

ACTION REVIEW

The City Council of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina convened for an Action Review on Monday, June 24, 2019 at 5:07 p.m. in Room 267 of the Charlotte Mecklenburg Government Center with Mayor Vi Lyles presiding. Councilmembers present were Dimple Ajmera, Tariq Bokhari, Larken Egleston, Julie Eiselt, Justin Harlow, LaWana Mayfield, and Greg Phipps.

ABSENT UNTIL NOTED: Councilmembers Ed Driggs, James Mitchell, Matt Newton, and Braxton Winston, II.

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ITEM NO. 2: AGENDA OVERVIEW

Mayor Lyles said due to the number of speakers I would like do Council Comments in this session if you have things that have to be said and can be followed up on; we will do that at this time, so we will not be here at midnight.

In addition to doing Council Comments in this space, I just want to remind us that disruptions at City Council meeting, in 2017 we had a number of meetings with a large number of people with great passion on issues and one of the things that we have as a process that we approved, and we will have one minute for each speaker on the Noise Ordinance. At our Business Meeting for the Open Forum, we will have two minutes because we have 15 people signed up to speak. What I want to do is make sure that we remind people that we have a policy about meetings that we want people to be all be heard and we want people to respect each other, which is why all of the seats and the speakers will be numbered in the order that they show up. The screen in the Council Chamber will show the name of the speakers coming up as well as their addresses. I think we have 110 or maybe a little bit more, and I think about 50 people are from out of town, but it was just a way of trying to figure out how to do this, but the staff will give people seat numbers and then will be seated in the rows and will assist them to come down row by row so we can move as quickly as possible. I will be saying, once the one minute is up, the one minute is up, and I will talk with them until they stop talking, and I will be saying, your minute is up, your minute is up and keep moving it.

Councilmember Egleston said is there a way for people in the box if some of them won't stop talking to just cut the mike off?

Mayor Lyles said I'm not sure if we know the answer to that; you can cut the mic off? Okay, then that would be a lot easier for me. I thought our technology was old so, is Council okay with after a minute and I say your time is up.

Mr. Egleston said that is better than you trying to argue with them.

Mayor Lyles said that is true.

Councilmembers Driggs, Newton, and Winston arrived at 5:12 p.m.

Councilmember Mayfield said since is the City Clerk who actually controls the buzzer, opposed to you even speaking, once the buzzer goes off if they continue and if staff is paying attention they just cut the mike and you don't have to say anything, because that is adding more minutes for you to comment after each person opposed to the City Clerk hitting the buzzer at the minute and if the individual continues then the mic is shut off.

Mayor Lyles said I think that would ideally work in our situation, but we also know they handle a number of responsibilities at that seat and a lot of times it goes a little bit over.

Ms. Mayfield said the Clerk never goes over; they always push the button.

Mayor Lyles said my experience is that they would not be able to do that consistently with other people coming down to sign up speak, sometimes somebody talks to them, sometimes the Councilmembers are bringing ideas and things to them. Let's just see how it goes, and if it feels like it is not working then we will just go with the automatic.

What I would like to say to everyone in the Chamber that you have a minute to speak, and if we go beyond behavior that seems to be more disruptive that is when our policy states that I will ask for a recess and we will recess the meeting, leave the dais and come back in. That is the most extreme where we see or feel uncomfortable in the space. Uncomfortable means that people are moving around and not staying in their seats or our officers feel that is something we need to be concerned with. Are there any questions about how we are going to conduct the meeting tonight, any comments?

The Chair of the Committee, Mr. Harlow will give an opening, an overview of the recommendation from the Committee and then we will start with the speakers, and we will go all the way through every speaker that has signed then at the end, we will ask for Mr. Harlow to summarize it and make a motion, go through seconding that motion and then the Council will discussion begins.

The only other thing I wanted to cover is that we continue to have this what I call real concerns about violence going on in the community. We had an incident with a 15-year old; it is just too despicable to even talk about or discuss I think, but we continue to see where people are not able to live within the boundaries that we need to have neighbors live within in an urban community and in an urban setting, and this has been going on, it seems to be chaotic. It is not one area of the community; we don't know enough about it right now, but tomorrow evening at 6:00 p.m. at the Belmont Center, the Chief and I will be there with the community to listen and to answer and address questions. Mr. Ratchford will be there as well as we talk about what the next steps are.

At this point, I think it will go into some of the things that we are doing now on the ground and some of the things that we hope to help and assist with what is going on in our City that as I say is just chaotic and we are being able to pinpoint where things are happening and why. That will be in preparation for July 8th Action Review, with the Chief and the District Attorney coming forward. Most of you got Councilmember Eiselt's memo saying we've done a lot of this work when we've had these spikes before; let's go back look at what has been done and so the Chief and the District Attorney will do that with us. I encourage you to look at the materials as well, but the Chief and the DA will come back and have some ideas for us that we need to put on a list and then we will move to the next step based upon what their recommendations are. So, tomorrow night at the Belmont Center then July 8th in this room we will hear from the Chief and the District Attorney and then we will talk about how to proceed with referrals to Committees or to just give the Chief the ability to take actions and implement them. It could range all the way from summer programs for recreation and making sure that we have a presence to the issues that we may have in coordination with the court system. We are going to try to act; I know people have said are you speaking out enough? I think speaking out is really, really important and action following that speaking out is just as important; so, we will continue to do that.

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ITEM NO. 1: MAYOR AND COUNCIL CONSENT ITEM QUESTIONS

Mayor Lyles said staff has asked for deferral of the following items: Business Agenda, Item No. 13 is being deferred. On the Consent Agenda, Item Nos. 20, 41, and 43 are deferred; Item Nos. 45 and 46 have been settled. Are there any Consent Items that anyone on Council would like to comment on before we take our vote, and are there any items that Council would like to have a separate vote from the Consent Agenda?

Councilmember Egleston said you said Item No. 41 is being deferred. This could be addressed now if we could get a quick synopsis of why that is being deferred.

Marcus Jones, City Manager said Item No. 41 is a purchase of land that is outside of the Police Stations that are currently being constructed; so, before we went forward with the land purchase we wanted to make sure that Council was aware that this is outside of what was approved last year.

Mayor Lyles said it is beyond the South Station that we are beginning to build now; is that right?

Mr. Jones said a few weeks ago you did approve the Police Station that Councilmember Driggs was so happy about; this is just a land purchase for a Police Station that is beyond the group of stations that were approved in the 2019 budget. We just wanted to make sure Council was aware of that before we went into a purchase of land.

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ITEM NO. 3: ELECTION SEASON BRIEFING

Patrick Baker, City Attorney said I have done this presentation before, and I always start off by saying, don't shoot the messenger. I want to make sure that I'm just letting you know what the statute is, and for the most part these should be self-evidence issues but now is the perfect time to make sure that everyone is on the same page, and if you have questions feel free to send them to me on the legal issues and if there are other policy issues you can send those my way as well.

First the Statutory and Policy Provisions and this is where these guidelines come from, the majority are going to come from State Statute, but we've also got Guidelines for Employees and Guidelines for Current Elected Officials that come out of the State Statute as well. So, this is really a kind of clip notes version of the statute and the particular statute is 160A-169. The purpose is to ensure that city employees are not subjected to political or partisan coercion while performing their job duties, and they are not restricted from political activities while off duty. You will see a dividing line for a lot of this is where the activity is occurring and where the resources are coming from that are being used for the activity. The short answer is not on City time and not with City resources is where you can express yourself. It is important for folks to understand that just because you are a government employee doesn't mean that you've lost all your rights of citizenship; you are actually expected in a lot of ways to engage in these things and this statute doesn't prevent that. It just clarifies where and when these activities can incur. When we talk about political activities it is defined as an activity directed towards the success of failure of a partisan candidate, political party or partisan political group.

Councilmember Mayfield said listening to what you said Mr. Baker and maybe I'm just not registering it because my mind is still where I was earlier today. Restricted from political activities while off duty.

Mr. Baker is probably not worded as well as it could be; ensure city employees are not restricted from political activities while off duty. Again, coming from the statute, employees may not be required to contribute funds for political purposes or use City fund, supplies or equipment for partisan or political purposes. Getting back to while on duty in the work place and that is going to be critical; you cannot use your official authority or influence to affect the results of the election or solicit contributions for political or partisan purposes. That includes working with your subordinates that you may have in the work place to get them to contribute. Those are things that you cannot do while you are on duty. All employees may and again, we sort left off the part about while off duty; you can register and vote as you choose. You don't have to align yourself as an unaffiliated or independent, employees can be a part of a political party, can contribute to political parties, campaigns or groups, attend political rallies, meetings, fund raisers, be a member of a political club or party, sign nominating petitions and follow like or comment on social media pages of a candidate for a partisan office. Again, this has to be done off duty and without using City resources.

These are the prohibitions which you cannot do while on duty. You cannot engage in political activity while you are on duty and that includes telecommuting, cannot engage in political activity in a government room or building wearing an official uniform or insignia or using a government vehicle. Examples we have there, particularly wearing buttons, t-shirts, hats that are favoring a particular political candidate again while you are on duty in the work place. Displaying screen savers pro or against a particular candidate and making online donations,

again using City equipment and on City time. For current Councilmembers expectations I will turn it over to Tiffany.

Tiffany Blackwell, Constituent Services said I will speak a little bit about what you can expect from staff, specifically from the office of Constituent Services. While on duty or using City equipment, specifically staff cannot attend a campaign or political function. They are not able to monitor or make any changes to campaign or political website or social media. We are not able to develop speaking points specifically for a campaign function and we are not able to coordinate public meetings, for example townhall meetings beginning July 1, 2019 through election day.

In addition, just so you are aware, anytime that we receive a request for information from you all as elected officials, we will share that information through a candidate portal with all candidates that will be deciding if they are going to run. In addition, the office of Constituent Services will continue to maintain calendars, respond to constituent questions and e-mails and that sort of thing. That would not change; we will not be able to organize any meetings related to any political activity.

Mayor Lyles said let's take the last slide; I just want to make sure, they can continue to maintain calendars but not organize meetings and I know we get a lot of e-mail request so, I'm wondering about using judgement to determine if an e-mail is about a City function or it is something that is a political function. I just wondered how you would address that?

Mr. Baker said I would encourage you, if there are any questions about that you are not quite sure just go ahead and call me directly. That way you are not out there potentially making an innocent mistake that we could have prevented you from making.

Ms. Blackwell said absolutely, and the Office of Constituent Services has been instructed to do the same, to go directly to Legal to get any clarifications if there is an event or if there is something that we are trying to get clarification on to see if that is something we can support.

Mayor Lyles said as someone who has been through this and how tough it can be, during my last campaign, it was very, very hard when there are comments and political debates back and forth, so I really did rely heavily on the City Attorney for advice and guidance and would suggest that, even if it is just a nudge, you know that kind of nudge you get in your head that is like well maybe, nor not quite sure. It is really worth seeking the advice for that. So, we will get a copy of this PowerPoint?

Ms. Blackwell said absolutely.

Mayor Lyles said filing starts pretty soon, July 5th to the 19th, so as candidates come in do you send this out to them as well?

Ms. Blackwell said absolutely, and we will keep what we have on our election protocol that we have a whole candidate profile that we put together that shows all the information about City services and that sort of thing and the website will be live as soon as filing concludes, the website will be live for candidates to access information.

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ITEM NO. 4: STATE LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Dana Fenton, Inter-Government Relations Manager said I'm pleased to be here tonight to provide a State Legislative Update. We think we are getting to the point of the session where they are drawing the long session to a close, maybe not quite yet to a close, but we thought this would be a good point to get up in front of Council to give an update as to where we are with your Legislative Agenda, the budget and some other matters. So, going over what is going on generally, the big picture up in Raleigh, what we've been focused on since crossover and then again take a look at the State Legislative Agenda, where the state budget is, take a look at sales tax redistribution because that is an issue that has raised his head again this year and then the next steps.

The long session convened on January 30, 2019, and they have been looking a number of issues since then including the state budget; they've had a lot of talk about Medicaid expansion especially over the last week or so. They've also had a lot of discussions over K-12 education, including capital funding for schools. There is a proposal out there from the Governor and from a few other members to have a bond referendum for schools whereas others want to do it on a pay as you go basis.

They've also been looking at some redistricting issues; they've had to redistrict some districts in Wake County for example due to Federal Court order and then of course they've been looking at natural disaster recovery. We had the two hurricanes last fall and even though they had a special session to look at disaster recovery back then they've had to take care of some of those matters since then. The crossover date was May 9th this year, and I think many of you know but for those of you who don't crossover is a date by which most bills must be advanced out of their house of origin in order to be considered further in this session and of course bills with budgetary or financial implications are exempt from that requirement, and we will see a couple examples of that in the presentation tonight.

Again, this is what we've been focused on since crossover; the issues remaining from the State Legislative Agenda that are alive along with some opportunities we found in the state budget, especially the House version of the state budget. I will say right now when the House came out with their budget, when they passed it about a month and a half ago, we found the House transportation budget to be one of the best transportation budgets in the last several years, and then of course, Sales Tax Redistribution will go over, but first with your Legislative Agenda.

You adopted this back on January 30, 2019. You have seven items in there, the first one has to do with affordable housing and in particular seeking clarification on the ability of local governments to help fund rental relocation assistance and rental subsidies. That legislation, I'm pleased to say, even though it is in the House Rules Committee today, the Rules Committee did meet within the last few hours and they advanced that Bill out of Committee. It goes to the floor of the House now, I'm not sure when that is going to be calendared.

On the Citizen's Review Board, to secure subpoena power for the Board but that legislation was filed, it was local legislation just affecting the City of Charlotte, but it did not advance prior to crossover and therefore it can't be considered further this session.

Commercial Service Airport Improvements; this is the program whereby you've endorsed to try and get the state to provide capital improvements funding for the Commercial Service Airports in the state including Charlotte Douglas International, and we really have here a tail of two budgets. The House Transportation Budget, as I said before, was great for transportation and in that they were appropriating about \$71 million to \$72.5 million a year of reoccurring funding for those commercial airports. That money would be distributed based upon the economic impact of the Airport and under those calculations we made, Charlotte Douglas would get about \$27 million to \$28 million per year, then we got to the Senate Budget, and it was completely opposite. It funds the program at \$75 million on a recurring basis, but it only funds need for eight airports and we were not one of those airports funded in that.

Mayor Lyles said what did Fayetteville do?

Mr. Fenton said I don't know, but we feel very good about this one. We think that this was really a negotiating point between the House and Senate, designed by the Senate to get the House's attention on something. We've made enquires, and we believe that there is going to be funding for Charlotte Douglas in the final budget.

Councilmember Eiselt said is the transportation- you said you are encouraged by the discussion on the transportation piece, and I don't know if you are saying all funding, but is it all around airports or are there other?

Mr. Fenton said there are about three or four other items that are later in the presentation that I will be going over. Minimum Housing Standards, this is the legislation we are seeking to help us be able to require testing for an enforcement of remediation of mold. Legislation was filed by Representatives Beasley and Belk. That legislation has not moved, but it does have an appropriation and therefore. It is eligible to be considered further this session. We are facing an uphill climb, because it is opposed by the shelter industry, the North Carolina Apartment Association, and I believe also the North Carolina Realtors Association.

The next issue is the North Carolina Search and Rescue Teams. As you know, Charlotte Fire Department has Search and Rescue Teams housed at the Fire Department, and they are sent out in emergencies to help rescue people and do other things like that that are needed. There only about seven or eight teams around the State or North Carolina; there is not a permanent source of funding for these from the state, and there is an effort this year to try and get that. The House has put in some one-time funding for this in 2020; we are looking for reoccurring funding that we can count on year after year. The Senate has a mix of one-time and sustained funding in the next two years. Under their plan about \$1 million of that would be recurring funding, again we've been working that issue in the budget process, as well trying to get sustained funding each year.

The Out-of-State Law Enforcement Officers Bill, this is the Bill that would authorize CMPD to bring an out-of-state law enforcement to help out with security at the upcoming Republican National Convention. It did pass the Senate by a great vote, and it has been calendared for debate tomorrow in the House. The last issue in your State Legislative Agenda is the issue on Stormwater Management that came up at a very late time of the year. It was the result of a veto override by the General Assembly, and in this one we've had a lot of conversations with members of the General Assembly, and we have found a lot of opposition to trying to overturn or mitigate what the General Assembly did back in December, especially from the House, and at this point in time, I can't tell you if we are going to reach any sort of resolution on this issue that will be satisfactory to the City.

Going to the next part on the State Budget, the compromise House/Senate State Budget proposal has been sent to the offices of Senator Berger and Speaker Moore, and just this afternoon they came out with an announcement that they were going to wait to introduce the compromise measure so that the clock can start ticking on when the House, and Senate could vote on the measure because they want to get some input from, the Governor on this. Apparently, they've had some discussions with the Governor but as you know these things often get caught up in political consideration, but at this point they put out a press release today saying they were going to wait for some input from Governor Cooper. There were several issues in the budget that we were focused on; the first two we've already talked about: the Commercial Service Airport Improvements and the North Carolina Search and Rescue Teams but the three others that I wanted to point out to you that we found really great in the House Transportation Budget has to do with the Powell Bill Program, which you use to fund local street maintenance, The State Maintenance Assistance Program which CATS gets money for from the state to help maintain its assets and the Light Rail Construction Policy under which right now the state policy is to limit state participation in any light rail contract to 10% to the total estimated costs, so let's get to that.

Again, in the first one, under the Powell Bill, the House would increase the funding for the program by 10% each in FY2020 and FY2021. That would basically raise over a two-year period the amount of money coming from the state to the City from about \$20 million a year to about \$24 million. That is a very nice increase and it would be the first increase of any significant amount for several years. The Senate on the other hand funds the program at the current funding levels, it would stay at \$20 million for the City of Charlotte.

The State Maintenance Assistance Program; you all may recall that this program for transit was reduced last year by about \$8.6 million statewide and about \$3 million of that reduction was born by the Charlotte Area Transit System. Again, on the other hand the Senate has come back with the same response to the Powell Bill, they would maintain funding at the current levels.

The last one, the Light Rail Construction Policy, the House would repeal that 10% state participation in those light rail construction projects and gain, the same thing as before, the Senate wants to maintain that current policy. All of that along with everything else is still in the budget process and right now, I couldn't really tell you which of these are likely to occur in our favor. The way the House has it I do know from experience that the Light Rail Construction Policy that the Senate leadership has been adamantly opposed to light rail for a long time. We've fought battles over this in 2011 and 2012 when the current leadership was in place; so, I would say that the Light Rail Construction Policy is probably the least likely of these to occur the way that we would want it to occur.

Moving on to Sales Tax Redistribution; there was a very heavy debate upon this issue four-years ago. It was a much more politically charged urban rural divide issue as opposed to this year. It has been a much quieter issue, we haven't heard the urban rural divide issue that much when speaking to this legislation. What it would do essentially, the legislation, even though it has not moved yet, that Bill has not been heard in Committee and for a time we felt this legislation would be put into the Senate's budget proposal, because the sponsor of this Bill, Senator Brown, is also the Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee. So, he is at an opportune spot to get this into some larger piece of legislation, but if this were to be passed the way it is structured now this Bill would not take effect until starting in FY2021. So, it wouldn't affect your budget that starts on July 1 this year. It only affects the three core local sales and use taxes that total two percent, and it does not impact the transit sales tax whatsoever. There are no impacts upon transit. We did estimate that the revenue loss from this Bill is about \$2.8 million or a little bit more than two percent of those three core local sales and use taxes and just as a comparison to four-years ago- Mr. Driggs you and I talked about this quite a bit that year. You were up in Raleigh quite a bit along with other members of Council. We were looking at physical impacts from that legislation at the beginning of over \$10 million a year to the City and then it went down slowly to \$5 million and then there was another proposal that was put forward that eventually took precedence over it.

This chart is what I call the All-in-One Chart that just tells you what the current law does and what the proposal would do and in comparison, to 2015 the only thing that would have changed for the most part was the allocation method at the top line. Right now, we have roughly a 75% point of destination, 25% per-capita distribution method and this Bill would take it to 50/50. I think that was the major thing that was being done four-years ago and of course that down arrow means it is a downer for the City, but this year the other three on the adjustment factor, the distribution of the sales tax base expansion for 2015 and the food tax distribution, those are all upper for us essentially. Those are good things, they contribute to the bottom line, and I think that is the difference between what happened in 2015 or was proposed then, and what you are seeing right now, but as of right now the state of this Bill is that it hasn't gone anywhere, it hasn't been calendared, and we haven't heard much about this issue this year, but because of what we went through four-years ago we have this on the list of things that we are watching and watching very closely.

The Next Steps, we are going to continue working on all these issues and others that may develop because we are the point in session where things do creep into legislation. I think you all experienced that last year. We will continue monitoring the budget process including what the Governor has to say and then continue providing those weekly legislative reports to you.

Councilmember Driggs said on the Airport, are we saying a kind of rural/urban divide, or is it partisan or what are the politics driving the difference between the House and the Senate versions?

Mr. Fenton said that is a good question; again, I think from my standpoint and our Lobbyist standpoint we think it is more the Senate put something in there to get the House a little bit riled up. Some other people could look at this and look upon it as an urban/rural divide issue, but you look at Fayetteville, it's closer to eastern North Carolina than Charlotte is for example. I really couldn't go beyond that in describing any –

Mr. Driggs said so, we don't know whether the for and against votes are bipartisan along party lines.

Mr. Fenton said that is a good question; I hadn't broken it down like that. I can't remember how the two parties voted on the budget. I know there were some yes votes from the Democrats.

Councilmember Winston said will out of state officers be treated the same as CMPD within our organization with regards to Chain of Command?

Mr. Fenton said CMPD will be in control of those officers, and if there are any issues then maybe something like what happened in 2012 when an officer was sent home.

Mr. Winston said I know all our officers on the streets have body cameras, but I know not every jurisdiction has body cameras; so, will every officer have body cameras on?

Mr. Fenton said I can't answer that question.

Mayor Lyles said we will get that information from the Chief. Dana thanks, we are doing a lot of really hard work and it is always at this point in time when it is really, really hard to keep things the same when there are ideas that we may not even be aware of, but what we are aware of we are continuing to move forward. I will be going to the Metro Mayor's Meeting on Wednesday and that includes a number of urban communities, Asheville, Wilmington, Charlotte, Fayetteville, the Triangle usually comes as a group. We will have the same briefing and Dana will be there. All I want to say is they have scheduled a large amount of that time to hear from Pam Wideman on our Housing Program. We've heard from the Mayor of Pittsburg that we are now the standard that other places are meeting in terms of what we are doing on affordable housing. So, they are going to be looking at the program at that meeting to see how they can incorporate some of our efforts into their programs as well.

