The City Council of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina convened for Agenda Action Review on Monday, January 8, 2018 at 12:08 p.m. in the Large Conference Room on the 15th Floor of the Charlotte Mecklenburg Government Center with Mayor Vi Lyles presiding. Councilmembers present were Tariq Bokhari, Larken Egleston, Braxton Winston II, and Councilmember-Elect Matt Newton.

**ABSENT:** Councilmembers Dimple Ajmera, Ed Driggs, Julie Eiselt, Justin Harlow, James Mitchell, and Greg Phipps.

**ABSENT UNTIL NOTED:** Councilmember Mayfield

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The meeting was called to order at 12:08 pm. City staff provided information as indicated on the agenda.

Councilmembers asked questions. City staff provided clarifications and responded to questions accordingly.

# Councilmember Mayfield arrived at 12:45 pm.

Councilmembers asked for clarification on the nominations process for boards and commissions. After a brief discussion, staff was asked to compile ideas on efficiencies to the nominations and appointments process for eventual Council consideration.

The meeting was recessed at 1:30 p.m.

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The City Council of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina reconvened for an Action Review on Monday, January 8, 2018 at 5:01 p.m. in Room 267 of the Charlotte Mecklenburg Government Center with Mayor Vi Lyles presiding. Councilmembers present were Tariq Bokhari, Ed Driggs, Larken Egleston, Julie Eiselt, Justin Harlow, LaWana Mayfield, James Mitchell, Matt Newton, Greg Phipps, and Braxton Winston, II.

ABSENT UNTIL NOTED: Councilmember Dimple Ajmera.

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

<u>Mayor Lyles</u> said welcome everyone to the City Council's first meeting of 2018 and our first meeting where we've changed our structure in a way that we focus on our action items at this meeting that are going to come up in the 30-60-90-day period. Things that we will be talking about tonight will be things that we will be bringing forward for either a vote or policy discussion so that we can have preview under our theme of shared information and shared accountability.

If you remember what we said that we can pull consent items for comments at the beginning of the meeting if you want to make a comment about it, and if there is an unreadiness that the staff could not respond to the questions, that would be deferred until the next Business Meeting, which is January 22, 2018. Kim Eagle has the pleasure or the job to address the Council's questions that were presented before the meeting on the agenda. Kim, do we have anything that we are pulling for comment?

<u>Kim Eagle, Assistant City Manager</u> said I believe there is comment on Item No. 26, which are the medical supplies for the Animal Control Division of CMPD.

<u>Councilmember Winston</u> said the question is this gets deferred to the next Business Meeting, because this contract has been awarded to MWI Veterinary Supply for the purchase of medical supplies for one year. MWI is owned by a parent company

AmerisourceBergen. They are a domestic pharmaceutical manufacturer, and they are being sued by several local governments, including many in North Carolina, particularly Surry County as of December 29, 2017 for their involvement in the opioid crisis. So, being that this money is going to be coming out of the police operating budget and there are questions about a serious public safety issue that we have, I'm requesting that we do a little bit more due diligence about awarding this contract to MWI Veterinary Supply.

Mayor Lyles said so, the question we want to address is what are their liabilities for lawsuits as the parent company?

# Councilmember Ajmera arrived at 5:05 p.m.

Mr. Winston said I would like to talk to Legal more about the understanding of these lawsuits, the relationship that AmerisourceBergen has to the Charlotte community specifically as it relates to the opioid crisis and taking a look at the contract to see what kind of relationship MWI Veterinary Supply does have in fact with AmerisourceBergen and to see if this is the best use of our funds, especially in regards to them being about public safety.

<u>Councilmember Mayfield</u> said on this same line, wouldn't seem like a request to defer in order for staff to go back opposed to us moving forward with this particular-

Mayor Lyles said the request is to defer until January 22, 2018 for staff to do that. Is there any objection? If we don't have any objection we will just take it off of the agenda at the top of the meeting.

Councilmember Bokhari said I would ask to pull for comment Item No. 25.

<u>Councilmember Ajmera</u> said Item No. 31, I just want more information on that. This is the sale of City owned property. What funds would it be directed to?

Ms. Eagle said in terms of where would the proceeds be allocated once they are received? I will check with staff and bring you an answer.

Ms. Ajmera said could it be directed to go into another account?

Mayor Lyles said it could be directed to go into another account in the budget process.

Ms. Ajmera said so, that would be discussed at the retreat?

Mayor Lyles said it would be discussed for about the next six months I expect. It will be a part of the budget allocation process of the money.

Ms. Eagle said Mayor, it is on the funding note I just noticed. It would go back to the general fund.

Mayor Lyles said I think what Ms. Ajmera is getting at is if the general fund revenues exceed expenses that money is available for the Council to make decisions on in the budget process.

Ms. Mayfield said I would like to speak to Item No. 35.

<u>Councilmember Driggs</u> said Item No. 34, Charlotte Water Generator Equipment, \$11 million is a pretty big ticket. Was this part of the capital plan they already had, or was this a need that was discovered and has to be funded?

Ms. Eagle said it is a part of the plan Mr. Driggs; rehab and replacement of those very critical assets to maintain service if we lose power from Duke Energy is a part of the ongoing capital planning process for Charlotte Water.

Mr. Driggs said I think it is a good investment. I just want to make sure we weren't suddenly needing to move money from somewhere else.

Ms. Eagle said no sir, it was planned.

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#### **ITEM NO. 2: AGENDA OVERVIEW**

Marcus Jones, City Manager said I would like to take a moment to go over the Agenda for tonight. We really have four items; one is a discussion about the Committee structure. The second is the retreat or the Annual Strategy Session, and we have a closed session item to end out the agenda today, but sandwiched in between that, I am very excited about a presentation that we will get from John Lewis today to talk about the Gateway Station. As the Mayor mentioned earlier, we have the Strategy Sessions and we have these Action Briefings, so tonight while typically this could be in the Strategy Session, we are bringing something to you, because in February there will be a \$30 million grant that you will vote on. We want to make sure that we give you a good overview of the Gateway Station which is very exciting.

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## ITEM NO. 3: COUNCIL COMMITTEE STRUCTURE AND PROCESS OVERVIEW

Mayor Lyles said I believe we are going to have the Manager review this with us; if you will remember when we talked about Committee Structure, the Strategy Session being the session that we would actually have a dialogue with the each other and the things that came out of that would either be referred to the Manager for more information, staff, best practices, any report or data that we would need. If there was disagreement among the Council, we would refer things to a Committee with a written charge about what they were going to resolve and then they would come back to report every month at our Sessions. I think I spoke with everyone; when I had the opportunity to talk about could we have a meeting on the Monday after New Year's, I thought that was a grand idea, but as I discovered many of you had other plans besides that for the New Year. I don't know whether you wanted to sleep in a little bit later or what, so we did not have that session that we had planned to have and that impacts us in two ways. One, we didn't have the opportunity to get the Committee referrals up and out, and so what we would like to do is ask permission to amend the regular meeting of the Council schedule to add a Strategy Session on February 5, 2018 in Room 267 from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. I would like to have a motion to do that.

Motion was made by Councilmember Egleston, seconded by Councilmember Bokhari, and carried unanimously to add a Strategy Session on February 5, 2018 to the Council's Meeting Schedule.

Mayor Lyles said the second thing is I also committed that we were going to talk about the Public Forum being televised, and I thought we would have the opportunity for a group discussion and then we would vote on it actually tonight. Well, we didn't have that meeting, and so when we get to the retreat discussion I would like to talk a little bit more about how we do that, and we can decide how to act on that matter at that time after the Manager reviews the retreat Agenda. My apologies, all good intentions but some people have to sleep in late on the day after New Year's, so we obviously didn't get a chance to do that.

<u>Marcus Jones, City Manager</u> said back in December the Mayor provided this flow chart if you will that discussed the Council Committee and the Council Committee's process, so if you start to look at this it is basically a deferral, then translates into Committee work, as the Mayor mentioned earlier, a Strategy Session with the full Council getting all the shared information and shared responsibility and Action Review, which is what we have called in the past Business Meetings or Dinner Briefings. Lastly

after that is a formal vote. The Committees have been pretty busy over the course of the last year, so in terms of just the work from the Committee there were 93 items that were referred to the five committees that are moving forward. It is pretty interesting if you break if down we talk a bit about information that led to a full Council action or some information that was really for information purposes, bringing folks up to speed. The last slide I have is really a breakdown, so if you start to think about it 75% of the items that went through these committees either resulted in a complete full Council action, or it was a part of information sharing. If you start to look to the right there about 44% of the items in the Committee were information sharing, and we believe that as we move forward, we as staff, can really help the Council focus on those bigger issues, those policy issues, by doing the work and bringing some of the information sharing items just to the full body. When you start to think about information sharing items, you start thinking about items that would come to a Strategy Session, which is three hours dedicated on the first Monday of the month. With that said, a lot of good things have occurred. As a matter fact, about 31% of items that went to the Committee resulted in a Council action, which leaves us about 23 pending items.

I would say if you start to look at those 23 pending items, some of them are clearly policy; some of them are closer or could be information sharing, and in some of them we believe as staff that before the February 5, 2018 Strategy Session, we could come back to you showing what the issues are, what are some of the best practices, and then even come with a recommendation so that the work of the new Committees can almost start fresh. That is where we are, and I think all the Committees should be commended for all the work last year. I think we did this from September 2016 to November 2017, and at the end of this analysis basically we have about 23 items that are still pending but our first view of that, less than 10 appear to be those items that would be policy in nature. That is a little bit of the analytics behind it.

<u>Councilmember Driggs</u> said I wonder if we could look a little more closely at the referral process. So, I'm a member of Council and I have a bright idea; how do I bring that forward? Where do I make the suggestion? I've had conversations with some of my colleagues, and they have ideas. What is right the time to propose it to full Council to see if there is a majority vote in favor or how does it start?

Mayor Lyles said I've actually been asked that questions by Mr. Winston, Mr. Harlow, several folks, and the very first thing I think it starts with just an acknowledgement of saying I want to know more about something. In the past, we have encouraged you to go to the Manager and say this is my idea tell me what it looks like here, because sometimes ideas may be in process. It may be something that was done in the past and letting the Manager to really have staff give you a report. My suggestion would be that it be a written format copied to the full Council. That is just one way of getting it started; the Strategy Sessions are another way to get those things on the agenda. That is between the Manager and all of us. I think we ought to have a time that we say, here are some ideas; here are some things that we've been learning about. Councilmember Eiselt has been to a session on some things around the environment, well Ms. Aimera chairs that Committee, but there has got to be some way to do that. I think we ought to have some open time at our Strategy Sessions as well. So, my idea is there are multiple ways to get it done, and as long as we keep everybody informed that this is what my idea is, letting it get baked by the staff, or raised in a session like this I think we will be find. I just throw that out; there may be other pathways that other folks see as being valued.

Mr. Driggs said we used to have a policy at least that you could not initiate something with staff that required more than a certain amount of their time without a vote from Council so that people didn't kind of go too far down the road with pet projects. I think what we are looking for and I like your suggestion is, we need to have a situation where it is okay to say here is my idea are you guys with me, and is this something that we can ask the staff to look at? There is not an obvious window to do that the way we work right now.

Mayor Lyles said I would say that the Strategy Session should be that; I also know that in the past when we've gone to Council Topics, people have raised that as a question. I also like to trust the Manager's judgment in four hours. Four hours was probably done before there was Google, and in some respects you can probably get a lot more information in four hours than you used to, so I think the four hours gives you some leeway as long as it is not doing analytical research of all the debt model funds from 1960 to 2000. That was just for Mr. Driggs. I guess what I'm saying is I believe we ought to have some flexibility, that the Manager knows when there is a line. It is not just the four hours. It is a matter of when does it cross over into I've got something that really the Council needs to be aware of and is more than. I would trust the Manager's judgment if this causes an issue or beyond what we can do, but I would say our Strategy Sessions and at the end of Council meetings would be good places to bring those ideas and questions up. I think anytime we are sharing the group we can do that, or having a group meeting. So, I'm going to recap, send a note to the Manager, copy the Council. The Manager has some discretion about the four hours or what that line is before it crosses over into making a bigger project, the Strategy Sessions, and at the end of the Council meetings.

