

The City Council of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina convened for a Dinner Briefing on Monday, May 8, 2017 at 5:13 p.m. in Room 267 of the Charlotte Mecklenburg Government Center with Mayor Jennifer Roberts presiding. Councilmembers present were Dimple Ajmera, Al Austin, Ed Driggs, Julie Eiselt, Patsy Kinsey, Vi Lyles, LaWana Mayfield, James Mitchell, Greg Phipps, and Kenny Smith.

ABSENT: Councilmember Claire Fallon

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ITEM NO. 1: AGENDA REVIEW

There was no Agenda Review.

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ITEM NO. 2: MAYOR AND COUNCIL CONSENT ITEM QUESTIONS

There were no Consent Item questions.

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ITEM NO.3: EXTRAORDINARY EVENTS ORDINANCE

Bob Hagemann, City Attorney said you will recall that Chief Putney and I briefed you on this ordinance back in February; we've been working on it since then and have had conversations with some stakeholders that I will describe to you and have come forward with a proposed ordinance. I'm to remind you of our February 13, 2017 conversation, to discuss a little bit the subsequent review that staff has been undertaking then describe the proposed changes, as well as next steps. Back in February, the Chief and I recounted the purpose in history of the Extraordinary Events Ordinance, and it was prepared and adopted in anticipation of the 2012 Democrat National Convention (DNC), walk you through what is in the ordinance, what the justifications are for declaring an Extraordinary Event, give you some numbers on the history of the usage of the ordinance, and the Chief discussed the value and policy justifications going forward that he is concerned about, and finally we previewed possible changes which we are bringing forward tonight.

Since February, my office, CMPD, and the City Manager's Office have been working on proposed revisions; we drafted the proposed changes, and we've been seeking feedback from several stakeholders in particular the ACLU. I can report to you that with one possible change that we are still discussing they are satisfied with the proposal that I'm going to go through in a second. The proposed change is to repeal the Extraordinary Events Ordinance in its entirety; that being said, the Chief and CMPD believe that they are some concepts and principles in that ordinance that are worth preserving, so our proposal is to amend the Public Assembly Ordinance and the Picketing Ordinance to prohibit some but not all of the items that are prohibited when an Extraordinary Event was declared. This is the list of items that would still be prohibited at a permitted public assembly, which is a demonstration or festival, think Speed Street and/or a picket with an estimated crowd of at least 50 people. We say at the outset here the Extraordinary Event Ordinance did not, and this proposed change would not override the Fourth Amendment. Neither the existing ordinance or what is proposed give the Police the right to conduct a search without probable cause. We've all heard a lot about backpacks; the ordinance never gave the Police and what is being proposed would not give the Police the right to indiscriminately search backpacks. They would have to have probable cause to do; the Fourth Amendment is unaffected by these ordinances.

From the Chief's perspective, I think he would say that it is hard for anybody to make a case that there is a legitimate reason for the items that are prohibited here from being possessed and present at a large scale outdoor event; bars, chains, shafts, cables, wire, lumber, or pipe capable of inflicting injury, backpack, duffle, cooler, carried with the intent to conceal a weapon or other prohibited item again it does not give the Police the

right to search ask and probably cause or consent to look for a prohibited item. Glass container capable of being filled with a flammable substance carried with the intent to injure, moly cocktail.

Councilmember Driggs said I am curious how this works. Does that mean that somebody who produces one of the prohibited items from a backpack is guilty of having the prohibited item and of concealing it in a backpack is a separate offence? What do we actually gain?

Mr. Hagemann said I think and the Chief is not here, but I've heard this explained numerous times. If the Police see somebody with a backpack that enters suspicion; there is suspicion about the way the person is conducting himself, maybe struggling with the weight of the backpack the Police can engage that individual in a conversation. They can make contact and they can seek permission to voluntarily search, consensual search, and again if they have probable cause, they could act even further on that. Think the Boston Marathon bombing; those were pressure cooker bombs hidden in backpacks, and that is exactly the kind of concern that CMPD has.

Mr. Driggs said would the conditions be similar to looking in the trunk or the glove compartment of a car for example, having stopped it for a traffic violation?

Mr. Hagemann said you are getting out of my area of expertise; I don't do criminal work or law enforcement stuff, but yes the Fourth Amendment, which protects people from unreasonable searches and seizures, still has to be respected and honored.

Councilmember Mayfield said Mr. Hagemann, when we go to the third bullet, glass container capable of being filled with some flammable substance does that also include water bottles, because we've also seen where people have put acid in and walked up and sprayed a water bottle on individuals.

Mr. Hagemann said I'm going to go through the list of things that are not proposed to be carried forward from the Extraordinary Ordinance, and I think the Police did a pretty good job deliberating what to keep and what to give up and particularly with events outside where you have weather and it is warm. I think they made the judgment call to not prohibit plastic bottles, but you are right; they can also be used in a destructive way.

Ms. Mayfield said that is what I didn't notice, so I think about Speed Street; Speed Street is an event where you can purchase items, so it is one thing if you purchase within because all of that has already been checked versus you bringing; just like the movies. In theory, you are not supposed to take any food or drink into the theatre with you. Now whether or not you have a big handbag and you try to take something in is a different conversation, but in theory you are not supposed to. I'm trying to figure out are we looking at it from that direction where if it is an event that is selling food and drink that we are trying to encourage you not to bring your own in or are we not going to go to that level of detail?

Mr. Hagemann said I think not going to that level of detail.

Councilmember Eiselt said I guess I should wait until you go through all of the items, but I'm wondering what is the significant change, because it seems like we are just taking away the need to identify something as an Extraordinary Event and just saying at all times pretty much these are conditions that apply for big crowds.

Mr. Hagemann said that is correct.

Ms. Eiselt said so really there are just some items that the Police are saying yeah you are right those aren't really going to hurt anybody, a gas mask or something like that. So is anything really substantially changed?

Mr. Hagemann said I think you accurately described the proposal.

Ms. Eiselt said is that overcoming the objection that the community has had to meaning something in an Extraordinary Event repeatedly?

Mr. Hagemann said two things, again I have been in conversation with the ACLU; they have reviewed the draft; they've made some suggestions that we accommodated, we are still discussing one. I'm just waiting to get feedback from CMPD that I think will be accommodated, so I think at the end of the day the ACLU is going to be comfortable with this ordinance. The Chief also plans before bringing this back to you for action to have some additional conversations with stakeholders, and I would anticipate that you may hear from speakers about what they think about the proposal when it is on your agenda.

Mr. Hagemann continued the list: knives, box cutters, bladed objects, etc., hammers, crow bars, rocks, bricks, bottles, projectile devices like a sling shot, sock or pockets containing weighted material. Again, things that the Police if they identify somebody holding it they want to deal with it before it is actually thrown or used, before someone is injured and finally, fireworks, smoke bombs, and sparklers. The Extraordinary Event Ordinance does have a safe harbor, and we propose to carry that forward as well. It is a defense the prosecution if the person possessed one of the prohibited items was engaged in or on the way to or from an activity where the object was legitimately used, they possessed the object for that legitimate use and they did not use or attempt to use it as a weapon or to injure another person. That safe harbor would still be preserved.

