

The City Council of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina convened for a Dinner Briefing on Monday, March 28, 2016 at 5:11 p.m. in Room 267 of the Charlotte Mecklenburg Government Center with Mayor Jennifer Roberts presiding. Councilmembers present were Al Austin, John Autry, Edmund Driggs, Claire Fallon, Patsy Kinsey, Vi Lyles, LaWana Mayfield, James Mitchell, Greg Phipps and Kenny Smith.

ABSENT: Councilmember Julie Eiselt

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Mayor Roberts called the meeting to order at 5:11 p.m. and welcomed everyone to the March 28th meeting. I want to acknowledge that we have a number of our Firefighters in the room this evening, and I want to say on behalf of the City and behalf of the City Council and the Mayor's Office that we are grateful for what you do every day to keep us safe, to respond to emergencies, to protect people and help them in medical distress, and we really appreciate what you do, and I just want to say thank you. We have a great group of Firefighters; thank you for being here this evening.

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ITEM NO. 1: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL CONSENT ITEMS

Councilmember Autry said I want to pull Item No. 24, Central and Louise Avenue. I'm going to support the motion, but I just want to say something about it then.

Councilmember Kinsey said I also will pull Item No. 24.

Councilmember Smith said I pulled Item No. 24, but I had a question and Ms. Campbell was tracking down an answer. The question I had was just for edification of Council; the responsive bidder was about \$50,000 more than the low responsive, I just wanted to get an understanding of what constituted a non-responsive bidder and just have a better understanding of that.

Assistant City Manager Debra Campbell said Mr. Smith the emphasis was on the criteria for a good faith effort, and that is the information I'm getting a response to and should have it to you after the Dinner Meeting, or we could do it in the Chamber.

Councilmember Mayfield said I want to speak to Item Nos. 28, 38, and 39.

Mayor Roberts said I had a couple questions; I don't need to pull them, just about when two things are going to be implemented and that was the permitting software and CATS fare box replacement, just the timeframe for those? I can just get an e-mail, or you can just tell me. It is two things that people have been very interested in, and I just want them to say that they are happening and that would be nice to know how quickly so that people know.

Ms. Campbell said I will get those responses for you.

Mayor Roberts said I also understand that Item No. 34 has been deferred.

Ms. Campbell said that is correct.

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ITEM NO. 2: CHARLOTTE ENTREPRENEUR GROWTH REPORT

City Manager Ron Carlee said Pat Mumford, Neighborhood and Business Services is going to kick us off. Also Mayor, for the benefit of the Council, the Water Quality Briefing we will do that as part of the Manager's Report in the Chamber.

Director of Neighborhood and Business Services Pat Mumford said I want to set a little bit of context for what you are going to hear from Dave Jones in just a minute. Back in 2012, the Council instructed staff to look at high growth entrepreneurs in this community and decide how could we drive that and support it. The outcome of that was the High Growth Entrepreneurial Strategy that Council adopted in 2012. Part of that strategy included the forming The Charlotte

Entrepreneurial Fund. So, that is what we are going to hear tonight is how this fund has supported entrepreneurs in this community. Also, the Council gave \$500,000 towards that fund as matching money, and the idea was not to put dollars and equity into companies but to support the eco system of entrepreneurs in this community to drive awareness about entrepreneurs and help support communication about that.

The fund supported this report that Dave Jones is going to come up and discuss, and I do want to take just a second to brag on Dave. Dave is a local entrepreneur success story; he is the CEO of Peak 10 and many of you may have heard of Peak 10 before and he also is the past Chair of the Charlotte Regional Fund for Entrepreneurship. Peak 10 started in 2001; it was just Dave and a couple of business colleagues. It has grown since that time to serve over 2,500 customers; these are businesses that need IT support predominantly in data management and data security, and Dave runs data centers for that. The company is now in nine other cities outside of Charlotte; the few employees that started with him in 2001 have now grown to over 170. So it is a great success story about small companies that can grow large and have a huge impact on our economy. If you think about the fact that over these years thousands of companies in Charlotte have been able to grow because of that IT infrastructure support. It speaks to the leveraging capability of entrepreneurs, so I appreciate Dave and your company and at this point I would like for you to come give the Council an overview of the report.

Dave Jones, Peak 10 said thank you for giving me this opportunity. I like to tell people what I'm going to tell you before I tell you; know when to eat and when not to eat. I'm going to tell you a little bit about how the fund got organized and then more focus on this report which I think is very germane to where we are today in Charlotte. Pat is right; we have in Charlotte about 170 employees, a total of about 400 employees across the company, so we have grown significantly.

The regional fund for entrepreneurship is a public/private partnership, very unique the only one that I'm aware of except maybe in two other cities and even though there are those relationships it is not like it was established in Charlotte. It was designed to develop the innovation and entrepreneurial eco system in Charlotte; it is administered by the Fund for the Carolinas and guided by a stakeholder board that includes several experienced entrepreneurs as well as the City of Charlotte representative appointed by the Mayor. As Pat pointed out, the City committed an initial \$500,000 to the fund accessible to private matching funds. So, the funds effort has been to raise contributions from within the Charlotte Metro area which if we felt justified in asking for those funds the City would follow along and match.

I won't go into a lot of details of what we did raise and what we used the funds for except to say that the Charlotte Entrepreneurial Growth Report is an outgrowth of that funding. We will talk about the purpose, the methodology, key findings, and what we believe we need to do to move forward. The purpose of the report was to address the need to have a systematic evaluation of the diverse and rapidly growing innovation driven entrepreneurial community in Charlotte and to create a benchmark for measuring the growth of that progress and to provide a shared understanding of current trends and where to focus our efforts. It was completed by Venture Prize Business Innovation and Growth Council and UNC-Charlotte Urban Institute. The methodology is really a data analytics model; it is a web base survey of 248 entrepreneurial businesses in business for 15 years or less, focused on revenue, employment, compensation and capital formation. The statistical data in the report, and if you've had the opportunity to review it, you will find that it is replete with just loads of data which is important to the fact based conclusions that were reached. The data collected included innovation metrics, funding metrics, company data and community data. It analyzed trends and compared those trends to benchmark cities which included the one you see listed here: Atlanta, Austin, Kansas City, RTP, San Francisco, and Tampa. The community survey was to Mecklenburg County residents and asked about entrepreneur related topics to assess understanding and support of the community. There were several stories of several companies that have been successful, and we were honored to be included in that, but there were others and one recently you probably, if you watch the papers and press, Avid Exchange is one, for example, that received a lot of publicity of late. Michael Preggor started that company about the same time, or actually a couple years before me, so you see entrepreneur growth is not something that happens in 12-months; it is more like 12-years if you are going to be really successful and stay at it.

Next, Key findings: Charlotte ranked 25th in the nation's 40 largest markets which were categorized by the Kauffman Index of entrepreneurship and measuring overall start-up activity. Important to note: the surveyed companies experienced 23% average revenue growth in 2014 and projected growth in 2015 was 44%. I don't have the results from 2015 at this point in time to validate that. Those same companies expect to see 23% employment growth in 2015 and could result in as many as 600 new jobs. This is a key point; over the past two years consistent 23% growth. Charlotte has to be proud of that, and I will tell you from my own company in the early years, the first five years, we saw similar growth, 23% to 25% top line. As you get bigger it is hard to maintain that kind of growth because of the law of large numbers, but this I believe is a foundation that Charlotte may not have recognized the consistency of it, and it is not something that we should take lightly.

The innovation industries include about 11% of the total business established in Charlotte, interestingly the pay compensation is over \$71,000 annually is 48% above the metro average, unbelievable, and my company what we hire a lot of is technology engineers, or IT engineers, sales engineers. The cost of that type of labor is way up there so you have to be very innovative and changing all the time to stay advanced in that. The overall start-up activity is below the benchmark of the average for all of the metropolitan cities, and we will talk a little bit about why that is. Investors not attracted to early stage ventures – Charlotte angels generally invest elsewhere due to lack of local deals. Charlotte venture capital investment is low; on a per capita basis it is 1% of Austin results and less than 3% of RTP. That is the way Charlotte has been; I've only been in business here 16-years and that doesn't surprise me at all. It is Charlotte; Charlotte is a business community, it is a high growth business environment or metropolitan area.

Technology innovation potential is limited with innovation capacity activities such as research funding and patents if you look at those two areas, below the average metropolitan benchmark. Charlotte was the only benchmark city without a medical school or major research university. I read that and I said as an entrepreneurial there is not a heck of a lot I can do about that; that is probably something that needs to be taken up with the North Carolina University System because that is where that comes from, and I won't go there. Eighty-two percent of Mecklenburg adults consider startup companies important to our economy, and 59% agree that the business climate is good for entrepreneurial companies. That is important for us.

I know I moved quickly through that, and there are a lot of things that you would say, well those things don't seem really positive for Charlotte. The way I look at that is a benchmark; we are where we are. Let's don't kid ourselves; Charlotte is what it is and yet you have a nucleus of entrepreneurs, and I kind of group entrepreneurs into sectors. We call some high growth; we call some not so high growth. We call some kind of lifestyle in your jurisdictions and the reasons you support. You have every one of those entrepreneurs; you have the guys in the community that have small businesses that support larger businesses, and I would tell you, and one thing this report points out, businesses grow in a community. Startups and entrepreneurial companies grow; they create more jobs, because it is to support those higher growth companies. So, there is nothing to be defensive about in that at all.

We want to look to continue to increase the startups, continue to focus on high growth companies, leverage proven industry clusters which we have begun to do some of in energy, Fintech and others. Increase potential venture capital and understand I won't insult your intelligence about how money is raised, but it really is kind of a three step pillars. There are angel investors; there is a venture capital investment group, and there is a private equity group. In my company; we are a private equity backed. We never did go to Venture Capital just because of the requirements that are required for my business. In Charlotte we have invested over probably \$60 million or \$70 million in our data center so you multiply that times nine, and you can see it is a very intense business from a capital formation. We in turn create a lot of equity growth out of that business, but not every company has that challenge, but every entrepreneurial company has challenge in one direction or another and yet Charlotte has shown 28% growth that companies can be established here, the quality of life is important. The number of entrepreneurs I've dealt with and have friends who have said well, yeah we could go to Silicon Valley. We could go to Austin; we love Charlotte. We love the quality of life. They find the employees they need and they can find the funding. They may not find it here; our case mine was out of San Francisco; it was New York and San Francisco, and there is nothing wrong with that because I'm pulling their money into Charlotte, so that is a pretty cool thing.

Strengthen the innovation capacity, attract and retain entrepreneurial talent and identify roles and actions that are needed from stakeholders. There is a lot that comes out of this study, and from my perspective again, I'm the ultimate optimist. I wouldn't be here with this company if I wasn't. If I couldn't deal with challenges it could have taken our company down over time. When I look at where we are headed and I will do a little bit of off the record discussion before Pat puts the hook on me, but there is an opportunity here as a result of what we found out, to work collectively as entrepreneurs with the City, with the Chamber and with the large businesses here in Charlotte. We haven't had the success of doing that, but you know things have to happen over time. They have to sort of congeal to get there, and what I see where we are with this report, facts, and businesses rely on facts. We have the opportunity to do some of that.

Mayor Roberts said thank you for that update, and we appreciate your work on this.

Councilmember Driggs said Dave, as Charlotte's representative on the CRFE Board. I wanted to thank you for your immense contribution of time and of your wisdom to this effort; the City is very grateful. My question for you is what have the other cities done in the public arena, what investments have they made or policies have they adopted that sets them apart from Charlotte? I went to a Kauffman event, and I keep looking for a point of entry or where to start.

Mr. Jones said it varies Councilman Driggs; I will take Nashville for example, they have a huge vertical industry called Health Care there, and they've had some very successful entrepreneurs who built those companies, who have turned around and paid it forward back into that community which established an entrepreneurial group that really has fostered a lot more growth. Louisville, for example, it's a unique thing; they had an entrepreneur there who had a company called Chrysalis Ventures that is now Chrysalis Ventures ironically its name is David Jones; I get credit for that sometimes. He did the same thing, but in that city the Chamber stepped up, it just depends on where it falls I guess. The Chamber stepped up and created an organization to focus on entrepreneurs and entrepreneurial growth too be part of that organization there is an annual fee that the entrepreneurs have to pay to get there so there are ways to get there. Whether they are ahead of Charlotte or behind Charlotte, I'm not really sure; I could lineate that for you. When I look at my markets which are none of those markets listed except RTP, but there are markets that all have growth; otherwise, we wouldn't be successful in those markets. If I just did an example of us when I look at ten markets I look at my top three markets, it is Nashville, Charlotte, and Tampa, all high growth markets. When I look at the study I see opportunity for greater growth if we can pull it together.

