

The City Council of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina convened for a Dinner Briefing on Monday, February 12, 2018 at 5:05 p.m. Room 267 of the Charlotte Mecklenburg Government Center with Mayor Pro Tem Julie Eiselt. Councilmembers present were Dimple Ajmera, Tariq Bokhari, Edmund Driggs, Larken Egleston, LaWana Mayfield, Matt Newton, Greg Phipps, and Braxton Winston, II.

ABSENT UNTIL NOTED: Councilmember Harlow

ABSENT: Councilmember Mitchell and Mayor Lyles

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*Due to technical difficulties, there was no audio recording of Action Review.
The minutes of Action Review are summary minutes, not verbatim.*

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ITEM NO. 1: MAYOR AND COUNCIL CONSENT ITEM QUESTIONS

Councilmember Driggs had a question regarding the contract with the non-conforming bidder for Item number 21 Scofield Road Storm Drainage Improvement Project.

Randy Harrington, Chief Financial Officer informed Mr. Driggs that the lowest bid was rejected due to non-compliance and that he would get back to Mr. Driggs with more details.

Councilmember Newton had a question regarding Item Number 19 Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department Neighborhood Survey. He asked that the Consent item be pulled.

Chief Kerr Putney, Police informed Mr. Newton that the survey came out of the Community Safety Committee a year ago and that there was talk about the survey that is done annually.

Mr. Newton mentioned the three the components to the survey and asked about the online component of the survey.

Chief Putney let Mr. Newton know that he could only speak broadly, and the vendor can speak more to that. He also informed Mr. Newton that the third component is going out and knocking on doors and talking to people- richer data.

Councilmember Winston inquired about how the evaluation group narrows down their audience and how it would be aggregated. He also wanted to know if this was the first time the survey has been done like this.

Chief Putney let Mr. Winston know that this was the first time.

Councilmember Harlow arrived at 5:11 p.m.

Mr. Winston was in support of pulling the item to get more information about the target audience.

Mayor Pro Tem Eiselt asked if they believe the item needs to be pulled before they pull the contract.

Mr. Newton told Mayor Pro Tem Eiselt that if we pulled the item for Consent, it will not come back tonight but at the next Business Meeting and that they can get the answers before then.

Councilmember Driggs asked if they need to look again at the consultant who does the work or understand the scope of work.

Mr. Newton told Mr. Driggs that he is looking for whether or not this will deliver the results that we are looking for. - can only be answered by the vendor.

Mr. Winston brought up another item from Chief Putney, regarding Item Number 22, 1419 North Graham Street Rood and Window Replacement Project. Mr. Winston understood that the roof needs to be replaced. He asked if there was a technical reason for the windows.

Mike Davis, Engineering Director told Mr. Winston that when you are doing roofing, it is to seal for moisture, and he assumed the windows are the same.

Emily Kunze, Deputy City Clerk said Item Number 39 and 42 were pulled by staff.

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ITEM NO. 2: AGENDA OVERVIEW

Marcus Jones, City Manager told Council that there was no need for a Closed Session. Mr. Jones wanted Council to be provided with a backdrop of the history with Community Investment Program and give an opportunity for engagement with staff. He let the know that he really wanted to get to the Federal Legislative Agenda piece and that if there are questions with the State piece, that action can be delayed until February 26, 2018.

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ITEM NO. 3: INFRASTRUCTURE AND OVERALL COMMUNITY INVESTMENT PLAN PROCESS

Mike Davis, Engineering Director went over infrastructure and CIP. The City is built on all kinds of different infrastructure: bridges, streets, traffic signals, street lights, drainage systems, sidewalks, and trails. There is a lot that you do not see: water lines, sewer lines, storm pipes, fiber optic cables, and private utilities. It is helpful to consider who puts it there. The City is responsible for thoroughfares. North Carolina Department of Transportation is a huge player in infrastructure. The County is a partner. City Council is involved in all of it and in some areas more than others. City Council creates the regulations. First thing is the plan adoption; it includes area plans, Transportation Action Plan and so on. We can come back with more information. The City generally works through partnerships.

Councilmember Driggs brought up that there were a couple of instances where they adopted plans for sidewalks with no cost analysis for it. They do not know what they are getting into. For example, there was a bill for the bikes for 4 million dollars. He believes that phase can be approached differently.

Randy Harrington, Chief Financial Officer gave an overview of City funds general capital investments. One thing that Mr. Harrington noted is that the City of Charlotte has a long history of general obligation bonds, with very two years going to voters to approve. What is currently in the plan is a 191.5 million dollar bond referendum.

Mr. Driggs asked about the half cent sales tax for transportation and if it would be for CATS or if it would show up here.

Mr. Davis told Mr. Driggs the CATS budget.

Councilmembers Phipps asked when the public would be prepared.

Mr. Harrington informed him that the public would be prepared in the summer time and that the Charlotte Chamber has led that effort.

Councilmembers asked additional questions. Mr. Harrington responded to the questions.

Deborah Campbell, Assistant City Manager spoke about the projects. She told that the Community Investment Plan is a long-range investment program needed to meet the demands of Charlotte's growing community. Fiscal Year 2018-2022 Community Investment Plan continues the Council approved \$884.5 million capital program occurring over four bond cycles (2014-2020). In 2011, the Charlotte City Manager outlined a new paradigm for the way the City prepares and develops its future capital plans. She said it is a very different way than has been done in the past, and that they need to look again at what they are making or if they are doing the best that they can do in terms of making resources go further. Dream big; think big. Think about a different approach. Think about leveraging and our investment being a catalyst. We changed the name of this program. Instead of calling it the Capital Investment Program, we call it the Community Investment Plan. This is out plan. We need to understand what our community is telling us. The City's comprehensive, holistic view of neighborhood and community needs collectively address three broad community impacts: livability, getting around, and job growth.

*The Infrastructure and the Community Investment Plan PowerPoint presentation is available in full in the City Clerk's Office.

Councilmembers asked questions. Ms. Campbell responded to the questions.

Mr. Jones told Council that there could be some movement with the 2018 projects and that everyone needs to listen and there are some things going on in the neighborhoods that they need to take into consideration as they talk about the budget.

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ITEM NO. 4: 2018 FEDERAL AND STATE LEGISLATIVE AGENDAS

Dana Fenton, Inter-Government Relations Manager discussed the Federal Legislative agenda with Council.

Councilmember Bokhari asked if there were any understanding on the infrastructure announcement.

Mr. Fenton told Mr. Bokhari that they have sent along with that a more detailed explanation. They would look at shortening the permitting process for the projects.

Councilmembers asked questions. Mr. Fenton responded to the questions.

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ITEM NO. 5: ANSWERS TO MAYOR AND COUNCIL CONSENT ITEM QUESTIONS

Randy Harrington came back with answers to the Mayor and Council consent item questions. He let Councilmember Driggs know, for Item Number 21, that the bidder did not meet the MWSBE goals. Mr. Harrington updated Councilmember Winston with information on Item Number 22, letting him know that windows are leaking and some are broken. For Item Number 10, the school system would start construction June 2020 with completion being in 2021. For Item Number 12, Mr. Harrington let Council know that they do need to go to a referendum.

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The meeting was recessed at 6:37 p.m. to move to the Meeting Chamber for the regularly scheduled Business Meeting.

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BUSINESS MEETING

The City Council of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina reconvened for a Business Meeting Briefing on Monday, February 12, 2018 at 6:42 p.m. in the Meeting Chamber of the Charlotte Mecklenburg Government Center with Mayor Pro Tem Julie Eiselt presiding. Councilmembers present were Dimple Ajmera, Tariq Bokhari, Ed Driggs, Larken Egleston, LaWana Mayfield, and Greg Phipps.

ABSENT UNTIL NOTED: Mayor Vi Lyles and Councilmembers Justin Harlow, Matt Newton, and Braxton Winston II

ABSENT: Councilmember James Mitchell

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INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

Mayor Pro Tem Eiselt explained the protocol for the invocation.