Finally and Ms. Mayfield, this may get to a little bit of what you are thinking; we don't have controlled access to these events. They are generally open, and people can enter them from almost any direction, but the Chief does see a day possibly where we would have some of these events with controlled access. An example he uses is New Year's Eve in Times Square, and in order to attend that you have to go through security checks. It is a controlled access event, and they do actually search and screen for dangerous and prohibited items. That is consensual, because if somebody agrees to go through that check point they don't have to go into the event. If they don't want their backpack searched leave the backpack alone, or don't go into the event. So that is a consensual search when you go to one of those, but this ordinance would create a mechanism if and when we have controlled access events where attendees can be screened to insured that they are not carrying any of the prohibited items.

Here is a list of what was in the original ordinance that is being proposed to be dropped: prohibition on moving a vehicle, cart or float without a permit, pretty unrealistic. There is prohibition on throwing an object without a permit. I think the Chief got comfortable that if somebody actually takes one of these prohibited items and throws it that is assault, and we don't need prohibition inside the ordinance itself. A contained or object that may be used as projectile, aerosol containers, spray guns, or soakers, paint guns, spray paint, non-water soluble fluid. Again, things that as they reviewed the ordinance they thought we really can't make a strong case that these items rise to the level of that kind of danger. Pepper spray or mace, I think that is a recognition that people for self-defense reasons routinely carry mace, body armor, shield, helmet, gas mask, mask or scarf worn to hide the identity of a person, police scanner, and animals. Those are all right now in the Extraordinary Event Ordinance and they would be proposed to be dropped out.

Ms. Mayfield said when we say animals, that does exclude service animals, correct? Do we need to specify that so that people know?

Mr. Hagemann said this proposal would drop the prohibition on animals, so that you could bring animals. In fact that was one of the problems that we had; the original ordinance prohibited animals and did not carve out service animals. It also frankly was difficult, because now we have so many people living downtown and people are just walking their dogs. The way the current ordinance was written; I don't think it was ever enforced this way, but the way the current ordinance was written you could have somebody violating the ordinance for walking their pet. Our proposal is to bring the ordinance on your agenda for action on the 22nd; as I indicated the Chief intends to

have some more conversations with some stakeholders, people who have expressed some objections or interest in the Extraordinary Event Ordinance, to make sure they understand what is being proposed and that they are heard, and we get the benefit of their input.

Mr. Driggs said I assume we are relying on other rules to exclude interfering with traffic for example, by people in public assembly. I think after our experience there were people who thought the idea of taking to the roads and using that as means of protest was inadmissible, but that is not covered here.

Mr. Hagemann said it is not covered here and as we've discussed with you obviously CMPD exercised discretion in how they dealt with that situation, but yes it is illegal for a protest to obstruct traffic, going to the road without a permit. In addition, there are state laws that make it unlawful to lay in front or obstruct a moving vehicle in a roadway.

Councilmember Phipps said when it comes to animals do you think that we should put any more parameters around that? Are we talking about domesticated pets or if somebody can conceivably come with a pet pig or something? Are we not going to get that granular or just take the animal as a broad connotation?

Mr. Hagemann said we have not had a conversation of being that granular; again, the existing Extraordinary Event Ordinance prohibits animals without specifying what animals and this would drop that prohibition.

Ms. Eiselt said I just want it clarified; this is for anything with 50 people or more?

Mr. Hagemann said the way we regulate demonstrations; there are two ordinances, they are related, and they sit right next to each other in the City Code. The first one is the Picketing Ordinance; picketing is a demonstration of expressive viewpoint on public sidewalks and in public plazas, in other words not in the street. Our ordinance does not require a permit for picketing, it can be done by right; there is a requirement that if the organizer anticipates 50 or more people they are to give CMPD notice so that we can deploy resources. The way this ordinance is crafted if that 50 person threshold is triggered then the prohibition would apply. So, the prohibition would not apply to a single person exercising his or her First Amendment rights. The second ordinance is a Public Assembly Ordinance, and that is for festivals and demonstrations in the streets. Those obviously require a permit; we should not be allowing people to close the streets without a permit so you need prior approval but this proposal would ban these items at permitted festivals.

Ms. Eiselt said I just want to make sure that this could be applied to other situations in our City that we have seen people gathering of over 50 people that have been blocking traffic.

Mr. Hageman said the way it is written is it applies whether a permit has been issued or not and if notice was required whether notice was given or not, so in a legal picket or an unauthorized demonstration these items would still be prohibited.

Councilmember Smith said what is our enforcement? if you look at this and we've had multiple just within the past 90-days people walking down and blocking traffic in uptown. What is our enforcement mechanism?

Mr. Hagemann said I think the Chief would say that we are trying to seek voluntary compliance, so we encounter citizens try to bring them into compliance without any official formal police action, but the violation of this ordinance, an Extraordinary Events Ordinance is a Class 3 misdemeanor, and the police to do have the authority to bring somebody into custody.

Mr. Smith said this is important work to us in [inaudible] I think when citizens are watching at home, they are not paying as much attention to what ordinance is in place; they are watching 200 or 300 people walking up the street and blocking traffic, etc.

Councilmember Ajmera said what does this ordinance add that is not currently being addressed by the current law?

Mr. Hagemann said when Manager Jones arrived back in December and CMPD came forward with an Extraordinary Event declaration requests, the way the current ordinance works the City Manager is authorized to declare an Extraordinary Event, and I will let the Manager speak for himself, but my recollection is he said what is this thing, why am I being asked to do this? That started the conversation that ultimately led to us briefing the Council back in February and the work that we've done since then. I think the idea is the whole notion of an Extraordinary Event had some baggage dating back to the DNC. It was pretty controversial when Council was considering it in the run up to the, and I think there was an expectation by some in the community that the Council would revisit the necessity for an Extraordinary Event Ordinance. Five-years later, we have done that.

Mayor Roberts said thank you Mr. Hagemann; we appreciate that update and that will be for action later in the month.

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ITEM NO. 4: ANSWERS TO MAYOR AND COUNCIL CONSENT ITEM QUESTIONS

There were no Consent Item questions.

The meeting was recessed at 5:32 p.m. to move to the Council Chambers for the regularly scheduled Business Meeting.

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ITEM NO. 5: CLOSED SESSION

Due to time constraints, the closed session was moved to the end of the meeting in CH-14.

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BUSINESS MEETING

The City Council of the City of Charlotte reconvened in the Meeting Chamber of the Charlotte Mecklenburg Government Center on Monday, May 8, 2017 at 5:41 p.m. with Mayor Jennifer Roberts presiding. Councilmembers present were Dimple Ajmera, Al Austin, Ed Driggs, Julie Eiselt, Patsy Kinsey, Vi Lyles, LaWana Mayfield, James Mitchell, Greg Phipps and Kenny Smith.

ABSENT: Councilmember Claire Fallon

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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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CONSENT AGENDA

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| Motion was made by Councilmember Driggs and seconded by Councilmember Kinsey to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. |
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Councilmember Phipps said Item No. 19 deals with the Back Creek Church Road Farm to Market Project and I just wanted to let the residents that live in the corridor know, and I also live in the corridor, that there is going to be a public meeting on the

25th at the Back Creek Presbyterian Church to go over the particulars of the Back Creek Farm to Market Road Project, as well as some associated other road projects in and around the Back Creek Corridor. I just want you to save that date; I think it is going to be from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Back Creek Presbyterian Church, and you will find out more information about that as we get closer to that date. This particular item that is before us is going to be voted on tonight for a portion of that stretch but you will be getting further information on our plans as they were when they originated and why we had to scale it back, so be on the lookout for more information on that date.

