

The City Council of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina convened for Action Review on February 26, 2018 at 5:11 p.m. in Room 267 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, Matt Newton, Greg Phipps, and Braxton Winston II.

ABSENT UNTIL NOTED: Councilmember James Mitchell

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ACTION REVIEW

ITEM 1: MAYOR AND COUNCIL CONSENT ITEM QUESTIONS

Mayor Lyles said Item Nos. 21 and 37 have been pulled by staff, and Item No. 53 is pulled for a speaker.

Debra Campbell, Assistant City Manager said at your places you have a compilation of all of the questions that were submitted as it relates to this agenda item and that would include both the Business and the Consent Items. I have a few questions that Councilmember Phipps sent in, and I'm going to tell on him; he sent them in a little late, so we haven't had the opportunity to respond, but we will get those responses back shortly because they are not that complicated. If there are any additional questions I am here to take those now.

Councilmember Mayfield said I would like to pull Item No. 46, Aviation Elevated Roadway and Pedestrian Tunnels Change Order #1. Looking at the breakdown on this item, there is a particular company in here, the purchase and installation of reinforcement steel, Border Rebar. I thought earlier last year that the relationship with Border Rebar was cancelled because of challenges with the actual working environment and working conditions. I'm a little confused with this coming in as a change amendment and seeing this particular company listed.

Ms. Campbell said I think that may be an existing relationship, but we can answer after or would you like us to do it now Mr. Manager?

Mayor Lyles said I think there are two questions; the first question is did we as a Council vote not to work with the contractor referred to, and second if that is correct was this contract in place prior to that decision?

Ms. Mayfield said I guess it would be a question for our City Attorney. I believe it was in 2017 that it was brought to Council as well as Aviation staff a discrepancy with Border Rebar and that there potentially was also conversations regarding infraction by OSHA with Border Rebar, but we had a number of conversations with Council and employees and/or former employees of Border Rebar, so I guess it would be a question of do we still have a current relationship with this company especially when OSHA was brought in because of how employees were treated, and it was identified that employees were not protected under this particular company?

Bob Hagemann, City Attorney said a couple legal points I will make and then I will turn it over to Aviation Director Brent Cagle to talk about the specific allegations that had been raised in the past against this sub-contractor. They have not been formerly debarred by the City, so they are not prevented from service as either a general contractor or a sub-contractor. Beyond that, we don't pick sub-contractors the contractor picks sub-contractors. In my years of experience, I can't think of a case where we have actually debarred, which is a legal term for saying a company is not eligible to do business with the City. I can't think of a case where we have debarred a sub-contractor, and if we are going to do it I would want to make sure that we do a thorough investigation and that a decision to debar is legally defensible. I don't think we are in that position right now. What I'm aware of are some allegations from some employees, and again Mr. Cagle will speak to what we did in response to those allegations, but I'm not aware of any determination by the City at this point, or findings by the City that would justify debarment. The other point I would make; this is a Change Order to an existing contract. This team, the general contractor and the sub-

contractors are on the ground as we speak working and it is not a matter of not awarding a contract to this team. We would have to shut down the work and actually go out to bid again and pick a new team to complete the work that is contemplated by this change order. The last thing I will say to you is there are two State Statutes, one of them came about with repeal of House Bill two, and it precludes cities in North Carolina, and you will remember the state, until December 1, 2020. Among other things local governments are prohibited from enacting or amending ordinances regulating private employment practices and then there is another Statute that says we cannot impose on our contractors something that we could not impose on employers throughout the City. Those Statutes work together to say we can't dictate the employment practices of our contractors. In this particular case, there are other governmental agencies specifically OSHA that has jurisdiction to investigate and enforce safe labor laws.

Brent Cagle, Aviation Director said Councilmember Mayfield; to your point earlier regarding Border Rebar; Border Rebar to my knowledge at least in the last six years is not a prime contractor and never has been a prime contractor to the Airport. They have been on several jobs sub-contractors including Item No. 46. The item that you are referring to was a separate contract for a different scope of work. It is our understanding that an OSHA inspector inspected the job site for that prime contractor, found an OSHA violation related to Border Rebar, and Border Rebar was removed from that job, but it was not the same as this job. On this job, Border Rebar has been a sub-contractor to the prime for the length of the work and to our knowledge has not had OSHA violations or any violations that would require them to be removed by the prime. To you point however, we do know and we have met with on several occasions both existing and we believe former Border Rebar employees and they have alleged that there are workplace conditions that they are unhappy with or that don't meet legal requirements. On all of those occasions, we have recommend a few things one being that those items elevate to Department of Labor and to OSHA or conversely that they bring the proof of those allegations to us so that we can have that conversation with both the prime and with the Department of Labor or OSHA however it may be. At this point, those allegations have never been proven. There has been no proof offered, but Border Rebar is and has been a sub on this job throughout the life of the contract. This just represents a Change Order to that existing contract, and because of that Change Order Border Rebar is an SBE and MBE, and so because of that Change Order there is also a new committed amount to all of the CBI partners on the contract and that is why they are listed along with CES Group Engineers and Landmark Materials, so as the contract goes up their committed goal for participation in the City's Business INCLUSION Program also goes up, and that is why they are listed on the Change Order.

Ms. Mayfield said thank you Mr. Cagle. Manager Jones, I would like for you to direct our City Attorney to present us with some options, because there is a scapegoat in here. I recognize that we have regulations and rules on both the state and federal level, but there is a piece where subs have an ability to not be held accountable. There has to be a way that we can have better protection, because we just had our Disparity Study brought back to us and in that Disparity Study what was presented to Council was that 1) white women are who are benefiting the most but also when you go through and you look at the contracts that we have for our subs the percentage of sub participation varies. There is a conversation in there around staff and how they are actually going out and encouraging the development of businesses that we need, but you have a company that not only have employees spoken to the leadership of the Airport, they have spoken to Councilmembers. They have brought videos and it still falls back to well you need to take it to OSHA or take it to this other group, so it is that victim blaming; you got hurt, and you need to prove you got hurt. There has to be a conversation in here on our end if we are to be a City of Choice as well as an employer of choice, because these subs seem to have a different set of rules that they are able to work within, and that is not falling on; Mr. Cagle I would just like for you to direct our City Attorney to bring us some recommendations on how we can create opportunities for businesses that are actually going to benefit our local community and not hurt out local community.

Mayor Lyles said we can direct the City Attorney; Mr. Jones does not hire the City Attorney.

Ms. Mayfield said Mr. City Attorney, I would appreciate that being presented to all of us to have a better understanding of what can or may not be done in situations like this, but Mr.

Manager I would like for you to have it on your radar, because I would like for this not to go too far down the road without us getting a report out.

Mayor Lyles said we will have the City Attorney to give us some clarification about what is current and what is possible and that can come back to the full Council.

Councilmember Winston said Mr. Hagemann, you mentioned that there is an investigation that you can do for specific businesses. I would love to start that on Border Rebar in terms of their employment practices and their responsiveness to labor conditions. I would also like to get further clarification as to what connotate a small business, because what I understand Border Rebar takes on major work in major ways in major frequencies. I would just like to do a thorough plan of what this company is.

Mr. Hagemann said what I would propose is rather than launching an investigation, let me frame for you what our scope of authority is and what we might be able to do. We will gather information that we already know from the work that Mr. Cagle and his team has done regarding the complaints on Border Rebar and provide that information to you as part of that report and then depending on what room you have to maneuver in on a policy basis we could have conversations about acting within the scope of our authority.

Mr. Winston said I think that would be excellent.

Mayor Lyles said do you still want to pull the item or can we wait until we get the information and it stays on the Consent Agenda.

Ms. Mayfield said may I ask an additional question of our Aviation Director? Mr. Cagle; while we get this additional information would there be any major challenges for a deferral on this item for this amendment this evening?

Mr. Cagle said yes.

Councilmember Newton said I do have some questions, and I don't know if it is necessary that these items be pulled but maybe in lieu of pulling them I can walk through. Starting with Item No. 19 and this might be something that is directed at Mr. Cagle if he would entertain this question. I had some concerns pertaining to how we would fund this measure and to provide the Council a little bit more background on this. We are talking about between \$900,000 and \$1 million to accelerate a pre-existing contract for security services at the Airport by one year from what I understand. I wanted to get some more information on where this money would be coming from. It is my understanding that it would be coming out of our general funds and how that money, if at all, would be reimbursed to the general fund to pay for this.

Mr. Cagle said the Consent Agenda Item is Item No. 19; Charlotte Mecklenburg Police Department/Aviation Mid-Year Staffing Adjustment, and in a nutshell it is increasing the number of law enforcement officers or LEO assigned to the Aviation Department. To your question does it have a cost to the general fund and the answer is technically yes and practically no. The funds need to be increased in the Charlotte Mecklenburg Police Department's budget, because these are Charlotte Mecklenburg Police Department employees. At the end of every year, all of the services that CMPD provides to the Airport are reimbursed back to the general fund so the practical answer is no. That is because the Aviation Department is an enterprise fund to the City i.e. tax general fund supported activities are not paid for by the Airport and to the extent that we use general fund departments like CMPD we reimburse for those services.

Mr. Newton said so any expense that would be left outstanding would be covered by the enterprise fund, not our general funds.

Mr. Cagle said that is correct.

Mr. Newton said my other question on this too because we are talking about staffing more Police Officers at the Airport and I understand that the actual numbers are SSI (Security Sensitive Information) so confidential information but where would those officers be coming

from? Are these officers that are going to be taken out of our neighborhoods or is there a plan for that staffing process?

Mr. Cagle said SSI is Security Sensitive Information which is a term used by the federal government, by the TSA as a point of reference. Total staffing numbers for law enforcement and other federal officers at the Airport is viewed as SSI information. To your question as I think in a nutshell if I understand the question is, does this reduce the number of officers on the street not at the Airport? Based on talking to CMPD I believe the answer is no. The officers that we are talking about at the Airport; what this does is give them the officer count, the FTE count in their budget, so they can hire those officers as fulltime regular employees versus bringing them back on overtime or other mechanisms, but it makes them an official part of the budget so they can hire them as fulltime regular employees.

Mr. Newton said so it will be a hire back program?

Mr. Cable said I believe, and I would need to verify this with CMPD, the airlines approached the Airport in roughly July or August of 2017 and based on security concerns with pre-security so ticket lobby, bag claim and events in this country and around the world they expressed a desire to have increased staffing in those areas, specifically in those areas. We worked with CMPD to in effect advance a five-year staffing plan and basically make it a four-year staffing plan. To make that happen in August of last year, which is off budget cycle, I believe CMPD utilized their resources through overtime in other areas to increase the presence without actually having the FTE's approved. What this does is approve the FTE, so they are in their budget and they are not having to staff them via other means. However they staff them it is not a cost to the general fund; it is certainly a cost, but it is not a cost to the general fund. It is a cost to the Aviation fund, which we will turn around and charge back to the airline and terminal tenants via our rates and charges.

Mr. Winston said I have a question of the total amount allocated how much is being spent on vehicles and equipment versus salary for personnel?

Deputy Chief Estes, Police said the dollar amount is about \$155,000 for vehicles and equipment versus personnel cost so the rest would be personnel. Succinctly what we do is the extra allocations that will be funded here is part of our normal hiring and recruiting process. In the meantime what we do is use hire backs and part-time officers in the schedule adjustments to be able to fulfill the requirements there. As we on board then we reduce the [inaudible].

Mr. Newton said would Academy classes be larger moving forward to accommodate this.

Deputy Chief Estes said I would say larger; there is a limit to what we can do at the Academy, but yes we would hire more than we typically would minus the Airport assumption.

Mayor Lyles said I think we got it; they are hire backs part time.

Councilmember Bokhari said I want to pull Item Nos. 19 and 23 for comment.

Councilmember Phipps said I want to pull Item No. 36 for comment.

Councilmember Driggs said I want to pull Item No. 27 for comment.

Mr. Newton said pull Item No. 43 for later comment. I have a question on Item No. 47 for a question to Mr. Cagle right now; Aviation Landscaping Maintenance Services. I want to ask the difference between these zones; I think the question got the zones mixed up. I understand that Zone 3, which encompasses 274 acres, we are talking about \$100,000 plus in landscaping costs but in Zone 1 which has just a slight bit more acreage we are talking about over a million dollars. I want to ask about the differences in those and the bidding process for Zone 1 to make sure that we are talking about the lowest responsive bidder in this particular context.

Jack Christine, Airport Chief Operating Officer said this question is related to Item No. 47; Aviation Landscaping Maintenance Services. The zones were broken down to try and break

out the work so that we focused a lot of our effort on Zone 1, essentially our front door, so in addition to just the general mowing and weeding and things that we do we have a lot of plantings, a lot of mulching, a lot of extra things that we do for the front door to make sure that it looks much more presentable for the public, because that is where the majority of the public sees what we have at our front door. The other two zones are smaller opportunities that were geared more towards smaller businesses, our parking lots that essentially is just mowing of grass islands and trimming of plants and things like that.

Mr. Newton said I would ask that this be pulled as well for later comment, because I don't think they answered by question.

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ITEM NO. 2: AGENDA OVERVIEW

There was no Agenda Overview.

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ITEM NO. 3: 2018 STATE LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

Dana Fenton, Inter-governmental Relations Manager said I'm here to present the State Legislative Agenda for 2018. Tonight I will be taking back the last year to talk a little bit about the 2017 results we had and the 2018 expectations for the General Assembly then we will get into the proposed agenda. I will be back in front of you in four weeks on March 26th requesting Council action to adopt the proposed agenda.

Going back to 2017 the General Assembly met for about six months last year, adjourning on June 25th and overall the long session was productive for the City. Out of 14 issues we were monitoring about 10 of those went our way. Of the City's State Legislative Agenda, there were several issues I would like to point out to you. One that didn't go our way was our requested action on the Citizens Review Board. What we found is that we really need to look at this issue in the context of what is going on nationally, not just here in Charlotte. There have been a lot of police social equities issues brought up around the country and as such a lot of Legislators have already decided how they are going to vote on those types of matters. We had a lot of opposition to this from the Local Fraternal Order of Police, as well as by the leadership in both the House and Senate and it continues to be opposed to this day.

We entered 2017 thinking that rural areas would make another run at trying to undo the Strategic Transportation Investments Law and to get further sales tax redistribution. We had to face efforts with sales tax redistribution in 2015, and there has been a lot of talk since the STI Law was passed in 2013 that too much of the money for transportation from the state was going to urban areas. In both those cases, I think we were able to succeed in what we wanted to do; one was to preserve the STI Law the way it is now and also to prevent any further sales tax redistribution.

Moving on to the Metropolitan Transit Commission Legislative Agenda, support continued efforts to complete the regional transportation vision. We were able to succeed in that; funding was appropriated for the state of funding for the Blue Line Extension, which of course we all celebrated today, but I know there will be a lot more celebration of that in the next two and a half weeks as well. There were other monies that were appropriated for public transportation programs including the state maintenance assistance program.