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

There were no outstanding Consent item questions.

ITEM NO. 6: CLOSED SESSION

There was no closed session.

ITEM NO. 28: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL TOPICS

Councilmember Newton said I wanted to give everyone a quick reminder. I think this is the last opportunity for me to do so; the Hickory Grover Fourth of July Parade will be on Thursday, July 4, 2019. There will be a new route starting on Shamrock Drive at Lawrence Orr Elementary School at 10:00 a.m.; it will be going up Shamrock Drive to Aldersgate, where there will be a celebration starting at 11:30. It is going to be a lot of fun; it will be the 51st year anniversary. So, in honor of moving into the second half century of the Parade, there was a scholarship fund that will be awarded to worthy students in the City of Charlotte, and also Charlotte History Museum is going to be open for free throughout the day. Come on out; it is going to be a lot of fun, see a fantastic parade and then also stick around for the celebration.

Councilmember Driggs said I would like to point out to my constituents that there will be an open house to talk about I-485 corridor improvements hosted by NC-DOT. That is going to take place at Endhaven Elementary School on June 27, 2019, between noon and 7:00 p.m. Great opportunity to hear the latest on what contracts have been let, what the timing is for all the events around I-485.

Councilmember Mayfield said I wanted to take a moment to thank our Director of Human Resources, Ms. Shelia Simpson, as well as my staff liaison Kim Oliver. On this past Friday we hosted the first reentry job fair and also wanted to thank our partners at the Movement School. This was really a successful event for those that are formerly incarcerated and getting connected to opportunities to those. Everyone knows we past ban the box back in 2013, so this was being very intentional with creating job opportunities and letting people know what opportunities are available for them within the community. I also want to highlight that Councilmember Egleston and I had a chance on Saturday the Clanton Park/Arbor Glenn Recreational Center through a partnership with Coco Cola, Sprite, and Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation created and scaled out a new basketball court and there are at least four other courts around the community, so it is going to benefit both Charlotte, but it is definitely under the umbrella of Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation. I wanted to congratulate them and thank Commissioner Leake and the team at Coco Cola for inviting us to participate in the event.

Councilmember Harlow said I wanted to thank the Police Department, Fire Department, Charlotte Water Crews after yesterday's watermain break for the quick work and response that they have been working hard to fix that and fortunately no residents have been without water. I happen to be in Wesley Heights when that happened, but it was a good quick response by the City, and it is good to always see our City employees responding, even on a Sunday, and I appreciate that.

Councilmember Mitchell arrived at 5:52 p.m.

Mr. Harlow said Mr. Manager; I know next week is a holiday week and then on the 8th we will have an Action Review from Ms. Wideman around the proposal for Trust Fund dollars and the CHOIF funds. Are we getting our packets earlier? I know there has been a little bit of concern around we know they are finalizing these deals and things like that. I just wanted to make sure that we have enough time to digest that, understanding that there is a holiday weekend, also understanding that yes, it is just a briefing and there is no vote requested on the 8th, but I think we've had opportunities as we passed our framework, and we knew we were coming up to this point and folks in the community are concerned that this will be here is a briefing and two weeks later ask for a vote. I would love for the Council to have an opportunity to see these with as much time as possible, definitely knowing that a lot of us are going out of town and things like that and then we are coming in here to hear about on Monday when we get back.

Marcus Jones, City Manager said Mr. Harlow, I believe at first, we were heading towards the 15th of July but that is a Zoning Meeting, so we bumped it up to the 8th, so if we go in time the concept would be the Thursday before a Strategy Session or the Thursday before an Action Briefing you would get the packet. Then there would be discussion on that Monday and then the next available Business Meeting would be a vote. It would be very difficult for us to get it to you before July 4th. The concept is to get it to you by that Friday, and I know folks are all over the place, maybe even not being here locally, but the plan has always been to get it to you the Thursday before the Monday that you would first talk about it.

Mr. Harlow said understanding that those timelines are tight but with the holiday. I just want to make sure there is enough time built in. It was laid out to us a couple weeks ago, and there is a lot to consider in these proposals and likely a lot more asks than there are dollars, so I want to make sure there is enough time for us to deliberate about that.

Mayor Lyles said if we are not ready we are not ready so if they can get it to us by the 5th of July, and it is on for an Overview, they can do the briefing, but I think if we need to have a meeting it will be August.

Mr. Harlow said it is my understanding that some of these have implications with State Finance Agency, so we've got to know by the end of the month if I'm not mistaken.

Mayor Lyles said I didn't realize that the State Agency was the end of July; I thought it was at the end of August, but I don't know.

Mr. Jones said which was my understanding too but let me step back a bit. If there needs to be additional time for the Council, even on the 15th, if there needs to be an opportunity for us to come back but, again the way the process has been you are losing a day, and I know a day means a lot but we always intended to get it to you on Thursday before that Monday.

Councilmember Phipps said I want to remind everyone and the residents of District 4 of the Transportation Town Hall that is coming up on Thursday from 6:00 to 8:00 at the Comino Center, 201 Stetson Drive in University City at the University City light rail stop. It is going to focus on transportation, highlighting traffic safety improvements and updating residents on major C-DOT and NC-DOT transportation projects, public transportation options, rail projects, just everything that is going on in District 4 as it relates to Vision Zero and transportation planning. The title of the Town Hall focus is going to be Vision Zero more than 2020. We are looking forward to having a crowd and look forward to seeing you there.

Councilmember Bokhari said this is a PSA for everyone that lives in Charlotte, that loves Charlotte. There is a lot of stuff going on right now and there is a really critical item that everyone in the City needs to be paying attention to and have your voice heard on. It is not directly in the City's purview, but it definitely impacts the City. The County Commission is considering a quarter cent sales tax to fund the arts, and I think we would all agree that arts are incredibly important. It makes Charlotte what it is. In my own life growing up in my upward mobility, arts played a vital role, but we learned something in Pittsburg on the inner-city trip recently of the unintended consequences these decisions can have. In one session in Pittsburg we were being told about how their city made a bold move to use a sales tax in order to bolster the arts and it was an incredibly trying time when the collapse of the steel industry occurred, yet in the very next presentation we heard the number one thing businesses keep citing and why they are not moving back is the unfriendly tax environment.

So, this is something that we have to figure out how to solve without negatively impacting our tax environment. I have a lot of serious concerns, who controls it and things like that, but nothing is more important to me than the concern of this regressive tax that is being considered. It hurts the very people that are in jeopardy and need help the most; those that are looking to all of us as leaders for affordable housing, upward mobility. This impact and raises the cost of living in a very significant way. So, why does this impact the City? Aside from this being the City we live in, this quarter cent sales tax, whether you agree in the use of these dollars or not, is very much the money that we would be looking towards for all these transit plans that are going to occur in the future, the light rail plans and all of those things. Whether you agree that is a good source or not you have to agree that a regressive tax like that makes more sense to be deployed towards transportation, the number one challenge a lot of these upward mobility folks face every day as well as the fact that we are using up the capacity by which we could do that someday. So, pay attention to what is going on; please get engaged. Have your voice heard, because this could be one of the most important things happening in the City this year.

Mayor Lyles said I will come with some more information about that as well in terms of timing and discussion.

Councilmember Winston said I was going to say I was good too, but as I was thinking about mentioning this discussion around the quarter cent sales tax and I agree with Mr. Bokhari, that this is a conversation that we all need to have this year, but I think we need to have conversation on the merits of this investment in the arts in this manner is an investment in public education. When art is continuously being taken out of public-school curriculums; it is vital that there continues to be a public investment in the arts. An investment in the arts is an investment in the workforce development.

There is this terrible narrative out here right now that somehow this investment in arts will be for some and not for all. That is completely false. Regardless if there is any type of investment in the arts, arts will occur. Look at hip hop, look at blue grass, look at graffiti, look at all the different art forms that persist, but we are talking about investing money and creating a culture that creates an environment where people stay. People are going to come here for opportunities, but people will stay here for the culture. I am not a musician; I am

not a visual artist, but I have paid my bills since 2004 working in the arts community, and there are far more opportunities there than people know and people talk about when we talk about supporting arts. There has to be talk about affordable housing and affordable work places for people to do their art, and I think that is the type of conversation that we should be having around this potential public investment in the arts. I think we do have to have a real conversation about who is governing this and who is making sure that this money is getting to the arts. If it is just to support the bank roll or the overhead of an organization then that is not something that any of us as tax payers should settle for, but we need to ask the County Commission to be very intentional and be very responsible of these tax dollars, but I hope the City and all the towns can get behind this and hold our policy makers accountable just as folks have been holding us accountable for how we spend our public investments in affordable housing. I think we have set a pretty good example for the type of work that needs to be done with all the stakeholders at the table to maintain public trust and most importantly make a good investment in those public dollars. So, I hope we will find a way to get behind this and make the right decisions with our colleagues.

Mayor Lyles said I want to say thank you to Ms. Mayfield on the re-entry program. Next year it is projected that 750,000 people will come out of the federal facilities, primarily due around long-term drug sentencing, and it is estimated that 20,000 of them will come to Mecklenburg County; so, the issues of jobs and housing are on the top of the list, because without a place to live it is very difficult to get a job. Without a job it is very difficult to keep a place to live, and I think that the number of people working this area under the County's re-entry program is important, but our part will be important as we work through the Apartment Owner's Association. If you remember, they came down; I can't remember if it was Nashville or Knoxville and the Apartment Association said all of us will move forward and provide housing for people that have felony records. They spoke about it and it was successful. We are going to have to begin to think about how we do that in Charlotte.

This week-end I had an opportunity to go to My Brother's Keeper event at Tuckaseegee Recreation Center, and I think this initiative continuously needs a boost. So, I would just ask you to keep that in mind. I know we allocated \$50,000 for that effort this year, and I'm looking forward to seeing how we are going to address that question.

More importantly on the quarter cent sales tax discussion we have not been at the table as this discussion has been going on. The authorization of this quarter cent sales tax does come from the County, and they have been working on this for a while. I along with the Manager, just coming in on the idea around governance, so I want you to know the premise, and I've talked to Ms. Mayfield, because she represents us on the Arts and Science Council, has been through all of the discussions around this as well as Ms. Eiselt who is on the Blumenthal, so she sees it from the agency perspective and Mr. Winston your perspective is very, very helpful, but what I have said to them in governance is that we provide the maintenance and we do the debt service for all of those facilities, you can't have operating money without a conversation around your facilities and they have agreed with that.

So, the idea of how to do that I have to say is continuously being shaped. With that idea on the table we need to work on getting some information. What I would really like to ask you, if you have concerns about this quarter cent sales tax, not just that you agree or not agree, but issues that you want addressed, the County Commission Public Policy Committee meeting is on July 2nd, and if you would like to send your questions to me or if you want to send them directly to the Chair of the County Commission, either way they will get to Mr. Dunlap, and I think that would be very helpful, because we have not had a chance to actually work on anything but governance and as you can imagine the quarter cent is projected to bring in \$50 million a year, but it is not a recession proof tax, so it can vary depending on what people are doing and how they feel about our economy. They are allocating that \$50 million in a way that they feel like they own that decision, and so what we've been involved in is the accountability to make sure that those arts agencies and science agencies and historical agencies that we have through both our major and traditional organizations as well as the ability for new artists to have entry into that system is very important to us and that is why we have fought so much around the issue of governance. There will be a decision made on July 2nd that will go forward to the next meeting of the County Commission and again, if you have questions it would be helpful to do that now.

Councilmember Eiselt said just to add to some of Mr. Winston's comments and to Mr. Bokhari's concerns, one of the things that I'm going to be requesting is that if they move forward and I hope they do, that they will also insist that a lot of the arts facilities are open to the public. When you go to any major city, I was just in London and all those museums are free. They have paid exhibits, their special exhibits you have to pay for entrance but most of them are free, and if you have an hour you can pop into the major some of the most important museums in the world and so everybody has access to that. There is public funding for our arts and that means that more of it is going to be free for the public. When we look at Charlotte Shout; some of you I know had the opportunity to participate. I was so excited to see the mix of people there on a Saturday night and a Friday night with families in the streets just enjoying a lot of free art. I met some young people who had never been uptown before, and they were enjoying some of these different festivals and activities.

I know that is one thing they would like to have happen every year; those performances almost all of them were free except for Headphone Disco. I guess you had to pay a little bit for. In my mind, when we talk about supporting the arts with a tax it is so that more people have access to the arts. The arts can be life changing. Some of these organizations offer full scholarships. We have three young people right now that went through our CMS schools that are in the West End in London in starring roles and on Broadway and some of them would have never gotten there without some of the scholarships that came through the Blumenthal, so I just hope you keep an open mind about it and think about how public support for the arts can mean that the public has more access to the arts.

Mr. Driggs said I think we have a legitimate interest in this on several levels. The property tax increase should see allocation of the sales tax a bit and also there is just a certain finite total tax capacity that the County and the City have so, as they grab bigger shares of that our opportunity to fund things like transportation from sales tax etc. are impacted. My question is, are we going to formulate a City Council position like draft a statement as City Council that we submit to their consideration or how exactly are we going to communicate? Can individuals go and talk at a hearing? I think we should be coordinated in our message.

Mayor Lyles said I would agree with that. They had a hearing that had, I think the entire Chamber was full, and I think only one person spoke in opposition to the tax when they had that hearing. You can see it on line.

Mr. Phipps said most of the proponents that spoke were from the arts community. Mayor Lyles said most of them- I think you have to Mr. Driggs, figure out, they have made a decision that this is their sales tax to allocate so in some respects I think we could express concerns and words of caution around a statement like you said there is going to be a certain amount of capacity to be done between local governments. I think we can say that but I think they ultimately see this decision as their own. I don't know that we have had the kind of conversation that talks about what a plan or collaborative strategy; I don't think that has happened, and I'm not sure that is possible with this one, but I think that they are very much aware of the transit system ideas that we have and what we would hope to have happen, and they know that we don't have the capacity to do that without increased revenues for us. I think the best way to handle this would be if you have, I'm certainly willing to say send something and we will try to put it together. I believe that we can do that, but I also think that there is a limit to where they see we can influence them, but I don't know for sure. I think it would be better if we have statements that we would like to write down to get those to them by the 2nd.

Mr. Driggs said I realize that we have no authority over them as such. I would hope there was some scope for cooperation. If they start getting into things like housing, for example, we are already very invested in that space so coordinating those resources is something that ought to be beneficial to them and to us.

Mayor Lyles said I would agree with you there but I think the horse out of the barn it might be we have to start that conversation after this decision is made. You are welcome to either communicate directly with the Commission or if you would like for me to do a summary of what we've talked about and send that we can certainly do that with additional questions.

Mr. Winston said I would agree with your question or I would answer your question. I would like to do something like that even if it is not specific to the arts. We have as a Council, as a City as an entity we have made certain priorities about any kind of entity that is investing within our City and while we can ever tell any entity how to invest their dollars per se, we can make clear some of the priorities around affordable housing, around transportation infrastructure and around a workforce development and economic mobility and if those investments, we have ideas and we would love if they would consider some of our ideas. We think it is important that they keep those things in mind as they consider these things I think that is an effective use of our representation as being representatives of citizens of Charlotte.

Mayor Lyles said I actually think that we have exchanged more information with the County than I've seen in the last four to five years. We've shared priorities and they know those priorities. I think the question around looking as a totality is perhaps the difference. We probably all understand we have priorities but the totality of how to finance, I think that is something a little bit beyond where we are right now.

Mr. Driggs said I think we set a good example when we had the County Medical Director come to our housing standards meeting so we could talk about mold. I would just hope to see more of that type of cooperation.

Mayor Lyles said I certainly think we can attend the July 2nd meeting; it is live streamed as well, and that is where they will be talking about their final recommendation to their Board.

Councilmember Egleston said I wanted to clarify what I said last week; there are no meetings –

Mayor Lyles said the City Council will not have meetings the week of July 4th.

Mr. Jones said I would like to have Chief Johnson and his team come up to brief you a bit. I know you've had a series of correspondence from the Communications Department about the home flooding, but I would like for Chief Johnson and the team to bring you an update tonight.

Chief Reginald Johnson, Fire Department said just to rehash, a little over two weeks ago we had significant flooding along Riverside Drive, Lake Drive area. It may have been historic in that area. We definitely hadn't seen those levels since 2004 and 2013. Charlotte Fire Department along with Charlotte Mecklenburg Emergency Management Office and CMPD have been on the ground every day since then. We've also worked with some non-governmental organizations such as the Red Cross, Salvation Army and North Carolina Baptist on a Mission. We've been working to meet the needs of the residents just about every day. I will have Chief Bonham who is Director of our Emergency Management give you an update on what happened this past weekend, where we stand with the declaration and other activities.

Deputy Chief Cindy Bonham, Fire Department said over the past week, we realized there was a need for supplies and more so volunteers, so we did a hard push with the help of Manager Jones to get For Charlotte involved. They reached out to all their members and got a lot of volunteers. Bank of America also did a big push. We coordinated with them. Calvary Baptist Church, just up the from the flooded area and Baptist for Mission which used to be Baptist Men. Baptist for Mission had gone out and gotten work orders on all the houses that needed or wanted help. We think Saturday was a huge success; we had over 100 volunteers show up. The Baptist for Mission informed me over half of their work orders were completed on Saturday. It is my understanding that Calvary Church wants to help up the same thing this weekend with Baptist for Mission helping out and they would like to see what we did to do that same thing this Saturday. Baptist for Mission is going to be on the ground at least through this week or until all the jobs are done. Some of the volunteers that came out Saturday came back Sunday on their own. They kind of got attached to the people they were helping so we saw them.

Right now, we are waiting on the Declaration; once we get the Declaration that opens up some resources for the residents we are planning on setting up a Disaster Assistance Center at Station 33 and providing transportation or ensuring there is transportation from the site to the center and we will have Red Cross, some Behavior Health Specialists and then all the Small Business Association, the State Emergency Management and other resources available to the residents there for them to apply for loans or grants.

Mr. Winston said I have a question about the event itself and how we got here. You mentioned that these levels were not seen since 2004 but we just got finished with the hurricane season where it seems like us and every other part of the state has record inundation from flood waters and rain waters. What was it about last week that led to this? Is this something that we can expect moving forward; can you just talk a little bit more about the actual event.

Chief Johnson said I don't have the other specifics on that except a general understanding of the weather at that time is that we had around 11 to 13-inches that fell in one area just north of Lake Normal and putting that amount of rain in that area within that short period of time would cause us some issues.

Mr. Winston said so, it is just the concentration, because we got about 12-inches of rain during Florence, and we didn't get to those levels.

Chief Johnson said I think that was over a longer period of time which allows for rain and water to run off. We hadn't had rain before that storm for 25-days, the ground was probably rock hard would be my guess to as may have played a little bit into that.

Mayor Lyles said I want to say that the cooperation with the County Storm Water and the permitting has been exceptional. They are going to do things that they have not done before, perhaps this is because it is more scalable, but it is kind of funny. Riverside Drive is in the City and Lake Drive is in the County, and we have treated everyone as if they are a part of our organization and our community, and I think that has been one of the things that I've observed most. Deputy Chief Bonham has been out there; do you sleep out there?

Deputy Chief Bonham said I don't sleep out there. It has been like a deployment, but I sleep in my own bed.

Mayor Lyles said a lot of these are like 50's river houses; it is very different. Most people say at Mountain Island Lake and the vision that you had was a big two-story with a big stucco; these are 1,100 square feet, 900 square feet homes that have been out there for a long time.

Deputy Chief Bonham said like you said half of riverside was City and half was County. There has been an extreme amount of cooperation with Solid Waste in the City and with County of moving dumpsters constantly; we call it the dumpster dance with what they do with the dumpsters. The County is also bringing Code Enforcement and Storm Water to them, so they come down and set up where we are today and Wednesday, so residents can apply for the proper permits and work to get their power back on. There has been a huge cooperation between the two.

Ms. Eiselt said I have two questions; one presumably people lost a lot of furniture and clothing and things like that. What is the best agency that people can reach out to, to help replace some of that for some of these families.

Deputy Chief Bonham said Calvary Baptist Church has really gone above and beyond. They have a truck set up out there so if you want to donate clothes or supplies. Right now, we have the supplies down where we are set up but at the end when we pick up our stuff we are going to give all of that stuff to Calvary Baptist Church, so they can continue to pass it out.

Ms. Eiselt said the second question is really for the Manager; this whole flood issue gets us thinking when we hear about the floods in the eastern part of our state and the damage it

did. I learned recently that flooding is the number one cause of carbon emissions released into the air because of flooding like farming, agriculture, and it is actually a huge contributor to that. I had been thinking about it before this happened, and I have a couple questions; when was the last time we updated our floodplain? How often do we do that, how often do we really look at that considering how fast our region has grown and are we on top of our flood plan? Maybe that is for a Strategy Session before hurricane season, but it would be interesting to have a presentation from Duke Energy also as to how they control the release of water when they know there is going to be a deluge of water. Just for us to think about, especially in the context of our Comprehensive Vision Plan.

Mayor Lyles said we need to get that done in conjunction with the County Storm Water that draws a lot of those maps. Let's talk about it as we get ready for the fall.

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The meeting was recessed at 6:25 p.m. to move to the Meeting Chamber for the regularly scheduled Business Meeting.

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BUSINESS MEETING

The City Council of the City of Charlotte North Carolina reconvened for a Business Meeting on Monday, June 24, 2019 at 6:39 p.m. in the Meeting Chamber of the Charlotte Mecklenburg Government Center with Mayor Vi Lyles presiding. Councilmembers present were Dimple Ajmera, Tariq Bokhari, Ed Driggs, Larken Egleston, Julie Eiselt, Justin Harlow, LaWana Mayfield, James Mitchell, Matt Newton, Greg Phipps and Braxton Winston, II.

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The meeting immediately recessed due to a disruption and reconvened at 6:41 p.m. in the Meeting Chamber.