Councilmember Mayfield said as we were going through the presentation we identified the initial \$500,000 investment that the City made. It would be helpful for me to know how we are looking with those match funds that you are out trying to identify, since we didn't go into that. So, at some point, Mr. Mumford you can do that?

Mr. Mumford said we certainly can do that.

Ms. Mayfield said we are looking at and thinking about the comment you just made. When we are looking at Austin and the fact that we are behind, but you are just saying your top three, Charlotte is in it. I feel like when you look at the report that came out in the Observer today, as well as the comments that were made, in this presentation, there is still a disconnect. So, what I would like to know is what is it that Council can do to better support moving forward, because we are probably one, if not the lowest, that fund moving forward with entrepreneurship and specifically startups. In the Observer, and I think you mentioned it as well, they gave some statistics for basically the \$3 that we are investing other areas are investing \$18. It would be good to know a specific ask.

Mr. Jones said I understand that investment, and I think you've got that, but I want to make sure everybody understands. That investment is not investment by the City of those locations; it is investment that has gone into the companies.

Ms. Mayfield said that is the other thing I want to figure out so it will be helpful for me to get a little more detail information and with knowing what is being matched with the \$500,000. Are you actually raising the funds if you say angel funds are not investing in Charlotte? They are

going outside. What is it that we need to do in support of businesses in order to make those opportunities available here?

Mr. Jones said Pat is going to address one piece of that and from a strategic standpoint. With the fund, I won't get into the numbers, but not very much of that money has been matched, not much has been spent. Actually, the City was half of the funding for this report. For Example, the investment came from other entrepreneurs as well as business in the community for that. We won't go into those details here, but from my perspective, what we need to do is we need to have one voice. Those communities pulled everybody together, and I think there is a way to do that. I don't think we could have done that two years ago; I think we are on the precipice of that now, and there are some initiatives that I think that we can take. Again, I don't want to insult any of your intelligence, but the simplest rule I always follow in a company is that structure follows strategy. So, if we have a very good strategy structure will match that, with a lot of work, it won't be easy. The fund was a strategy; unfortunately, behind how it is managed and operated some of the structure has not been there to get us to where we need to go. We needed to have this report before we could really raise any money, because it is hard to go to a company. It's like if someone came to me and said we are raising money to support entrepreneurs. Well, what is the situation, and we didn't really have anything to tell what the situation was which is why a study of this magnitude was undertaken. Again, it wasn't something we could do in two week; it took a while to vet who we would have do the study and then the study, which we thought would take about six months, took a little longer than that to get completed. What I don't want to do is under estimate the value of this document, and by the way it is a living document. It will be updated on a regular basis so that is positive for the City as well.

Ms. Mayfield said is the structure in place now, or are we just now starting to talk about what the structure looks like?

Mr. Mumford said that is a good Segway into next steps. In a couple of weeks, we are going to have an entrepreneurial community gathering to discuss this data, and what should next steps be? One of the things that Dave did not mention is you will hear predominantly throughout the entrepreneurial communities in the country, government shouldn't lead entrepreneurs, and so there is a role for the City Council. What that role is, we feel strongly should come from the entrepreneurial world to help us understand how to appropriately support their activity. That will be April 22nd, where a smaller group is going to come together to really digest the information in the report and bring back some recommendations. Also this data is supporting the Chamber and the Regional Partnership Strategy on a broader economic development strategy for the community, and it is good timing that this came out. A lot of efforts underway at the same time; we will bring back information you requested as well as an update on process and how the Council can be engaged in supporting this at a later date.

Ms. Mayfield said going back to the angel funds, can you just give an example of what kind of projects are supported,? Since we are saying we are losing the opportunity through the angel funds that they generally invest elsewhere, what type of projects are they investing in?

Mr. Jones said the fund was set up only to invest in non-profit activity so the fund would never invest money into a company itself. Other cities have done that; it is a very touchy situation from an entrepreneurial standpoint. Most entrepreneurs are not interested in taking state, federal, or city government money because you have another boss; that is just the way we are. So, the fund was set up to do things like we've done. This study helps market Charlotte even though you would say it is negative. If you look at the real data that shows growth of the entrepreneurial eco system, that is a positive. The other thing that has happened just recently, and I just saw an article about it, a private equity or venture firm on the west coast heard about the study, read it, and say hey, there is an opportunity in Charlotte; they are underserved. So, there is always a silver lining to a dark cloud as you know, but really there was a lot of misunderstanding in the community about the fund. We had a number of companies call and say I want to apply for funding to run my company, and we said woa. No, that is not what we are designed to do. It was to support activities like the Southeast Venture Conference, which came last year, brought in 200 plus people from all over, both investors, as well as companies, to present. Events that allow entrepreneurs to present their company stories if you will, to look for investment can be supported by the fund because it is really a non-profit type of activity that we would be pushing

towards. There may be some who have a startup lab if you will, things like that that are non-profit, the fund can support that if we can raise the money specifically for it.

Councilmember Smith said this is a fascinating report. First, we are listed 25th, and I'm going to look at this from the optimist side; I'm assuming we weren't 25th in previous years but that we are actually moving upwards instead of downward. So, how far do you think we have come in the past four or five years? Question two, for the groups that are ahead of us, how diverse is their entrepreneurial community, meaning do they have sort of monolithic industries and how diverse are our entrepreneurial communities? If you look at some of these other cities –

Mr. Jones said I don't have the historical data on the Kauffman Institute, but we can get that back to the Council.

Mr. Smith said I would just be curious because I would feel like with Packard Place and all the other stuff we are doing, I would feel like we are on this trajectory.

Mr. Jones said I think the difference is that a lot of these other cities have been at it a lot longer than Charlotte. The other thing about the cities, even if you took RTP, what are they known for – biotechnology, and previously they had several large technology firms, Nortel and a bunch of others that were there, that didn't succeed but a lot of those people said I'm saying here, and I'm going to figure out something to do. We have some of the same things happening in the bank industry but hopefully we won't have to go through that kind of transition to get there, in other words, the banks fold. That wouldn't work, but if you look at Nashville, they had a specific area that they really had a lot of growth in so they tended to have one or two verticals that had been very successful. Silicon Valley is a story unto itself. If you looked at Austin there are a couple of drivers there that had larger things and then there are cities that have Aero Space; I think Charlotte has a very solid fundamental, and it is a matter now of sort of the Phoenix, if you will, beginning to grow out of that. I think it is going to take some time, but what we do in the next 12 to 24-months can do, and it is not a matter of the City spending a lot of money to do that. It is really marshalling our resources. One of the old adages is when alone lose in a crowd, so I want the crowd to make sure we don't lose.

Mr. Smith said you said magic words to me; you don't want government money, but we do want to figure out what we can do to help and support the community for it is the key.

Mr. Jones said nothing would make me happier as an entrepreneur to see great entrepreneurial success and say this is because the City of Charlotte was engaged. It doesn't say you did it, it said you were involved in it, and that is what we need.

Councilmember Phipps said how critical is it that Charlotte gets a medical school? In a lot of circles, that seems to be something that is talked about very eagerly. Do you think that is really critical for success? If we do happen to land a medical school it will take a certain amount of startup time. These other cities won't be standing still waiting for us to catch up, so are we trying to enhance our position in the entrepreneurial field or we are just trying to leap frog other cities? How critical is a medical school to this area to more or less propel us to the next level of success?

Mr. Jones said I don't think a medical school is more important than other types of things. I will give you an example, UNCC a great University we have right on the outskirts and even downtown has done an unbelievable amount of work in research. They are creating patents; they are involved in big data, a lot of things that are driving our economy forward. The medical industry is going to be there forever, but I don't look at it as one thing that is going to solve this problem for us. A medical school is a huge undertaking; when I think about Charlotte and just take medical, I look at the healthcare system here, premiere healthcare. What we have going on here a lot of cities do not have a medical company, a hospital organization that has the capabilities that they have. I think we will see continued growth there, but in my opinion, it is not necessarily a medical school. That popped out because when you looked at the other cities most of them had more universities, and those universities had continued to grow on to build medical schools, as well as law schools, and you could take Atlanta; look at Georgia Tech. It is a huge technology hub, and I don't want to go too far down that road, but I will tell you, the City of Alpharetta, which is where one of our data centers is, actually surpasses the Georgia Tech

incubator system in terms of technology companies. They don't have Georgia Tech in Alpharetta, and it is 30 miles away basically. So, when I look at that I think we continue to look at the opportunities that can grow for Charlotte, but I don't want to look back and say look what they did, I want to look forward and say look what we are doing and where we are going. The opportunity is going to come out of that.

Mayor Roberts said thank you for that update, and we look forward to hearing more. I hope we can get some more of that matching money.

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ITEM NO. 3: DRINKING WATER QUALITY BRIEFING

This briefing was presented during the City Manager's Report during the Business meeting.

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Motion was made by Councilmember Lyles, seconded by Councilmember Mitchell, and carried unanimously to adopt a motion to go into Closed Session pursuant to GS 143-318.11 (a)(6) to consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, conditions of appointment or conditions of initial employment of an individual public officer or employee or perspective public officer or employee; or to hear or investigate a complaint charge or grievance by or against an individual public officer or employee.
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The Dinner Briefing was recessed at 5:45 p.m. to move to CH-14 for a closed session.

The closed session recessed at 7:19 p.m. move to the Meeting Chamber for the regularly scheduled Business Meeting.

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The City Council of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina reconvened for the Citizens' Forum and Business meeting on Monday, March 28, 2016 at 7:21 p.m. in the Meeting Chamber of the Charlotte Mecklenburg Government Center with Mayor Jennifer Roberts presiding. Councilmembers present were Al Austin, John Autry, Ed Driggs, Patsy Kinsey, Vi Lyles, LaWana Mayfield, James Mitchell, Greg Phipps, and Kenny Smith.

ABSENT: Councilmembers Julie Eiselt and Claire Fallon.

Mayor Roberts said I do want to take one minute and acknowledge the fine men and women we have in our audience who are part of our Fire Department, or Fire Fighters. We just want to say that we appreciate so much your service. We know you put your lives on the line every day for our citizens. We know that you have saved a lot of lives, and I just want to say how deeply grateful the Council and I are for what you do every day for Charlotte.

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INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

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

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CITIZENS' FORUM

Belmont Community Updates

Vicki Jones, 1237 Allen Street said I am President of the Belmont Community Association. I want to take this opportunity to introduce Belmont to new Councilmembers and update others on our progress. Belmont was created as a mill village and has had its ups and downs over the years,

but we are on the upswing due to our great location and the dedication of our residents. The work of the City, with residents about 15-years ago, laid the ground work for this resurgence. The Belmont Area Revitalization Plan was adopted in 2003; infrastructure improvements were initiated, and investors began renovating homes. The Belmont Community Association in its current state started in 2010 with a mission to continue fostering a safe, friendly, and diverse community of neighbors working together. Since that time, we have been working to build relationships and strive to keep the community informed through our monthly meetings, various social media outlets, and our first newsletter distributed earlier this year. Unfortunately, one of the things that has united residents has been crime. We've been working closely with our CMPD Officers for years but have been calling in activity, especially gun fire more frequently in the last 18-months. A lot of effort was put into a raid that was conducted by CMDP and Federal Agents earlier this year. We have seen tremendous improvement and residents are so incredibly thankful. We want to recognize our officers for their dedication to making our community safe. We understand that efforts will continue to reduce criminal activity, in conjunction with the US Attorney, as well as our Code Officer. I know that Chief Putney has requested more officers and while I am confident that soon Belmont will not need as much attention, we are still moving uphill on this front. We are still calling in gun fire. As you weigh the Chief's request, I hope you will consider the difference these officers have made in Belmont and the surrounding communities. The need is great. We are doing our part with great volunteers. Through a Neighborhood Matching Grant, we are building on the improvements we are seeing, we are planning a block party in May, and we will have a beautification component to that. We will then have activities each weekend to bring neighbors together and prevent some loitering in an area of concern. Additionally our Land Use Committee revisited the Revitalization Plan with residents and businesses this past year. The high level vision and goals were found to still be relevant and endorsed as important to the community. The Committee is now looking more closely at specific corridors and commercial nodes, and I expect to return in another month to present you with our updated plan versus the second speaker on the agenda tonight. We are not quite ready, but I want to thank Ms. Eiselt for attending our March meeting and Councilmember Patsy Kinsey, when she can get there. We have a very popular meeting night, but she does make it when she can. Thanks to all of you for your service to the community.