Mr. Driggs said two more quick ones, especially for the new members, there are a lot of interactions we have with staff. If you ever reach the point where you are kind of leaning on staff or there is an issue about your Council authority versus them, you need to speak to the Manager. I think it is normal for us to deal with the staff, and we have meetings all the time, but if you ever get to a point where there is not an agreement or whatever I would deflect that one to the Manager. The only other thing I will say is from some of my conversations, there has been an evident impatience with some of our processes, and I just ask you to give yourself some time and you will see what the reasons are for them. We don't want to take actions that set a precedent even though they may seem harmless by themselves for some sort of rapid decision by Council. We have to do everything, even the stuff that looks easy in a certain way, so the things that look hard can also be dealt with that way and people aren't saying well you were able to do it then, why not now. Just a couple of comments on life on Council.

<u>Councilmember Mitchell</u> said I do think we should show some flexibility on the second bullet. You said Committee Work, because it will be interesting City Manager, out of those 23 items that are still pending, how many of those are in Community Safety? How many of those are in ED; how many of those are in TAP? I think if we disagree we are going to meet monthly, that kind of puts us in a bind. We need to show flexibility if something is urgent we need to act, so I would like to have more discussion about how often instead of just setting it in stone that Committees are just going to meet monthly.

Mayor Lyles said I think the idea would be that you would have your meeting monthly but report back, and if you came back and said we need to meet more often on this, that would be something everyone would know there was a need because there is the idea of getting things out in a timely way. A number of things, as you know, can sometimes linger in a Council meeting because of lots of different reasons, and this is the trust. Give us a target to shoot for, to move for action, and inform when we can. I think that is completely something that we can work with.

<u>Councilmember Harlow</u> said Mr. Manager; is there a way we can get a breakdown of the 29 completed full Council actions and which Committees those came from?

Mr. Jones said yes, we can get that for you.

<u>Councilmember Phipps</u> said if we took out the information sharing of the 41 items and just had the completed and pending, that would come to 52, and you would divide that so that would be 44% rate of items still pending after a year. Is that a benchmark or is that a goal? It doesn't seem like to me that it is very much progress if that is the case. Are we going to have any kind of goal to measure in terms of what is acceptable to get in and out of Committee?

Mr. Jones said I think if we start to look at this process understanding that staff is ready, willing and on the edge of our seats to do some of these analysis without having to go to Committee the information changes. If you start to think about five Committees and even if you had three items in a Committee for no more than 90-days, so they are not information sharing but they are action related items. So, three times five is 15 times four, so somewhere in there that is 60 items that is not informational at all. They all should be policy and action driven and that can all happen within a year. If you start to look at the last year you have 29 of these; there is almost twice as many opportunities to get issues resolved within a year.

Mayor Lyles said I don't think there is any action required on this; we just want to make sure we are all continuing to get this thing moving.

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## ITEM NO. 4: CITY COUNCIL RETREAT DISCUSSION

<u>Mayor Lyles</u> said in the past we've had a small ad hoc Committee; I would like to thank Councilmembers Bokhari, Eiselt, and myself for joining the Manager for something that I think we vetted. I'm not going to say recommend, because the Manager is going to put that together.

Marcus Jones, City Manager said hopefully this picture works a bit, so there is a concept with the retreat. If you go back in time the practice has been that during even numbered years the Council goes out of town for the retreat and during odd numbered years the Council stays in town. Last year was an anomaly, and I will say I think Councilmember Mitchell spearheaded the effort to think about reaching out to Raleigh, and even though it was an even numbered year the Council did have the retreat outside of the City, so we are on schedule to have a retreat outside the City. recommendation right now would be to be in Durham at the Washington Duke Inn. We can give you more information on that, but if we can use that as just the backdrop right now. The concept would be that there is a great opportunity for the Council to better understand each other, to establish how you can work together for positive change, how you will govern as a body, and how you can get things done efficiently and effectively. If you start to look at policy and governance as the foundation, a part of the retreat would be I'm looking at the vision that we talked a lot about 2050 and what the City would look like then, and what are some policies that the Council may put in place now that impact the future? We thought about basically four pillars here: growing our economic base, building great neighborhoods, investing in the community, and connecting our residents to jobs. If you start to think about that, it is almost a growth from the Letter to the Community where the conversation was affordable housing. It was safety, trust, and accountability; and it was also good paying jobs. So, along these lines there would be opportunities for the Council to discuss the vision of the City that you want, how the Council governs, defining success in the Focus Areas, as well as taking into account some of the economic trends and the data that is out there, the jobs that are out there, and what the economy looks like today and how it would look in the near term as well as in the long-term.

That is the basic foundation of the discussions around those pillars. Again, not the staff coming in and talking to you or talking at your for instead of three hours, but three days. We want to make sure you have an opportunity to have discussions around these broad areas with technical experts in the room both internally and externally. That is a part of the thought process. On the last day, there are some housekeeping issues to take care of; housekeeping is not the right word, but there are some issues that have been hanging out there that we said that there would be a discussion during the next annual retreat. One deals with our enterprise funds and the fees that are associated with that. We would like to do that on that Friday, as well as the conversation that occurred tonight, that deals with how we televise the Public Forum. That is the correct way of saying it, and the one last thing that is related to that on the last day would be a future tabletop exercise that is dealing with communication through a crisis, so the bare

minimum to have a discussion about how we could have that type of tabletop as early as February. So, that is the lay of a vision for this annual retreat.

# **Councilmember Mitchell** said why Durham?

Mayor Lyles said hotel, conference center, costs, do you have another preference?

Mr. Mitchell said in the past, we have tried to get away to a nice location where it is more kind of intimate. I was just raising the question why Durham; I think the year before we went to somewhere in Winston-Salem.

Mayor Lyles said that conference was at the Graylyn Estate, this facility is similar to it. It is not a hotel. I think we tried to find a conference facility. We will have opportunities for dinner, social interactions, and Larken is in charge.

Councilmember Phipps said I know at one point we had a discussion in the Governance and Accountability Committee about thresholds of what we review in terms of Consent Items, in terms of giving the City Manager authority to enter into certain contracts. That discussion sort of [inaudible];, I don't know when we are going to get back to it, but even in this latest packet that we had today there were some items in it that it looked like some small items to me given how much in remuneration we are paying the Manager. It would seem to me that some of these things that we need to have a good threshold that we could be comfortable with, something that is more than what we have now.

Mayor Lyles said did we have a recommendation come out of the Committee, and it just never got anywhere? I can't remember; are you suggesting that we add that to the housekeeping items?

Mr. Phipps said yes.

Councilmember Mayfield said Bob has that information.

<u>Councilmember Winston</u> said with the brief overview we are dealing with here, growing economic base, building great neighborhood, investing in community, connecting residents to jobs, looking at enterprise funds and fees, these are really big issues that take more than just a couple days in Durham to totally figure out but then one of those housekeeping items that is on there is this televising of Public Forums, moving an agenda item and how it fits on a piece of paper. It just does not equate to the gravity of the issues that we are dealing with later on this month. I would suggest that we need to take as much time as possible in dealing with these big issues, and we should deal with that issue way before we get to the retreat in Durham.

<u>Councilmember Eiselt</u> said we've had some discussions along with that, but I think one of the toughest things that people don't understand is that the 11 of us don't get a chance to talk to each other as a group, and I think it is really important that everybody has the opportunity to express how they feel and their experiences with the issue. That is why I think the retreat is a good opportunity to do that; that is really where we learn to work as a body. We interact with each other as a group and people can share their perspectives on things. I don't know what other opportunities we really have to talk about something like that where the whole Council would need to weigh in.

<u>Councilmember Ajmera</u> said the Strategy Sessions that we have now - those are the first Monday of each month. Are we going to have one before we head to the retreat?

Mayor Lyles said we tried and we weren't able to.

Ms. Ajmera said I think the first time we will meet as a body would be the retreat.

Mayor Lyles said that goes right to the point that Mr. Winston is bringing up the idea of televising the Public Forum, and just to speak plainly, I've heard little objection to

televising of the Public Forum. What I think we are having more difficulty with is the question of how to deal with social media, and I think no matter when we have this I would like to ask the Manager to address what the televised portion is, which is basically just adding it to our Business Meeting, and it is treated just like a part of our Business Meeting. I think that is something that we've done in the past, and we have a history of doing, and we can make that decision as soon as we are ready to do that. I think the thing that has been a little bit of a question that has been raised with me anyway is what happens if we live stream things, and I know that we did do a live stream once, and the question was how did that work? I am not by any means the most literate person to be doing this, so I'm probably the best person to do it because it is going to be over simplified. Live streaming, we've been doing it on the City's website and the City's Facebook page, and the difference is that it is interactive, and how do we work with something that is interactive that is different from what we've been doing in the past? If we are going to talk about this, I just want to open it up; we are talking about the Public Forum and televising and then what is next or is there a next after televising? That is what I think the comments are related to. The first time we will have the opportunity to do that altogether will be at the Retreat to make that decision, and really it is not a decision necessarily of just what do we want to do but making sure that we have met both public records laws, best practices, and the scope of what we are going to do, and that is defined, but I open it up to questions or comments and suggestions tonight.

<u>Councilmember Egleston</u> said I am just wondering if there is more thank I think we are talking about. My understanding is just turning on the cameras that are turned on at 7:00 p.m. at 6:30 p.m.; is that all Mr. Winston is asking?

Mr. Winston said yes and no, the way it is and all I'm asking for is for the Public Forum to be broadcast, as has been the case in the past. What has been done once Public Forums were moved back down into the Chamber, the Public Forum was move on the Agenda to happen before the actual Business Meeting, so really all we have to do is move the Agenda Item back to during a Business Meeting so those Public Forums can be broadcast as they have been in the past.

Mr. Egleston said we wouldn't even have to necessarily change the schedule; we could just literally turn on the cameras at 6:30; have them at 6:30 and start our Business Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Winston said correct, which doesn't need a vote actually.

Mr. Egleston said I don't know; it sounded like a whole lot more being encompassed that what we were talking about than what I perceived to be the ask from Mr. Winston.

Ms. Eiselt said I think that is the question, because I think everybody is confused. One of the meetings, unbeknownst to some of us, was stream lived on the City's Facebook page with people commenting, and we didn't know that. Councilmembers were getting tagged, and no-one knew it, so again it is, what are we talking about is the real question? It is more how than if. That is the direction we are moving back to, but this is kind of a new day and age, so how are we going to do it is the discussion that some people feel we need to have.

<u>Councilmember Driggs</u> said for one, you understand better than I do that the difference between the camera and the live stream, so those topics have gotten comingled a bit. A much smaller step and probably easier to switch the cameras back on; however, there was an act of Council that decided to turn them off as a result of an unruly crowd using the opportunity for free air time and disrupting our meeting. We would have to reinstate it knowing how we would deal with that situation if it arose. I think that is very doable; I would like to see us do it thoughtfully. The live streaming brings with it a lot of the events that occurred like when the Observer starting allowing people to post on their website, and you've got all kinds of ugliness. You've got people unrecognizable names; you've got commentary, and it was out there for everybody else to see, so I really like the idea of broadening the audience and bringing more people in,

and I think that is Mr. Winston's main priority, but we can't let it sort of devolve into a circus is the point.

Mr. Winston said thank you Mr. Driggs; that clarification that I'm advocating right here right now not for any social media policy, but it is to re-arrange the agenda so that the Public Forum is broadcast, and that is about it. One of the reasons we wanted to have this discussion so that we are all on the same page, part of it is the reason why this decision was made in the first place. You just mentioned a reason that I'm not of the understanding that was the actual reason for making the change. The initial change was to prevent grandstanding in front of the cameras for people that wanted to use the Public Forum for sort of 15 minutes of fame. There are a couple different stories behind why that change was made, and I think we should all get on the same page as to why.

Mayor Lyles said with that I believe what we will do is have that on the agenda for the retreat. Is that what I'm hearing consensus around the table?

Mr. Winston said I would like to ask the Manager to make that change on the agenda to move the Public Forum back onto during the Business Meeting if there is no objection to that.

Councilmember Mayfield said at this point, the only thing I would support is us having a conversation regarding changing back and giving everyone the information, because our Committee went through numerous conversations, but I do know the Mayor reviewed some of the minutes. The minutes didn't necessarily reflect all of the conversation that we had, so having Bob and our staff liaisons who were a part of the Governance and Accountability Committee and those members who are still around this dais to be able to have a longer conversation, which is a conversation longer than this space to determine and hear why we came to the decision. If it is really about you having the opportunity to share your concerns, you don't need a camera for that, but there were a number of issues and concerns that arose, which is why we moved to this direction, so before I personally as a member of this body would support us just going back, I feel that our retreat is the best time, because that is the first real opportunity as a full Council that we can have a discussion to learn what was the history and the information and the research that we had done, in comparison to other sitting bodies that are comparable to us before we made the decision and moved towards the direction of delaying the video time.