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Mayor Lyles said as Mayor that is my first experience of this, but the most important part of that is that what we were looking at is the safety of the people around this dais. I don't think that many people can understand sometimes when you are elected you are elected to do many things. Most of the time it is about important issues that we are trying to work on for our City for the future. Often, it is the simple day to day problems that we want to make sure that people don't have to encounter that our roads are safe, that our water is clean, that we can move through this town safely. I want to say to each of my colleagues here, when we have incidents like this it is a little bit of a shock to us. I'm not quite sure, but we have a policy about this, and I would like to share that policy with our community, both those that are watching as well as live streaming, because we had to have this policy, because it is about keeping people safe, not just the people in our audience, not just the people that cover us in the media but our staff, it is also about the people that serve you every day.

Our policy, which we worked on, really talks about disruption of official meetings and it says that a person who willfully interrupts, disturbs or disrupts an official meeting and who upon directed to leave the meeting by a presiding officer willfully refuses to leave the meeting is guilty of a Class 2 Misdemeanor. Now, that is easy to say, but what is more important are the men and women that have to wear the Police uniform to make sure that we do it appropriately, that we protect all of us at the time and we make sure that even those that are in the situation are safe as well. So, given this, the way that our City Council procedures, and this is something I planned to say, we actually have four Public Forums tonight; the first Public Forum is where we have speakers that come and speak to us on general items. We also have public hearings around our General Obligation Bond Issuance and two or three street closings; that is what we have to do, even for street closings, then we are going to have a discussion around our Noise Ordinance that is being proposed today. In that we have over 100 speakers signed up to talk, and so I would like to start at the beginning and talk about how that hearing will be conducted as well as other items on our agenda.

In this situation we are going to have, when we talk about the Noise Ordinance, each speaker will have one minute to speak. The way that will be controlled is that the microphone will shut down after one minute. We really want everyone to be heard and with that number of people coming to be heard we want to make sure that the next person is ready to step up. So, our procedure for the Noise Ordinance will be each person should have a number, an identifiable number with the staff, and the staff will conduct the rows of speakers to come down so that we can have an orderly safe process. These are not the best steps on which to start moving quickly, so we will do it in a way that is deliberate and allows for people to move carefully down to the speaker's podium.

For our Public Forum today each speaker will have two minutes. Ordinarily that is three minutes but tonight with the number of speakers we have the Public Forum will have two minutes. All other agenda items where we have speakers will have one minute. At one minute the microphone will be silent, and I will call the next person up to speak. I would hope that you understand how seriously we take listening to what people have to say and respecting the ability to say it. That is very, very important to everyone at this dais and that is the way we are going to conduct ourselves. If we get to a situation, I hope not like the one that we just had and there becomes this unsafe environment our offices again will step up and make arrangements. Our practice has been not to stand at the dais when this goes on, because we need to feel the safety of community and effort as well and if there is anything that is even more an emergency CMPD, our Charlotte Mecklenburg Police Officers will help conduct our way to move in and about this room. Thank you for your patience, thank you for being here today for our June 24th meeting.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

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

PUBLIC FORUM

Concerns with 5G Network

Mary Jo Koerner, P. O. Box 413 Huntersville said I am here to talk about the rollout of 5G. In 2014, our City tightened up their ethics policy; one item in the current Code of Ethics is City Councilmember's official actions should be above reproach and should not use their official position for their personal gain. Why has Charlotte City members ignored our outdated ordinance regarding and related to technology? Thus, following ordinance from 2007 make us progressive. Most forward-thinking cities have updated their ordinance two and three times since this time period. Charlotte is still following a generic 2007 ordinance. This was referenced by Councilmember Bokhari last week in his Town Hall Meeting. We do not have any wireless ordinance for our public or private property right-of-way, and the City of Charlotte failed to file the Small Cell Aesthetic Ordinance due by April 15, 2019 deadline. Why? We needed a Small Cell Ordinance to protect our City. Does anyone on this Council stand to personally gain from 5G rollout? Why has an updated technology ordinance not been implemented? Please do your due diligence as our City leaders.

Housing Coalition

Sathvik Obuli, 1017 Elsmore Drive, Matthews said I am a Junior Board Representative for Framework4future. I am a rising 9th grader going to Weddington High School. Today's youth are tomorrow's leaders. Framework4Future is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization for your people in Charlotte. It is focused on creating next generation leaders. We have been connecting middle and high school students with civic, business, and community leaders and addressing the needs of the community.

Charlotte is a big city and a collection of communities. It is easy to get isolated and disengaged from the needs and aspirations of the larger community. Framework4Future is

helping build bridges between communities at the same time bringing down silos. We have done many volunteering events, the most recent a Tennis Camp fully organized in the youth in the 4th district of Veterans Memorial Park. We expected to see 30 kids, but 50 kids showed up. We did fundraising from family and friends for supplies, food and water for all the participants. We even provided tennis racquets for the camps, many of which were donated by the community and were refurbished by Frankwork4Future youth. We enjoyed working and interacting with kids from a different zip code in Charlotte and learning about the ideas, challenges and interest, while hosting a fun event. We are now aware that many school kids do not have access to healthy meals during the summer when school is out for summer. These kids have access to meals at school during the school year. This is a problem that some of us plan to address. We have successfully hosted many fundraising events like the Cricket Tournament and a Golf Tournament. We used the money raised to donate food or buy supplies for activities at senior retirement communities in the Greater Charlotte Area. In the future, we plan to engage in partnerships with other youth organizations and work towards the betterment of the Charlotte Community. We also plan on setting up clubs in every school and we mainly focus on our motto, "Educate, Engage and Empower Youth". Thank you for your time and this opportunity.

Aditya Bulusu, 12116 Crescent Run Court said I am here representing Framework for Future as a member of the Housing for Justice Coalition. Framework for Future is a student-led organization that empowers students to support members of the community by organizing events. I am here today to discuss gentrification. Over the last few weeks, I and a few of our members, have thoroughly studied gentrification and concluded with a report. Here are a few key statistics that we found: In neighborhoods close to Charlotte, home prices are skyrocketed \$110,000 to \$120,000 in less than 10-years, causing widespread African-American and Hispanic displacement. In these areas, almost 50% of the minority community has been displaced due to soaring prices as seen in the Stewart Creek Neighborhood, where the minority population has decreased from 3,700 to 1,100. As home prices have skyrocketed, incomes have stayed low and growth has been flat, as seen near Sharon Memorial Park where incomes have only grown a few thousand in ten-years. Another example can be seen near the Villa Heights Neighborhood where the average income ranges from \$16,000 to \$24,000, while house prices are in the hundreds of thousands. When gentrification occurs, a ripple effect follows, and all prices nearby increase. As a result, countless small businesses are forced to close replaced by larger one, usually increasing prices.

At the end of our research, we concluded that gentrification has had the biggest impact with renters and found that only one out of 15 low-income minority renters remain after gentrification. After conducting this report, we had one question. What will the City of Charlotte do to effectively combat this issue in the future?

Mayor Lyles said I had the pleasure of having this presentation in my office, and I said to him that this is the kind of thing that we would love to see in our students, the understanding of the issues of the day. Tell us what school you attend and what grade are you in.

Mr. Bulusu said I go to Ardrey Kell, and I'm going into 10th grade.

Mayor Lyles said he did this as his 9th grade project.

Airport Food Service Workers

Jacob Hortwitz, 1315 Harding Place said I'm the lead organizer with Unite Here. We are a union that represents most all of the workers at Charlotte Douglas International Airport; some of those men and women are here tonight. Both the workers that do airline catering, that provide the food and water that people eat and drink when they are on flights, as well as folks working for HMS Host serving food in the concourses at the terminal.

We are here tonight, because despite the fact that American Airlines, United and Delta combined made \$50 billion in profits this year. Workers at Charlotte Douglas Airport are not even making \$15 per hour, and in fact Charlotte is the Airport with the lowest paid workers of any American Hub in the country. I think that is shameful. I think the amount of money

that is coming in to the City through the Airport is something that workers are proud of, but it is not right, and it is not fair that those very workers don't have enough money to be able to pay for daycare for their children. One of our members spoke to me the other day about not being able to afford a car and having to walk an hour and a half when she gets off work sometimes at 1:00 a.m., because there is not adequate transportation to and from the Airport in that hour of the day. All of these are issues that are affecting not just the nearly 2,000 workers at the Airport but their families and this whole community, and I call on the Council to tell American Airlines, tell MHS Host and tell Skychef, the companies that operate there that they can do better, and they should do better. Workers deserve a true living wage at Charlotte Douglas Airport and beyond.

Employee Pay and Benefits

Thomas Young, 4212 Commonwealth Avenue said I want to commend you, give you an applause and thank you all for everything you all do for us. We work for you; you work for us, and I commend you on a wonderful job you all do. I appreciate what you do; you all do an outstanding job Mayor. I'm proud you all are my City Council. Thank you.

Craig Brown, 1440 Ventura Way said Madam Mayor, City Councilmembers, Mr. Jones and all our City Officials, I would like to thank you too for a budget well done, but let's not stop there, because no City worker should have to stand at Crisis. No City worker should have to decide between buying medicine for their children or pay the rent or live on the streets. I comment you on the job you all did, but we can do better together and for that I thank you and commend you all.

Jontavius Thompson, 3340 Mason Drive said I work for Charlotte Water, and I just wanted to say thank you to you all. First, I would like to show my gratitude by expressing my appreciation on all the great achievements that you, the City Council has gratefully approved over the year for what was Charlotte Mecklenburg Utilities, currently Charlotte Water. Myself personally having the privilege to not only live here in Charlotte North Carolina, but to also work here brings me great pleasure that I'm one of many that can help make a change on a day to day in our beautiful City. Although, we at some point in all our lives face extreme difficulties still we rise. Once again, I would like to thank you for your contributions to what is a wonderful start to a bright future. Thank you again for your patience and your time; may God Bless you all.

Larry Mackey, 8725 Waterlock Road said I have to say this, that budget that you passed a couple weeks ago, wow, because it helped the City, not just the employees. It wasn't just the employees when you hear in the news oh, they are getting \$2,080. That was something that was deserved, and you all gave it to us. First, I want to thank our City Manager for the great job, but you didn't do it by yourself, so I'm going to thank your Budget people who did all the work. I want to thank Ms. Simpson for they worked hard, they had long hours that they worked, and we appreciate that. We are talking about putting up \$50 million for affordable housing. That is a problem in the nation, not just here in Charlotte, but you all are coming up with solutions trying to help that.

The apprenticeship, a lot of people don't realize you are being trained, being paid to get trained, and if you can't get the job at the City of Charlotte they've got companies that will hire you, so what are you doing for our economy? What are you doing for our neighborhoods that people is hard for them to get jobs, because they don't have the training. I want to say thank you for standing up, not just for the employees of Charlotte, but thank you for standing up for the City of Charlotte, because we all benefit from that.

Mayor Lyles said when you are at work tomorrow would you please tell everyone of the folks out there that the way you conducted this past weekend when we had that broken water main on Freedom Drive and Morehead Street, exceptional, exceptional and thank them for us. I think we had about a 35 or 40-minute storm and the commute didn't have those trees leftover on the roadways. You guys do great work, and we are proud to have you work with us. Thank you very much.

Bobby Kirkpatrick, 504 Tribune Drive said I work at LSG Skychef; I representing almost 200 employees. Most of them make a poverty wage; there is no way anyone working at Charlotte Airport should be making no less than \$15 per hour. It seems that our moral compass has been bent backwards. We show that no citizen in Charlotte, anyone in Charlotte work less than \$15 per hour. One job should be enough; there is no way anyone should wear a uniform that works for Skychef and go ask you for food stamps. It shouldn't happen. The moral compass has been bent backwards. I was just with Reverend Barber at the poor people's campaign in Washington, DC, and I told him this story. I work with a lady that has been working for Skychef for nine-years; she makes less than \$8.40 per hour. Each one of us should be ashamed, a citizen that was born and raised in Charlotte, North Carolina 2019, she pays more to come to work than she has in a paycheck. Now, don't each one of us feel just a little bad? It shouldn't happen in Mecklenburg County, not when that Airport is making millions, but you will give airlines welfare, because American comes to you and ask you to give them money, tax breaks, and they made \$20 billion in profit, and they won't give a raise to a lady that is making \$8.40 per hour.

Gloria Mickle, 4834 Hopewood Lane said I work at LSG Skychef; I've been there seven-years, and I have 10 grandkids, but I have to get another job in order to make ends meet. I fear that we need more money at LSG. It is just too little pay; you have to work two jobs. There are a lot of people work there that have been there for 20-years, and everybody is working two jobs. Enough is enough.

Mayor Lyles said we are the end of our public forum; the process afterwards is that you should receive some information from the City Manager as we look at those things that we can look into.

Councilmember Mitchell said City Manager, just for clarification, because I don't want the citizens leaving so take us through the process. You hear about American Airlines, the Airport and their wages so where does that responsibility lie? Is that Brent Cagle, is it American Airlines, the City Council?

Marcus Jones, City Manager said the individuals who work directly for Brent Cagle, the Airport Director, would be a part of the 8,200 City employees and many of the individuals that spoke tonight are not working directly for Brent Cagle.

Councilmember Mayfield said follow-up, the question that I think I heard so I will repeat in a different way Mr. Manager, we have contracts with LSG which is one of the challenges that is mentioned regarding the pay. Are we under the City's rules and policies, state rules and policies or Federal Aviation Administration when it comes time to identifying companies for partnership? I know by Federal Aviation Administration, by law we have to make Airport space available for businesses but to address the concern of the cost of living in Charlotte and to ensure we are getting good partners at the table, where does that authority fall regarding salaries for a third-party entity that is leasing space within the Airport?

Mr. Jones said Mr. Cagle will address that directly.

Brent Cagle, Aviation Director said we own and operate the facility, but we make it available, and under federal guidelines the Airport is a public use facility, so we are obligated to make the Airport available for the tenants to use it. Those tenants, primarily airlines also have contractors that assist them in conducting their business. LSG Skychef would be an example of a contractor to a tenant, and they may also have leases with the Airport as well, so they can conduct their business. It is my understanding after talking about this several times with our attorneys that under North Carolina guidelines, we are not able to mandate or dictate wages or work practices associated with our tenants or their contractors.

Ms. Mayfield said so, that would be the North Carolina General Assembly?

Mr. Cagle said yes ma'am.

Councilmember Winston said I knew that was going to be the answer for this, but I still believe that we as a Council have the power to exhibit pressure and expectations on the

people that we do business with, just as we are going through our Consent Agenda. We have chances to approve or deny contracts as we see fit. It is something I've spoken about before as regards to how we handle contracts and say that we expect, if we are going to be leads on reducing these equity gaps that we have to set expectations. I sent an e-mail to the body just the other day as it regards contracts around janitorial services and other contractors that we deal with. We do have power and the power that we have is in how we spend our money. So, if we are willing and we really do want to move the needle on this we are going to have to make some uncomfortable decisions at times, but I think necessary to get our partners to where we want them to be, being that we don't have the power of legislation to do that directly.

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CONSENT AGENDA

Motion was made by Councilmember Egleston and seconded by Councilmember Harlow, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented with the exception of Item Nos. 41, 43, 45, and 46 which were pulled by staff.

Councilmember Eiselt said I would like to pull Item No. 36 just for information, not a separate vote but to defer it for more information. I would like to know more about the market rate with regards to the American Airlines Cargo and Catering Lease. I would like more information on what we lease our space for at the Airport and what the market rate actually is.

Mayor Lyles said I think we ordinarily ask for the consequences of the deferral of this item. Are there consequences to deferral?

Marie Harris, Strategy & Budget said the tenant is current, so it would go under month to month lease. It is important to note for this space this is typical for this area and this is older warehouse space. It is warehouse with a little bit of office space, so it is predominately warehouse, and it doesn't have the upgrades with enhanced decks and things like that, so this is definitely within applicable range for this type of property at the Airport.

Ms. Eiselt said I would just like to know more about it because we talk about 82,000 square feet, and we've got a museum that we have to move out of the Airport property overall, because there is no room; 82,000 square feet is a lot of square footage and if we could just get more information about it before we are actually voting on it. I don't know what the market rate is for that, but we approve something like this I personally would like more information.

Mayor Lyles said I think the consequences of a month to month lease; is that a problem to have a month to month lease Mr. Cagle?

Councilmember Driggs said I hope we can avoid situations where we have items on our agenda, and they get yanked like this. When the people we are dealing with see this happening and wonder why couldn't we have had that conversation sooner and not be in a position and similarly, actually for the restaurant lease which was also scheduled to be addressed tonight and suddenly has disappeared from the agenda, so if we could get a little further upstream and stop stuff from showing up on the agenda only to be reversed at a time when maybe a lot of people had assumed it was pretty much done I think that would be good for our business relationships.

Ms. Harris said I do have a little more information if that would be helpful Mr. Eiselt.

Ms. Eiselt said sure.

Ms. Harris said this facility consist of 65,584 square feet of warehouse and 17,379 square feet of office. American, formerly US Airways, has occupied this facility for the past 30-years. Over the course of this occupancy, American has paid the Airport's capital costs incurred in constructing this facility and paid for the internal renovations to the facility's office area. The facility as it sits today is an aged warehouse with undersized docks and limited operational

capacity. The rent as set forth in the RCA takes into account the longevity of the tenancy, the investment the tenant has made in the facility over time and the age of the facility.

Mayor Lyles said I think that we've heard from the Aviation Director that it is okay to let it go until the next Council meeting; so, with that month to month lease we will do that and then we will come back, so we can get a more orderly shared information around the dais, so everyone has that information. I'm just going to add Item No. 36 to be deferred.

The vote was taken on the motion, including Item No. 36, and recorded as unanimous.

The following items were approved:

Item No. 29: Fire Station 28 Weight Room Addition and Renovation

(A) Reject the low bid by Carolina Contracting & Investments, Inc. for the Fire Station 28 Weight Room addition and Renovation project, and (B) approve a contract in the amount of \$682,373.16 to the lowest bidder Walter B. Davis Company for the Fire Station 28 Weight Room Addition and Renovation project.

Summary of Bids

Walter B. Davis Company	\$682,373.16
Encompass Building Group, Inc.	\$739,322.64
Catalyst Construction Co., Inc.	\$934,200.00

Item No. 30: Commercial Floor Coverings

(A) Approve the purchase of commercial floor coverings and related services from cooperative contracts, (B) Approve a unit price contract with Mohawk Carpet Distribution, Inc. for the purchase of commercial floor coverings for a term of two years under Omnia Contract Number R171702 dated July 1, 2018, (C) Approve a unit price with Tarkett USA Inc. for the purchase of commercial floor coverings for a term of two years under Omnia Contract Number R171703 dated July 1, 2018, and (D) Authorize the City Manager to extend the contract for additional 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. 31: Electrical Services for City Facilities

Approve unit price contracts with the following companies for electrical services for three years: A & C Electrical Services, Inc., A & W Electrical Services, Inc., Electrical System Specialists, Inc., Fidelity Electric, Inc. and Southern Image Electric Co.

Item No. 32: Airport Joint Operations Center Design Services Contract Amendment

Approve contract amendment #2 for \$1,163,078 to RS&H Architects-Engineers-Planners, Inc. for additional construction design services for the Airport Joint Operations Center.

Item No. 33: Airport Parking Management Services

Approve amendment #4 for \$4,118,232 with SP Plus Corporation for public parking management services.

Item No. 34: Airport Electric Ground Service Equipment Vehicle Charger Parts

(A) Approve the purchase of PosiCharge vehicle charger parts, by the sole source exemption, (B) Approve a contract with Averest, Inc. for the purchase of PosiCharge vehicle charger parts for the term of three years, and (C) 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. 35: Airport Military Construction Cooperation Agreement

Approve a Cooperative Agreement with the National Guard Bureau to reimburse the City for the design services and construction cost to expand the Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting Station 41 at the Airport.

Item No. 37: Microsoft Software Enterprise Licensing

(A) Approve an amendment to the existing enterprise agreement and enterprise enrollment with Microsoft Corporation and SHI International Corp., extending the current agreements by two months through August 31, 2019, (B) Approve the purchase of Microsoft software licenses, maintenance, subscription licenses, support, and hosted services for a state contract as authorized by G.S. 143-129(e)(9), (C) Approve a new enterprise agreement with Microsoft Corporation and SHI International Corp. for the purchase of Microsoft software license, maintenance, subscription licenses, support and hosted services for the term of three years under State Contract 208C. and (D) Authorize the City Manager to extend the use of the contract for additional terms for as long as the state contract is in effect, at prices and terms that are the same or more favorable than those offered under the state contract.

Item No. 38: Commercial Fitness Equipment

(A) Approve a unit price contract with the lowest responsive bidder Carolina Fitness Equipment for the purchase of commercial fitness equipment for a 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.

Summary of Bids

Carolina Fitness	\$ 484,818.45
Pro Maxima	\$ 502,785.55
Advantage Sport & Fitness	\$ 745,455.24
Fitnessmith	\$ 848,175.49
Wellness Solutions	\$1,333,127.85

Item No. 39: Refund of Property Taxes

Adopt a resolution authorizing the refund of property taxes assessed through clerical or assessment error in the amount of \$3,042.85.

The resolutions are recorded in full in Resolution Book 49, at Page(s) 703-704.

Item No. 40: Meeting Minutes

Approve the titles, motions and votes reflected in the Clerk's record as the minutes of: May 6, 2019 Strategy Session, May 8, 2019 Budget Briefing and May 13, 2019 Business Meeting.

Item No. 42: Property Transactions – Bryant Farms Road Sidewalk, Parcel #4

Acquisition of 700 square feet (.016 acre) in Storm Drainage Easement, plus 2,209 square feet (.051 acre) in Temporary Construction Easement at 9300 Briarwick Lane from Jack Jaimes and Ruth L. Jaimes for \$20,900 for Bryant Farms Road Sidewalk, Parcel #4.

Item No. 44: Property Transactions – Edgewater to Rosecrest Sanitary Sewer, Parcel #9

Acquisition of 2,795.38 square feet (.064 acre) in Sanitary Sewer Easement, plus 2,605.52 square feet (.060 acre) in Temporary Construction easement at 6629 Brookcrest Drive from Ronald Laurita and Dana Laurita for \$20,900 for Edgewater to Rosecrest Sanitary Sewer, Parcel #9.

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ITEM NO. 8: PUBLIC HEARING ON GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS

Mayor Lyles declared the hearing open.

There being no speakers, either for or against, a motion was made by Councilmember Egleston, seconded by Councilmember Newton, and carried unanimously to close the public hearing.