Some Priority Issues and Priority Issues are those Bills that come before us in the General Assembly that are not part of our State Legislative Agenda but that the City did have a position on. There are a couple things here I want to point out; the second line, the sanctuary Cities; we had to react last year to legislation that was filed that would have been punitive for local governments when it came to issues of compliance with State Immigration Laws. One of these Bills; SB 145, the second one in that line, was very, very punitive. It basically says that for any city found to be in non-compliance with State Immigration Laws then the state would hold back that City's share of revenues from motor fuels, video programming, telecom, beer and wine, pipe natural gas and scrap tire disposal taxes. For the City of Charlotte that would have amounted to \$41 million; about half of that would have been taken away from the Powell Bill Program that we use locally to maintain city streets. Right now, we are working

with the General Assembly leadership to insure that the City remains in compliance with those laws.

Councilmember Winston said has the validity of that legislation, the legal standing and constitutional standing of that legislation been challenged in any way?

Mr. Fenton said when you speak of being challenged there are several ways; one it could go to court. I don't think anything has been taken to the courts on that. There are members of the General Assembly, who are attorneys, who have brought up those types of questions. For the most part those attorneys are members of the minority party.

Mr. Winston said the law or constitutionality shouldn't necessarily be bipartisan. Do we have any concerns about the grounds and the constitutionality of a law like this on a City like Charlotte where we are dealing with an immigrant population that was up to one in five?

Bob Hagemann, City Attorney said to preface this, this bill did not pass, so it did not go into law. So, there is no law and there is nothing to challenge at this point.

Mr. Fenton said I thank Mr. Hagemann for saying that. I should have said up front that the Bill hasn't passed yet but we still have to face it in some fashion in 2018. It is eligible for consideration with this coming short session.

Councilmember Driggs said we opposed that or we explained why we didn't feel that Charlotte was a sanctuary city when this thing was being discussed, and we are working on that level. I think the opportunities for us to kind of communicate better with the General Assembly are much improved, thank you Mayor, and so I hope we won't be talking about litigation before we are sure where they are headed. The best outcome for everybody is if we just kind of send our message across, make clear that we are not a sanctuary city in the sense defined by the federal government for example and to just discourage them from going in this direction. Some of this was actually not primarily about Charlotte, but the strained relationship between Charlotte and the General Assembly was such that if it hurt us that was fine with them, and we are just trying to build back from that.

Mr. Fenton moving on to the Airport Improvements we had a really good experience with this legislation. The General Assembly appropriated one time monies to fund capital improvements at commercial service airports throughout the state. There are nine airports like this, including Charlotte Douglas, and our Airport was appropriated \$25 million for the next fiscal year. We will be talking a little bit about this towards the end of the presentation, because the Division of Aviation, which is part of the North Carolina Department of Transportation, is directed to come back to the General Assembly with a proposal for state funding for commercial airports for these types of improvements on a continuing recurring basis. There may be an opportunity to look at some legislation in 2018 that would help provide more capital funding to the Airport.

I just want to say we had a productive year, and we owe our delegation thank you for that, and we have already of course said thank you to them in the past, but I want to make sure you all know that we have very close collaborative working relationships with a number of groups up in Raleigh, not just local governments, but also locally with Mecklenburg County and also our memberships through the North Carolina League of Municipalities and the Metropolitan Mayor Collation. We work very closely with their staffs, their lobbyist to leverage what we would like to see and also we work very closely with the Charlotte Chamber of Commerce on various issues as well as UNC-Charlotte. You saw that today at the Ribbon Cutting for the Blue Line Extension; these are very valuable working relationships that we have.

Moving on to 2018, the short session starts in about three months on May 16, 2018, and I believe their intention is to adjourn by July 4th this year. A lot of members are running for new districts, and they will want to get out of there very quickly. For a short session in North Carolina, the bill introduction rules basically narrow the type of legislation that can be introduced. In a long session, anything can be introduced whether it is a public bill which is a statewide measure or a local bill which is something that applies to 15 or fewer counties. In fact on a regular basis we are asking for a consideration of local legislation this past year,

and we had one that applied only to the Charlotte Firefighter Retirement System. Only one place in the state has that retirement system, and that is the City of Charlotte. In the short session, for any local legislation that is introduced you have to have the approval of every member of your delegation and in addition to that the issue must be non-controversial, so they are really trying to narrow the field there and the same thing with public bills, a very similar process. There are a set of public bills that can be introduced, but again they really narrow that to things like the state budget, things to do with retirement systems and a few other measures. For this year what we think the session will focus on mainly is trying to amend the states bi-annual budget. Last year they passed the budget for fiscal year 18 and 19, and they will be going back this year to make amendments to that budget. Again, we think that recurring funding for Airport capital improvements could be something that they take up and then we will be tracking legislation on a variety of issues including economic development and just so that all the members know, there are legislators in other parts of the state who are frankly somewhat jealous of all the state assistance that goes to getting companies relocated or providing assistance for here in Mecklenburg and other urban counties and they don't think we need that assistance. They are trying to find ways to keep money from going to urban areas of the state. Another is security breaches, the Attorney General, who is a Democrat, is working with the House Finance Committee Co-Chair or Senior Co-Chair who is a Republican because of all the rashes of data breaches that have occurred recently around the country. They are trying to look for ways to require these companies when those breaches affect North Carolina citizens to have more timely reporting and also provide more consumer protections. I bring this up because I think that any legislation passed in this area would have some requirements for the City of Charlotte as well. I think that is going to be a continuing thing you will see from me is we are talking issues we have to monitor, and it is not because we oppose it or support it necessarily, but because it could have some impacts on City departments and how we do business.

Water quality; you may have read about the chemical discharges down in the southeastern part of the state south of Fayetteville and north of Wilmington with the GenX chemical. There are some investigations going on right now, and there could possibly some legislation on that this year. I don't know what it would look like; again this is like the previous one, there could be some requirements for all water systems that we just don't know about right now. Finally, there is legislation that has to do with building permitting that Representative Stone has introduced which make it through crossover and could be heard this year. Also, there is a House Select Committee on building code regulatory reform that was formed, so we are watching those two issues because those could have impacts upon how we do business.

What staff is proposing this year is a legislative agenda that would communicate your support for recurring capital improvement funding for commercial service airports around the state. As far as the other issues I brought up, I don't think at this time those issues require to be placed into the legislative agenda and of course there could be other things that arise that you would need to act on that we would bring to your attention.

Mr. Driggs said you haven't really talked about sales tax redistribution; is it safe to assume that they will not bring this up in the short session along the lines that they have considered, because they technically could under the budget provisions couldn't they?

Mr. Fenton said they could do that but when we look at all the thing out there it seems that one is at the bottom. It is nowhere near the top like it was last year at this time.

Councilmember Bokhari said just to add back to the comments we in our discussion earlier today, when you look at their priorities for the short session and you look at our strengths and hot topics around here, economic development specifically around the FenTec realm and cyber security around breaches I think it would make a lot of sense for us to circle the wagons up here and see what are some specific things that we could partner with our delegation and then the broader Legislators up there to make some real impact.

Councilmember Harlow said have we in the past or ever considered looking at having an agenda item to lobby for around making some changes to the North Carolina Housing Finance Agency? If we know that we have set this goal and have this great appetite for affordable housing we've also learned that based on how the tax credit program works from the state level that maybe we can look at more opportunities to get more tax credit funding for various projects that are going on here. We know that would take place at the state level. I

would like us, if we haven't already, to look at some form of lobby if not this session, if that is not a short session scenario then maybe a long session scenario.

Mr. Fenton said I think it is a long session scenario. This issue hasn't been brought up to me but the issue we are talking about, affordable housing; I think it would be more of a long session item.

Mr. Harlow said we know there is an urban/rural theme that is going on in addition to some of the partisanship stuff. My understanding from some members of our State Delegation is that in these rural counties they don't want some of these types of housing development. If we could look at more increased allocations for those in Charlotte because we have plenty of folks on that list, and we will probably get three or four per year, it is an opportunity for us to meet some goals and get a win out of Raleigh as well.

Mr. Driggs said I'm not sure what that is about but I just don't want the statement to be left out there that rural locations have indicated that they don't want this money. That would require clarification, so given the conditions in many of the rural locations which are extreme and the efforts that are being made in the General Assembly to define equity in the balance between funding it between rural and urban, it would surprise me if they were actually turning down money.

Mayor Lyles said I think they are always oversubscribed by urban and rural areas. My understanding is the Housing Finance Agency always has more projects no matter how you divide or want to divide the pie, a lot more than funding that is available. I think our best bet is to look at what they do and how they do it and can they do it more often and encourage money working with our federal delegation to say how do we get more from the Treasury Department directly into our state. I think it is something we really care about as you say and we need to get more money coming in from the Treasury Department to the agency.

Mr. Fenton said next steps, I will be back in front of you on March 26, 2018 for consideration of the agenda. In April, we are planning on having a briefing for the State Delegation and this year we are proposing to do it a little bit differently. Just so you all know, I've already started talking with Delegation Co-Chair Representative Carney about this but we will be looking at something instead of a Legislative Breakfast perhaps having an Airport tour and then having a dinner afterwards. You all had that dinner last year in Raleigh and it looked like a very productive dinner so we through something along that line would be much more productive for you. Of course the short session convenes on May 16, 2018 and just seven days after that is when the North Carolina League of Municipalities holds its Town Hall Day and for you members who are brand new, this is an all-day event up in Raleigh. Briefings from League staffs start early in the morning about 9:00 and there are usually two different sessions for that. Then we go around and meet with the State Delegation; we get briefings from Administration Officials and then usually there is a dinner that night for the delegation that all the towns and the City participate in. Then in June we are planning on some Mayor and Council trips to Raleigh where we will be able to schedule meetings for you all to meet with various Legislators, not just those in our delegation.

Mr. Driggs said Madam Mayor, you decided not to reappoint the Intergovernmental Relations Committee, and I agree that the work schedule of that Committee was not very rewarding but the effect it has is that we've gone kind of quiet as Council, and I think of particular importance is that members of Council travel to Raleigh and that we get some time in the offices. You and I have gone often, so I don't know who spearheads that effort unless you want to do so personally, but we need to keep up the dialogue and preferably there should be people who are kind of appointed on Council who are specifically responsible for relationship with the General Assembly.

Mayor Lyles said thank you for bringing that up, because we've had some thoughts about this. The Mayor Pro Tem and I talked about it and what we are doing is building relationships during the short session for what we need to do in the long session and beyond. One of the things that we've talked about and I've been thinking about, if we could just mull it over, is that we have Committees that are well informed on a lot of issues and those issues are our priorities and should those Committees actually go and try to build relationships. We know that we've got some things, and we've talked about the scheduling of visits to actually do it

with people that are really passionate and care and are working on the issues, so that we can engage all of the Council in this relationship building for this year. That is my thinking right now; I would love to hear feedback; we don't have to do it tonight, but I know we've talked in Public Safety about some of the steps we need to take. Housing, some of the things we need to do and I think it would be good for people that are working on the issues, talking about our strategies, talking about our efforts to go up and build relationships, because what I have found is that it is really good if people can pick up the phone and makes those calls because they know who you are. The committees align with some of the work that we are doing so I will give that some more thought and look for some feedback. I recognize that there is a certain amount of partisanship in those efforts that has to be recognized and dealt with, and I also recognize time for people and individuals, but I understand that when I go to the League Meetings and Mr. Driggs is our representative on the League's Board, but when I've gone to meetings with other cities what I've found is that they build relationships with people that they know. If you went to college with someone in the Legislature, if they were in your class at whatever school or if you worked with them on a project before, building upon that awareness of who you are makes a lot of difference in using our strength around this table so that people can do that really has an appeal to me.

Mr. Driggs said I appreciate that and I hope we will continue to talk about it. I would just mention that in spite of our efforts previously, it was difficult to get people to make that trip; it is a long day, it is a big commitment, so I hope Committee Chairs will be mindful of opportunities to kind of find topics that are suitable and make those appointments and then go as a group. Somehow we have to have a pretty regular presence and it makes a big difference. You walk around the halls there and you are going hey Joe and that kind of thing, and it takes a lot of tension out of the conversations.

Mayor Lyles said it really does and Mr. Fenton has been tackling this with me and he is going to work with us on some specifics and if a person can't go we are not going to leave it on the table.

Councilmember Egleston said so much to the Mayor and Mr. Driggs' point about the need to create and maintain relationships and to your second point it is difficult to get people down there I would ask that we set this April date as soon as possible so that Councilmembers can block it off on their calendar and make sure that they can attend.

Mr. Fenton said the two dates that we have have already been blocked off on your calendars, and we are simply querying the Delegation right now to see which date is more preferable for them.

Mr. Egleston said particularly a lot of the new Councilmembers, we can set aside time if we know well enough in advance, but it becomes more difficult the closer it gets. Things like May 23, 2018, we've had on our calendars for six months. It is blocked off, so I will be there. The sooner we can get the April date the better.

Councilmember Eiselt said to the point of not having the Committee anymore; I find it challenging being in the minority party because we always had this message that you need to go through the Delegation and we often went through you or Councilmember Smith to open the conversation on a particular topic, so it was very formulae as to how we could interact with our Delegation, especially if they are at a different political party. I do think we need some help with that and how to best go about that. Mr. Fenton and I had a conversation today about a topic but do you go to people that are on committees first around the topic or must you go through our delegation first. People get a little testy if you don't sort of run things past them first and it makes it difficult to build those relationships I think.

Mayor Lyles said I again would encourage us not to go and ask something but to go and talk about who we are as a City and explain what we are trying to do overall versus tackling an issue right away, and I think everyone of us is completely capable and I have to say I've been to people that are not the party that I am and I make the appointment and I go in, and we just talk about Charlotte, because that is what we are really working to do, and they have a lot of questions about what we are doing and we always assume that they know more than I think they know. I think whether they live east or west; we've got to be known and visible to them. Mr. Fenton is going to help us on the strategy; we will pull it together.

Councilmember Phipps said to this conversation I think on May 5, 2018 the House Select Committee on Strategic Transportation Planning and Long-Term Funding Solutions is going to be in Charlotte, and I'm planning to attend that. Ms. Ajmera doesn't know yet that I won't be attending the Environmental Committee, but I think she is going to give me a pass to be able to make some of these connections like you said.

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ITEM NO. 4: SPECIAL EVENTS PERMITTING CHANGES

Debra Campbell, Assistant City Manager said we are going to bring to you some results of an item that was presented to both the Economic Development Committee as well as the Community Safety Committee. We are taking this time tonight to just report out; we don't need any additional actions from Council to move forward on this initiative. Last spring an item was sent to Community Safety as well as Economic Development related to some of the special events and large events that we host in our community. As you know we are becoming the City where people to come for tourism and a number of other opportunities we have to host guests in our community. What we want to make sure though is that as people are having special events that our permitting process in particular happens as seamlessly and efficiently as possible when these types of events are being held. The CIAA is one that will kick off actually today. There were concerns that Council had last year that we are trying to provide you a response and an update on the efforts that staff has initiated. In particular, we are going to talk about two areas; operational organizational issues, and I'm going to go through those very quickly. We are going to spend the majority of our time on the permitting process, which is really a part of what the City Council and the City of Charlotte is responsible for. As I said, you could put those issues into two buckets, operational, and organizational issues, and they are related to hotel rates. We've made tremendous progress, and the majority of this work has actually been handled by the Charlotte Regional Visitors Authority, the Central Collegiate Athletic Association and a little bit of work with staff, as well as with other businesses and organizations in Charlotte. Management of some of the unsanctioned events that is where we are going to spend the majority of our time and where we think we have made the most progress, from the City's perspective, in addressing the permitting issues. They have revamped their local organizing committee to include broader representation from community leaders, and again this is just an opportunity to help them be able to market and brand this event as the positive event that it is and for people to understand really the economic impact that his initiative has in our community. They have increased marketing and outreach to businesses, because there are events being held at Bojangles, and we wanted to make sure that visitors knew that Central Avenue was available for opportunities and other parts of the community were available on the east side.

