between, on one hand we have outdated area pole area plans that would aptly policies and are very useful today. There's times when those area plans or development probably will tell you that you should allow seven density units to an acre that's not practicable today.

The market just doesn't just support that it; it's some area plans that will asked that would pretty much say you can allow seven density units to an acre. To date it may not be practical, but I may not be feasible. It may be that the market is calling for 18 density units an acre in that area, but infrastructure doesn't just happen quickly, obviously because of funding issues, then we also have a comprehensive plan; that's not going to solve everything but would at least provide a platform for us to be able to make certain key decisions with regards to policies in the future. So, dancing between those two bubbles, what are the things that will help us Zuni Committee and the council make some decisions that will help us? I think we're working with our attorneys to make sure that we are very careful with how will we this; on June 17 during the rezone launch briefing I share some thoughts with you as to how what I think can help us to get to that place. It definitely is not that I'm going to be very upfront with you. It's not going to be uneasy. You're going to have to make some tough choices between now and then and it's really about tradeoffs.

Well and I just want to finish with that, but saying that it doesn't have to all be sprawl out south or outside of the City boundaries. It could also be an in that it that developers make other choices like going east or west where we would love to see higher property values, so if we lead with the vision of saying this is what we're thinking of.

**Councilmember Egleston** said I guess just to our version of that question, I could use some clarity on when that when planning staff right now, to Mayor Pro Tem's point, is when they're looking at rezoning that we're going to vote on next week, is their support or lack thereof informed by what's being learned and where we are headed with this plan or until the day this plan is implemented, are they operating on the old policies in the old frameworks?

Mr. Jaiyeoba said yes, obviously we kind of operate on something that's not being adopted yet because then it's, it can be challenged on that. What we are looking at is we found necessarily changing our area plans today or even touching on a growth framework. The Council has adopted some policies in recent past such as housing location policy. The Planning Commission has adopted some statement of how affordable housing; the Metropolitan Transit Commission has done something about envision my ride. Your current budget is being driven by certain priorities. What are those things in those documents that I've just been adopted in the last year or two that can hook into existing policies, provide you with some guidance to make decisions today that in 1992 area plan will not allow you to do, and you're not going to wait for 2021 comprehensive plan. So, those are the types of things we're working on. We definitely don't want to put ourselves in a situation where we are saying this is going to be done by the comprehensive plan, therefore we want to do it today. We don't, we definitely don't want to do that yet, but there are starting guidance or guidelines that we can provide that can actually help to make decisions in a fair way.

Mr. Egleston said I guess sometimes we wish we could say this is what we're going to do on the plan [inaudible].

Ms. Eiselt said we have our 2030 Transit Plan

**Councilmember Winston** I agree with some of what Mayor Pro Tem was getting at. One of the things I think that we also need to do, we need to have some type of historical reference to the way these generational land use plans are interact. It's exciting, but there's should be some trepidation there because of the way land use has been used in the past.

You know, we're sitting in a place where a big idea was carried out right here in the government center and around this Second Ward area, but we're still trying to figure out in terms of this City Council right now, the effects of raising the neighborhood like Brooklyn. We're filling those effects in Camp Greene and along Beatties Ford Road right now. So, I think we need to find a way to understand how these decisions will be made and how they might be at you. There's no crystal ball, but you can all always look back and get a better effect of what decisions might behold, and I don't think we quite have that, that historical reference right now.

I think all of these, these questions that you have up here are real important, but I think the regional aspect of these things hopefully is something that we don't overlook, and I think some of that is going to come from us on Council. You mentioned some of the organizations, the MTC CATS. I was at CARPO a couple of weeks ago, COG. This big plan is not going to really be as effective as we want it to be if we don't have buy in from different branches of government, whether they be within our county, like CMS and the county or some state influence but also the surrounding counties. You know, I'm thinking about, you know, as we continue to grow and people look at Charlotte as a region, having a town like Belmont, you know, is going to be an important thing for our growth and the way we operate.

So, I think we can, as we continue to go on and we have a better feel for the direction we want this 2040 plan to go, we need to give some guidance to our staff and our elected representatives that interact with some of those intergovernmental entities that we're on so we can start having these conversations and guiding the conversations when we're at those, at the tables around those things and not wait for this to be over and then get people to buy it, because there are certain things that we may want to do that do play in well with the growth in other parts of our region. I think we should start having those conversations now until late now rather than later. I know a lot of times we often say that; what does CMS have to say? Who from the county is at the table, but I think that we can be proactive and taking this message and this process at the tables that we currently sit on, but it's going to take I think a policy from us to have a shared understanding about what that conversation should be.

Mr. Jaiyeoba said when we stand in our built equity [inaudible] one of those reports, we actually took a very good look at the impacts of past policies on our current growth pattern today and talk about how we think these can be addressed going forward. So, you bring up a good point. On the other one, the regional question, we also have an inter departmental into our departmental intercity interest city plan right now going on where we're last Friday or Thursday we spent most of that money with CMS staff working through how this planned, the impact of this plan and their future plan.

Today we spend most of the time with Center City Partners, because they're working on their 2040 vision plan. We spent sometime today with a couple county commissioners, have reached out to us to talk about parks and rec, because they also have their RFP out and hiring consultants. So, we do have elements of those ongoing, but I do agree with you. We think regionally and obviously how this connects with transportation in the region as well. So, whatever help we can get from your side of the table, that will really be very helpful for us as well.

**Councilmember Driggs** said for one, I appreciate the Mayor Pro Tem's reference to Providence Road, something clearly near to my heart and also to Councilmember Bokhari's. .All I want to say about that is I'm feeling a lot of pressure right now because of this one, for example. At the same time, I'm very concerned that we not legislate in the zoning committee meeting in the Zoning Meeting itself. So, that means that if we're going to have requirements and if we have any kind of a congestion overlay or whatever we do in the interim, it's got to be rolled out in such a way that people who start to make plans and spend money aren't confronted with rules they'd never heard of on the night of the vote. That, if anything, makes it even more urgent, because that means that properly we can't expect anything to become effective for a while, while we kind of think through if we are going to put the brakes on development. If we're going to limits on density that maybe we haven't established before, all of that has to be done in an orderly fashion. So, that's my first point.

The second one is I agree with what I think I heard the Mayor is saying that the way I would put it is we have a lot of desirables up here, right? If we could do everything, we would be utopia. The Art of all of this is in reconciling, prioritizing, and making tough choices. So, I would like to see us here on council, be able to participate in the process through which some of those tradeoffs are recognized and the tough choices are being made, so that we get to a point where we have a number of options that we're considering and not just this sort of fully baked thing that was the product of all the community outreach, so on and so on. Here it is. We need to go to a point that's more actionable than this but not yet kind of locked down and think about whether affordable housing is a thing that we care about the most or whether economic development and job creation is what are the tradeoffs between those.

Last quick comment, I've got a big project in Ballantine, it was explained over the weekend, and they are wondering too whether we're going to start introducing UDO concepts or reaching ahead and with some of the thinking that we've got going on while they are developing in accordance with old plans. I think they're doing a good job of creating something that actually will align pretty well with where we want to go, but I'm just nervous that if it takes a month, you know, six or eight months or whatever, once again they start hearing about requirements we have or aspirations we have that didn't exist when they began spending money on making their plans.

Ms. Eiselt said you know, we have that discussion a lot, and you bring that up, and I agree there's got to be predictability, which is why we're going through this whole exercise. I just don't know how we bridge the gap between right now where density just seems to go wherever somebody decides to invest in it, and yet we're investing in our transit infrastructure, and it just seems to me that we should be encouraging the density around our transit investments. So, I'm, I'm struggling with just density for density's sake, and honestly, I mean, I'm very pro-business and pro-free trade, but are we saying that we should, we should find a reason to always say yes or do we find a reason- Do we say what's the compelling interest? They're coming to us for a rezoning. I mean, if it's just the right of anybody in the community to get a rezoning, then why don't we go through seven hours every zoning night on these rezonings? What's the point of it? Don't we have the ability to say, hang on now we need a plan on how we want our city to grow and this doesn't quite fit the plan we identified. That's all I'm asking for is a plan. So, there is some predictability so that we don't look at these things and go, well why should we turn it down? We really shouldn't. There's no reason to. I don't understand it. That's all I'm saying and I'm getting tired of looking at these things and making one off decisions.

Mr. Driggs said I agree with that. I do not think that there is any difference. All I am saying is I really think it is bad to come up with criteria that was not established and that no one knew about when people started spending money on their plans, so we need to get as quickly as possible to where we have established what it is that we are looking for.

Ms. Eiselt said I agree.

Mr. Driggs said and recognize that it will take us a little time to get there and that the projects that are stuck getting developed after the other ones that will be effected.

Mr. Winston said I hear what Mr. Driggs is saying. I also hear what Mayor Pro Tem is saying; yes, we do. I think we do these the third Mondays for a reason and what we do have guidelines; we do have a choice at the end of the day, the 11 of us, of what is in the public good or what is it? That is not something that should be taken lightly, and we also have processes where, you know, if people do their due diligence when they're going through this process that they don't feel like they're submarine at the last minute because they can always come and talk to us to see where we're at. And it's not just us that are 11 that are sitting up at this table is we are representative of the voices of the 870,000 people that we represent. So, I think we should definitely have guidelines that, that, that, that get updated over time, foot for the current realities and, and, and, and the future trends. Um, but I don't think those rezonings, you know, should, I don't think we should feel, um, undue pressure not to vote for what we believe and what the people elected us to, to, to see as the public. Good.

**Councilmember Mayfield** said when we look at this breakdown, I believe that you shared it with us once before, but what outlets are we using to connect to community? No manual ways.

Mr. Jaiyeoba said many ways.