Mr. Egleston said I think this ties back into Mr. Driggs' earlier question; if you have an idea, how do you advance that idea? I can appreciate the work that was done in the Governance and Accountability Committee; I can appreciate the desire to have a discussion around it, but at the end of the day, clearly Mr. Winston is very passionate about this, he clearly wants this done sooner than later. If that is his idea and that is his desire, what is the path to put that forward? Does it need to be forward to a vote? Otherwise, he can keep saying I want to do this now, and we can just keep saying no, but at some point it has got to come up to a vote and say does the majority of Council feel this way.

Mayor Lyles said Council did this by consensus and agreement; it was never a vote. Sometimes we are more informal than you would look at a parliamentarian legislative body or something like that. Basically, I think Mr. Winston has made the point; what I hear are some people would like to have further discussion about it. The question is, if we want to go the more formal route where we think there is a majority of folks we can do an informal vote right now to say let's turn on the cameras and when do we do that. I appreciate this as well, because I've heard most people say yes to the Public Forum being put on television. I think there has been confusion about whether or not it was also going to be live streamed, and those things did get mixed up in the conversations, and I think Mr. Winston and I talked for an hour and 15 to 20 minutes, and I thought that the request was for live streaming. That is something different from what I'm hearing today, but when I left that meeting on Friday that is what I thought. Mr. Egleston said I think it was independent of each other.

Mayor Lyles said I understand that now, but what I'm saying is tonight is the first time I've heard it being independent from what I understood on Friday. The question I think is basically that we could go back to doing just the television and when we do that, or we can wait and talk about this. I really think that to put it to bed if it is going to be limited only to televising the Public Forum at 6:30 p.m., does that put it to bed? That we don't have to talk about it at the retreat, and we just do the Public Forum on television. If that is the case I think that is a lot more simple than what do we have to do if we are going to use Facebook and the City's website. In the past, I have said that I think we can manage this in a way that works, so it is not a vote required, but I think in respect to your colleagues, going back to what we had and all of us sitting here if we are going back to what we used to do that is one question. If it is further than that or not clear, it is another question, and I think that what I've heard it is we put this to bed with televising it at 6:30 p.m. We could start that on January 22, 2018, that is the next Business Meeting, and we wouldn't have another one until February 12, 2018.

Mr. Driggs said I just wanted to clarify a little bit of what I said before. If we set a precedent, for example in a session like this, of going to a vote and taking an action, that actually undermines the whole open meetings process. For example, if somebody comes to me and says, I got six votes why don't we just do this? That is a Council action that happened out of sight of the public; it is an action that was not put on the agenda so the public could see ahead of time we were thinking about this and have an opportunity to come and sign up to speak for example. So actually, in the interest of transparency I think the situations in which we make a decision that is in the paper the next day and there was no advance notice that this was going to be a topic should be very limited.

<u>Councilmember Bokhari</u> said that is a good point; the only thing I would say is I totally agree Mr. Driggs' point there. I think this one is one that just kind of evolved where this was a passion item of Mr. Winston; it is lower hanging fruit now that we understand it is two parts. Part one is just turning the TV back on. I think there still is a second part, the social media, but I think that is a separate conversation more holistically than just the Forum there, and I think this would be solved if we figure out some quicker way to get part one done, because to be totally honest Mr. Winston is just going to keep live streaming himself until we have this conversation and get to the answer, and I think it should be a pretty quick conversation for part one.

Mr. Winston said with all due respect Mr. Driggs, I am following the precedent as this initial decision was made during Mayor and Council topics, and it was when Councilmember Smith turned his head over to the Manager and asked him to make this, and there was no objection and that is how the initial change happened.

Mr. Driggs said that is why I brought up the subject myself, for the proper way to brings things forward, so that we make sure that people don't feel that they are being denied the opportunity. I just want to make sure that we don't actually do things, because somebody else is going to come up with something they are very passionate about, and they are going to say we did that why can't we do this. The public should be able to see all of this process. We voted to shut the cameras down after a Committee review, and it should take a similar action to turn them back on.

Mr. Winston said you didn't vote.

Mayor Lyles said I know that we've spent a lot of time on this, and I think there are two issues that I'm seeing, so I'm going to make a suggestion that we put the item for action on the January 22, 2018 meeting, which is the next public meeting. I'm actually going to suggest that we take it out of order in advance of the Public Forum so the staff will have the decision that if we decide to do it we will have it available to do for the next Public Forum that occurs that day, if that is acceptable to everyone, that is what I would suggest that we do. I do want to make a comment thought Mr. Bokhari, because I want to make what I said earlier is that does this put this to bed, and you said there is a part one and a part two. I'm not sure that I know what part two means or what that expectation is, so I just want to make sure that what I'm saying tonight is that we are

going to do what we've done in the past, and we will vote on that. If there is a part two, that is a new clean slate that we need to come through the process as appropriately.

Mr. Bokhari said to that I do agree that it is a new process that needs to come through cleanly, but I think we have to have the discussion on how can we use social media in these outlets and live streaming and things like that, not just for the Citizens' Forum but for many different things that we do, in a way that everyone is comfortable and that can be a longer dialogue. I don't think there is urgency, but I don't want to lose that as separate topics.

Mayor Lyles said is there a consensus that we do that?

Mr. Phipps said in between now and the 22nd, what is going to happen in terms of what information are we going to get before we go to the dais to make this decision. I was on the Governance and Accountability Committee, and we didn't take it lightly when we changed it.

Mayor Lyles said what information do you think that we need, just a summary of what the points were that were discussed by GAP? We can get you that as material information.

Mr. Phipps said so long as people would know the perspectival background that we went through to get to the decision.

Mayor Lyles said the background as well as what it means to what we would do. We would outline that.

Ms. Eiselt said I was not on the Governance and Accountability Committee, but I thought we talked about what we would like to hear from the Committee were recommendations about what happens when we are camera and people are making physical threats to us and swearing at us. Before I do anything, I want to know what our options are. When the cameras shut off, that behavior shut off too and that is what – we didn't take a vote, because everybody agreed that we wanted to be able to have that opportunity. We were not saying we didn't ever want to broadcast again but we wanted to know what our options were when that kind of environment presented itself before the camera.

Mayor Lyles said those are the two issues, and we will have weighing in by our Attorney on at least one of them I know. We've all got experience with that and then the other issue is some background, concerns about personal safety, as well as language. We will address both of those points.

Mr. Egleston said I completely agree with Mr. Driggs' point; I do just want to point out this isn't the first time; if this had been brought up for the first time tonight I think it would be different. It has been brought up before, so I do think there has been discussion of this it wasn't just pushed through today that this was something that mattered to Mr. Winston; he has talked about it for a while, so to me it is not a surprise topic.

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# **ITEM NO. 5: CHARLOTTE GATEWAY STATION**

John Lewis, Transit Director said it is good to be here before you again today. Just wanted to let you know, I'm here to give you an update on a very important project that CATS and our partners at North Carolina Department of Transportation have been working on for over a decade, and that is the Charlotte Gateway Station. Before I go into my presentation this evening on the Gateway Station, I wanted to give you a little heads up on a long anticipated action on the Blue Line Extension. This is literally hot off the press today working with our project team; we have come to an opening date. We've progressed sufficiently along in our testing of the alignment that we are at a point

where we can announce a date, and the date that we will open will be Friday, March 16, 2018.

# **Councilmember Egleston** said why is no one cheering?

Mr. Lewis said I think everyone is in a state of shock. Long awaited but we are very proud. I certainly am and the project team and everyone who has worked lots of hours over the last couple of years to bring this to fruition. I will say that brings us in two weeks ahead of grant date, and we still remain under budget in that regard.

<u>Mayor Lyles</u> said did you mention the party schedule? We were just talking about the number of ribbon cuttings that will occur and let us know that we are going to include all of intergovernmental partners, all of the people that have been working with us for this to be something especially within our transportation system, our university system, all of those things are very important. This is time to celebrate.

Mr. Lewis said I think the month of February is going to be very busy in that regard. I anticipate we will have multiple events in that regard, a ribbon cutting that will happen at the time. We need a location we can get the greatest number of partners involved, both the Federal, State, and local level and at the University to do a ceremony announcing the completion of the project, but the first day that citizens of our region will be able to ride that service will hopefully be to the basketball games on Friday, March 16, 2018 and March Madness.

Back to Gateway Station, giving you an update on where we are with the project; as I mentioned before we have been working with our partners at NCDOT, for well over a decade to bring this project to the position where it is today. The goal of that is to bring Amtrak service from the current location on North Tryon Street into uptown Charlotte. The current station is small and outdated, and this development will create high quality connections between multiple modes of transportation, local and inner-City bus service, the City LYNX Gold Line Streetcar, potentially other rail options and Amtrak rail service will all convene at the Gateway Station. It established a new Activity Center to bridge gaps in center-city concurrent with the range of land uses that constitute a vibrant hub that services a wide range of local development goals.

This is a keystone project of the 2030 Plan; CATS has been working diligently to implement the full vision of the multimodal transportation options that were develop by this community in early 2002, leading up to the imposition of the half-cent sales tax. The Blue Line has been in operation for over a decade; the Blue Line Extension will open in the coming weeks. The Gold Line Phase 1 has been in operation for almost two years, and we are under construction of Phase 2 right now. Gateway Station is the next project moving forward on the plan.

Looking at this map what we are attempting to do is to bring Amtrak into uptown at a multimodal center that is converging at that green area at the top of the map. NCDOT and CATS have been working over a decade to accumulate those properties and between CATS and NCDOT, we have control of all of the properties outlined in green. That will allow us not only to build the station and a transit oriented development along that corridor but also allows us to have sufficient right-of-way to bring in the infrastructure construction necessary to bring the Amtrak service into uptown. This display shows a little more detail of all of the properties that we have accumulated over the years; NCDOT owns all of the properties adjacent to the currently operating freight rail line. We refer to this as the main block; CATS has purchased this portion of the block from NCDOT, and we are working to acquire the Greyhound portion of that stop. We will relocate Greyhound temporarily so that construction can begin on the infrastructure portion of the project.

What prompted this? The project received a shot in the arm in late 2015 when we received a \$30 million TIGER grant from the federal government, and over the next subsequent two years CATS' staff has been working with NCDOT to accumulate other sources of funds that will allow us to move Phase I forward. What does Phase I

comprise of? This is the infrastructure portion of the project; we are looking at this in two phases.

<u>Councilmember Driggs</u> said referring to the last slide John; are these other funding sources assured?

Mr. Lewis said yes.

Mr. Driggs said at one point we talked about this project; numbers like \$175 million was suggested, so are you saying the total budget for us is going to be this amount?

Mr. Lewis said no, the funds that we have now is enough to move forward with Phase I, which is the infrastructure portion: the bridge, the signals, the track work and the platform for the rail work. It is not enough and when you talked about those other numbers for the station construction and other vertical development, so what we are moving forward with in this portion is just the infrastructure portion of the project.

Mr. Driggs said what do think it will take to do Phase 2 and where is that money expected to come from?

Mr. Lewis said I will get into that as we move forward in the presentation. In Phase I, we will complete the infrastructure needed for providing Amtrak service into uptown. We will be building five new bridges. We will build the station tracks. We will separate freight rail from passenger rail; this will improve the freight traffic flow to the intermodal facility at Charlotte Douglas International Airport. We will separate again passenger trains from freight operations along the corridor and will include a connection to the Charlotte Locomotive and Rail Maintenance Facility that NCDOT is moving forward with. This portion of the project again is very important to the project, but this is just the rail infrastructure that will allow us to bring Amtrak service into uptown. This is a rendering of what that portion of the project could look like at the end. The right-of-way that we currently own along with NCDOT; this is the main block but this is what the infrastructure portion that I'm referring to looks like: the rail, the bridges, the platform and other rail components of that.

Phase 2, getting to your question Mr. Driggs, Phase 2 we are anticipating will run concurrently with Phase 1. That will include the station and associated transit oriented development. I anticipate the release of an RFP or an RFQ in the coming months to solicit a partner for a private developer that will work with us to identify what the potential is for development on the main block and the other parcels of land and work towards a funding plan for that portion. Again, the infrastructure portion will be a multi-year project; once we go out with the RFQ or RFP and bring on the joint development then we can begin talking about the potential cost of that vertical development and sources of funding for that both from the public and the private sector.