Progress made to unsanctioned events; we have been with Center City Partners, CRVA and with the CIAA so that they wanted kind of a village boundary where they would not have other vendors that were not related to CIAA be located in an area. This was a little bit challenging for us from a legal perspective. We did a little research but we think we have found a good solution and that is to have kind of a festival event for next year when they are here and address that issue, so we can encourage additional vendors, small business owners to be located closer to Spectrum Center.

What we will spend the majority of our time on is the Special Events Permitting for Outdoor Events on private property, and that is really important that extinguished permitting for outdoor events is the most changes we have made. These changes apply to anything outdoors over a certain size, not just CIAA Tournaments, this is citywide changes. This is not a one stop permitting process yet, but we are on our way. We think it is extremely important for us to be able to have that convenience for a lot of the promoters and the vendors that come to our community, so this is a baby step or a first step on our way. It is a collaborate effort; there is a lot of information that is going to be shared so we will have lots of information about what is being permitted, where it is being permitted, property owners where permits are being issued so that if something were to occur we will have additional information about who we need to hold liable. All changes that are being made are being made administratively. There is no additional action needed from Council at this time. We will continue to monitor and our goal again is to create a one stop permitting process, but there is a lot more work

that needs to be done. Right now, I will turn it over to Nan Petterson to walk you through the changes that we've made.

Nan Petterson, Engineering and Property Management said I am Customer Service and Permitting Manager for the City of Charlotte. As Debra said, this is for outdoor events on private property; this is not for events that are being held in a hotel; these are not for events that are being held in restaurants, bars, or clubs. These are outdoor events on private property and nothing has changed about the criteria of, when do I need a permit? We have not changed that at all. If you are going to be using amplified noise you go to the Police Department; if you are doing a onetime sale of alcoholic beverages or a temporary extension of a current alcohol license you also go to the Police Department. Tents or canopies over 400 square feet you work with our friends over at Fire and the location of the tent you work with zoning to make sure that it is out of the setbacks, not in the public right-of-way. If you have any electrical requirements you work with Mecklenburg County and if you are going to prepare food you work with Mecklenburg County's Health Department. Pictures speak a thousand words; this event would need three permits. We are assuming that the tent is over 400 square feet; there is going to be alcohol sales, and there are going to have amplified sounds of over 55 decibels. Of that not needing a permit would be Panther tailgate party because the tent is under 400 square feet, they are not selling alcohol, and they are not selling prepared food.

Some interesting data, for 2017 tournament 11 tent permits were issued. Eight were small tent permits located next to places of assembly; again that is restaurants, bars, special event centers, and three are the free standing tents that you see in parking lots. For the 2018 tournament to date, only two tent permits have been issued and they are small permits, one going to the Epicenter, and one will be for the Omegas. These permits are usually issued two weeks to days prior to the start of the tournament so we are constantly updating this. Currently, we have 16 temporary extensions of one-time alcohol sales permits.

We looked at past events and two key finds came clearly through. After an analysis of the permitting process, it became evident that there was a need for a formal collaborative effort among review and permitting agencies and the sharing of this information. There is no central clearing house to gather all this information and consolidate all the permits. Also, there is no place where an event planner can go to find out information on whether or not they need a permit. As Ms. Campbell said, where ideally a one-stop permitting process would be the best approach, but this year's process is an incremental step to get to that ideal. After the tournament, we are going to meet with stakeholders including the event planners who are using these services, City and County review agencies, ongoing future stakeholders including the NBA All Star Committee and our Visitors Bureau, and we all want to work collaboratively to get an all-inclusive outdoor event process.

Our goals for this process improvement, our first goal is we want a single point or centralized notification process for collaborative distribution of permitting information. Our second goal is a higher coordination among review agencies and the third goal is we want a better understanding of the event because of the additional information provided and distributed. Going back to our key finds where we have no formal collaborate effort among review and permitting agencies for the sharing of the information; it was agreed an action plan would be developed where Engineering, Property Manage, Land Development is acting as the coordinator of permitting activity. For data collection purposes Land Development staff has established a staff contact with each of the agencies listed below. These are the agencies that directly issue permits to the event organizers.

Councilmember Eiselt said so, the permitting activity has move away from CMPD to Land Development?

Ms. Petterson said no ma'am; they still go to Police, they will still go to Fire, they will still go to Zoning; what we do is we act as a clearing house. Staff members at Police, Fire and Zoning when they get a permit they send it to us and we do an old fashion excel spread sheet and I will show you all the different fields that we capture, but right now they do go each one of those agencies.

Ms. Eiselt said I'm sorry I misunderstood.

Ms. Petterson said the process is all agencies have been sending us their approved permits associated with the event and in this case it is the tournament, and we just put these on a master spread sheet. This updated spread sheet with all approved permits listed is sent out weekly, and starting today we are sending it out daily to all the agencies to verify accuracy of the information and to update any permit issuance. At the time of the event, a master spread sheet will be distributed to Police and Fire. What we are capturing on this spread sheet is who is the applicant, what is the company, all the contact information, the intent of the event, the event location, the property owner [inaudible] the event start date and time, the event end date and time and which permits were issued.

A second find we said if you were a new event planner or new to the City you have no idea where to go to see if you even need a permit, so we created a Charlotte Mecklenburg County Outdoor event on Private Property Questionnaire and Permitting Guide, and through a series of questions the event planner can determine when a permit is required by which agency, and they are given the option to contact the agencies directly, or they submit the questionnaire and this is all done electronically. It is a form on our website. If they opt to submit the questionnaire they will be contacted by Land Development staff to provide assistance, but if they elect not to fill out the questionnaire, but they want to work directly with the permitting agency, Police, Fire, Zoning and Health the permit issuance will ultimately be captured through the weekly master spread sheet update process. Again, we have the questionnaire or planning guide on our website and for this particular event they have to click on the CIAA Tournament button, and it takes them directly to the questionnaire.

Councilmember Phipps said this template here; is this something that we could use across any event, not just for CIAA?

Ms. Peterson said absolutely, that is our goal. This is our initial breakthrough of this but this will be used as we keep going on with events.

Councilmember Winston said we have made changes to the types of tents that need permits?

Ms. Petterson said the criteria have not changed at all; that has stayed the same. Police and Fire can talk on that but all we have done is try to consolidate all that information that Police and Fire does a beautiful job of getting their permits and sending it to us to put on the spread sheet so when they are out in the field they can say this is what is going on, we know and they can double check, does this person have their ABC License, have they gotten a permit for this tent.

Mr. Winston said slide #9, it was a bit concerning that we had 11 tents permits issued in 2017 versus only two now, and we know that can change. The vent has basically started, so do we have any type of forecast as to why it has decreased by such a great number? I'm sure we want this event to grow and does that say anything about the current permitting process. What should we expect; are going to be running into trouble in the next couple of days?

John Leonard, Fire Marshal said the permit process is not related to the tents or the lack of tents this year. It is just a cycle that we go through. The big three tents that were there last year; the year before we only had one on that spot. It is my understanding that the property owner this year declined to allow the tents to come back with the exception of one with Mr. Clifford. Mr. Clifford made the decision not to do a tent this year; he could not get the talent that he wanted for the clientele that he prefers for the tournament. It is just a cycle and a lot of places last year just aren't doing the tents, the small tents especially are controlled by the weather, and if it is going to be good weather they don't spend the money to put up a tent. I don't think there is any concern.

Councilmember Driggs said I appreciate what you are doing and I recognize that streamlining these processes can improve our ability to respond to situations by deploying resources so I get all of that but at the same time I think we need to recognize how much harm is done to the reputation of the event and even to Charlotte when there is a problem, such as we've had in the past. I am wondering if what we are doing to this point is sufficient. I just want to say we need to be seen to taking the issues seriously of the fact that there have

been events in the past. I recognize that it is hard to isolate the wrong doers from the many innocent participants in the event who are just here to have a good time, but I hope that by the time we are done we will have something that had got a little more meat on it that we can point to and say this is what we did to make the event safer and to avoid some of those incidents. It really is bad for business; it is bad for the event. It is bad for the City even if it is an isolated instance and it has happened more than once so now there is kind of an association in people's minds. I hope you will keep working on this and we can come up with something with a little more teeth.

Ms. Campbell said Mr. Driggs, our goal is to create the one stop permitting. If there are ordinances or anything else that needs to be changed for us to have more teeth then we will do that. Again, this is an initiative that is being addressed citywide even I think you told me the ballet has a tent. If something is happening at SouthPark they are going to go through the same processes.

Councilmember Mayfield said I want to thank staff, because this is the conversation that happened between two committees, our Public Safety Committee as well as our Economic Development Committee but I have an additional question because I noticed outside of the tents that a lot of the events are happening inside of a venue. The Manager and I have had this conversation more than once; we have a lot of on street and public parking throughout uptown. A lot of that on street and public parking prior to you getting here, part of development that happens when we allow people to build certain things throughout the area, but as with many other times if you ride through uptown right now those free parking spaces that are street public parking are now valet parking for one business or another, or we have red bags on them. I think that still sends a different message. If you were in Charlotte last weekend you were able to ride around and visit uptown and be able to park right in front of a venue. Now starting with this weekend, Friday night if you drove around we have red bags on almost every open parking space that we have in uptown. How does that correlate in this conversation since not only do we have guests, but you have a lot of residents within the Charlotte area and Charlotte region that also participates during CIAA but also just want to enjoy our uptown but now don't have access and we have this permitting process? Do we have any way that we are able to keep an eye out on how our parking is being now allocated for a private business for their VIP parking?

Marcus Jones, City Manager said I would like to get some data based on what you have discussed in terms of when we have these types of special events. I know there is revenue that the City collects when there are red bags, but I would like to it event by event to see how bad this is impacting the experience of people coming to visit us.

Ms. Mayfield said I'm going to challenge that a little bit, because us having this conversation in 2019 isn't going to help. If we drive around right now we need to think about access of not only those who are visiting but also our residents. We have parking spaces that people now do not have access to. My question is one that we should be able to answer rather quickly; who made the decision to put red bags on our public parking that should be available after 6:00 p.m. and free on the weekends? Who made that decision and based on what authority was that decision made?

Councilmember Mitchell arrived at 6:27 p.m.

Mr. Winston said Ms. Mayfield; I agree with that and it is something I have experienced and it doesn't seem like it is just special events. It happens arbitrarily throughout the City in different areas, so I would love a report and some clarification on what our policies are in terms of on street parking at meters.

Mr. Jones said we will do.

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The meeting was recessed at 6:29 p.m. to move to the Council Chambers for the regularly scheduled Public Forum and Business Meeting.

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BUSINESS MEETING

The City Council for the City of Charlotte reconvened for a Business Meeting on Monday, February 26, 2018 at 6:34 p.m. in the Meeting Chambers of the Charlotte Mecklenburg Government Center with Mayor Vi Lyles presiding. Councilmembers present were Dimple Ajmera, Tariq Bokhara, Ed Driggs, Larken Egleston, Julie Eiselt, Justin Harlow, LaWana Mayfield, James Mitchell, Greg Phipps, and Braxton Winston II.

ABSENT UNTIL NOTED: Councilmember Matt Newton.

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INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

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

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Mayor Lyles said we are joined tonight Boy Scout Troop 17 with their Scout Master, David Barnhardt. Troop 17 meets at Christ's Church on Providence Road.

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AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

ITEM NO. 9: BILLY GRAHAM DAY PROCLAMATION

Mayor Lyles said read a Proclamation in honor of Charlotte's Faith Leader, a person who was born here in Charlotte and is often called Dr. Rev. Billy Graham.

WHEREAS, William Franklin Graham, Jr. was born on November 7, 1918 on a dairy farm near Park Road in Charlotte, North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, the Reverend Billy Graham touched the lives of millions around the world through his charismatic leadership and endearing humanity; and

WHEREAS, his contributions to the Civil Rights Movement earned the praise and friendship of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.; and

WHEREAS, Billy Graham became widely recognized as one of the world's most admired men, making the annual Gallup Poll list a record 61 times; and

WHEREAS, he will be laid to rest here in his home of Charlotte this Friday, March 2:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Vi Alexander Lyles, Mayor of Charlotte, do hereby proclaim our citywide expression of gratitude and appreciation for all of the meaningful achievements in the life of Reverend Billy Graham, PROCLAIMED this 26th day of February 2018.

Mayor Lyles for many of us in this community we recognize the work that he has done and understand that sometimes the hometown young man grows up to influence millions and recognize him for that. We offer our condolences and sympathy to his extended family and that includes the citizens of Charlotte.

Councilmember Newton arrived at 6:39 p.m.

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PUBLIC FORUM

Youth Council Winter Report

Righteous Keitt, 12109 Prials Mill said I am the Vice President of Phillip O. Berry and the Charlotte Mecklenburg Youth Council. The Charlotte Mecklenburg Youth Council is the official interconnected Student Advisory Council for the City of Charlotte, Mecklenburg County and the CMS. It is an innovative partnership between youth local government and schools. We represent every high school in CMS. With the help of Generation Nation, we advise community leaders and are active in helping solve issues we care about such as opportunity, education and safety. The Youth Council reported to you here on September 25th and November 27th, and I am here to do it today. You have also received our written reports and can always follow our work on social media. Between now and our last meeting we met with the City Manager, and look forward to future meetings, we are excited to partner with the Environment Committee on Earth Day; we've helped CMPD with a video and their yearly toy drive. We met at the Command Center and took part in transparency training. We appreciate Chief Putney engaging with us during those trainings. We advised CMS on the budget and launched a student art context with the County. We educated kids about local government and kicked off our fourth Civic Leadership Training for ninth and tenth graders.

We are helping plan and will attend the National League of Cities Conference in DC and my Co-Vice President [inaudible] who couldn't be here today was appointed to serve on the National NLC Council. We teaming up with the Community Relations Committee to plan a meeting with Leading on Opportunity Council Side and collaborating with the North Carolina Youth Councils. I personally will be attending the North Carolina Youth Legislative Assembly in the spring. Lastly, we met to discuss school safety. We will be stargazing new ways to keep our schools safe for future generations. Five news organizations covered our meeting, local and federal officials sat to hear our views. We've been invited to the North Carolina General Assembly to spread our views on those issues. Issues like safety, education, opportunity are not focused on only by schools or the City or the County; those issues impact everyone, and we must work together to create solutions. As always please reach out to the City staff or us to learn more about the issues or if there are any issues that you would like us to speak about. We are citizens; we are young Charlotteans who are growing up and our opinions are very valuable, and it is better to learn that now rather than later. If you want to hear our opinion on something just come to us; we are always available and always ready to speak our mind. All teens are invited to join the Charlotte Mecklenburg Youth Council. We have a meeting planned on March 20, 2018, and we would love for you guys to be able to join. I hope to see you guys there.