Ms. Mayfield said so, I'll narrow that down for you. In these many ways, one of the conversations I've recently been having with residents in the community is it seems like city that we do no marketing in the urban media, meaning they urban radio stations and some of the other outlets. We have great interviews that are on one particular morning talk show but not everyone listens to that talk show, and that's where the bulk of our staff is with detailed conversations. We've done outreach with our Latino station, but we are not reaching our urban stations, and there's at least four, if not more, more here in the Charlotte region when we look at regional conversations. So, somewhere in this conversation, if we really want to be reflective, because right now it's the people who already have a certain level of engagement that are the ones that show up.

It's the same thing with neighborhood meetings. Those who are already engaged are the ones who show up at the meetings. The challenge that we've all faced is how do we reach out to beyond the usual suspects, and I would really like for us, and it really probably goes under the City Manager's Office with the direction of staff and through the multiple marketing budgets. We really need to consider expanding outreach to include our urban stations and recognize that there is a segment of our community. I don't fall in the newt in that segments as I listen to Sirius XM. So, I don't know what's going on most of the time locally, to be perfectly honest. I flip in and out; it is mostly on Sundays that you'll catch me on the local station, but even at that on four morning service, the reality is I don't see your commercials, but I've had constituents that have asked how do we get the information out? So, when we're looking at these numbers, these numbers are great, but are these numbers really reflective of the community who was most impacted so that we can get their voices on the front end versus after the decision has been made and they're seeing the rollout and then trying to figure out how to back track.

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**ITEM NO. 6: ANSWERS TO MAYOR AND COUNCIL CONSENT ITEM QUESTIONS**

There were no outstanding Consent agenda item questions.

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**ITEM NO. 7: CLOSED SESSION**

Motion was made by Councilmember Winston, seconded by Councilmember Egleston, and carried unanimously to go into closed session pursuant to G.S. 143-318. I I(a)(3) to consult with the City Attorney in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege between the attorney and the City Council.

**Mayor Lyles** said there will be a closed session on June 17, 2019 for Economic Development.

The meeting recessed at 6:19 p.m. for a closed session in Room 267. The closed session recessed at 6:30 p.m. to move to the Meeting Chamber for the regularly scheduled Business Meeting.

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## BUSINESS MEETING

The City Council of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina convened for an Business Meeting on Monday, June 10, 2019, at 6:36 p.m. in the Meeting Chamber of the Charlotte Mecklenburg Government Center with Mayor Vi Lyles presiding. Councilmembers present were Dimple Ajmera, Tariq Bokhari, Ed Driggs, Larken Egleston, Julie Eiselt, Justin Harlow, LaWana Mayfield, James Mitchell, Matt Newton, Greg Phipps and Braxton Winston, II.

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## INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

Mayor Lyles gave the Invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

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## PUBLIC FORUM

### Buffer Zones

**Lydia Stern, 712 Louise Ave** said when I first encountered the situation on Latrobe Drive, I had recently closed my retail shop. From the perspective of the small business owner, I could not believe that the City allowed amplified sound to be set up every day in the same location. I could not imagine if my business had been targeted in subject to similar harassment. I have witnessed small business owners who pay rent and mortgages on Latrobe Drive ask Cities for Life to turn down the volume, only to be ignored until the police show up. That is a huge waste of city resources. Do people going to their jobs and customers of neighboring businesses have the right to go about their day without being kept of audience forced to listen to sermons that they have not asked to hear? Daniel Parks and the other church leaders say that the changes infringe on their right to free speech. The right to blare your opinions over loud speakers is not included in the First Amendment. The First Amendment does provide for the freedom to choose who to worship and what to believe. The pro-birth organizations like to say they are providing counseling and prayers but should they be allowed to force mentally competent people to be counseled by preachers with made up credentials and training that they invented? Is the sound ordinance made to provide freedom of speech? Can you force people to be ministered to with amplified sound? They get the permit saying that they get the permits saying that they are protesting, but they are just preaching their gospel. This has been going on for years; obviously, these groups do not approve of abortion, but that should not matter. It is a legal business providing a needed and wanted medical service, much like any other medical facility. Presbyterian Hospital is for profit, and I wonder if it would be okay to set up loud speakers and use amplified sound to shame people about their bad life choices that may have brought them there.

### Noise Ordinance

**Tina Witt, 11328 Torino Road, Mathews** said I wanted to talk to you about the noise ordinance amended proposed, and I think that there may be a little spirit of a solution for unnecessary, loud noise, right? I believe that the sound permit right now, there is already a limit in the evening, what time people have to shut down. Some nights it is like at 9:00 p.m. and some nights at 11:00 p.m. My personal opinion, I think that in that regard when there are loud bands playing, that is what really needs to be addressed here. They should go to shut down maybe a little earlier in the evening, because that affects people. We cannot paint this with the same brush. The Mayor gave an excellent pro-life witness by everything that she just said, and that is what is motivating us to be here, because with this proposed amendment, it is going to shut down this dynamic of individuals being able to communicate with mothers and fathers and a simple little thing like when a mother is going in, we try to give them this free gift. We cannot even call out here is a free gift. They take it and it is like a tissue with a little baby inside. This is how big their baby is at 11 or 12 weeks, and they can see that they are like the tissue paper with the baby inside, and if you all decide to vote for this amended proposed noise situation, you will have the culpability in this chain of stopping women from getting help. We are doing with murder in Charlotte, over 9,000 babies are killed in Mecklenburg County alone. Let's be a city for life and not a city for death,

because that is the crux of these murders the Mayor brought up thankfully, the dignity [inaudible] for all of them, and I know that we have to fight this on the federal-

### **Sound Buffers**

**Jo Flemings, 2536 Roundabout Lane** said I am here about the sound ordinance as well; I wholeheartedly commend the committees involved with crafting the current solutions for consideration, especially with regard to increased interface with neighbors, dialoged, and educational awareness, super good job there, but there is some significant short comings to the current recommendations. You have addressed the need for more specific parameters to the new fine structure. Thank you so much for being sensitive to the variable economic status of your constituents, especially you Mr. Winston. Regarding the dBa and dBc, before any money is spent, dBa measures the sound the human ear hears. dBa measures base, yes, but it can also pick up ambient noise from crowds, so it is not really an accurate measure for all things. dBc might be helpful with entertainment and construction but not much else. Lastly, the real Pandora's box, the increase buffer zone, if you pass this, you will potentially crease huge hassles that you never meant to, to my point. I live in a neighborhood in the City and within a mile of my house are five churches and four schools and at least one medical facility I believe. Most, if not all of these, share property lines with people with homes. If you add the buffer zone to this ordinance, you are going to inadvertently put regular people doing regular things in potential violation often. For example, if I share a backyard boundary with the elementary school, I am now restricted with what I am able to do in my backyard during recess and the afterschool program. No more JVL cranking tunes with Black Sabbath, Billie Eilish, or Cardi B when I hose down my lawn furniture or wash my dog or prune my hedges. No more Saturday night pool parties for my middle schoolers because that Catholic church has mass at that time, and I could go on and on. I know that this seems wildly out of proportion to the intention of this amendment, but believe me, if you do this and continue the win-win of educating the general public about the ordinance itself, CMPD will have a lot more off the mark problems than you bargained for. As public servants, I know that you know that American law was never intended by primary intention to be ordered towards controlling the behavior of other people. American law is intended to balance the freedom of the individual with the common good, and I think you have seen historically in the past that when we had-

### **Charlotte-Mecklenburg Youth Council**

**Emma-Katherine Bowers, PO Box 31365** said I am one of the new co-presidents for the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Youth Council for the upcoming year. The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Youth Council, CMYC, is an innovative partnership between young people, local government, the school district, and Generation Nation and is the official youth advisory council for the City of Charlotte, Mecklenburg-County and Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools. You asked us to report to you twice a year to provide an update on our work. Esi Bonney, one of my follow Co-Presidents, reported to you several months ago, and I am here to deliver our second update tonight. First though, we would like to thank the City for partnering with us and thank also all of the officials who have dedicated their time and effort to help us out this year. This year, we have worked with the City on a number of topics and projects. We have advised the Mayor's Youth Employment Program, as well as Charlotte Future 2040. We developed recommendations and ideas from proving Charlotte and shared with you these for your January planning retreat. We continue to serve on and advise CRC subcommittees. We have cohosted two CMPD Bridging the Difference events and are working with the City on a project to celebrate Charlotte's 250th anniversary. Additionally, we regularly advise State and local officials about topics such as school and community safety. In fact, earlier today, we met with Chief Putney to discuss recommendations to improve police-youth relations and increase community safety.

**Esi Bonney, PO Box 31365** said just to continue what Emma-Katherine was saying, equity and opportunity continue to be important topics for us. We have talked on opportunity about joining our partnership to further engage youth and advisors on economic opportunities. We are proud that CMYC, Kendal Sanders, was elected by peers to serve as student advisor for the Board of Education. She sits at the dais with the school board and insures that our voices are heard in CMS policy and decision making, including the CMS budget and policies



for school safety and equity. We represent the City and the National League of Cities where S.E. Righteous and Emma-Katherine served on planning committees and led conference sessions in L.A. and D.C. about youth leadership and engagement in the local, national, and international, levels. Because of her work with NLC and the Youth Council, S.E. has been invited to present at the national Mayor's Innovation Project Conference. She will speak about our innovative Youth Council partnerships and how the City and Generation Nation partners support youth civic participation, skill building, and leadership through equitable and sustainable opportunities that engage youth and government and policy.

**Jayden Brown, PO Box 31365** said I am the new Co-President of the Mecklenburg-County Youth Council. The Youth Council leadership are diverse. Over 100 members live across the community. We look forward to continuing to partner with you to transfer our neighborhoods, schools, and city for the better. We will be in touch to share our full year end report and to schedule meetings with you. Let us know if you would like to refer any issues or want to meet to hear youth perspective about policies or issues. Please share CMYC information with your networks, and all interested youth are invited to join the Youth Council, looking for information on the City Youth program page or Generationnation.org.