Tarheel Challenge Program

Jim Bright, 412 Howards Creek School Road, Lincolnton, NC said I appreciate you allowing us to come out and talk about Tarheel Challenge. There is no action to be taken; this is merely for information purposes only. Tarheel Challenge is a program for at risk kids, 16, 17 and 18 year olds. It is a quasi-military style program, it is 17 months broken down in two phases: phase one being a resident phase. The kids come to live with us for 22-weeks, and during that 22-weeks we offer them a chance to get their high school equivalence, teach them life coping skills. I'm talking anger management, stress management, finance planning, family planning, resume writing, and so forth. We also teach them military style drill and ceremony. The program is sponsored by the National Guard, so it is very discipline oriented, discipline structure. These young men and women have 24/7 supervision; somebody is with them 24/7. They also get a stipend every two weeks to offset personal items so Mom and Dad don't have to send them any money during the resident phase. The program is federally and state funded; 75% federally funded and 25% state funded. So, it doesn't cost Mom and Dad anything to send them to us for 22-weeks to get them that second chance. They also get free time while they are at the academy; their free time consists of playing organized sports, writing letters back home, or they can polish their shoes and get ready for the next day's activities.

They are required to wear uniforms while at the academy during the resident phase. The uniforms don't cost Mom and Dad anything; they are issued to the young men and women during the in processing phases. During their free time they get their evenings and week-ends off unless they have community service. Our community service is not a punishment, it is a requirement. They are required to volunteer for 40-hours of community service to kind of teach them how to give back to the community. Our community service consists of possibly going down to the City Hall and cleaning up around City Hall, helping the Fire Department with hotdog sales to raise money, or just going down to the assisted living facility and spend some time with those folks. We have two facilities in North Carolina, one is in Sampson County, a little community called Salemborg, and the other facility is located in Stanley County, a little community just down the road in New London, and Lieutenant Colonel Mauray Williams is the

Director at the facility in Stanley County, and as soon as I get finished I will give him a chance to add to or take away from what I am saying.

We have a full-time staff at both facilities; we have a full-time nursing staff, full-time kitchen staff, full-time admin, full-time cadre, and Lieutenant Colonel Mauray Williams is part of the full-time staff down at the facility in Stanley County.

Lieutenant Colonel Mauray Williams, 218 Cameron Drive, Kings Mountain, NC said one of the things I really wanted to mention, Salemborg has been in existence 22-years as of today and in those 22-years they have graduated 4,100 young people who have gone on to West Point, Chapel Hill and various other schools becoming Policemen, Firemen, and you name it. We think we have a great program and certainly would appreciate your support; please come out and see us. As he mentioned we are about 40 minutes down the road there in New London. Our first class graduates in a couple of weeks, the 21st of April so we would love to have you if you have nothing to do on the 21st at about 10:00 a.m.

Councilmember Lyles said I just want you to know my first job after graduate school was in Salemborg and the town had a garbage truck and one flashing red light. I think I've been back since, and it is a little bit bigger, but I have to remember Mr. Tues family who was very active in the community as things were changing and Salemborg and the Justice Academy has made a great contribution to our state so thank you for the work there.

Councilmember Mitchell said Colonel Williams what was that time again?

Colonel Williams said April 21st, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. at the Agricultural Center there in Stanley County; we would love to have you.

Mr. Mitchell said you have a staff member that at North Carolina Central he was pledging me; he talked all about community service, and now I know where he got this from; Mr. Ronnie McNeil, nice to see you my fraternity brother.

Indigenous Peoples Day

Shawn Greeson, 400 North Tryon Street said I am a Board Member for Metrolina Native American Association; we are part of the North Carolina Indian Affairs Commission, a member of the National Congress of American Indians as well as the Public Relations Liaison for North Carolina Thomas American Indian Movement. I am here to inform you that a broad and diverse coalition has been formed to push for Charlotte and Mecklenburg County to officially change Columbus Day to Indigenous Peoples Day. Multiple departments under the control or supervision of either the City Council or the County Commissioners observe Columbus Day in some way or another. We spoke with an individual from the City Attorney's Office, and they informed us that our request is well within your authority. Additionally this will provide the Council with an excellent opportunity to collaborate with the Board of County Commissioners; we have made them aware of our request as well. St. Paul, Seattle, Albuquerque, and nearly a dozen other cities have already made identical changes. While we are willing to have the official change take place in 2017, we would like this issue discussed and addressed in 2016.

We spoke with the Governor and he assured American Indian leaders that he would not interfere nor would he oppose our efforts locally. Columbus established the transatlantic slave trade; he did not discover a land, he invaded one. He brought death, slavery and genocide, not something that should be celebrated by Charlotte or Mecklenburg County. Indigenous Peoples Day wouldn't just be a holiday to us it would be source of community pride, a way to honor the struggles and sacrifices of our ancestors. A highly visible way for us to teach the next generation about who we are, who they are. Arguments could be made that why should we change Columbus Day to a holiday honoring Native Americans? Why not some other group and what happens when some other group approaches wanting a holiday change to honor their ancestors? To that, I can only say that not every group are the rightful inhabitants of this land, not every group has been continually oppressed and forced to suffer and endure countless humiliations. Not every group has had their identity banned, and not every group has barely survived systematic extermination of the federal government. There is no doubt that other groups have suffered, but one would be hard pressed to find a group that has been and continues to be treated the way that the American Indian is

treated. All things considered, this is a pretty small ask for a holiday. American Indians have the highest rate of poverty of any racial group in the nation; 28%. The national average is 14%; that is double. The leading cause of death for American Indian males ages 10 to 14 is suicide. For American Indian young adults ages 15 to 24 a recent study found that one-fifth committed suicide.

Non-Discrimination Ordinance

Rev. Philip Benham said the last time I was here was February 22, 2016, when the transgender bill was passed in this place seven to five, and I used scripture then, Isaiah 5:20 which says "Woe to those who call that which is evil good and that which is good evil, who exchange darkness for light and light for darkness, who exchange bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter." It tells us further on in the scripture that those who forsake the law praise the wicked, and those who keep the law resist them. We are thankful for what our state legislature has done introducing HB2 and the fact that it is passed, and I will tell you some things about that Bill that I think you need to hear. What I want you to know is, when the righteous thrive, the people rejoice, and when the wicked rule the people groan, and we have been groaning as you have unleashed the gates of hell and confusion upon our kids and upon our City and upon this state and have made us an example. I pray that HB2 will change that. One of the things the Council didn't even address, you see you started this ball rolling. You started the stone rolling, and it is rolling back on you, and one of the good things here that wasn't even mentioned in the ordinance was this, that this Bill HB2 requires now that all local boards, school boards require that every multiple occupancy bathroom or changing facility to be used by only students based on their biological sex, and of course biological sex is defined as that of being male or female which is started on the birth certificate, and that is wonderful because the public schools were not included in your ordinance, but now they are because we know what has happened in likened states in California where they have taken this now to apply to public schools. You get the camel's nose in that tent, and then they continue on in their agenda, and you Mayor Roberts have an agenda, and that is how you are here, and that is how you made Mayor right now, and you are, and I respect that, but I'm going to respectfully look forward to the day when you leave, because I think that right now is the time for you to just repent of this terrible action. Let me give you another thing; the bill says that all public agencies must only permit biological sex people in any multiple occupancy bathroom, and this applies to public parks and to government buildings, and I'm sure that ladies is this government building are thankful to God that that is going to apply here. This is the law that you are under, and I hope that you will accept that law. You can sue and do what you want to do, but you need to accept what our State has done.

Greenway Safety

Billy Shue, 1509 West Sugar Creek Road said over the years, I have become more involved in the running community here in Charlotte, and I know we have some very beautiful greenways here, and there have been some instances where there has been some crime. There was a really bad incident that happened this past Monday of a horrific assault that happened at McAlpine Greenway, and just on behalf of the running community, I know that the running community was definitely shaken up by this. I have a mother who is getting into running, a girl friend who has started to get into running, and both of them have used the McAlpine Greenway and expressed concerns. I know of many others who have that as well and in addition to runners there are walkers, people with their strollers, walking their dogs, just enjoying the nature. There are middle school and high school cross country teams that run through there, and basically, what I'm proposing to the City Council and to the city, is that we try to improve the safety of our greenways and parks, and some of the ideas I have for that is more of a police presence out there, be it bike patrols, whether they have mountain bikes or dirt bikes or what have you. Also I think if we were to have more opportunities for self-defense and self-awareness courses taught by CMPD or other entities in the City, I think that would be something that would be of great benefit. The third item and this is what I presented handouts for all of you, is emergency call posts. These have been very successful on college campuses throughout the state and in other states. I think if we had some of these emergency call boxes out there spread throughout our greenways and parks in the event of a distressful incident, somebody could be able to hit that button, and it would call the police. Hopefully it could be a deterrent, but in the event there were to be a situation police could be able to respond within that timeframe as opposed to after the

fact. Those are some of the ideas that I have that I would like to see an effort to improve the safety on our greenways and parks and try to mitigate more of the risks of the potential of criminal activity on our greenways.

Mayor Roberts said thank you for bringing to our attention this really important safety issue. Absolutely, that was a horrific incident, and we will be working together with the County to see what we can do to make our greenways safer.

Development and Economic Growth

Mark Lynch, 1209 Grace Street said thank you to all of you, for everything you do. Tonight I would like to speak about an issue that while not unique to Charlotte it means a lot to me because it shapes all of our lives so far and has massive effects for the City that I love. I would like to warn anyone listening right now that this might get a little wonky. Charles Marone, founder of the Strong Towns Movement, which advocates for civic and economic resilience, puts my feelings quite nicely. Over the last 60-years, we as a society have built millions of developments that we cannot afford to maintain; whether we realize it or not what we really want is development that can 1) cover its own costs and 2) actually improve as it ages. So, the question is how do we do that? It is helpful to learn from the past. If we go back to cities that could pay for themselves, in fact cities that needed to as a matter of necessity because they couldn't borrow a lot of money, what we find is that they approach building much differently than we do now. Obviously, there were a lot of problems of the cities in the past but there is wisdom in how they grew. For the most part, and this is the important bit, regular cities were built incrementally by regular people. Like our fair city, when settlers came in they found the trading path, they started building wooden structures, gradually built two and three story buildings, and after a few decades of incremental growth they would be gradually torn down and rebuilt with brick and granite buildings. How thick was their zoning code; how many engineers and planners and economic development professionals did they have on staff? How many grants did they get from the federal and state governments? The litany of things we have convinced ourselves are still important to build great places today is vast, and they had none of them, but look at the places they built; it is pretty spectacular. How did they know how to build these places? It is pretty simple; they just copied what had worked for thousands and thousands of year. They looked around at the materials they had and said how do we build what we know works and to do it within our means? Today we want entire neighborhoods built and beautiful from the get go; we like our new places to emerge fully formed, and we expect them to never change. But that is not how life works, some cities are a lot like living things, they start small, adapt and then if successful they mature. We can't expect to fix our communities and neighborhoods by having big development firms come and build mega projects on full city blocks. Multimillion dollar projects are like pharmaceutical drugs, they are very good and healthy in moderate doses but they cannot be the source of your health or in this case your wealth. The kind of development we need happens at the scale of individual citizens building things, advocating who invested and leaving their city better than they found it. If we can do that, make housing affordable, jobs accessible and people that are truly connected we can make a city that we can be proud of.