Mayor Lyles said I've had the pleasure along with many of my colleagues around this dais and we are very proud of the work that the Youth Council does. We are proud of you.

Charlotte's Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure

Selvin Lendos, 308 West Westview Street, Gastonia said I am a senior student at Gaston Early College High School located in Dallas, North Carolina. I've come this evening to bring attention to what an investment in Charlotte's electric vehicle charging infrastructure would entail. Let me give you a simple way to look at this electric vehicle or EV Plant. If you were to invest in a stronger electric vehicle charging infrastructure by placing more charges around the City and making the placement of these easy chargers more publicized, more individuals would be willing to purchase EVs because of the new found convenience. From this, these Charlotte citizens would begin to reap the various economic benefits like the money they will be saving from gas and the overall savings from cheaper to operate vehicles. As a result, more money would be in their pockets keeping this cash flow circulating through the community, could boost job creation and particular sectors such as housing and service, not only this but other jobs correlated with increase production by firms that make personal electric vehicles, parts and infrastructure would also rise. Therefore, it is certain that EVs would indeed be serving Charlotte, not only economically, but environmentally as well. I'm sure many Charlotte citizens have woken up on any one day just to see smog covering the City. The equals are a leading contributor to air pollution like smog but with the clean renewable energy of EVs, we could start working to decrease our negative impact on our environment and City. The more EVs on the road the more everyone will be saving, the

environment and money, but how else can Charlotte make that happen by starting from within. The company lease plan, a founding partner of the EV 100 Coalition, a global initiative bringing together forward looking companies committed to accelerating the transition to electric vehicles has committed to transforming its employee fleet to electric cars. By using the lease, plan as an example of EV leadership beginning with Charlotte City employees, it will help shape how Charlotte citizens and the world will further distinguish Charlotte as a Leading City. I personally always looked up to success and prosperous City that is Charlotte, but as someone who wants to see a cleaner world it saddens me when I can't say Charlotte is a leader in the EV movement. You are representing all [inaudible] of Charlotte, including its ambitions for growth, not only for the City, but the world. Now, I stand before Charlotte, a City that will surely be the future that is not only ready for change but supports it. I ask you, do you support this new transformative technology? Whether it is an average citizen trying to save money on vehicle expenses or a well-known official trying to bring money to their City, I'm certain that electric vehicles will play a substantial role in their solutions. Thank you for hearing me, and I hope you are as ready to charge into the future as I am.

Mayor Lyles said there is great interest around this dais. Ms. Ajmera is chairing our Environmental Committee and is doing a lot of work in this area. I was reminded by the staff today that the City has 43 charging stations, 68 ports, and AAA and Tesla also add to them and we are going to look to the future just for you.

Racism at Charlotte Fire Department

Linda Lockhart, 933 Stanfield Drive said I am with the Charlotte Fire Department, and I would like to thank the City Manager, Marcus Jones, because we really appreciate what you are doing for us it may not seem like it, but we do. I want to say that even though the Charlotte Fire Department showed up the other night in their blue but one thing was missing, diversity, and that is what we are fighting for to have diversity in the Fire Department, it was missing. I think it was crying shame that it was missing. You only had two blacks here, and I was one of them, and I'm quite sure you all noticed that. We want diversity in the Fire Department; that is all we ask. We are just asking for equal playing ground. We are asking for no favors, nothing like that, we just want to be treated fairly and equally. We thank you; I'm just a hard person to get along with. I'm here to give back to the school system. Harding University High School girls basketball team in 2012 they put four schools together, West Mecklenburg, Waddell, Olympic and Harding girls. That school came together and it was a mess over there but those girls came together and won State Champion. Harding High School had not won it for years and they won State Champion, came back to Charlotte with nothing done for them. They had to beg for their rings. The Team Captain called Councilmember Mitchell and Warner Turner; you all may not remember, but you all got behind them and got their rings for them, and we want to thank you for that. She was called to the office and told that she was an embarrassment to the school for calling City Council for you all to buy their rings. She did what a Captain was supposed to have done. That was back in 2012 and I bring that up because boys football team came down here and got the red [inaudible]; the girls didn't get anything. Not one thing, they had to beg for their rings and then when they got their rings it was given to them in a visiting stadium, wasn't anybody there to cheer them on or nothing. I say that for next time thing about that because the girls do deserve more and the [inaudible] of them won a state champ just faded out. Of course, the team captain was my granddaughter, and she has some fight in her. I don't know where she got it from, but she's a fighter.

Mayor Lyles said we are all about celebrating success, and we've had a lot to celebrate today, but we will find out about that team and make sure that they get an opportunity to be recognized. Sometimes as I tell everyone, we don't know unless you tell us. Feel free to send that information so that we can recognize people appropriately because we want to do that.

Need Resources to Combat Gun Violence

Temy Clemons, 8103 Paw Club Drive said since the age of three years old I've grown up without my father, not because he divorced my mom and move off and started a new family, but because in my home town of Boynton Beach, Florida he was gunned down in the early 1990's. My mother who was then in her early 20's quickly learned what sacrifice looked like

and was left to raise me without the financial or emotional support of her child's father. He didn't leave behind a big insurance policy; he didn't leave behind any land for me to inherit. She just had to sacrifice and make a way. She was strong enough to push through, and I had the upbringing that I truly deserved. Today I stand before you with a goal of helping families in the same shoes as me to advance in the Charlotte community. Unfortunately, not every person in Charlotte who has lost a parent to gun violence has the same success story as me; some are left to suffer emotionally, most times in silence, and financially. After an incident of gun violence, we the community typically look around, offer our thoughts and prayers and move forward with our normal lives. The thoughts and prayers don't pay college tuition, and they don't teach young men and women the necessary skills that they may lack, because they no longer have a mother or father in their lives.

The long-term solution that I've developed comes in the form of a movement called changing the focus. The movement has two main goals and it is my hope that I can walk away with the City's full support in this endeavor. This movement is not involved with debates or legislation on gun control, but it is all about focusing on the youth and the families surviving in the wake of an unexpected gun incident. Charlotte is not exempt from gun violence as we all know; it is running rampant throughout community and out country, and we as a City should be doing more to support the effective families on an ongoing basis. The change in the focus movement will institute 1) ongoing mentorship and peer connect opportunities for youth right here in Charlotte, who has lost a parent to gun violence. The one on one support in addition to the opportunity to connect with other youth in their same shoes will create an opportunity for the youth to advance in society just as I have, an opportunity I did not have growing up. Number 2 we need very specific funding and educational resources and support in the form of school supplies and scholarships that can be given to these youth who are now trying to advance without the income of one of their parents in the home. An issue as wide spread as gun violence demands the City's attention, this movement will be like none other and Charlotte will stand out and start a trend that will create a ripple effect throughout our country. I know that by highlighting the families, we will in turn shine a light for more love in our City. It may even move the needle in the quest for commonsense legislation related to guns in our country. In order to get this initiative moving, we need the support of our City leaders; you all today, especially our Mayor, Ms. Vi Lyles, and I look forward to having the opportunity to show more about this initiative.

Rebuilding Together of Greater Charlotte

Bethany Morrison, 6704 Cord Wood Circle said I am Board President of Rebuilding Together of Greater Charlotte; we are a non-profit organization with a mission to repair homes, revitalize communities and rebuilt lives. We work to preserve affordable home ownership with a neighborhood based focus that concentrates our impact to transform communities. Our model prioritizes critical repairs that correct 25 scientifically proven health and safety hazards that contribute to housing as a social determinant help. I am joined by possibly our biggest supporter Rahman Khan, who is Vice President of Corporate and Social Responsibility for Spectrum Charter. Rebuilding together serves families like Ms. Pricilla's in Camp Green, Ms. Mayfield you know about her, whose fixed income could never afford the critical repairs her home required to allow her and her disabled son to live in a safe and healthy home. With a grant from Spectrum last April, we were able to replace her broken and damaged windows, replace her faulty appliances and funding we received from the City allowed us to replace her leaking roof and with help from dozens of volunteers; Pricilla is now able to stay safely in the home that she has lived in for decades. We want to thank the City and especially Housing and Neighborhood Services for supporting our work for the last two years with \$48,000 annually to replace damaged and leaking roofs. With those funds, last year we were able to leverage an additional \$100,000 from our corporate sponsors and hundreds of volunteer hours to provide these critically needed home repairs with unmatched cost effectiveness. This year we are thrilled that our funding requests for \$98,000 from the City of Charlotte to fund even more repairs that is currently being considered for approval. For the past several years, Rebuilding Together in Charlotte has been a 100% volunteer organization with a hard working Board of Directors. Thanks and large part to a generous grant from Spectrum Charter. I am so pleased to share that I will be coming on fulltime as Executive Director this spring and we will have the opportunity to grow our presence and impact in Charlotte's underserved neighborhoods. Spectrum housing [inaudible] with a goal of engaging their employees and community volunteers to improve 50,000 homes across the

country by 2020 is a prime example of how public/private partnership can have a transformative impact in our community. Last year, they funded four rebuilds and are funding another four this year but beyond repairing homes we are working with Spectrum to repair trust in our communities. Last year, Spectrum invited Chief Putney and the CMPD Officers to volunteer with us alongside community members and we are looking forward to doing that again this year.

Mayor Lyles said it is always good to have someone come down and participate with us and doing the kind of work that is necessary to keep people in their homes and we are grateful that we have the Community Development Grant funds to make available to you. I would like to take \$40,000 and turn it into \$140,000 but you've actually done it so congratulations, and Mr. Khan thank you very much for your corporate support and what you do for this community. We know of your commitments for many, many years and we are always glad to see you.

Councilmember Mayfield said I want to take a moment to thank both of you. I don't know if my colleagues know, but we actually kicked off our targeted rehab program in the historic Camp Greene and Lincoln Heights Neighborhood, so the home and the resident that was spoken of tonight, thanks to the relationship we are rebuilding together and specifically the relationship with Spectrum not only are we keeping a resident in her home, but we now have a brand new home that is around \$300,000 plus starting that is being built almost across the street, so the area is transitioning a lot and without the support and partnership of Rebuilding Together and without the partnership with Spectrum, we would not be able to have the impact within the Camp Greene Neighborhood that we are having, so thank you so much for choosing our area and for being a part of what this Council and our previous Council through the Housing and Neighborhood Development Committee move forward.

Recommendations to the Public Safety Pay Plan

Mark Michalec, 1201 Hawthorne Lane said I am President of FOP Lodge 9 here in Charlotte, North Carolina. We represent over 2,000 law enforcement officers in this county and the majority of them are employed with CMPD. I want to say thank you for letting me address you this evening; it is pertaining to the compensation for CMPD Officers within the Public Safety Pay Plan for the upcoming budget that you are working hard on right now. If you remember, I addressed you last year regarding the same situation, and we linked our recommendations then directly to retention and recruitment of officers. Nothing has changed from this year; it is exactly the same. We are having problems recruiting and retaining officers within the Charlotte Mecklenburg Police Department. Last year, if you remember, I told you we had a net gain of one officer in 2016, and in 2017 we had a net reduction of six officers, so we are not filling the empty vacancies that we already have. We need to accomplish that better. Simply put, I guess CMPD and the City of Charlotte is not as enticing as other cities in North Carolina and the nation, and this is directly related to pay and benefits we believe. We understand that you are working hard on a budget to develop a multi-billion dollar budget, something that I don't even want to try to fathom to try to understand, but you have to satisfy all shareholders involved and you also have to implement your agenda items such as upward mobility, combating domestic violence and affordable housing, but without public safety as a vital role in that I don't think any of those agenda items are attainable. Our recommendations we believe would improve recruitment and retention, as well as improve the morale within the Department. That is why we recommend from our membership that came up to us and said we would like to recommend a 15% pay raise across the board for all officers, reinstate retiree healthcare insurance for those hired after July 2009, focus primarily on the traditional style of PPO insurance, focusing on the reduction of premiums, deductibles and out of pocket costs. We would also like to recommend the reduction of the public safety pay plan steps from the now 13 steps to seven steps and to rectify the inequalities within those steps between the existing officers and the lateral officers that are coming in to CMPD now. We would also like to recommend take home cars for employees that live within the City of Charlotte and lastly a shift deferential for second and third shift officers and overtime pay for having to work holidays. We hope you take these recommendations seriously; we look forward to working hard with you to accomplish all of them hopefully.

Pay and Benefits for Police Officers

Travis Cook, 2111 Landen Chase Drive, Monroe said I am a Trustee for the Fraternal Order of Police. As you begin to write your next budget please think of your Police Officers. The police department is losing more officers than it is gaining. In 2017, the department hired 114 officers, but lost 120, of the 120, 63 resigned. For 2018, 58 officers are scheduled to retire. Last year, the Council approved the hiring of 62 new Police Officers; the Department cannot keep up with turnover, let alone fill 62 new positions. This Council needs to provide salary and benefits to hire and retain officers. What do our officers want: a 15% across the board salary increase, a maximum of seven steps in the pay plan, the retiree medical insurance reinstated for all officers, affordable health insurance, a shift differential for working second and third shift, time and a half for working holidays and when required to work on our days off. Smaller departments in the state are paying more and providing retiree health insurance. With as much money as the City has we should be leading the way, but we aren't we are falling behind and losing great officers.

Public Safety Pay Plan

Daniel Redford, 13541 Thicket Court said I have been a veteran of CMPD for about 12 years now, and I can tell you that from an officer's standpoint in the 12-years that I've been here that morale has never been lower. If you don't believe me, just look around. The reality is that the ship is sinking and there are lifeboats in the water, but they are not from Charlotte; they are from other places that are providing the pay and the benefits needed to take your officers. You want to promote Charlotte as a City of Choice, well your officers also have a choice and we are choosing to leave. We are leaving for places like Raleigh that will pay their officers over \$77,000 compared to just \$66,000 here. Their health insurance is much better, and they pay 100% of their retiree's medical insurance, something you don't even offer any more. I've spoken to Raleigh and Raleigh has confirmed to me that in fact CMPD officers are applying, and if you don't think that what Raleigh is offering you need to remember that they are still in the running for Amazon, and we are not so the impact of their economy and the needs will be great. We are already over 150 officers short and having overall loss of six officers in the past two years proves the need more than anything for officer retention because with nearly 60 officers that are set to retire this year alone, not counting officers who will quit our recruit classes will do absolutely nothing to just keep our numbers even. Charlotte is growing every day and we are already being pulled from our divisions to task the large uptown events, which are creating a huge disservice to our citizens by reducing the officers able to keep our neighborhoods safe. On top of this, you want to bring the All Star Games, as well as bid for the RNC; I don't know who you think is going to be able to staff these events and be able to maintain a presence in our neighborhoods. It is the decisions of pay, healthcare and not covering us in retirement anymore that is causing us to leave for a better future, because why would we want to stay here when places like Raleigh offer such more for their employees, and not only that the economy is luring your officers away from a once coveted profession. Over the next few years, hundreds more officers are going to retire and the need to hire quickly will arise and it will become a race of quantity over quality, which in this profession is never acceptable. In order to keep the officers that you do have and you have invested so much of your time and money in, you need to seriously consider the recommendations that was made by the FOP and reinstating healthcare to your retirees as well as a 15% raise which if given would just bring us that much closer to what Raleigh is offering. If you have questions about anything that I have mentioned feel free to ask me, and I will glad to sit down with any one of you to discuss this further because I feel this is your last opportunity to make the necessary changes to keep a strong police force in Charlotte, because you need to decide whether you want to allow everyone else to send lifeboats or if you will be the ones to finally step up and save us.