### **Sound Buffers**

**Gabriel Rogers, 5832 Freedom Drive** said I am the Senior Pastor of Kingdom Christian Church here in Charlotte. I brought a small continuance of our membership. Will you all stand? Just to let you all know our position on this recent sound ordinance. Now, we all know that this is not about decibels at all. This is a wicked attempted to block pro-lifers from walking and praying, and I am looking you all in the eye, because I have got to be honest, I am disappointed that you have private safety meetings to talk about the complexity of the issue and talk about what people will do on their private property, but you do not talk about free speech and the right to gather. I am here tonight. I believe some of you believe that black lives matter. Well, I am wondering if black baby lives matter. Ms. Lyles, I appreciate your comments in the beginning. You have not lost 53 people up to now. You have lost over 4,500 people, because there are 9,000 babies killed in Charlotte. We are not asking for resources. We do not need government resources. Just let us walk and pray. As a black pastor, I take specific offense, because 70% of those babies that are killed are black babies and yet we are taught to stand down via the wicked agenda of Margaret Signer. I look at those of you, Mr. Mitchell I have so much respect for you. I look at those of you with brown faces and say how can you sit back and champion the cause of a lady who said she would use the educated preacher to keep the black negros quiet? Well, we will not be quiet. This is the agenda of the wicked molleck. We stand for white babies, Asian babies, black babies, and I want to let you know that however you vote on the 24<sup>th</sup>, know that the council of the Lord will stand.

### **Small Business Inclusion/Business Promotion**

**Aarathi Parthasarathy, 8535 Dennington Grove Lane** said I am a small business owner here in the Charlotte area. We wanted to talk a little bit about what we do here. I would like to hand it over to my daughter who also goes by Aarathi.

Hi everyone, thank you so much for having us. We are really grateful for all the opportunities that the City of Charlotte has given us to help our small business grow. This is why we want to support and give back to our community. For example, we make pies, and the blue berries and strawberries that we use are from local farmers in the Charlotte area. Also, we have started a summer campaign called Bake for a Good Time, and each week, we give away a dozen hand pies or mini pies to a specific group that contributes to our community. Last week, we gave a dozen pies to local school teachers at a local elementary school in the Charlotte area, and this week we are giving a dozen hand pies to a local food charity in Camp North End. We started our journey in February by selling just mini pies, and now we are in several farmers markets all over the Charlotte area selling hand pies, mini pies, and several other baked goods such as muffins, cookies, brownies, and other specialties baked goods. We really would appreciate everyone in this room, support to help our small business grow. We thank you for this opportunity to help our small business grow in the City of Charlotte.

Mayor Lyles said thank you both for your entrepreneurship, and we wish you both great success. You are on your way.

### **Noise Ordinance**

**Sally Vest, 400 S Sharon Amity Road** said please do not consider pro-life groups noise. Consider us help. Consider us separately from construction and entertainment noise. Abortion is not the answer to unwanted pregnancy. It is fast, but it is not right or best. The best solution is to love both the mother and the baby. Destigmatize unwanted pregnancy, just like we want to destigmatize mental illness. Make it okay to admit that we are pregnant and admit that we need help, no shaming. Make it a noble and heroic thing to carry a baby to term for an adoptive family who desperately wants him. Until society agrees that the best solution is to come alongside the mother and give her tons of support, then we are the next best answer. We are the last chance for a mother to do the right and noble thing. We offer support, clothes, diapers, medical help, financial help, and even a place to stay during her pregnancy. We help a mother reverse her abortion pill and save her baby if she changes her mind. We offer emotional support after an abortion. School shootings, bullying, mental illness, violence, prejudice, racism, the answer is always the same, tons of love and support, help, personal responsibility, swallowing our pride, humility. Do not take away the most compassionate solution for mothers and babies by stifling our voices at the abortion facilities. Besides noise, there is also silent prayer. It is the only love that these babies might have in their short time on the earth. We are their funeral.

**Andrea Hines, 6904 Troika Court** said I am against the noise buffer zones. Here is why: I had an abortion when I was in college, and I so wish that someone had been in my life to stop me. Many mothers and fathers who had abortions who had abortions feel the same. The truth is, abortion hurt my soul and killed my baby. The truth is that I hired a hitman to get rid of my unwanted baby, which I now mourn so deeply. Abortion is a benign word. Abortion is not medical care. It is hiring an assassin to get rid of an unwanted person and dispose of the body. We are not protesters out on the sidewalks of abortion mills but a ministry to help the mothers in crisis. Once they walk into the door, there is high pressure, often deceiving sales to get them to abort. Each abortion is a profit. Each mother choosing life is a profit lost. As each mother is going in, there is a hope to the very last heartbeat of the baby that the mother will change her mind. A decision to not abort the baby is also pro-choice. Those of you who visited Latrobe, did you stop to talk to a sidewalk counselor or someone praying? Did you talk to a mother who turned away? Did you look at the face of a mother who had just had an abortion? You would never forget her face. This is a controversial issue with this ordinance, and you are one sided on it. It is the job of the government to keep a fair and balanced approach to issues between citizens. There should be no winners or losers. It appears that you create an illusion that there is a noise problem. You were using a failed survey and CMPD to create a case. Is CMPD supposed to stake out the buffer zone during all business hours? Bad use of CMPD. Bad that they have to subjectively determine what is loud and disturbing. Charlotte is a destination city for abortions, as what was said 9,000 people are killed every year through abortion. We have three obituaries and now four with the big planned parenthood opening. What a legacy. What a [inaudible]. The babies of the mothers who choose life are lost profits to the abortion centers. Thankfully with the help of sidewalk councilors, there are thousands of lost profits alive today.

**Katherine Hearn, 4815 Sentinel Post Road** said I am here to share my concerns about the proposed changes to the City's sound ordinance. For over 15 years, I have gone to local abortion clinics here in Charlotte to pray and offer help to pregnant women and men who arrive, to offer them a better choice than abortion. As a post abortive woman myself, I know how important it is to show up and offer help. My ability to do this all these years has been my basic right to free speech. Often, I call out to women and men to try to offer them the resources. I cannot tell you how many women and men have changes their minds, and even if they did not change their minds, how many were willing to take the information that hopefully helped them heal and to let them know that there are people who cared and loved them. Sadly today in Charlotte, there are many people who want to target pro-lifers and deny us our First Amendment rights. As a lifelong Charlottean, I have been real surprised and

disappointed to see this. I never thought that I would be subjected to being sprayed with water, verbal abuse, and other types of harassment that many pro-lifers have faces today. Their end game on things, to makes us leave, yet even through all of this, I never thought that the City of Charlotte would be so complicit in this effort. As reported earlier by other speakers, in early 2017, WSOC aired the piece revealing the former mayor's three piece plan for shutting down pro-life activities at abortion clinics, including this proposed noise ordinance to evoke silence on the public sidewalks. This is targeting pro-lifers basic First Amendment rights, and I urge the Council to please vote against it.

**Doris Massey, 514 Wearn Court** said I am here to give witness to the health that my family received in a crisis situation; 13 years ago, I found out that my 17 year old granddaughter, whom I had adopted at age four, was pregnant. It broke my heart. First thing that I thought about was this cannot be happening. That was the last straw for me in trying to deal this way with teenagers. There was no way that I was going to be able to handle that. I made an appointment at the Hebron Abortion Center and took her there despite her resistance. As I pulled up in the drive way, some people were standing on the side asking if they could help me or talk to me, well how could they help? They helped Jasmine with housing, baby shower, permeant friendships that are still encompassed today. Collen is the baby that I was- This is him today. He is my heart. I have lost it on speaking, because my heart is so full, but know that I do not know what I would have done had this been completed, but it was not. He was rescued, and I thank God for that.

**Steve Barringer, 9409 Pendennis Lane** said amen to that, and I thank God. That is beautiful. I am here to share my concerns about the proposed changes to the City noise ordinance in the hope that Council does not pass those changes. The freedom of an individual or a minority group in our republic is determined by the freedom of speech in our Constitution. It is by no accident that our founding fathers put freedom of speech as our First Amendment. What makes protecting the First Amendment so important is that it safe guards the free expression of ideas that may be held by a minority of people. This was best summarized by the French philosopher Voltaire, whose thoughts and writings influenced our founding fathers in framing our Constitution when he wrote, I may disapprove of what you say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it. So, any limitation on freedom of speech is an erosion of the core principles on which our Constitution was written, and this proposed noise ordinance does not adhere to that spirit. Now, I understand how maybe the Council does not think this affects free speech in that we are not restricting free speech, we are just inserting some itty bitty qualifications, yes, like a vague despite restriction with vague means of enforcement and a 200-foot buffer zone. Well, that is like arguing for freedom of the press while requiring a newspaper columnist to print their editorial in yellow ink and in the smallest possible font. Yes, they get to convey their message, but its effect is impacted, because people have to squint and struggle to read it. That would just look wrong, and it would feel wrong, primarily because it is wrong, just like the proposed changes to the noise ordinances, so please do not pass it.

**Jennifer Peace Alexandre, 227 Arbor Court, Rock Hill, South Carolina** said as a veteran of the United States Navy, twice I swore on oath that I would support and defend the constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic, and that I would bear true faith and allegiance to the same. In reference to the noise ordinance, 200 feet is about 300 quarters of a football field. This buffer zone [inaudible] under the title of a noise ordinance, but as a veteran, it feels like an insult. In defense of the Constitution and our freedoms, it feels like we are being sold out. Sadly, I myself had two abortions at age 14 and 16. The Planned Parenthood abortinary was also hidden away in a residential neighborhood. No one was in front of the Planned Parenthood Clinic; no one offered me another choice. Not one person could sacrifice their time or energy or pride to make a fool of themselves for my children. I was lied to. These are the only children I would ever conceive, years of anxiety, depression, despair have haunted me daily. My heart is wild with grief daily. I always wonder what happened to their little bodies. Were they sold, piecemealed? Were they dumped with the medical waste? Were they burned up with the used needles? What happened to my children? I have already, with other veterans, scarified so much, and they do not die and sacrifice life and limb for Planned Parenthood to buy out everybody.