Councilmember Egleston gave the Invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Councilmember Harlow arrived at 6:46 p.m.

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PUBLIC FORUM

Charlotte City Workers Union, UE Local 150 Worker Concerns

Sharon Black, 4332 Meridian Drive said I am the President of the Charlotte City Workers' Union, UE Local 150. I am a driver for Special Transportation Service, and I have been a driver for 16 years. That then said, I want to say this; this year marks the 50-year anniversary of Dr. King. He stood with the City workers in Memphis, Tennessee. He paid the ultimate price. Our statewide UE 150 Union has launches a City worker organization effort across the state, pushing for a City worker's bill of right. Our workers are organizing City workers to continue Dr. King's legacy and the poor people campaign. The City workers in Charlotte, like all public workers in North Carolina, are still denied the basic fundamentals of human rights, to collect and borrowing. Our union won a ruling for the United Nation in the National Labor Organization that the law is a violation of our human rights. We hope that you will work with us in efforts to pass the City worker's bill of rights to grant us basic rights, to treat us with respect and dignity and consider our budget proposal. One of our major issues that sparked the Memphis sanitation strike 50-years ago was the death of two sanitation workers. This past summer, City worker in the Solid Waste department was killed for a heat related illness after working overtime in the summer heat. A worker from the Water Department had to be hospitalized because he passed out on the job. So, for the past seven months, we have been raising questions about why the City of Charlotte has no written policy to keep our workers safe in the summer. We appreciate the City Human Resources and members of the City Manager's Office meeting with us to work out all of these differences; however, we want to make sure there is new policy for the summer heat.

Councilmember Mayfield said Manager Jones; could you give us an update at a future Dinner Briefing that will specifically address policies? I know that we started this conversation prior to you coming on in the role of City Manager, but it would be helpful to give us an updated at a Dinner Briefing, specifically addressing our written policy around working conditions.

Addressing the Current State of the Fire Department

Mindy Yarberry, 4259 McKee Road said I am a Charlotte Fire Fighter. I have served the City for three and a half years. I am at the beginning of my career with an incredible amount of learning and growing ahead of me, but I think that the little I know is important. For instance, I know first to thank the community of Charlotte, Mayor and City Councilmembers for your continued support. That is why we are all here, and it is something worth talking about. I have the privilege of walking into your lives on your worst day. In three and a half years, your trust in me, gratitude when I show up or see you in the grocery store and your appreciation after an incident is humbling. You make me feel like a hero, which is not how I view it. I am simply doing my job, a job I swore to do for you. Without you, I would not have the opportunity to work for such a prestigious department. I am grateful that we live in a world where people are free and comfortable to voice their opinions and stand up for their experiences, negative or positive. We also know the negative ones make the headlines, not the positive ones like mine and many others. I am a female firefighter, and there are less than three percent of us in operations. To quote my coworker, Tonya Chambers, "I do not consider myself in the minority, because I have never been treated differently. I am seen as an equal. I credit my predecessors, who have forged the road before me, but most importantly, the current culture and environment fostered by men and women alike in Charlotte Fire, especially my own special crew that I call family. I have already worked at approximately 30 stations in my career to date. I have always had a fun and insightful shift where I have learned something from someone with a different background than me. This diversity is what makes us strong as a team. We have to maintain a plethora of skills: fire science, hoses, buildings, constructions. I could go on all night. Every station has someone whose knowledge and experience varies from our own and will answer questions when asked and are willing to train. I have never felt uncomfortable being a woman. Every firefighter has been nothing but supportive of my goal to becoming a good firefighter and encouraging me to think long term. If I think hard, I can recall a negative experience or something about this job that I do not like, because realistically, we live in a world where nothing is perfect; however, I say that to say this: to compare that one to the hundreds upon hundreds of positive experiences that I have had in my short three and a half years, speaks volumes of this department, its professionalism, and brother and sisterhood instilled here. I have attended specialty and leadership training, assisted in educational programs, such as: youth camps; attended conferences; asked to be committees, just to name a few, and that is just me. All of the people heading the opportunities from training to education to recruitment deserve the real acknowledgement, and those volunteering should be commended for all of the efforts towards positive change. Realistically, not all of my experiences are unique. My wise Captain Steven King told me that this job is what you make it. That is so true. There is an email in our inbox everyday asking for involvement. You have to just say yes. Finally, I am part of the new generation of the future of this department. I have seen the potential for a great career if I just apply myself. I truly inspire to instill that hope and excitement for the department's future with your continued and appreciated support. Thank you for your time and listening.

Mario Arango, 4333 Perkins Road said I have been with the City of Charlotte Fire Department since 2009. I would like to take this opportunity to express myself and the experience that I have had working for the City of Charlotte Fire Department. When you first get hired in the City of Charlotte, you have six months to get trained, and you have that opportunity to get trained by some of the best instructors in the country. After six months of training, you get issued gear. That is some of the best gear the City could buy. After that, you get to further your firefighting experience and education, and you have an opportunity to go ahead and get a college degree while working here. You also get experience and the opportunity to be assigned to special ops companies, which I was assigned to a special ops company in hazmat. During that time, I was able to go ahead and exercise my knowledge and experience and take advantage of the opportunity of being deployed to Puerto Rico, as the State sent Emergency Management crew from Charlotte. I bring up these opportunities that I have outlined to say that today, we have these opportunities to stand here in front of you and say that these are some of the great times that Charlotte's Fire Department has. Although we

are going through changes at this time, we would like to look at this as another opportunity for us to work on things and get better and keep working as one of the best departments in the country. It also makes me say that today's opportunity the Fire Department coming with change and possibly a new Fire Chief, the difference is and the challenges that do exist, we get a chance and opportunity to work on those. These opportunities currently that we have today and benefit and do not have the time to name; we hope that we can keep these opportunities. Let's take advantage of this time, and again keep working strong together as a fire department and resolving these issues through unity and diverse conversations to find out how to take advantage of the opportunity of the upcoming change. I was born in Miami, Florida, as the son of Cuban immigrants and a proud Charlotte Firefighter.

Omar Curbelo, 304 Lynnwood Lane, Pineville said I am a Firefighter One with the Charlotte Fire Department Firehouse 32. I am here today and would like to tell you a little bit about myself and how I ended up at the Charlotte Fire Department and what I love about the Charlotte Fire Department. I was born in Cuba in 1989. I came to the United States in 2002. I was 12 years-old. From there I graduated high school and jointed the Marines and ended up in California. From California I deployed to Afghanistan in 2010. Six months later, I got hit by an ID, and I came back and recovered from some injuries. During that recovery time, I started focusing on pursuing a career in fire service. From there, I was a little skeptical because of my injuries. I thought maybe I am not able to make it, but I pushed forward and I continued education. Two years after that, I met two firemen, one from the Chicago Fire Department and one from Firehouse 27, here in Charlotte. These two guys guided me through a training. It was my first time ever putting firefighter gear on. This was in 2013, not long ago. They guided me through the process and were excited and happy with my performance, and so was I, because at that point, I realized my injury was not going to affect me, and I can go forward with my career. The guy from Chicago and the guy from Charlotte said man you need to come over to our department. I said brother, I am hairless. I cannot go to Chicago. I need to be in warm weather, so I looked into the Charlotte Fire Department and the hiring process and thought that is a fair system. That is as fair as it gets. There are fire departments in the United States where you have to have a Bachelor's Degree. You have to put yourself through the fire academy, and that automatically puts people down, because you cannot afford to put yourself through college or an academy before you even know you are getting hired, but at the Charlotte Fire Department, everybody has an opportunity, no matter your level of education or economic status. You have a chance to become a fireman in Charlotte, and that is what drew me to come here. After being here for just a little over three years- you know you are here, and the Fire Department is a big family, and the way I see it is like this. My fire station is my firehouse, my immediate family, and every other station in the City is where my relatives live, my cousins, uncles, and aunts. I go see them once in a while during this thing called time out. Time out is when a fire station needs a fireman we have an extra and send him over there. When I get to every fire station in time out, the first thing they say is how are the guys at your station? That is family, so in that, when I go on calls, I am always certain that I have my people with me. Within two minutes, I can hear another truck coming in with more guys who can help me. That doesn't only make me feel secure, but my wife at home, she is secure. She knows I have people to take care of me. Curbelo 94181, I love the Charlotte Fire Department.