Mayor Roberts said I want to highlight one thing also, and that is Item No. 14, Racial Equity Institute Contract. I want the public to know that we are approving a contract with the Racial Equity Institute to offer racial equity workshops for our City employees. This is part of how we are working to build trust and restore that trust in the community. We are going to have partnership with Race Matters for Juvenile Justice, who has done tremendous work in trying to improve racial equity in our community. That is also part of what we are approving tonight.

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

The following items were approved:

Item No. 14: Racial Equity Institute Contract

(A) Approve a contract with Racial Equity Institute to offer the racial equity workshops for the initial term of one year, and (B) Authorize the City manager to renew the contract for up to three, one-year terms with possible price adjustments and to amend the contract consistent with the City's business needs and the purpose for which the contract was approved.

Item No. 15: MPH Industries Dual Antenna Radar Packages

(A) Approve the purchase of dual antenna radar packages authorized by the sole source exemption of G.S. 143-129 (e)(6), (B) Approve a contract with MPH Industries for the purchase of dual antenna radar packages for the initial term of one year, and (C) Authorize the City Manager to renew the contract for up to three, one-year terms with possible price adjustments and to amend the contract consistent with the City's business needs and the purpose for which the contract was approved.

Item No. 16: Bridge Structure Repairs

Award a contract in the amount of \$1,509,196.75 to the lowest responsive bidder Lee Construction Company of the Carolinas, Inc. for the Fiscal Year 2017 Bridge Structure Repairs project.

Summary of Bids

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|---|----------------|
| Lee Construction Company of the Carolinas, Inc. | \$1,509,196.75 |
| Astron General Contracting Company, Inc. | \$1,971,892.35 |

Item No. 17: Bridge Painting Services

Award a contract in the amount of \$1,154,710.26 to the lowest responsive bidder Astron General Contracting Company, Inc. for the Fiscal Year 2017 Bridge Painting Services Project.

Summary of Bids

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|--|----------------|
| Astron General Contracting Company, Inc. | \$1,154,710.26 |
| Gemstone, LLC | \$1,657,494.00 |
| Olympic Enterprises, Inc. | \$2,595,692.40 |

Item No. 18: Traffic Signal Work Associated with the Independence Boulevard Widening Project

(A) Adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a Supplemental Agreement with the North Carolina Department of Transportation for performing traffic signal work associated with the Independence Boulevard Widening project.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 48, at Page 233.

The budget ordinance funding this project is included in the wind up ordinance submitted for Council approval at the June 12, 2017 Business meeting.

Item No. 19: Back Creek Church Road Farm-to-Market Road Project

Award a contract in the amount of \$2,086,981.58 to the lowest responsive bidder B & N Grading, Inc. for the Back Creek Church Road Farm-To-Market Road project.

Summary of Bids

| | |
|----------------------------|----------------|
| B & N Grading, Inc. | \$2,086,981.58 |
| Sealand Contractors Corp. | \$2,391,787.17 |
| Blythe Development Company | \$2,431,964.32 |
| United of Carolinas, Inc. | \$2,767,483.26 |
| Blythe Construction, Inc. | \$2,952,348.23 |

Item No. 20: Private Developer Funds Appropriation

Adopt Budget Ordinance No. 9083-X appropriating \$72,600 in private developer funds for signal modifications from Dilworth Ventures LLC and REO Funding Solutions III, LLC.

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 60, at Page 644.

Item No. 21: Utility Closed Circuit Television Truck

(A) Approve the purchase of a Closed Circuit television Truck from a cooperative purchasing contract as authorized by G. S. 143-129 (e)(3), (B) Approve a contract in the amount not to exceed \$303,000 with Atlantic Machinery, Inc. for the purchase of one closed circuit television truck off the National Joint Powers Alliance Cooperation Contract #022014-AMI.

Item No. 22: Outdoor Site Accessories Contract

(A) Approve unit price contracts with the following companies for Playground Equipment Site Accessories, Outdoor Fitness Equipment and Related Products and Services for an initial term of five years: Playcore Wisconsin, Inc., d/b/a Gametime Kompan, (B) Authorize the City Manager to renew the contracts for up to two additional, two-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. 23: American Airlines Storeroom Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning System

(A) Award a contract in the amount of \$152,467 to the lowest responsive responsible bidder, Colonial Webb Contractors Company for the purchase and installation of HVAC system, and (B) Adopt Budget Ordinance No. 9084-X appropriating \$152,467 from the Aviation Discretionary Fund to the Aviation Community Investment Plan Fund.

Summary of Bids

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|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| Comfort Systems USA/Colonia Webb | \$152,467.00 |
| Armstrong Mechanical Services, Inc. | \$194,138.40 |

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 60, at Page 645.

Item No. 24: Boiler System Preventative Maintenance and Repair Services

(A) Approve a contract with Mitcham and Company for the preventative and corrective maintenance services for boiler systems at Charlotte Water Facilities for an initial term of three-years, and (B) Authorize the City Manager to renew the contract for up to two

additional, one-year terms and to amend the contract consistent with the City's business needs and the purpose for which the contract was approved.

Item No. 25: Blower Preventative Maintenance and Repair Services

Approve a contract with Gardner Denver Nash LLC for Blower Preventative Maintenance and Repair services for a term of three years.

Item No. 26: Water Management Software

(A) Approve a contract with Hach Company to provide software licensing and training services for the Water Information Management System application, (B) Authorize the City Manager to approve expenditures for the provision of implementation services and purchase maintenance and support for as long as the City uses the system, and (C) Authorize the City Manager to purchase such additional software license, and services consistent with the City's business needs and the purpose for which the contract was approved.

Item No. 27: Electrical Power System Improvements and Generator Replacement Project

Approve a contract with Southeastern Consulting Engineers, Inc. to provide professional engineering services for: Lee S. Dukes Water Treatment Plant Generator project in the amount of \$521,098, and Mallard Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant Generator project in the amount of \$658,224.

Item No. 28: Refund of Property and Business Privilege License Taxes

Adopt a resolution authorizing the refund of property taxes assessed through clerical or assessment error in the amount of \$58,892.87.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 48, at Page 234-235.

Item No. 29: Meeting Minutes

Approve the titles, motions, and vote reflected in the Clerk's record as the minutes of April 10, 2017 Business Meeting and April 12, 2017 Budget Workshop.

PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS

Item No. 30: In Rem Remedy: 1401 Choyce Avenue (Accessory Building)

Adopt Ordinance No. 9085-X authorizing the use of In Rem Remedy to demolish and remove the structure at 1401 Choyce Avenue – Accessory Building (Neighborhood Profile Area 54).

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 60, at Page 646.

Item No. 31: In Rem Remedy: 1201 Fordham Road

Adopt Ordinance No. 9086-X authorizing the use of In Rem Remedy to demolish and remove the structure at 1201 Fordham Road (Neighborhood Profile Area 317).

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 60, at Page 647.

Item No. 32: In Rem Remedy: 9413 Spruce Pine Place

Adopt Ordinance No. 9087-X authorizing the use of In Rem Remedy to demolish and remove the structure at 9413 Spruce Pine Place (Neighborhood Profile Area 142).