\* \* \* \* \*

## CONSENT AGENDA

Motion was made by Councilmember Egleston and seconded by Councilmember Harlow to approve the Consent Agenda as presented, with the exception to Item No. 42, which was pulled for a separate vote.

**Councilmember Driggs** said regarding Item No. 36: Construction Manager at Risk Services for CMPD South Division Station Project, I am grateful that we are finally going to see a proper police station in south Charlotte, after years and years in which CMPD South has been in this kind of barracks way off the main road. It is also encouraging just to see some money flowing into the district, and I wanted to say basically to all of you in CMPD South officers and staff, we appreciate you, and I am happy that you are going to have a new home.

**Councilmember Harlow** said regarding Item No. 35: Construct Rozzelles Ferry Pedscape Project, this is a \$1.2 million project that is part of our community investment plan, particular the CNIP program in the West Trade, Rozzelles Ferry Corridor. This is kind of a bitter sweet one more me as I live on Rozzelles Ferry, but this is the first engagement session that I ever attended in my time here in Charlotte was for this project, and I had an opportunity to meet Project Manager Lamar Davis and our Area Service Manager in Housing and Neighborhood Services, Randy Harris. I just wanted to give them credit as they have continued to really produce and move projects along in the West Trade/Rozzelles Ferry CNIP. Often, our residents ask, why do we vote on these bonds every two years, and we talk a lot about housing but we do not speak so much about the infrastructure and neighborhood investment stuff? So, as I look at the seven projects in the West Trade/Rozzelles Ferry pipeline, two of them are already complete. One is in construction, and three others are in bid phase, and this one will move towards construction now. So, again, for the residents in the Five Points community and the Biddleville and Sevierville and Westley Heights areas, this is another project that is moving forward towards construction that will increase the pedestrian friendly nature of this neighborhood as Rozzelles Ferry. Increase some safety, get some new medians in the middle of the street with some nice planters to increase beautification and also do some traffic calming as well. We talked about that earlier this evening. So, again to the staff who continue to stretch this \$20 million in this particular CNIP area to really pump out seven and maybe a possibility of eight, because this actually came in under the expected budget as well, so kudos to Lamar Davis, Randy Harris, Cherry Grant, all the folks who have been working in the community on this particular project.

The vote was taken on the motion and recorded as unanimous.

The following items were approved:

**Item No. 34: Resolution of Intent to Abandon Two Unopened Alleyways off of Outlets Boulevard**

(A) Adopt a Resolution of intent to abandon two unopened alleyways off of Outlets Boulevard, and (B) Set a Public Hearing for June 24, 2019.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 49, at Page(s) 584.

**Item No. 35: Construct Rozzelles Ferry Pedscape Project**

Approve a contract in the amount of \$1,124,435.63 to the lowest responsive bidder United of Carolinas, Inc. for the Rozzelles Ferry Pedscape Project.

**Summary of Bids**

United of Carolinas, Inc.	\$1,124,435.63
Nassiri Development	\$1,277,272.50
OnSite Development LLC	\$1,470,399.25
Blythe Development Company	\$1,620,574.06

**Item No. 36: Construction Manager at Risk Services for the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department South Division Station Project**

Authorize the City Manager to negotiate and approve a contract with Barnhill Contracting Company for a construction manager at risk in the amount not to exceed \$11,500,000 for the construction phase of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department South Division Station project.

**Item No. 37: Life Safety Systems and Maintenance and Repair Services**

(A) Approve the purchase of Life Safety Systems and Maintenance and Repair Services from a federal contract as authorized by G.S. 143-129(e)(9a), (B) Approve a contract with Johnson Controls Fire Protection LP for the purchase of life safety systems and maintenance and repair services for a term of three years under General Services Administration Contract Number GS-07F-0396M dated July 1, 2017, and (C) Authorize the City Manager to extend the use of the contract for one-year terms as long as the federal contract is in effect, at prices and terms that are the same or more favorable than those offered under the federal contract.

**Item No. 38: CATS Rail Parts and Repairs**

(A) Approve the purchase of transit rail parts and repairs, by the sole source exemption, (B) Approve a contract with Knorr-Bremse Powertech Corp. USA and with Knorr Brake Co. for the purchase of transit rail related parts and repairs for the term of three years, and (C) Authorize the City Manager to renew each contract for up to five, one-year terms with possible price adjustments and to amend

**Item No. 39: General Obligation Refunding Bonds**

(A) Introduce a bond order authorizing the issuance of General Obligation Refunding Bonds not to exceed \$223,000,000, (B) Adopt a resolution making certain statements of fact concerning the proposed bond issuance, and (C) Set a public hearing regarding these bonds for June 24, 2019.

The resolutions are recorded in full in Resolution Book 49, at Page(s) 585-589.

**Item No. 40: Refund of Property Taxes**

Adopt a resolution authorizing the refund of property taxes assessed through clerical or assessment error in the amount of \$365.17

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 49, at Page(s) 590-591.

**Item No. 41: Meeting Minutes**

Approve the titles, motions, and votes reflected in the Clerk's record as the minutes of: April 8, 2019 Business Meeting, April 15, 2019 Zoning Meeting, and April 22, 2019 Business Meeting.

**PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS**

**Item No. 43: Property Transactions - Cross Charlotte Trail Brandywine - Tyvola, Parcel #24**

Resolution of Condemnation of 15,617 square feet (.359 acre) in Greenway Easement, plus 9,843 square feet (.226 acre) in Temporary Construction Easement at 4755 Hedgemore Drive from Franciscan Terrace Homeowner's Association, Ltd. For \$202,325 for Cross Charlotte Trail Brandywine - Tyvola, Parcel #24.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 49, at Page(s) 592.

**Item No. 44: Property Transactions - Cross Charlotte Trail Brandywine - Tyvola, Parcel #27**

Resolution of Condemnation of 255 square feet (.006 acre) in Greenway Easement, plus 99 square feet (.002 acre) in Temporary Construction Easement, plus 1,843 sq. ft. (.042 acre) in Utility Easement at 5115 Park Road from 5115 Park Place Owner, LLC for 28,775 for Cross Charlotte Trail Brandywine - Tyvola, Parcel #27.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 49, at Page(s) 593.

**Item No. 45: Property Transactions - Drummond Avenue 1001, Parcel #4**

Acquisition of 1,434 square feet (.033 acre) in Storm Drainage Easement, plus 708 square feet (.016 acre) in Temporary Construction Easement at 9387 Lunsford Place from Heaven Properties, LLC for \$12,000 for Drummond Avenue 1001, Parcel #4.

**Item No. 46: Property Transactions - Hinsdale - Tinkerbell Drainage Improvements, Parcel #26**

Acquisition of 365.95 square feet (.008 acre) in Storm Drainage Easement, plus 713.23 square feet (.016 acre) in Temporary Construction Easement, plus 1,218.63 square feet (.028 acre.) in Utility Easement at 5609 Sharon Road from Andrew Patrick Parker for Hinsdale - Tinkerbell Drainage Improvements, Parcel #26.

**Item No. 47: Property Transactions - Margaret Wallace (Campbell to Old Gate) Sidewalk, Parcel #14**

Resolution of Condemnation of 246 square feet (.006 acre) in Storm Drainage Easement, plus 1,831 square feet (.042 acre) in Sidewalk and Utility Easement, plus 15,421 square feet (.354 acre) in Temporary Construction Easement at 2500 Margaret Wallace Road from Horizon Development Properties, Inc. for \$17,000 for Margaret Wallace (Campbell to Old Gate) Sidewalk, Parcel #14.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 49, at Page(s) 594.

**Item No. 48: Property Transactions - Marvin Rd Sidewalk, Parcel #15**

Resolution of Condemnation of 1,273 square feet (.029 acre) in Sidewalk and Utility Easement, plus 2,848 square feet (.065 acre) in Temporary Construction Easement at 16701 Marvin Road from Bene Properties, LLC for \$4,625 for Marvin Rd Sidewalk, Parcel #15.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 49, at Page(s) 595.

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**Item No. 42: In Rem Remedy 1106 Pondella Drive**

Adopt an ordinance authorizing the use of In Rem Remedy to remove the structure at 1106 Pondella Drive.

Motion was made by Councilmember Mayfield and seconded by Councilmember Winston to defer Item No. 42 for continued conversation to the next Business Meeting.
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The vote was taken on the motion and recorded as follows:

YEAS: Councilmembers Ajmera, Bokhari, Driggs, Eiselt, Harlow, Mayfield, Mitchell, Newton, and Winston

NAYS: Councilmembers Egleston and Phipps

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**AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS**

**ITEM NO. 10: TOURETTE SYNDROME AWARENESS MONTH AND TOURETTE SYNDROME AWARENESS DAY**

Councilmember Eiselt read the following proclamation:

**WHEREAS**, one in 100 school-age children have Tourette or a tic disorder, and

**WHEREAS**, a staggering 50% of individuals go undiagnosed; and

**WHEREAS**, Tourette is widely misunderstood, misdiagnosed, and under-diagnosed; and

**WHEREAS**, there is no standard treatment for Tourette Syndrome; and

**WHEREAS**, the only “cure” for Tourette Syndrome is education and awareness to reduce the stigma:

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Vi Alexander Lyles, Mayor of Charlotte, do hereby proclaim

May 15 - June 15, 2019, and specifically, June 4, 2019 as

**“TOURETTE SYNDROME AWARENESS MONTH & TOURETTE SYNDROME AWARENESS DAY”**

Respectively, in Charlotte, and commend its observance to all citizens as a special time to promote understanding, compassion, and acceptance for all of our fellow citizens who deserve and need our support to break the stigma that surrounds Tourette Syndrome

**WITNESS MY HAND** and the official Seal of the City of Charlotte.

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**ITEM NO. 11: MISS CHARLOTTE 2019 DAY PROCLAMATION**

Councilmember Mitchell read the following proclamation:

**WHEREAS**, after graduating with honors from Mallard Creek High School in 2015, Autumn continued her education at East Carolina University; she plans to pursue a career in luxury event planning upon graduation in December; and

**WHEREAS**, on January 26th, Autumn Hubbard earned the title of Miss Charlotte 2019. She is the fourth Miss Charlotte under the direction of executive director, Michael McGough. Autumn was awarded the community service and talent award during the competition; and

**WHEREAS**, Autumn looks forward to competing at the next level during the Miss North Carolina Competition on June 18 - 22, 2019. Autumn placed as the fourth runner-up at the 2018 Miss North Carolina Competition and was a recipient of the Wells Fargo Community Impact award for her work with her social impact initiative, Greater Is Coming: Empowering Young Leaders; and

**WHEREAS**, she has worked in Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools through her partnership with the Communities In Schools Organization, speaking to hundreds of students across our state; she has used her stories of resilience and perseverance to encourage students to keep working toward their goals and overcome their obstacles:

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Vi Alexander Lyles, Mayor of Charlotte, do hereby proclaim June 10, 2019 as

**“MISS CHARLOTTE 2019 DAY”**

in Charlotte and commend its observance to all citizens.