Betsy Barnard, 132 Assembly Drive, Mooresville said I am a 25-year veteran of the Charlotte Fire Department. I went to school in the first grade in Rock Hill, South Carolina. Every morning, I would stand outside and wait for this little girl's dad to bring her to school. He drove her to school in a fire truck. It was open cab style with bench seating. Every day I waited for that fire truck to pull up, I knew then as a first grader, that when I grew up, I was going to be a fireman. I applied to the Charlotte Fire Department when I turned 18. I was hired when I was 21. In my 25 years of service, I have been proud to say that I work for the Charlotte Fire Department. I have worked alongside some of the greatest men and women you could ever imagine. Over the past several years, there has been a small group of anonymous letter writers, letters sent to Councilmembers, City Managers, and Mayors. This small group does not represent the members of this department. To those of you who have never been to a fire station, I

would like to invite you all to do so. Come have a meal with us. Let us get to know you all and you all get to know us.

Trina Davies, 908 Lavender Road, Grover said thank you for your time and support in hearing what the members of the Charlotte Fire Department have to say. I have been in this great, rewarding profession for over 15 years now. I am originally from Great Britain, where I grew up with a lifelong dream of becoming a firefighter one day. After spending four years in the Cadet Royal Airforce, I moved over to America, 21 years ago now on my own when I finally fulfilled my lifelong dream. I became a firefighter for the Rochester, New York Fire Department. I served four years with them before being hired in this highly respected, highly sought after, competitive Charlotte Fire Department. So far, my 11 years with this great department has been nothing but rewarding and positive. Our equipment is top of the line. Our training is quality driven and consistent. We are equipped with two sets of turn out gear, leather helmets, and the firehouses we live in are supplied with everything that we could ever need, including gyms. There are not a lot of fire departments out there that can say this. Believe me, I have seen and experienced it. I am a Relieve Captain with the Charlotte Fire Department, which allows me to travel station to station, battalion to battalion, filling in where the Captain is needed, kind of like a substitute teacher. I have been exposed and worked beside many great crews throughout the City. Not once have I experienced negative, segregated, unsatisfied, or disrespectful crews. I am treated with respect and accepted by every member. For the past year and a half of relieving, there has been nothing but positive. We work together, train together, eat together, and pray together, making sure each one of us go home to our families the next day. No matter where I go in the City, I have total confidence that that crew is a team and is there to serve the community in a profession matter the way that we have been trained. Yes, being one female out of 28 on this department of over 1,100 fire fighters, the odds are I will be the only female on that truck and in that station, which is what it was been like from all of my experiences from Rochester, New York to the Royal Airforce in England. This changes absolutely nothing for me. We are all earned the right to wear this patch; we all have to meet the same standers, and we all took the same oath to serve and protect the citizens of Charlotte. Being labeled as a minority changes none of this. Finally, the Charlotte Fire Department has made me who I am today. I love to come to work and work beside the best of the best serving this community. It is so easy to get caught up in all the negativity and slander, but it is all of the positives that go unnoticed. It is clear to see that each one of us are proud to wear the CFD patch, unite, and come together at times like this. Our firefighters are the best of the best. Our leaders are phenomenal and all rightly earned their title and position. It is no wonder why every year, we have over 1500 applicants coming from all over the US to become a Charlotte, North Carolina fire fighter. Once they are on the department, they stay on this great department. I have an example of many. City Council, I thank you for your continued support. My name is Captain Trina Davies, and I love the Charlotte Fire Department.

Fernando Rojas, 718 Ashmeade Road said I come here not only as a firefighter but as a resident of Charlotte. I am also a Marine veteran, husband, and father of four great children, so I am vested in the city not just because of my job but also because I am raising my family here. In the Marines, I was taught to be at your best at all times and to face challenges head on, what I continue to do every day at Station 42 in East Charlotte. I am very lucky to belong to such a great firehouse. When the bell rings, we all know that there is a job to be done. I can count on the fire fighters next to me to do their job correctly, anything from taking a blood pressure to pulling hose at a fire. The Marines first taught me that I much trust a person right next to me, regardless of their background or beliefs, the same goes for this fire department. I had the honor to go into fires with the bravest people I have ever met in my life. I count on them, as they know they can count on me. We form a bond, more like we form a family. Like every family, we do not agree on everything, but we do care and love each other. We are there when our babies are born, and we are there when we lose our loved ones. Since I live here in Charlotte, I get a chance to talk to neighbors and friends from all over the City. They tell me all about their experiences with the Fire Department. Great things are said of us, even in the worst times in their lives. We have a great fire department here; this job is not an easy one. You might have heard that there are problems, and some people

might have you think that these problems are significant; in my eyes and my experience, that could not be further from the truth. Like a big family, we all have different opinions. That is what makes our department strong. Day in and day out, we have firefighters from the bottom throughout the top who are doing their best job to keep this department going in the right direction and keep people we serve in the forefront of everything we do. I also invite each member of City Council and City Government to come to every fire station to talk to the men and women of this fire department, and see for yourself how great this fire department is. My name is Fernando Rojas 90842; I love the Charlotte Fire Department.

Joseph McBryde, 4620 S. Rocky River Road, Monroe said I am an Engineer with the Charlotte Fire Department. I would like to express how grateful I am to be able to address our City leaders and administrators. I have been a fire fighter for almost 25 years; 20 of those years have been spent with the City of Charlotte. I love my job and this is the best place hands down to work to do what we do. Ask anyone on the department and they will tell you the same thing. In the last three or four years, I have noticed and a lot of other people in the department have noticed that there has been an escalation of complaints, grievances, threats, rumors of law suits and news stories that do not quite cast a pretty light on the Fire Department for us. We know that we have some problems, and we will usually work through that within the department ourselves, but in the last three or four years, I have seen more negative comments and complaints than I have in my 20-year tenure with the Fire Department. It is not for this issue that I am here tonight; what I would like to address tonight is something exactly the opposite. I would like to tell you a little bit about us, who we are, and why we do what we do, and why we love it so much. There is a growing frustration within the department, and it is spreading department wide. The reason for that is because, as firefighters, we sacrifice more than we realize and our families sacrifice for us. We miss a lot of things to do what we do at the fire station. We miss birthdays, holidays, Christmas morning, Thanksgiving Day, and we miss a lot of firsts, our childrens' first date. I missed my daughter's prom night. I was working at the Fire Department. We miss a lot. Our families try to understand why we do what we do. They give it their best, but unless they have been a fire fighter, they just do not understand. We love what we do; this is a calling. This is not just a job for us, so with all the sacrifice that we do, you can see how we take a lot of pride in our fire department. I understand that as City leaders and administrators, it is not uncommon for you to receive a lot of complaints or letters, emails, law suits, what have you, from within the different departments both inside and outside of the departments. So to speak, it is the price of doing business. You are doing to get a lot of complaints and people who do not agree, the same way in the Fire Department. We are a very diverse group of people, but not in the traditional sense. What I mean by that is that we are all different. We have different opinions; we have different backgrounds. We are not all going to get a long, but as we say in the fire station when the bell hits and we go to work, you would be amazed to see what a diverse group of people this is can do when they come together and put those differences aside, and we do it without thanking.