Mr. Driggs said so you have no sense now of what kind of resources need to be committed to this next piece?

Mr. Lewis said not at this point; we have an understanding of what the station will cost within what our means are from just a transportation standpoint, but what we didn't want to do is limit a potential development partner and what they could build on that location using private funding by parceling out the station. Again, we have an idea what a station will cost, but that station could be incorporated into a hotel and office space or residential space, so we didn't want to limit the development partner in that regard.

<u>Councilmember Phipps</u> said Mr. Lewis, are you saying then that we really don't have any idea yet how long this project takes because the funding sources are still ambiguous right now for the second phase after the infrastructure?

Mr. Lewis said no; again the infrastructure is funded. We have as a transportation provider an understanding what the station needs are and if, not recommending this, but if CATS were to build or NCDOT was to build the station we could move forward with

that. What we would lose is the opportunity for a transit oriented other types of development in and around that location. Again, we did not want to limit a potential private development there, so we have an idea of what station requirements are, but I'm not in the development business, so we want to bring in a private developer very quickly to get an understanding of what the potential is there and what potential private funding sources could be brought to the table to fulfil that vertical development.

Mr. Phipps said do we have in mind a date; approximately how long will this project take in years?

Mr. Lewis said the infrastructure will be 2022; the vertical development I don't know. It depends on what comes out of that discussion.

<u>Councilmember Bokhari</u> said what are the risks in your mind of only having roughly \$110 million of the funds identified at this point?

Mr. Lewis said from a transportation mobility standpoint, there are no risks associated with that. We could build a station; what the risk is we would lose the opportunity to really have an iconic transit oriented development there that would meet not only the mobility options for the City and the region but also other goals for economic development.

Mr. Bokhari said there are no unfunded risk in your mind at this point; it is just an opportunity that could be lost if you overly scope it at this point.

Mr. Lewis said it is an opportunity that could be lost if we don't take advantage of what the private sector could bring to the table. I want to be clear; we see this as more than just a mobility project. Again, CATS and NCDOT could build the infrastructure and a station, and you get an Amtrak station. What we don't have the ability to do is the associated vertical development. We are looking at and a number of us and some of you all went to Denver two years ago and saw what they were able to accomplish when they brought together the public and private sector to build a pretty fantastic multi-modal station in downtown Denver, and I think we are looking at that as the model for what could happen here.

Mayor Lyles said I also had the chance to go to Raleigh, and they have started something I would not call it on this scale, and it certainly isn't Denver, but they are taking this step without any rail. They are doing it with buses, and the facility already has two major new development and employers surrounding it. I don't know how they've financed and what they have done, but their station is underway, and even just the difference between a transit station today and the one that we built 30-years ago is phenomenal. They've got a public space for concerts and open space, and they've got a mall basically inside; the world has changed considerably since we built our first transit station and now that we have the line. In fact, if anyone wants to go up early on Wednesday before the retreat and just go to Raleigh before going to Durham, perhaps we could make an arrangement for you to go and look at their rail station.

# Councilmember Eiselt said you could take the train there.

Mayor Lyles said you could take the train there; we will drop you off somewhere between Durham and Raleigh. If you are driving up and you have time that morning just let us know, and I think we could make arrangements for you to go visit their facilities.

Mr. Lewis said it is a nice facility; I was able to tour it last week, and I believe they are set to open in April or May of this year so it is pretty far along. Again, just a couple of renderings of what that final development could look like, again looking at what the actual rail station that is incorporated into a greater transit oriented development along there and also showing from the view looking down Trade Street with the Gold Line Phase 2 coming adjacent and again the development with the station in the background.

Upcoming Activities, the reason why I'm providing the update tonight, CATS will be coming back before Council in February and March with additional construction and maintenance agreements with our partners Norfolk Southern and NCDOT in that regard and hopefully bring in March. Our agreement with Greyhound as the state acquires their space and then come back to lease potential space from other properties that we own for an interim Greyhound Station on the site, so they can continue their operations. Again, the P3 Developer for the RFP and RFQ in the summer of this year and then Phase 1 construction completed in summer of 2022.

Mr. Driggs said the Transportation Center we have now will stay where it is; is that right, the Bus Center?

Mr. Lewis said yes sir.

Mr. Driggs said the Greyhound conversation feels like it has been going on for a long time; is that just pending other events, or why has that not been resolved?

Mr. Lewis said we are still in negotiations with Greyhound on [inaudible]. NCDOT is in negotiations with Greyhound on their relocation acquisition and relocation.

<u>Councilmember Egleston</u> said my question is similar to Mr. Driggs. Will there be changes to the existing Transit Center over time in how we use it, what is there?

Mr. Lewis said I think how we use it; we don't plan on changing any of the infrastructure at the Charlotte Transit Center, but as we are looking to redesign our system and no longer need to bring all of our service into uptown we will have a smaller footprint there. We will also have a smaller bus footprint at the Gateway Station and so what we are trying to do is decentralize our operations so that we can give people effective most efficient direct service options into uptown. We will still need to maintain bus connections at the Transit Center because of its proximity and connection to the Blue Line and Blue Line Extension. I want to make clear we will not leave that, but our operations will look very different in the future.

<u>Councilmember Harlow</u> said it is a great development in the uptown portion of District 2. Question about the Phase 1 construction being completed around the summer of 2022 and we are going to be doing some RFP and RFQ things this coming summer according to this timeline, are we just looking for development around the actual station? I haven't been to Denver, so I'm not quite sure what that looks like, but when I hear kind of a mall inside of the station, are we just looking attachment around the station or in the station as well, and how would that affect your construction timeline? I guess I'm a little confused on is the station just for moving people and then everything around it is what we are trying to develop from a private sector?

Mr. Lewis said the property acquisition we own along with NCDOT properties along the rail line currently today. This is our depiction of the green areas that we showed you on the map; this is the main block that is the current parking lot. Greyhound is here right now, and so we needed this linear property to be able to separate passenger rail from freight rail and rebuild those bridges along the corridor. The property acquisition was to allow us to begin the construction of the infrastructure. What we are doing at this point with the RFP is looking at the opportunity we have with the rest of the vacant property and the main block to catalyze transit oriented development at and around the site. I can only talk about the property that we and NCDOT own, but there are also other developments that are going on and have been planned that have been kind of been put on whole as we begin to move this process forward. I think it is not just about what can be developed on this property; I think there is a lot of momentum and excitement about a much more global activity around there that are waiting for this anchor to move forward.

Mr. Driggs said a final quick question, the \$33 million in the CIP, I can't remember off hand, is that the number that has been in there all along for the station?

Mr. Lewis said yes.

Mayor Lyles said Mr. Lewis I think you've heard a lot of questions and congrats on the line opening in March and with that I think the action step that follows; this will be on the agenda on February 12, 2018.

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

There were no Consent item questions.

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#### ITEM NO. 7: CLOSED SESSION

Motion was made by Councilmember Mayfield, seconded by Councilmember Driggs, and carried unanimously to go into closed session pursuant to GS 143.318.11(a)(3) to consult with attorneys employed or retained by the City in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege and to consider and give instructions to the attorneys concerning the handling or settle of Charles Camp v. City of Charlotte.

The meeting was recessed at 6:17 p.m. to go into closed session in Room 267. The closed session recessed at 6:22 p.m. to move to the Meeting Chamber for the regularly scheduled Public Forum and Business Meeting.

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The City Council of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina reconvened for a Public Forum on Monday, January 8, 2018 at 6:31 p.m. in the Meeting Chamber of the Charlotte Mecklenburg Government Center with Mayor Vi Lyles presiding. Councilmembers present were Dimple Ajmera, Tariq Bokhari, Ed Driggs, Larken Egleston, Julie Eiselt, Justin Harlow, LaWana Mayfield, James Mitchell, Greg Phipps, Braxton Winston II, and Councilmember-Elect Matt Newton.

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#### **PUBLIC FORUM**

## Workers' Rights - Iron Worker

Caleb Sanderlin, 506 Katherine Avenue, Kings Mountain said for those of Council who don't already know my name, my name is Caleb Sanderlin, and I am an Iron Worker. We build schools, bridges, and high-rises. Rebar is used to reinforce all concrete structures, whether it is a bridge foundation, building, or the very structure around you right now. Rebar is physically demanding and sometimes very sharp; it must be carried by hand and tied with metal wire to form structures. Rebar placement is one of the hardest jobs in the world, and it is a very dangerous job. Now that you know about our industry, let me tell you about my story and about the companies working in this industry. I started working for Border Rebar over two years ago. A few months after working for this company, I started noticing issues with the company, issues like: missing hours; unexplained deductions from my checks; and we would not get breaks or time off if we needed it. Most workers were afraid to say something, because they through they would get fired if they spoke up. After noticing these issues, I became over worked and being constantly pushed by my supervisor for more production. Finally after I spoke up and asked for a break, the company denied me the breaks even though I was hurting. Soon after in January of 2016, I was injured on the job while working for Border Rebar. Because of Border Rebar's neglect of their workers, I had ripped my chest wall muscle; I was taken from the job site to the hospital in an ambulance, and the hospital told me I had ripped my muscle. I was told by Border Rebar that they were not going to file worker's comp for me. Soon after, medical bills came, and the company refused to pay them, and to this day they have not been paid. There are many more

issues with Border, the way they treat their workers. They do not provide safety equipment or proper training. There is also wage disparity in our pay and random deductions. For these reasons, I am here today to ask you, the City Council of Charlotte, to give us a better understanding of what the lowest responsible bidder means, and I want to ask City Council to ask yourself and your staff what we are doing to make sure that these contractors being awarded these projects in the City are following the state and federal laws and that they are implementing OSHA standards as required. We are asking that you implement a better bidder language. I have left some information with the Clerk and thank you for this opportunity to speak to you today.

<u>Mayor Lyles</u> said we have heard from you before and have your materials and understand the connections between the North Carolina Labor Department and OSHA, which are really important to your industry and your efforts, so continue to work with them.

# **Eastland Mall**

Vincent Frisina, 3140 Edsel Place said I've lived on the east side for approximately 38 years. I have given you copies of several pages Earnest and Winnie, which is no longer around. I believe it is Earnest and Young on taxpayer accountability from their front pages. Two items, one a request for a new RFP and independent review of what the sale prices of the old Eastland Mall is. I base this on a review of talking to many people in my area; when was the current RFP issued? Where and what period did it cover; the financial stewardship which Monty Allman brought up? Who will evaluate for City Council what the price will be today, tomorrow and maybe two-years from now? What about the eastside properties that have increased? A house that they were ready to bulldoze in my neighborhood, Windsor Park couldn't give it away for \$28,000; sold for \$90,000 and then was revamped for \$277,000. The corner house up the block from me close to \$280,000 and we are approaching some houses that are at least \$290,000 and we know of at least some \$300,000 homes. Will you be providing them with our neighborhood and the neighborhoods around there with services that will be there for the next generation in our neighborhood? I have a signed statement from one owner who was offered \$550,000 recently, turned it down because they know it is going up in the prices, right off of North Sharon Amity. The Ed Committee, we were supposed to have two meetings with the neighborhoods, and the only thing that happened is they had two meetings with the business community. We feel that we should have had our meetings, so we are asking for a reset of this, and why we are going not only to the City Council, but above to external auditors so nobody sells this property and gives it away because we know we people who are not selling at this point. There are a lot of other reasons that I've gone ahead and put in there but one of the more interesting points is that Mayor; you supplied us with the demand side of all the affordable housing. I came to one of the meetings and asked, what about the supply side? Does the City of Charlotte value that? That is something that I would like to see whether you do or do not and get those questions answered. With that I have five people I want to thank up there if you will allow me to go a few seconds before. Ms. Kelly, your Department has always, always, always over the years provided me with accurate information. Mr. Newton is not here, but I want to thank him for going ahead and giving Wilora Lake because our area we need to see it wrap up. The next item is for Mr. Winston: your I Pad, I thank you this morning so that people can see what is going on here. Mr. Egleston, I hope that you will take charge for supplying the demand of the supply side.

Mayor Lyles said I do want to make one note that the ED Committee did not host those meetings; I think there were meetings that were held on Eastland, but they were not hosted by the City's Economic Development Committee.