**WITNESS MY HAND** and the official Seal of the City of Charlotte.

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**CHARLOTTE CHECKERS CALDER CUP CHAMPIONS DAY PROCLAMATION**

Councilmember Egleston read the following proclamation:

**WHEREAS**, the Charlotte Checkers have called the City of Charlotte home for more than half a century; and

**WHEREAS**, the Checkers energized and inspired our community with their winning attitude and commitment to the city and region; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2018–19 season was the Checkers' best season as an American Hockey League team to date and one of the best in Charlotte's hockey history; and

**WHEREAS**, this season the Checkers won the Emile Francis Trophy as Atlantic Division Champions, the Frank S. Mathers Trophy as Eastern Conference Champions and the Macgregor Kilpatrick Trophy as the American Hockey League's regular-season champions; and

**WHEREAS**, the Checkers capped off their record-setting 2019 season on Saturday night with a victory against the Chicago Wolves to win the Calder Cup and deliver Charlotte it's first-ever American Hockey League championship:

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Vi Alexander Lyles, Mayor of Charlotte, do hereby proclaim

June 10, 2019 as

**“CHARLOTTE CHECKERS CALDER CUP CHAMPIONS DAY”**

in Charlotte and commend its observance to all citizens.

**WITNESS MY HAND** and the official Seal of the City of Charlotte.

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**APPRECIATION PLAQUE FROM THE TOWN OF MOORESVILLE TO THE CHARLOTTE MECKLENBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**Lisa Qualls, Mooresville Commissioner** said on Saturday evening, we lost K-9 Officer Jordan Sheldon in the line of duty. Although we hear about the senseless acts so often in the news, no one is truly prepared when it happens in the core of the community. Officer Sheldon served the Mooresville Police Department and the Town of Mooresville with pride, integrity, and commitment. The support that we received the days following his loss were overwhelming. Tonight, I am here on behalf of the Town of Mooresville to simply say thank you. The Town of Mooresville extends our sincere gratitude and appreciate to the City of Charlotte, the entire team of the Charlotte Mecklenburg Police Department for your assistance and support in our community's time of need. There was never a no when we asked, and for that, we are truly, truly blessed and thank you for being our partners and continue to ask for your prayers.

**Mayor Lyles** said Commissioner Qualls, I want you to know that when we talk about regional transportation, I believe that the efforts that our police and fire and emergency responders make is a commitment to all of our region is the example that we could use, selfless duty, and we know that we could expect that from Mooresville, and we were glad to be able to support your family and your officer.

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**PUBLIC HEARING**

**ITEM NO. 12. PUBLIC HEARING FOR LENDING TREE, LLC BUSINESS INVESTMENT GRANT**

**Mayor Lyles** declared the hearing open.



There being no speakers either for or against, a motion was made by Councilmember Egleston, seconded by Councilmember Newton and carried unanimously to close the public hearing and approve the City's share of a Business Investment Grant to Lending Tree, LLC for a total estimated amount of \$733,988 over seven years.

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## POLICY

### ITEM NO. 13. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Marcus Jones, City Manager, distributed his 30-day report.

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### ITEM NO. 14: FISCAL YEAR 2020 OPERATING BUDGET AND FISCAL YEARS 2020 - 2024 CAPITAL INVESTMENT PLAN

**Councilmember Phipps** said tonight, we are voting to adopt the City's 2020 budget and fiscal year 2024 capital investment plan. The 2020 budget totals \$2.6 billion across all funds and \$727.7 million in the general fund. The budget establishes a tax rate of \$34.81 per \$100 assessed valuation, and this tax rate is revenue neutral. Let me start by thanking City Council for the robust series of conversations we have had about the budget this year. Discussions that begin at our annual strategy meeting in January continued through four Budget and Effectiveness Committee meetings, three Budget Workshops, the City Manager's proposed budget presentation, two budget briefings, and a budget adjustment straw votes meeting. I also want to thank the members of the Budget and Effectiveness Committee, Ed Driggs, who is the Vice Chair; Dimple Ajmera; Tariq Bokhari; and LaWana Mayfield. I also want to thank City Manager Jones and Deputy City Manager Joy-Hogg, the Strategy and Budget staff and staff all across the departments who put in hard work to develop this budget. They worked a lot of overtime a lot of weekends.

Just to highlight briefly, at the annual Strategy Meeting, City Council established four new strategic priorities: Neighborhood Development; Economic Development; Transportation and Planning; and Well Managed Government. The City Manager did a great job proposing a budget that addresses these priorities, and I would just want to mention a few budget highlights from each of these priority areas.

In the priority area of Neighborhood Development, the budget expands the City's efforts to address affordable housing by funding new programs to preserve naturally occurring affordable housing, or NOAH for short, and by increasing the 2020 housing bond to \$50 million, which doubles the originally planned \$25 million bond. To promote economic development, fiscal year 2020 budget addresses the City's upward mobility challenges to investments on the east side and west side collaborative initiatives. Additional funding to grow minority, women, and small-business enterprises and enhances workforce development activities through the P.I.E.C.E program 2.0.

Support for Transportation and Planning includes advancing the comprehensive plan, fully funding the plan's section of the Cross Charlotte Trail, implementing \$20 million advance planning and design revolving fund and planning for a \$223 million of steady, state debt affordability for the foreseeable future.

Finally, fostering Well Managed Government includes raising the minimum wage for City employees to \$16.00 per hour and enhancing public safety pay and benefits to address recruitment and retention and increasing funding to address building maintenance need. So, the best part is that we can accomplish all of this with the revenue neutral tax rate and no tax increase.

Motion was made by Councilmember Phipps, seconded by Councilmember Harlow and carried unanimously to adopt the Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 Appropriations and Tax Levy Ordinance 9574-X, the FY 2020 Compensation and Benefits Resolution, and other items related to the Annual Budget Ordinance adoption: (A) The FY 2020 Operating Appropriations and Tax Levy Ordinance 9574-X, (B) The FY 2020 - 2024 Capital Investment Plan, (C) The FY 2020 General Solid Waste Fee, (D) The FY 2020 Storm Water Services Fee, (E) The FY 2020 Transit Operating Budget and Debt Service Budget, which was approved by the Metropolitan Transit Commission on April 24, 2019, (F) The FY 2020 Charlotte Water Rates, (G) The FY 2020 Compensation and Benefits Plan and associated Human Resources contracts, (H) Outside Agencies and Municipal Service Districts Contracts, and (I) Other Budget Items.

**Mayor Lyles** said Mr. Jones, that is pretty remarkable. I would also like to recognize the many, many staff people who worked very hard on this. I know what it is like to do a budget, and I think that you guys have added some expertise and gravitas and knowledge and awareness. You have done a phenomenal job making sure that every question was answered and distributed, even when they might have come in 15 minutes before the meeting started. I would like to have the Budget staff please stand and be recognized. You guys have done great work, the entire City team, and I recognize this was not done in two or three weeks. This was something that started in January with one of the most solid footings that we had in discussion during the Council retreat and the work that the Council did to continue to refine every action. I just want to say to my colleagues that I believe that this has been one of the most open and dynamic processes, because we took the time to steadily look at what we needed to do to accomplish the goals that were set in January, so to you I say congratulations for the hard work, and I think that we are in a really great place to begin to think about how we can make sure that Charlotte is actually a city where everyone can live that we can make sure that people have work and jobs to do and know that we are going to work on transportation so that they can get to and from those positions easily. It is not that we are finished, but I can tell you that this is a great beginning. So, thank you very much to each of you for the work that you have done all the way through from public safety to our environment. I think that we have really gotten us to a good place.

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 62, at Page(s) 235-246.

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**BUSINESS**

**ITEM NO. 15: GRANTS FOR PROPANE FUEL CONVERSION KITS AND INFRASTRUCTURE**

Item No. 15 has been pulled by staff and will be brought back to a future Business Meeting.

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**ITEM NO. 16: MCALPINE CREEK WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT NUTRIENT HARVESTING PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP**

Motion was made by Councilmember Egleston, seconded by Councilmember Mayfield and carried unanimously to (A) Adopt a resolution identifying a critical need for a capital improvement project that provides for the removal and reuse of phosphorus, and (B) Authorize the use of the public-private partnership contracting method to provide the capital improvement project.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 49, Page(s) 595A.

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**ITEM NO. 17: MUNICIPAL AGREEMENT FOR RELOCATION OF WATER AND SEWER INFRASTRUCTURE**

Motion was made by Councilmember Egleston, seconded by Councilmember Harlow and carried unanimously to (A) Adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a Municipal Agreement with the North Carolina Department of Transportation for construction of water and sewer line relocations, adjustments, and improvements, and (B) Authorize the City Manager to approve the reimbursement request for the actual cost of the utility construction.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 49, at Page(s) 581-581U.