Scott Hunter, 2230 Sam Wilson Road said I have been with the Fire Department for pushing 29 years now, and I hope that what you have heard tonight is a little bit different, sheds a little bit different light than what you have heard in the past. As a governing body, you need to know the truth, so with that, let me give you some facts that you may or may not know. If you remember a few years ago, the Management Partners came in here and did a survey. They surveyed the 22 different divisions; I do not know if you remember that or not, and in those 22 divisions, they had 95 different categories that they looked at. The Fire Department ranked number two against everyone else, all the other 22. We only had three of the 95 areas that were below the City average. Even at that time, the Fire Department was 92% loving the Fire Department. Also, the Fire Department holds two National and International recognitions. These recognitions are - there are only two in the United States with departments greater than 7500 members, and that is Houston, Texas and Charlotte. First is the ISO rating; you have heard the ISO rating. If you have seen the fire truck they have a bid ISO number one on the side of it, we are proud of. ISO came in, and they surveyed and the department went through a bunch of thorough investigations and

background checks. Out of 48,000 fire departments across the country that were inspected, your fire department was one of 132 that got a Class One rating. That is less than a third of a percent, and it is due to these men and women behind me. The other thing is if you have ever heard of Fire Accreditation. Your Charlotte Fire Department has been accredited four times in a row. This accreditation is huge. It is extremely complex; we have a group of peers, other Fire Chiefs who come in here, and they once again do an evaluation on your fire department. It ends up with like an 800 page report; four times in a row, your department has been accredited. Out of all of the departments in the world, not just the United States, in the world, Charlotte is only one of 233 departments that has been accredited four times in a row. That is simply amazing. There is talk about diversity. If you remember the balance score card, our agreement with you folks, the balance score card simply has to have 20% minorities in the hiring pool. Charlotte Fire Department is way above that. We are almost double that about, above the 35% mark. We have increased stations; we have increased fire trucks. We have added a whole other division to the Airport to take care of the growing Airport.

Mayor Pro Tem Eiselt said with so many of you here, it is really an amazing site to see all of you. I just want to take a moment to thank you all for your service to our community and to keeping us all safe, and as we think about how fast our City is growing and how stretched we are for resources, to consider that we have one of the very top rated Fire Departments in the world, we really want to thank you for your service and all that you do.

Mayor Lyles arrived at 7:16 p.m.

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CONSENT AGENDA

Councilmember Ajmera said I just want to highlight the investment that we are making to support our growth. Item No. 24 is primarily used to build new water and sewer extensions to serve our new customers. The majority of these customers do not currently have access to our public water or sanitary sewer system, so this is a great initiative that we are taking to insure that we can continue to support our growth.

Motion was made by Councilmember Mayfield, seconded by Councilmember Newton, and carried unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda as presented with the exception of item numbers 19, 39, and 42, which were pulled by staff.

The following items were approved:

Items No. 20: Beam Road at Shopton Road Roundabout Project

Award a contract in the amount of \$1,368,513.89 to the lowest responsive bidder Sealand Contractors Corp. for the Beam Road at Shopton Road Roundabout project.

Summary of Bids

Sealand Contractors Corp.	\$1,368,513.89
Hi-Way Paving, Inc.	\$1,447,128.82
B&N Grading, Inc.	\$1,508,072.00
Blythe Development Company	\$1,632,390.66
United Construction Company, Inc.	\$1,711,047.00

Items No. 21: Scofield Road Storm Drainage Improvement Project

(A) Reject the low-bid submitted by Zoladz Construction Co., Inc. for the Scofield Road Storm Drainage Improvement Project, and (B) Award a contract in the amount of \$2,607,909.34 to the lowest responsive bidder Sealand Contractors Corp. for the Scofield Road Storm Drainage Improvement Project.

Summary of Bids

Sealand Contractor Corp.	\$2,607,909.34
Onsite Development, LLC	\$2,916,722.00
United of Carolinas, Inc.	\$2,942,862.08
Blythe Development Company	\$3,742,396.13
Zoladz Construction Co., Inc. *	\$2,546,951.93

* Zoladz Construction Co., Inc. bid was found to be non-responsive as a result of failing to meet the City's Charlotte Business INclusion (CBI) Program established subcontracting goals.

Items No. 22: 1419 North Graham Street Roof and Window Replacement Project

(A) Reject the low-bid submitted by Rike Roofing Services, Inc. for the 1419 North Graham Street Roof and Window Replacement Project, (B) Reject the second low-bid submitted by TeamCraft Roofing, Inc. for the 1419 North Graham Street Roof and Window Replacement Project, and (C) Award a contract in the amount of \$1,199,153 to the lowest responsive bidder Radco Construction Services, Inc. for the 1419 North Graham Street Roof and Window Replacement project.

Summary of Bids

Radco Construction Services, Inc.	\$1,199,153.00
Interstate Roofing Company, Inc.	\$1,222,800.00
Owens Roofing, Inc.	\$1,329,682.00
Johnson's Roofing Service, Inc.	\$1,355,000.00
Tecta America Carolinas, LLC	\$1,552,358.00
Rike Roofing Services, Inc.*	\$1,121,000.00
TeamCraft Roofing, Inc.**	\$1,172,000.00

* Rike Roofing Services, Inc.'s bid in the amount of \$1,121,000 was found to be non-responsive as a result of failing to meet the City's Charlotte Business INclusion (CBI) Program established subcontracting goal.

** TeamCraft Roofing, Inc.'s bid in the amount of \$1,172,000 was found to be non-responsive as a result of failing to meet the City's CBI Program established subcontracting goal.

Items No. 23: Water and Sewer Repair Inspection Services

(A) Approve a unit price contract with DiCon Consulting, PC for Water and Sewer Repair Inspection Services for an initial term of one year, and (B) Authorize the City Manager to renew the contract for up to three one year terms with possible price adjustments and to amend the contract consistent with the purpose for which the contract was approved.

Items No. 24: Fiscal Year 2018 Water and Sewer Construction (Contracts 1 and 2)

(A) Award unit price contracts to the lowest responsive bidders for the new construction or replacement of water and sewer mains throughout the Charlotte Water service area: Dallas 1 Construction LLC, \$2,752,451.20 (Contract 1) and RH Price, Inc., \$2,554,566.30 (Contract 2), and (B) Authorize the City Manager to approve up to two renewals for each contract in the same amounts stated above, plus or minus possible price adjustments based on the Engineering News Record Construction Cost Index and to amend the contracts consistent with the purposes for which the contracts were approved.

Summary of Bids – Contract 1

Dallas 1 Construction, LLC	\$2,752,451.20
State Utility Contractors, Inc.	\$3,050,795.00
R.H Price, Inc.	\$3,749,926.30

Summary of Bids – Contract 2 R.H Price, Inc.

Dallas 1 Construction, LLC	\$2,554,566.30
State Utility Contractors, Inc.	\$2,680,786.20
	\$2,720,535.00

Items No. 25: Duke Energy Relocation Services for Briar Creek Relief Sewer Phase 3

Approve a contract in the amount of \$150,005.18 with Duke Energy for relocation services for Briar Creek Relief Sewer Phase 3.

Items No. 26: Construction Manager at Risk Services for the Sugar Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant Reliability Improvements Project

Award a contract in the amount of \$23,499,728 to the Construction Manager at Risk, Garney Companies, Inc. for the Construction Phase of the Sugar Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant Reliability Improvements project.

Items No. 27: Stevens Creek Sanitary Trunk Sewer Phase 2 Professional Engineering Services

Approve a contract in the amount of \$335,618 with GHD Consulting Services Inc. for professional engineering design services for the Stevens Creek Sanitary Trunk Sewer Phase 2 project.

Items No. 28: Refund of Property Taxes

Adopt a resolution authorizing the refund of property taxes assessed through clerical or assessment error in the amount of \$36,917.01.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 48, at Pages 581-582.