Motion was made by Councilmember Egleston, seconded by Councilmember Harlow, and carried unanimously to adopt the bond order and resolution to provide for the issuance of General Obligation Bonds not to exceed \$223,000,000.

The resolutions are recorded in full in Resolution Book 49, at Page(s) 600-616.

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ITEM NO. 9: PUBLIC HEARING ON A RESOLUTION TO CLOSE TWO UNOPENED ALLEYWAYS OFF OF OUTLETS BOULEVARD

Mayor Lyles declared the hearing open.

There being no speakers, either for or against, a motion was made by Councilmember Mayfield, seconded by Councilmember Harlow, and carried unanimously to close the public hearing and to adopt a resolution to close two unopened alleyways off of Outlets Boulevard.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 49 at Page(s) 617-619I.

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ITEM NO. 10: PUBLIC HEARING ON A RESOLUTION TO CLOSE MARLYNN DRIVE OFF OF UNIVERSITY CITY BOULEVARD

Mayor Lyles declared the hearing open.

The being no speakers, either for or against, a motion was made by Councilmember Phipps, seconded by Councilmember Ajmera, and carried unanimously to close the public hearing and adopt a resolution to close Marlynn Drive off of University City Boulevard.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 49, at Page(s) 620-622A.

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ITEM NO. 11: CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Marcus Jones, City Manager said before you is the next 30-day agenda which takes us until the July 22nd meeting, as well as some key events that are going to occur in the community over the next month. At the last Council meeting, there was discussion about the Excelsior Club, and I would like to ask Pam Wideman to give Council a bit of an update about where we are with the Excelsior Club as well as what are some options for moving forward.

Pam Wideman, Director of Housing and Neighborhood Services said I'm going to provide you a brief update on where we are with the Excelsior Club. In terms of a little bit of history, the Excelsior Club is located at 921 Beatties Ford Road; it opened in 1944 and is the nation's oldest African American Night Club. It is home to performers like Nat King Cole and Louie Armstrong. In 1986, this building was designated as a local historic landmark. What that means is that interior and exterior changes including any demolition would need to be reviewed by the Historic Lands Marks Commission. This does not though prohibit the building from being sold or being demolished, so that is an important distinction. Many of you know that Beatties Ford Road is identified as a significant business corridor, one of our targeted business corridors, if you will, in this City.

In 2017, the current owner, Representative Carla Cunningham inherited this facility from her late husband Representative Pete Cunningham. In October 2018, the County Commissioners rejected spending \$4,000 on an option to purchase the Excelsior Club, and in November 2018, the Charlotte Mecklenburg Black Heritage Committee convened a community call to action to bring together folks who may be interested in purchasing the club.

Fast forward, in May 2019, the National Trust for Historic Preservation identified the Excelsior Club as one of the 11 most endangered historic places in the country. On June 11, 2019, the Historic Landmark Commission's demolition moratorium on the building also expired. As a result of that designation on the National Register for Historic Places, that is really important, because that could enable the facility to take advantage of the 15% North Carolina State tax credit and the 20% federal tax credit if applied for. In terms of one more recent update, as of June 20, 2019, a California based investor made an offer to purchase the Excelsior. Again, that was an offer.

In terms of what might some City options be or some key considerations, I think you all previously received a memo that had a recommended option at the time. You could take no action, you could purchase the building after identifying a proper reuse or purpose. Some other key considerations are, the City has not purchased property for Historic Preservation, this is our historical preference. Historic Preservation is a County function, and if the City did purchase the property the City would incur all costs to remediate the property.

Councilmember Egleston said I have been led to believe that the buyer or the potential buyer, the person who placed an offer is of a mind to preserve the building, which is encouraging. I would argue, not necessarily in this specific case, that no-one is going to have to buy it; we've got a private buyer who is pursuing that, and we think for the right reasons, but I would say it is an opportunity for us to think about whether in future budget cycles we potentially seed money into the revolving fund of the Historic Landmarks Commission administers, we would not necessarily be the right entity to purchase a place like the Excelsior Club or something in the future where we might be facing the same challenges with the Historic Landmarks and the people who work at the Historic Landmarks Commission are County employees but that Board is comprised of County appointees as well as City appointees and at times the County has seeded money into that revolving fund. I think there is an opportunity for the City to do that at some point in the future, so they are better able to act quickly when we have something like this that is endangered that is important and that we deem a priority. I do think it could be something that we partner with the County on and partner with the Historic Landmarks Commission on more than we have done historically.

Councilmember Winston said I agree with the direction you are going there. As I said, I think we talked about this at the last meeting; I think there needs to be an overall land acquisition policy that includes how to deal with properties with historical value. I think we need overall policies that guides our Real Estate Department to purchase land, how to prioritize funds and therefore where to go, for instance, in a situation where it might be cost prohibitive to forge ahead on public/private partnerships in situation where nimble action is necessary. I would like to see us go a little bit further than just the Historic Properties.

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ITEM NO. 12: AMEND CHAPTER 15, ARTICLE III, NOISE ORDINANCE

Mayor Lyles said the next item on the agenda is one that many of you are here to participate in. We have two things that we've asked you to do so that everyone can be heard, if we would be quiet enough for them to be heard, that would be important, and that we respect everyone and conduct ourselves in a way that I think all of us would be proud. That would be of the things I would ask of you.

We have over 100 speakers, so each speaker will have one minute to speak. I will ask the Committee Chair that recommended this to the full Council to summarize the item that is on the agenda and then we will start with the beginning of our public hearing. Following that public hearing, the Council will discuss the item and make a decision on what to do next. We will all be listening and if you will allow us to listen we will be able to hear everyone so that is an important aspect of what we are trying to accomplish tonight.

Councilmember Harlow said thanks for everyone being here; I would like to thank my fellow Councilmembers for considering these changes to this existing ordinance. My capacity as Chair of the Neighborhood Development Committee. I just want to provide some additional context to the proposed changes tonight. We know this has not been an easy road. I don't

want anyone to feel that this has been a rushed process. The original Community Safety Committee first discussed this issue in October 2017 and various Committees heard this on multiple levels, October 5, 2017, May 17, 2018, October 28, 2018; we received an official charge from the Mayor on November 2, 2018 and then the newly formed Neighborhood Development Committee had multiple meetings in December, February, March and eventually took action to recommend the proposed changes you have before you tonight in April and then the Council heard a briefing on that in early June. I appreciate all the speakers that have come here today to voice their opinions on it, all the e-mails we have received, all the phone calls and voices messages we have received. Part of the Committee work included a lot of community engagement opportunities, survey research on best practices in various cities, an assessment of challenges, experiences particularly here in Charlotte. I feel it is important for us to move forward tonight and address noise as a whole.

This is a comprehensive look at our ordinance as it relates to construction, as it relates to some sound enforcement, CMPD enforcement. We are almost doubling and in certain cases quadrupling our fines for enforcement, we are changing the way we measure sound from a dBa to a dBc sound measurement to help capture more bass components and also proposing a sound buffer around medical facilities, schools, and places of worship. We know the buffer zones are the contentious issue here, there is no doubt there and I don't want to ignore that. Later in the evening I will propose a small amendment to the proposed ordinance that decreases the proposed buffer from 200-feet to 150-feet; I will speak to that in more detail a little bit later. I want folks to know that this is not physical buffer; this will not stop folks from walking on sidewalks. This is not to prevent anyone from speaking to any stranger or person or friend; this does not prevent anybody from passing out any literature. This will not prevent anyone from saying anything that they want to say; this is just an amplified sound buffer within these various places that are listed, and those places, medical facilities, schools and places of worship must also post their hours of operations and also must post signage.

This demonstrates what I believe is the value in considering community feedback and due diligence of the staff. Many worked sessions between the staff and the Police Department, Fire Department, C-DOT, and we've had various stakeholder groups of neighboring businesses in neighborhoods that are affected by sound. Noise, and proposed noise changes are something we wanted all the community to take part in and we feel very confident that we've considered all perspectives. We know that this will not make everybody happy. I've said on multiple occasions though that I feel like sometimes the best policy when we have groups on one side saying we did too much and groups on another side saying we didn't do enough.

With that we've got the proposal in front of us, and I know we have a long list of speakers and I would urge everyone to listen, urge everyone to give these proposed changes a chance to work and we will consider a motion later this evening.

Brooke Adams, 3301 Foxridge Road said this new ordinance is a fair balancing of the rights of those who wish to exercise free speech and the rights of those who are seeking a peaceful and healthy environment. You are going to hear a lot about abortion tonight, but we are not here to debate about abortion. The City Council is responsible for protecting the health and well-being of all of its citizens, even those who are seeking or providing healthcare procedures that some folks don't approve of. The scientific evidence about the harmful effects of excessive noise is substantial. In the context of medical facilities, excessive noise causes more than just hearing loss. It has a negative effect on healing and can result in elevated heart rates and blood pressure. Excessive noise also has a negative effect on the medical staff, increasing stress, burnout and making it harder for them to concentrate or to hear their patients. As Dr. Martin Luther King said, we must learn to live together as brothers or perish together as fools. The proposed ordinance will help us share the same.

Daniel Parks, 8040 Cedarbrook Drive said Proverbs 31:8-9 says open your mouth for the speechless and the cause of all who are appointed to die; open your mouth, judge righteously and plead the cause of the poor and needy. God's word commands that we not only love our neighbors as ourselves, but also speak for those who can't speak for

themselves. A 150 to 200 babies die by abortion in our City every week. The people you see here tonight in the blue shirts aren't here for selfish reasons; we are here to be a voice for the voiceless. Abortion will come to an end in our nation, but as long as it remains a scourge in our City God's people will stand against it in prayer and outreach. Over the past few years the City of Charlotte has attacked every form of speech that we use to protect these precious babies, from literally snatching life-saving signs out of the hands of pro-life volunteers to trying to stop us from parking the ultrasound RV near the abortion clinics to pressuring CMPD to write citations for offering literature to women seeking abortions and now trying to suppress our message by changing the Sound Ordinance.

Justin Reeder, 4816 Sirius Lane said I'm a business owner, family man and the founder of Love Life. Above all of this I'm a follower of King Jesus. As a follower of Jesus, I want to you to know we love you and we pray for you. Our battle is not with you, but make no mistake there is a very real battle taking place, a battle over our hearts and minds, a battle for our children. Arguments like my body, my choice, all this comes down to do we believe these are children we are talking about. At conception, that child has its very own unique DNA, at 12-weeks a child is fully developed with fingers, toes, eyes and everything else. If these are children, then you will be voting in support of the choice to kill children. Just as the Nazi Germany, those that supported the choice to kill unwanted humans. Just because the nation has legalized something doesn't make it morally right. You have a moral obligation over a political affiliation. I ask you to stand on the right side of history and vote to help us reach more moms and dads with real help and real choices.

Richard Bean, 7501 Celtic Court said scientifically speaking, this isn't about noise; buffer zones only exist as a way to shut down free speech. Let's take a hypothetical 90 decibels registered at a foot away from the speaker system; at just 32 feet away the noise level is reduced to 60 decibels, which is the same as a quiet conversation between two people. That is with zero buffers at 32-feet. The abortion facility is 115-feet away from the property line; at 115-feet the same 90 decibel noise would be under 49 decibels, that is the same ambient noise as inside a quiet office. So, are you asking us to believe that the abortion facility can't operate with the same decibel levels as a quiet office? Then on top of that you expect us to believe we need another 200-feet on top of that; that would decrease the noise to about the same as light rain fall which is an impossibly insane standard. Now consider for a second that you will be will creating over 214 million square feet of new buffers with this new proposal. Are you aware that Speed Street, Taste of Charlotte, Greek Festival, etc. all fall within these buffer zones? Even this room we are standing in how falls within that buffer.

Sarah Haley, 621 Mayview Drive said I am here for two reasons tonight; the first is to express my support for the proposed changes to the Noise Ordinance. This is not a vote about abortion; it is not religious belief. It is about the right for all of our citizens in this City to feel safe and to access healthcare, places of worship and education free of harassment, abuse intimidation and fear. I fully support these changes, and the second reason I'm here tonight is to thank the Councilmembers who have worked on this issue tirelessly for the past two years. This change is going to make a significant difference to our residents. It is going to be a measurable difference for your constituents, and so, I thank you for listening to your constituents, for meeting with them, for bringing forward these changes and for voting for them tonight. Your constituents hear you; we see you, we support you, and we thank you for your vote tonight.

Matthew Harrison, 1345 Trotter Circle, Mount Pleasant said thank you for your service to our community and the opportunity to speak to you tonight. I'm a Board-Certified Family Practice Physician, a hospitalist at six area hospitals and an Assistant Professor for the Campbell School of osteopathic medicine. I have three points to share with you tonight. One, as a member of the faith community and the medical community, I want to apologize for not offering options better than abortion; women deserve better than abortion. To remedy this, I have worked with amazing people to provide free prenatal care to abortion vulnerable women for 17-years. We have provided free prenatal care for hundreds of mothers and these referrals come directly from the sidewalk on Latrobe Drive. Our mobile unit provides free ultrasounds and can immediately start abortion for rescue right outside the clinic, and there is a multitude of other ministries in this room tonight offering services that become

effectively unreachable to these mothers when they are physically removed or silenced by an audio, removed from the public space that adjoins the clinic property.

Leon Threatt, 7910 Idlewild Road said I am Pastor Leon Threatt; I've Pastored here in Charlotte for 31-years, Christian Faith Center, and I just want to encourage you to please, please table, put aside this ordinance, because all of you certainly know as well as all of the people present that this is really about squelching, limiting the free speech of those who are pro-life. I would also want to remind you that there are far more urgent issues facing our City, the high crime of homicide in our City, the continual need for affordable housing and certainly the continual need for upward mobility for many in our community. We can table this and address the real issues facing our City and certainly a Sound Ordinance is not the problem facing our City.

Kelsea McLain, 421 North Wendover Road said I work with the Women's Choice of Charlotte. We are an abortion care provider here in the Charlotte area and encounters problems at the abusive levels of sounds that are used to protest our facility. I actually had to change my speech a little bit, as I was walking in I was shoved and jostled by several people in blue shirts, and I think that is indicative of what is really happening on the sidewalks in front of healthcare facilities, especially abortion care providers. It is not just free speech; it is harassment. I encountered that in a real way when I walked in wearing my work shirt. The reality is, I had an abortion in 2010, and there were protestors in front of my clinic. They weren't allowed to use the amplification, yet somehow, I was able to figure out their message, what they wanted to say, and they were hostile to my choice when I walked in. There was no need for amplification for me to understand their message, their freedom of speech was heard loud and clear. What we are hoping for is the passing of common-sense rules that will make sure that that sound level cannot reach inside the facility where healthcare is taking place. I can attest to the fact that we have had this abusive use of sound interfere.

Jill Coward, 225 Nelson Road, Matthews said I am the State Director for Concerned Women for America. We are the nation's largest and oldest public policy organization for women. For 40-years, we've lobbied for the right of all females, not just the women who believe their only option is to have an abortion. I ask each of you tonight the following consideration; you have a son or daughter, possibly a father or mother, will you please think for a moment about those you love who are making a difficult decision, a life altering one. What you are asking us to do tonight is not to intervene when a child or mother is in harm's way. Abortion always results in a death. We also understand that women should have options and that children should have options. Their option should not only be for their death.

Vladimir Valencia, 3971 Hollows Glen Court SW, Concord said first of all, I want to thank you all and God too. When we come to talk, we only don't talk about our knowledge but from our heart. We as pastors, we help many people, and after an abortion they end up with depression, and when we talk about these communications they will not stop us from loving them and helping them. We as pastors, we know that the best treasure of a county is a family and kids, please let us continue loving them.

Diana Travis, 6904 Alexander Road said for those of you who have not actually been out to see for yourselves, I want you to hear part of rant that we caught at 105 decibels. This is at 75 decibels. Now, I'm going to do it at 85 decibels and now at 105 decibels. This is despicable.

Cheryl Chandler, 4803 Crownvista Drive said I've lived in Charlotte for 36-years, and I've been involved in pro-life sidewalk ministry here for 30-years. I know of over 2,000 children and their moms and dads who have been saved from abortion by our sidewalk efforts. Some of these children are now having children of their own. Generations have been saved. I've lavishly showered hundreds of mothers with everything they need for their pregnancy and the first two-years of their child's life. In 1988 when I began your Picketing Ordinance restricted our speech to a 24 by 24-inch sign. We sued the City to get that Ordinance changed, and by the way the City lost, and their attorneys thought it was just fine when it

was in place. It was found to be unconstitutional, and so will this buffer. I realize that Charlotte Abortion Centers desire to operate in peace, who wouldn't?

Laura Reich, 1201 Brighmoor Drive, Matthews said please imagine if you would your six-year old child or grandchild is sitting in his school classroom and outside his window there are protestors yelling on amplified sound. They yell to the children, get out of there your teacher is teaching you evil; you will go to hell. Now imagine you are sitting in church and again protestors with amplified sound are yelling into your sanctuary, get out of there, save yourself from hell. You are following the wrong path; you need to follow my god. The protestors yelling these messages believe in what they are saying and think if they can convey their message very loudly people will listen and maybe come to agree with them. I would think the majority of us would view this as emotional harassment. This is why Charlotte needs a Noise Ordinance for schools, medical facilities, and religious facilities. The first amendment grants free speech, but it is not absolute. Nowhere in the constitution does it say free speech means amplified speech. Please vote for the Noise Ordinance.

Iztok, Umek, 4542 Glenlea Commons Drive said I am a Charlotte resident. It is hard to believe the claims that Charlotte is against free speech since you will hear people who don't live or work in Charlotte speak in front of the City Council. Since this is about amplification and noise, our current ordinance allows amplified sound at 75 decibels at 10-feet. We have measured sound in excess of 105 decibels, which is a thousand times more intense than 75 decibels that is permitted. For each 10 decibels [inaudible] factor is 10. The fact is the current Noise Ordinance doesn't work as the protestors exercise their free speech at an intensity over a thousand times greater than allowed until the Police shows up, then the volume is turned off.

Marjorie Valencia, 3971 Hollows Glen Court SW, Concord I have been coming to Love Life for the Prayer Walk; we have never offended anybody. We just go there, because we have a right; we have the freedom of speech, and that is a right and nobody can take it away from us. We are here only to help families; we have helped many, many people to have tried to kill themselves, and I have a witness in my family that my mother until today she cries for the abortion she has done to herself. We are pastors; we want to help people. We don't want to be here to fight against nobody. We know what is right, what God loves; God loves life, and if you were one of those babies wouldn't you like somebody to fight for you? Is the right to live, the right to have a family to leave. You cannot take somebody's life just because somebody is approving all that stuff, no, that is not right. We have to stand for what is right and what is right to talk for those little babies.

David Keen, 3807 Brownes Ferry Road said first, I want to say thank you for all that you do. Sincerely, I am grateful for all of you. I do not envy the job of any of you; however, I know that God has put you in those chairs to pursue justice and righteousness for all, and I would argue especially for the unborn. I am a citizen and resident in Charlotte; I'm a husband, father and local pastor in Charlotte. More than all of that I'm an adopted Son of God through my meeting with Christ Jesus because of his person and work. I'm only here by His grace. My biggest prayer that each of you and everyone in this room knows the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. I'm an ambassador of the most high God, who is the King of the universe and He compels me to speak on behalf of the helpless and the voiceless. Two things seem very important here. I'm concerned about the inapparent false narrative about Love Life and the reason for this proposal for the new Noise Ordinance buffer; this is about abortion. This appears to be a clear case of trying to silence any voice with whom we disagree. Nothing about what Love Life does seek to harm or silence any women or men we seek to pray for, serve and extend help and grace to all. We are truly prolife; we are fighting for life from the womb to the tomb.

Betty Gunz, 1409 Maryland Avenue said I am here to speak in favor of the Noise Ordinance. I wanted to address the protest that this Ordinance infringes on free speech rights, because this argument is yet another of the many distortions and untruths the opponents of the Ordinance regularly use. We are not trying to make them not talk; we are just trying to make them not yell at the decibel levels you've heard. I only have 60 seconds, and you know this is a bogus issue, and you also know that these protestors can still harass, intimidate and verbally assault people even with this Ordinance. It doesn't stop anybody

from talking, just the level of the talking. That is the least we can do. Two hundred feet, cutting it back to 150-feet; it is already cut back to 200-feet.

Stephanie Reinhart, 12685 Overlook Mountain Drive said I serve with Restored Life Ministry which helps men, women, and churches connect with healing abortion recovery counseling and group studies. I serve in partnership with Cities for Life and Love Life. I serve in this way because I suffered the most devastating effects of post-abortion trauma for years in silence and secrecy and shame. Most often the counseling and the preparation that these young women get in this multi-billion-dollar industry called abortion is far from what is true. I have printed packets of information from the Elliott Institute which are comprised of all the studies that have been done that show the effects of abortion on women. They say this is about women's choice and we are here because of the women too, not just the babies. They have a right to know the trauma they are walking into. Mayor Lyles and distinguished City Councilmembers I thank you for hearing today. Our country is only as great as the people who govern it.

Elayne De Maria, 7804 Compton Court said I have escorted at two of the three abortion clinics in Charlotte; there isn't a free speech issue at either location. The bellowing of the loud speakers serves to degrade our patients and has taken free speech and weaponized it and the weapon is amplification. The weaponized speech towards our patients with statements like baby killer; murderer; Jesus hates you; you are going to the gates of hell; you are murderous whores; you are going to be the mother of a dead baby; please don't kill you baby. This weaponized speech elevates an already tense situation and there are times I feel uncomfortable and think this situation could get out of hand. We even have an antiabortion protestor standing on a 10-foot ladder yelling at our patients over the fence while holding a microphone. Free speech is not defined by who screams the loudest with amplification.

Jesse Watkins, 3925 Spring Drive, Midland said I the pastor of a church that partners with Love Life Charlotte. The first amendment to the constitution states that no law shall be made abridging the freedom of speech. The problem with the proposed ordinance is that if government can restrict one place that you cannot proclaim your message it can restrict anyplace. If we can proclaim our message on any street corner, then every street corner falls under the constitution of the United States. In just the past three-years that we've partnered with Love Life over 1,200 mothers have chosen life at the abortion clinic on Latrobe Drive. Twelve-hundred new babies are there because Christians were proclaiming their message of love, hope and the gospel of Jesus Christ. If this ordinance passes tonight you will personally be responsible for these ministries being hindered and their ability of giving resources to these mothers where children can be adopted, given help, plugged into church communities that can help raise these children.