Mr. Frisina said wrong information given to me when I called up, but they did hold the neighborhood meeting.

## **Homeless Population**

lisah Brown, 17825 Halton Park Drive said I coming here today and I have to start by asking this question to everybody in this room. How many of you all have been homeless? I know somebody how has been homeless. Recently, me and my significant other were homeless. Nobody realizes how big the problem is here and to hear from people that the warming stations are not open; you guys understand how devastating it is. There are women on the street that are pregnant that if the shelters are full they have nowhere to go. I understand we voted on affordable housing [inaudible], but where is the money at? Marshall Park has a building that can be rehabbed to help these people. Everybody that is homeless is not on drugs; they are not mentally ill. People just fall short. We fell short because some money got taken out of his check. He works for the government, but they tax so much sometimes he doesn't have enough left. You guys don't realize those warming stations are hurting so many people; does anybody talk about how many people are freezing to death when it is 18 degrees outside? I don't understand; I'm fortunate and blessed to now have a place to stay, but there are so many people that don't have a support system. I'm just asking what is taking so long with affordable housing. Why is an apartment \$1,500 per month? People can't afford it: you guys don't understand that. There are people sleeping in front of banks; people that have education, and these people are not being given a job to support their family so can we please do something. I have time in my schedule, and I'm willing to volunteer at a warming station. Let's just do something to give these people somewhere to stay. I watch people laugh at these people, but it is not a joke you guys; it is very hard out there, so can we please do something with some of these monies to help these people have somewhere to stay.

Mayor Lyles said I want you to know that this Council takes this issue very seriously, and we work almost every day. There is not a week that doesn't go by and I wish that we could move faster and we are going to try our best.

# **Safety Concerns**

Karen Jensen, 311 Baldwin Avenue said I was here before and spoke to the last Council, and many of you were here at that time. I asked about the robbery at my house by the City of Charlotte on September 13, 2017. I brought a picture; these are the eight men including the armed police officer that the City of Charlotte sent to my home to rob me, stole items off my porch without cause. That would be my neighborhood police officer apparently. Not one person responded beforehand to stop this, even though many people were informed including the City Manager. He is still staring at me blankly and has not responded then or since them and Mr. Hagemann, the City Attorney, who is staring me and will do nothing to change this. I'm so disgusted that nobody has taken any action to hold the staff accountable; not Ben Krise, who is in charge or orchestrating this; not Mr. Hagemann, who knew; and Mr. Jones, who knew ahead of time and did nothing to stop this. Nobody has returned my stolen items; nobody has taken any accountability for this. I came here two-months ago and explained this before and e-mailed everybody except for a couple of new people who I haven't had the pleasure of meeting yet and asked for this to be resolved and nobody from staff has contacted me. Actually, nobody has contacted me. I request again and again. How is it that the City is sending armed people to a private home, without any cause or justification, and nobody is animated about stopping this or even responding. This is harassment and retaliation and interference because of the other wrongs that were done previously to me, because I reported a police officer's misconduct. This is obvious from statements in the court by Daniel Peterson. Robert Hagemann is a Supervisor. This is all documented, and I want it to stop, and I feel I deserve an answer from the people who are supposed to represent me. The City, if anybody else cares, is also using illegal inspection warrants to take things from people when there actually is a criminal condition at their house. As far as I know, they are not doing anything to stop that either. I even informed the Magistrate, the Chief Magistrate, and he has given me no answer about that either.

Mayor Lyles said Mr. Hagemann, I think there have been some statements, and several Councilmembers I believe had meetings or inquiries about this, so I was just wondering if you could give us a recap of the most recent actions.

Bob Hagemann, City Attorney said the action that Ms. Jensen is referring to was a nuisance enforcement action brought by the City under the City's ordinance. An administrative warrant was obtained from the courts, and it was an action to clean up dilapidated and junk material on Ms. Jensen's property. That was what was removed, not stolen but removed under law with a valid court order. Ms. Jensen also has previously complained about us not providing documents, material to her related to this enforcement action. I am informed that Mr. Krise has repeatedly reached out to her to offer to give her the documents, and finally he sent them to here certified mail and it came back unclaimed. We have attempted to do everything in our power to communicate with her; provide the material she has asked for, and regarding the enforcement action there is a statutory process where notice was given ahead of time; she was afforded plenty of opportunity to clean up her property, bring it into compliance with the City ordinance on her own before the enforcement action was taken.

# **Electronic Monitoring/Cameras**

<u>Clinton Sellers, 6401 Bevington Place</u> said I have one issue at this time, and I wanted to find out is there a statute covering electronic monitoring or illegal monitoring by any city statute. I want to see if there is any committee we can meet on to see if we can have that enforced.

<u>Mayor Lyles</u> said I do not know if we have that statute, but we can have the staff research that and get back to you.

#### **BUSINESS MEETING**

The City Council of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina continued the meeting with a Business Meeting on Monday, January 8, 2018, at 6:49 p.m. in the Meeting Chamber of the Charlotte Mecklenburg Government Center with Mayor Vi Lyles presiding. Councilmembers present were Dimple Ajmera, Tariq Bokhari, Ed Driggs, Larken Egleston, Julie Eiselt, Justin Harlow, LaWana Mayfield, James Mitchell, Matt Newton, Greg Phipps, and Braxton Winston II.

#### **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE**

\* \* \* \* \* \*

**Mayor Lyles** explained the protocol for the invocation.

<u>Councilmember Ajmera</u> gave the Invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

# ITEM NO. 8: SWEARING IN OF COUNCILMEMBER MATT NEWTON, DISTRICT 5

<u>Mayor Lyles</u> said on December 4, 2017, we had a ceremony for the swearing in of the members of City Council that you see at the dais, and unfortunately we were not able to have the person elected in District 5, Matt Newton, to join us at that time. This evening we would like to have the Oath of Office, and I ask Mr. Newton to join me in front of the dais, as well as his family members. Mayor Lyles administered the Oath of Office to Matt Newton.

<u>Councilmember Newton</u> said many folks are aware, I was married this past year and had my honeymoon over a large portion of December, so I was unable to be here for the original swearing in ceremony. I wanted to take a moment up front and thank City staff members for your understanding and support during that time, particularly names

that come to mind but certainly all City staff members, but Alban Burney, Kim Oliver, and Mindy Levine. You all were fantastic and have helped me throughout my transitional period to become oriented and prepared to be a City Council person. I also wanted to thank all of my fellow City Councilmembers as well for holding it down while I wasn't here. I know that was tough for you but you guys did a fantastic job, and I am just so thrilled and honored to be up here with each of you. I wanted to take a moment to thank all of the wonderful folks; I represent a large portion of east Charlotte, so I thank all the wonderful folks in east Charlotte, my supporters: Bobby Almond, Mimi Davis, Rosen Mustafa, Diane and Amy Little, Luis Rodriguez, Naomi Zeskind. I wish that Carolyn Millen, Theresa Bond, Tracy Thomas are better soon. I wish them the best in dealing with the flu, which I hear has been going around, also, Eddie Macklemore, who has been dealing with bad COPD. I hope that he feels better very soon. I want to thank the great folks from the Charlotte Eastland Strategy Team as well, for all the hard work over the years that they have contributed to making sure that whatever we decide to place at Eastland is supported by our community, and I look forward to working with them in the coming years. We face many challenges as a City, and I firmly believe what is good for east Charlotte is good for the City of Charlotte. Those challenges include finding, resourcing, and insuring that we have more jobs in our area, better infrastructure, better transportation; the list goes on and on. We have many of those needs in east Charlotte, and I will do my level best to make sure that those needs are met. I am of the firm belief that we are ready to champion all of that in east Charlotte, and I look forward to working with all of you, as we do just that, providing jobs for east Charlotteans, providing better transportation options for areas particularly out towards the I-485 intersections that exist in the district and also better infrastructure. I cannot wait to get started, so I will not delay this meeting any longer and want to thank you all for everything and thank all the wonderful folks in east Charlotte, who have seen to in trust with me their representation. I won't let you down.

\* \* \* \* \* \* \*

# ITEM NO. 9: CONSENT AGENDA

Motion was made by Councilmember Mitchell and seconded by Councilmember Driggs to approve the Consent Agenda as presented with the exception of Item Nos. 26, 45, 46, 47, and 49 which were pulled by staff.

Councilmember Bokhari said I just wanted to pull this one for a comment before we vote, first to say job well done to staff, especially to Deputy Fire Chief Rich Granger. As I learn more about this Urban Area Security Initiative Grant that is designed for cities like ourselves to aid in prevention, protection, response and recovery from terrorists attacks, this is a multimillion dollar grant that there are about 18 tier one and two cities that I learned that are the ones that receive this stuff. It is a really tough process, so to get that UASI Grant enables us to be ready for the response and recovery for terrorists attacks, and I learned very quickly, and I look forward to learning more about this is not just about a quick thing. This is the entire group working throughout the entire year to make sure that we are competitive and that we can get these funds. City Manager, I think this is a great opportunity with some follow-up questions I had: this grant itself isn't an option for us to fund cyber security terrorism related opportunities that we have, but perhaps there are other grants that are forming that we can look at that are exactly like this, because to be honest it is very similar. So, I would ask for that in turn for us to follow up on and also City Manager what a great opportunity as we look forward to some of the comments you made in our previous session of tabletop testing and scenario testing as we look forward in the year perhaps we coordinate with these groups who have a lot of crisis management tabletop scenarios in their world, how we might incorporate that and how we connect in communications. Overall just a great job and looking forward to seeing this play out.

Mayor Lyles said the next item for comment is Item No. 35, Clem's Branch Lift Station and Force Main on which Councilmember Mayfield wants to comment.

Councilmember Mayfield said this is also a multimillion-dollar project but it falls right in line actually with last week's meeting where we talked about capacity, especially with conversations with Charlotte Water. One, I want to congratulate the City Manager on his leadership choice and congratulate Angela Lee who has stepped into this role at Charlotte Water. We had a great conversation, but just to give the community an opportunity to recognize that we have conversations about the growth within the City, and even though this is within south Charlotte, this is also in partnership with South Carolina. When you look at this development of this particular lift station and the agreement that has been made, we are looking at the construction of this new lift station is going to allow Charlotte the opportunity to gain and prove access to the site but more importantly the kind of lift station is undersized. By us moving forward and trying to anticipate Mecklenburg County's flow in the future, this expansion is going to help prevent any potential sanitary sewer overflows, so we think about all the last week and a half where we've had burst pipes, we've seen water leakage in multiple places, we have a lot of 100-year old pipes throughout the City. This is just a truly good investment and opportunity, but it is also a \$5 million plus investment that I wanted to give a moment for us to stop and look at and to commend the bid winner on not only meeting but exceeding our diversity goals and creating more opportunities for jobs and access as we continue to look at how do we maintain this 44 to 100, depending on who you ask, people moving to the City each day.

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

The following items were approved:

## Item No. 25: 2017 Urban Area Security Initiative Grant Acceptance

(A) Authorize the Charlotte Area Homeland Security Director (Charlotte Fire Chief) to accept a grant for \$2,269,600 from the United States Department of Homeland Security for the 2017 Urban Area Security Initiative Grant Program, and (B) Adopt Budget Ordinance No. 9242-X appropriating \$2,269,600 from the Department of Homeland Security to the General Grants and LTD Projects fund.

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 61, at Page 213.

#### Item No. 27: City Bridge Inspection Contracts

(A) Award a contract in the amount of \$133,291.15 with SWP USA Inc. for the inspection of bridges not qualifying for federal funds, (B) Award a contract in the amount of \$523,622.88 with SWP USA Inc. for the inspection of bridges that qualify for federal funds administered by the State of North Carolina. (C) Adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a Municipal Agreement with the North Carolina Department of Transportation to share the cost of inspecting 164 City-maintained bridges and culverts in the amount of \$418,898.30, and (D) Adopt Budget Ordinance No. 9243-X appropriating North Carolina Department of Transportation funds of \$418,898.30.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 48, at Page 545.

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 61, at Page 214.

## Item No. 28: Resolution of Intent to Abandon a Portion of Township Road

(A) Adopt a Resolution of Intent to abandon a portion of Township Road, and (B) Set a public hearing date for February 12, 2018.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 48, at Pages 546-549.

#### Item No. 29: Little Rock Road Sidewalk Project

Award a contract in the amount of \$897,769.40 to the lowest responsive bidder DOT Construction, Inc. for the construction of Little Rock Road Sidewalk Project.