Items No. 29: Meeting Minutes

Approve the titles, motions, and votes reflected in the Clerk's record as the minutes of: January 8, 2018, Business Meeting and January 16, 2018, Zoning Meeting

PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS

Items No. 30: In Rem Remedy: 4336 Connelly Circle

Adopt an Ordinance No. 9255-X authorizing the use of In Rem Remedy to demolish and remove the structure at 4336 Connelly Circle (Neighborhood Profile Area 114).

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 61, 234.

Items No. 31: In Rem Remedy: 9344-A Pinewood Avenue

Adopt an Ordinance No. 9256-X authorizing the use of In Rem Remedy to demolish and remove the structure at 9344-A Pinewood Avenue (Neighborhood Profile Area 83).

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 61 at Page 235.

Items No. 32: In Rem Remedy: 9344-B Pinewood Avenue

Adopt an Ordinance No. 9267-X authorizing the use of In Rem Remedy to demolish and remove the structure at 9344-B Pinewood Avenue (Neighborhood Profile Area 83).

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 61 at Page 236.

Items No. 33: In Rem Remedy: 9836 Old Dowd Road

Adopt an Ordinance No. 9258-X authorizing the use of In Rem Remedy to demolish and remove the structure at 9836 Old Dowd Road (Neighborhood Profile Area 34).

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 61 at Page 237.

Items No. 34: In Rem Remedy: 9836 Old Dowd Road Accessory Building

Adopt an Ordinance No. 9259-X authorizing the use of In Rem Remedy to demolish and remove the structure at 9836 Old Dowd Road Accessory Building (Neighborhood Profile Area 35).

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 61 at Page 238.

Items No. 35: In Rem Remedy: 414 Dawn Circle

Adopt an Ordinance No. 9260-X authorizing the use of In Rem Remedy to demolish and remove the structure at 414 Dawn Circle (Neighborhood Profile Area 371).

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 61 at Page 239.

Items No. 36: In Rem Remedy: 2622 Mason Mill Place

Adopt an Ordinance No. 9261-X authorizing the use of In Rem Remedy to demolish and remove the structure at 2622 Mason Mill Place (Neighborhood Profile Area 96).

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 61 at Page 240.

Items No. 37: In Rem Remedy: 5009 San Francisco Circle Accessory Structure

Adopt an Ordinance No. 9262-X authorizing the use of In Rem Remedy to demolish and remove the structure at 5009 San Francisco Circle Accessory Structure (Neighborhood Profile Area 209).

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 61 at Page 241.

Items No. 38: Property Transactions - 24" Water Main South Street Davidson - Phase II, Parcel #5.2

Resolution of Condemnation of 4,903.69 square feet (.113 acres in Waterline Easement, plus 2,189.24 square feet (.05 acres) in Temporary Construction Easement, plus 1,984.32 square feet (.046 acres in Temporary Construction Easement inside Proposed Public Right of Way, plus 4,044.94 square feet (.093 acres) in Water Line Easement inside Proposed Public Right of Way at 11921 Field Street from Antiquity, LLC for \$32,175 for 24" Water Main South Street Davidson - Phase II, Parcel #5.2.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 48, at Pages 583.

Items No. 40: Property Transactions - Pedestrian Safety - 2205 Central Avenue, Parcel #2

Resolution of Condemnation of 78 square feet (.002 acres) in Sidewalk and Utility Easement, plus 727 square feet (.017 acre) in Temporary Construction Easement, plus 128 square feet (.003 acre) in Bus Stop Easement, plus 405 square feet (.009 acre) in Utility Easement at 2205 Central Avenue from Jupiter Group, LLC for \$9,600 for Pedestrian Safety – 2205 Central Avenue, Parcel #2.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 48, at Pages 584.

Items No. 41: Property Transactions - Lincoln Heights Drainage Improvements, Parcel #1

Resolution of Condemnation of 2,326.32 sq. ft. (.053 ac.) in Storm Drainage Easement, plus 652.97 sq. ft. (.015 ac.) in Temporary Construction Easement at 2000 Saint Mark Street from Heirs of Esau Peterson and Mable Peterson for \$775 for Lincoln Heights Drainage Improvements, Parcel #1

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 48, at Pages 585.

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AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

ITEM NO. 9: CENTRAL INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION (CIAA) PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association (CIAA) will celebrate its 73rd Men's Basketball Tournament and the 44th Women's Basketball Tournament; and

WHEREAS, the CIAA has secured over \$20 million in scholarship dollars for its member institutions over the past 14 years, averaging \$1.5 million annually; and

WHEREAS, the City of Charlotte will host the CIAA for the 13th consecutive year with 22 games and tens of thousands of fans and guests expected to attend over a five day period; and

WHEREAS, this tournament provides an opportunity for the CIAA family to come to Charlotte to reunite with classmates, alumni, and friends in the vibrant atmosphere of Uptown Charlotte; and

WHEREAS, Charlotte is proud to be the CIAA Tournament Host City to showcase our world class customer service and southern hospitality; and

WHEREAS, the CIAA tournament provides a positive impact for the City of Charlotte through economic benefits to hotels, restaurants, rental companies, services, entertainment venues and temporary employment:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Viola Alexander Lyles, Mayor of Charlotte, do hereby proclaim February 27- March 3, 2018 as

"CIAA WEEK"

in Charlotte and commend its observance to all citizens.

Mayor Pro Tem Eiselt said I would like to recognize in attendance from the CIAA: Jackie Williams, our CIAA Commissioner; Chancellor James A. Anderson, CIAA Board Chair and Fayetteville State University President; Marcus Clark, CIAA Senior Associate Commissioner; Eddie Weatherington, CIAA Associate Commissioner; and Bri Funte, CIAA Communications, so thank you.

Mayor Lyles said we are all looking forward to the best family reunion and the best basketball games that you could possibly have. It is truly a pleasure, and thank you so much for believing in our HBCUs and what they can do.

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PUBLIC HEARING

ITEM NO. 10: Public Hearing on a Resolution to Close a Portion of Township Road

Mayor Lyles declared the hearing open.

There being no speakers either for or against, motion was made by Councilmember Driggs, seconded by Councilmember Mayfield, and carried unanimously to close the public meeting.

Motion was made by Councilmember Eiselt, seconded by Councilmember Harlow, and carried unanimously to adopt a resolution to close a portion of Township Road.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 48, at Pages 568-571.

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POLICY

ITEM NO. 11: CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Marcus Jones, City Manager said in front of each of you, you have a notebook that has my 30-day memo on top, so I will go a little bit over that. We were able to have our

Legislative Agenda Review tonight as well as the infrastructure review. What we did agree upon was to present next time to the Council the State piece, because we only did the Federal piece tonight. On the 19th of February, there will be the Zoning meeting with 15 decisions and 20 Public Hearings, and on the 26th, I will edit this a little bit because we started off with the CIP Debt Capacity discussion, as well as some of the bond refunding. I will talk a little bit about workforce development, and I am going to add to the State Legislative package, and on March 5, 2018, there is the next Strategy Session. So, behind the menu is a neat notebook for everybody. Within the notebook, what we have are a series of deliverables from the staff back to Council. On the left hand side, you will see the first synopsis of the Retreat. The goal here is to just have something in front of you, but if you start to see in each section there some deliverables, we would like to confirm those deliverables at the next March 5, 2018 Strategy Session, but that does not mean that we are not going to continue to work on all of these until we get to March 5, 2018.

On the right hand side, there are seven tabs. The first tab is the presentation that I provided at the last Strategy Session. The second tab shows the Mayor and Council all of the 92 items that were in the Committees during the last year. You guys didn't think that we could pull that off. There is a right off on each one of those. The third tab that we have are the remaining items that were assigned to Manager; there were eight. We will continue to work on these so that when we get to the next Strategy Session, you will have recommendations. The next tab are those five pending, plus the one new policy item. They are already assigned into committee. On each one of these, there is a write up, much like we had the other night. The fifth tab is the ten concepts recommended for full-Council consideration. The difference now is that you have a write up on each one of them, and the concept again is getting to the next Strategy Session, and we will continue to work on these, but some of these may be reassigned to the Committee. Some of these staff recommendation may be enough. The 27 items that we picked up last Monday, we were able to do two things on each one of the items, and I believe we were able to touch base with each individual who we are calling the requester right now. So, we wanted to make sure that we could appreciate what the statement of the issue is, as well as some deliverables. Again, we will continue to work on all of these prior to March 5, 2018. You will not just have this sheet of paper in front of you, but we wanted to make sure that we put all of the issues that were on the table, back into some type of a format so that when the Strategy Session comes up on March 5, 2018, we would be in good shape.