Erin Healy, 3301 Fox ridge Road said I work at a local abortion clinic here in Charlotte. I live here, and I grew up in Charlotte, and I ask that you vote for the proposed Noise Ordinance for two reasons. The current ordinance regarding noise in our City one, does not sufficiently protect citizens seeking peace in their homes, places of worship, schools and medical facilities. Two, the current ordinance is not sufficiently enforceable for CMPD. Our City needs legislation that protects against noise at such levels and close proximities that it interferes with citizens ability to seek medical care. At my place of work, I regularly must significantly raise my voice in order to be heard while speaking with patients. Patients in turn are unnecessarily stressed by the pervading sounds of shouting protestors and this poses a credible risk to both their emotional and physical health. As an advocate for patient health and a concerned citizen of Charlotte, this is unacceptable. This ordinance takes no issue with freedom of speech but rather with the volume of noise with which this freedom is exercised.

Kris Kawulok, P. O. Box 807, Davidson said I am the Pastor of Livingstone Fellowship in Huntersville. I am grateful for the opportunity to address you today; I see the sincerely with which you have worked on this proposal, but I respectfully implore you to not endorse it any longer in this attempt to create a noise buffer. They already have enough regulation for noise in Charlotte, and it seems clear that this further regulation is really an attempt by one group to impose on some of the very basic rights of another group and those are the rights

to gather, peaceably and pray. One of my other bigger concerns, aside from the concern of life, is that proposals like this only serve to erode our bill of rights, our rights as citizens by controlling how we ultimately do what we have the freedom to do. Speaking from the perspective of a believer and a pastor, I'm grateful for the freedom to exercise my faith by worshiping.

Angela Harrigan, 102 Beach Lane, Morrisville said I am against the Noise Ordinance. When I was a young woman I had an abortion; I was scared and didn't know what to do. The clinic told me it is just cell the size of your baby fingernail. After the abortion, I was rubbing my tummy, and I knew that something was missing and was very wrong. Years later I married and was one month pregnant. The Dr. did an ultrasound, and I heard my son's precious heartbeat, and I knew I was not told the truth years ago. It is not just a cell, it is a living baby. I said my God, what did I do. Mothers deserve to hear the truth. Pro-life counseling outside these clinics is loving options for mothers and babies. They receive help, and they receive the information on the true development of their babies. The Lord says for it was you who formed my inward parts. You knitted me together in your mother's womb. I praise you and worship you for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Mothers are your work that I know very well, wonderful are your works.

Eric Pierce, 12025 Bragg Street said the issue here tonight is not the content of their speech; it is the volume. Booming their opinion at 110 decibels is forcing people to listen even if you are not interested in that stranger's opinion. That is exactly what they use the amplification for; they don't want anyone to have a choice to ignore them. I urge the City to protect doctors, patients, and all citizens to be protected from that abusive amplified level currently being used. The City has an obligation to stop this. Please vote to enforce the new ordinance.

Tina Witt, 11328 Torino Road, Matthews said response from the Police Attorney's Office in regard to sound permits granted on public right-of-way over the past two and a half years. In 2017, churches and schools zero, medical facilities 642; 2018 churches and schools zero, medical facilities 549. January through April of 2019 churches and schools zero, medical facilities 172. I quote from the office of the Chief in regard to what medical facilities these permits were granted to, "the info you requested is not readily available, we can provide the locations of the majority of requests, 3220 Latrobe Drive, 700 East Hebron Street". Both of these are the addresses for the two local Charlotte abortion mills. We beg you to please do not stop us from being the voice for people.

Gail Buckley, 9409 Pendennis Lane said I am here tonight to ask you not to pass the Noise Ordinance that would severely impact the rights of us who go to abortion facilities not to condemn the women but to pray and to offer help. Planned Parenthood claims that they offer healthcare for women and that they are pro-choice, but they only offer one choice, the choice to abort a baby. That is neither healthcare nor a pro-choice. We are there to pray for them and offer them alternative choices and resources to help them and their babies. We are there because we love both the women and their babies. If you saw someone about to jump off a building would you stand idly by and watch them jump? No. God tells us in Ezekiel 36 that if we don't warn a person that is about to do something wrong then we will have their blood on our hands. Do you want the blood of these women and these children on your hands? If not, I pray that you will not pass this ordinance.

Leila Forbes, 3726 Providence Road said I am a Mental Health Clinician and a Researcher. I think I've summarized some of the research that I conducted with other Researchers at UNC-Charlotte before, so I just want to remind you of one statistic and that is that 60% of patients and companions who were surveyed were disturbed and distressed by the amplified sound outside of a Preferred Women's Health Center. This is irrespective of the content. We had other questions that got to that, so this is just noise. I think that really speaks to you Councilmember Driggs' questions about this being about content. It is not about content; it is about the noise level. I volunteer at the clinic, and I know that some of my fellow volunteers have had to buy ear protection and wear headphones, so again, not about the content. It is about hearing loss; it is about the pain that it causes just to be out there.

Andrea Hines, 6904 Troika Court said buffer zones are in violation of free speech and religious liberty, blocking words that some want to hear. Abortion, a women's right actually it has become a right to abuse women. Also, where is the talk about what happens to people after an abortion, the profound regret? This is me the moment of conviction of what I had done. Everyone involved in abortion eventually has that conviction moment, inconsolable grief and tears. You never know when or how it is going to hit. Post abortion syndrome is real, and it is pandemic. Abortion leads to self-destructive behavior to numb the pain and shame or to actually try to kill oneself, because you just don't want to live anymore. Millions of hurting souls and their need to be healed. This is why we are there on the sidewalk and what we do. Every human has a name; most children killed in the womb don't have names. The mothers and father mourn them, but don't think to name them. There are millions without names. When I see a penny on the ground I give a name to an aborted baby. We are advocates for life.

David Collins, 320 East Peterson Drive said I'm abolitionist of abortion and the words of Isaiah, woe to those who pronounce iniquitous decrees and the writers who keep writing oppression to make the fatherless their prey. This ordinance is a shameless conspiring of the City Council against God, His anointed and the unborn which he loves. Cast down your idols, repent of your support of sexual deviancy and child sacrifice, lie prostrate before the throne of Christ and plead for His forgiveness. There is hope in Jesus Christ who is King and Lord over all.

Amber Smith, 1717 Blanford Drive said I am a citizen of Charlotte; I believe in God, and I'm forever grateful of our first amendment, rights of speech, and I am also a huge believer in individual [inaudible] economy. So, guess what, you are able to believe in God appreciate the first amendment and still be pro-choice without being sad. I had cancer while I was in college, I'm now healthy and well, but I cannot even begin to fathom what my experience and health would have been like if I had to go through situation experience that I've seen many of the patients in the clinics in Charlotte go through. So, for that I thank you all for listening to the constituents and the sensible revisions to the Noise Ordinance.

Bruce Moody, 1763 Earl Drive, Fort Mill, SC said I was born and raised in Charlotte, now living in Fort Mill. I'm an escort at a family healthcare facility in Charlotte where abortions are performed. One morning I noticed a woman sitting in her car who looked visibly distressed. A protestor was up on an eight-foot ladder yelling at this woman over an extremely loud amplified speaker. The protestor was literally screaming at the top of his lungs at an ear-splitting volume that she had other choices besides an abortion and that she would certainly be going to hell if she proceeded with her choice, but see this woman was already in hell. She told that she had recently been diagnosed with stage four breast cancer and that the only other thing she could do to survive was to start chemotherapy immediately which would kill the fetus growing inside her body. The last thing she needed was to be verbally assaulted by a man yelling at her through a very loud sound system, someone she didn't know and who certainly did not know her or her situation. What this man was doing was not counseling or ministering, he was simply verbally abusing a vulnerable person seeking healthcare. Please pass this ordinance.

Richard Deal, 4108 Earlswood Drive said I am a resident of Charlotte, North Carolina, and I volunteer with Cities for Life. To be clear, I don't support any changes that further restrict or suppress the ability to provide hope and health through our words, prayers and presence. This is the mission of the Church to help the person in need practically with available resources and options and holistically with the truth of freedom from sin and death eternally through Christ and in His Kingdom. As a City Council, I trust and know that you are most concerned with the welfare of your constituents and desire to see all in our City do well and prosper and I thank you for that. These changes though besides restricting freedom of speech and religion attempt to suppress truth and thereby hope from those in need. Will you be like the leaders we see in Acts Chapter 4; they were greatly annoyed and charged Peter and John not to speak or teach in the name of Jesus; however, we know from history the good news, the truth of the new King and true freedom continued to spread. How will moms and dads contemplating abortion hear about other options and help?

Madeline Krenn, 5751 Cedars East Court said I am a resident of Charlotte and I'm also a clinic escort at the clinic on Latrobe Drive. I understand that Charlotte is rapidly growing and expanding and with that comes the opportunity to create new measurers and make sure everyone feels safe, secure and welcome wherever they may go in the City. We are not in any way trying to infringe on anyone's first amendment rights. It is their most important right as Americans. All that we are asking is that there is a buffer zone created so that maybe there are not amplifying their message so close to our clinic. Many women do feel a bit unsafe as they walk in, but I also know that new apartments, new buildings, new developments are going up, and I know the residents of those would greatly appreciate entertainment districts being created so that they are not up at 2:00 a.m. listening to the amazing music coming from the bar next door. I know there is a lot of discussion to be had and there is a lot more people I hear who would like to speak to you about everything, including abortion.

Elijah Boyer, 520 North Rose Avenue, Kannapolis said I have come to oppose the noise buffer, because it is illegal. According to the US Constitution and Jesus Christ the King of the universe, the first amendment states Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof or bridging the freedom of speech. Proverbs 6:16-19 says these six things the Lord hates: yea, seven are an abomination to Him: a proud look, a lying tongue hands that shed insolent blood, a heart that deviseth wicked plans, feet that are swift in running to evil, a false witness that speaks lies and one who sows discord among brethren. Through your actions you have partnered with the murder of innocent children and start to silence those who would be a voice of life for children and mercy for their mothers. I urge you to repent and trust in King Jesus and be redeemed by his blood, or you will face his judgment. You said that your job is to keep people safe; what about the 150 to 200 children that are killed in this City every week through abortion?

John Keating, 1418 Rainforest Court, Gastonia said I am a resident of Gastonia. In October, when the first opponent of the Noise Ordinance bravely picks up the megaphone 149-feet from Latrobe's entrance setting off the evitable legal battle that follows, I bet you Major Anthony Cornburger doesn't afford that individual a full eight-minutes of free speech before citing or arresting him. This can of worms you have opened has unwillingly inspired and motivated the regions entire pro-life and first amendment advocacy community who had fallen asleep. I make these remarks quickly before this Council subjectively reclassifies my remarks tonight regardless of decibel level as unreasonably loud and raucous. Remember the Noise Ordinance standard for Latrobe Drive won't be decibels the Major Cornburger's interpretation of loud on any given Saturday morning.

Hope Robertson, 2108 El Verano Circle, said I live in Charlotte, and I believe that people seeking medical help, knowledge, solace and refuge during crisis of body, mind or soul should be able to seek out aid at medical facilities, schools, houses of worship unimpeded. I've been bullied myself for being Jewish, stalked and taunted in my Temple parking lot and beaten on school buses and at school. I've been personally harassed and assaulted at women's healthcare clinics as a supporter and a patient. The anti-choice people we face regularly aggressively perpetrate physical and emotional harm. Phillip Benham not only has a long history of assault charges but also has a court date for assaulting me at the clinic. I can tell you as a cardiac patient that when the noise level is severe. I feel the reverberation on my skin and my skull and feel my heart rate and blood pressure increase. I should be able to help other women into a medical facility without religious attack, being told to be something I am not. Not everyone is Christian or evangelic.

Linda Mooney, 2 Old Fox Trail, Clover, SC said I think the first point I would like to make is that this is not just about amplified sound. If you look at Section 1B3, the number one is to produce amplified sound, number two is any unreasonably loud sound. So, I think the public needs to know this is not just about amplified sound. Second of all, Dr. Harlow, I take great issue with a lot of what you said. This process is rushed, and it is flawed. The greatest noise issue in the City of Charlotte is Airport noise, 121,000 complaints about it last year. Only five percent of the document changes is all about school noise, medical facility noise and houses of worship, and I think Tina Witt just did a great job of explaining how few of those complaints actually exists outside of Latrobe Drive and Hebron Street.

Katherine Roy, 7205 Providence Road South, Waxhaw said my parents migrated to the United States from Europe after WWII and lost everything to communism. I grew up hearing how blessed we are to live in America and learn to respect the freedoms we have. I visited communist Hungary several times in my youth and witnessed to society with armed soldiers everywhere, people afraid to speak up or be locked up. Letters to our family members were opened and read to make sure they didn't contain propaganda. Passing your amendments would be taking us down that path. In America we do not control the behavior of others; we allow peaceful protest, as American as apple pie; to beg to see the truth. Yes, Mayor Lyles, we desire democracy without discrimination. Please don't discriminate against those of us who want to aid women who are with child. Listen to your heart, continue to be servants of the common good, don't abet death and be culpable for that, but simply allow walking, praying, free speech and the right to gather. The buffer zone would overburden CMPD. Constricting construction would be hindering the taxes that feed social programs.

Kristen Clark, 7010 Pine Cone Lane, Monroe said as a Jew, I am used to being harassed about my lack of Christianity here in the south. Fortunately, I don't have to hear it amplified at me during my Temple Services. As a parent, I would be horrified and frankly livid to know that anyone was able to use amplified sound at my children's schools and as a former patient at Eastover on Latrobe Drive, I can tell you firsthand how hard it is to be dealing with a pretty horrible personal tragedy and be in your session and have it interrupted by a screaming voice, disembodied loud speaker down the street, murderers, killing babies, hell. That is the only thing I can pick up from inside an office that is a good bit away. Please vote to do the right thing for our City and amend the Noise Ordinance.

Joshua Reeder, 7232 Sample Road, Huntersville said I think we all know why we are here. I want to just address some very simple things first and foremost. We know that this is about what is happening on Latrobe Drive. Thank you, Ms. Eiselt this morning just stating that as well in an interview that this is about Latrobe Drive. We do know that this is about Latrobe Drive and what is happening on Latrobe Drive and we know that is that it is being tried to be put into many other ordinances as well, talking about the entertainment district and whatnot. I agree that we should separate these things out as Councilmember Driggs has stated as well. There have been many things that are said here tonight that are inaccurate. I won't have time to go over all of those. There was a survey that was sent out, correspondence of 2,463 respondents, only 707 indicated support. Where is the bias in that? If you are here opposing this sound ordinance, please stand.

Joshua Niday, 15654 Greythorne Drive said I am opposed to this ordinance. Even if you are pro-choice, which I know most of you are, why would you be against an individual or an organization that helps and encourages pregnant women to make the choice for life? Do you have no interest in watching abortion rates decline? Do you not want positive changes? It is because of these organizations and individuals that more and more are keeping their babies. That is a good thing. These babies that have been saved will one day go to our schools, play in our parks and go on to either work or serve in our community all because a sidewalk counselor was able to convince their mom to choose life. That is the eternal lasting impact that these groups have, and that is why it is so important that they continue to be allowed to effectively do their work which this ordinance would severely inhibit.

Susan Adams, 5043 Morrowick Road said I would like to urge you to vote for the amendments to the Noise Ordinance. Research on noise and aggression shows that noise increases incidents of aggression. One study of human behavior showed that a one decibel increase in noise had a measurable effect adding to aggressive behavior. Volunteers and workers at the medical clinics see the correlation of noise and aggression on the days when the amplified sounds blatantly exceed the rules. There has been a number of claims of assault, so far nothing horrible has happened, but I come from Boulder, Colorado where a similar clinic has experienced gun shots and attempts on life. In Colorado Springs three people were killed. I have a daughter and a granddaughter who work and volunteer at the clinic in Charlotte.

Ken Brown, 2613 Woodridge Drive, Fort Mill, SC said I'm from Fort Mill, SC and I'm coming to you as a father, as a grandfather, as a person that holds life very dear. Ultimately, at the end of the evening after all the speeches are in, the final decision is really going to be

up to you. I want to appeal to you; many of you are parents, maybe even grandparents and just think of your situation with your family and your children that may not be here if something had happened many years ago that would have ended that life. So, I'm here to encourage you at the end of the evening to vote your conscious, to vote no for this new ordinance, because it is in clear opposition of a voice for the unheard that don't have a voice.

Katherine Burgess, 3378 Saddlebrook Drive, Midland said I stand before you today as someone who has faced abortion, not as a woman who wanted one but as a child who was said that they should be aborted. Doctors told my mother to abort me based on the fact that I was supposed to have disabilities, and I would have no quality of life. But I stand here today simply, because my mother fought for me after having two previous abortions that she regretted and now has to live with for the rest of her life, and in her words, if there has been anyone outside of those clinics offering any type of hope I would have two other siblings. Please do not take the hope from the women of Charlotte. These people, we do not offer slurs or condemnation, we want to help women like my mother, and we want to save children like me, because I was human then just as I am human now, just as they are.

Katherine Hearn, 4815 Sentinel Post Road said I am here again to share my concern about the proposed changes to the City's Sound Ordinance. I'm a citizen of Charlotte, and I have been a life-long citizen. The truth is the Sound Ordinance is really designed to target the first amendment rights of pro-lifers and sidewalk counselors in particular. As someone who has been a sidewalk counselor for over 15-years here in Charlotte I say that with upmost certainty over the past three-years the attacks from pro-abortion activist in trying to silence our voices and strip away our rights, has truly been unbelievable to me, and this is why I decided to speak up. This is why I decided to come back tonight because I want to share the truth that is behind all of this. Over the years as a sidewalk counselor here in Charlotte I know the importance of having pro-lifers with resources and voices to share with those coming to the abortion clinic. It is not only the baby's lives that have been saved and mothers spared from the pain of abortion but also employees in many cases that have reached out and gotten help.

Cindy Thompson, 307 Meadowbrook Road said I am a fifth generation Charlotte citizen and I'm here to represent the Charlotte Chapter of the National Organization for Women. I support the changes in the ordinance, and I would like to tell Mr. Harlow that actually John Autry tried to do this 10-years ago, and we have the Dallas Ordinance as a guide, and the Council wouldn't touch it because of the abortion issue. So, first of all, I want to thank everyone of you for being brave enough to do this. It is a crazy night I know. I've been fighting to get the ordinance for the clinic, because if the clinic gets the ordinance then the protestors can't have it. Years ago, when the Police actually had a representative from each group come, and they talked a coin to see who would get –

McClellan Faw, 225 South Freemont Street, Matthews said thank you so much for this opportunity to share. I encourage you to stand against this Noise Ordinance. Several years ago, I was reading what an abortion actually was, the different procedures, and I read of one procedure where the baby in the womb is literally torn from limb to limb. The baby is removed in parts from the womb. I read that. I reread it. I was stunned. I was just overcome and then I begin to think this is happening in our state; this is happening in our City. This is happening under your watch; this is happening at Latrobe Clinic. It is overwhelming, and I would encourage you to stand for life. I would encourage you to stand against this issue. This ordinance will silence the voice speaking for the voiceless.

Danielle Smith, 167 Hillwood Lane, West End said next month will be my daughter Abigail's 16th birthday. I was pressured to abort by the father, and I finally agreed. There was no sidewalk counselor present, and I can't help but think if there had been a counselor offering help that day Abigail would be here with us tonight. I will be making plans for her 16th birthday party instead of sharing a story of how her life ended right here in Charlotte by abortion. After my abortion there was regret and shame, and I fell into a deep depression. I turned to drugs and alcohol and contemplated suicide often. Years later, I sought forgiveness and found redemption through my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and found healing. Now, I stand at a clinic to pray and offer help for women and the insolent lives they carry in their womb. I cannot express enough how important sidewalk counselors are.

Statics prove that when counselors are present the lives are saved, and I think we all know the real origin of this Noise Ordinance. The question I want to leave with you is this; what is more important to you the Noise Ordinance or the life of innocent children?

Franklin Keathley, 2144 Park Road said this is probably the first time you are happy to hear me complain commercial noise in residential areas. The ordinance before you does nothing to really help protect residential uses from commercial noise. In fact, when you remove the ability of CMPD to label businesses a chronic noise producer without reaching the limits of 85 decibels you take a step backwards. This was put in specifically to help residential uses that are directly beside bars and nightclubs or even restaurants or churches such as the one on Scaleybark Road in Colonial Village. We ask you to add that back into the ordinance, and in addition you label anyone who has two or more violations into the chronic noise producer program automatically. The ordinance passed as is allows commercial establishments to create 85 decibels directly next to single-family homes as I stated before. If you don't know what that sounds like this is a Wonder Boom Speaker, it maxes out at 85 decibels.

Abigail Boyer, 520 North Rose Avenue, Kannapolis said I stand before you as a young Christian woman, a citizen of North Carolina, and as I woman I desire for every person, no matter their situation, to receive help and options that people in this generation if a woman is victimized or hurt we don't seek to bring restoration to the situation but we simply want it to disappear, and we have seen over the years of abortion being legal that it has not improved anything in our society, but in fact, made it worse. As a Christian I have spent my life for women to have options and hope in a way out of any circumstances no matter what the father would say or the parents or whatever here background was. This ordinance, we can all agree upon, is one to make Christians go silent and be tucked away in a church or on a sidewalk just to be seen there but not heard. This is one to tell the Christians that people that want to pray or give women a choice besides abortion, one to walk with them with homes or get them jobs or give them their time.

Mark Ivey, 4329 Beason Drive, Lincolnton said this decision will have unintended or maybe intended consequences regarding free speech. My wife has an organization that has as its primary goal to gather people together simply to pray. These gatherings aren't disruptive as was the earlier group that was in here that was allowed to speak unhindered. I'm sure this Council doesn't desire to restrict public prayer for this City nor the disturbing statistics recently released by researchers at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte that tell us abortion accounts for 61% of deaths of African Americans in the US. I would ask you to reconsider specific sections of this ordinance, specifically the medical facilities portion as has already been recommended by members of this Council. Acknowledge implicit bias and table this for tonight and re-evaluate the long-term impact of this City's time and resources should you decided to move forward with this.