#### **Summary of Bids**

DOT Construction, Inc.	\$ 897,769.40
B & N Grading, Inc.	\$ 945,631.50
United Construction Company, Inc.	\$1,279,815.90
Sealand Contractors Corp.	\$1,408,208.40
United of Carolinas, Inc.	\$1,724,702.38

# Item No. 30: Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department 911 Data Center HVAC Replacement Project

(A) Approve the purchase of a Liebert cooling system from a cooperative purchasing contract as authorized by G. S. 143-129(e)(3), and (B) Approve a contract in the amount of \$191,450 with Daikin Applied Americas, Inc. for the purchase and installation of new HVAC equipment at the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Policy Department 911 Data Center under the National IPA August 25, 2015,m Contract Number R150505.

# Item No. 31: Sale of City-owned Property on Toomey Avenue

(A) Adopt a resolution approving the sale of approximately 11,300 square feet of Cityowned parcel located at 2700 Toomey Avenue (portion of parcel identification number 145-081-02) to Jonathan Tee, for \$35,000, and (B) Authorize the City Manager to negotiate and execute all documents necessary to complete the sale of the property.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 48, at Pages 550-551.

# Item No. 32: Telecommunications Infrastructure Management Services

(A) Approve a unit price contract with PRS Tower Management Services LLC for management and consulting services for an initial term of three years, and (B) Authorize the City Manager to renew the contract for up to two additional two-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 awarded.

### Item No. 33: Stream and Wetland Mitigation Monitoring Services

Approve unit price contracts for up to \$150,000 each with the following firms for mitigation monitoring services: Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. and S&ME, Inc.

#### Item No. 34; Charlotte Water Generator Equipment

(A) Approve the purchase of generators, switchgear, fuel tanks, silencer and other integral equipment for standby generator systems from a cooperative purchasing contract as authorized by G. S. 143-129(e)(3) for Charlotte Water facilities, (B) Approve a unit price contract with Carolina Tractor & Equipment Company for the purchase of four 3,000 kW standby generators including switchgear, fuel tanks, silencers and other integral equipment, necessary for the generator systems for a term of one year under National Join Powers Alliance Contract No. 080613 dated September 17, 2013, (C) Approve a contract with Carolina Tractor & Equipment for a 10-year term for the preventative maintenance of four 3,000 kW generators, and (D) Authorize the City Manager to extend the contract for additional one-year terms as long as the cooperative contract is in effect, at prices and terms that are the same or more favorable than those offered under the cooperative contact.

# Item No. 35: Clem's Branch Lift Station and Force Main

Award a contract in the amount of \$5,605,965.94 to the lowest responsive bidder English Construction Company, Inc., for the Clem's Branch Lift Station and Force Main project.

# **Summary of Bids**

A complete list of the Summary of Bids is on file in the City Clerk's Office.

# Item No. 36: Water Laboratory Chemicals, Supplies and Equipment

(A) Approve the purchase of laboratory chemicals, supplies and equipment from state contract as authorized by G. S. 143-129(e)(9), (B) Approve a contract with Wisher Scientific for the purchase of laboratory chemicals, supplies and equipment for the term of the current State Term Contract 493A - Laboratory Supplies and Equipment, (C)

Approve a contract with VWR International for the purchase of laboratory chemicals, supplies and equipment for the term of the current State Term Contract 493A – Laboratory Supplies and Equipment, and (D) Authorize the City Manager to extent these contracts for additional one-year terms as long as the state contract is in effect, at prices and terms that are the same or more favorable than those offered under the state contract.

# Item No. 37: Airport Gate Counters

(A) Approve the purchase of gate counters from a cooperative purchasing contract as authorized by G. S. 143-129(e)(3), (B) Approve a unit price contract with Evans Console incorporated for the purchases of Airport gate counters for the term of six months under the Houston-Galveston Area Council of Governments, effective July 1, 2016, contract number EC07-49, and (C) Authorize the City Manager to extend the contract for additional one-year terms as long as the cooperative contract is in effect, at prices and terms that are the same or more favorable than those offered under the cooperative contract.

# Item No. 38: Airport Advertising Contract Amendment

(A) Approve a contract amendment with Intersection Media, LLC (formerly Titan Outdoor, LLC) for an advertising concession agreement for a five-year term, and (B) Authorize the City Manager to renew the contract for one, five-year term, consistent with the City's business needs for which the contract was approved.

# Item No. 39: Airport Real Estate Demolition Services

(A) Approve unit price contracts with the following companies for Demolition Services for an initial term of three years: DH Griffin Wrecking Co., Inc., Double D Construction Services, Inc. (DBE), WC Black & Sons, Inc. (SBE), and (B) Authorize the City Manager to renew the contracts for us to two additional, one-year terms with possible price adjustments and to amend the contracts consistent with the City's business needs for which the contract was approved.

# Item No. 40: Airport Real Estate Environmental Services

(A) Approve unit price contracts with the following companies for Environmental Services for an initial term of three years: JWJ Consulting LLC (SBE, MBE), Roy Consulting Group Corporation (SBE), and (B) Authorize the City Manager to renew the contract for up to two additional, one-year terms with possible price adjustments and to amend the contracts consistent with the City's business needs for which the contract was approved.

# Item No. 41: LGSTX Services, Inc. Cargo Hanger Lease

(A) Approve a one-year lease with LGSTX Services, Inc. for cargo hanger space, and (B) Authorize the City Manager to approve three additional, one-year terms consistent with the City's business needs for which the lease was approved.

## Item No. 42: American Airlines Federal Credit Union Lease

(A) Approve a lease with American Airlines Federal Credit Union for space to provide banking services for an initial term of three years, and (B) Authorize the City Manager to renew the lease for up to two additional, three-year terms with possible price adjustments and to amend the contract consistent with the City's business needs for which the contract was approved.

# Item No. 43: Refund of Property Taxes

Adopt a resolution authorize the refund of property taxes assessed through clerical or assessor error in the amount of \$6,348.04.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 48, at Pages 552-553.

# Item No. 44: Meeting Minutes

Approve the titles, motions and votes reflected in the Clerk's record as the minutes of November 27, 2017, Business Meeting and December 4, 2017, Oath of Office Ceremony.

## Item No. 48: Property Transactions - Cross Charlotte Trail, Parcel #1

Acquisition of 4,966 square feet (.114 acre) in Fee Simple at 621 Jackson Avenue from Seigle Avenue Presbyterian Church for \$125,000 for Cross Charlotte Trail, Parcel #1.

# Item No. 50: Property Transactions – Rea Road Sidewalk, Parcel #10

Resolution of condemnation of 425 square feet (.01 acre) in Sidewalk and Utility Easement, plus 310 square feet (.007 acre) in Temporary Construction Easement at 3139 Rea Road from Rosemary K. Evans and Kelly T. Evans for \$3,350 for Rea Road Sidewalk, Parcel #10.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 48, at Page 554.

# Item No. 51: Property Transactions - Rea Road Sidewalk, Parcel #11

Resolution of condemnation of 533 square feet (.012 acre) in Sidewalk and Utility Easement, plus 526 square feet (.012 acre in Temporary Construction Easement at 3201 Rea Road from Alton B. Craver and Jane H. Craver for \$4,625 for Rea Road Sidewalk, Parcel #11.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 48, at Page 555.

# Item No. 52: Property Transactions – Rea Road Sidewalk, Parcel #12

Resolution of condemnation of 267 square feet (.006 acre) in Sidewalk and Utility Easement plus 389 square feet (.009 acre) in Temporary Construction Easement.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 48, at Page 556.

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#### AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

#### ITEM NO. 10: JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT PROCLAMATION

<u>Councilmember Mitchell</u> read the following proclamation:

**WHEREAS,** Junior Achievement of Central Carolinas is celebrating its 60<sup>th</sup> year serving over 40,000 local kindergarten through 12th grade students with financial literacy, entrepreneurship and workforce readiness curriculum and experiential learning programs annually;

**WHEREAS**, well over one million local students have been impacted by Junior Achievement programs in the Charlotte area alone, with millions of students impacted nationally throughout the national organization's 100 year tenure;

**WHEREAS**, many leaders in the Charlotte community are representatives of the strong, positive impact that Junior Achievement programs had on their future pathways and trajectories as alumni of its programs, including several on the Charlotte City Council;

**WHEREAS**, Junior Achievement programs directly address the Opportunity Taskforce recommendations, including Strategies A, B, F, G. H, I, K. Q, and U;

**WHEREAS**, recent studies prove that Junior Achievement alumni reflect a median household income that is 20% higher than the US median household income; are 143% more likely to become an entrepreneur; and reflect a 39% increase in their economic mobility from student to adult;

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

# "JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT ALUMNI MONTH"

in Charlotte and commend its observance to all citizens.

\* \* \* \* \* \* \*

#### ITEM NO. 11: CHARLOTTE COMMUNITY BUILDING DAY PROCLAMATION

<u>Councilmember Mayfield</u> said I appreciate you giving me the opportunity to just give a little background. We have the National Day of Racial Healing that is actually coming up on January 16, 2018, but in partnership with the National League of Cities, where Councilmember Mitchell was our President of the National League of Cities, and we have a number of members on this committee who are definitely still active, there are a number of activities across the nation that are happening.

Ms. Mayfield read the following proclamation:

**WHEREAS**, the W. K. Kellogg Foundation is promoting Tuesday, January 16, 2018, as the second "National Day of Racial Healing," which is a call for all citizens to create a more just and equitable world; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Charlotte recognizes the important role that community building plays in clallenging the status quo and creating a safe, welcoming and thriving city; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Charlotte strives to reinforce and honor our common goals and celebrate the differences that make our community vibrant; and

**WHEREAS**, we commit to engage all people in ginuine efforts to increase understanding, communication, caring and respect for one another:

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Vi Alexander Lyles, Mayor of Charlotte, do hereby proclaim January 16, 2018, as the

# "CHARLOTTE DAY OF COMMUNITY-BUILDING

Where we acknowledge all the work the community has done and celebrate Charlotte's future as a winning city.

Ms. Mayfield said the reason we are reading this tonight is because as we know, Monday is Dr. King's birthday. Your Charlotte City Council, as well as your Charlotte Mecklenburg County Community Relations Committee, are supporters of the 2018 Carolina's Healthcare Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Paparade and memorial celebration. For those who are able after the breakfast on Monday morning at 9:45, we will be meeting in front of the Dr. King statute right behind us at Hal Marshsall. For those attending the breakfast we will be walking from the Convention Center down to the statute where we will have our kickoff memorial celebration. We invite you out this week-end for the parade; we invite you to come out meet your neignhbors, celebrate and then on the 16th please go out and be kind to one another.

Mayor Lyles said I would also like to recognize former NC State Representative Tricia Cotham, who has joined us in the audience today.

Mayor Lyles also recognized Ms. Angelia Lee as the new Director of Charlotte Water and for the many years she has worked in this organization. We congratulate you and look forward to working with you.

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# **PUBLIC HEARING**

#### ITEM NO. 12: PUBLIC HEARING ON VOLUNTARY ANNEXATION

<u>Mayor Lyles</u> declared the public hearing open.

There being no speakers either for or against, a motion was made by Councilmember Harlow, seconded by Councilmember Eiselt, and carried unanimously to close the public hearing and adopt Annexation Ordinance No. 9241-X with an effective date of January 8, 2018 to extend the corporate limits to include this property and assign it to

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 61, at Pages 210-212.

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### **POLICY**

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

Marcus Jones, City Manager said I hope you have before you a memo from me; as I mentioned in December to always allow you to have a view of the next 30-days, and as we progress we hope to maybe even get to 60-days. For right now, it is a bit of a recap tonight as well as going forward into February. Earlier this evening, there was an overview of the Committee process, as well as the retreat planning and discussion. Charlotte Gateway Station, which John Lewis did a great job, and next week on Tuesday will be the Zoning Meeting. On the 22nd of January and during the Action Briefing, there is a couple of key presentations that we will have; one is dealing with Community Safety, so as you know typically in the January timeframe, there is a discussion about crime stats from the previous year. We would like to make it more holistic and not just have a conversation on crime stats but to have Willie Ratchford in here and to have the Chief and other partners that are trying to be more proactive in terms of Community Safety. Also, we will have a discussion about the ETJ; we talked about that last year in terms of how the unincorporated areas will be policed, so we are in a very good position with the County right now, and we would like to present that to you as well, as an item that came out of one of the Committees and that would be the South End plan and process. We will make sure that well before the 22nd we get information to the Council. Earlier we called this sa possible Strategy Session but the Council has confirmed that the 5th of February will be a Strategy Session, so at that time we are ready to present all of those pending items that were in the Committees and have that as a part of the discussion on the 5th. On the 12th of February, we will have another Council Action Review.