Public Safety

Karen Jensen, 311 Baldwin Avenue said Mayor Roberts opened tonight with a prayer for freedom, justice, and equality for everyone, which is laughable to me. You are a hypocrite, but you are not alone. You have personally viewed video tape, as has everyone up here and as has all the staff and the Attorney and the Police Chief, enough video to see a sampling of some of the criminal conduct against me and half a dozen or so convictions in court after judges viewed evidence to see the conduct that has been going on and yet your staff, your attorneys, your members of the bar who work for the City continue to lie about it to judges, to magistrates, and to numerous other people in writing, including just the past couple of weeks saying again that there is no criminal conduct has not ever been, will not ever be and apparently they decided this in 2012 that has some sort of premonition abilities as well according to Judy Emkin, someone who is too idiotic or too corrupt to look at court records or evidence. This is intentional, this is malicious, this is predetermined, and there is a reason for it, and it seems to stem again, and I'm here again to say, for me making a complaint about corrupt police misconduct which you all are continuing to try to bury. This is not acceptable in Charlotte and should not be acceptable anywhere. There have been convictions for assault, for communicating threats, and those are on

those few occasions where I was able to have a police report when someone didn't lie about the crimes that were occurring, for stalking, for threatening my life, for threatening to shoot me, or for following me around screaming obscene threats at me; rape threats, beating threats, totaling my car, and stalking. All of this is documented, and you are still lying about it and still threatening to arrest me for reporting it as recently as a couple weeks ago and for several years now. You say oh, we will have staff respond to you if it is necessary and still no one responds, no one is taking any corrective action. You are violating your policies and procedures. No one has given me a response to Internal Affairs complaints, even though I was told by them that there should be, as is correct, a joint criminal investigation and a joint Internal Affairs investigation for perjury by Police Officers that either occurred and was buried or never occurred, either of which is a problem. I'm still left in my home fearful of what the Police will do to me and what my next door neighbor will do to me while you all lie about it. I would like an answer this time.

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CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Roberts said we have several items that have been pulled, but I want to point out two items that we are going to include in this vote that are of interest to the public. One is Business Permitting Software which is part of the Gardner Study which is going to help us start to coordinate better between the City and County Inspectors and Code Enforcement and Permitting so that we can help streamline that process, so that is one of the things we are voting on tonight. The other is the CATS Fare Box Replacement; I know a number of folks have said that the fare boxes aren't working on our buses, and this vote tonight will help us start to get the new ones installed and replace the ones that aren't working and with much better technology. I just wanted to make the public aware of those two items.

Motion was made by Councilmember Mitchell, seconded by Councilmember Driggs, and carried unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda as presented with the exception of Item Nos. 24, 28, 38, 39 which were pulled for comment and 34 was pulled by staff.

The following items were approved:

Item No. 17: Compressed Natural Gas for Solid Waste Services Pilot Program

Award a unit price contract to the lowest responsive bidder, Piedmont Natural Gas for the purchase of compressed natural gas for five years.

Summary of Bids

The Summary of Bids is available in full in the City Clerk's Office.

Item No. 18: Police Asset Forfeiture Appropriation

Adopt Budget Ordinance No. 7088-X appropriating \$278,247.81 in asset forfeiture funds for 150 TASER X2s for the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department.

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 59, at Page 802.

Item No. 19: Military Construction Cooperation Agreement

(A) Approve a Military Construction Cooperation Agreement with the National Guard Bureau for improvements to the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department firing range, (B) Authorize the City Manager to accept funds from the National Guard Bureau in the amount of \$150,000 for project construction, and (C) Adopt Budget Ordinance No. 7089-X appropriating \$150,000 from the National Guard Bureau.

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 59, at Pages 803-804.

Item No. 20: Kronos Timekeeping System for the Charlotte Fire Department.

(A) Approve a contract with Kronos to provide and implement a new timekeeping system for the Charlotte Fire Department, (B) Authorize the City Manager to approve price adjustments and amend the contract consistent with the City's business needs and purpose for which the contract was awarded, (C) Authorize the City manager to purchase maintenance and support for as long

as the City uses the system, and (D) Authorize the City manager to purchase such additional software licenses, services, and hardware as needed from time to time to optimize the City's use of the system.

Item No. 21: SuccessFactors Learning Management System Upgrades

(A) Approve a contract with SAP America, Inc. to provide a cloud-based upgrade to the City's SuccessFactors learning management system, (B) Approve the purchase of subscription licenses for enterprise-wide use of SAP's SuccessFactor Learning software, together with additional subscription license for the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department's use of new SuccessFactors software modules, all for a term of five years, (C) Authorize the City Manager to approve expenditures for the provision of implementation services for the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department specific software modules referenced in Action B form SAP America, Inc., (D) Authorize the City Manager to purchase annual software subscription renewals for as long as the City uses the system, and (E) Authorize the City Manager to purchase such additional software license and services as needed from time to time to optimize the City's use of the system, and to approve other amendments consistent with the City's business needs and the purpose for which the contracts were approved, including price adjustments.

Item No. 22: Accela Database Technology Maintenance and Hosting Services Contract Amendment

(A) Approve contract amendment #8 in the amount of \$215,433.52 with Accela, Inc. for maintenance and hosting services for the land development permit and enforcement system through June 2, 2017, and (B) Authorize the City manager to renew the contract with Accela, Inc. for up to two additional, one-year terms at annual rate increases of up to 3% for maintenance and hosing services.

Item No. 23: Business Permitting Software Application for Commercial Projects

(A) Adopt a resolution ratifying the Interlocal Agreement for a Business Permitting Software Application with Mecklenburg County, and (B) Authorize the City Manager to negotiate and execute a contract with Open Counter Enterprises, Inc. for implementation of a business permitting software application, (C) Approve the purchase of subscription licenses and maintenance and support services for an initial term of five years, and authorize the City Manager to purchase subscription licenses and maintenance and support thereafter for as long as the City uses the system, and to approve price adjustments and amend the contract consistent with the City's and County's business needs and the purpose for which the contract was awarded.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 47, at Page 272.

Item No. 25: Eastcrest Drive Storm Drainage Improvement Project

Award a contract in the amount of \$667,263.30 to the lowest responsive bidder, United of Carolinas, Inc. for the Eastcrest Drive Storm Drainage Improvement Project.

Summary of Bids

United of the Carolinas, Inc.	\$ 667,263.30
Onsite Development LLC	\$ 724,729.50
Zoladz Construction Co., Inc.	\$ 762,300.00
Hall Contracting Corporation	\$ 775,306.40
Sealand Contractors Corp.	\$ 806,373.15
Landsdown Earth & Pipe Inc.	\$ 807,998.39
DOT Construction, Inc.	\$ 812,798.80
Blythe Development Company	\$ 899,580.00
D.E. Walker Construction Co.	\$ 923,788.23
Propst Construction Company	\$1,145,375.00

Item No. 26: Commuter-Based Transportation Marketing Program

(A) Authorize the City Manager to negotiate and execute a contract up to \$250,000 with Luquire George Andrews to implement marketing and advertising campaigns for the Transportation

Demand Management Program, and (B) Authorize the City Manager to amend the contract consistent with the City's business needs and the purpose for which the contract was approved.

Item No. 27: CATS Fare Box Replacement and Smart Card System

Approve a contract with Genfare-SPX in the amount of \$7,712,827 to replace fare boxes on CATS buses and to implement smart card technology for the fare payment system.

Item No. 29: Long Creek Stream Restoration Grant Application

(A) Authorize Charlotte Water to apply for the 2016 North Carolina's Clean Water Management Trust Fund grant for the Long Creek Stream Restoration project in an amount not to exceed \$719,400, (B) Authorize the city Manager to accept the grant agreement with the North Carolina's Clean Water Management Trust Fund grant, and (C) Adopt Budget Ordinance No. 7090-X appropriating up to \$719,400 from North Carolina's Clean Water Management Trust Fund contingent upon being named a successful grant recipient.

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 59, at Pages 805-806.

Item No. 30: Water and Sewer Extensions/Replacements (Fiscal Year 2016 – Contract #4)

Award a contract in the amount of \$2,290,205.80 to the lowest responsive bidder R. H. Price, Inc. for the new construction or replacement of water and sewer mains throughout the Charlotte Water service areas.

Summary of Bids

The Summary of Bids is available in full in the City Clerk's Office.

Item No. 31: Water Service Dismantlements for Fiscal Year 2016

Award a contract in the amount of \$1,836,230 to the lowest responsive bidder, State Utility Contractors, Inc. for the dismantlemen of water services.

Summary of Bids

State Utility Contractors	\$1,836,230.00
R. H. Price, Inc.	\$1,992,248.50
Propst Construction Company	\$1,999,872.60

Item No. 32: Chemical Feed System Construction at Water Treatment Plants

Award a contract in the amount of \$851,000 to the lowest responsive bidder, The Harper Corporation for construction of the phosphate feed systems at water treatment plants.

Summary of Bids

Harper Corporation	\$851,000.00
Basinger Contracting Company	\$887,773.55

Item No. 33: McAlpine Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant Membrane Diffusers

(A) Award a contract in the amount of \$130,500 with Environmental Dynamics International for the purchase of membrane diffusers, and (B) Award a contract in the amount of \$200,000 with the Huffstetler Group, Inc. for the installation of membrane diffusers.

Item No. 35: Crane and Hook Lift Bodies

(A) Award a unit price contract for the purchase of crane and hook lift bodies for one year to the following: H & E Equipment Services, Carolina Environmental Systems, and Nu-Life Environmental, and (B) Authorize the City Manager to renew the contracts for up to four, one-year terms with possible price adjustments and to amend the contracts consistent with the City's business needs and the purpose for which the contract was approved.

Item No. 36: Resolution of Intent to Abandon an Unopened Portion of Poinsett Street

(A) Adopt a Resolution of Intent to abandon an unopened portion of Poinsett Street and (B) Set a public hearing for April 25, 2016.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 47, at Pages 273-275.

Item No. 37: Meeting Minutes

Approve the titles, motions, and votes reflected in the Clerk's record as the minutes of: February 15, 2016 Zoning meeting and February 22, 2016 Business Meeting.

PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS

Item No. 40: 2220 North Tryon Street

Acquisition of 1,012 square feet in Sidewalk and Utility Easement, plus 9,321 square feet in Temporary Construction Easement, plus 110 square feet in Utility Easement at 2220 North Tryon Street from Charles F. Helms and Delana R. Helms for \$40,000 for North Tryon Business Corridor, Parcel #35.

Item No. 41: 2407 North Tryon Street

Acquisition of 172 square feet in Sidewalk and Utility Easement, plus 2,720 square feet in Temporary Construction Easement, plus 1,856 square feet in Utility Easement at 2407 North Tryon Street from Electrical Consulting Engineers, Inc. for \$26,583 for North Tryon Business Corridor, Parcel #41 and Parcel #59.

Item No. 42: 2504 North Tryon Street

Acquisition of 28 square feet in Fee Simple, plus 70 square feet in Storm Drainage Easement, plus 126 square feet in Sidewalk and Utility Easement, plus 325 square feet in Temporary Construction Easement, plus 3,500 square feet in Utility Easement at 2504 North Tryon Street from Alexander L. Properties, LLC for \$31,000 for North Tryon Business Corridor, Parcel #46.

Item No. 43: 200 West 24th Street

Acquisition of 1,752 square feet in Fee Simple, plus 868 square feet in Storm Drainage Easement, plus 595 square feet in Sidewalk and Utility Easement, plus 1,677 square feet in Waterline Easement, plus 1,676 square feet in Temporary Construction Easement, plus 209 square feet in Bus Stop Easement, plus 39 square feet in Utility Easement at 200 West 24th Street from RLS & RLS, LLC for \$325,245 for North Tryon Business Corridor, Parcel #58.

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ITEM NO. 24: CENTRAL AVENUE AND LOUISE AVENUE PEDESTRIAN IMPROVEMENTS

Councilmember Kinsey said I am very pleased with this particular item; it will make Central Avenue and certainly Louise Avenue more walkable, and it is definitely needed with all of the apartments going up in that area; however, I wanted to note that this happens every now and then, and I just wanted to point it out; the lowest responsive bidder was not the one that actually won the contract, and that was because they didn't fulfill the Business INClusion part of it. What we are hoping to do is to give small businesses an opportunity for these kinds of contracts, but they need to work with us on the Business INClusion part of it. Had this other company met the guidelines it could have saved the citizens almost \$32,000 so businesses, if you want to do business with us please try to help with the INClusion part. That is tough, and in prior life I had to do that for my company, it is not easy, and it is time consuming but it is very important, and we want you to be successful with us. I just felt like I needed to point that out tonight.