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 60, at Page 648.

Item No. 33: In Rem Remedy: 3809 Tennessee Avenue

Adopt Ordinance No. 9088-X authorizing the use of In Rem Remedy to demolish and remove the structure at 3809 Tennessee Avenue (Neighborhood Profile Area 141).

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 60, at Page 649.

Item No. 34: Aviation Property Transactions – 5100 Shopton Road

Acquisition of .418 acres at 5100 Shopton Road from Joe and Jean M. Furr for \$150,000 for Airport Environmental Impact Statement Mitigation Land.

Item No. 35: Aviation Property Transaction – 5110 Shopton Road

Acquisition of 2.36 acres at 5110 Shopton Road from Sharon Furr and Sheldon L. Groner for \$181,200 for Airport Environmental Impact Statement Mitigation Land.

Item No. 36: Aviation Property Transaction – 5120 Shopton Road

Acquisition of .29 acres at 5120 Shopton Road from Joe and Jean M. Furr for \$146,400 for Airport Environmental Impact Statement Mitigation Land.

Item No. 37: Property Transactions – City LYNX Gold Line Phase 2, Parcel #209

Acquisition of 980 square feet. 022 acre in fee Simple plus 1,628 square feet (.037 Acres) in Temporary Construction Easement, plus 350 square feet (.008 acre) in Utility Easement, plus 270 square feet (.006 acre) in easement at 300 Hawthorne Lane from St. John's Baptist Church for \$130,000 for City LYNX Gold Line Phase 2, Parcel #209.

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ITEM NO. 7: PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2018 OPERATING BUDGET AND FISCAL YEARS 2018-2022 COMMUNITY INVESTMENT PLAN

Mayor Roberts declared the hearing open and said our Manager presented his recommended budget last week on May 1, 2017, and this is the first opportunity for the public to weigh in on what the Manager has proposed. The final vote on our budget will be June 12, 2017.

Travis Cook, 2111 Landen Chase Drive, Monroe said I am with the Fraternal Order of Police, Lodge Nine, and tonight I address you in regards to our City's rising crime transit and state of the Police Department. Violent crime is up in the City; homicides, robberies, assaults all are up. Last year, Charlotte experience great turmoil; this unrest is now causing what is known as the Ferguson Effect. Not only do officer feel they have no support from the community, they also feel they have no support from the City Council. It is harder for the police department to recruit qualified candidates; it is difficult for the department to retain officers. Over the last year, the department has lost 159 officers; at the same time they have hired 160 new officers, a net gain of one officer. It is difficult to hire 62 new officers when you can't keep the ones you already have. Over half of the department has less than five-year's experience. The reason it is so hard to hire and retain officers is pay and benefits. The incentives for new officers to come here is not competitive, and not being competitive is the same reason we routinely lose officers to other police departments nationwide. The turnover is costing the City hundreds of thousands of dollars in recruitment training and benefits. The police department is routinely compared to smaller agencies in the nation; those have always shown that police officers are over compensated or in line with other departments. We want to have our department compared to the five cities above and below us by city population nationally. The department's own pay plan committee is skewing the comparable cities, thus lowering the compensation officers should be receiving. We want the plus insurance plan offered to all City employees; in addition we want the retirement insurance benefit reinstated. To retain officers, the City should offer a shift differential for second and third shifts and to better align ourselves with national trends we want time and a half for having to work holidays or when called in on our days off. The City's proposed 2% market adjustment for public safety pay plan employees corresponds to only \$850 to \$1,420, depending on the officer and where they are on the steps. The City of Charlotte always seems to find money for exciting new toys to make the City more attractive to new residents and companies. These citizens and companies will not stay long with the rising violent crime. To help secure our City's future police officers need to be properly compensated, retained and developed. Many officers work their full 40-hours and then some, then go to work off-duty jobs or work

their days off to make ends meet. Give police officers a true raise, not a market adjustment; give police officers the benefits and pay they deserve.

Mark Michalec, 1201 Hawthorne Lane said I am President of FOP Lodge Nine in Charlotte and represent over 1,900 active Law Enforcement Officers within the County, most of them who work for CMPD. Thank you for letting me address you tonight for the upcoming budget proposal, specifically about compensation for CMDP within the public safety portion of this. With the release of the budget for the upcoming fiscal year FOP Nine members have come to me and our Board to voice their frustrations towards the amount of compensation and simply the lack of benefits that they are receiving. It is kind of hard to ignore this, and that is why I'm here addressing you this evening. All you've got to do is look over the past year of what Charlotte has gone through; it is very evident and the Police Department has been very taxed on how to handle these kinds of things. We appreciate the time that the Public Safety Pay Plan has gone into a tremendous amount of work to give the recommendation to the Chief to give to the City Manager to give it to Council to put in the form of a budget, but we believe more can be done about this. No FOP representative was on the Public Safety Pay Plan to give their opinion on this, so members came forward to us and obtained their own information about comparable cities nationally, not just regionally within the US. It is just monetarily but also benefits that are in the form of compensation that we look at also. As Travis said earlier, just reinstatement of the health insurance for retirees being hired after July 2009, time and a half compensation when you are working holidays or if you have been forced to come in and work on your day off and shift differential for second and third shift officers is just a few of these that are common place in other departments our size and cities our size. We do appreciate the 2% recommended increase market adjustment; we don't want to take that and totally disregard it, but we believe we deserve more simply put. With the funding of the step increase also that is very much appreciate; we know those have been frozen before and been stalled and we want to get the lower paid officers, the rookie officers to get the pay that they are deserved. The senior officers are just simply paying the increase in insurance, and we understand that within the budget there is approximately five other plans that can be developed where you can possible save money, but more than likely you are going to want the higher price one for better coverage. We understand the development of a health savings account and the health reimbursement account kind of help towards the retirement thing more or less we don't know how much that is going to cost if it costs anything more to the officers. We want to attract the best candidates to CMPD and keep them here. We don't want to lose them to the private sector or other departments. There is a 25-year retirement bill for law enforcement in the State House right now; if that gets passed you have a tremendous amount of officers to hire in a short amount of time. We just want you to keep that in mind.

Jim Warren, 2635 Merrywood Road said I'm going to start by just asking you guys how many of you have ever been out to the Carolina Rapture Center. You need to be up here talking for me. I'm here to talk on behalf of the Arts and Science Council. ASC means everything to the Rapture Center, and as you will know, the Rapture Center means everything to this community. ASC has provided me the opportunity to go through countless workshops to be a better Executive Director; ASC has provided me the opportunity in our organization to be a part of the catalyst for Cultural Equity Program. We are one of nine other ASC agencies working to bring justice, equity, fair play throughout the cultural community in a number of different ways. What ASC really does is allow us to do the mission, and as you know, the Rapture Center sees thousands upon thousands of school children every year, and has thousands of visitors every year. We see and rehab and take care of thousands of birds every year, but I want to tell you one story about how we make a difference in this community. I want you to think about a 9th grader, high school freshman and we all who have had children, myself included, know that they have to do community service hours. So, you come home and your son or daughter has to go do community service; they come to us. They do their hours, and they don't leave; they stay as a sophomore. They stay as a junior and they stay as a senior volunteering, and when they do what they have to do here in our county they have to do a senior exit project. Well guess where they do their senior exit project, at the Carolina Rapture Center with our vet, and that day this student said it

made all the difference in her life. It decided what she wanted to do as a career, so she went to NC State University, majored in Zoology, brought the Zoology Club down to the Rapture Center and when it came time for that final major she said I'm going to Vet School. Elizabeth Hyde just graduated with a degree in Veterinary Medicine from NC State University. She was a guest speaker at the Rapture Center event two weeks ago; she wants to go out and be a zoo vet, and she will tell you it would have never happened had it not been for the Carolina Rapture Center. We are not just that quaint destination where you bring your kids and your grandkids on a Saturday afternoon to see a few birds; we are part of the economic engine in this community. We are providing jobs opportunities, so I want you to keep that in mind when you think about supporting ASC. ASC is not just a visual arts; it is not the performing arts. It is also the science piece of our community.