I have a couple announcements related to staff; one is dealing with Angela Lee but someone stole that from me earlier, so the only thing I will add with Angela is that if you have never had an opportunity to see how she engages with the staff, please do it. There are hundreds of people that, not only adore her, but respect her. We didn't have to go far to find the replacement for our Director of Charlotte Water. I also didn't have the opportunity to mention this in December, but we are super excited to have Taiwo Jaiyeoba to join us as our new Planning Director. He is not here tonight but he came in today and Ed and Debra showed him around. He is super excited to be on the 16th; as you are aware he has 25-years of Planning experience both in the private and public sector. He is currently working for H and TB Corporation, and I was worried at the end; they wanted to keep the guy, but he understood that it is a bigger calling being here in the City of Charlotte. We are super excited about having Taiwo on board; he also has experience as Director of Planning and Project Managing in Grand Rapids and Sacrimento, so it is the complete package. Again, he starts on the 16th.

Lastly, I would like to mention that earlier today I announced our first International and Intergration Manager, who will lead our office of International Relations, and we are so excited to have Federico Rios join us; he is just great. I appreciate what the Council did in last year's budget by approving this position, and so as we are recognized as a global leader we have created this new role to strengthen the relationships with our international businesses as well as with our international community. Federico has been a community builder in Charlotte for the past 11-years; most recently the Program Director for the Northeast Learning Community and New Comer Services Programs and he will also start on the 16th, so we are super excited about having him on the team.

We talk a great deal about safety, trust, and accountability and also affordable housing, and we haven't had a chance recently to talk about Project P.I.E.C.E., which is the Parternership for Inclusive Employment and Career Excellence so Kevin Dick will talk a little bit about the success of the program or the course of the last year and that will be the end of my report.

Kevin Dick, Director of Economic Development said I've had the pleasure of working with teamates, partners, and employers over the past year to insure the training of 154 individuals, graduation of 135 of them, and employment of 117 of them. I need to acknowledge the work or a few team members: Veronica Mosley, Angela Grier, Megan Witt, Pat Mumford, Holly Eskridge, and numberous community engagement and communication staff that have helped get us to this point. I also think it is very important to acknowledge the work of our not-for-profit partners; Goodwill Industires of the Southern Piedmont, Urban League of the Central Carolinas, and others and several staff members are actually in attendance from those ogranizations this evening and I would like to ask them to stand and be acknowledged.

I'll be brief on this last part; I've been told by many that there is a little football game that some people want to watch tonight. These results definitely would not be possible without companies in the construction industry that have helped define curriculum for mock interviews and ultimately hire individuals. The companies present tonight have done an exemplinary job of working with the program, to not only improve their bottom lines but to improve the lives of individuals that they've employed. I would like to acknowledge the companies, and I will ask them to come to the podium one at a time to be recognized.

First I would like to recognize the awardee for the commercial and construction employer of 2017. That company is Lane Construction. Next, I would like to acknowledge our Broadband and Fiber Optic employer of 2017, and that company is One Path, the primary contractor in Charlotte for Google fiber. Thirdly, we will acknowledge our Leadership Award winner, and that company is Messer Construction. Finally, I will recognize in absentia Blythe Construction. No representative from Blythe was able to make it tonight, but they are our highway construction employer for 2017.

Thank you for the opportunity afforded this evening to present these recognitions. I think this partnership and these results have shown that not only can this concept work in the construction industry but perhaps in other high growth industries as well, and we really appreciate the support that Council has afforded us to this point, and again information is on the screen related to how people can become part of Project P.I.E.C.E. We are just about mid-way through the period at this point, so there are more opportunities.

<u>Councilmember Winston</u> said I would just like to make a general statement that if we have more Charlotteans who are building this City, that is really – we say there is no golden bullet, but I think that is as close to a golden bullet to disrupt the stastemic inequities that do exist in here, so cheers to you and please keep up the hard work and see how we can bring more Charlotteans into this program so they can be building this City.

Mayor Lyles said I also wanted to add that this was something we had an idea, and we weren't quite sure how we would make it work, and we went out to companies like Lane, One Path, Messer, and Blythe. You guys stepped up and really made it possible because having the great training is really important so we appreciate that from Goodwill and the Urban League. When you can say to someone, if you will stick through this you will leave this place with a job that pays you enough to live in this town, that is when we make a difference, and I want to say from those of us at the dais that supported this when perhaps we weren't quite sure, we took a step forward, but you've taken us a lot further. and I want to say thank you to the staff; thank you to the providers of training and really thank you to the companies that employ and to the many people that went to training and stuck through it and came out. Kevin tells me the average

wage for construction is right at \$20 per hour, so if we can do that, we can change a life. We can change a family, and I really want to say thank you to everyone for doing this; Council and every partner that participates with us, thank you.

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#### **BUSINESS**

# ITEM NO. 14: SOLID WASTE SERVICES MULTIFAMILY REFUSE COLLECTION SERVICES

<u>Kim Eagle, Assistant City Manager</u> said you have received additional information at the end of last week concerning this contract; it is just over \$5 million. It is, for the most part, a status quo procedure in terms of renewing the way that we provide multi-family service.

Motion was made by Councilmember Mitchell, seconded by Councilmember Mayfield, to (A) Approve a unit price contract with Waste Pro of North Carolina for Multifamily Refuse collection services for an initial term of three years, 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 purpose for which the contract was approved.

<u>Councilmember Driggs</u> said I just wanted to say this contract came up previously and Mr. Phipps and I thought that maybe it deserved a closer look. I just wanted to say to staff, thank you so much for documenting this well, the choice we made and our response to some of the questions that were raised. I think we are on solid ground here, so I'm certainly going to vote for it.

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

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# ITEM NO. 15: RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE JULIUS CHAMBERS MEMORIAL HIGHEAY DESIGNATION

Motion was made by Councilmember Mitchell and seconded by Councilmember Newson, to approve a resolution supporting the North Carolina Department of Transportation's Julius Chambers Memorial Highway designation.

Councilmember Newton said Julius Chambers is someone that I hold in such high esteem and regard as an attorney. When I think of constitutional scolars throughout the history of the United States, names like Thurgood Marshall come to mind and Julius Chambers. He is somebody that fought for equality when there were incermountable and I think incalcuable personal risk involved. To really kind of drive home this point and I think it is so important that we do something like this to honor his historic contribution; his home was fire bombed. His office was burned to the ground, and this happened just about 40-years ago. We are not all that disassociated or separate from that part of our history right here in Charlotte, and I think that this sends the right message by doing this and adopting this resolution. I strongly, strongly support it. I was very disappointed; I think over the past few years there was a lot of talk about our courthouse adopting Mr. Chambers' name, and I'm very disappointed that did not occur. I think this is a step in the right direction and maybe an example for something like that as well. I am in strong, strong support of this, and I would encourage. There is no debate on this, so I'm very happy that our Council is in support as well.

<u>Councilmember Mayfield</u> said as we have the opportunity to move this forward I want to take a moment for us to pay homage who started this conversation, since this conversation did start many years ago, and that is thanking our former Mayor Anthony

Foxx; our former Council colleague, David Howard who was also very instrumental in this conversation; and thanking the leadership of my still colleague Mr. Mitchell, because we just happen to be the ones to finally vote in support tonight, but this conversation started many years ago, so we much not forget those who also saw the importance of moving this conversation forward. This is a prime example that political will versus political ability, and I'm glad that we sit here in 2018, and we have a diverse Council in age and ethniciity and social economic that recognize that we have an opportunity to highlight an amazing leader irregardless of his skin color but specifically because of who he was to all of us and the work that he has done.

<u>Councilmember Mitchell</u> said I'm going to follow my colleague Ms. Mayfield and just thank some people who worked very hard behind the scene as well, and they are members of the delegation: Tracy Dodson, Ned Currin, and Tony Latham who put a lot of energy in making sure this day could happen for Julius Chambers.

<u>Councilmember Lyles</u> said the significance of doing this before the weekend of Martin Luther King is not without note.

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

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 48, at Pages 543-544.

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## ITEM NO. 16: NOMINATIONS TO THE CHARLOTTE INTERNATIONAL CABINET

The following nominations were made for one appointment for a partial term beginning immediately and ending June 30, 2019:

Tarik Killey, nominated by Councilmember Newton
Taelor Logan, nominated by Councilmember Eiselt
Niketa Mittal, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Mayfield, and Winston
Rochelle Rivas, nominated by Councilmember Harlow
Stephanie Sneed, nominated by Councilmember Phipps
Vanessa Vaugh, nominated by Councilmembers Egleston and Mitchell

This appointment will be brought back for Council consideration at the next Business Meeting.

# ITEM NO. 17: NOMINATIONS TO THE CHARLOTTE MECKLENBURG PUBLIC ACCESS CORPORATION

The following nominations were made for one appointment for a partial term beginning immemdiately and ending July 18, 2019:

Jennifer Ames-Stuart, nominated by Councilmembers Driggs and Winston Kris Chambers-Woodruff, nominated by Councilmemberes Newton and Phipps Shannon McKnight, nominated by Councilmember Mayfield Olivia Scott, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Egleston, Eiselt, and Harlow

This appointment will be brought back for Council considedration at the next Business Meeting.

# ITEM NO. 18: NOMINATIONS TO THE COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE

The following nominations were made for three appointments for partial terms beginning immediately and ending June 30, 2019:

Angie Drakeford, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Bokhari, Driggs, Harlow, Mayfield, Mitchell, Phipps, and Winston.

LaToya Evans, nominated by Councilmembers Egleston, Eiseslt, Harlow, Mayfield, and Mitchell.

Nakisha Hall, nominated by Councilmembere Bokhari

Amy Harris, nominated by Councilmember Newton

Hannah Hasan, nominated by Councilmembers Egleston and Winston

Chris Kachel, nominated by Councilmember Newton

JoAnn Norris, nominated by Councilmember Phipps

Barbara Ratliff, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Driggs, Egleston, Eiselt,

Mayfield, Mitchell, Newton, and Phipps

Charles Robinson, nominated by Councilmember Harlow

Janice Robinson, nominated by Councilmember Ajmera

Savannah Turner, nominated by Councilmembers Bokhari, Driggs, Eiselt, and Winston

Motion was made by Councilmember Mitchell, seconded by Councilmember Mayfield, and carried unanimously to appoint Angie Drakeford and Barbara Ratliff by acclamation.

Ms. Drakeford and Ms. Ratliff were appointed.

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

#### ITEM NO. 19: NOMINATIONS TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ADVISORY BOARD

The following nominations were made for one appointment for a partial term beginning immediately and ending September 21, 2019:

Linda Carr, nominated by Councilmember Newton

Ava Carter, nominated by Councilmember Phipps

Kenya Henderson, nominated by Councilmember Harlow

Tasha McClarrin, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Driggs, Mayfield, Mitchell and Winston.

Patricia Wiley, nominated by Councilmember Bokhari, Egleston, and Eiselt.

This appointment will be brought back for Council considedration at the next Business Meeting.

# ITEM NO. 20: NOMINATIONS TO FIREMEN'S RELIEF BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The following nominations were made for one appointment for a two-year term beginning January 19, 2018 and ending January 18, 2020:

Henry Donaghy, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Bokhari, Driggs, Egleston, Eiselt, Harlow, Mayfield, Mitchell, Newton, and Phipps

Motion was made by Councilmember Mitchell, seconded by Councilmember Mitchell, and carried unanimously to reappoint Henry Donaghy by acclamation.

Mr. Donaghy was reappointed.

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# ITEM NO. 21: NOMINATIONS TO THE MINT MUSEUM BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The following nominations were made for one appointment for a partial term beginning immediately and ending July 31, 2019:

Bernadette Flavors, nominated by Councilmembers Egleston and Harlow Nalan Karakaya-Mulder, nominated by Councilmember Driggs Lloyd Scher, nominated by Councilmember Newton Roxanne Trenkelbach, nominated by Councilmembers Eiselt, Mayfield, and Winston Linda Webb, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera and Phipps

This appointment will be brought back for Council consideration at the next Business Meeting.