Councilmember Autry said I will join my good friend Ms. Kinsey in supporting this motion, and I'm glad to see that the City is taking on these efforts to improve pedestrian safety in an area that has seen a lot of growth and will continue to see even more growth in the coming years, and the encouragement of people getting out and walking and riding bikes is something there should be no mystery about me being a proponent for; however, I would also hope that other areas of the City, and I will speak to three spots in District 5, that have been challenged with fatalities over the last few years. One at Sharon Amity and Castleton, which is a very tricky intersection, and we've had the neighbors come down and speak to us requesting some action from us on that intersection. On Monroe Road across from the first mixed use development in District 5, Meridian Place; NC-DOT has already installed candle sticks on Monroe Road in front of the McDonald's entrances and exits there to deal with the traffic that is being challenged there on a four lane, 45 mph, no turn lanes; it is already problematic, and the place isn't even fully built out

yet. Then also at Albemarle Road and Lawyers Road, which is a very tricky area with those two signaled intersections right there within 1/16th of a mile of each other. I just look forward to being able to see some sort of action and improvements in those areas also.

Motion was made by Councilmember Autry and seconded by Councilmember Austin, to award contract in the amount of \$531,919.85 to the lowest responsive bidder, United of Carolinas, Inc. for the 10th Street/Central Avenue/Louise Avenue Pedestrian Improvements

Councilmember Smith said Ms. Kinsey touched on the small business initiative we work on; I'm going to support the motion, and the \$31,000 is real money but in the large scheme of things it is not a huge cost increase from the low bidder. My concern is and I was going to have Debra talk about it but this may be something we can talk about at a later date. My concern is I've gotten several complaints from within the construction community that often times our good faith efforts can appear to be onerous and sometimes subjective. For example, I was told of a project which somebody lost and they had reached out to 74 subs; the City said there were 200, the contractor said the list needed to be scrubbed and there were businesses on there that were not active businesses. It is more trying to get to a place where we have a better definition around the good faith efforts, and so I do support it, but I wanted to use this as an opportunity to highlight that members of our construction community at times may be making a good faith effort, not as good as the staff wants, and hopefully at some point we can begin to fine tune that process and maybe make it still rigorous but less onerous.

Mayor Roberts said it is a good opportunity to let small businesses out there who don't know about Business INClusion Program; you can certified to do business with the City, and you've got contractors who are looking for small women or minority owned businesses to fill that part of the contract: demolition, painting, landscaping, masonry, there are all kinds of pieces of construction and other contracts that the City has that Business INClusion policy for. Good opportunity for small businesses to get involved.

Councilmember Driggs said could I just ask quickly what was the percentage that the low bidder actually proposed?

Assistant City Manager Debra Campbell said the low bidder was at 7.97%. There were also seven other companies that bid on this project and Trull Contracting, LLC was the only one that could not meet the 16% that was the goal.

Mr. Driggs said were they required to be at the highest percentage or merely to meet the goal?

Ms. Campbell said just to meet the goal or the good faith effort.

Mr. Driggs said the only concern I have and I will support this as well, but the concern I have is that situations can arise where because of small discrepancies we end up paying a lot more to someone else. I've said a number of times, I would like to see more accountability for the actual improvement in SBE business awards and as a result of this program it can result in certain circumstances in kind of a non-sensible outcomes, and in this case you are saying they were just ineligible because they didn't hit a high enough level, or they were not as high as another bidder?

Ms. Campbell said they didn't meet the goal which was at 16%, and as I said the other companies did meet it.

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

Summary of Bids

Trull Contracting, LLC* (non-responsive bid)	\$499,998.40
United of Carolinas, Inc.	\$531,919.85
Sealand Contractors Corp.	\$578,688.77
Carolina Cajun Concrete, Inc.	\$655,033.50
Zoladz Construction Co., Inc.	\$657,800.00
D. E. Walker Construction Co.	\$695,825.70
Blythe Development Company	\$758,847.65

* This was a non-responsive bid.

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ITEM NO. 28: CATS BUS LOT SWEEPER/SCRUBBER

Councilmember Mayfield said actually staff did respond to my question and the question I was asking is why we were purchasing the sweeper/scrubber opposed to bidding it out to a contractor? I just wanted the community to know that we actually have a very good response to that and looking at the maintenance of the Charlotte Area Transit System, our buses and shops are handled through our Transit Management of Charlotte under the management of McDonald Transit, Inc., and the majority of the workers are union workers and not actually City employees. When you look at the duties for their overall day they address a number of different , so by us actually purchasing these two items, which is the bus lot sweeper and scrubber, we are saving a lot more on citizen's tax dollars as well as creating more job opportunity locally opposed to having a third party. That is just one of those, especially on the tail end of the budget discussion and budget training that we are having in the district just to give the community a couple more ideas of what we are looking at when we are approving projects.

Motion was made by Councilmember Mayfield, seconded by Councilmember Autry, and carried unanimously to award a contract in the amount of \$113,874 to the lowest responsive bidder, Carolina Industrial Equipment, Inc. for the purchase of two combination sweeper/scrubber units.

Summary of Bids

Carolina Industrial Equipment, Inc.	\$113,874.00
Tennant Sales and Service Company	\$125,848.42

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ITEM NO. 38: TRANSFER STORM WATER BASIN AND WILDLIFE HABITAT TO MECKLENBURG COUNTY

Councilmember Mayfield said actually Item Nos. 38 and 39 ties in together, so I will address both of them now. As we are having conversations through the City and especially having the opportunity to serve as Chair of the Housing and Neighborhood Development Committee, we are always having conversation about affordable housing and the impact of not having enough land throughout the City to build or develop or encourage the conversation for affordable housing. When there is going to be a conversation of a land transfer or land donation, I am going to ask the question, as I did with Item No. 38, and basically I was requesting the cost of the land since we are looking at donating this land to Mecklenburg County, but I want to make sure that the community recognized that this land was originally purchased as a storm water basin, and the land doesn't actually have any marketable value so if they are looking at it and saying why didn't we use this land for housing, it really doesn't have any marketable value but it will be an opportunity for the County to utilize it as part of our wetlands/habitat area for animals and things like that. We are looking at donating the parcel to the County, and it will also help the City save on the maintenance costs that we have been covering for the facility.

Motion was made by Councilmember Mayfield, seconded by Councilmember Kinsey, and carried unanimously to approve the donation of approximately 2.20 acres of surplus land (tax parcel identification numbers: 149-115-02, 149-115-03, 149-115-04, 149-115-05, 149-115-06, 149-115-07 and 149-115-08) located in the Collins Park Neighborhood to Mecklenburg County.

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ITEM NO. 39: SALE OF VACANT LAND AT 8508 IDLEWILD ROAD

Councilmember Mayfield said again for the community the same conversation, when we talk about affordable housing, we are looking at what is the opportunity for land banking, what is the opportunity for the City to encourage us to support some of these conversations? We are looking at an area that was once considered part of residential; why are we looking at putting it up for sale even though it is a small amount? Well, looking at this particular area, there is a storm water easement which creates a lot of challenges for any particular development. It is also a rather small area of land to try to have housing on so it was more so to ask the question as we move forward and talk about how to make sure that our City is an affordable City to as many as possible, but I do support the land sale of 8508 Idlewild Road and for us to go the next step which will be the upset bid process.

Motion was made by Councilmember Mayfield and seconded by Councilmember Driggs, to (A) adopt a resolution proposing to accept the offer from Jose P. Sanchez to purchase a 0.41 acre of vacant land at 8508 Idlewild Road (tax parcel identification number 165-101-02 for \$10,500, and (B) Authorize the advertisement of the proposed sale for upset bids in accordance with the resolution and authorize the City Manager to execute all documents necessary to complete the sale or the property in accordance with the resolution.

Councilmember Lyles said I'm going to support the motion but I've had a conversation with Neighborhood and Business Services and Mr. Carlee, I think the question that I have is have we actually looked at where we have the City and the School Board and the County disposing of property to determine whether or not it is appropriately zoned for residential use. I drive down Providence Road, and I see residential property with a "for sale" sign on it for the City of Charlotte and yet we talk about disbursing housing across the community. I wonder if we have actually gotten a report or how we get to some place where we have looked at how do we accumulate what land is being disposed and do we actually look at it and say take it through that filter for affordable housing? I've had some questions about it and I think Ms. Mayfield has raised this appropriately for this meeting as well as the Zoning Meeting that we had before because the only way to get at this is for us to pick up a mantle and move it.

City Manager Ron Carlee said we will give you a report on what we have done; you can look at that work and then make an assessment if you would like for it to go to a Dinner Briefing or to a Committee for a more detailed review to look at what the opportunities may be.

Ms. Lyles said I think this is particularly urgent with the School Board talking about sale of land in a way that we have the conversation on the sale of school land and we have the Superintendent saying how do we have affordable housing for teachers. We are tasking and not doing or coordinating. I think we need to look at that and come back with it so that we can make a conscious decision about what works.

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

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 47, at Pages 276-277.

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PUBLIC HEARING

ITEM NO. 6: PUBLIC HEARING ON A RESOLUTION TO CLOSE AN UNOPENED PORTION OF EAST WORTHINGTON AVENUE

Mayor Roberts declared the hearing open.

There being no speakers, either for or against, a motion was made by Councilmember Lyles seconded by Councilmember Austin, and carried unanimously to close the public hearing and adopt a resolution to close a portion of East Worthington Avenue.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 47, at Pages 268-271.

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ITEM NO. 7: PUBLIC HEARING ON A RESOLUTION TO CLOSE A PORTION OF GREENWOOD CLIFF

Mayor Roberts said we need to continue a public hearing to close a portion of Greenwood Cliff to April 25, 2016. This item will not be heard until the Pearl Park project is ready for City Council consideration. The Economic Development and Global Competitiveness Committee will consider the Pearl Park Tax Increment Grant after Mecklenburg County considers it, and this will likely occur in mid-April.

Motion was made by Councilmember Kinsey, seconded by Councilmember Mitchell, to continue the public hearing until April 25, 2016.

Councilmember Smith said I know that we've had multiple discussions on this topic with regards to if it is closed the possible renaming of Harding Place and Greenwood Cliff and trying to make it a little easier for folks to find. I don't know where that stands, but when it comes to the vote if we can have some sort of conclusion on that. The problem is this portion of the road we are going to close would leave an isolated road name that would be very hard for folks to get to and some of the businesses had asked if they could rename it, and it would be helpful in the decision making.

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

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ITEM NO. 8: CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Ron Carlee said I have several items tonight, and the first item that I just passed around to Council; let me explain to you what I have passed around and then you can come back to it either at the end of my report or at the end of the evening if you want to consider what I have put in front of you. This is a proposal that staff came forward with regard to your next Monday schedule, and if you want to change you will need to do a motion tonight to change the calendar. Currently we are scheduled to have a meeting from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. which is the City Manager's update meaning those are roughly quarter meetings typically in closed session where I have an opportunity to talk to you about what is going on, and you provide me feedback relative to my performance. We then have the Workshop from 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. and the Citizens' Forum at 7:30 p.m. That is a lot of Council meeting next Monday; staff asked if you would like to consider consolidating those beginning at 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. if we need to have a closed session; doing the Workshop from 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. and moving the Citizens' Forum up to 6:00 p.m. That way you could probably wrap up by 6:30 p.m. or 7:00 p.m., if there is a reason to be home next Monday night.

Motion was made by Councilmember Smith and seconded by Councilmember Mitchell, to amend the City Council Meeting Schedule on April 4, 2016 to the following: 3:30 p.m. City Manager's Update Meeting; 4:30 p.m. Workshop; and, 6:00 p.m. Citizens' Forum.

Councilmember Driggs said Manager Carlee on the Council Workshop does that sort of doodle over the topic?

Mr. Carlee said yes, we have draft agenda items, but I have not had a chance to talk with everybody that I need to about those. I know you are looking to have a committee meeting and may want to have an item. I'm leaving the agenda open so that we can have more discussions about what the actual items will be.

Mr. Driggs said so these deletions don't mean that those are not going to be included?