Matthew Gardner, 6000 Fairview Road said like my friend Jim, I am here representing the Arts and Science Council. I'm a member of the Arts and Science Council's Private Sector Advisory Council. I implemented, a year ago, our new Advisory Council System, which includes individuals appointed by the City Council, insures ongoing advice and input from community partners and key constituents. The Advisory Councils came to me multiple times in the past year, and they identified and articulated goals that they felt should be priorities right now for ASC and for the cultural sector at large. Focus on increasing access to cultural experiences for all citizens, and stimulate increased public and private funding for the cultural community in order to serve all residents. Now, let me speak to the economic impact of ASC that Jim just referenced also; ASC advocates for the cultural community, and its positive impact on Charlotte's economy, its positive impact on quality of life and how it bridges and builds pathways to opportunities for Charlotteans. The impact for a strong cultural sector over \$202 million in local economic impact annually; 6,200 jobs supported by the community and by the cultural system, \$18 million in local and state government revenue and over three million cultural experiences annual with over half of the attendees coming from outside Mecklenburg County. Now, you can expect an update on this economic impact to be released later this year in collaboration with the Charlotte Regional Partnership; we will be looking at the impact for the entire 16-county region to include a focus on the importance of the creative industry to our economy. Thank you for your continued support of ASC, the arts, science, history and cultural community here in Charlotte.

Donna Scott, 1517 Camden Road said I am Donna Scott with Donna Scott Productions, an independent theatre company based here in Charlotte that has been producing theatre, film, and cultural events since 2005. Thank you so much for the opportunity to speak with you tonight on behalf of the ASC and Charlotte's cultural community, of which I am so proud to be a part. The ASC provides grants to organizations and individuals that help our local community address issues and needs, such as inclusiveness and opportunity, and seeks to engage all residents in participating in a vibrant cultural life. Donna Scott Productions recently earned an ASC Cultural Vision Grant. The purpose of this grant is to increase relevance and innovation by providing groundbreaking and participatory experiences that reflect the changing community in which we live. We are currently excited to be planning our fall theatre project, a comedy titled Eat the Runt, which we are proud to present, along with two other arts partners, the Charlotte Arts League and the Harvey Gantt Center. Between the three of us, our organizations have over 100-years of experience providing our community with creative multi-disciplinary arts opportunities and adventures. Our fall show, the theatrical satire Eat the Runt will be the first of its kind in Charlotte and requires that all eight actors in a cast diverse in both race and gender learn every role and will audition each night for the audience before each performance. The audience will pass the show, using their smart phones, with an app that we will build and then watch as the actors they cast definitely play out one of over 40,000 possible casting combinations. Eat the Runt focuses a sharply comedic eye on the themes of political correctness, office politics, sexual harassment, and societal and cultural norms related to gender and race, as we follow character merit through a series of increasingly bazar interviews for a position at an esteemed art institution. The result of the unique and hilarious, thoughtful performance that through laughter asks us to reexamine how age, gender and race issues control how we respond to those around us. In 2015, Donna

Scott Productions earned an ASC Project Grant to bring theatre back to the SouthEnd neighborhood. We turned two non-traditional spaces into spaces for theatre and did two pop-up performances, one at the Trolley Museum and one at the Charlotte Art League. Through this grant we learned some exciting and important lessons; first, we learned that we can transform any space into a comfortable space for theatre. Two, we learned that our performances can draw people into a gallery and sell visual art. Three, we learned our ability to activate a space by holding an event and pulling in a new audience can increase awareness of that space and reinvigorate an organization. Through this grant opportunity, we found a venue partner in the Charlotte Art League and have been successfully producing shows and events as their resident theatre company and selling their art ever since. The ASC grant allowed us to make this connection and both organizations are now stronger for it. Thank you for your continued support of the ASC.

Annabel Manning, 1429 Maryland Avenue said I live and work in Charlotte as an art educator and social practice artist creating models for art education in conjunction with community building. I believe art provides a safe context in which communities can critically reflect on their lives and develop ways to improve them. I am especially motivated by social justice issues. As you know, members of our communities are working hard to solve a Charlotte Mecklenburg mobility problem, analyzed in the Charlotte Mecklenburg Opportunity Task Force Report, but the arts are surprisingly omitted from this report, surprising because the arts are known to contribute to social wellbeing especially under student terms of education, health and safety. Recent studies of New York City, Philadelphia and other cities conducted by the U Pen Social Impacts of the Arts Project found that the arts have a demonstrable impact on the social wellbeing of neighborhoods, especially those which are economically poor. Just as a focus of those city studies is the impact of the arts on neighborhoods ecologies the social capital chapter of the Task Force Report emphasizing the importance of networks of people and institutions to help individuals to develop “tangible pathways to opportunities in their lives”. The arts establish and sustain precisely these kinds of networks. Similarly the Arts and Science Council 2014 report imagined 2025 has neighborhood aims; “we need to continue to protect and enhance Charlotte Mecklenburg’s creative and cultural community as a unique asset that engages and supports every major element of the local economic ecosystem”. A few examples of what I do in Charlotte as a social practice artist: working at the Community School of the Arts for the past three years my major role has been to develop an arts and literacy program for Montclair South and Grier Heights pre-schoolers and their families called Get Ready with Words, a collaboration with Discovery Place and the Mecklenburg Library. Two years into the program 79% of the families reported taking specific steps to help their child learn new words and 50% described a change in habits or routines at home that will help their children learn more words including through art activities. Since 2011, I have collaborated with a Veteran Museum of Modern Art and the County Sheriff’s Office to develop art and poetry programs with Latino and other inmates called the Jail Arts Initiative. Among measurers of success, such art programs have been demonstrated to reduce recidivism. The goal of my social practice art projects in Charlotte is to enable individuals in our communities to cultivate artistic skills that will help them improve their lives and achieve the economic mobility to which we all aspire. Thank you for your continued support of ASC and Charlotte’s Art Communities.