Nancy Bowen Wiggins, 8848 Nolley Court said I am here to speak on needed changes to the Noise Ordinance directed at health issues assisting residential impacts, Section 1563A1 front end load garbage collection between the hours of 9:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. I live in Sardis Trace Apartments behind a shopping center, and it is a senior living facility. I would propose that you change the distance and the noise range measurements from behind commercial buildings during these hours. The distance needs to be changed to at least 400-feet, and there should also be a noise criterion. The Chief of Police should be able to designate these issues, 1536H1 as chronic noise producers.

John Quinn, P. O. Box 38232 Matthews said I came here not knowing what to say, but when I heard something up here you had a prayer, a prayer from uncertain God, but also we stood up with our hands against our hearts about God and this country, country under God and God is really against abortion. Behold children are a heritage of the Lord, the fruit of the womb, a reward. Another one the Lord says before I formed you in the womb I knew you. God is amazing, God loves you. God loves you all.

Scott Heldreth, 1018 Sprucewood Street, Kannapolis said I just want to talk to you about chilling effect this is going to have on religious speech. In the Sound Ordinance, we hear a lot about amplification which in our current state right now has rules and regulations that are

measurable, but in this next one you are saying it is unreasonable sound and who dictates that, who determines that in that day whether it is hundreds of Christians singing could be considered unreasonable sound. I think there has to be a measurable point, not just somebody's opinion, a Police Officer's opinion based on his emotions or state of mind in that moment. I really believe to leave a measurable sound place right now is foolishness. We want to tell you this too, that there will be people who will be put in jail for this, because we've heard of these men standing on ladders and preaching. They are not going to stop speaking the gospel at these places. We do not need to criminalize the pastors and leaders and women who are going to speak in the City. We need to keep the ordinance the way it is, a measurable sound.

Kathy Heldreth, 1018 Sprucewood Street, Kannapolis said it is a sad day when one special interest group can push the City officials into forcing their beliefs and will on so many citizens, trampling their constitutional rights. American used to be a place of many freedoms which allowed room for all to have and voice their own ideas, thoughts and beliefs, but, now slowly these freedoms are being allowed to only a select few. They claim to be pro-choice, but they bully and try to silence anyone who doesn't choose what they want you to. Clearly, the vague wording and lack of definition in this ordinance has been written with the sole purpose of targeting ministries like Love Life and Christians in general. Sound regulations and permits are already in place. Just who exactly decides what an unreasonably loud sound is? Who decides what exactly would endanger health, peace or safety of patients in a facility? Are Christians just going to be systematically fined or arrested and dragged through courts to figure this mess out? You shouldn't take lightly how you vote tonight.

Naomi Heldreth, 1018 Sprucewood Street, Kannapolis said I just want to start off by thanking you for giving me this opportunity to speak. Tonight, we are not asking for the moon, we are simply asking you to protect our freedom of speech, the very thing men and women of this country fight for every day. I'm a Christian pro-life counselor who calls out to women going in. I don't harass them or guilt them, but I offer them an alternative and hope so that on the day that they face the hardest decision of their life there are people in this room that are standing out and caring for them. We shouldn't have our voices silenced, because we offer hope and support to women. We shouldn't have our freedom stripped away, because we want to throw baby showers and find women safe places to life if they so choose. We are not even asking you to pick a side, but we are asking you to protect our American freedom and protect our freedom of speech, and you heard daddy shark on what loud speaker and no-one silenced their ears, but they laughed.

Alix Healy, 3301 Foxridge Road said the protestors claim that the Noise Ordinance will violate their rights to free speech based on the contents of their speech. This is not true; they are not being censored, merely prevented from harming others. Reproductive health clinics are discriminated against based on their conscious. Their patients are exposed to physically and psychologically damaging harassment, which other medical patients are not exposed to. Patients of reproductive health clinics should not be forced into harmful situations based on the content of these clinics. I want you to image that this ordinance primarily affect chemotherapy clinics; these clinics are designed to be quiet, comfortable and calming in order to medicate the unpleasantness of chemotherapy. The patients are bombarded with the sound of a voice outside so loud that it rattles the windows. They cannot hear the doctors and companions. The level of tension in the room spikes, the calming atmosphere of the clinic is destroyed, threatened the well-being and ability to recover. Should this protestor share their views in a less harmful place and manner. Free speech does not guarantee the right to endanger others. Just like shouting fire in a crowded place may endanger lives if there isn't really a fire, so too does the ear-splitting harassment of protestors on ladders peering over fences endanger the health and well-being of patients at reproductive health clinics.

Rebecca Gouch, 6024 Waverly Lynn Lane said I'm here to share the testimony of [inaudible]. Cities for Life gave me a lot of emotional help from the moment I was first stopped and given a booklet along with support. I was sent to Cities for Life, and their words by the microphone as I entered the abortion clinic. I heard them say that God loves you and knows that you do not want to kill that baby in your belly. When I went to the medical analysis, I thought of the words that were said over the microphone. I knew in my heart they were right.

As I was going to take away the life of my daughter, I felt lonely, insecure, and lost, but Cities for Life helped me save my baby. They provided me a free ultrasound, so I could hear her heart beat. My daughter, Rea was born healthy, and she is now two-months old and the love of my life. Please do not prevent Cities for Life from being able to speak to these mothers over the microphone so they can hear help that we have to offer.

Jonathan Gouch, 6024 Waverly Lynn Lane said for you formed my inward parts and knitted me together in my mother's womb. I will praise you for I am fearful and wonderfully made.

Nicole Ashley, 3220 Latrobe Drive said I part of the local reproductive rights group, Charlotte for Choice. We strongly support freedom speech and those who have heard me on the sidewalk can attest that I exercise that right fully. We do not like or agree with the methods of message of anti-abortion groups, but we do believe that they have the rights to hold those views and express them. Restricting amplified sound does not hinder the rights of free speech; protestors can still call patients and volunteers murders. They can still call us [inaudible] of Satan; they can still call me a Jezebel. They will not be silenced. Further regulation of amplified sound; however, will have an immediate impact on employees and patients sense of general well-being. Constant loud noise pollution causes immense stress and leads to anxiety and depression, whether it is classical music or Bible verses being amplified, it makes no difference. There is absolutely no reason to continue to allow amplified sound in front of a medical facility, especially if free speech is not hindered without it and if people are being harmed because of it. Please vote yes to revise the ordinance, so we can protect free speech and those being subjected to that speech at the same time.

Juli Morrison, 8124 Grahamson Lane said I am a quiet person by nature, but the life of a child is worth speaking up for and because I believe that each life is valuable, my husband, and I have adopted five children all from this beautiful State of North Carolina. I want to appeal to you for the lives of unplanned children. Please be honest, this is not about a Sound Ordinance and everyone knows it. In the end, this is about life and death. This is nothing less than a vote to hush the voices who love innocent children and want to care for their mothers and fathers. This is about silencing the inconvenient truth of the horrors of the Charlotte abortion industry. This is about muzzling the voices of all who would seek to stand in the gap for those who have no voices. Each of you will have to live with your vote whether to protect children or fill the coffers of the greedy and immoral. Please do the right thing and please vote against this corrupt ordinance.

Elizabeth Harris, 30 Westgate Parkway Asheville said I'm from Asheville, North Carolina. The foundation of society is the family; families need to be empowered and strengthened. Abortion destroys the unique human life and wounds families. I have been working with pregnant moms and new parents over the last 10-years as a registered nurse and birth and post-partum doula. When I was 20-years old, I found myself in a Crisis Pregnancy, and I was the prime candidate for an abortion. My partner was threatening my life and the life of my unborn child. By the Grace of God, I was able to escape, move across the country and live with family who supported me and gave me the resources that I needed to choose life for my baby. I rebuilt my life; my daughter, who I raised by myself as a single parent just turned 18-years old. I had little to no child support. My daughter, who just turned 18, is pregnant right now, 14-weeks, and I'm supporting her, because I love her.

Gina Nabarreta, 4439 Town and Country Drive said I am Co-President of Charlotte Women's March. If you are familiar with our organization you know that we hold free speech sacred, but we are aware that free speech doesn't mean free speech at any costs. We have volunteers at the clinics, and I'm here to tell you that the noise levels at the clinics are significant problems. Two-months ago I was giving a TV interview; it was mid-week, so there weren't many protestors, but the noise level was so high that we had to move almost three blocks down so we could conduct the interview. The proposed changes here are not about free speech or abortion but for those of you who want to make this about abortion, my question to you is how would you vote if the protestors were a bunch of women yelling outside a gentlemen's club?

Les Bonnett, 611 5th Avenue NE, Conover said I am a veteran; a gospel preacher in Statesville, and I am a father of a son that has downs syndrome, so I get the fear, the desperation, the scariness that exists in these situations. My wife had a complication in her pregnancy; the physician encourages us three times to abort. We had already decided what we believed about life. We said it wasn't on the table, but I all of that to say this; Nicholas, who is 17 now has downs syndrome, and he is a tremendous blessing, and I learned that different isn't necessarily bad, and I'm so thankful that there was another voice and Love Life Charlotte is a voice of compassion, hope for these people that come, and they frightened and afraid. Please do no limit our free speech.

Mary Fiorillo, 4216 Poplar Grove Drive said I volunteer as an observer at the clinic on Latrobe Drive, and I measure the sound with a sound meter. On the days that protestors secure a sound permit, I've seen up to three large portable speakers which have been positioned up to nine-feet on tripods each within 15-feet of the next, all set up on the sidewalk in front and directed to the healthcare clinic. These speakers project loudly and clearly straight to the doors of the clinic throughout the parking lot and up the hill to the residences and businesses. On days the sound permit has been secured by Cities for Life or Love Life Charlotte, the 75-decibel limit is always exceeded. Every time I have been on Latrobe taking readings, I photo evidence of readings exceeding 90 decibels. Some days the projections are so loud the businesses at averaging places stated that their customers calling in can clearly hear what is being said over the phone. Please monitor the sound, but a game is played whereby the volume is decreased on one speaker as it is being actively monitored.

Debbie Hobson, 3905 St. Regis Drive, Gastonia said to me the Sound Ordinance changes as proposed infringe on our first amendment right. We strive at least when I'm there to keep our amplification at required 75 decibels. I believe this proposed change isn't just about noise level but a direct effort to stop our efforts to help moms in crises pregnancy and to share the hope of the gospel. We at Cities for Life offer help to moms and dads who think their only choice is abortion. We are peaceful, and we aren't harassing anyone. We call out with offers of help and share the gospel. Lastly, even the remote possibility that my future grandchildren and great-grandchildren wouldn't be allowed to be born. I feel like I must do what I can to help those of us on the sidewalk of the abortion centers who are offering real hope.

Robin Hengel, 1049 Fraley Street, Salisbury said I stand before you today a post aborted woman who has regretted every day since I made the decision to abort. At the clinic, they don't tell you that you will leave that place changed forever. Not only will your child die but your emotions, self-worth and sometimes your will to live will die as well. If only there had been one person in front of that clinic lovingly saying that day, there is a way to do this, we will walk with you through it. This is what we do every Saturday and somedays during the week. My decision may have changed, and my life may have been very different. My heart breaks for those of you sitting here on the City Council and in this auditorium, that have either directly or indirectly felt the pain of abortion. Maybe you drove someone to the clinic or stood by and said nothing as it happened.

Paige Brydon, 9405 Autum Applause Drive said an eye witness account, a large transparent tube was stuck inside the woman, within a matter of seconds tissue, blood and tiny organs were pulled out into a filter. The vacuum choked, the tube was removed and a small body with a head attached haphazardly came with it. The ribs had a thin covering on them and the eyes had formed, and the inner organs had begun to function. The little boy's heart stopped forever. The doctors reassembled the body to show me, tears welled up in my eyes as they removed the baby boy from the table and shoved his body into a container for disposal. Mr. Egleston, the hennas act of murdering children occurs six days a week at the abortion clinics in Charlotte, are we making noise about this; you bet we are; why aren't you? With this ordinance your silencing the voice of alternatives to save lives. The abortion clinic offers no choice for life. Our government you, should not choose who wins this debate.

Sue DuChanois, 5852 Coatbridge Lane said in Charlotte proselytizers amplify the words loud enough to invade the spaces where citizens are conducting business or receiving services, but they can simply walk away. When people weaponize words by amplifying them so they must be heard it is no longer free speech, it is the assault on the rights of others.

That is why the City has a Noise Ordinance, but the current ordinance doesn't work. People use amplification at abortion clinics and elsewhere, and they don't respect the law. When the police are there they do anything; they want and when the police are not there they do anything they want. When the police are present they play cat and mouse, up the levels, down the levels. Police are unable to enforce the ordinances as they are written, violators at the abortion clinic and perhaps elsewhere, they have the audacity to complain about the cost or policing their illegal behavior. Many of those complaining don't even bear the cost if they don't live in the City of Charlotte.

Bruna Garcia, 4124 Providence Road said I used to be in the City Council Youth Council and about 19-years ago my mom was told that she was pregnant. My parents were very young when they found out about me, and not only were they young but a little after it my mom got a sickness called [inaudible], which in turn does not really hurt the mother, but it does hurt the child. In normal cases, the child has mental illness, as you can see right now, I do not have it. I was blessed, but my mom was told time and time again that I would and that there was no way that you are going to give a life to a child who not live the natural way, and my mom did not listen. My dad did not listen and when I was born it took them two-years to even realize that I am visually impaired. Although I cannot see your faces, due to my impairment, I do live a normal and happy life, and all I'm asking you is to allow this these women to know this.

Leah Piatt, 940 Gold Hill Road, Fort Mill, SC said I would like to address the Council on the matter of amended Chapter 15, Article III, Noise Ordinance. Our founding fathers and their evidence to defeat cheering and establish self-rule instituted the first amendment to the constitution to enhance our understanding and the purpose of government. For the record, I would like to state the first amendment. Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting free exercise therefore or bridging the freedom of speech or of press or the right to peaceably assemble and petition the government for aggressive grievances. Also, the North Carolina State Constitution in Sections 12 and 14 seek to our rights of free speech and assembly as well. I respectfully ask you Councilmembers to take into consideration the rights of citizens of Charlotte as stated in the US Constitution, North Carolina Constitution and US Bill of Rights when voting on the amended Chapter 15, Article II Noise Ordinance. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Amanda DeCarlo, 1605 Kallarmo Road, Rock Hills, SC said I am sidewalk counselor with Cities for Life and a regular volunteer with Love Life. I would like to share the experiences I've had while being outside of a medical facility with amplified sound for the past year. This specific facility has limited healthcare for women and for that reason many choose to abort their children which affects them for the rest of their life. Amplified sound impacts the community, as it is a way to express our free speech rights and offer medical options and resources such as free ultrasound, baby showers, jobs, housing and transportation that these facilities aren't equipped to do. We've seen countless testimonies of how hearing of these options has radically changed lives. We have 1,000 churches in Charlotte alone; 250 of them banding together over this issue. It strengthens our community when we all work together and offer resources and help that facilities refuse to do. We need amplified sound in order to do our work for our community.

Andrew Wood, 10617 Greenhead View Road said I come solemnly to talk about tragedy. Tragedy is something that we all have to face, and unfortunately, we don't have enough love when we go through tragedies. I think I stand with every other member of Love Life today to say that we want to love on the people going through these tragedies every single day. Unfortunately, 40% of women who go through these abortions have these traumas that they need love and compassion for. When I look around at my opposition, the clinic workers are often screaming, driving their cars down and honking their horns and setting off alarms actually causing more noise than we are. When we are showing the love of Christ that is our goal; we are not here to disturb or give condemnation but rather to give love and compassion to those. We do not agree with saying that they are murders or that Jesus hates them but rather that Jesus wants to love them and accept them, and we want to show them that.

Marybeth Babcock, 310 Davies Circle, Cleveland said just to tag on what Andrew is saying; tonight, I've heard many people say that we call them baby killers and you are going to hell. That is the farthest thing from the truth. The people here are the most compassionate and loving people that are with Love Life and Cities for Life. I want to address that first of all. Everybody here knows that there is one guy that does say that, but he is not here tonight. He didn't show up, and they all know who he is. It has been the greatest honor and privilege of my life to stand prayerfully and respectfully on the sidewalk to pray for defenseless babies, who don't have a voice and to also minister to moms who are in disparate need of hope. The Bible says speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, ensure justice to those being crushed. This scripture says ensure justice for those who are being crushed and that is what is happening to babies in the abortion clinics; they are being crushed. So, the Bible is addressing that. That is why we are here tonight to ensure justice and to be voice for those who cannot speak.

Heddy Garcia, 9301 Westbury Woods Drive said I want to ask to please look to that beautiful flag in back of you. I come here as an immigrant that came to this country and Councilmember Ajmera, I believe that our families more than anyone knows how much hope and life this flag represents. So, my question is what comes next, to the freedom of speech after this? They say how loud is our voice is hurting people, so I have a study from the British Journal of Psychiatry that says a woman who has an abortion are 35% more likely to develop anxiety disorder; 35% more likely to have experienced depression; 110% more likely to abuse alcohol; 155% more likely to commit suicide, and 220% more likely to use marijuana.

Janet Cohen, 7435 Newmans Lane, said I want to thank you for letting me have the opportunity to come tonight and tell you why I think you should vote for this Noise Ordinance. Last year, my daughter discovered she was pregnant, and she decided to have an abortion. She made that very private decision, and I took her to the clinic on Latrobe Drive on a Saturday. When we were driving down the street, we were accosted by someone walking into the street who was standing in front of the car trying to stop us from pulling into the parking lot, basically saying don't kill your baby. Don't be a baby killer. My daughter burst into tears; we pulled into the parking area. She was extremely distraught. There were very loud amplifiers set up all over, basically saying don't be a baby murderer. You are going to go to hell for this. It was really an awful experience.

Sally Holmes, 451 Hunting Creek Road, Weddington said I lived over 20-years in Charlotte. I work for the Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools. I have been with them for over 15-years, and I want to say that I don't ever see that we've had any trouble with noise nearby in the schools that I've been in. There are regular businesses and what you are going to maybe see is that you are going to get involved in small and large businesses that are going to hurt as a result of this, and there are going to be other things that will be involved maybe that have not been thought about ahead of time. We don't see that as a problem; I've been in churches all my life and there just haven't been issues there as we heard. I have helped with the Latrobe Clinic as far as praying and walking, and I wanted to give some statistics here on Webster's definition real quick, since we are talking about a noise buffer. Webster says that is noise is loud, confused and a senseless noise meaning nothing. It is especially one that lacks agreeable musical quality, and it is unpleasant such as engines and traffic.

Mary Gomes, 1514 Village Court, Gastonia said in 2017, there were 879,000 abortions in the United States. Conversely, 1.5 million American families want to adopt. My husband and I adopted two boys from the Foster Care System, and they have had the opportunity, because they know they are wanted and that they have a voice now. If you want to ban megaphones great. I think that is a great idea but please don't hold us back in trying to help other people. If we can't defend the lives of the unborn who will defend you and me when we are inconvenient? If I hear someone condemn someone at an abortion clinic, I will do my best to say something to them and shut them down, because I don't believe we should be condemning.

Eric Clemens, 230 South Tryon Street said 91-one minutes and only one other person brought up the entertainment issues with amplified sound. This is clearly a Noise Ordinance about amplified sound. Entertainment is the biggest issue. I'm a proud Third Ward Resident

around Bearden Park. If anybody lives uptown, you have the appreciation of the pain we are going through from the Epicenter and Ink and Ivey. Clearly, they are the most egregious offenders of noise and they are affecting thousands of residents and hotels. As a matter of fact, from the June 3rd session you all had they talked about some 2,000 complaints you analyzed. Fifty-five percent of those were entertainment. All the other three, house of worship, healthcare, schools; they don't even add up to the biggest egregious offenders but yet this Noise Ordinance does not tough entertainment at all. Not one thing, as a matter of fact, it actually loosens some of the things about multiple offenders. We don't have the equipment; thank God for decibel C readings.

Candice Todd, 13028 Meadowmere Road, Huntersville said I am here tonight in support of the Sound Ordinance, because I am a volunteer at the Latrobe Clinic. I have served both as an escort and a defender for approximately a year, and I understand and respect that our nation is founded upon the principles of the Constitution and our first amendment rights. It is one of the rights that I hold very dear personally; however, I would implore you to consider that in 1791, when our founding fathers put the first amendment into law, they probably weren't considering amplified sound at that point, and we are not trying to prohibit anybody's right to exercise their free speech. We are only trying to put some controls around the level of that noise to ensure that our patients and our volunteers can be in a safe and secure environment. Thank you for your support.

Dan Gallagher, 7120 Colleton Place said if one can't scientifically find the day a fetus becomes human, one can't find the day prior for illicit destruction. Destroying what at least could be a human risks manslaughter. The left mischaracterizes pro-life action as religion forced upon the law, but this esthetics only argument stands. Democrats claim to protect the rights of the little guy, how little? You are intent on using a Noise pretense to impede speech that saves lives. This Council knows that such ordinance has (1) caused larger assemblies, wrongful arrest and (2) all have been overturned as denials of constitutional assembly and speech rights.

Julie Wirtel, 84814 Darcy Hopkins Drive said after six-weeks of pregnancy a baby's heart is beating, but it does not have a voice. Those of us that stand outside the abortion clinics are that voice. Please, do not silence the voice that defends the most innocent and vulnerable of your constituents. Many women who seek help at these clinics feel alone, frightened and confused. She is sold an abortion as the only way to deal with an unplanned pregnancy and is not told the full truth about the baby or of the spiritual, emotion and physical affects that occur that abortion hurts her too. We are there for this woman with information that helps her make an informed choice with prayer intangible help we offer her the choice of life. We may be the only voice that offers her that help.

Emily Collins, 320 East Peterson Drive said I am opposed to the buffer zone. I minister on the sidewalks of the abortion clinic on Latrobe Drive. Inside babies are literally being ripped limb from limb. No-one can hear their cries. Now their only voice, the Christians in Charlotte are being silenced. This is a direct attack on our freedom of speech guaranteed to us by the first amendment of the constitution. Abortion clinics are built to drown out the sound, and clinic workers blast vile music and shout profanities at me while I'm holding my young son. We offer a message of real help to moms and dads to love their babies, and we offer real hope in Jesus Christ. This is far from harassment. I urge the City Council to uphold the constitution to protect the lives of the preborn citizens of Charlotte. As long as child sacrifice continues in this City, there is blood on your hands, repent and return to Jesus Christ.