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**ITEM NO 18: LEASE OF CITY-OWNED PROPERTY AT JW CLAY PARKING DECK TO SABOR LATIN STREET GRILL**

Motion was made by Councilmember Winston and seconded by Councilmember Harlow to Adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a retail lease agreement with Sabor 12 UV, LLC, operating as Sabor Latin Street Grill, for the lease of approximately 1,850 square feet in the JW Clay Parking Deck for a 10-year term with extension options.

**Councilmember Phipps** said I noticed that in this particular item and the one that is going to be coming up next, they had a bullet in here that said the retail space will not be needed by the City for the term of the proposed lease. My question is, is this one of the requirements in these leases for to activate the ground floor of parking decks for the CATS facilities? Is this one of the conditions, that the City not be in a position to want to lease it?

**Mayor Lyles** said to break the lease you mean?

**Marie Harris, Strategy and Budget** said I am not sure Mr. Phipps, but that is just to let you know to feel confident. It is not a space that we need right now that we will grow into in the future potentially, but it is nothing that we are hiring out that we could be using internally.

A vote was taken on the motion and carried unanimously.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 49, at Page(s) 582.

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**ITEM NO 19: LEASE OF CITY-OWNED PROPERTY AT JW CLAY PARKING DECK TO ATRIUM HEALTH**

Motion was made by Councilmember Harlow, seconded by Councilmember Newton and carried unanimously to adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a retail lease agreement with The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Hospital Authority Carolina Physicians Network, Inc., operating as Atrium Health, for the lease of approximately 2,325 square feet in the JW Clay Parking Deck for a 10-year term with extension options.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 49, at Page(s) 583.

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**NOMINATIONS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

**ITEM NO. 20: NOMINATIONS TO THE ALTERNATIVE COMPLIANCE REVIEW**

**COMMITTEE**

The following nominations were made for the Community Representative category: one appointment for a one-year term beginning July 1, 2019 and ending June 30, 2020, one appointment for a three-year term beginning July 1, 2019 and ending June 30, 2022 and one appointment for a for a two-year term for an Alternate beginning July 1, 2019 and ending June 30, 2021.

- Padma Bulusu, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera and Mayfield
- Hermes Goudes, nominated by Councilmembers Bokhari, Driggs, Egleston, Eiselt, Harlow, Mitchell, and Newton
- Mary Kelly, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Bokhari, Driggs, Egleston, Eiselt, Harlow, Mayfield, Mitchell, Newton, Phipps, and Winston
- Renee Rubens, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Eiselt, Mayfield, Mitchell, and Newton
- Richard Saltrick, nominated by Councilmember Driggs

Motion was made by Councilmember Harlow, seconded by Councilmember Mayfield and carried unanimously to appoint Hermes Goudes and Mary Kelly.

Mr. Goudes and Ms. Kelly were appointed.

The remaining appointment will be brought back to the June 24, 2019 Business Meeting.

The following nominations were made for the Real Estate Development Industry category: one appointment for a one-year term beginning July 1, 2019 and ending June 30, 2020, one appointment for a two-year term beginning July 1, 2019 and ending June 30, 2021, one appointment for a three-year term beginning July 1, 2019 and ending June 30, 2022, and one appointment for a three-year term for an Alternate beginning July 1, 2019 and ending June 30, 2022.

- Page Case, nominated by Councilmember Ajmera
- Silas Gridewood, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Driggs, Mayfield, Mitchell
- Thomas Haapapuro, nominated by Councilmember Driggs
- Scott Hinson, nominated by Councilmember Harlow
- Tobe Holmes, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Bokhari, Driggs, Egleston, Eiselt, Harlow, Mayfield, Mitchell, Newton, Phipps, and Winston
- Michael-Paule James, nominated by Councilmembers Bokhari, Harlow, Mayfield, Mitchell, Newton
- David Walters, nominated by Councilmembers Bokhari, Driggs, Egleston, Eiselt, Harlow, Mayfield, Mitchell, Newton, Phipps, and Winston
- Eric Zaverl, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Bokhari, Egleston, Eiselt, and Newton

Motion was made by Councilmember Egleston, seconded by Councilmember Harlow and carried unanimously to appoint Tobe Holmes and David Walters.

Mr. Holmes and Mr. Walters were appointed.

The remaining appointments will be brought back to the June 24, 2019 Business Meeting.

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**ITEM NO. 21: NOMINATIONS TO THE BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

The following nominations were made for one appointment for a partial term as a representative of the Metrolina Minority Contractors Association beginning upon appointment and ending April 28, 2019. The Metrolina Minority Contractors Association has recommended Darmel Lee.

- Darmel Lee, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Bokhari, Driggs, Egleston, Eiselt, Harlow, Mayfield, Mitchell, Newton, Phipps, and Winston

Motion was made by Councilmember Winston, seconded by Councilmember Ajmera and carried unanimously to appoint Darmel Lee.

Mr. Lee was appointed.

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**ITEM NO. 22: NOMINATIONS TO THE CHARLOTTE INTERNATIONAL CABINET**

The following nominations were made for one appointment for a three-year term for a representative of the Charlotte Regional Visitors Authority beginning July 1, 2019 and ending June 30, 2022.

- Erin Icehour, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Bokhari, Driggs, Egleston, Eiselt, Harlow, Mayfield, Mitchell, Newton and Winston
- William McMillan, nominated by Councilmember Phipps

Motion was made by Councilmember Driggs, seconded by Councilmember Harlow and carried unanimously to appoint Erin Icehour.

Ms. Icehour was appointed.

The following nominations were made for one appointment for a three-year term for a representative of the Charlotte Regional Business Alliance beginning July 1, 2019 and ending June 30, 2022.

- Sven Gerzer, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Driggs, Harlow, Mayfield, and Phipps

This appointment will be brought back to the June 24, 2019 Business Meeting.

The following nominations were made for one appointment for a three-year term in the International Business category beginning July 1, 2019 and ending June 30, 2022.

- Vanessa Vaughn, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Bokhari, Driggs, Eglston, Eiselt, Harlow, Mayfield, Mitchell, Newton, and Winston

Motion was made by Councilmember Ajmera, seconded by Councilmember Egleston and carried unanimously to reappoint Vanessa Vaughn.

Ms. Vaughn was reappointed.

The following nominations were made for one appointment for a three-year term in the Education/ Non-Profit category beginning July 1, 2019 and ending June 30, 2022.

- M. Stefanie Arteaga, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera and Winston
- Tarek Elshayeb, nominated by Councilmember Driggs
- Myra Foster, nominated by Councilmember Mitchell

- Victor Rodriguez, nominated by Councilmembers Egleston Eiselt Harlow, Mayfield, and Newton

This appointment will be brought back to the June 24, 2019 Business Meeting.

The Following nominations were made for one appointment for a three-year term for an At-Large member beginning July 1, 2019 and ending June 30, 2022.

Motion was made by Councilmember Mayfield, seconded by Councilmember Newton and carried unanimously to appoint Niketa Mittal.

Ms. Mittal was appointed.

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**ITEM NO. 23: NOMINATIONS TO THE CHARLOTTE REGIONAL VISITORS AUTHORITY**

The following nominations were made for one appointment for a three-year term in the General Travel category beginning July 1, 2019 and ending June 30, 2022.

- Clark D. Allen, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Bokhari, Driggs, Egleston, Eiselt, Harlow, Mayfield, Mitchell, Newton, Phipps, and Winston

The following nominations were made for one appointment for a three-year term for an At-Large member beginning July 1, 2019 and ending June 30, 2022.

- Martha Dockery Clerk, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Driggs, Egleston, Eiselt, Harlow, Mayfield, Mitchell, and Newton
- Lauri Eberhard, nominated by Councilmember Bokhari

Motion was made by Councilmember Harlow, seconded by Councilmember Ajmera and carried unanimously to reappoint Clark D. Allen and Martha Dockery Clark.

Mr. Allen and Ms. Clark were reappointed.

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**ITEM NO. 24: NOMINATIONS TO THE CITIZENS REVIEW BOARD**

The following nominations were made for one appointment for a three-year term beginning August 1, 2019 and ending July 31, 2022.

- Mary Susan Cox, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Driggs, Mayfield, and Newton
- Jeffery Simpson, nominated by Councilmember Harlow
- Samuel Smith, nominated by Councilmembers Bokhari, Egleston, Eiselt, and Phipps
- Brigit Taylor, nominated by Councilmember Winston

This appointment will be brought back to the June 24, 2019 Business Meeting.

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**ITEM NO. 25: NOMINATIONS TO THE CITIZENS TRANSIT ADVISORY GROUP**

The following nominations were made for one appointment for a two-year term beginning July 1, 2019 and ending June 30, 2021.

- Robert Padgett, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Bokhari, Driggs, Egleston, Eiselt, Harlow, Mayfield, Mitchell, Newton, Phipps, and Winston

Motion was made by Councilmember Mayfield, seconded by Councilmember Newton and carried unanimously to reappoint Robert Padgett.

Mr. Padgett was reappointed.

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**ITEM NO. 26: NOMINATIONS TO THE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION**

The following nominations were made for one appointment for a three-year term for a Resident Owner of Dilworth beginning July 1, 2019 and ending June 30, 2022.

- Jill Walker, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Bokhari, Driggs, Egleston, Eiselt, Harlow, Mayfield, Mitchell, Newton, Phipps, and Winston

The following nominations were made for one appointment for a three-year term for a Resident Owner of Plaza-Midwood beginning July 1, 2019 and ending June 30, 2022.

- Chris Barth, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Bokhari, Driggs, Egleston, Eiselt, Harlow, Mayfield, Mitchell, Newton, Phipps, and Winston

The following nominations were made for one appointment for a three-year term for a Resident Owner of Fourth Ward beginning July 1, 2019 and ending June 30, 2022.