Kay Peninger, 3500 Shamrock Drive said thank you for the opportunity to speak with you about the Salome School Project. I am the President of the Charlotte Museum of History; our mission is to engage residents of Charlotte and visitors to Charlotte, adults and students in our history through the stories of our people at events and historic buildings. Tonight, I am here to talk to you about the Salome School Building; this building was built in 1920, and it is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. It served as a school for African-American children from the time it was built until 1947. It is built in the style of a Rosenwald School, and it is using the one-room floor plan. This is the last surviving example of this in Mecklenburg County. Over 100-years ago or close to 100-years ago the Charlotte community came together, black and white, to fund and build a school to educate African-American students who didn’t have opportunities elsewhere because of segregation. Families gave up food to help pay for this school;

people labored to build it after long days at work, and children walked miles to go to this school, so this history really matters. The Salome School Project will relocate this historic building to the grounds of the Charlotte Museum of History, where it will be restored according to the Secretary of the Interior standards as a National Registered property should be, and it will be returned to its original purpose as an educational facility, as well as a community gathering spot. It will be open to the public as part of our normal tours; it will have a prominent place on our campus and will contain an exhibition on this region's African American History. It will contain remembrances from Salome School Alumni and it can also as once again be used as a community gathering spot. I strongly urge you to approve the budget request to assist in the relocation, the restoration, and the interpretation of the Salome School. It took a community to build this school originally, and it is going to take a community to save it and return it to its original purpose of education and community gathering. I hope that you will agree with me that this history matters.

Braxton Winston, 1401 Anderson Street said I am here today to address you on my opinion of the proposed budget. Mr. Jones, I know you are new here, but I think you've done a fine job of proposing a budget that maintains the status quo here in Charlotte. We just went through a time when a lot of our residents stood up and said that the status quo was not okay. City Council, I would suggest that you do your due diligence in scrutinizing this budget and go out and really listen to what your constituents really think of it. It is not okay that in the executive's summaries list of key increases that we see over \$30 million being put to two buildings for CMPD. I'm empathetic for these middle class workers who have been displaced by the Uptown development because Bank of America will not renew their lease. There are thousands of Charlotteans that are in similar situations throughout our City and have been dealing with this year over year. There is no line of \$12 million to put them in new homes or to give them new services. I know I will be told that I don't totally understand how this business gets done or you just can't do it. Again, that is maintaining the status quo, and people are saying that is not okay. We need you to think differently; we need you to think boldly; we need you to think outside the box and figure out ways to uplift the people. I hear what these guys are saying; it is true that there are increases in homicides, but CMPD will also tell you that there is no police solution to these issues when neighborhoods of marginalized people are crowded out of their neighborhoods because of development because they cannot sustain their leases, because they have been pushed out, where do they go. They go to these hot spots of violence, and CMPD will also tell you that these hot spots are always hot spots. Some years they are less hot than others, but you can put all the police resources, all the project avalanches that you want, you are not going to solve it without putting what isn't there now and that is economic opportunity, affordable housing, chances of ownership, and positive educational experiences. It is simple math; you can't make something from nothing, so if you don't put anything there, you are going to get more of nothing. These folks need to feed their families; they need to make an immense. Scrutinize it.

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| Motion was made by Councilmember Driggs, seconded by Councilmember Mitchell, and carried unanimously to close the public hearing. |
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AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

ITEM NO. 8: SMALL BUSINESS MONTH PROCLAMATION

Councilmember Mitchell read the following proclamation:

WHEREAS, the City of Charlotte recognizes that the thousands of small businesses in Charlotte-Mecklenburg play a pivotal role in strengthening the local economy; and

WHEREAS, between 2009 and the second quarter of 2015, more than four million net new jobs were created by small businesses, which accounted for 67.5 percent of all job

growth in the U.S.; the job growth occurred in all sizes of firms, with medium businesses of more than 50 employees contributing more than half of the growth; and

WHEREAS, from startups to high growth entrepreneurs - small businesses foster creativity, drive innovation, and increase U.S. competitiveness; and

WHEREAS, small businesses support economies, employ local residents, encourage youth entrepreneurship, engage in philanthropic and civic campaigns, and contribute to the vibrancy of Charlotte's neighborhoods and business districts; and

WHEREAS, the City of Charlotte honors and celebrates the entrepreneurial spirit that makes our community great and reaffirms our commitment to helping small businesses thrive and prosper; and

WHEREAS, during Small Business Month we honor entrepreneurs and small business owners who are the engine of our local economy for their important role ensuring Charlotte remains a great place to live, work, and play; and

WHEREAS, residents of Charlotte are asked to recognize the contributions of our community's local small businesses and the key role they play in keeping our economy strong:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jennifer Watson Roberts, Mayor of Charlotte, do hereby proclaim May 1 – 31, 2017 as

“SMALL BUSINESS MONTH”

in Charlotte and commend its observance to all citizens.

Mr. Mitchell said it is my honor to present Ms. Natalie Williams, Executive Director of the Women's Business Center of Charlotte.

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ITEM NO. 9: MECKLENBURG DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE WEEK

Councilmember Smith read the following proclamation:

WHEREAS, on May 19, 1775, Charlotte Town's founder, Colonel Thomas Polk, called for a convention of the Mecklenburg County militia leaders to be held in Charlotte; and

WHEREAS, those twenty-six men, upon hearing of the Battles of Lexington and Concord, which had occurred exactly one month earlier, unanimously adopted resolutions to declare themselves “a free and independent people” in a document that came to be known as the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence (or “MecDec”); and

WHEREAS, at noon on May 20, 1775, Colonel Polk read the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence from the steps of the County Courthouse to the assembled citizens; and

WHEREAS, on May 31, 1775, members of the Mecklenburg Committee of Safety adopted twenty resolutions to directly govern themselves which came to be known as the Mecklenburg Resolves; and

WHEREAS, a local tavern owner named Captain James Jack was called upon to deliver, on horseback, the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence and Mecklenburg Resolves to North Carolina's delegates at the Second Continental Congress in Philadelphia; and

WHEREAS, Captain Jack completed his errand, delivering the MecDec and telling the delegates that “Gentlemen, you may debate here about reconciliation and memorialize your king, but, bear it in mind, Mecklenburg owes no allegiance to, and is separated from the crown of Great Britain forever!”; and

WHEREAS, President John Adams was to later write of the MecDec that, “the genuine sense of America at that moment was never expressed so well before, nor since”; and

WHEREAS, Charlotte’s Revolutionary spirit was personified by the words of British Cavalry officer Banastre Tareleton, who observed, “the counties of Mecklenburg and Rohan were more hostile to England than any other in America”:

WHEREAS, the State of North Carolina has chosen to recognize the significance of the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence by placing the date of its signing “May 20, 1775” upon our State Flag and Great Seal; and

WHEREAS, this May 20, 2017 is the 242nd anniversary of the MecDec:

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, Jennifer Watson Roberts, Mayor of Charlotte, and Ella B. Scarborough, Chair of the Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim, May 14 – 20, 2017 as

“MECKLENBURG DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE WEEK”

in Charlotte/Mecklenburg County and call upon all citizens to join us in commemorating the 242nd anniversary of the signing of the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence.

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POLICY

ITEM NO 10: CITY MANAGER’S REPORT

Marcus Jones, City Manager said there is nothing to report this evening.

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ITEM NO. 11: FISCAL YEAR 2018 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Motion was made by Councilmember Mayfield, seconded by Councilmember Lyles, and carried unanimously to approve the Housing and Neighborhood Development Committee’s recommendation to accept the Fiscal Year 2018 Annual Action Plan for Housing and Community Development.