Tish Nadelman, 1427 Main Street said I am Cherry resident here in Charlotte. In Cherry, we love our quiet residential community, but Planned Parenthood and members of this Council have insured it won't be quiet for much longer. The Noise Ordinance will not be enough for Cherry residents. While wealthy Planned Parenthood donors hid behind a Shell Company to purchase a building two-years ago, we were not informed that our quiet community had been chosen to become a daily battleground for this polarizing ideologically battle. Would you like this circus on your front lawn? Planned Parenthood claims their business is not, but we beg to differ. Look around this room; whatever your beliefs may be about what happens inside the walls of Planned Parenthood, we are concerned in Cherry

about our security and the noise and our parks and our children. Shame on you Planned Parenthood; shame on you members of Council who kept this secret. We are neighbors of Cherry, and we will not lie down on this issue. We will keep this going until we get answers.

Warren Shinn, P. O. Box 11833 said I am for this ordinance. Like you, I'm a pagan and living constitutionalist. Like you, I agree something needs to be done about these crazy Christians. Like you, I can't believe they want to sing and pray in front of an abortion clinics. I'm glad you are restricting their speech. Like you, I believe the constitution is outdated and needs revision. Like you, I believe we are more enlightened than 200-years ago when the constitution was written. Back then, people needed God to help them through a rough life; today we don't need that superstition as we have everything. Like you, I believe Planned Parenthood should be given special privileges in Charlotte. Like you and Planned Parenthood I'm racist and agree with you and Margaret Sanger that the less black children we have the better. So, stick it to these crazy Christians and vote for this.

Ashley Terrell, 203 Oakstone Drive, Monroe said the first time I visited the Latrobe abortion facility I went with my church to pray. That day I left a changed woman. I witnessed to a lady walking to the abortion facility alone. I could see her face, her long braids; she wore a blue shirt. Her face told the story of a mama who was going to end the life of her baby, because she felt she had no options. You could see the pain, the anguish, the uncertainty, the hurt. As a mother, I get so excited thinking about what my daughter will be, what her future will hold. This mother will never know that excitement. Her child may could have been the next Mayor of Charlotte or a City Councilperson, a teacher, the doctor that cured cancer. She will never know. We aren't asking you for money or resources; we are asking for the opportunity to walk and share options and hope with women and families before they take the lives of their child.

Chase Curry, 6670 Little Branch Drive, York, SC said I've been volunteer with Love Life for three and a half years, and since then I have seen nothing but love from the church. One-fourth of the one thousand plus churches in Charlotte have united to become a voice for these innocent babies who have no voice, and that has been possible through amplified sound. We have been peacefully praying and worshipping God once a week on Saturday, and over 1,500 families have chosen life and that doesn't count the ones who haven't told us they chose life. I would like to see that number of families choosing to keep their babies rise rather than to decrease due to a result of sound restriction against the church. I'm also against the sound restrictions because of the fact it is restricting our first amendment speech that is protected by the constitution. We respect and love our neighbor; please love and respect our freedom of speech.

Bethany Mitchell, 157 Ponderosa Road, Mocksville said I am honored to be here to speak out against the proposed Sound Ordinance. It is clear that the purpose of this noise buffer would be to silence the pro-life voice, the voice for the preborn. I believe life is sacred and that human live in all stages of development should be protected, descended and loved. I am also pro-women; I believe in working for the dignity and welfare of both the woman and her child. Those of us who come out to the abortion clinic in the name of Jesus are not there to harass, intimidate of condemn women. We love them, and we are there to pray, walk and worship our Savior and to lovingly offer hope and health to moms and dads who need it. Abortion is not the answer to unplanned pregnancies. The answer is love, compassion, and support and that is what we are there to give, but a noise buffer would limit our ability to reach out to moms to offer these things.

Mary Rushing, 7410 Canterway Drive, Mint Hill said my name is Mary Rushing but today I speak on behalf of a young mom Bianca, who sought help from us on the sidewalk. The first amendment states no law shall be made respecting the establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise of or bridging the freedom of speech. This is one of the most important rights that we as people have. Once this is taken away we are left with nothing. Bianca's baby was seven weeks old, which to some means nothing but her baby had a heartbeat and a life which was taken by abortion, not knowing someone was out there who cared. Taking away the basic freedoms of life allows other to think they have the right to take away or control life. It has never been deemed to be placed in another man's hands. Without the knowledge of resources, nothing in this world would flourish or prosper. To

know someone is out there calling out and saying hey, I can help you, please let me help you means humans still exist.

Kyndra Munn, 7249 Sugar and Wine Road said I am a sidewalk counselor for Cities for Life Ministry. We provide resources and shared [inaudible] gracefully and peaceful so they know all of their options before they make a choice. The ordinance already in place is sufficient; there is no need to change it. Only corrupt pro-choice people want this to hinder our free speech. These people also regularly read pornography to young children very loudly on those clinic's property. We have it on video, and I gladly show it to you. Ron Virmani, an abortionist at a women's choice has been charged with sexual misconduct with his patients reported to the property a month ago and said rape them and send them here. This is not a safe place for women; this is not healthcare, and that is a fact. We are here to call our corrupt City Council to a repentance, to stop being cowards and to stop the genocide of black babies and to warn them attacking a new ordinance hindering truth is wicked and the blood of innocent babies is on their hands when they stand before a Holy and just God. Put your faith and trust in Jesus Christ.

Megan Tolosa, 13512 Norlington Court said as a resident of Charlotte and a historically Democrat voter, let that sink in, Democrat voter. I'm astonished and disappointed and frightened by the length this Council has gone to silence those who disagree with you politically. If you disagree with the pro-life perspective fine; but to go out of your way to impede their ability to express their point of view just because you disagree is an abuse of the power we have given you. The noise buffer charade is ridiculous. You haven't been able to silence the people you disagreed with, so you take away their microphones. Next, are you going to create an ordinance to outlaw blue shirts? Just go ahead and create an ordinance that says all opinions that are different from the City Council's is henceforth deemed unreasonable and subject to regulations.

Rebekah Mitchell, 157 Ponderosa Road, Mocksville said I am here to stand against the amendment to the Sound Ordinance, as its purpose is to silence those who value life. We show up at the abortion clinic, not to protest but to pray, not to condemn but to show love and compassion. We are there as the Church of Jesus Christ to relieve the oppressed and to stand in the gap for those who have no voice. We are there to bring hope and support to mothers who feel as though abortion is their only choice. We love and care for the fathers, mothers and babies; we love and pray for those in the abortion industry that the Lord will open their eyes and soften their hearts to the truth. I anticipate the day when the City of Charlotte will no longer be a place of death but a place of life. No matter how you vote on the Sound Ordinance I rejoice in the fact that King Jesus has already won the victory. I'm praying for you all.

Ann Marie Lloyd, 8438 Highland Glen said we are here because one Councilperson has pushed her agenda of proabortion. First, she tried denying us street parking, but that didn't work, then a fabricated survey for the public is created to make people think schools, hospitals, and churches have a noise problem. Not true but the real proof is in the City Committee Meeting video showing Mitchell and Harlow desperate to find a tool to shut down the issue at Latrobe. You are making an ordinance for one situation case making a 200-foot buffer will have a reverse effect. Our sound system will be closer to clinic neighbors and business instead of just in front of Latrobe. Moving us compounds the problem, shame on you for trying to take our freedom of speech away. We won't give up because we are saving and helping pre-born babies and moms.

Kelly Schiaffino, 2008 Greenbrook Parkway, Matthews said I would like to express my opposition to the Noise Ordinance. This debate centers around the rights of concerned citizens to assemble outside of local abortion clinics. I have personally participated in many of these prayer vigils, and I can say from personal experience that the vast majority of people in attendance are quiet, and they are prayerful, and they are peaceful. As you know and has been expressed so many times tonight, the first amendment does in fact guarantee our right to be there, to assemble and to express our views. It is also my understanding that CMPD noise calls and the associated cost of those has decreased since 2017. So, in light of this, I would like to ask the Council two questions, why should the City and its taxpayers take on the additional costs and resources when the very issue it aims to address has been

in a recent pattern of decrease? And, if this ordinance is passed, where will end? How many of our first amendment rights will be infringed upon because of this ordinance?

Carina Ubinas, 1701 Knolls Drive, Newton said I am 21, and today I will be reading a testimony from a mother. I was 34-years old when I found out I was pregnant. My mother was going through chemo at the time, and my baby's father was deep in drugs and very abusive. I was already taking care of two kids on my own; when I found out I was pregnant I did not know what to do. It was an emotional time, and I was terrified. I went to the abortion clinic and instead went into the mobile unit parked outside. There I was showed my son on the ultrasound. He was born December 25th, and his name is Gabriel. Of course, when I saw the ultrasound I couldn't go through with it. There was no way I could after seeing his heartbeat; I couldn't do that to my little baby. I still had a lot of things going on, but I spoke with them and they did nothing but listen, pray and talk with me. They were there for me no matter what I needed; they said they would help me, and at first, I was skeptical but when got off the bus they handed me my ultrasound pictures and two bags of maternity clothes. We stayed in touch and they even threw me a baby shower and just went above and beyond to care for me and my child. For this reason, I strongly oppose it.

Michael Tolosa, 13512 Norlington Court said I don't know if I have an old draft, but this is what I got for the website. I know Dr. Harlow said at the beginning that this was strictly amplified sound that they were restricting, and it was not amplified sound but the draft that I have says it restricts the ability to produce amplified sound or to intentionally cause to be produced or intentionally participate in producing any sound, not just amplified sound that is deemed to be unreasonably loud or because of its volume it is unreasonably disturbing. I'm just confused.

Mayor Lyles said we will address that when we continue the debate after the public hearing.

Mr. Tolosa said I'm just looking out for the law enforcement officers. I thought this was supposed to make it easier for them, but now they have to interpret this.

Jordan Roose, 3216 Lancaster Highway, Monroe said I moved to Charlotte in 2006 and have lived in the surrounding area since then. I just wanted to share, in light of the observations I've made this evening, with the Council that we are not dumb. We are a thinking people and contrary to Dr. Harlow's very misleading opening remarks, this is absolutely about abortion, absolutely. In fact, it is not just about abortion in general, it is about abortion in particular taking place at family reproductive health off Hebron Street and a Preferred Women's Health off of Latrobe Drive in Charlotte. That is what about this. What schools, what places of worship, what medical facilities are complaining about noise? Any? No, it is those two places, and what do they want? They want us out of there. They want us out of there, so here is the thing. We are thinking people; we know what this about, and here is the news flash; we are not leaving.

Isabella Warwick, 4115 Shepherd Lakeland Road said regardless of your position on abortion I think this Council is forgetting how often a medical institution has failed us in the past. I'm reminded of the 40's when it was legal to castrate a man simply for identifying that he had same sex attraction or the 30's to 70's when public health services sanctioned the [inaudible] experiment which allowed men and women to be denied healthcare services in the name of science. We should be allowed to hold these institutions accountable that have wronged us by gathering our voices and volumes louder than the washers that are on in our homes today that registered at 78 decibels. You guys are talking about 75; make no mistake, this is about more than bigots with blowhorns. I disagree with that too; this is about the right for peaceful protest. I ask those a favor; would you enforce this outside of the places that housed the castrations and experiments that I just mentioned. I hope not. This ordinance sacrifices our ability to hold facilities accountable in the name keeping our citizens unbothered when receiving healthcare. I don't need to be unbothered. I need the right to hold these healthcare institutions accountable.

Francesca Sperrazzo, P. O. Box 49248 said I am a pro-life counselor, and I peacefully counsel and pray outside of abortion mills here in Charlotte for the past 14-years. I have seen so much pain and sorrow from women that have aborted their children. Time does not

heal their wounds, nor can they turn back the clock. We have many resources to help women choose life; we need to continue to be the voice for the voiceless babies, but if you stifle our free speech this will not be possible. During our final judgement when God asks you what did you do when my children were being destroyed, were you there to help them?

Katelyn Kappes, 1097 Maple Drive, Newton said if a bridge were out on the road ahead of you, would you be silent and let people drive off it or would you speak out and warn them of the danger they are about to encounter? That scenario is the same for me and other pro-life people who stand on the sidewalks and speak out to the moms who are about to walk into the abortion clinic. My main question to you all is, are you going to make your decision based off the fear that you may lose votes in an election season or off the fact that they are not trying to silence the noise coming through our speaker for what is being said? [inaudible] religious decision at the end of the night there is a generation rising up and the Noise Ordinance will not stop the words of God moving through our City and our whole country. We do not fight against flesh and blood for our God has already gone before us, and he has already won this battle.

Joseph Warwick, 4115 Shepherd Lakeland Road said we adopted sons and daughters of God held hands tonight in a public building before we started this meeting and prayed to God the Father, his Son Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit. Many tonight have addressed citizen's rights to freedom of speech. This is not about noise, this is about prayer like we did earlier this evening to start. Your voting down this Ordinance is a vote for prayer in the public square. Stats presented tonight revealed all the prayer complaints are coming from surely not schools or churches. I ask each Councilmember and yourself, Mayor Lyles to pause and consider in prayer in front of your Creator his response to your vote.

Lillian Ptrillo Ubinas, 190 Canterbury Place Road, Mooresville said make no mistake that this nation's laws were created by God's Bible, his Word. We all know the first amendment. This proposed Noise Ordinance is in direct violation of this basic right. If it were not for this right, a right that was hardly fought by Dr. King, many of you would probably not be sitting in the seats right now. You have responsibilities to continue Dr. King's legacy for freedom and not sell out. If the work of Dr. King and the bravery of women like Rosa Park didn't occur and people were still being suppressed wouldn't we want our voices to be heard? We certainly would. That is what we are doing; we are being voices for the voiceless, for those who can't speak for themselves. You have a privilege to do the same thing; vote no for the Noise Ordinance and allow all women the right to have the options. Knowledge is power and if that knowledge is taken away then you are not empowering women.

Ryan Ma, 216 Wales Avenue said I am a rising Junior at Charlotte Catholic High School. Please do not use the Noise Ordinance vote to suppress pro-lifer's first amendment right. Suppressing free speech would prevent women going into clinics to know that they have other options other than abortion, like adoption. In fact, that is how I stand before you today. I was adopted. I'm glad and I thank God and my parents that I'm here to speak with you today. Please vote against these changes.

Sarah Ma, 216 Wales Avenue said Ryan is my son. Please do not use the Noise Ordinance vote to suppress pro-lifer's first amendment rights. Suppressing free speech would prevent women going into abortion clinics to know that they have other options like adoption. I am so grateful that my son's birth mother knew that she had this option. It is how I stand before you today as a proud adoptive mother of two. Please vote against the ordinance.

Francine Helks, 1430 Revolutionary Drive, Concord said I am a sidewalk counselor with Cities for Life, and I work with Restoring the Foundations Minister, and I am also a person of hope, and I think that is why I'm here. As a person of hope. I have to tell you that every time I've come down here, I am disappointed, not in the Council, because you are doing your jobs and you are doing the best that you know how to do, but I'm disappointed in the pro-choice people, because I don't know how to say it, but they just don't tell the truth. They exaggerate and I keep hoping that they are going to be honest and they are just not honest. Aside from having to say that, there is just no point in this Noise Ordinance. We do all that we can to stay within the legal limitations.

Sonya LaPrade, 114 Crystalwood Court NW, Concord said I live in Concord, but I work in Charlotte. I am an educator at one of our local high schools. I have not been one of those who walked with the young women outside of Love Life Charlotte, although I have been a huge supporter of the move and the organization. Satan is the father of lies, a great deceiver and the king of accusers and sends out whispers to influence others to do the same. It is ironic to me that there is a Noise Ordinance for a noise that cannot be silenced within the woman who is on the road to an abortion. Pilot tried to wash his hands with the blood of his aggressively and decisive but yet passive decision.

Mayor Lyles said this comes to the time that we have listened to every one of our speakers, and I would like to ask that you be attentive to the speakers around the dais now. I know it is always easy to say I support this position and that is what I'm going to let us know but I think we've understood now the messages from the community and now it is time for us to have our discussion and debate. The first thing I want to do is address the question we had about the clarify around amplified sound and other noises that was addressed by Mr. Tolosa who asked that question about that Section.

Patrick Baker, City Attorney said I will ask Bobby Sullivan, Assistant City Attorney to speak to that.

Bobby Sullivan, Senior Assistant City Attorney said if I understand the question, the issue was raised just to prohibit amplified sound, or does it prohibit other noises within the buffer zones? The answer is, it does both. It prohibits amplified sound but also prohibits other sounds whether they are amplified or not that are unreasonably loud and disturbing, and that is actually borrowed from a provision that is already in the ordinance and has been in there for a number of decades that prohibits unreasonably loud and disturbing noise. That is a standard that you find in a lot of noise ordinances, that general standard, because when you are regulating something like sound or noise it is hard to regulate it without having some sort of subject standard in there, because you are dealing with so many different factors and so many different conditions about what makes a sound reasonable or unreasonable, so it does prohibit both.

Councilmember Ajmera said I want to applaud the leadership of Councilmember Harlow and the entire Committee for tackling this important issue. This is an issue of access to the healthcare. We, in the City, are not in the business to provide healthcare services; however, we are in business of ensuring all residents having access to healthcare in a safe and respectful manner. The update to the Noise Ordinance does not conflict with the first amendment but rather ask that both sides are peaceful in their protest. With that, I will be supporting the update to the Noise Ordinance, and I hope that my colleagues will also support this.

Councilmember Driggs said I've made my position on this pretty clear, so I just want to reiterate a few points. First of all, I do regret that women approaching a clinic in a difficult situation are subjected to distress, and I don't personally approve of the use of over loud noise to try to heighten that distress; however, we do have to realize that any attempt to address the situation at Latrobe is going to lead to a public abortion and first amendment debate, and I think that is abundantly clear from our experience. The public meetings the e-mails and tonight's session, it is very clear that while we may be talking about sound everybody else is thinking about something else.

My third point is I believe the City is trying to circumvent the controversy by burying the medical facility quiet zone in a broad-based ordinance update and acting as if it is only about sound. Representatives of the hospitality and construction industries were under represented chose to stay out of the whole conversation because of the abortion topic. In fact, I was told they didn't even see a draft of the ordinance changes until after the Committee meeting at which those were recommended to full Council. The information that was developed data and otherwise in support did not actually point to the conclusion that we needed to adopt this ordinance. The data analysis was fuzzy and some of the other take away from meetings were somehow disregarded. Tonight, for example, I tallied roughly three-quarters of the people who are here speaking against it and we are going to go, oh,

well, that is just activists or whatever so, we are going to do what we are going to do. I don't think the program that we went through in order to establish whether or not there was a need properly reached the conclusion that we do.

My fourth point is, I'm not convinced that the proposed changes will actually improve the situation at Latrobe, and in fact, it could lead to an escalation there. We are likely to become embroiled in costly litigation given the limited impact moving the speakers further away will have the experience of women approaching Latrobe will not change much. Do we really need to make Charlotte a battleground and yet another national controversy?

My last point is I don't want to weigh in personally on the abortion issue, because I don't believe any action taken by Council should be motivated by an issue that is way outside of our lane. At the same time, I do believe that people who are concerned about abortion are not mere troublemakers, and they should not be treated as such. As a former Military Officer, I have an uncomfortable feeling we are abridging constitutional rights I took an oath to defend as all of us on Council did. I am therefore unable to support these changes and hope that City Council will defer any action on medical facilities while we look for a better solution through a more transparent process.

Councilmember Winston said I want to address three issues that I've been thinking about through this process and the three things that I've really heard tonight. There was one speaker who ask is the Sound Ordinance a really important topic for a growing City, and the truth is simply yes. When we started this process, it was brought to us by CMPD and they needed more tools, not in the Latrobe area but in the Central District as we deal with a more urban center that is growing and wrestling with residential areas being burdened by sound. We needed to do things differently. We have seen through this process as we continue to engage, not just people that are being affected by noise in places that they live but by technicians that deal with this and in order to deal with this we are not going to be able to deal with everything through the Noise Ordinance. This is something that we have to look at in our Comprehensive Plan, as we deal with entertainment districts, as we find ways to push developers to consider sound and how that transmits and doesn't transmit in their building materials for example. This is something that we are going to have to continue to deal with and everything is not going to be dealt with today, that was very clear. So, we have to deal with that part of it.

When it comes to free speech I am an adamant champion and defender of the first amendment. The way I found myself here on Council was challenging the limits of what I saw as freedom of speech, which resulted at one point in time in my arrest and a lawsuit filed against this City, because I thought things were wrong. I congratulate everybody for showing up today and being part of this civic process. It is a beautiful thing, whether I agree with your position or not; when it comes down to it we were very careful and confident to create an ordinance that was researched and had legal precedent. We told our lawyers we knew this would probably be something that would have to be defended, and we are confident. I'm not speaking just for myself, but for our Committee and our staff that we are presenting something to this City that will hold up to the pretense of constitutionality as the other examples of sound ordinances that this ordinance is mark up in the light of. This is not an issue of freedom of speech; as Dr. Harlow said, regardless of what you believe you will still be able to go and pray and standup and talk which leads me to the third issue.

The issue of abortion which is separate from the Noise Ordinance, which we are considering today. The pain of abortion is real; the trauma that it causes is real. The trauma that occurs in people's lives that result in them ultimately going to get an abortion is real. A couple years ago, I was able to go to a talk by Christa Tippet, who does a program on MPR on being and she was speaking about the political climate that we are in, and we don't all have to agree. So, this idea that we can all agree or get to the same place is not real; it doesn't exist, but the ability to find common ground is very real. You can find common ground and be polar opposite; it depends on what you put on the table and what you are considering and trying to deal with. Does it make much sense to put the topic of abortion on the table if you are going to put a Catholic Church on one side of the table and Planned Parenthood on the other? No, those two entities are never going to find common ground on that issue but if you put on the table something like access to women's healthcare for all people regardless of

their economic situation well, maybe you can find some common ground and maybe you can come up with real solutions.

The number one determinant if you look at statistics of abortion or the carrying out of abortions or numbers, it is not how many prayers a woman or her family gets. It is not necessarily how many abortion clinics there are per capita; it is the economy. When people are strapped financially, abortions are going to go up. When people are run and beat down by a system that keeps them in destitution abortions are going to go up. When people are living in situations where they don't have good access to healthcare you are going to see numbers of abortions go up. When people are living in abusive communities and those communities look like all the communities that we come from whether they are black or white or Christian or non-denominational or they wealthy or poor; what are we doing to put on the table to find the common ground there? How will you partner with us every week to make sure that families are intact? We really have bought in to this idea of the Opportunity Task Force Report, and there are three crosscutting factors that we look at. We looked at the economic mobility or the lack thereof; we look at education, and the third crosscutting factor is the ability to have a strong family and an intact family and an active and healthy family in people's lives. So, we can find common ground here.