## ITEM NO. 22: NOMINATIONS TO TRANSIT SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The following nominations were made for one appointment for a three-year term in the Neighborhood Organizational Leader category beginning February 1, 2018 and ending January 31, 2021:

Leroy Reaves-Bey, Nominated by Councilmember Driggs Oscar Valera, nominated by Councilmembers Mayfield, Mitchell, Phipps and Winston Sam Grundman, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Egleston, Eiselt, Harlow and Newton

This appointment will be brought back for Council consideration at the next Business Meeting.

The following nominations were made for one appointment for the Suburban Employer Served by Charlotte Transit:

Chris Maloy, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Bokhari, Driggs, Egleston, Eiselt, Harlow, Mayfield, Mitchell, Newton and Phipps Sam Grundman, nominated by Councilmember Winston

Motion was made by Councilmember Mayfield, seconded by Councilmember Mitchell, and carried unanimously to reappoint Chris Maloy by acclamation.

Mr. Maloy was reappointed.

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## ITEM NO. 23: NOMINATIONS TO THE ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

The following nominations were made for one appointment for a three-year term beginning January 31, 2018 and ending January 30, 2021 and two appointments for three-year terms as alternate members beginning January 31, 2018 and ending January 30, 2021:

Christopher Allred, nominated by Councilmember Eiselt

Todd Foreman, nominated by Councilmember Driggs

Sam Grundman, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera and Phipps

Dujuana Keys, nominated by Councilmember Phipps

Thomas Rothrock, nominated by Councilmember Newton

Eric Sanderson, nominated by Councilmembers Bokhari, Driggs, Eiselt, Harlow, Mayfield, Newton, Phipps, and Winston

Allyson Siegel, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Bokhari, Egleston, Eiselt, Harlow, Mayfield, Mitchell, and Winston

Douglas Wilson, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Driggs, Egleston, Harlow, Mayfield, Mitchell, Newton, and Winston

Motion was made by Councilmember Mayfield, seconded by Councilmember Egleston, and carried unanimously to reappointment Eric Sanderson and appoint Allyson Siegel and Douglas Wilson by acclamation.

Mr. Sanderson was reappointed, and Ms. Siegel and Dr. Wilson were appointed.

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# ITEM NO. 24: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL TOPICS

Councilmember Egleston said I want to actually continue on the topic we were just on, which is the Boards and Commissions. We had a great deal people of people that offered their service to this community for all these Boards and Commissions. In every case, we had more qualified candidates than we had spaces to give them, so I want to thank everybody who took the time to fill out an application. This is a great way to engage with the work that the City does, with the work that City Council does and just with the community in general. I would encourage anyone who didn't get appointed tonight or doesn't on their first attempt to continue to try to encage with us through those channels. It is a great way to advise the work we do; a lot of us at the dais started our involvement with the City on these Boards and Commissions, and I think they are a really valuable way for people to engage with us. So, I would continue to ask you to do that and thank all the people who offered their service to us tonight.

Councilmember Harlow said Happy New Year; I'm echoing what my colleague Mr. Egleston said, thanks to everyone who answered that call. I know we did a lot from Facebook alive and social media campaign to really try to engage community members around all of the vacancies. Those vacancies are ongoing; we do get more applications than allotted slots, but we ask that you continue to apply and congratulations to those were accepted by acclamation tonight. I also want to highlight Mr. Charles Robinson and the Hope for Harvest Shelter on Oaklawn Avenue and in addition to all the shelters that really kind of came together and the Community Leaders that came together over this past week during this tough cold front that we had to really help save lives and do anything that it took from volunteering to setting up extra beds, to donations of supplies to help get our homeless populations out of the cold. All of you are to be commended if you had a hand in that.

<u>Councilmember Driggs</u> said mark your calendars everybody; on January 20, 2018 Charlotte Mayor Vi Lyles will be the featured guest at the meeting of the Ballantyne Breakfast Club. This will take place at the Ballantyne Lodge, which is at 13015 Ballantyne Corporate Place in Charlotte from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. You can look up Ballantyne Breakfast Club on Google and see their website for details. Mayor, we look forward to welcoming you in Ballantyne.

Mayor Lyles said thank you very much; I'm looking forward to it.

Councilmember Winston said tonight we had the honor of voting to put the name of Julius Chambers on a stretch of asphalt, and we did this just a few days before the annual exercise remembering and saluting the work of the man that Chambers coordinated with in Martin Luther King, Jr. I think the renaming of that stretch of I-85 less of a memorial but more of a reminder that we are still living in the time of Chambers of MLK. Chambers was part of King's network of southern lawyers who were encouraged to use the courts to fight for equal rights. In 1966, he would challenge the policy of the City of Charlotte that had kept the Shrine Bowl, the premiere high school football game played between the best players in North Carolina and South Carolina whites only. The case made it to the Supreme Court in the United States with the courts threatening to integrate the game if organizers had not done it on their own. The evening that decision came down Chamber's office, along with the property of three other movement leaders including City Council Fred Alexander, was fire bombed. The New York Times read that the fire bombs "shattered the pride of this racially progressive

City." When I read that short quote of the shattering of pride, I felt like those words reflect what we have been experiencing collectively since last September, when demonstrators began to collectively stand up against the inequities of a criminal justice system that is too heavy handed on all Charlotteans but especially cruel to black and brown bodies. That shattering of price continued early last spring when the leading on opportunity task force report was released. We are now constantly reminded that we as governments, businesses, faith communities, and private citizens have created systems that leave out many intentionally. It is now more clear than ever that when King and Chambers were fighting the systems of inequity are what we continue to fight today. The existence of systemic inequities often provides nuance that makes it difficult to identify and attack the root causes. Lines are blurred of who should take action to fix I believe that in order to be successful in creating an equitable which problem. Charlotte, those lines must be erased. In like of the inequitable effect of the criminal justice system on black and brown bodies, I had meeting with Sherriff Carmichael last week, and I encouraged him to consider removing us from the 287G Program. I choose to in light of the Leading Opportunity Task Force Report, use my social capital as an elected official to see that that happens. Participation in 287G provides a detrimental effect to the ability of our Public Safety Officers to create trust within communities. We are a City where 20% of Charlotteans are born internationally. If our Public Safety Officials are inhibited from creating positive interaction with up to 20% of Charlotte, we are working for behind. I would encourage all of us, whether we are elected officials, appointed, or just citizens to think about what we can do to disrupt these systems that we might not have direct purview over but we sure can affect.

Mayor Lyles said she wanted to say Happy Birthday to Councilmember Mayfield, who really does it right by celebrating for many, many days, but I also want to say that we are going to have an opportunity this weekend to ask what we can do in our community around the issues of poverty, violence, and race as we commemorate the life of Martin Luther King, and it is an important thing to do and to think through and to actually individually make a commitment to serve in some way that would further the honoring of Dr. King. That is what is important.

<u>Councilmember Mitchell</u> said I just want to inform the citizens as well as Council that the City of Charlotte is very fortunate to be hosting the Black Enterprise Entrepreneur Summit and will be here in our great City June 6 through the 9th. We are expecting over 1,200 entrepreneurs from the country to be here and to attend. More information will be forthcoming.

Councilmember Ajmera said I would also like to echo my colleagues; I have three items to cover. Number one, it is great to see a great deal of interest in serving on local boards here; it is a great way to stay engaged. We have received over 800 applications and 800 pages of applications for appointment to about eight local boards. That is a lot of material to go through, but at the end of the day it is great to see that increased community engagement. Second, I would also like to thank our City staff, County staff, and our community partners for monitoring and assessing the weather conditions and monitoring the shelter space to insure that all our residents, specifically homeless, that we have enough capacity to meet the community sheltering needs during extreme weather. People who chose not to come inside the shelter were provided warmers and sleeping bags. Thank you staff and also the County staff and our community partners specifically Urban Ministry and Salvation Army. Third, we are a nation of immigrants with some arriving 400 years ago and some like myself and my family much more recently. Diversity is a part of who we are, and we must review all policies to insure that all our residents feel safe in that [inaudible] and fair system.

<u>Councilmember Mayfield</u> said one, I want to thank you Mayor Lyles; this past Saturday we had the kick-off for Black Tech Charlotte at Camp North End [inaudible] had reached out. It really meant a lot and she had e-mailed, and I want to thank all of those who participated in Black Tech Charlotte. There are multiple conversations regarding the creators in our City; now I think as elected officials we have an opportunity to bridge some of these gabs when we are looking at creative mornings, which was on Friday morning and how to do we start to diversity these rules of conversations that are

very similar in nature as we move forward and try to be a more welcoming City and a kinder City for everyone. Also, we are thinking about Dr. King celebration; I mentioned it earlier when I read the proclamation, but to make sure that everyone is aware; there was a parade meeting this past weekend. We had more than 150 participants show up. I say we, because I have the honor yet again now a decade, 10 plus years in servicing as either chair or co-chair along the amazing Ms. Deloris Smith. Ms. Deloris it is our birthday week, so turn up for us as we continue to show our birthday through service but the MLK Parade will kick-off at 9:30. For those who have not already registered to participate, please come out and support, because your deadline has passed to join as a participant in the parade, but we would love to have you out there with us. Also on January 20, 2018 the Mayor is going to have a busy day because we have the anniversary of the Charlotte Women's March and that will be kicking off at First Ward Park, which is 301 East 7th Street; the Google Fiber Building at 11:00 a.m. I'm inviting everyone to come out to that as well, and do not forget our proclamation. Let's just try to be a kinder, gentler community as we [inaudible] as your representative.

Councilmember Phipps said I just wanted to make the community aware of a couple of reading programs that we are sponsoring at Hidden Valley Elementary. These reading programs are sponsored by University City Connect, a group of business leaders that are working closely with our Title One schools in the District to make a difference. The first program called Real Men Read; we need 20 men to volunteer to read once a month from January through May of this year. Commitment would only be five days total, 30 minutes to an hour each time. The first reading session will be this week but we have some in February, March, April, and May, and the second will be Charlotte's Web. We are going to be reading that book to third graders; we need men and women volunteers to read Charlotte's Web, once a week in February and March only. These are programs that promote the importance of reading with our children; we need you to make a difference in a child's life and for more information on this, I want you to contact my Executive Assistant Ms. Robin Furno at 704-336-3184 for more information on how you can volunteer to make a difference in a child's live through reading.

Councilmember Bokhari said I have two very exciting calls to action; first is directed towards District 6 residents, particularly those in SouthPark, Myers Park, but really anywhere in District 6. Mark your calendars; on January 23, 2018 at the Morrison Library will be the next step in what we are doing with just a really exciting exercise that started over the last couple months. The workshops we started with the SouthPark C-NIP, the Capital Investment Plan and project has now come to fruition to its next step on January 23, 2018, there will be another point for the community to come together and see the ideas and concepts that have been put together in the form of projects and initiatives, and there are some really great visions that you can help sculpt, elements of cultural trails, the town square of Symphony Park, as it exist today and what it could become, concepts of Rexford Valley, Silicon Valley of SouthPark, and many more. This is your opportunity to come and be a part of shaping what District 6 looks like for many, many years to come. I definitely encourage you all to stay on the lookout for that information.

Secondly, this one is for all Charlotte residents, as well as our own Councilmembers here. In the retreat that is coming up at the end of the month, one of the things that we will be doing as a bit of an exercise is looking at all of our City processes, customer facing as well as back office, to find where there are opportunities to use technology to improve or transform these processes or user experiences. This is a call to action for all the citizens out there who have any touch points with certain processes that may be ripe for opportunities to enhance, to give us your ideas. Send them directly to any of us; circulate them directly to me, and I'm glad to consolidate them for the group so that we as a group can come together and see how we can transform and enhance through the use of technology all of our processes, so we really need you guys.

<u>Councilmember Newton</u> said I would like to echo the sentiments of all my fellow Councilmembers and say one more additional thing. Something during the course of tonight's meeting, something very important has come to my attention and that is during

my diatribe earlier I forgot to thank the one very, very important person, my wife, Tiffany Arroyo Newton; I love you to death. Thank you so very much for being there of course during the campaign, thereafter and even tonight, thank you so much.

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#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion was made by Councilmember Egleston, seconded by Councilmember Driggs, and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

Stephanie C. Kelly, City Clerk MMC, NCCMC

Length of Meeting: 3 Hours, 17 Minutes Minutes Completed: January 15, 2018