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BUSINESS

ITEM NO. 12: NOMINATIONS TO BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The following nominations were made for one recommendation by the Carolinas Asian American Chamber of Commerce for a full term beginning April 29, 2017 and ending April 28, 2020:

The Carolinas Asian American Chamber of Commerce has recommended Parth Gandhi.

Parth Gandhi, 10 votes: Councilmembers Ajmera, Austin, Driggs, Eiselt, Kinsey, Lyles, Mayfield, Mitchell, Phipps, and Smith.

The following nominations were made for one recommendation by the Black Chamber of Commerce for a full term beginning April 29, 2016 and ending April 28, 2020:

The Black Chamber of Commerce has recommended Shante Williams.

Shante Williams, 10 votes – Councilmembers Ajmera, Austin, Driggs, Eiselt, Kinsey, Lyles, Mayfield, Mitchell, Phipps, and Smith.

The following nominations were made for one recommendation by the Charlotte Chamber of Commerce for a partial term beginning immediately and ending April 30, 2019:

The Chamber of Commerce has recommended Tonia Woodbury.

Tonia Woodbury, 10 votes – Councilmembers Ajmera, Austin, Driggs, Eiselt, Kinsey, Lyles, Mayfield, Mitchell, Phipps and Smith.

The following nominations were made for one recommendation by the Hispanic Contractors Association for a partial term beginning immediately and ending April 28, 2017, then followed by a full three-year term until April 28, 2020:

No recommendation was provide and no nominations were made. This appointment will be advertised again and brought back at a future meeting for appointment.

The following nominations were made for one recommendation by the Metrolina Contractors Association for a full term beginning April 18 and ending April 17, 2020:

The Metrolina Minority Contractors Association has recommended William Abram.

William Abram, 10 votes – Councilmembers Ajmera, Austin, Driggs, Eiselt, Kinsey, Lyles, Mayfield, Mitchell, Phipps, and Smith.

The following nominations were made for one recommendation by the National Association of Women Business Owners for a full term beginning April 29, 2017 and ending April 28, 2020:

The National Association of Women Business Owners has recommended Michelle Smith.

Michelle Smith, 10 votes – Councilmembers Ajmera, Austin, Driggs, Eiselt, Kinsey, Lyles, Mayfield, Mitchell, Phipps, and Smith.

The following nominations were made for one recommendation by the Native American Association for a full term beginning April 29, 2017 and ending April 28, 2020:

The Native American Association has recommended Rebecca LaClaire.

Rebecca LaClaire, 9 votes – Councilmembers Ajmera, Austin, Eiselt, Kinsey, Lyles, Mayfield, Mitchell, Phipps, and Smith.

The following nominations were made for one appointment for a partial term beginning immediately and ending April 28, 2017, and then continuing for a three-year term until April 28, 2020; one appointment for a partial term beginning immediately and ending April 30, 2019; and one appointment for a partial term beginning immediately and ending April 28, 2018:

Romaine Archer, 1 vote – Councilmember Kinsey
Scott Campagna, 2 votes – Councilmembers Eiselt and Mitchell
Trici Davis, 1 vote – Councilmember Mitchell
Matthew Garth, 1 vote – Councilmember Smith
Johnell Holman, 2 votes – Councilmembers Ajmera and Eiselt

Jason Lackey, 1 vote – Councilmember Kinsey
Eleanor McIntyre, 1 vote – Councilmember Driggs
Elsa McNamara, 1 vote – Councilmember Kinsey
Craig Morgan, 1 vote – Councilmember Driggs
Lester Selby, 7 votes – Councilmembers Ajmera, Austin, Kinsey, Lyles, Mayfield, Mitchell and Phipps.
Mary Jo Shepherd, 2 votes – Councilmembers Ajmera and Smith
Kerry Shipman, 1 vote – Councilmember Smith
Samuel Smith, 1 vote, Councilmember Phipps
David Thompson, 1 vote – Councilmember Driggs
Victoria Watlington, 5 votes – Councilmembers Austin, Eiselt, Lyles, Mayfield and Phipps.

Motion was made by Councilmember Lyles, seconded by Councilmember Mayfield, and carried unanimously to appoint Parth Gandhi, Shante Williams, Tonia Woodbury, William Abram, Michelle Smith, Rebecca LaClaire, and Lester Selby by acclamation.

The two remaining appointments will be brought back at the next Business Meeting for Council consideration.

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ITEM NO. 13: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL TOPICS

Councilmember Mayfield said I have some really great news that I want to share; it is in our memo that we received Friday, but our Housing and Neighborhood Services is going to partner with the Charlotte Premium Outlet for our first youth career fair. I want to thank Sharon over at the Charlotte Premium Outlets for being a really good community partner, as I reached out to her on Monday and by Wednesday she was on the phone with staff. They coordinated this really less than a four-week period, so I'm excited to say that this event will be held at Goodwill Opportunity Campus. Goodwill has always been a major supporter of the City, and I am proud that they sit in District 3, and thank you for always allowing us to have job fairs there. This will be happening on May 19, 2017 from 3:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. at the Goodwill Opportunity Campus which is located at 5301 Wilkinson Boulevard. I also want to acknowledge this past Saturday, thank all of the community and thank of the staff; we had our District 3 Town Hall this past Saturday. We did not realize the City is growing so quickly; lots of construction so Hebron Street was closed, so we gave you a maze and your first test was to figure out how to get into the facility, because we didn't realize all of Hebron Street was going to be closed due to construction, but I'm glad to see dirt moving on the west side of the district. For all those that attended, thank you for attending, and I also want to say thank you to the Carolina Chapter of 100 Black Women, Inc. They had a discussion this past Saturday, with I believe more than 100 women attending. Mayor Pro Tem Vi Lyles was also able to make it. I had the opportunity to moderate the lunch discussion around affordability, housing and other issues, so thank you for keeping the community engaged.

Councilmember Mitchell said just a reminder, my next Town Hall Meeting will be Thursday at the Government Center, Room 267 beginning at 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.. The topic is Let's Build Charlotte Together. We are going to have two panels, one from a general contractor perspective. How do we build better relationships with our sub-contractors and a panel with developers talking about how they can continue to build in our great City to include neighborhoods and other areas of our community, particularly the corridors that we are focusing on. It is free and please call Alvin Burney. I hope to see you on Thursday.

Councilmember Lyles said I would like to ask the Council if this is going to add some value for us to actually have a workshop on the Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) process and progress statements. We have had this conversation; we've got citizen committees working, our Planning Commission, and our staff and one of the things I

think when you are involved in a process that can be as long as two-years that we probably need to check in at certain places and points, to make sure not only the Transportation and Planning Committee is having an update, but that the full Council is so if we are going in a direction that perhaps you are thinking, well I have this comment or this suggestion that we get that on the table to be worked with. It isn't anything that we need to do immediately but I do think it is important for us to remember to stay very, very informed on this. We are talking about place making; what kind of community do we want to have? Where are they? I believe that it would be helpful for the Planning staff as well as Tony Lathrop who is Chair to come in perhaps as soon as our summer break is over so that we can have an update on where we are, a check in on it.

Ms. Mayfield said what is UDO?

Ms. Lyles said I am sorry; Unified Development Ordinance. We are going through a process of revising our UDO which can lead to how do we regulate land use in our City, but right now we are talking about place making so what do people see and want for their community or their neighborhood or commercial area to be. We talk in the acronyms often but they have real meaning when it comes to what we are planning for our future five-years or 20-years from now, and it is an important process. Just to check in with the Council to make sure we are all on the same page of what we are doing in September if we can.