Councilmember Bokhari said I just quickly wanted to say how proud I am to be sitting here before you and getting to see that and hear this unified message. I am so proud of our Chief standing over there in support as well. I know that it is a tough situation but you put your lives on the line every single day, and you have the courage to come in here and stand up before all of us and ask for us to help do the right thing here instead of jumping ship to Raleigh or Cary like we are seeing so many times. To our citizens out there who just got to see that who can't see in person all of these individuals who serve us standing up in unison with just incredible uniforms on looking dazzling, I will tell you it is a sight to behold, and you should be

proud of CMPD. To my colleagues here and the City Manager especially, we talked about it during the budget. We've got a big challenge ahead of us, and we need to seriously consider the budget ramifications and what we need to do to not below average or average but exceptional as it relates to us supporting our public servants, and I think that means giving a hard look at 15% raises across the board, taking our retirement benefits back to where they were, 09 for the public servants and bringing it down to seven steps with 5% per step. Thank you guys for coming.

Mayor Lyles said I want to thank you for coming down. As Mr. Bokhari said, I appreciate you being candid and forthright helping us to understand the working conditions that you have. I encourage us to continue to work with our in house group that helps us decide; I know that you participate or the department participates and has representation working with Human Resources and the City Manager and the Chief to get things done so that we can continue to have the presence and the strength that we have in the City because of the work that you do. I also want to say one more thing; we have to work together collaboratively. Let's not say we can't do everything in this City. This is a great City, so we can have investments and great neighborhoods. We can have transportation options; we can have better paying jobs, and we can do this because we can work together so that all of us advance, all of us have the opportunity to live in this great City and do it well. I really appreciate your presence tonight and look forward to working with you throughout the budget process, working with the Chief. We have issues, but this is a City that has always said we can accomplish the things that are very important, and I look forward to working and listening to your participation in the process.

Councilmember Driggs said I want to echo Mr. Bokhari's comments and emphasize to you how much we appreciate the work you do and the danger and the difficulty of your job, so I can't respond in particular to your recommendation but we have established that public safety is a priority, and we recognize that some action is required from us. I can tell you that much I think safely tonight, and I personally will be very engaged in trying to make sure that we get competitive with other cities and that you find that Charlotte is the place that you want to work. Thank you so much.

Sustain Charlotte's Ten Bus Stop Walkability Audits

Meg Fencil, 5124 Shady Grove Lane said I would like to introduce you to Sustain Charlotte's Walk the Transit Report on 10 of Charlotte's least walkable bus stop areas. We want all Charlotteans to have a safe, inviting and useful daily walking experience as defined in the Charlotte Walks Pedestrian Plan that Council approved last year. Twenty-seven pedestrians were killed walking along and trying to cross City streets in 2017. This is the highest number ever in Charlotte. Eighty percent of all purpose transit riders reach their bus stop on foot. If we want people to choose to ride transit they need to feel safe and comfortable walking to and from bus stops. Let's broaden our conversation about affordable housing to consider what affordable living means. With the median Charlotte household spending 22% of their income on transportation, having more housing that is accessible by safe affordable transportation like public transit is a win/win situation for Charlotte. I have given you each a copy of our Walk to Transit Report of the 10 bus stop areas where we engaged over 250 volunteers and walkability audits. You can see a summary of each area, observe challenges, comments from participants and recommendations for improving walkability. Our ask is that you work with CDOT and CATS to make these 10 areas more walkable. These improvements need timely funding, planning and implementation. In my three minutes, I only have time to give you a high level summary of our findings. Wider, safer sidewalks with no gaps and more frequent crossing opportunities rose to the top of participant's priorities. Secondary, but also very important concerns include amenities at bus stops, lighting, benches, shelters and waiting areas set back from vehicular traffic. Participants noted many recent improvements by CATS and CDOT that made them feel safer and more comfortable. We urge you to please approve the text amendments that will close loopholes that allows redevelopment to occur without quality sidewalks. You have incredibly talented and dedicated staff at CDOT and CATS and the Planning Department; they are working hard to make our streets and bus stop safe and accessible for everyone so as Council please give them the resources and support that they need to fully align their work on the transportation network with the City's vision for its current and future residents. As you work on the budget, we ask you to prioritize safe access for pedestrians and transit riders by fully funding the Vision Zero Work called for in the Transportation Action Plan, Charlotte

Walks and Charlotte Bikes. Fund Open Street 704 so everyone can experience Charlotte streets as public spaces. I will be following up with each of you, and we would be happy to discuss the findings in greater depth. I would also welcome the opportunity to give you a more detailed presentation at your invitation.

Problems within the Transportation Community

Oswald Thomas, 1800 Camden Road said I represent the Black Car Industry Transportation Service that operates in Charlotte for many, many years. We are thankful for the opportunity to voice our concerns that are plaguing the licensed commercial drivers of your City. For too long, we have set back and watched as the City of Charlotte take advantage of the hard working men and women of this City. Not too long in the distant past the Black Car Industry of this City had some success and the City has given us a lot that we are grateful for. The jobs for the drivers were there; the insurance was reasonable, and the fees and standards set forth by the City were accepted. Fast forward five years or so came the TNC Companies, which are the transportation network companies, not to name any of them for the simple reason for we as drivers welcome the technology that we also use to make our transportation system efficient and proficient. The problem arose from the unfair targeting of the professional drivers. I know you are wondering what unfair treatment I'm speaking about. There were over 250 license registered commercial drivers in the City of Charlotte in 2015. They pay over \$900 for registration and fees per vehicle. In the TNC arena there are approximately 2,500 unlicensed drivers in the City of Charlotte doing the same job without commercial license or training. These drivers come from every state just to name a few surrounding the City and for federal background checks there are no requirements, and that is dangerous for the transportation service. We the drivers of Charlotte, North Carolina are just simply saying that what is good for the goose should also be good for the gander. As Moses also said in the days of Old Pharaoh, let my people go. We the drivers of the City of Charlotte are saying let the drivers go. Let them go from the unfair fees; let them go from the PVH fees. Let them go from all unjust Airport fees, from all the double standards that are set. If these other drivers do not need to be permitted so should we. If they do not need to pay airport fees so should we. If they are not required to have commercial tags so should we.

Mayor Lyles said we do understand this issue very much so. I'm going to ask the Manager and the people that are experts in this area; the world is changing so quickly. The economy has changed with the shared services, and I really do and have a concern as you said so eloquently what is good for the goose is good for gander, and while I probably shouldn't say this I think we've got to look at this for it is not equitable. It gives us all some concern. I'm going to say to you Mr. Thomas, I don't know that we can do everything that you have asked us to do but we will certainly try to figure out what can be done if anything.

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CONSENT AGENDA

Motion was made by Councilmember Ajmera, seconded by Councilmember Egleston, and carried unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda as presented with the exception of Item Nos. 21, 37, 43, and 53, which were pulled by staff.

Councilmember Bokhari said Item No. 23 actually popped up on our Agenda in our first Business Meeting in December around our IT strategy in the form of a lease renewal for our Data Center on premises that we manage. I had some initial concerns about our strategy for cloud migration, ultimately how we are going to look into the future and operating within the cloud infrastructure environment versus on premises as well as cyber security concerns that are top of mind clearly now. The reason I wanted to pull this one for a comment is to say over the last couple of months while we still have work to do on our cloud migration strategies and our cyber security evolution to the next level, our staff in the IT Division under the leadership of CIO Jeff Stovall has done a wonderful job working with us, and I am supportive of this one tonight because of the hard work you've done, knowing we still have room to go, but I'm much more confident that under your leadership you are the one to navigate us there, and I appreciate all the effort you spent with me. Thank you.

Councilmember Driggs, regarding Item No. 27, said I appreciate the fact that there is actually some money for sidewalks in District 7. I regret that it took \$3 million from the state to motivate us to put in \$1.7 million of City money, and I hope to see further investment like that.

Councilmember Phipps said does this project include any bicycle facilities like bike lanes or anything?

Scott Curry, Transportation said bicycle facilities are not part of this project. We try to look for opportunities where we can to collaborate funding sources between pedestrian infrastructure and bike infrastructure; this was not one of those opportunities. This is also a corridor where our right-of-way was fairly limited; it is also state corridor so anything that happens on Pineville Matthews Road has to be approved by NCDOT. The scope of this project is strictly [inaudible].

Councilmember Newton said I just wanted to say that I'm happy to see District 7 getting more sidewalk improvements. Hopefully this gets completed in a speedy manner and some of the wealth can be shared in other districts, particularly District 5 where we have a number of improvements that could be made on Harrisburg Road, Plaza Road Extension and Robinson Church Road.

Councilmember Mayfield, regarding Item No. 30, said I just wanted to acknowledge the fact that this is our first project, the Ayrley Town Boulevard Improvement Project from our previously approved C-NIP, so there is a lot of excitement in the community, and I also want to acknowledge that Charlotte Business INCLUSION goal was set at 18% and thanks to the work of Blythe Development identified a goal of 26.3%. For our established MBE goals it was only 8% of which they committed 26.3% which goes to say that it can happen if you truly choose to go out and identify our subs and our partners, but I definitely want to thank all of our staff, because they have done an amazing job. We are having multiple meetings in the community to talk to the residents in Steele Creek and Ayrley including this past week where we had the annual Steele Creek meeting where our staff was present to give a presentation.

Mr. Phipps said regarding Item No. 36, I'm going to approve this and urge my fellow colleagues to approve it as well. I happen to visit and walk this site along Mallard Creek Church Road on the same site as the John Kirk Fields. As the result of a recent hurricane back in October extensive damage and when we do rezonings they talk a lot about eight-inch pipes and 12-inch pipes, but this was like a 36-inch sewer pipe that got busted and raw sewage went into the creek. This represents some costs overruns for this emergency repair. They did a great job and I had a good time walking that site with the Charlotte Water team, and I urge my colleagues to approve this simple request.

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

The following items were approved:

Item No. 19: Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department/Aviation Mid-Year Staffing Adjustment

Approve a Fiscal Year 2018 budget adjustment to the Charlotte Mecklenburg Police Department for additional full-time equivalent positions to support the corporate security model at the Charlotte Douglas International Airport.

Item No. 20: Cooperative Purchasing Contract for Police Patrol Boat

(A) Approve the purchase of a Patrol Boat from a cooperative purchasing contract as authorized by G. S. 143-129(e)(3), (B) Approve a unit price contract with SAFE Boats for the purchase of a patrol boat for the term of one year under General Services Administration (GSA) contract GS-07G-0038H, 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. 22: Acceptance of Contribution for Petroleum Firefighting Equipment

(A) Authorize the City Manager to accept a contribution in the amount of \$38,000 from Chambers Engineering for the purchase of equipment to fight petroleum based fires, and (B) Adopt Budget Ordinance No. 9276-X appropriating \$38,000 from Chambers Engineering in the General Capital Equipment Fund.

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 61, at Page 273.

Item No. 23: Innovation and Technology Data Center Lease Agreement Amendment to Add an Option to Renew

Approve an amendment to the original lease agreement with Digital 125 N. Myers, LLC to modify the term of the lease adding an option to renew for an additional five years.

Item No. 24: Grier Heights Senior Apartments Bond Issuance Approval

Adopt a resolution granting the Charlotte Housing Authority's request to issue multifamily housing revenue bonds, in an amount not to exceed \$5,000,000 in order to finance the development of Grier Heights Senior Apartments.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 48, at Pages 600-604.

Item No. 25: Traffic Signal Maintenance

(A) Approve unit price contracts with the following companies for performing preventative maintenance for an initial term of three years: Econolite Systems, Inc. and Garrett James Company, LLC, and (B) Authorize the City Manager to renew the contract for us to two additional one-year terms with possible price adjustments and to amend the contracts consistent with the purpose for which the contracts were approved.

Item No. 26: Private Developer Funds for Traffic Signal Improvements

Adopt Budget Ordinance No. 9277-X appropriating \$55,000 in private developer funds for traffic signal improvements and related work.

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 61, at Page 274.

Item No. 27: Pineville-Matthews Road Sidewalk and Pedestrian Safety Project Grant

(A) Adopt a resolution to approve a municipal agreement with the North Carolina Department of Transportation accepting a Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Grant for pedestrian improvements in the amount of \$3,101,240, and (B) Adopt Budget Ordinance No. 9278-X appropriating \$3,101,240 to the General Community Investment Plan.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 48, at Page 605.

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 61, at Page 275.

Item No. 28: Two-way separated Bike Lane design Services

Authorize the City Manager to negotiate and execute a contract up to \$500,000 with Stewart Engineering, Inc. for planning and design services for the two-way bike lane along 5th and 6th Streets.

Item No. 29: South Tryon Street Sidewalk Improvements Phase II Project

Award a contract in the amount of \$908,221.60 to the lowest responsive bidder B & N Grading, Inc. for the South Tryon Sidewalk Improvements II project.

Summary of Bids

B & N Grading, Inc.	\$908,221.60
Blythe Development Company	\$912,000.32
Sealand Contractors Corporation	\$917,843.03

Item No. 30: Ayrley Town Boulevard Improvement Project

Award a contract in the amount of \$691,647 to the lowest responsive bidder Blythe Development Company for Ayrley Town Boulevard Project.

Summary of Bids

Blythe Development Company	\$ 691,647.00
B & N Grading, Inc.	\$ 697,802.60
United Construction Company, Inc.	\$ 772,764.30
Carolina Cajun Concrete, Inc.	\$ 785,620.00
United of Carolinas, Inc.	\$1,045,459.00

Item No. 31: Charlotte Mecklenburg Police Department University City Division Station Design Services

Approve a contract in the amount of \$896,100 with ADW Architects for architectural services for the Charlotte Mecklenburg Police Department (CMPD) University City Division Station.

Item No. 32: Architectural Services for Fire Station #43

Approve a contract in the amount of \$418,800 with Boomerang Design, PA for architectural services for Fire Station #43.

Item No. 33. Charlotte Mecklenburg Government Center (CMGC) Parking Deck Office Construction Contract

Award a contract in the amount of \$129,627.30 to the lowest responsive bidder D. E. Brown Construction, Inc. for the Charlotte Mecklenburg Government Center (CMGC) Parking Deck Office project.

Summary of Bids

D. E. Brown Construction, Inc.	\$129,627.30
McFarland Construction	\$151,797.80
TEC Electric, LLC	\$184,800.00

Item No. 34: Old City Hall Boiler Replacement

Award a contract in the amount of \$122,870 to the lowest responsive bidder Armstrong Mechanical Services, Inc. for the Old City Hall Boiler Replacement Project.

Summary of Bids

Armstrong Mechanical Services, Inc.	\$122,870.00
JR Mechanical, LLC	\$126,500.00

Item No. 35: Discovery Place Master Planning

Approve a contract for \$200,000 with Discovery Place, Inc. for master planning services.