Mr. Carlee said we will not be doing doodles here in the agenda; those will be replaced by substantive items, and I will consult with the Mayor and others as to what the actual –Mr. Driggs said the two or one, the briefing of the meeting of the Search Committee and the other was the

discussion possibly about our housing and policies versus our Zoning Meeting, because I think it would be good if we had a chance to talk about those.

Mr. Carlee said if the Council is willing, I think this is a very good opportunity for you to have those discussions.

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

Mr. Carlee said I appreciate staff pulling that together for us.

Mr. Carlee said at our Dinner Briefing tonight we were to have a briefing on Water Quality but we had an overly packed agenda, and the reality is the issue of water quality is something that is very much in the news and something that people all across Charlotte and our region have, and so without objection, I would like to yield part of the Manager's Report to Barry Gullet to give us an update on water quality in Charlotte and what our Utility is doing to insure that we have safe clean water in our community.

Charlotte Water Director Barry Gullet said I am going to move through this presentation a little quicker than perhaps I would have at the Dinner Briefing, so if I skip over something please don't hesitate to slow me down. There really were three points to this presentation; the first one was to let you know how we make Charlotte Water safe. There is a lot of negative publicity about drinking water across the county these days, and I want to help you understand why Charlotte's water has been safe and is safe and will be safe. To give you some background about some proposed changes that we do have on the horizon for our water treatment process and originally I had intended for this to be some background for an agenda item that you have already approved, so I won't spend a whole lot of time on that one.

The drinking water industry is really getting a lot of negative publicity, and Charlotte is very blessed to have a great water supply source, and we have great water here in Charlotte. All this negative publicity is causing me a lot of concern about our customer confidence in that water, and we are doing some things in Charlotte Water to try to get out in front of that and make our customers understand a little bit more about why their water is safe and help them feel comfortable with it. We are putting more data out on our website so customers can get to it quicker and easier than they could in the past and stepping up some of our testing and doing things that we can in the community to help shore that up.

Water treatment in general, and I won't go into too much detail here, but one of the main points of water treatment is to really understand that it is a system and that everything interacts with each other so when you add one thing to the water or you take something out of the water it can have more than one affect. To run a successful water treatment plant and water treatment system you have to understand and recognize those interactions. That is something that didn't happen in some parts of our country recently, and it has caused a great deal of problems. One of the things we have here and if you remember last summer, we experienced some elevated disinfection by-product levels in our drinking water. We were still in compliance with EPA standards, and the water was safe to drink. If you remember we had the County Health Director come in and we talked about that, but it was higher than normal. First of all we want to let our customers know, when we find something that is unusual about our water system, we want people to know that. We think that helps build that confidence and trust, so we are going to be out there. Those elevated disinfection by-products levels can be created because water gets older in the system. As our system continues to grow and reaches further out into the County and we install larger pipes, the time the water spends in the pipe between the plant and the faucet gets to be longer and longer so we have to manage that because that gives the opportunity to create more of these disinfection by-products, so that is something we are concerned about. We looked at ways that we can help offset that with our treatment process, and one way we can do that is to lower the pH. We currently send the water out of the treatment plant with a very high pH and we use lime, carbonate calcium oxides, in conjunction with the high pH coat the inside of the pipes and that prevents corrosion and is a very important step in the treatment process. Unfortunately, that high pH, when you couple that with those long travel times and the high age of the water can create more disinfection by-products. We are going to propose a change that will let us maintain an effective corrosion control program while at the same time lowering the pH of the water a little bit to help reduce those disinfection by-product formations.

The standards are changing, as scientist understand more about the health impacts, and the chemistry that is associated with water treatment, the standards change from time to time and so they changed in 2013 and that is one of the things that started us looking at this. We've been studying this change for two years or more, doing pilot testing and have test loops set up in the water treatment plant, and we are going to continue to do that even over the course of the next year or so. The change that we are proposing is to add a different chemical, an orthophosphate/polyphosphate blend to the water which will again provide that corrosion control protection and one of the contracts you just approved on your Consent Agenda was the construction of the mechanical equipment to allow this change to happen. This picture actually came from a public radio station in Michigan, and it is showing a lead pipe, the largest piece of pipe in this picture, which is actually a small piece of pipe, is a lead pipe, and you can see that white coating on the inside of this pipe which is kind of exaggerated in extreme, but it represents and shows that coating that is formed inside of pipe that provides a barrier to the corrosion and helps prevent that lead from leeching out of the pipe and into the water and causing the kinds of problems they've had in Michigan, so I wanted to show you this picture.

Like I said, we have been working on this project for quite some time. We don't anticipate making a conversion to this new corrosion control program for probably about a year and a half while we finish this construction and we continue to do the testing and the piloting work. This gets us to a question that I think is on a lot of people's minds these days and while I was talking about these changes that we are proposing, I want to go ahead pose it. So what about lead? That has been the issue that has raised so much concern in Flint, Michigan. Lead dissolves in the water when there is not a corrosion control process in place. We have a corrosion control process in place here, and it works quite well, and we will continue to have a corrosion control process in place that will also work quite well. The other factor is that some older cities have an abundance of lead pipes. In Flint, they talk about thousands and thousands of houses that have lead pipes leading from the water main into the house or in the house. I can't say that there are no lead pipes in Charlotte; we believe there are a very few lead pipes in Charlotte. Last year we documented four, and the only way you can find these; these are generally buried underground and from this drawing I'm trying to illustrate where we find them. You have the water main that is buried out in the street right-of-way, and you have this service connection line that goes from the water main through the water meter into the house so the section of pipe that is highlighted in yellow is called a goose neck, and back in the 1920's sometimes that was used as a connector from the water main to the service line. It is kind of flexible piece of pipe, so it acted like a flex hose and made it easy to connect. We found four of those and the only way to find them is to dig them up; there aren't any test, and there aren't a lot of records indicating where they are, and we probably uncovered somewhere between 1,000 and 1,500 water service connections in the course of a year, fixing leaks, replacing pipe, and doing a lot of work, and out of all of that we found four and they were all put in in the 1920's. We are pretty certain there aren't a lot of these in Charlotte. When we do find one we take it out, and we replace it right away.

Just to help you understand kind of the exposure, if you look at how our water system has grown, these little squiggly things that you see, little blue dots right below the 277 loop, as it grows through the decade by decade you can see how big our system was in the 20's, 30's, and 40's, you see it was very, very small and then in the 50's you can see how it starts to blossom and grow and then it becomes almost an explosive growth from the 70's, 80's and into what we have today and what we are projecting a few years from now. You can see that in the 20's when these lead pipes were being installed, our exposure was very, very small, and a lot of those houses that were built in the 20's just frankly aren't there anymore. The ones that are, most of them their plumbing doesn't last a 100 years so it has been replaced. What I'm trying to say is that we have two things that are very different here; we have a great corrosion control program that prevents lead pipes from leeching lead into the water system, and we have very few lead pipes to leech from, so our risk is a lot different than you see in other places.

Lead is regulated by USEPA in a way that is a little different than most other water quality parameters. It is not based on health standards, it is based on treatment technique, so we are only required to do a minimal amount of testing for lead in our system, and the real purpose of that testing is to demonstrate that that corrosion control program is working. We are required to pick locations that are the most likely to have a problem and to test those under the worse possible conditions and then if 90% of those are below a certain level then we are considered to be in

compliance. I don't believe that is enough testing; I don't believe that really represents what we see across our whole system so part of our effort to increase our customer confidence level is we are in the process of stepping up that testing frequency and the number of locations. I will tell you that the regulators aren't going to know what to do with that data. I was at a National Conference last week, and this was obviously a very hot topic of discussion and different states are giving their water utilities a lot of different guidance about what to do if you collect more samples than you are required to do to demonstrate compliance as to how those samples should be evaluated in terms of whether you meet compliance or not. I believe we need to do more, and we are moving down that path.

That is kind of where we are now, and the other thing that is almost a given is that EPA is going to re-write the rules for lead and copper corrosion, so we expect to see those changes probably next year or that is what the EPA Administrator is saying, they will come out in 2017. I don't know how it will take them to implement them after they are out, but we will be following that and we will comply. We are doing a lot of things in the community; one of the main things we are doing is we are working very closely with the county health officials. This is a public health issue potentially and we believe that we need to be in partnership with the public health officials and we are doing that.

Councilmember Driggs said the problem we had last summer was kind of a confluence of factors if I remember right; it was low water levels, high temperature, low utilization and also Duke Energy's treatment of water, I think some of the chemicals from that. The changes you are proposing to make us more resilient to those conditions.

Mr. Gullet said absolutely.

Mr. Driggs said coordinating with Duke to make sure that they do what they do in conjunction with what we are proposing to do.

Mr. Gullet said you are absolutely correct; this change will make us more resilient, and it will put us in a better place to deal with different types of changes that could occur to our raw water supply and still insure that we have a great drinking water product. We have been working very closely with Duke; they've been cooperative, they stopped the treatment process that they were using that created the issue in the raw water supply last May. We've continue to meet with Duke, and we've taken the lead in organizing the meetings with the water utilities on the Catawba River that share that water resource and sharing data with each other to see what we are experiencing with Duke to see what is happening at their plants and how the concentrations are changing and that has been very successful.

Mr. Driggs said have those THM levels been going down?

Mr. Gullet said yes, they have; the issue that we are going to face though is that compliance is based on an annual average of four data points, and we still have those high values from last fall in our averaging number. We believe we are still going to be in compliance, but if we were to have a hot, early summer it is a possibility that we could be right on the edge again because of the data we have from last fall, but the water quality that we are seeing now is much improved over what we were seeing last year, even this time of the year. The different types of disinfection by-products have shifted because of the changes in the raw water supply source, and they have shifted back. We've seen the types of disinfection by-products return to what we consider to be normal.

Councilmember Phipps said did I understand you to say that we still have some pipes in Charlotte that is approaching a 100 years old?

Mr. Gullet said I might have said that, but if I did I misspoke because we have pipes that are older than 100 years.

Mr. Phipps said so, you are saying that each time we come across that we make corrections, but just when we come across it, right?

Mr. Gullet said the specific pipes that I was talking about that we replace immediately are those lead goose necks, and that is a piece of pipe about this big around and about this long, but we have water mains in our system, the pipes in the streets that are a 100 years , and we have through the Capital Community Investment Program that we fund through our rates each year, a great deal of that money is spent to replace or rehabilitate some of that old pipe each year.

Councilmember Smith said it sounds like you might could have gotten some of Charlotte Pipe because they are probably about 115 years old, some of their first production.

Mr. Gullet said actually that is a good point, and you are exactly on target because Charlotte has different materials in place than a lot of other cities our age, largely because Charlotte Foundry was here, you are exactly right.

Mr. Carlee said that was going to be my follow-up; could you please describe what the material when you are talking about these pipes and the mains are a 100 years old. What is the material of those pipes and some of the other older pipes in contrast to what Flint and some other cities are seeing?

Mr. Gullet said what Flint is seeing are those service lines; if you remember from that graphic of the house, what Flint has in a lot of cases is a lead pipe that goes all the way from the water main into the house and some of the plumbing inside the house is actually lead so their exposure is much greater, and there were cities in the county who were still installing lead pipe as I understand it, into the 1950's. The ones that we have found here in Charlotte were all installed in the 20's or that is when the house was built so that is what we can assume. Like I said, there aren't a lot of records about that material, it is a plumbing product. I take the opportunity every time I'm around a plumber that works in this region to ask them, have you ever seen lead pipe in a house, and I haven't found one yet that has said yes I have. There might be some, and I'm not saying there aren't, but I have found the plumber that has said that there is. This is the graphic I was talking about. So, what Flint is experiencing is the pipe all the way from the water main in the street, all the way through the water meter and into the house and then plumbing lines inside the house are actually lead. That is not unusual; other older cities, particularly some of the northern cities, this is quite , and the cities are struggling with how to find them, how to identify where they are and how to replace them. The science is telling us that if you replace part of it and you don't replace all of it that might be worse than not doing anything at all because it creates several conditions that actually make it worse. Part of this pipe belongs to the customer and part of it belongs to the City and that is where that partial replacement issue comes in; the cities are going in and replacing their part of it, but if there isn't a program to help the homeowner replace that remaining lead part, in those cities that have that condition, the science is indicating that actually creates more exposure because of the reaction between the metals and just the dislodging of flakes that could happen during that construction process. Some of the funding that you are hearing and legislation that you are hearing about in Flint is related to that partial service line replacement issue.