On the Strategy Session on March 5, 2018, the Concept is that each Committee will have a report out to the full body, as well as we will talk about what is in the left hand pocket, which is feedback from Council's Annual Strategy Session or Retreat and then there is an opportunity also March 5, 2018 to work out anything that is related to the State Legislative package.

Mayor Lyles said I am very impressed that you were able to compile it in a reasonable format that makes sequential order possible and as well clarity. I know that we will all have a chance to look at it, and there will probably be a chance for some feedback, but you will just take the feedback directly from Council members as you hear it, but is there any question about where we are headed?

Councilmember Driggs said I wanted to thank the Manager, having been one of the people who called for- I didn't expect this much. It is a very helpful blue print for us, and Mayor I want to acknowledge your efforts also to rationalize the Committee process. As the one who has been around for a couple of years, I think that your cooperation in getting us focused and having a clearer understanding of what we are trying to accomplish is a big step, so I appreciate it.

Mayor Lyles said I appreciate that as well. I hope that we will be able to move, the intent is to be able to move to actional items in a way that allows for debate and deliberation, but action really to do that.

Councilmember Ajmera said I am looking at the ones that are assigned to City Manager; I know that Mr. Driggs had asked for the Storm Water Policy to be assigned back to the Committee, and I know that this is assigned to the City Manager, so I just wanted to understand. Is that because you want to come up with some recommendation before Committee reviews it for us to review the policy?

Mr. Jones said my understanding was that that was Mr. Driggs' request, but when we came back on March 5, 2018, we would give you all the information that we have, and if the body said to take it back to the Committee, it would go back to the Committee. If the body said right now to put it back into Committee, we would put it back into Committee.

Ms. Ajmera said I guess as we are moving forward, I just want us to be mindful of our budgeting time line, because we do have a very tight budget timeframe with multiple sessions already being scheduled. So, as long as we are able to address that and come up with some solution for Storm Water, I am good with it.

Mayor Lyles said I am going to also say that I think that a number of these are going to also have budget implications and that they may not all be achievable within the upcoming fiscal year, and I think that the presentation by the Manager overall will help us determine how much we can accomplish in the next fiscal year for 2019 and then what might follow over. I think that the idea of having it fully presented to Council will help us be informed about what we can do and accomplish within that time frame. I think we can continue to work that.

Mr. Driggs said from our conversation, I got the impression that more work was going to be done by the Manager and staff and that there might be a stop in Committee before it comes back to full Council, so we are not ready to schedule that yet.

Mr. Jones said that is right.

Mr. Driggs said I am okay with that. I do think the point about the budget is pertinent, and above all, I am impatient in the sense that we have kicked this can down the road for a couple of years. I would like to see us taking some real steps. It is not going to get fixed all at once, but I hope we can do something meaningful this year.

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BUSINESS

ITEM NO. 12: AUTHORIZATION OF STORM WATER REVENUE BOND APPLICATION NOTES

Motion was made by Councilmember Eiselt and seconded by Councilmember Ajmera (A) Adopt the bond order authorizing the issuance of up to \$115,000,000 of revenue bond anticipation notes, (B) Adopt a bond resolution for the approval, execution, and delivery in connection with the issuance of up to \$115,000,000 of revenue anticipation notes, and (C) Authorize the City Manager and Chief Financial Officer to take necessary actions to complete the financing, including submitting the application to the Local Government Commission.

Councilmember Driggs said I just want to comment for people who may be watching, that these bonds are issued pretty much in the ordinary course of events to fund capital activity within a budget framework in Storm Water, so we are not making some new commitment of \$115 million here. This is more or less administrative to authorize funding that is required in order for us to be able to deliver Storm Water services. I am going to support it.

Mayor Lyles said I think that it would be helpful; there are several major projects that are listed from this funding, and they are pretty much spread from throughout a large number of our inner-city neighborhoods. I think that the most expensive one is Myrtle

Morehead, which is also our most expensive the last time that we issued this, and Myrtle Morehead is \$30 million to complete. When we have these large projects like this, I think that it explains the difficulty in dealing with the Storm Water with the way the rate structure is set up, because these major projects really take the bulk of what we are doing, and there are several with double digits in the millions: Kenilworth Romney, \$11 million; Louise Avenue \$14 million; Lion Court \$12 million; minor projects are the collective of \$16 million, all very significant improvements that are required for us to manage our Storm Water.

A vote was taken on the motion and carried unanimously.

The resolutions are recorded in full in Resolution Book 48, at Pages 572-580.

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NOMINATIONS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

ITEM NO. 13: NOMINATIONS TO CHARLOTTE BUSINESS INCLUSION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The following nominations were made for one appointment for a partial term recommended by the Black Chamber of Commerce beginning immediately and ending February 28, 2020.

Michelle Keaton-Barrow, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Bokhari, Driggs, Egleston, Eiselt, Harlow, Mayfield, Newton, Phipps, and Winston

The following nominations were made for one appointment for a two-year term recommended by the Metrolina Native American Association beginning February 28, 2018 and ending February 27, 2020.

Walter Baucom III, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Bokhari, Driggs, Egleston, Eiselt, Harlow, Mayfield, Newton, Phipps, and Winston

The following nominations were made for one appointment for a two-year term recommended by the Carolinas Asian-American Chamber of Commerce beginning February 28, 2018 and ending February 27, 2020.

Shobha Rajpal, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Bokhari, Driggs, Egleston, Eiselt, Harlow, Mayfield, Newton, Phipps, and Winston

The following nominations were made for one appointment for a two-year term recommended by the Hispanic Contractors Association of the Carolinas beginning February 28, 2018 and ending February 27, 2020.

No recommendation was received from the Hispanic Contractors Association.

Noah Cartegena, nominated by Councilmembers Bokhari, Driggs, Egleston, Eiselt, Harlow, Mayfield, Newton, and Phipps

The following nominations were made for one appointment for a two-year term in the At-Large category beginning February 28, 2018 and ending February 27, 2020.

Akadius Berry, nominated by Councilmember Harlow

Steven Bimbo, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Bokhari, Driggs, Egleston, Eiselt, Mayfield, Newton, Phipps

Kelley Carboni-Woods, nominated by Councilmember Winston

Motion was made by Councilmember Driggs, seconded by Councilmember Newton, and carried unanimously to appoint Michelle Keaton-Borrow and Noah Cartagena and to reappoint Walter Baucom, Shobha Rajpal, and Steven Bimbo.

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ITEM NO. 14: NOMINATIONS TO THE CHARLOTTE INTERNATIONAL CABINET

The following nominations were made for one appointment for a partial term in the International Business category beginning immediately and ending June 30, 2019.

Scott Chen, nominated by Councilmembers Driggs and Newton
Vanessa Vaughn, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Egleston, Eiselt, and Phipps

This appointment will be considered at the next Business Meeting.

The following nominations were made for one appointment for a partial term in the At-large category beginning immediately and ending June 30, 2018, and then continuing for a full three-year term beginning July 1, 2018 and ending June 30, 2021.

Sven Gerzer, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Driggs, Eiselt, and Mayfield
Brooks Shelley, nominated by Councilmembers Bokhari, Egleston, Harlow, Newton, Phipps, and Winston
Stephanie Sneed, nominated by Councilmember Phipps

This appointment will be considered at the next Business Meeting.