- James Haden, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Bokhari, Driggs, Egleston, Eiselt, Harlow, Mayfield, Mitchell, Phipps, and Winston

Motion was made by Councilmember Driggs, seconded by Councilmember Harlow and carried unanimously to appoint Jill Walker and Chris Barth and reappoint James Haden.

Ms. Walker and Mr. Barth were appointed. Mr. Haden was reappointed.

The following nominations were made for one appointment for a three-year term for an At-Large member beginning July 1, 2019 and ending June 30, 2021.

The following nominations were made for one appointment for a partial term for an At-Large member beginning upon appointment and ending June 30, 2021.

- Elizabeth Frere, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera and Harlow
- Jessica Hindman, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Bokhari, Driggs, Egleston, Eiselt, Harlow, Mayfield, Mitchell, Newton, and Winston
- Ciara May, nominated by Councilmembers Driggs, Eiselt, Mayfield, and Newton
- Chris Muryn, nominated by Councilmembers Bokhari and Egleston

Motion was made by Councilmember Egleston, seconded by Councilmember Newton and carried unanimously to reappoint Jessica Hindman.

Ms. Hindman was reappointed.

The remaining appointment will be brought back to the June 24, 2019 Business Meeting.

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**ITEM NO. 27: NOMINATIONS TO THE MINT MUSEUM BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

The following nominations were made for one appointment for a three-year term beginning August 1, 2019 and ending July 31, 2022.

- Roxanne Trenkelbach, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Bokhari, Driggs, Egleston, Eiselt, Harlow, Mayfield, Mitchell, Newton, Phipps, and Winston

Motion was made by Councilmember Mayfield, seconded by Councilmember Newton and carried unanimously to reappoint Roxanne Trenkelbach.

Ms. Trenkelbach was reappointed.

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**ITEM NO. 28: NOMINATIONS TO PASSENGER VEHICLE FOR HIRE BOARD**

The following nominations were made for one appointment for a three-year term in the Company Operating Certificate Licensee category beginning July 1, 2019 and ending June 30, 2022.

- Alvin Stennett, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Bokhari, Driggs, Egleston, Eiselt, Harlow, Mayfield, Mitchell, Newton, Phipps, and Winston

Motion was made by Councilmember Mayfield, seconded by Councilmember Phipps and carried unanimously to appoint Alvin Stennett.

Mr. Stennett was appointed.

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**ITEM NO. 29: NOMINATIONS TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION**

The following nominations were made for one appointment for a three-year term recommended by the Board of Education beginning July 1, 2019 and ending June 30, 2022. The Board of Education has recommended Samuel R. Spencer IV.

- Samuel R. Spencer IV, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Bokhari, Driggs, Egleston, Eiselt, Harlow, Mayfield, Mitchell, Phipps, and Winston

The following nominations were made for two appointments for three-year terms beginning July 1, 2019 and ending June 30, 2022.

- Erin Barbee, nominated by Councilmembers Bokhari, Egleston, Harlow, Mayfield, Newton, and Winston
- Richard Black, nominated by Councilmember Driggs
- Astrid Chirinosw, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera and Eiselt
- Elizabeth McMillan, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Bokhari, Driggs, Egleston, Eiselt, Harlow, Mayfield, Mitchell, Newton, Phipps, and Winston
- Alysia Osborne, nominated by Councilmember Phipps

Motion was made by Councilmember Newton, seconded by Councilmember Mayfield and carried unanimously to reappoint Samuel R. Spencer IV and Elizabeth McMillan and to appoint Erin Barbee.

Mr. Spencer and Ms. McMillan were reappointed. Ms. Barbee was appointed.

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**ITEM NO. 30: NOMINATIONS TO THE PUBLIC ART COMMISSION**

The following nominations were made for one appointment for a three-year term for a representative of the Community At-Large beginning July 1, 2019 and ending June 30, 2022.



- Sherri D. Belfield, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Bokhari, Driggs, Egleston, Eiselt, Harlow, Mayfield, Mitchell, Newton, Phipps, and Winston

Motion was made by Councilmember Mayfield, seconded by Councilmember Newton and carried unanimously to reappoint Sherri D. Belfield.

Ms. Belfield was reappointed.

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**ITEM NO. 31: NOMINATIONS TO THE STORM WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

The following nominations were made for one appointment for a three-year term in the Schools/ College/ Hospital/ Church/ Institution Professional category beginning July 1, 2019 and ending June 30, 2022.

Motion was made by Councilmember Newton, seconded by Councilmember Mayfield and carried unanimously to appoint John Tartt.

- John Tartt, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Bokhari, Driggs, Egleston, Eiselt, Harlow, Mayfield, Mitchell, Newton, Phipps, and Winston

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**ITEM NO. 32: NOMINATIONS TO THE TRANSIT SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

No nominations were submitted. This appointment will be re-advertised and brought back to a future Business Meeting.

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**ITEM NO. 33: MAYOR AND COUNCIL TOPICS**

**Councilmember Newton** said two quick calendar points to address here, one is a byproduct of a lot of hard work with our Eastland Redevelopment Team. They are holding a public forum on Wednesday, June 19, 2019. It is a free event open to all of the public and my colleagues here on Council. I hope that you can all make it as well. It is going to be at Calvary Church of the Nazarene, which is located at 4000 North Sharon Amity Road, right beside the Eastland site. Seating is limited though. The general public, please jump on [envisioneastland.com](http://envisioneastland.com); that is the website that has been setup for the redevelopment effort, and register there for this public forum to ensure that you have a seat that evening.

Also, it is about that time a year again. We will be celebrating the Fourth of July, and Charlotte's Fourth of July parade is the Hickory Grove Fourth of July Parade, and there is a celebration afterwards. That is going to be on that Thursday, the Fourth of July has moved. It is not going to be on Harris Boulevard this year. It is actually going to go up Shamrock Drive, so it is going to be starting at Laurence Orr Elementary and ending at Aldersgate. The parade is going to start at 10:00 a.m., and the celebration will be starting on the front lawn of Aldersgate at 11:30 a.m. I look forward to seeing everyone there.

**Councilmember Bokhari** said I just wanted to take a second and congratulate the Manager, everyone on staff for what was a unanimous, bipartisan budget adoption but also just the hard work that you guys put into this. It has been a year of hard work, and there are a lot of big items that we should all be incredibly pleased that you figured out how to do, that preplanning fund to insure the way that we got to the Cross Charlotte Train is not going to happen again, because you have now got a formed, procedure based process in the economic development area that focuses on innovation, entrepreneurship, small business, and what would be the year of economic development, I think that is what is going to be incredible and add there we cannot forget that we made good on a two-year mission with CMPD police officer pay, increasing the salaries of sergeant and top folks there, then overhauling how government really operates over the last year, going from vertical silos to these horizontal, cross-departmental views that saves \$5 million in this budget. I just wanted

to make sure those big things were not lost, as well as small things like staffing needs in areas that were constrained and assets and technology. It was just a really incredible job in doing all of that in a revenue neutral matter that requires no property tax increase is quite frankly a testament to the quality of the staff and what can be done.

**Councilmember Phipps** said not to mention the transparency that was involved in this budget process. I would just like to invite the residents of District 4, and all over the City really, to my next townhall meeting, Vision Zero More than 2020. It is going to be held Thursday, June 27, 2019 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Camino Center at 201 Stetson Drive at the McCullough Blueline State in northeast Charlotte. We are going to be focusing on transportation, traffic and pedestrian safety, rail projects, and high injury network projects or intersections that we have in the district and a lot of major CDOT and NCDOT projects, so come on out. We are going to have booths there with different demonstration tables and some giveaways, and I look forward to seeing you all there on June 27, 2019.

**Councilmember Mayfield** said a couple of updates, although we did not have a proclamation on it, I want to make sure that we know we are in June, which is Pride Month, and it started a kick off on June 1 going through the end of this month, and that pride is not just a party. It was kicked off because of the Stonewall riots and with that in mind, this coming Saturday at Romare Bearden, Charlotte Pride is hosting a Stonewall 50<sup>th</sup> celebration, the Charlotte Version, because this is the 50th anniversary of the Stonewall Riots. That will be this Saturday afternoon from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Romare Bearden Park, and of course Charlotte Pride is right around the corner.

We also will be having coming up on Wednesday, June 19, 2019 Charlotte Black Pride will have a mixer. There are multiple events happening around the community, to not only support and celebrate pride, especially under this time where this past weekend we had yet another black, trans female who was murdered, so that brings us up to 10 across the nation, and we need to have some real conversations about the impact in our black, African American trans male and female communities regarding assault and or attacks. I also want to make sure that everyone knows you can go to [Charlottepride.org](http://Charlottepride.org).

I also want to update everyone; on the 21st of June, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., I will be hosting my ninth job fair since being in office. This one will be held at the Movement School off of Freedom Drive. It is specifically an opportunity for those who have been formerly incarcerated, since we have 80 or so people a day that are coming back into our community after serving a time, and these are positions that have been identified through the City of Charlotte, Mecklenburg County, the Airport, Charlotte Water, Transportation. So, these are specific jobs that have been identified. There will be offers that are made, and next steps will be offered to individuals, so please come dressed to impress.

The last piece that I would like to share with everyone, hopefully everyone knows that we have QC back. We have BE back in the QC, so if you did not know, Charlotte hosted Black Enterprise last year, and we are honored and lucky enough that Black Enterprise is coming back again this year June 19 to the 22nd, so June is a very busy month, but we do have information available. You can go online to [blackenterprise.com/fwe](http://blackenterprise.com/fwe). This is yes another event to connect with creators, innovators, founders, entrepreneurs. There is going to be opportunity for people to have a pitch and could possibly win up to \$100,000 to launch their business. If you use the code #BEintheQC, we do have a promotional code that is out there right now that can save you a considerable amount of money off of your registration.

**Councilmember Ajmera** said now that we are talking about townhall, I also have a townhall coming up on June 18, 2019 Doing Business with the City, and it is going to be from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. on June 18, 2019 at Mecklenburg County Bar Association. We are going to have a special guest, our ED Chair James Mitchell who will be there for snacks.