Item No. 36: Fiscal Year 2015 Sewer Repairs and Replacement Contract Amendment

Approve Change Order #1 with Atlantic Coast Contractors, Inc. for \$500,000 to the Fiscal Year 2015 Sewer Point Repairs and Replacements contract for the repair of a 36-inch sanitary sewer pipe.

Item No. 38: Fiscal Year 2018 Water Main Replacements (Contract 2)

(A) Award a contract in the amount of \$1,104,652.50 to the lowest responsive bidder Dallas 1 Construction LLC for Fiscal Year 2018 Water Main Replacements – Contract 2, and (B) Authorize the City Manager to approve up to two renewals in the amount stated above, plus or minus possible price adjustments based on the Engineering News Record Construction Cost Index and to amend the contract consistent with the purpose for which the contract was approved.

Summary of Bids

Dallas 1 Construction LLC	\$1,104,652.50
Propst Construction	\$1,140,578.25
State Utility Contractors	\$1,693,844.25

Item No. 39: Davidson Water Main Construction and Construction Management Contracts

(A) Award a contract in the amount of \$4,305,037.00 to the lowest responsive bidder Propst Construction Company for the Davidson Water Transmission Main project, and (B) Approve a professional services contract for \$299,900.00 with Willis Engineers Inc. for construction administration services.

Summary of Bids

Propst Construction	\$4,305,037.00
R. H. Price	\$4,614,629.25
State Utility Contractors	\$4,380,818.75

Item No. 40: McAlpine creek Wastewater Treatment Plant Reliability and Process Improvements Project Phase 1

Approve a contract in the amount of \$861,088 with Garney Companies, Inc. for Phase 1 design-build services for the McAlpine Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant Reliability Improvements Project.

Item No. 41: McAlpine Creek Wastewater Treatment Polymer Contract

(A) Award a unit price contract to the lowest responsive bidder Polydyne, Inc. for the purchase of polymer chemicals for a term of two years and five months, 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 purpose for which the contract was approved.

Summary of Bids

Polydyne, Inc.	\$211.16
BASF	\$212.81
Solenis	\$229.81

Item No. 42: Franklin and Vest Water Treatment Plants Laboratory Renovations

Award a contract in the amount of \$352,710 to the lowest responsive bidder Wharton-Smith, Inc. for construction of Franklin and Vest Water Treatment Plants Laboratory Renovations.

Summary of Bids

Wharton-Smith, Inc.	\$352,710.00
Roper	\$418,828.00
Edison Foard	\$438,130.00
Danforth	\$473,061.60

Item No. 44: Charlotte Gateway Station Project – Century Link Utility Relocation Agreement

Authorize the City Manager to negotiate and execute a utility relocation adjustment with Century Link for the Charlotte Gate Station project.

Item No. 45: CLT Center Renovations – Phase 11 Construction

(A) Award a contract in the amount of \$914,100 to the lowest responsive bidder, Encompass Building Group, Inc. for the CLT Center Renovations – Phase 11 project, and (B) Adopt Budget Ordinance No. 9279-X appropriating \$407,350 from the Airport Discretionary Fund to the Airport Community Investment Plan Fund.

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 61, at Page 276.

Item No. 46: Aviation Elevated Roadway and Pedestrian Tunnels Change Order #1

Approve Change Order #1 for \$1,051,618.75 to Flatiron Constructors, Inc. – Blythe Development Company, A Joint Venture for installation of five crane foundations.

Item No. 47: Aviation Landscaping Maintenance Services

(A) Approve contracts with the following companies for Landscaping Maintenance Services for an initial term of three years: The Budd Group, Leisure Time Lawn Care, and Carolina Wetland Services, and (B) Authorize the City Manager to renew the contracts for up to two additional, one-year terms with possible price adjustments and to amend the contracts consistent with the purposes for which the contracts were approved.

Item No. 48: Airport Exterior Surface Cleaning Contract

(A) Approve a contract with SunShine Cleaning Systems, Inc. for Exterior Surface Cleaning for an initial term of three years, and (B) Authorize the City Manager to renew the contract for

up to two, one-year terms with possible price adjustments and to amend the contract consistent with the purpose for which the contract was approved.

Item No. 49: federal Aviation Administration Lease

Approve a 33-month lease with the Federal Aviation Administration for the relocation of its weather bureau office.

Item No. 50: United States General Services Administration Lease Agreement

Approve a five-year lease amendment with the United States General Services Administration for Transportation Security Administration office space.

Item No. 51: Refund of Property Taxes

Adopt a resolution authorizing the refund of property taxes assessed through clerical or assessment error in the amount of \$6,893.28.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 48, at Pages 606-607.

Item No. 52: Meeting Minutes

Approve the titles, motions, and votes reflected in the Clerk's record as the minutes of January 22, 2018, Business Meeting.

PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS

Item No. 54: Property Transactions–Riverhaven Drive Phase 2 Watermain, Parcel #1.

Resolution of Condemnation of 715 square feet (.016 acres) in Waterline Easement, plus 14 square feet (acre) in Temporary Construction Easement on Riverhaven Drive from Laddie Van Hill and Sherry Hill for \$300 for Riverhaven Drive Phase 2, Watermain, Parcel #1.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 48, at Page 608.

Item No. 55: Property Transactions–Riverhaven Drive Phase 2 Watermain, Parcel #2

Resolution of condemnation of 1,312 square feet (.03 acre) in Waterline Easement plus 884 square feet (.02 acre) in Temporary Construction Easement on Riverhaven Drive from Laddie Van Hill and Sherry Hill for \$900 for Riverhaven Drive Phase 2, Watermain, Parcel #2.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 48, at Page 609.

Item No. 56: Property Transactions–Lincoln Heights Drainage Improvement, Parcel #85

Resolution of Condemnation of 767 square feet (.018 acre) in Storm Drainage Easement, plus 1,628 square feet (.037 acre) in Temporary Construction Easement at 1725 Odessa Avenue from Olivette Myers and Monique L. Patterson for \$125 for Lincoln Heights Drainage Improvements, Parcel #85.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 48, at Page 610.

ITEM NO. 10: PUBLIC HEARING ON THE CASTLEFORD RESERVE VOLUNTARY ANNEXATION

Mayor Lyles declared the hearing open.

There being no speakers either for or against a motion was made by Councilmember Harlow, seconded by Councilmember Newton, and carried unanimously to close the public hearing and adopt Ordinance No. 9274-X with an effective date of February 26, 2018 to extend the corporate limits to include this property and assign it to the adjacent City Council District 7.

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 61, at Pages 269-271.

ITEM NO. 11: 2018 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

Motion was made by Councilmember Driggs and seconded by Councilmember Mayfield to approve the proposed 2018 Federal Legislative Agenda.

Councilmember Bokhari said I didn't realize we were voting, and it is my fault, but will there be an opportunity to revisit some of those elements of Fentech in Economic Development and Cyber Security that were not listed on our specific agenda for the short session and long session later even if we adopt it today?

Marcus Jones, City Manager said this is the Federal Legislation that is being asked to be approved tonight, not the State, that is next month.

Councilmember Winston said the five points on our Federal Legislation I thought were rather broad. I would like to see more specific asks as it relates to affordable housing. As it is written right now, it says we are going up there for support for affordable housing options. I don't know what support means; it could be a smack on the back and say we support you, go get'em tiger, but that is not something I feel comfortable with bringing back to the City of Charlotte. I think we should ask specific things whether it be projects, amounts or ideas that we request support for. Something along the lines, one of the points was to finance the future of CATS 2030 Plan. I know that is even general and I would love to see funding for Stage 2 or something like that. That was just my comments and critiques of our Federal Legislative Agenda for 2018.

Councilmember Phipps said as I can recall in participating in the past delegation visits to Washington, by the time with get in with our delegation we do have extensive talking points more targeted specific asks that we would ask our legislature. Although this might be a broad contextual terms that we are bringing up, we do have specific more detailed talking points and specific things that we are asking for once those books are prepared.

Mr. Winston said my follow-up would be well why are we not adopting those specific asks now; what are we waiting for?

Councilmember Driggs said I don't know whether Mr. Fenton would be in a better position to explain this, but the nature of the conversation we have with our Representatives in Washington is qualitative generally. We are always on the lookout for opportunities to seek grants and to find places in the budget where some of our priorities can be furthered, but it actually would be kind of unhelpful to go in and say this is what we need from you. We have to go in and say these are our priorities, and we would appreciate your support from time to time when we make certain applications under certain programs or for certain grants to help us get that. I think there is a method to the way this thing was proposed, and it doesn't exclude anything that you are talking about. It is just that at this stage of formulating our Legislative Agenda we don't try to get down that far.

Dana Fenton, Inter-Government Relations Manager said affordable housing is a national issue. I don't know of any city out there that is really able to solve the problem here recently. What we are looking for in particular and what we are recommending that the Council adopt, it is a proposition, but there are really two things that we are trying to get at. One is that the Administration has proposed zeroing out the Community Development Block Grant and Home Programs, which we use those monies for affordable housing, and I understand in talking with Ms. Wideman this afternoon that it is nearly \$10 million per year that we get from the Federal Government for that and because of the Administration's proposal, we felt it was necessary for the Council to communicate its preferences for those programs to continue. Also, there is a move a foot national to try to get more money for housing, and again this is a national issue. Every city is facing this, and one of the ideas being expressed is to have a program like the Department of Transportation's Tiger Program where the most innovative ideas can come forward for communities to make application for new federal resources to tackle that affordable housing issue.

Councilmember Mitchell said Mr. Fenton, looking at these proposals, two questions; one how did we derive at these that are listed because in my mind we think about winning cities and some of our priorities. There is nothing here about public safety and small businesses and economic development, so how did we come to these?

Mr. Fenton said three of them; the Charlotte Douglas International Airport Doppler Weather Radar in the 2030 Transit System Plan are continuations from last year's Legislative Agenda, with respect to the Airport looking for the new Tower to be commissioned in 2020. We are looking for the Federal Government to put A Dopier Weather Radar closer to us, so we don't have to face the same situation we faced in 2012 and 2030 Transit System Plan, the Administration is proposing to eliminate the Tiger Program in Transportation and also to start cutting back on the Capital Investment Grants Program. The Capital Investment Grants Program, as you know Mr. Mitchell, is the program that funded the federal share of the LYNX Blue Line Extension, which the ribbon was cut today for that. The other two, affordable housing that was a [inaudible] of your Community Letter in October of 2016, so we are looking for a way to somehow get it into the Legislative Agenda. Finally, the infrastructure initiative; this was talked about initially in the Presidential Campaign of 2016 and of course the President has sent a proposal to Congress, which I think we all admit now it has got to be reworked quite a bit and something that may not even be adopted this year, but we felt like this was a time for the Council to speak up on the infrastructure which you all have been looking for in past years.

Mr. Mitchell said what happened to public safety which was also part of our Community Letter but is not addressed here?

Mr. Fenton said you are right, it was part of your Community Letter; there weren't any specific proposals that came from departments on that and also the Administration in general has been pretty supportive of public safety programs. We really were kind of at a loss right there to see whether there was anything we could put in there on public safety, not to say that something could be added in later on, just right now that is where we are.

Mayor Lyles said when we were up in Washington we went to the Department of Justice and we are very competitive with every part of their programs around law enforcement. I often think of this as being more of what do they have that we can get in a way versus what we want, and they can provide. It is that kind of relationship. I may not be saying that very well, but at the federal level what I found is that we are trying to figure out what they are doing and how we fit into it, versus us being able to say to them we'd like for you to do this. I think we've had great success in Justice, particular with COPS; a lot of that has to do with the fine people that were in our Chambers today and the support that they have, not only locally but across the country. I will tell you the things that have been added are very nebulous right now. The infrastructure initiative and affordable housing, HUD was one of the few places that actually cut their staff over 30% in the President's budget. When you start talking about what we can do we have to figure out what is left that we can participate in.

Mr. Driggs said I just wanted to comment briefly in case people are watching; it is a long way from the President's budget until it gets adopted by Congress, so we will weigh in on some of the features of the budget and let people know what we think about it, but as I said there shouldn't be a concern that these monies are necessarily going away.

Mr. Winston said the President's budget is bogus, and that is not just because of this President; Congress controls the purse strings, so every year the President presents a budget that is largely ignored by the US Congress, because that is their job. As we go up there and we are talking to the folks that do control the purse strings, just like folks come to us every week, I feel like this is our chance to advocate for specific things that we need and not just those nebulous ideas.

Councilmember Eiselt said when we had the Inter-governmental Committee we would discuss that, but here we are in February, and that is where we had those discussions in the Inter-governmental Committee and then once those initiatives were set for the agenda book at the federal and state level, we didn't do a whole lot more on that Committee. I just wonder if there is an ad hoc opportunity to have the discussion on state and federal items that Councilmembers want to discuss and put forth. Mr. Fenton is explaining how the process

works and that is fine, but we don't really have that opportunity to do that until we go to vote on it, which I think is leaving a gap. I will also mention that we are paying Lobbyists a lot of money to tell us what to do and how to do it, so that plays into it as well. If we really want to focus on a transit plan does that mean that we lay off a little bit on something else? That is sort of some of the advice that they give us, is it not?

Mr. Fenton said that advice I think might have been provided before.

Ms. Eiselt said we used to hear it in the Committee meetings.

Mr. Fenton said yes, in the Committee meetings I think they may have said something like that before.

Mayor Lyles said I'm following up to Ms. Eiselt's statement that we need a discussion; Mr. Manager we have a meeting the first Monday in March we can talk about this some more. We can leave this and adopt it on that date.

Mr. Bokhari said as I am learning this part of the process and how it works, it sounds to me like there is some very high level five in this case statements of which there is a lot more detail later on, and I would encourage us maybe rather than adopt it here to have a little more impact and thought towards where we are deploying our resources and staff, our resources from Lobbyists, because if you take off the three that were already in works and underway and we are just following up on them, the two that are left are infrastructure and affordable housing, which you've said are the monster ones that literally everybody is going after, and there is not enough, so perhaps there is another one and back to where I started and where I was a little off base, but we know cyber security is important and we know Tech especially Fentech is important to our eco system. Maybe there is less people coming in and looking for, to the Mayor's point, what they've got already that we can get in those spaces, and there is less competition and more relevance to us as a City and a region there. I would encourage us to think about those things as we are deploying taxpayer base resources in the forms of staff and lobbyists to go get these things.

A substitute motion was made by Councilmember Bokhari, seconded by Councilmember Winston, and carried unanimously to defer the 2018 Federal Legislative Agenda to their Strategy Session on March 5, 2018.

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ITEM NO. 12: CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Marcus Jones, City Manager said at each of your seats there is a 30-day memo for items that will be coming before you over the course of the next month. I would like to use the time for the Manager's Update to ask Assistant City Manager, Kim Eagle to provide an update on the efforts around domestic violence and also to provide an update for the next agenda item that you have, which is the Police in the ETJ which I'd like to commend Kim for all of her hard work in both areas.