Mayor Roberts said I just wanted to say that I really appreciate that we have done this update before the camera to let people know because there has been a lot of conversation around the country about what happened in Flint and New Jersey and other places that have come to light because of the use of lead pipes was so pervasive, and it was a long time ago but as you said there is a lot of aging infrastructure in our country. I know I live in a house that is a 100 years old, so I'm going to go home and look at my pipes.

Mr. Gullet said I have had the opportunity to go several community meetings lately, and when folks come up to me the first question I usually ask is how is your water? I have been surprised at how many folks have said I don't drink the water so I ask them why. A lot of the response that I get is well, where I'm from we just never drank the water. I want to get the message out that the water here in Charlotte is great, and it is good water, and you should drink it. That is part of our customer confidence building as well.

Mayor Roberts said if customers do want to have their particular water from their house checked is there an easy way for them to do that?

Mr. Gullet said there is; what I would say is that if there is something different about your water, if there is something that changes, if it is discolored, or if you notice an odor or a taste or something that is unusual please call 311 and let us know right away, and we will be out, and we will check it. We really don't have the capacity to test thousands and thousands of samples every week, but if someone has some concern and there is reason for any doubt whatsoever we will be glad to work with them, not only will we do the testing, but we will try to help them diagnose and figure out where the problem is coming from. When we do find water quality issues out in our system it is often times something that is coming from within the home. Usually, it is not coming, and I would say almost always, it isn't coming from the water as it leaves the treatment plant; it is something that is happening to it in transport or inside of the customer's house. Mayor Roberts said are most professional plumbers equipped to help give some indication to homeowners as well about that?

Mr. Gullet said I don't know the answer to that.

Mr. Carlee said thank you Mayor for letting us do that in Chamber on camera. I mean this respectfully; the problem in Flint was not a chemistry or materials problem, it was a people problem. There was a breakdown at every level of government, and while we have distinctions here because of our chemistry and because of our material, the real distinction is that we have a highly professional, highly confident, long tenured staff in Charlotte Water that understands the business of water, they constantly check it and monitor it. I've seen them under extraordinary trying circumstances, and there is no more professional team, and I mean that from the people out on the street, late at night doing the work, to the people in the lab, to the Engineers, and to the Director and senior management. We are very fortunate to have the leadership that we have in Charlotte Water.

The last thing that I wanted to mention on good news; you know last week there was an announcement of more international soccer coming to Charlotte. This is very exciting with Bayern Munich and Inter Milan coming in July, specifically Saturday, July 30, 2016 at 5:00 at the Bank of America Stadium. This is football for the world; last year we were very fortunate to host a couple of teams, an international match related to this one which was sponsored by Relevant Sports, Carolina Panthers, Charlotte Regional Visitors Bureau, as well as the City. We had Chelsea and Paris Saint-Germain with 61,000 fans and had economic impact of \$18.7 million. This is a phenomenal deal that is only possible because of the stadium agreement that we have with Bank of America Stadium and the Panthers, and a big shout out to Ron Kimble and all of his work to bring international soccer to Charlotte.

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ITEM NO. 9: HOUSING REHABILITATION FUNDING ALLOCATION

Councilmember Mayfield said tonight we are being asked to approve the Housing and Neighborhood Development Committee's recommendation to award our Community Development Block Grant allocations for Habitat for Humanity in the amount of \$400,000 and to Goodwill Industries in the amount of \$400,000 for single family housing rehabilitation with up to two renewals of each contract. This funding will be used to rehabilitate owner occupied housing units for low and moderate income families. The partnership that we have with both Habitat and Goodwill are longstanding, and this will assist with our City's housing services team with addressing the backlog of over 200 applicants that we have now, and that is based on the previous decision we made to suspend the current program in order to address the backlog. Funding for this request is recommended, it meets the City's housing program goals of preventing the displacement of homeowners and creating a suitable and livable environment. It also supports this Council's recent discussions related to the needs of preserving the existing housing stock and allowing individuals to age in place. On our March 3rd meeting, Neighborhood and Business Services, and I want to thank my Council colleagues, Mr. John Autry, Mr. Kenny Smith, Mr. Ed Driggs and Mr. Al Austin, members of the Committee, for supporting the recommendation to come to full Council because we voted unanimously to recommend the funding to the full City Council.

Motion was made by Councilmember Mayfield and seconded by Councilmember Driggs, to approve the Housing and Neighborhood Development Committee recommendation to approve a Community Development Block Grant allocation to Habitat for Humanity of Charlotte in the amount of \$400,000 and to Goodwill Industries in the amount of \$400,000 for single family rehabilitation with up to two renewals of each contract.

Councilmember Driggs said I may have asked this already of the City Attorney, but it doesn't matter that I'm on the Goodwill Board; is that right for a vote like this?

City Attorney, Bob Hageman said it does not.

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

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ITEM NO. 10: APPOINTMENTS TO ARTS AND SCIENCE COUNCIL (ASC) ADVISORY COUNCILS

The following nominees were considered for two at-large appointments for a one-year term with this first appointment beginning January 1, 2016 and ending June 30, 2017:

Central Advisory Council

Sarah Alexander, nominated by Councilmember Eiselt
Lincoln A. Baxter, nominated by Councilmember Kinsey
Ted Benjamin, nominated by Councilmember Autry
Mary Parrish Coley, nominated by Councilmember Kinsey
Larry Elder, nominated by Councilmember Eiselt
Francene Greene, nominated by Councilmembers Autry, Mayfield, and Mitchell
Sheila Mullen, nominated by Councilmember Fallon.

Results of the first ballot were recorded as follows:

Francene Greene, 7 votes – Councilmembers Austin, Autry, Driggs, Fallon, Lyles, Mayfield and Mitchell.
Sarah Alexander, 5 votes – Councilmembers Austin, Lyles, Mayfield, Mitchell and Phipps
Lincoln A. Baxter, 2 votes – Councilmembers Kinsey and Phipps
Ted Benjamin, 2 votes – Councilmembers Autry and Driggs
Mary Parrish Coley, 1 vote – Councilmember Kinsey
Larry Elder, 1 vote – Councilmember Fallon

Results of the second ballot were recorded as follows:

Sarah Alexander, 9 votes – Councilmembers Austin, Autry, Driggs, Kinsey, Lyles, Mayfield, Mitchell, Phipps, and Smith.

Ms. Alexander and Ms. Greene were appointed.

The following nominees were considered for one at-large appointment for a one-year term with this first appointment beginning January 1, 2016 and ending June 30, 2017:

North/West Advisory Council

Sherri Belfield, nominated by Councilmember Austin
Tiffany Capers, nominated by Councilmembers Autry, Eiselt, Lyles, and Mayfield
Vickie Evans, nominated by Councilmember Phipps
Jeff Wise, nominated by Councilmember Fallon

Results of the first ballot were recorded as follows:

Sherri Belfield, 2 votes – Councilmembers Austin and Kinsey

Tiffany Capers, 4 votes – Councilmembers Autry, Lyles, Mayfield, and Mitchell
Vickie Evans, 2 votes – Councilmembers Driggs and Phipps
Jeff Wise, 1 vote – Councilmember Fallon

Since no nominee received six votes, a second ballot was taken and the results were recorded as follows:

Tiffany Capers, 8 votes – Councilmembers Autry, Driggs, Kinsey, Lyles, Mayfield, Mitchell, Phipps and Smith.

Ms. Capers was appointed.

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ITEM NO. 11: APPOINTMENTS TO THE BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The following nominees were considered for two appointments for unexpired terms beginning immediately and ending April 30, 2019:

Nikita Darrell, nominated by Councilmember Autry
Terry DeBoo, nominated by Councilmembers Driggs and Fallon
Daniel F. Freeman, nominated by Councilmember Driggs
Elizabeth Frere, nominated by Councilmember Kinsey
Jonathan L. Giles, nominated by Councilmember Mitchell
Hilary Greenbery, nominated by Councilmembers Eiselt, Fallon, Smith, and Lyles
Jason E. Lackey, nominated by Councilmember Kinsey
Nathaniel D. Lewis, nominated by Councilmember Austin
Sophia Matthews, nominated by Councilmembers Mayfield, Mitchell, and Phipps
Binh L. Phu, nominated by Councilmember Mayfield
Stephen F. Vaughan, nominated by Councilmember Phipps

Results of the first ballot were recorded as follows:

Terry DeBoo, 2 votes – Councilmembers Driggs and Fallon
Daniel F. Freeman, 1 vote - Councilmember Driggs
Elizabeth Frere, 2 votes – Councilmembers Kinsey and Lyles
Hilary Greenberg, 3 votes – Councilmembers Fallon, Kinsey, and Smith
Nathaniel D. Lewis, 1 vote – Councilmember Austin
Sophia Matthews, 5 votes – Councilmembers Austin, Autry, Mayfield, Mitchell, and Phipps
Binh L. Phu, 4 votes – Councilmembers Autry, Lyles, Mayfield, and Mitchell
Stephen F. Vaughan, 1 vote – Councilmember Phipps

Since no nominee received six votes, a second ballot was taken and the results were recorded as follows:

Hilary Greenberg, 6 votes – Councilmembers Autry, Driggs, Kinsey, Lyles, Phipps, and Smith
Sophia Matthews, 8 votes – Councilmembers Austin, Autry, Driggs, Lyles, Mayfield, Mitchell, Phipps, and Smith
Binh L. Phu, 4 votes – Councilmembers Austin, Kinsey, Mayfield, and Mitchell.

Ms. Greenberg and Ms. Matthews were appointed.

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ITEM NO. 12: APPOINTMENTS TO THE CHARLOTTE WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The following nominees were considered for one appointment for a partial term beginning immediately and ending June 30, 2018, for the category of Small Town Representative. The town managers of the Towns of Cornelius, Davidson, Huntersville, Matthews, Mint Hill and Pineville unanimously recommended Barry L. Webb for appointment by City Council.

Barry L. Webb, nominated by Councilmember Phipps
Heather Hendren, nominated by Councilmember Mayfield
Jacqueline Levister, nominated by Councilmember Kinsey
Matt McDonald, nominated by Councilmember Driggs
Tom D. Pearson, nominated by Councilmember Mitchell
Thomas Rothrock, nominated by Councilmembers Autry and Fallon

Results of the first ballot were recorded as follows:

Barry L. Webb, 4 votes – Councilmembers Driggs, Fallon, Lyles, and Phipps
Heather Hendren, 4 votes – Councilmembers Austin, Autry, Mayfield, and Mitchell
Jacqueline Levister, 1 vote – Councilmember Kinsey

Since no nominee received six votes, a second ballot was taken and the results were recorded as follows:

Barry L. Webb, 7 votes – Councilmembers Austin, Autry, Kinsey, Lyles, Mitchell, Phipps, and Smith.

Mr. Webb was appointed.

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ITEM NO. 13: APPOINTMENTS TO THE COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Karen Jensen, 311 Baldwin Avenue said I was going to say that this Committee needs some oversight with the leadership; I know these are the volunteers, and I have no particular statement about these people, but the person who you are paying from the City to oversee this Committee, I don't know if he needs more oversight or if he has exactly the oversight that you wish in the same line with what has been happening with what I referred to before from the City doing the wrong thing. This man, whose job it is to take complaints and assist people with problems with the Police Department told me he would not assist me with taking a complaint, and this is not new information, I've told you before. He said he would not take my complaint because the Police Department did not wish to have my complaint. This again is a major part of his job so either somebody is telling him that is the party line from the City or he is not doing his job for someone to investigate. This committee is supposed to operate in a particular way, and so I hope that whoever is nominated will operate in the proper way. It seems that nobody is going to ever answer for what they are doing from the City to me anyway. So, I'll just say you have singled me out for treatment different from other citizens and this Committee, whoever is nominated tonight is supposed to address issues like what has been happening to me. I have a violent, racist man living on one side of me, a violent felon living on the other side of me; Police who I reported their bad behavior who then retaliated for that by doing much worse to me. You are violating your policies and procedures and this Committee is supposed to address that. If you are going to allow them to subvert that mission then why have this Committee at all? This is a farce, and you have allowed the person who is being paid to lead this Committee to lie about what they are doing to turn me away because you said the Police don't want to have my complaint. I don't care; I'm sure they don't want to have any complaints. I'm sure none of you do. It seems that you don't want me to speak about this either, so I'm going to leave.