Mayor Roberts said we had a very busy week in Charlotte and I just want to give a couple of shout outs; Dr. Tony Zeiss was awarded the World Citizen Award for all the contributions that he has made. He is leaving Central Piedmont Community College; Dr. Zeiss you have done an awesome job, and we really appreciate all you've done. You really deserve that World Citizen Award. It was also the beginning of the National Women Build Week for Habitat for Humanity, and I was able to welcome a bunch of folks from Lowe's and other volunteers. They are going to be building two houses all totally built by women, and Habitat actually has a plan to do 52 new houses this year and a total of 129, including renovations. That is a house a week plus renovations every week so great ambitious goal for them. Also, I was honored to hear Dr. Henry Louis Gates who came to speak at a luncheon for the Wings non-profit after school program. He had an amazing presentation and it was great to have him here in Charlotte and they were kind enough to give me an award for supporting after school programs. Thank you to the Wings, staff and folks for support great programs for our kids after school. We had an amazing Open Street 704 Event in the Plaza/Midwood and Elizabeth Neighborhoods, and we think we had between 25,000 and 30,000 people come out for a whole afternoon. The weather was perfect, and I know Ms. Ajmera was there, Ms. Eiselt, Ms. Lyles, Ms. Kinsey and a bunch of folks came and supported. I want to thank all the C-DOT folks, Park and Rec, a lot of City staff there, Planners and people taking surveys on what we liked, protected bike lanes being experimented with. Go bike lanes, so it was really a wonderful exercise in community building, and I think we should do many more. We had a lot of people saying we should close our streets more often, because people walked, talked and they biked and inner-acted with each other; there were babies, elderly and everything in between, and it was really a wonderful afternoon. Thank you to everybody that made that happen.

A couple of things coming up, the Mayor's International Community Awards ceremony is this Thursday; that is where we recognized individuals and companies who are either foreign companies or foreign born individuals who have contributed to the Charlotte Community. It is a great opportunity for our International Community to get together but also our native born folks to celebrate what they have done and what they are doing as Charlotte continues to become more and more global. We also have the Dragon Boat Festival on Saturday at Ramsey Creek Park where we get thousands and thousands of people to come and compete in Dragon Boat races right there on the lake, but they also get to experience a lot of Asian culture. There are amazing arts performances, martial arts, beauty competition, singing, and incredible food from all over Asia, and we look forward to seeing a lot of folks there.

The very last thing I have is a gentleman from one of our neighboring counties is putting together a Patriotism Ride. I promised him I would announce this at our meeting; it is going to be Sunday May 28, 2017, Memorial Day weekend, and it is going to be staging in Matthews at 7:15 p.m. but the rides start at 8:00 a.m. They already have 1,000 people signed up, people on motor bikes, cars, and vans who are veterans who are supporting veterans. We are going to fly our flag, and it is all about patriotism, all about veterans and the goal is also to help the American Veteran Foundation, which is helping to fight PTSD. We know as we have over 60,000 veterans in Mecklenburg County alone; we know that PTSD is a real challenge, and we want to make sure our veterans are welcome, including, and have a future right here in our community. The web site for that is helpfightpts.com, and you can register to ride. Our Police Officers, our Fire Department are helping out as well as our Veterans Services Office. Thank you so much to all our veterans; we look forward to honoring you, and it is great that somebody has organized this patriotism ride for May 28, 2017.

Councilmember Eiselt said I just to add that I want to thank the Knight foundation for their involvement with Open Street. Between the Knight Foundation and the City staff and Park and Rec, it is such a great event, and I hope they will do it again, because it one of my favorite things. We get on our bikes and see a lot of Charlotte, and it gives you the opportunity to see parts of Charlotte that you wouldn't necessarily take the time to get to know, so it is a great event. Thanks for sponsoring this event.

Councilmember Kinsey said I would suggest that next year it should be in District 1. I'm going to brag a little bit, because second grandchild, granddaughter Emily Ann graduated from East Carolina University on Friday, and yes, the formal ceremonies were cancelled because of tornado warnings and massive storms, but she had a department ceremony, and she is in honor school at East Carolina and she graduated Magna Cum Laude; she take after her grandmother. She is only named after me, but I really am proud of her. I'm proud of all three of my grandchildren, but she majored in psychology and not quite sure yet what she is going to with it, but it was a proud moment. I dashed home on Saturday morning, leaving about 6:45 in the morning for the five-hour drive back in time to get to Sedgifest and Midwood Mania and then of course Open Street, so it was a busy weekend.

Councilmember Driggs said I wanted to say thanks to everybody for their friendly greeting, which lifted my spirits at home last week. I would also like to point out to everyone that the Ballantyne Breakfast Club is going to meet this coming Saturday, May 13, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. in the Ballantyne Hotel Fairway Ballroom, and there are three interesting topics, one of them is the new owner of Ballantyne because the Bissell's sold essentially all of it. The new owns will be there to talk about their plans for the area and the kind of development they expect going forward. Also, Childress Kline, which is developing the Waverly Development on Providence Road, will be there to talk about the status of that and probably most important C-DOT is going to be there to talk about Providence Road, because we have a really bad traffic situation taking shape there; one more development proposed and quite a lot of undeveloped land. I think these are very pertinent topics for the District. I would like to thank Ray Eschert as usual for pulling this together and encourage everybody to come. It is Saturday, May 13th at 9:00 a.m. in the Ballantyne Hotel Fairway Ballroom.

Councilmember Austin said thank you for everybody that came out to our Community Corners that we had at Beatties Ford Road and Sunset Road this past Saturday. We had great weather, great crowd, great relationship building with our CMPD Police Officers, so I appreciate members that came out from Council. Also, coming is Historic West End Savory Saturday, every second Saturday from May until October from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. It is going to be at Five Points at the Mosaic Village, art vendors, performances, breakfast; it is a really nice way to start your Saturday morning. We've got a good group of people who have been pushing this, and the food is really good as well. I invite you to come out.

Councilmember Ajmera said I also attended Open Street 704 Program, and it was a great event to connect with neighbors in a more helpful way and a more carefree

atmosphere, and I hope that staff considers bringing that on the East side in District 5 next time. Thanks to our staff and all the partners that pulled together this event. Also, I just wanted to highlight that Council approved the installation of a new traffic signal today at the intersection of Independence and Sharon Forest. This is going to help eliminate a reoccurring crash pattern for the left turning [inaudible] from Independence onto Sharon Forest Drive. I look forward to seeing that installed pretty soon.

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CLOSED SESSION

Motion was made by Councilmember Driggs, seconded by Councilmember Ajmera, and carried unanimously pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 143-318.11(a)(4) to go into closed session to discuss matter relating to the location of an industry or business in the City of Charlotte, including potential economic development incentives that may be offered in negotiations.

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ADJOURNMENT

The Business Meeting recessed at 6:35 p.m. to move into CH-14 for a closed session. The meeting adjourned at 7:02 p.m. at the conclusion of the closed session.



Stephanie C. Kelly, City Clerk, MMC NCCMC

Length of Meeting: 2 Hour and 43 Minutes
Minutes Completed: May 15, 2017