Kim Eagle, Assistant City Manager said I will do a brief update on the status of the domestic violence work and then I'll move, depending on questions, into that next item. The strategy group that we convened in late January met again last week; that was our second meeting. We have gone through and developed a list of action items that are short-term initiatives that we can achieve from accomplishments in an expedited fashion that we are working through. We are going to put together small groups to make that work go faster so that we make the best use of time for that large group. I will give you a couple examples of the action items; we are working to finalize that list, and I will share that with you when we have that finished in about a week. I wanted to let you know that the Clerk of Superior Court Elise Chinn-Gary has joined our group, and she spent some time with us last week talking about electronic filing for protective orders so there are some opportunities there relative to implementation that we can expedite potentially, so we are having those conversations. The Judges, as an example, are being trained on that this week, so we feel very confident that that will be one area of success. The next example that I will give is something that is

collaboration between the City of Charlotte, Corporate Communications, and the County. We are going to do some work to put forward a social media campaign, where we send out information on either a weekly or bi-weekly basis to update folks on educational topics and just different conversations going on in the community. This is an outgrowth of the feedback that we received at the Town Hall recently, so that is another example of an action item.

We are also having some conversation around how we best engage the grassroots community. We know there are a lot of folks doing really good work in the community so we are having a conversation about that. We are talking about ways to engage the immigrant community and also working to get a survivor on our Stakeholder Group to have that perspective. We've had lots of conversation around how do we do this better while we are trying to go fast. That is my update on the domestic violence work; we are very encouraged.

Councilmember Winston said I would like to echo Mr. Jones' thanks to Ms. Eagle for all the hard work that you are doing in this realm. I know it can be difficult and taxing, but I would like to thank you in general and specifically for your help in putting together the Domestic Violence Town Hall that we had on Valentine's Day. I think it was very well put together by many different parts of the staff, but it was obvious that we have a lot more work to do.

Ms. Eagle said thank you Mr. Winston, I appreciate that. It is a privilege to get to work on this topic and Karen Whichard in the City Manager's Office has put in a lot of time and effort on this as well. I would like to thank her also.

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ITEM NO. 13: RATIFY 2018 AGREEMENT FOR THE CONTINUED CONSOLIDATION OF CHARLOTTE MECKLENBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT

Kim Eagle, Assistant City Manager said tonight the action being requested by Council is to adopt a resolution that ratifies the 2018 Agreement for the continued consolidation of the Charlotte Mecklenburg Police Department. I will go through a few points around the work that has gone on. To start with, I will remind you that we talked about this at your January 22, 2018 Action Review Meeting, and I shared a bit then about the process. Since then, we have completed all of the negotiations for the agreement so just a smidge of history; back in 1993 the Charlotte Police Department and the Mecklenburg County Police Department were consolidated via an interlocal agreement. Then three years later in 1996 we added a funding mechanism so that we could charge for the CMPD services in the extra-territorial jurisdictions (ETJ). That agreement was put in place in 1996 was terminated by the County effective June 30, 2018, so we've been working since we received that notification to put together a new agreement, and that is what you have in front of you tonight.

The estimated revenues that we will receive paid by the County for these services are approximately \$14 million; that is the floor if you will. The agreement does include adjustments for natural growth. An initial five-year term is what is established in the agreement, and we are requiring a 23-month notice for termination, and that is an extension of what we have in the previous agreement. I would also like to note that Mecklenburg County approved the agreement on Tuesday, February 20, 2018.

Councilmember Driggs said I just have a short comment in terms of background; the conversation came about largely because the tax rate that had to be levied in order to fund on the terms of the old deal kept going up and there was resistance to seeing that number increase. It was just a function of the kind of formula we used so now in the new thing the tax rate is held constant at a certain number. We protect ourselves against any decline by putting the \$14 million floor in, and we are also protected against any increase in the value of the property at that given tax rate. We will see growth in these revenues under normal circumstances, but we are not going to re-compute the tax rate each time with the result as has occurred in the past that it keeps getting higher.

Motion was made by Councilmember Driggs, seconded by Councilmember Harlow, and carried unanimously to ratify the 2018 agreement for the continued consolidation of the Charlotte Mecklenburg Police Department.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 48, at Pages 586-599.

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ITEM NO. 14: CHARLOTTE GATEWAY STATION PROJECT AGREEMENTS

Mayor Lyles said I want to recognize all the hard work of the staff and the team led by a number of great people but the person that is here tonight Mr. John Lewis on opening of the Blue Line, thank you very much.

Motion was made by Councilmember Egleston and seconded by Councilmember Ajmera, to (A) Authorize the City Manager to negotiate and execute a Construction Agreement between the City, Norfolk Southern Railroad (NSR) and the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NC-DOT) for the Charlotte Gateway Station (CGS) project, (B) Authorize the City Manager to negotiate and execute a Maintenance Agreement between the City, Norfolk Southern Railroad and NC-DOT for the CGS Project, and (C) Adopt Budget Ordinance No. 9275-X appropriating \$30,000,000 in Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) grant funds and \$1,750,000 from Municipal Debt Service Fund Balance.

Councilmember Driggs said I think one of the few things that is not controversial in Charlotte is the fact that we need a new train station, if you've seen the old. I'm interested to know how the ownership structure will work, and I did raise the question before the meeting but I'd like to clarify if we are putting in CIP money and we get this federal grant does the federal grant permit the [inaudible] question to be owned by us and how do you see this playing out, the governance, the ownership and control of the whole thing?

John Lewis, Executive Director of CATS said what you are considering today is part of the Phase 1 infrastructure deals that we are trying to move forward. As was outlined in the RCA, NCDOT and Norfolk Southern will be working on the construction of the bridge, the platforms and the signals. Concurrent with that we are working on the vertical development and to your point the City owns the property but as we continue our discussions on developing an RFP or an RFQ to bring in a private developer to work with us on what that station and the attendant vertical development will be we will then answer the questions on whether or not the City should continue to own it, if that is in the best interest of the City and the project or we convey, sell or come up with some other agreement with that private sector developer but the City does own that property fee simple.

Mr. Driggs said so, if we did that would mean that we would provide it to a new entity in the context of a larger transaction, and we would receive some sort of consideration?

Mr. Lewis said that would be the model if we made that determination that we wanted to convey that. We are working through those issues right now; what is the best means of bringing on a private developer and what the structure of that entity will be.

Mr. Driggs said because you do have quite a large commercial interest on the side of the private developers. Is there any circumstance under which the City ends up not controlling its own train station?

Mr. Lewis said not one that I would recommend.

Mr. Driggs said I just want to tell you, nor would I and therefore as this evolves because I expect the next phase is going to involve large amounts of private investment, and it is a proper true public/private partnership where we participate in the cost of something together to our mutual benefit. I just want to somehow include in that that there is some body, majority appointed by us or it is us or whatever that actually controls the train station. I think that should be a City resource.

Mr. Lewis said understood and so as we continue to work through what that entity will look like we will certainly be back before the Council to make those recommendations and get your feedback.

Councilmember Egleston said a lot of times the work we do can seem kind of boring, but I could not be more excited about this project. At the risk of sounding like I'm also working for Denver, Colorado's Chamber of Commerce, this will be twice in a month, but the Union Station in downtown Denver, I had an opportunity to visit two-years ago, and it has transformed a part of their downtown and really brought together all the modes of travel that they have. It has created new jobs; it has led to new development investment, and it is the vision I have for the Gateway Station here in Charlotte. So, thank you for the work you are doing on this, and I would encourage anybody who is watching tonight to look up the Union Station and picture what that could do right there between Third and Fourth Ward in Charlotte.

Mr. Driggs said I have one more question; the bus service right now functions out of the Transportation Center, and now we are talking about creating this Gateway Station; how can we integrate those so that we do have a network that doesn't involve a disconnect between those two places?

Mr. Lewis said right now whereas you all know we are going through a redesign of our bus system, the Envision My Ride. Our goal in that is to not require so much of our service to end up in uptown, unless that is their final destination. We will have, I envision a much smaller footprint in uptown. We will divide that equally between the Charlotte Transit Center and some bus connections at the Gateway Station. You will remember that those points are very strategically located, and both centers will be connected with the Gold Line, so as the Gold Line Extension continues to progress it will have a stop at the Gateway Station. It currently stops at the Transit Center, and that also provides northwest connectivity to the Blue Line.

Mr. Driggs said it is another leg of the journey, but I think what you are saying is that as far as buses are concerned you are going to try and minimize the situation where somebody has to go all the way uptown and then leave again, taking two-hours to get to their destination.

Mr. Lewis said that is correct.

Councilmember Harlow said I have a question, but first I will echo my colleague's comments around how transformative this can be. I think it really is a commitment to how we want to invest in large scale transit and help get people out of their cars and create some connectivity in this City. I also see it as a larger catalyst as we move west in uptown and then also think about what could be beyond. I'm not totally familiar with the TIGER Grant and the \$30 million is fantastic. My question is about the term; are we under some type of clock or timeline as it relates to this?

Mr. Lewis said yes, the TIGER as a stipulation of getting these federal grants; there is a two-year window, which for us, that clock ends for us in September at which time we have to encumber these funds.

Mr. Harlow said what is the stop point to say hey, we have met the terms?

Mr. Lewis said this agreement here.

Mr. Harlow said just the agreement, not actually –

Mr. Lewis said yes once we add that to the budget and begin to appropriate it we can draw that money down with the FRA. We do have to sign some other agreements, both with Norfolk Southern and NCDOT, but this is an important step forward.

Councilmember Winston said congratulations Mr. Lewis on the ride today. It was truly fantastic, and like you said under that tent, it is back to work tomorrow. So, I'm glad in the morning we were celebrating and in the evening we are working. As my colleagues have stated, this will be an amazing infrastructure project in scope and in faculty for the City. I just want to encourage you and the folks that make decisions on how we build this that we are cognizant to include as many Charlotteans in building this fantastic structure and network as possible. Where we are not able to fill those positions constructing this we should find ways that we can bridge that gap going forward in the project or future projects.

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

The ordinance was recorded in full in Ordinance Book 61, at page 272.

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APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

ITEM NO. 15: APPOINTMENTS TO THE CHARLOTTE INTERNATIONAL CABINET

The following nominees were considered 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, and Winston.

Results of the ballot were recorded as follows:

Sven Gerzer, 4 votes – Councilmembers Driggs, Eiselt, Mayfield and Phipps
Brooks Shelley, 7 votes – Councilmembers Ajmera, Bokhari, Egleston, Harlow, Mitchell, Newton and Winston.

Brooks Shelly was appointed.

The following nominees were considered 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

Results of the ballot were recorded as follows:

Scott Chen, 1 vote – Councilmember Driggs
Vanessa Vaughn, 10 votes – Councilmembers Ajmera, Bokhari, Egleston, Eiselt, Harlow, Mayfield, Mitchell, Newton, Phipps, and Winston

Vanessa Vaughn was appointed.

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ITEM 16: APPOINTMENT TO THE CIVIL SERVICE BOARD

The following nominees were considered 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
Carolyn Millen, nominated by Councilmembers Driggs, Mayfield, Newton, Phipps, and Winston.

Results of the ballot were recorded as follows:

Parker Cains, 4 votes – Councilmembers Bokhari, Driggs, Harlow, and Phipps
Carolyn Millen, 7 votes – Councilmembers Ajmera, Egleston, Eiselt, Mayfield, Mitchell, Newton, and Winston.

Carolyn Millen was appointed.

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ITEM NO. 17: APPOINTMENTS TO HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION

The following nominees were considered for one appointment for a partial terms 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.

Results of the ballot were recorded as follows:

William Hughes, 7 votes- Ajmera, Bokhari, Egleston, Harlow, Mayfield, Mitchell, and Winston
Edwin Wilson, 4 votes – Councilmembers Driggs, Eiselt, Newton, and Phipps.

William Hughes was appointed.

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ITEM NO. 18: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL TOPICS

Councilmember Mitchell said my wife and I hosted the Black History Quiz Bowl at West Charlotte with Project LIFT middle school students, and I would like to thank our Mayor; she was a great judge. She was there three and a half hours, and she was the photo star and Representative from District 2, Dr. Harlow. Thank you for coming by and relieving me and the Representative from District 3, Ms. Mayfield and to all the youth and parents who were there, thank you so much for participating in Black History Quiz Bowl.

Councilmember Ajmera said community engagement, advocacy and economic opportunities, these are the words that I often hear when I go out in the community. Well, you have an opportunity; UNCC is having an Activism Fair on February 28, 2018 from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. at their Student Activity Center. Those of you who are interested in jobs, internships, networking, getting their voice heard, also getting more involved in the community, this is your chance. Come out and support this organization and get more involved.

Councilmember Mayfield said I want to invite everyone to the first Housing and Neighborhood Development Committee Meeting of the year, which will be held on Wednesday at 2:00 p.m. in Room 280 in the Government Center. Also Councilmember Harlow and I had the opportunity this past Saturday evening to attend the Males Place. They had their annual gala fundraiser but their organization has been around since the early 80's and specifically focuses on young African American men. They are planning their second trip to Ghana; their first one was back in 2010. They are taking 20 young men, and I believe there are five chaperones. They are still fundraising for the event and I mention this because they are visiting our Sister City Kumasi, and this is going to be a great opportunity, not only for our young men and especially those of us even though Black Panther is a fictitious nation, the record sales tells us that what we need to see if more powerful, positive images on the big screen, because images and words have power, for these young men to have a chance to go to Ghana and to go to Kumasi is going to be an amazing experience. Anyone who would like to get more information you can go to themalesplace.org to find our more information and to donate and/or support. I do not normally promote any particular organization, but I am really proud of what these young men are doing, and they are doing a lot of work to get themselves to Ghana and for them to have this experience here is an opportunity for us to step up and support.

Councilmember Phipps said I want to thank everyone for coming out today to the Campus of UNCC for the launch of the light rail Blue Line Extension from their Campus coming uptown. We have hundreds of people a virtual potpourri of who is who in Charlotte. The former Transit Directors: Mr. Tober, Ms. Flowers, our own David Howard was there. Everybody enjoyed it, we had a nice lunch and this was really a precursor of what is going to be happening on March 16, 2018 when the service initiation date commences for the Blue Line Extension. It was a great time, and I know of you all here participated in it, and it was great. Everybody is excited about the service delivery on March 16, 2018, so thank you very much for attending.

Councilmember Bokhari said I will my couple seconds there to reflect what we all saw today with our brave men and women in uniform in CMPD coming out unified as a group telling us their positive stories but also their challenges right now and just to reiterate the stats we heard. This is in top of our minds and nothing else should be with why we are here. In 2017, we hired 114 new officers, and we lost 120, and there was a net gain of one in 2016. We are looking at 2018 right now; we have 150 officer shortfall that we need to hire to be fully staffed, and 58 more are retiring this year. Then you look at the challenges we have of losing the police officers to Raleigh and Cary PD that have superior retirement healthcare. They have superior and higher top end pay; this is a challenge that we need to address, and we need to address head on before look at anything that is a “nice to have,” and if we are looking at the topics that we talk about right now today of upper mobility, affordable housing, gentrification, equity, all of those are part of a tool kit we need to solve those challenges and you cannot solve a single one of them if our community members do not feel safe. We have a challenge with retention and attraction of officers right now that could put that in jeopardy, so I hope we all take that to heart, the impressive show that we saw tonight and make that on the forefront of our mind as we look to see what we can do.