The following nominees were considered for four appointments for three-year terms beginning immediately and ending June 30, 2019:

Takiyah N. Amin, nominated by Councilmember Kinsey
Jeanette G. Ayeni, nominated by Councilmembers Austin and Mayfield
Crystal L. Brooks, nominated by Councilmembers Austin, Fallon, and Mayfield
Amanda B. Brown, nominated by Council members Autry, Driggs, and Mitchell
Linda N. Carr, nominated by Councilmember Autry
Kawana C. Davis, nominated by Councilmembers Autry and Mitchell
Ryan J. Deal, nominated by Councilmembers Autry, Driggs, Kinsey, and Phipps
Madeline DeGrace, nominated by Councilmember Phipps
Jared R. Fawley, nominated by Councilmembers Driggs and Fallon

Daniel F. Freeman, nominated by Councilmembers Driggs and Fallon
Jonathan L. Giles, nominated by Councilmembers Driggs and Mitchell
Randolph B. Muhammad, nominated by Councilmember Phipps
Michelle D. Newton, nominated by Councilmembers Austin and Fallon
James C. Nine, nominated by Councilmembers Driggs and Kinsey
Nehemie Owen, nominated by Councilmembers Autry, Driggs, and Mayfield
Emanuel Reid, nominated by Councilmember Mitchell
William L. Robinson, nominated by Councilmembers Fallon and Kinsey
Glenda M. Spann-Hinnant, nominated by Councilmembers Mitchell and Phipps
Jamal I. Tate, nominated by Council member Kinsey
Juan J. Vazquez Bernal, nominated by Councilmember Mayfield
Deidre C. Young, nominated by Councilmember Mitchell

Results of the first ballot were recorded as follows:

Takiyah N. Amin, 1 vote – Councilmember Kinsey
Jeannete G. Ayeni, 4 votes – Councilmembers Austin, Lyles, Mayfield, and Mitchell
Crystal L. Brooks, 5 votes – Councilmembers Austin, Autry, Driggs, Mayfield, and Mitchell
Amanda B. Brown, 2 votes – Councilmember Autry and Driggs
Kawana C. Davis, 1 vote – Councilmember Autry
Ryan J. Deal, 2 votes, Councilmembers Kinsey and Phipps
Madaline DeGrace, 3 votes – Councilmembers Fallon, Lyles, and Phipps
Daniel F. Freeman, 1 vote – Councilmember Driggs
Randolph B. Muhammad, 2 votes – Councilmembers Fallon and Phipps
Michelle D. Newton, 1 vote – Councilmember Austin
James C. Nine, 1 vote – Councilmember Kinsey
Nehemie Owen, 3 votes – Councilmembers Autry, Mayfield, and Mitchell
Emanuel Reid, 2 votes – Councilmembers Fallon and Lyles
William L. Robinson, 2 votes – Councilmembers Driggs and Kinsey
Glenda M. Spann-Hinnant, 1 vote – Councilmember Phipps
Juan J. Vazquez Bernal, 2 votes – Councilmembers Mayfield and Mitchell
Deidra C. Young, 2 votes – Councilmembers Austin and Fallon

Since no nominee received six votes, a second ballot was taken and the results were recorded as follows:

Jeanette G. Ayeni, 3 votes – Councilmembers Austin, Lyles and Phipps
Crystal L. Brooks, 6 votes – Councilmembers Austin, Driggs, Lyles, Mitchell, Phipps, and Smith
Amanda Brown, 6 votes – Councilmembers Autry, Driggs, Lyles, Mayfield, Phipps, and Smith
Ryan J. Deal, 6 votes – Councilmembers Autry, Driggs, Kinsey, Lyles, Phipps, and Smith
Madeline DeGrace, 3 votes – Councilmembers Austin, Mitchell, and Phipps
Nehemi Owen, 6 votes – Councilmembers Austin, Autry, Kinsey, Lyles, Mayfield, and Mitchell

Ms. Brooks, Ms. Brown, Mr. Deal and Ms. Owen were appointed.

Councilmember Autry said we have been talking lately about the need for more innovation in this City, surely someone somewhere can innovate a better way to vote on these appointments to these Boards and Commission than this mishmash, convoluted way that I can't hardly follow what is going on if someone isn't nominated out of the first vote.

Mayor Roberts said this sounds like a job for the Governance Committee.

Mr. Autry said we go through this every month.

Mayor Roberts said so noted and the Committee will take that up, and we will get an engineering student to figure it out.

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ITEM NO. 14: APPOINTMENT TO THE HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION

The following nominees were considered for one appointment for a partial term beginning immediately and ending July 16, 2018:

James R. Alsop II, nominated by Councilmembers Eiselt and Phipps
Joseph Elliott, nominated by Councilmembers Austin and Mitchell
Jason E. Lackey, nominated by Councilmember Driggs
Kathryn L. McClelland, nominated by Councilmember Kinsey
SyDonia Williams, nominated by Councilmember Mayfield
Cameron Wright, nominated by Councilmember Smith

Results of the first ballot were recorded as follows:

James R. Alsop II, 1 vote – Councilmember Phipps
Joseph Elliott, 1 vote – Councilmember Austin
Kathryn L. McClelland, 2 votes – Councilmembers Kinsey and Lyles
SyDonia Williams, 3 votes – Councilmembers Autry, Mayfield, and Mitchell
Cameron Wright, 3 votes – Councilmembers Driggs, Fallon, and Smith

Since no nominee received six votes, a second ballot was taken and the results were recorded as follows:

SyDonia Williams, 4 votes - Councilmembers Austin, Autry, Mayfield, and Mitchell
Cameron Wright, 5 votes – Councilmember Driggs, Kinsey, Lyles, Phipps, and Smith

Since neither nominee received six votes, this appointment will brought back to the next Business Meeting.

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ITEM NO. 15: APPOINTMENTS TO KEEP CHARLOTTE BEAUTIFUL

The following nominees were considered for one appointment to a partial term beginning immediately and ending June 30, 2017:

Sheila Etheridge, nominated by Council member Phipps
Sharon Geter, nominated by Councilmember Austin
Jonathan Giles, nominated by Councilmember Autry
Amanda Mitchell, nominated by Councilmember Mitchell
Ryon Smalls, nominated by Councilmember Driggs
Amy Villegas-McCleave, nominated by Councilmember Mayfield
Brian Withrow, nominated by Councilmember Kinsey

Results of the first ballot were recorded as follows:

Sheila Etheridge, 1 vote – Councilmember Phipps
Sharon Geter, 1 vote – Councilmember Austin
Amanda Mitchell, 1 vote – Councilmember Smith
Amy Villegas-McCleave, 4 votes – Councilmembers Autry, Lyles, Mayfield, and Mitchell
Brian Withrow, 3 votes – Councilmembers Driggs, Fallon, and Kinsey

Since no nominee received six votes, a second ballot was taken and the results were recorded as follows:

Amy Villegas-McCleave, 5 votes – Councilmembers Austin, Autry, Mayfield, Mitchell, and Phipps
Brian Withrow, 4 votes – Councilmembers Driggs, Kinsey, Lyles, and Smith

Since neither nominee received six votes, this appointment will be brought back to the next Business Meeting.

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MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL TOPICS

Councilmember Mayfield said I am having an amazing week everyone, even though last Wednesday was extremely difficult, but I had the opportunity to join my colleague Mr. Driggs in Raleigh as they discussed moving forward for our state. That was an interesting time, and I am so thankful to be sitting around this dais.

Councilmember Smith said I want to make a plug for Town Hall on April 21, 2016 at Sharon Methodist Church beginning at 6:30 p.m. We are going to discuss the ULI Panel that occurred last week. Everybody in District 6, we would love to have you. I would like to make a Committee referral; our traffic calming policy is about 10-years old; we are growing in a lot of different ways. I've had some conversation and complaints from constituents; I've had conversation with Doreen Szymanski and feel like to might be a good time for review of traffic calming. I've spoken with the Chair of the Committee, Councilmember Lyles, and she seems to be up for the referral, so I would indulge my colleagues in allowing the Transportation and Planning Committee to take a look at our traffic calming and see if needs to be updated to reflect the City where it is today, as it was 10-years ago.

Ms. Mayfield said I need to thank American Airlines because last week American Airlines made a major donation last week of over \$400,000 to three wonderful organizations, two of those within District 3, \$150,000 to Renaissance West; \$150,000 to the Goodwill Opportunity Campus, both in District 3 and \$100,000 to Foundation for the Carolinas for the theatre. Part 2 of the Renaissance West donation, what came out of that was a conversation with the Senior Director at HMS Host. HMS Host will be hosting a job fare with over 100 jobs that they have available ready to fill right now. It will be held on April 16, 2016 at Renaissance West. That relationship was created at the announcement as we continue to move forward and show business support. Information will be coming out for HMS Host has over 100 positions that need to be filled now, and there will be a job fare on April 16, 2016 at Renaissance West which is located off of West Boulevard.

Councilmember Phipps said I want to congratulate and thank several communities along Caldwell Road in University City for their diligence in helping to solve a crime spree last week that included house break-ins, larceny, car thefts, and attempted break-ins at a couple of gun shops in the City. You may have heard about these in the media or read about it in the paper. Neighbors are looking out for each other in the Stafford, Coventry, Berkshire and Olde Stone Crossing Neighborhoods used the Next Door Communication Application to give sufficient leads and information to the University City Police Division enabling them to capture and make arrest and solve these cases. They arrested six people in those incidents. This is a real time example of how effective the Next Door Tool can be, and I encourage all citizens throughout Charlotte to sign up and sign on so that you can make a difference in your own neighborhoods to reduce crime. Public Safety is everyone's business, and Police appreciate all the help they can get, especially from diligent citizens such as this. I applaud those communities for helping solve those crime sprees; the Police thanks them and as we continue to debate how we are going to come up with the resources to increase our Police Department it is good to know that citizens are out there looking out for each other because the Police cannot be everywhere all at once. I thank those District 4 communities.

Councilmember Lyles said I am just excited that the Tar Heels had a great game last night and look forward to next week.

Mayor Roberts said we had a very global week last week; we had the French Ambassador here, and it was an honor to welcome him; we had a Global Competitiveness Summit which had information from Brook Institute about our need for more innovation in Charlotte, which is great. We had the first meeting of the Mayor's China/Charlotte Business Council, and we are going to be planning our trip to China and working to increase commercial and investment relations between Charlotte and China. Lastly, I had a conversation with the Mayor of Cincinnati because Mayor Cranley and I have a bet for the Queen City Cup Soccer Tournament, and we are supposed to wear the other's team jersey and help serve food if we lose.

Councilmember Kinsey said I walked into my office this afternoon and had these wonderful flowers on my desk; I don't know who gave them to me, but I really do appreciate them and thank you. I will continue to enjoy them.

Councilmember Autry said I am pleased and appreciative of Mr. Smith's request for the referral regarding traffic calming to the Transportation and Planning Committee on which I serve. I look forward to that discussion because our streets should be safer, our ability for pedestrians to move around the City should be safer, and I would ask anybody out there that uses our streets and roads to please observe the speed limit. As the weather gets warmer and we start opening up our windows let's make sure we don't have any inadvertent litter flying out those windows and cluttering up the streets.

Councilmember Driggs said I've had a lot of e-mails from constituents about Rezoning Petition 2016-064, which is a sports complex off Ballantyne Commons Parkway next to I-485. I wanted to let everybody know the hearing for this is not until the end of May; the decision won't occur before June at the earliest. We are working on that, and I'm trying to keep up with the e-mails I've gotten, but I want people to know there is still plenty of time before a decision about that.

Councilmember Austin said I just want to remind residents in the Beatties Ford Road and LaSalle Street Neighborhoods that we are hosting another "Taking Back Our Community" initiative on Saturday, April 2, 2016 at Memorial Presbyterian Church, 2600 Beatties Ford Road from 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. The focus will be on education, and we will be inviting members of our School Board out for that discussion.

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ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Councilmember Mayfield, seconded by Councilmember Driggs, and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting.
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The meeting was adjourned at 9:08 p.m.



Emily A. Kunze, Deputy City Clerk

Length of Meeting: 3 Hours, 57 Minutes
Minutes Completed: April 16, 2016