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ITEM NO. 15: NOMINATION TO CIVIL SERVICE BOARD

The following nominations were made for one appointment for a partial term beginning immediately and ending May 15, 2018, and then continuing for a full three-year term beginning May 16, 2018 and ending May 15, 2021.

Parker Cains, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera and Bokhari
David McCleary, nominated by Councilmember Egleston
Carolyn Millen, nominated by Councilmember Driggs, Mayfield, Newton, Phipps, and Winston
Bradford Muller, nominated by Councilmember Eiselt
Paul VanGundy, nominated by Councilmember Harlow

This appointment will be considered at the next Business Meeting.

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ITEM NO. 16: NOMINATION TO HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION

The following nominations were made for one appointment for a partial term beginning immediately and ending June 16, 2020.

William Hughes, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Egleston, Harlow, and Mayfield
Eric Scott, nominated by Councilmembers Bokhari and Driggs
Edwin Wilson, nominated by Councilmembers Eiselt, Newton, Phipps, and Winston

This appointment will be considered at the next Business Meeting.

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ITEM NO. 17: NOMINATIONS TO THE PRIVATIZATION/ COMPETITION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The following nominations were made for two appointments for two-year terms beginning March 2, 2018 and ending March 1, 2020.

Ronald Maccaroni, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Bokhari, Driggs, Egleston, Eiselt, Harlow, Mayfield, Newton, Phipps, and Winston.

James Marascio, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Bokhari, Driggs, Egleston, Eiselt, Harlow, Mayfield, Newton, and Phipps

Kimberly Edmons, nominated by Councilmember Winston

Motion was made by Councilmember Driggs, seconded by Councilmember Eiselt and carried unanimously to reappoint Ronald Maccaroni and James Marascio.

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ITEM NO. 18: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL TOPICS

Councilmember Eiselt said I have one item that I want to mention that is probably not on anyone's radar but prom season will be coming up soon. On March 10, 2018, the Girl Talk Foundation in Charlotte-Mecklenburg Libraries will be holding the Prom Project, which is an opportunity for young women to come together and have a presentation on etiquette, a fashion show. They will get goodie bags, safety recommendations, style tips, but most importantly, up until that time, women have the opportunity to drop off used evening gowns. Moms who have daughters, who have a lot of prom dresses hanging in their closets, please consider dropping these off either at the South County or North County Regional Library, Imaginon, University City Library, or the Myers Park Library. They will be put to good use, and they can take dresses, shoes, purses, anything that goes with that.

Councilmember Winston said a couple weeks ago, I spoke about the need to draw attention to the issues of intimate partner domestic violence, and I am pleased to announce that staff has been fantastic in pulling together a virtual Town Hall that I will host this coming Wednesday, Valentine's Day, from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. here in CH-14, but we will of course be streaming that live on Facebook, so please anyone who can participate, tune in and share. The point is to call attention to this disease that is inflicting our City and our County and our nation. Also, we have so many stakeholders from CMPD, District Attorney's Office, the County, and several other folks that deal with victim services and victims themselves that are going to be giving fantastic tools and information so that we can get people help right now. I hope that you all out there will tune in. Put this on your calendar.

Councilmember Harlow said I would just like to announce, I have been promoting this event for some time. Councilmember Winston and I, along with County Commissioner Chair, Ella Scarborough and District 2 Representative Vilma Leake, will be hosting our kind of joint Black History Town Hall February 21, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. That is Wednesday at the Mecklenburg Bar Association building, 2850 Zebulon Avenue, right off of Rozzelles Ferry in west Charlotte. Come out; we will have a combination of City and County staff there. City staff from our Housing and Neighborhood Services Division, as well as Code Enforcement, CMPD officers from Metro, Freedom, and North divisions will be there to take questions. This is a non-traditional town hall format. The Tax Assessor will be there to talk a little bit about the upcoming property revaluation, so we will have staff from the City Clerk's Office to talk more about involvement around our City Boards and Commissions. This is an open forum really for you to come with any questions that you have for two District Representatives County and City and two at-large, to come with your concerns. It is open to anyone who wants to come. It is definitely targeted for more the west Charlotte population, but anyone is welcome to come.

Councilmember Egleston said two quick things that I want to acknowledge, this Saturday the 17th, the Human Rights Campaign will be holding their State Gala. I want to thank them for hosting that event here and welcome anyone who is traveling into our City to join them for that event and wish them well in that event. Also, Saturday the 24th is our Neighborhood Board Retreat. For anyone who is not familiar with this, this is something that the City puts on to help neighborhood organizations that want to get a better plan put together for their future, a better vision of where they are and where they want to go as a neighborhood. It allows them to have access to some of the resources that the City has to help them get there. This one is already full in terms of the neighborhoods that are participating, but I would encourage anyone out there who is involved in a neighborhood association that has not been through the Neighborhood Board Retreat with the City, to look into that and join us. That is a free program that we put on and is a great benefit to all the neighborhoods around our communities. I would encourage you to look into it.

Councilmember Ajmera said I wanted to highlight Entrepreneurship Boot Camp that we brought here from Silicon Valley. I also want to thank our staff, Willie Ratchford, who has been instrumental in getting the word out about this program. As a result of that, our participation has increased tremendously with our March 1, 2018 class there are about 60 students who have signed up, and they are already excited from creating their business plan to actually developing a product and eventually connecting with joint venture capitalist in Silicon Valley. So, here you can see that zip code does not necessarily have to control your destiny. This program was initiated to insure that all kids here have an opportunity to start a technology start up if they do decide to do so.

Also, I want to thank Councilmembers Egleston, Mitchell, Mayfield, and Winston for their support and also promoting this Boot Camp so that we have had tremendous increase in engaging our youth. I will be giving you constant updates on that as they go on and compete with other teams in Silicon Valley and bring prizes home. Also, I would like to say Happy New Year to all of the folks who celebrate Chinese New Year. I attended a cultural celebration last weekend, and it was sponsored by Vietnamese Association, and I will be attending another New Year's celebration that is going to be sponsored by Chinese-American Association, so I just wanted to wish you all Happy New Year.

Councilmember Mayfield said I echo my colleague Ms. Ajmera's comments on Saturday evening. I had the opportunity to attend a Chinese New Year celebration, and it was an amazing event and celebration. That was truly an honor, but I also believe a couple of my colleagues have had the opportunity to attend the Racial Equity Workshop, which is a part of Race Matters for Juvenile Justice. For those of who might not have had a chance, I had the opportunity last week on Wednesday and Thursday, because you do need to do a commitment of two days, because it is from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. It was an amazing opportunity and I want to take a moment to thank not only Jerry Boyce but also the facilitators that we had at the event, because you would think as we have conversations in our community around racial equity and discussions of what is diversity, especially as people of color, that there is not a whole lot more to learn. Well, there is. There is a lot more to learn when you look at the role that government has played and we as the community can plan and how we move forward. I would encourage any that may be interested, those of you in the community to reach out to Nakkeia Wiler or Ann Van Newkirk or Jerry W. Boyce jerry.w.boyce@nccourts.org.

I also want to do a save the date that is coming. We have seen a major impact in our community that is really impacting our seniors, around housing. Councilmember Winston was contacted; he brought me in on a conversation when an attorney is seeing a large increase of seniors who basically are being heavily solicited, almost to the point if not past the point of harassment, for their homes. Most of the community knows that every other year, I have quarterly town halls throughout the district, because the district is so expansive. The first one this year is actually going to be on March 17, 2018 after the Saint Patrick's Day parade, but it is a specific District 3 senior's symposium, where we will have representation. It is basically a symposium fair where there will be information, but AARP will be represented, as well as our police and District Attorney, Mr. Merriweather who will be talking about crimes against seniors, as well as senior

housing opportunities, because we want you to be as educated as possible and to know the right questions when someone comes to your door or calls and attempts to discuss with you your home. This is a save the day, but it is for specifically all of our seniors and those who are taking care of their parents who still live on their own, in order to provide you with as many resources as possible, because unfortunately we are getting the information after the courts are being involved. It is a little more difficult for us to have any leeway to assist, so if we can help as many seniors as possible on the front in, that is our goal, and we will also be working with the County Commissioner, Trevor Fuller, as well as our State Representative Kelly Alexander will be present to present information on what is happening on the state level.