Councilmember Newton said I wanted to take a quick moment and congratulate Carolyn Millen on her appointment to the Civil Service Board. For anyone who doesn't know who Carolyn is, that is Carolyn right there, and she has been with us since the Dinner Meeting tonight through the entire meeting. She is the former President of Eastway/Sheffield, and I know is going to do a fantastic job on the Board. Congratulations Carolyn; there is a lot going on in District 5, which is east Charlotte that I want to share with everybody. First and foremost, Charlotte East that is the Eastland Area Strategies Team will be having a Meet and Greet on Thursday March 1, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at Queen Sheba Restaurant, 4808 Central Avenue. I want to thank Maureen Gilewski all the wonderful folks at Charlotte East for putting that together. I will be there, and I look forward to seeing everyone else there. There will also be a Tree Day; it is being called Monroescape, being held by Tree Charlotte and a number of east Charlotte communities are partnering with Tree Charlotte, communities like McClintock Woods, East Forest, Oakhurst, Burtonwood and Woodberry Forest. That is going to be at East Baptist Church, 6850 Monroe Road Saturday, March 3, 2018 from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. The point of this is to promote tree canopy within our City; you can come out to this event and get three trees that you can take home with you. There will be an Arborist there as well that will give you instructions on how to plant those trees and take care of them. One last thing that I am so very excited about; this is something that was included in the City Manager's Budget Report. If you remember he was talking about creating Charlotte's Workforce Pipeline for the future and there is an Aviation Institute, American Institute of Maintenance which is the largest Aviation Maintenance Institute in the world, and they will actually be coming here to Charlotte proper but more specifically east Charlotte on the Independence Boulevard Corridor. I am so excited and want to thank our City Manager for his hard work on that initiative. Joel English with AIM and the whole AIM Team, they have been a great community partner from the very start. There will be two Charlotte area scholarships associated with this, and we are going to be reaching out and working with East Mecklenburg High School and Independence High School to partner and create maybe some programs that AIM can champion for our local students. I am so excited that they will be here; classes will start in the fall of 2018 and I'm excited to see this partnership take off.

Councilmember Egleston said I would like to echo what Mr. Phipps mentioned how excited I was to be a part of the Blue Line Extension Ribbon Cutting today and I think when you saw who was in the crowd the intergenerational leadership that was in that crowd today kind of gives some gravity to the work that goes into a project that big and that impactful on our community. To all the staff, all the elected officials, all of the folks from UNC-Charlotte, thank you to everybody who was involved in that it is a project that I'm really excited about, and I think it is going to be transformational for our City, but it was done by a lot of people. Many hands make light work, so thank you to the many hands that were involved. I also want to welcome to our City the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association who kicked off the CIAA Tournament today. My history with the CIAA goes back further than you probably suppose; I ball boyed the CIAA when I was a young child in Winston Salem, North Carolina back when it was held there and have loved in partaking in a lot of the tournament and events around the tournament for now two decades. Welcome to them and good luck on a successful tournament. Finally, in less than two days filing will have closed for this year's election, and I

just want to thank everybody who has offered their services to our City, County, State or nation by filing and offering themselves as public servant. I think everyone around here will agree this work is difficult and the work that you have signed up for is difficult, but it is very rewarding and it is very worthwhile. To anybody who is willing to do it at any level, I appreciate you, and I applaud you, and if you are still thinking about it you've got two days left.

Councilmember Harlow said what a week-end it was; you heard my colleagues mention the Black History Quiz Bowl and the Males Place fundraising gala to send 20 young black boys to Ghana. I definitely encourage you to visit themalesplace.org and donate if you can to support that. One event that is missing so I will mention it, we had a great time and kudos to Housing and Neighborhood Services and all the staff that put on the Neighborhood Board Retreat this weekend. There was staff from the Manager's office, from Community Relations, from Housing and Neighborhood Services; we had 15 really great neighborhoods come and participate and commit six hours on their Saturday in addition to staff committing time to help facilitate outlining some strategic priorities for our neighborhoods. I'm proud to highlight five neighborhoods from District 2; that was the most out of any District, so very proud to highlight the Brookfield Neighborhood Association, Thomasboro Neighborhood Association, the Biddleville/Smallwood Community Organization, the Lakewood Neighborhood Alliance and the Peachtree Hills Neighborhood Association. Thank you all for the work that you do, all the neighborhoods and HOAs out there for the work you do to help make our City great. Outside of that, everyone be safe during CIAA weekend; a lot of other events as well, the events surrounding the home going for Billy Graham as well, so traffic will be involved so stay safe out here in the streets.

Councilmember Driggs said I would like to thank all the members of staff who participated in the Ballantyne Breakfast Club event on Saturday this week about issues and answers. It was a big success; congratulations also to the Victoria. I see Tim Morgan and Founder Ray Eschert at the Breakfast Club. Public safety, Planning, the Sheriff's Office, Representatives from the General Assembly, this is really a one stop shop for citizens to be able to come and interact with their representatives in government, with the staff. It is a great event, but it does also represent a big investment on the part of the participating staff coming all the way down there and then being present. I want you to know we really appreciate that. The second thing I wanted to do was specifically acknowledge in conjunction with the Blue Line event today the accomplishments of my personal friend Chancellor Phil DuBois. He has been a driving force behind the Blue Line, the Uptown Campus, the football program, and if you observe the progress of UNCC under his leadership it is really remarkable, so I think we all owe him an individual debt in conjunction with of course the achievements of everybody else who participated in those. I just wanted to say personally Phil, thank you very much.

Councilmember Winston said two things I want to talk about; first and foremost I want to acknowledge the City employee that we lost this weekend. Ramona Brant passed away suddenly, and for those of you who don't know her, I just met her a month or two ago, and we were very excited about the work that we needed to do in this City. Ramona was a victim of domestic violence; she was a survivor, and through that experience she did some things that she found herself incarcerated. She served 21 years out of a 50-year sentence for non-violent drug offense. She would have been there today if it were not for President Barak Obama who offered clemency, and she was an employee in our Human Resource Department. We just spoke two weeks ago at my virtual Town Hall where she was a guest about continuing to do the work. Karen, Kim and I just finished meeting last Thursday talking about how she was going to be the subject of our next virtual Town Hall to tell her story. She was a tireless advocate for criminal justice reform and reintroduction of those convicted of felonies back into our society, and this is something that we had talked about as a Council, specifically around getting them into housing and jobs. I just sat on a panel with her three weeks ago at Warehouse 242 where we were able to share a lot. I would ask that we give a moment of silence to this giant that we had in our ranks, and I hope one day we can honor her in a proper fashion.

I do have one more thing I wanted to speak about, and it is another sobering topic. Two weeks ago Councilmember Eiselt in her invocation last week mentioned the events in Parkland, Florida where 17 people were murdered in a school shooting. Since then it has been on the front of minds and everybody is calling for a lot and something needs to happen.

I shared a video on Facebook of the scene that was in the high school, and people had different opinions of it. I never saw bodies in my school, but I grew up seeing bodies on the street. I grew up seeing people carry around out of shoot outs and seeing bodies on the ground walking home from school. Those things never got reported; nobody would believe me or the other people around me if they didn't see it. We have to see these things because as we see now once you see it, you are compelled to act. I find myself very ashamed at times from our elected leaders to be completely honest who continue to cop out and not offer real solutions, particularly on the state and federal level, and it is up to us folks in municipal local and city levels to answer directly to our constituents who have very legitimate gripes and requests of those that are supposed to lead in this great experiment.

We were supposed to vote on a contract today that would have approved spending over a million dollars to give our firefighters ballistic gear, bullet proof vests, Kevlar type helmets. Thanks you state and federal officials for giving us the only option is to protect our firefighters from going into active shooter situations. That was the reasoning that was cited on this contract, because these events have increased so much from 2009 we are thinking of putting bullet proof vests on our firefighters. I think we are better than that. One of the big things that we said on the streets in September 2016, if you come equipped for a riot you are going to get a riot, well if we continue to equip ourselves with weapons of war in our homes, in our schools, in our work places we are going to get wars in our homes, in our schools, and our work places. We have to do something so I implore my colleagues to find ways. I know this is not under our purview, but we have to find ways to answer to the citizens that depend on us, because our colleagues in the state houses and on Capitol Hill will not do that for us.

Councilmember Eiselt said a lot of the Councilmembers have reiterated events that have taken place, and it has been a busy week. The Blue Line experience today was really incredible, not only just to see how our City is growing around the Blue Line but also as we've said the people that were there today. I think we had five Mayors going back to Mayor Sue Myrick who was there, but what I was really taken by was how far back and how bipartisan this effort has been to get this Blue Line together, and I encourage my colleagues and our staff to really look at the opportunity that gives us, and I hope that we are as thoughtful as we can possibly be with what we build around rail line, and are we really planning for the future? We talk a lot about putting money into affordable housing. but are we buying land in that area that we can reserve for density for affordable housing? We've made that investment, and we will continue to invest near it and make the most of the investment that we've made.

I also wanted to comment on Ramona Brant. I heard Ramona speak at the RMJJ conference for Race Matters for Juvenile Justice, and I thought she was a national speaker. I had no idea she was an employee of the City of Charlotte. I had met her once before but didn't realize who she was or what her story was. I don't know if there is a video from the RMJJ Conference but if there is I hope it is on YouTube, and I hope people have the opportunity to hear about this woman, because she was really an incredible woman, and I think that God released her from prison and gave us an angle for a little bit of time so may she rest in peace.

Mayor Lyles said it is always tough when you lose someone who is so close to you, and I remember when Ramona was given her clemency, because she walked with a good friend of mine who was also in that same situation out that day, and it is really something when Kim Smith was in that same situation, again another person with connections to Charlotte had gone to Johnson C. Smith and both of them walked out of a 50-year sentence after a number of years. I want to also follow up to Mr. Winston; there is a Facebook page for Charlotte March for Our Lives, which will be held on March 24, 2018 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. They have applied for their permit; they are working with our Police Department and getting all of those things ironed out, and it is student led. It is students from our community that are stepping up to join with the Parkland and the other students that will be across this country working to change the situation that we have with all of this violence. I'm really glad to see and hope that many of us will have an opportunity to participate with high school students that are doing this work, because they so much have passion about the loss of life that is taking place unnecessarily. I think they are the next generation of change, and they are making a difference.

A few other things that I would like to let you know that are ongoing; we have the Republican Convention application going pretty smoothly. I want to thank Ed, and I want to thank Carol

Jennings who is working on this and Senator Tillis' staff, Ted Leeman especially, a lot of good work going into that and we are proceeding in that direction. I also want to point out, the Manager gave us a memo that is our places, and it talks about the March 5, 2018 Strategy Session, and it has the agenda on it, and it has Committee Chair report outs as the first item on the agenda. So far, I know Transportation, Environment, Community Safety, and Housing and Neighborhood Development would have met by this meeting. Is there anyone that is missing in that? Just to make sure that we are ready and that we can talk about the things that have been referred out from ED has already met. Let's get those and let's make sure everyone on our Council is informed about what is going on in Committee. There were several agenda items tonight that probably didn't happen very well, because we weren't all informed, and this is the opportunity again to make sure that all of us hear the message and have a chance to share our comments and questions together. There is also going to be a presentation on the UDO, and we have referred that to Transportation and Planning as a process. Originally, I thought we were further along but now that our Planning Director has said there is a reassessment we are going to re-evaluate, I think it is appropriate that we put it in that Committee.

We've added the Federal Legislative Package, so please see Mr. Fenton if you have questions about how or why. I know that you've had a chance to meet with the staff of Holland and Knight today, if not please make sure you touch base with Mr. Fenton so there is an opportunity to address some of those issues that you may have or questions about how we do it, why we do it. I have to say my apologies because sometimes I forget several of us have done this many, many times, and we just keep on rolling but we are going to pause and let this happen so that everybody can have equal participation, and that is what we need to continue to focus on.

I also want to make you aware that there is an Association called the Metro Mayor's Association; it started as a transportation for the urban centers in our City, but it is kind of continued into Metropolitan areas so that we can serve the regions around the Metropolitan areas, but I'm not really sure how it works, and I'm going to be working with Ester Misenhammer in Asheville and a number of people on that Board to figure out how it works and how it fits with our efforts of what we are doing in Charlotte to make sure we are effective working with our State Legislators because that is the focus of their group as well. We had a meeting with the African and Caribbean Group and they have asked us to look at the Sister City Process for Kumasi, and it is not just Kumasi it is that we've not done a lot of work. We had the China trip last year but many of you on the second floor will see those displays, and they are saying well are we really in this or not. The good thing is that this is not a 30, 60, or 90 day project; it usually takes over a year to reestablish these relationships, but I want to thank the office that we are working with Federico and Emily together to start talking about how we do this and do it in a way that works for us.

The final thing I want to recognize Councilmember Mitchell, who gathered together several of our leading Economic Development thinkers, after we had a meeting with the Deputy Commerce Secretary who came down and said you guys need to come to Raleigh and have a meeting, and we did that on Monday. We went in and the Deputy Secretary gave us over an hour; we met their Legislative person, their Rural Community person, their workforce development person. It was a very productive meeting for us. We talked about how we can work with both the Governor's Office, the Department, what is going on in the Legislature, which is something that maybe we will be playing some defense on versus offense. Those relationships continue to grow, and as I said with ED going up and having a focus and knowing specifically around some of that, I think that might be one way, once we decide what we are working on, to be able to do more outreach and have deeper relationships inside both the Governor's Office and Administration as well as the State Legislature. Think about it; mull it over, and we will talk about that a little bit more.

Finally, I want to thank Laura McClettie's little granddaughter, who is at Irwin Avenue, and she acted out the role of Mayor Vi Lyles. I noticed that she had on pearls, a blazer and a blond wig. You have to see these pictures; they are absolutely adorable. If anybody talks about the public schools in this City, they should have been there. These were kindergarten students that were assigned to act out a role, and they said clearly who they were, what they were doing, and they talked about something and captured something from each individual. Mayor Gantt and I had the opportunity to be there. The parents filled the room, and the

creativity of a teacher working with nothing, you should have seen the props. Aretha Franklin had on, I don't know what that was but there were doctors playing these roles and Muhammad Ali, and these were children of all races and ethnicities learning about African American people that were significant and the history of our country. To the staff and Principal, when they sang Life Every Voice and Sing I cried. It was that well done so thanks to our school system. We've got a lot to do, but sometimes we really have to appreciate what is going on. I don't know if you young people out there are here because you are required. I expect so, but thank you because you are going to make a difference.

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ITEM NO. 6: CLOSED SESSION

Motion was made by Councilmember Newton, seconded by Councilmember Egleston, and carried unanimously (1) pursuant to GS 143-318.11(a)(4) to discuss matters relating to the location of industries or businesses in the City of Charlotte including potential economic development incentives that may be offered in negotiations; and (2) GS 143-281.11(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 settlement of a claim and John D. Poetzsch v. City of Charlotte – 14CVS 23815.

The meeting was recessed at 8:42 p.m. to go into closed session in CH-14.

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ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at the conclusion of the closed session at 9:18 p.m.



Emily A. Kunze, Deputy City Clerk, NCCMC

Length of Meeting: 4 Hours, 7 Minutes
Minutes Completed: March 22, 2018