**Councilmember Mitchell** said I will be having a townhall meetings June 27, 2018 here at the Government Center. The topic will be developing a vision with a Minority Perspective. It will start at 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Please call Ms. Jocella Palmer. It is free.

Mr. Mitchell referred the historic Excelsior Club to the Economic Development (ED) Committee; to have staff come back with options for us to present at the ED meeting on June 27, 2019.

**Mayor Lyles** said I was just wondering, that is something that the Historic Landmark Commission has under their authority right now. We have been working very hard with the County staff, the County Manager, as well as the County Commission on that. I just wonder what our role would be without having their- Is there some collaboration that we are trying to achieve? I just do not know what we are trying to achieve, what the charge would be under this effort since the commission is under the espouses of the County. I have been reading in the paper and there is obviously some concern about how the staff is working and those staff people report to the Commission who reports to the County Manager, so I just wondered what was the referral going to accomplish.

Mr. Mitchell said the referral will talk about what option the City can explore as related to the historic Excelsior Club. I would tell you that I think that there are two opportunities for us. One could be as far as the façade is related, and the other one to me is a very important corridor for us, Historic West End with the street car and other development, and I do think that it is in our best interest just to explore what option the City can participate in.

Mayor Lyles said I agree on the façade, but that would have to be managed under the Historic Landmarks Commission, and as well, that would be how do we preserve it, and where do we store it? We did that once before under that commission, so they have a track record for it if that is what it comes to, so again I do not doubt the value of it, especially along that corridor. I do not doubt the opportunity to save the façade. I am just wondering who is on first and who has the authority to take action under the current commission and our county. Whenever we have these referrals, I like to be as specific as possible about what we are trying to accomplish so that we are all on the same page to do this, so I am just wondering. The façade would have to go through the Historic Landmarks Commission. The corridor is something that I think that we all value and understand.

**Marcus Jones, City Manager** said staff will bring back some information. It would help you.

**Councilmember Harlow** said I think what the ED Chair is looking for is to make sure that we have exhausted all of our options and that the full Council understands what those options could be that doesn't necessarily [inaudible] to take any action but it is emptying our tool box so that the community knows it has made some effort here, and I am assuming that is where you are going with it.

**Councilmember Winston** said we know that the Excelsior Club has gotten a specific categorization recently, but we also know that doesn't preclude any actions that we wouldn't want to have happening on the free market, specifically with this one piece property, I think that we should know that it is sooner rather than later for what our options are, but I also think that in general, this speaks to something that we talked about earlier tonight when we talk about In Rem, but we have had different conversations, and that really is the ability to perhaps adopt policies around requiring real estate in general, whether it be real estate that is In Rem, real estate that lies in opportunity zones, whether it is historic properties that are in changing neighborhoods. I think that there is a larger policy issue here about how we insert our self in requiring real estate in today's market. I do not want to make a substitute or anything for Mr. Mitchell, but I think that continues to fall in the same line, and we keep tip toing around it in a couple of different buckets, but I think it wouldn't just be specific with what I would like to see staff come back to us with, not just with the Excelsior but in general how it relates to other Excelsior that we will run into in the future.

Mayor Lyles said I think that we talked about that at the Dinner Meeting and said that we do need to look at land differently, but that is going to take some work, cataloging and getting some parameters and finding some practices along that. It is not that it isn't important to preserve the Excelsior Club as a community. That question that I have is who has the authority to negotiate and what we can contribute to, but right now, we do not have a pathway except information and coordination with the County. We do not have a pathway there. I think that it is very hard for us to say what we are going to do without some coordination, so

I wondered if it would be appropriate for the Manager to come back with a summary of what has been going on, who is in charge, who is leading the negotiations around this and how it is going to be handled.

**Councilmember Driggs** said I think that we can consider this subject without undermining anyone else's authority. I do not think that it is improper for this body to reach a joint position that is a statement, a proposal, very respectful of the others but just that this group is not ignoring the subject entirely I think is the point.

Mayor Lyles said I agree with that, but I am just saying do we need the information first before we go to Committee? I do not know the latest status. It has gone on for several months. Perhaps you know what the latest status is. We need to talk about this before we can talk about it.

Mr. Winston said the property is for sale; there is a tax lien on it, and the seller wants more than the people are willing to pay. We could make an offer right now that would be probably not financially make sense.

Mr. Mitchell said I want the City staff to come back on June 27, 2019 to the ED Committee just to give us an update and information and to explore options. To me, it is twofold. That way we are all on the same page and most of my colleagues have said that we should as a city at least know what our options are if there are any, and I think that we have not had that conversation around this dais.

Ms. Ajmera said I just want to echo what Councilmember Mitchell said. It is such an important part of our city, and we often get asked about what we are doing as a city, and I think to have clear options as to what road we can play in this I think would be important. I think that this would be part of the process in really answering some of the questions that we are getting asked from the community.

**Councilmember Eiselt** said I just want to give a shout out to one of our CMS graduates Eva Noblezada who was nominated for the Tony Award for Best Actress in Musical for Hattie's Town, which one Best Musical last night; it took home eight Tony Awards. Eva did not win, but I just want to point out that it is her second nomination for the Tony Award. She joins other CMS graduates, including Renee Warburton, who has just been chosen to be the lead in Mean Girls on Broadway; [inaudible] who has also been [inaudible] on Broadway, and they are all graduates of Northwest School of the Arts. I just want to say congratulations to them and highlight the excellent arts education that we have in our public schools in this community.

Mr. Winston said I just want to call to the attention that there is flooding going on in our city in District 3 and District 2 around Mountain Island Lake. I want to give a shout out to Charlotte Fire Department who has been operating and making rescues of people in those flooded areas today. Sometimes natural disasters happen in places that are very acute and not necessarily wide spread, but they are important and dangerous, and there are things that we need. We do account for and people prepare for. I think that it really underscores the importance with the passing of tonight's budget continued improvement and upkeep of infrastructure on all parts of the City. Shout out to Charlotte Fire Department who was rescuing people today; good luck and be safe to all out there who are affected by this natural disaster.

Mr. Driggs said I wanted to point out that Northwood Office hosted a meeting on Saturday talking about reimagining Ballantyne and this is big. They are going to convert the entire 500 acre campus, put new construction in there, and gradually migrate the golf course over to open spaces from its current use, so if you were not able to attend that, I encourage you do go to [reimagine.projectBallantyne.com](http://reimagine.projectBallantyne.com) to learn about it, and if you have questions about traffic impact or other city related issues, feel free to get in touch with me.

My second thing is that we recognized our men and women in uniform on Memorial Day, but I think that it is worth noting that this past Thursday was the 75th anniversary of D-Day, and it is something that is another occasion for us to honor our fallen and surviving men and women in uniform and to be grateful for the freedoms that we enjoy.

Mr. Harlow said to echo the sentiments about the budget, Mr. Manager, Budget staff that are still here, really great job finding a way to meet a lot of our Council priorities and objectives and allow us to get closer to reaching those goals that we have promised the community, particularly around funding a way to have another \$50 million affordable housing bond next year, new investments in programs such as East and West collaborative that is going to help small businesses and help capitalize and finance grants and small business loans in these corridors, doubling down on our Aging in Place Program. Really appreciative of our Council seeing that value, particularly this year. We were proactive last year, and this year was the revaluations and the target emergency rehab programs and finding the cost savings and saving dollars to where we can still fund the Cross Charlotte Trail and invest in our comprehensive plan and be an employer of choice by raising our minimum wage. So, a lot was done there of course, a revenue neutral tax rate is important, the lowest in 50 years, so I think that the City got a fantastic budget. It passed unanimously, so very good job to the staff.

Lastly, the secret is out, so to the few colleagues that I did not have a chance to speak to, I will not be seeking reelection this fall. I will continue to serve my term through December, but I have been appreciative of the support that I have gotten. I will not promote the business here, but I will just say that I have a great opportunity in expanding my brand of dental practices and a platform of practices in a new partnership, so excited about what that looks like. I do want to say quickly thought that I encourage as the community thinks about whoever might be serving as we will have a few new Councilmembers next year, this is an extraordinary sacrifice on your time, on your family's time. Everyone up here has families, many have kids, and as we have a younger Council who has to weigh that burden of how do you pursue professional goals and also pursue the great passion of public service, this is not a debate that will go away internally for many of us and certainly for folks who may want to seek the office, so those challenges will continue to lay at the feet of those who want to serve. I encourage those who want to serve or at least explore it, but understand that this is an extraordinary commitment as we get beat up on social media. We get beat up with emails, but I wouldn't trade it for the world, except for this great business opportunity. I have enjoyed my time service, and I will enjoy my last six months to continue doing it, but it has been great. I will be proud to be a part of some of the great things that we are investing in. No townhall planned for now, but I will keep the work going through the end of the year.

**Councilmember Egleston** said two things, one both of the major political parties this weekend had statewide gatherings, and I was in Raleigh for the Democrats, and I just want to give a quick shout out to the State Executive Director for the Democratic Party, Kimberly Reynolds, who is moving on to a new challenge after several years as Executive Director of NCDP. She did an outstanding job, so kudos to her, and thanks to her for all of her work.

I also wanted to thank everybody who came out last week to the neighborhood theater. I have Councilmember Bokhari and my townhall on Our Music Everywhere CLT initiative that we are involved in. We had about 200 people there, and about half of those stayed, and we had a free concert afterwards, so it was arguably the most fun town hall that has ever been held in the history of Charlotte, because there was alcohol and loud music. I recommend to all of my colleagues who are getting all of the townhalls in before the campaign moratorium sets in that they reconsider their venues, because you have it at a bar and lots of people will come.

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#### ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:13 p.m.



Stephanie C. Kelly, City Clerk, MMC, NCCMC

Length of Meeting: 2 Hours, 50 Minutes  
Minutes Completed: July 26, 2019