Councilmember Phipps said as I have said from this dais before, I am going to be promoting this book right here, a lovely delightful book, Charlotte's Web. There is still time if you have people that want to volunteer to read this book to students over at Hidden Valley Elementary, it is going to get started the week of February 26, 2018. For five weeks, it is going to be part of the curriculum. If you want to find more information about this reading program, I would invite you to call Mrs. Robin Lo Furno, my Executive Assistant. I do not know how I went almost my whole life and I just read this book maybe a couple of months ago. Many people have read this book many times before, earlier than this, but I highly recommend it. Come on out and read it to some third graders and help us out there; give them some inspiration and help them with their reading levels and comprehensions on a go forward basis.

Also, I would like to give a shout out. This weekend, I had an opportunity to attend the North Carolina West Optimus Club district meeting, that second quarter meeting in Mount Airy, North Carolina, which everyone knows that is the home of Mayberry. At that meeting, the Hidden Valley Optimus Club was recognized as a distinguished club, and I am not just saying that because I happen to be a vice President of the club, but it is there, and everyone had a good time. Mayberry, you wouldn't believe how it is really a real quaint town with a lot of amenities, breweries, and it was just a lifetime opportunity to go there. I just wanted to highlight that Hidden Valley Optimus Club North Carolina West and they are doing great things and one of the oldest Optimus Clubs in North Carolina.

Councilmember Bokhari said I just wanted to take a second, for those who are still watching from our Fire Department, that was just a really impressive and inspiring show of unity and message tonight. I was grateful to get to hear it. Watching on our social media streams, I would argue that this is probably one of our highest viewed shows to date and a lot of people commenting and positive support. It also made me a little confused as it relates to the ultimate message, because for that many folks to come out and take their time, clearly there is something wrong that we need to figure out and address. As it relates to what I saw, going back and forth there, it just feels like a lot of folks feel there were a couple of negative stories that outweighed some of the positives that happen every single day around town. City Manager, we have talked about this before with CMPD, and my vision and focus was on the same sentiment that is happening there and how do we market and uplift the good that is happening every single day. I would like to also have you to add the Fire Department in that. I know that is just one of many elements and angles that we need to make sure that we are supporting on our men and women who protect us. Maybe that is one small way that is now on my radar from hearing all of those great stories today.

Councilmember Newton said I just want to take a quick moment and congratulate all of the wonderful folks in Hampshire Hills for organizing their precinct this evening. That is Precinct 104. Unfortunately, I had a bit of a conflict and was not able to be there, but I did want to extend my congratulations and apologize for not being able to be there. Everyone in Hampshire Hills is fantastic and once again congratulations.

Mayor Lyles said I want to talk about some intergovernmental items that we have been participating in. One of the very first is that the Mayor Pro Tem and Manager and I met with the County staff to talk about our summer programs how we need to move to support what we are doing through the Police Department with the program that they

implemented around employment, tutoring, and mentoring for young people during the summer. We had a great reception with the County. All of us know that there are budget implications for everything, but if you remember last year when you used three Y's, a number of those Y's were located in neighborhoods that really needed this work, but there are a lot more recreation centers that the County operates for us as a part of recreation they are going to look seriously at the recreation centers and how for the summer they can become resource centers for working with our youth programs that we would have. Looking both at ours, how can we encourage community groups to participate and while I want to make sure that you all understand that the idea is around the work that CMPD is doing, particularly in Hidden Valley where we have a recreation center right around the street that we did not use last year, but we can this time. The Manager has agreed to provide a map with our neighborhoods, and they are going to look at those facilities and see what we could do to make sure that our summer is healthy for our kids. We have moved in that direction.

Also, I think that the other thing is that we are very conscious of our domestic and intimate violence programs and workshops and the County's role in that, and they understand that we are going to be doing a lot of work on it, and we will focus on that. I really appreciate that effort. We are going to continue to work on the County on the things that we can do collaboratively and we can have an impact inside of our City. The second thing, I want to say that I have just gotten back from Washington, D.C, where I had the opportunity to visit with the Whitehouse as the President announced the infrastructure plan that he has put forth for consideration. I want you to know that the meeting included the Secretary of Commerce, Interior, Transportation, as well as the EPA. It was conducted by one of his major advisors, Gary Cohen, and there were some principals that he has outlines for this infrastructural program, one primarily I think is that he is going to be looking at all of the federal resources: public land, permitting processes with the idea that if projects could move more quickly with permitting and review, that that would be more efficient and all communities would be better off with the costing of it. Another principal is the idea of doing Workforce Development and training for people to work in these various sectors on these various projects, actually looking at that as a way to promote jobs across the country. It was good news to hear permitting, there were examples of people who have talked about having a project being studied for over 10 years, and how could that be actually reduced for permitting within two to five years so that there could be major initiatives to move more quickly? That is probably the one place that the White House can have immediate impact. It was good to hear that the additional funding that is gone to the hill for consideration of \$2 billion is additional funding and not supplanting existing programs. That was something that I think that all of us are concerned about whether it was new money or existing money, and the commitment was additional funding. It does encourage P3 projects very much. A lot of this is about, how can we get the private sector to invest in infrastructure? I think that the final thing that the President said was that he believes that infrastructure is a local issue, and that we are going to have to really be able to stand on our own to get these things done. That is going to put some accountability for us if we are going to try to even get the new funding, then we are going to have to try to figure out what we are going to put on the table for that. I want to say that we were there with a number of Governors: Florida, Maine, New Mexico, Michigan, and Mississippi. We were there with speakers of the House and Transportation Cabinet members from other states for the Mayors: Las Vegas; Columbia, South Carolina; Vicksburg, Mississippi; Fort Worth; and Charlotte. We were given this opportunity to be there, and I know that there is a lot more work to be done. This will go to the hill, and I expect it will be a vigorous debate, but if the President can actually look at what he can do by executive order, that may help us in a lot of respects, and we will just have to wait and see that the budget looks like when the Congress finishes with it. I really would like to say that it was really good to be there. We had to submit pictures, and Charlotte's idea of the Gateway Station was mounted on one of the visuals that we were using, and that was really good for us to be able to provide them a vision of what Charlotte's downtown can look like if we actually complete our transit system. That was the issue that I spoke with the Secretary of Transportation about. How do we get our transit options available for our community, and it is going to be hard work. We are going to have to figure it out, but I think that what we are going to have to do is really decide how much we can accomplish and go after whatever funding

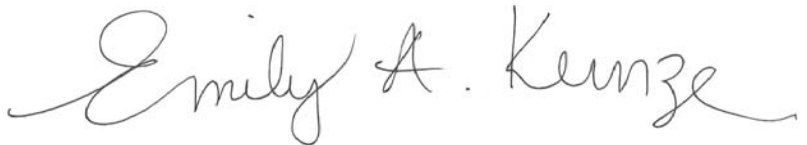
is available and take anything that we can get to save money by the permitting. I think that is the criteria that we are going to have to use. It has been a great day. We have had an opportunity to sit with Holland and Knight, who works with us. They are encouraged that this bill finally arrived so that they debate can begin. There is nothing like just not knowing when it is going to happen. Those are the things that we did today. It was really very well done. We will just see where it goes after this. Any questions I am glad to take those or if you think about it and have any questions later on, please let me know.

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ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Councilmember Mayfield, seconded by Councilmember Ajmera and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 p.m.



Emily A. Kunze, Deputy City Clerk, NCCMC

Length of Meeting: 5 Hours, 10 Minutes
Minutes completed: March 2, 2018