The people that are running these women's clinics, the people up here behind the dais regardless of the way we vote, the people that are out there on the corners and in the pews and in the pulpits, there are ways to find common ground. I ask you to listen to what is being said right now. Nobody is saying that you are wrong; nobody is going and having celebrations after they go get an abortion. They are dealing with real trauma. So, how are you going to be partners with us to find ways to increase the economic mobility of all Charlotteans or people that come to this City to access this type of healthcare? How are you going to help us make sure that more people have access to good education, so we can get rid of that predeterminant to rates of abortion? How are you going to help us make sure that families stay intact regardless of the choice that is made? For people that don't believe that there is a common ground and don't believe that you need find, I am not a liturgical scholar, but I will leave with this passage from the Book of Matthew 6:5: And when you pray do not be like the hypocrites for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by others. Truly, I tell you they have received their reward in full, but when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father who is unseen then your Father who sees what is done in secret will reward you and when you pray do not keep on babbling like pagans for they think they will be heard because of their many words. Do not be like them for your Father knows what you need before you ask Him.

Councilmember Bokhari said I could make many points, but I'm just going to make one point. Time is our greatest asset in this life, and how we spend our time defines what we most value. This City still has thousands without power tonight and thousands impacted by Airport noise, yet we've spent hours tonight on this Noise Ordinance. Twenty-four thousand units is the crisis of affordable housing we face, yet we've spent over a dozen hours in Committee on this Noise Ordinance. We are 50 out of 50 in upward mobility, yet we've spent hundreds of staff hours on this Noise Ordinance, and there are 57 homicides this year before the month of July, yet we've potentially created 214 million square feet of new noise buffer for our already taxed Police Officers to have to enforce this new concept of unreasonably loud sound. Time is our greatest asset on this Council and how we spend it defines what we value. While I will vote no, I fear we have already unnecessarily stirred up the hornet's nest once again.

Councilmember Eiselt said as a City Councilmember, I want to remind people that what we do every single day is worry about the quality of life for people in the City of Charlotte; that is 99% of what we do. It generally has nothing to do with political parties or affiliation, although we are getting pushed in that direction by national causes that come down upon us that we don't have control over, like abortion, but the vast majority of what we do is about quality of life issues. Personally speaking, I'm kind of disappointed that we took some of the things out of this ordinance and one of the speakers spoke to that with regard to the entertainment district. I understand that it is a planning issue, and we've decided that we are going to address it within the context of the Comprehensive Vision Plan, but to be sure

out of the 9,708 noise complaints that we had in the City of Charlotte this past year in 2018, 1,432 of those noise complaints were from entertainment venues.

To correct a couple comments that other speakers mentioned, I don't know where they got their statistics, but 483 noise complaints came from medical facilities; 653 noise complaints came from schools, and 57 noise complaints came from houses of worship. I have e-mails that I have printed out, and nobody seems to care, that have to do with garbage trucks that are waking people up at 4:00 in the morning, because they are ducking in and out of shopping centers. One of our speakers was here to speak to that tonight. They've been sending me photos. I have this going to mid-2018 of different neighborhoods that have pictures of these garbage trucks coming in and out playing cat and mouse. These aren't Charlotte garbage trucks; there are commercial garbage trucks. We've got construction companies that you know what; they've got to work around the clock to make their contracts and frankly the fines that we impose upon them are just the cost of doing business. So, we have plenty of data to show that this issue goes beyond what has been happening at Latrobe. Is that part of it? Yes, as one of the speakers said I did say that it is part of it but there are other issues too.

Again, as a City Councilmember I take my role very seriously, I put the needs of the City first and I have to think about that sometimes and sometimes that means voting against what I believe in, and I'm on the record in cases like that and there are times that I believe that it lines up with my values. I just want to remind people of that; that is our job as a City Councilmember; we are not here to regulate religion. We are not here to regulate morality. We are here to keep the peace in the City and to assure quality of life in a City that is growing very quickly, and I'll say that because I represent the City of Charlotte. I will point out that 61% of the speakers opposed to this ordinance tonight aren't from Charlotte.

Councilmember Phipps said I guess I'm conflicted by this vote tonight, having served on the Committee previously before the change in Committee assignments, but I guess when I started going down this road I thought that we were going to be looking at the Noise Ordinance as a whole. Like one gentleman talked about, the entertainment district is probably one of the biggest contributors to noise pollution in the City, but yet we have deferred that review for about I would say a couple of years, because that is how long it is going to take for this 2040 Comprehensive Plan to travel through its process. So, here it is that we are going to be waiting two-years for one of the biggest contributors to the noise pollution to be reviewed, but it seems like we want to go right now with the noise that is being produced on Latrobe.

So, I ask as a point of reference as we sit at the dais here, how far is 200-feet from where we are sitting? Does it reach up the back of that wall or is in the lobby? You are talking from where we sit to somewhere in the lobby? Yet, we are sitting here behind microphones and amplified sound of our own. So, I'm just conflicted by it; I've bounced this decision off, I've asked pastors, I've gotten mixed messages from them. Some of them support the ordinance, some of them don't but I'm conflicted by it and I would be interested in knowing if in our research, in our process of looking at this in Committee, have we ever asked the question of other cities that have implemented this buffer zone, how has it improved their situation and enforcement? Do we have any information on that and has it made any difference?

Mayor Lyles said you are going to ask Mr. Sullivan that question, is that correct?

Mr. Phipps said yes.

Mr. Sullivan said we have talked to several cities that have adopted noise buffers, prohibition on amplified sound and all the ones we spoke to reported that they don't have any noise problems now with the development they protect, schools, medical facilities, etc., and some of them were very adamant that they've been very beneficial regulations for their communities, and they have a significant impact in protecting schools and other developments from significant amounts of noise.

Mr. Phipps said I appreciate the response, but at the current time, I'm not going to be able to support the ordinance as it stands now.

Mr. Harlow said I'm glad we are going to put this to a vote tonight and that we are not seeing our positions on Council and seeing policies that come before us as being too hard to do nothing about, so I'm glad we are going to take some action tonight on this. I want to address a couple of points that were mentioned throughout the comments but also up here on the dais as it relates to other industries and other interest groups and things like that, partaking in some of our stakeholder sessions and being a part of this process, particular the hospitality and development community. + with land use overtime through our Comprehensive Vision Plan so we will address that there. However, many of these establishments can still be labeled as chronic noise producers if they violate the ordinance as it is written already and go through a noise mitigation plan. Those constituents or part of those groups are familiar with that and are comfortable with that. Our development community was at the table, they have seen drafts, they have participated, they have submitted provisions and amendments to these drafts and comments and some of those were addressed. In fact, I believe all three of them were addressed from the Real Estate Building Industry Coalition. We've talked not so much about construction, but we've gotten more defined around construction noise and times and fines, providing some clarity around construction machinery as well as noise reference charts around construction machinery. I now for a lot of people in here that is not their issue, but it is an issue. We have many complaints from a lot of folks talking about construction.

The FAA, unfortunately, we have no purview over therefore. We can't do much about our Airport noise, though we own the Airport we don't own the planes in the sky. As it relates to the issue of abortion this is not in any way to attack someone's first amendment rights to go after someone's right to free speech, to say what you want to say, to spread a message that you want to spread. This is about protecting quality of life; this is about safety for anyone who is choosing to seek any type of medical attention at any clinics or medical facilities. This I believe is a good comprehensive approach and some proposed comprehensive changes to our Noise Ordinance.

Motion was made by Councilmember Harlow and seconded by Councilmember Mayfield, to adopt Ordinance 9585 amending Chapter 15, Article III, Noise Ordinance with one modification to reduce the noise buffer zone from 200-feet to 150-feet.

The vote was recorded as follows:

YEAS: Councilmembers Ajmera, Egleston, Eiselt, Harlow, Mayfield, Mitchell, Newton, and Winston.

NAYS: Councilmembers Bokhari, Driggs, and Phipps.

Mayor Lyles said to all of you I want to say thank you for the participation and I certainly hope that you understand how seriously we took this effort to something that has been going on more than one year and more than about a lot of things but thank you for spending your time and expressing opinion. I always say we need to start with something and if it works it works, and if it doesn't, we will fix it the next time.

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 62, at Page(s) 267-278.

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ITEM NO. 13: TREE CANOPY GOAL REVIEW

This agenda item was pulled by staff.

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ITEM NO. 14: 2019 CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN

Motion was made by Councilmember Mitchell, seconded by Councilmember Mayfield, and carried unanimously to adopt a resolution approving the 2019 Charlotte Mecklenburg Emergency Operation Plan.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 49, at Page(s) 623-687.

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ITEM NO. 15: CHARLOTTE COMPACT ON IMMIGRATION

Phillip Benham, 761 Harris Street, Concord said I have been here on two occasions, this is my third, the first one was the question to change the Citizens' Forum to Public Forum. What is happening in our City? Tried to get that established as you were trying to help folks to speak more and open it up and you have limited it. You've limited the Christian Evangelical Voice.

The second time I was here I talked to you about the Community Relations Committee, the 45 people on that Committee and you do not have an Evangelical Voice there. So, when you did this little thing for the Sound Ordinance, what you did, in essence, was eliminate any Evangelical Voice to help put all of these plans and surveys together to come up with this ridiculous ordinance and then finally I'm here today to talk about this immigration, and I'm asking you, are we talking about illegal immigrants and legal immigrants? Is it all inclusive? What is it?

Mayor Lyles said just like Mr. Tolosa asked the question; we can actually have our City Attorney address questions, so if you choose to wait to hear the answer then we can talk about what the answer might be.

Motion was made by Councilmember Egleston and seconded by Councilmember Newton, to approve a Charlotte Compact on Immigration which outlines a set of guiding principles to address complex challenges associated with immigration and services as an expression of community values related to issues central to the immigration discussion.

Councilmember Egleston said given the time and the evening so far I will be very brief but I don't want this to just fly by without once again acknowledging; I appreciate the Mayor allowing us to have a formal process to have these community engagement sessions. I appreciate everybody who was involve and most specifically Federico Rios and Emily Yaffe who did yeomen's work on this, and I think what we've got here is something that in my talking to all of you around the dais in the last couple weeks. I think we can be unanimously in support of. I think while there are many things that people wish we could do around immigration and many us wish we could do, many of them are things we are not able to do. These are things we are able to do; these are within the City's purview and I think continue to brand our City as a welcoming City and one that realizes that our diversity is our strength. Again, I didn't want to let this pass without again, thanking everybody who was involved in getting us to this point, and I appreciate in advance your support of it, colleagues.

Councilmember Eiselt said I just want to say something before the media all leave because this was a really big deal, this Immigration Task Force, and it was a day when the whole Chamber was filled because of that issue. I just want to say while everybody is still here and can report it that the work this Task Force has done is incredible. They've put a lot of engagement into it, and I want to thank them for doing that, and so I hope that people will also make note of the other good work that is being done tonight.

Councilmember Driggs said I just wanted to say briefly I also appreciate the work of the Task Force. I am appreciative of the fact that we have not tackled the most contentious issues or put ourselves in a position, and I certainly like the idea that we are characterizing Charlotte as a welcoming City and therefore I intend to support this tonight.

Councilmember Mayfield said all I want to add is this is great work, but I would love for us to have a real conversation regarding our Charlotte Compact directly with the African American community here in Charlotte.

Mayor Lyles said I want to thank you for the effort; it has opened so many opportunities for me to learn more about people that a living in our City, that are working in our City, their participation in our community, and I really want to thank the team that put this together. The first meeting we had was kind of a tough one, not that I would have understood all the translation, but we were really rolling along. By the time I went to the North American Mayor's Meeting I was sophisticated enough to understand how the translation works and to be able to have a greater appreciation. We had Mayors from Canada, North America, United States and Mexican Mayor, and it was just one of those opportunities that I could brag about what our City did, and I want to say thank you to the team that did it, because you made me smarter, you opened my eyes. When we were at the Morrison Y.

I want to say when the Indian community come in and talk to us about HB visas and the work that is being done and how they come, I learned that we have to extend our community in a way that impacts more than just what we think of immigration being but actually people that have children that have grown up in our City and what happens to them and all of this works. It is just really one of those things that I was really proud of our City. Thank you to the team that made it all work, thank you to the Councilmembers that came out and watched over many, many wonderful meals and pastries and the work that was being done. I would hope that this would be something that we would all be able to support and understand.

Councilmember Bokhari said just a shout out to Manolos, who provided all that food.

Mayor Lyles said that is true, but the coffee was even better than the pastries sometimes and I have to say that.

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

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ITEM NO. 16: WORKFORCE INNOVATION AND OPPORTUNITY ACT GRANTS

Motion was made by Councilmember Mitchell, seconded by Councilmember Mayfield, and carried unanimously to adopt Budget Ordinance No. 9586-X appropriating \$450,848 pf grant funds to the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Grant Fund.

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 62, at Page(s) 279.

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ITEM NO. 17: KNIGHT FOUNDATION GRANT: AGING IN PLACE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Motion was made by Councilmember Harlow, seconded by Councilmember Egleston, and carried unanimously to (A) Authorize the City Manager to accept a grant from the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation for the Aging in Place Community Engagement Projects, and (B) Adopt Budget Ordinance No. 9587-X appropriating \$100,000 from the Knight Foundation for the Aging in Place Community Engagement Project.

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 62, at Page(s) 280.

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ITEM NO. 18: GRANTS FOR PROPANE FUEL CONVERSION KITS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Motion was made by Councilmember Ajmera and seconded by Councilmember Harlow, to (A) Award a unit price contract to the lowest responsive bidder Blossman Gas of North Carolina for the purchase of propane fuel conversion kits for three-years, (B) Award a unit price contract to the lowest responsible bidder Energy United Propane for the purchaser of propane fuel and tanks for three-years, (C) Authorize the City Manager to renew the contracts for up to two, one-year terms with possible price adjustments and to amend the contracts consistent with the purpose for which the contracts were approved, (D) Authorize the City Manager to accept two grants in the amount of \$110,200 and \$80,864 from the North Carolina Clean Energy Technology Center for the installation of propane conversion kits in fleet vehicles, (E) Adopt Budget Ordinance No. 9588-X appropriating \$145,0000 in Charlotte Water's Capital Projects Fund, and (F) Adopt Budget Ordinance No. 9589-X appropriating \$80,864 in General Capital Projects Fund.

Councilmember Mayfield said as was noted Item No. 18 is specifically for grants for propane fuel conversion kits and infrastructure. For several years, we have had multiple conversations regarding minority participation; last week we hosted Black Enterprise for the second time in this City. We continue to have conversations, because the City of Charlotte was chosen in 2018 to be one of only 15 cities that are a part of the Gear cohort, but yet what comes before Council in repeatedly lack of outreach in minority participation, and I mention this because if staff were doing their job with reaching out then they would have known that not only do we have the American Association of Blacks for Energy, they would have known that we potentially had more than one company, but one particular company which is Hightower's Petroleum which also work in this field and stop looking at minority participation only as a subcontractor.

We have had this conversation for multiple years for me, I have gone through this conversation through six Mayors, two City Managers and now two City Attorneys where we keep saying with the next deal we will do better, but yet staff keeps bringing requests to us stating well there was no subcontracting goal was established, but we are not looking at the opportunity of not just looking at a minority contractor as a sub but actually them being the prime and having an opportunity to bid and recognizing that there are companies out there that are actually doing the work.

I am going to be a no vote on this because I have a challenge with the fact that we as a Council, staff multiple times, we create language that sounds good as far as how we want to create opportunity in this community, which is why I just mentioned I would love to see what a compact directly to the black/African American community would look like, and yet with each vote we say we will do better next time. Next time comes and goes, and we are still having the same conversation. Again, had they done the research they would know there is an American Association of Black for Energy and they would have learned and known that Hightower's Petroleum is out there as a company or even utilizing the work that we are doing with Gear, of which we have a physical responsibility as one of the cities that was chosen for this cohort to ensure that our management and leadership is not only adopting but implementing the work around equity and access if we really want to work towards being an employer of choice as well as a City of choice.

Mayor Lyles said I think the staff understood and heard that loud and clear.

Councilmember Mitchell said just as a follow-up, I see eight bids were received; can staff share with us were any of those bids received by an African American Company?

Marie Harris, Strategy & Budget said we can get that for you Mr. Mitchell, but it is important for this particular one to note that it is a unit price based on equipment, so you have to take the low bid, but we can definitely give you more information on who actually bid on that.

Mayor Lyles said I think the point is that if we didn't know there was a minority company and they didn't bid, so we need to get the list of the eight. If we are not including the minorities

as prime in this area we need to build that relationship with them and there will be other opportunities. I have to say, this is something that we are doing for three-years; that doesn't necessarily mean that we have to do it for three-years. I think we need some more information about it.

Ms. Harris said there is a grant involved with this one; so, are you saying you are not going to vote on it tonight?

Mayor Lyles said Ms. Mayfield has pointed out that there were minority companies in this area; we would like to know the list of the eight companies who received the bid and I think you can get that to us later and what I'm saying is that this allows the Manager to approve it for three-years, does not require it. That is all I'm saying.

The vote was taken on the motion and was recorded as follows:

YEAS: Councilmembers Ajmera, Bokhari, Driggs, Egleston, Eiselt, Harlow, Newton and Phipps.

NAYS: Councilmembers Mayfield, Mitchell, and Winston.

The ordinances are recorded in full in Ordinance Book 62, at Page(s) 281-282.

Summary of Bids

Propane Vehicle Fuel and Tanks

Energy United Propane	Statesville, NC	\$ 62,081.60
Ferrellgas LP	Overland Park, KS	\$ 69,901.60
AmeriGas Propane	King of Pnussia, PA	\$103,500.00
Suburban Propane	Whippany, NJ	\$148,797.00
Blossman Gas	Ocean Springs, MS	\$164,631.60

Propane Vehicle Fuel Conversion Kits

Eco Vehicle Systems*		\$ 16,600.00
Blossman Gas		\$344,800.00
ICOM North America		\$398,225.00

* Eco Vehicle Systems submitted a bid for only two of the 17 types of vehicle conversion kits requested.

ITEM NO. 19: GRANT FOR ELECTRICAL VEHICLE CHARGING STATIONS

Motion was made by Councilmember Ajmera, seconded by Councilmember Egleston, to (A) Authorize the City Manager to accept a grant in the amount of up to \$178,795 from the North Carolina Clean Energy Technology Center for the purchase of three solar-powered electric vehicle charging stations, and (B) Adopt Budget Ordinance No. 9590-X appropriating \$178,795 to the General Capital Projects Fund.

Councilmember Ajmera said this is for three electric vehicle chargers, which furthers our SEAP goal especially knowing our carbon footprint, and this Council approved unanimously last year, and I hope my colleagues would also support this.

Councilmember Mayfield said I will reiterate the fact there is the American Association of Blacks for Energy, and again we have continued to miss the opportunity to really address upward mobility for all of our community.

Councilmember Phipps said do we know where these charging stations will be located?

Mayor Lyles said in District 2 on Dalton Avenue.

The vote was taken on the motion and was recorded as follows:

YEAS: Councilmembers Ajmera, Bokhari, Driggs, Egleston, Eiselt, Harlow, Mitchell, Newton, Phipps and Winston.

NAYS: Councilmember Mayfield.

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 62, at Page(s) 283.

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ITEM NO. 20: CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG GOVERNMENT CENTER RESTAURANT LEASE AGREEMENT

This agenda item was pulled by staff.

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ITEM NO. 21: APPROPRIATE PRIVATE DEVELOPER FUNDS

Motion was made by Councilmember Egleston, seconded by Councilmember Harlow, and carried unanimously to (A) Approve a developer agreement with QuikTrip Corporation for traffic signal installations and improvements, and (B) Adopt Budget Ordinance No. 9591-X appropriating \$55,200 in private developer funds for traffic signal installations and improvements.

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 62, at Page(s) 284.

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ITEM NO. 22: INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT FOR DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF THE GOOSE CREEK SEWER EXTENSION TO FAIRVIEW ROAD

Motion was made by Councilmember Driggs, seconded by Councilmember Harlow, and carried unanimously to (A) Adopt a resolution to approve an Interlocal Agreement with the town of Mint Hill for the construction of the Goose Creek Sewer Extension to Fairview Road, and (B) Adopt Budget Ordinance No. 9592-X appropriating \$400,000 from the Town of Mint Hill.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 49, at Page(s) 688-688F.

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 62, at Page(s) 285.

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ITEM NO. 23: AFFORDABLE HOUSING GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS

Motion was made by Councilmember Mayfield, seconded by Councilmember Egleston, and carried unanimously to Adopt the bond order and resolution to provide for the issuance of General Obligation Bonds for Affordable Housing not to exceed \$55,000,000.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 49, at Page(s) 689-702.

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APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

ITEM NO. 24: APPOINTMENTS TO THE ALTERNATIVE COMPLIANCE REVIEW COMMITTEE

The following nominees were considered for one appointment for a two-year term for the Alternate Community Representative beginning July 1, 2019 and ending June 30, 2021:

- Padma Bulusu, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera and Mayfield
- Renee Rubens, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Eiselt, Mayfield, Mitchell, and Newton

Results of the first ballot were recorded as follows:

- Padma Bulusu, 6 votes – Councilmembers Bokhari, Driggs, Egleston, Eiselt, Mayfield and Winston
- Renee Rubens, 5 votes – Councilmembers Ajmera, Harlow, Mitchell, Newton and Phipps.

Padma Bulusu was appointed.

The following nominees were considered for a one-year term in the Real Estate Development Industry category beginning July 1, 2019 and ending June 30, 2020 and one appointment for a three-year term for an Alternate in the Real Estate Development Industry category beginning July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2022.

- Silas Grisewood, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Driggs, Mayfield and Mitchell
- Michael-Paul James, nominated by Councilmembers Bokhari, Harlow, Mayfield, Mitchell and Newton.
- Eric Zaverl, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Bokhari, Egleston, Eiselt and Newton.

Results of the first ballot were recorded as follows:

- Silas Grisewood, 4 votes- Councilmembers Ajmera, Driggs, Harlow and Mayfield
- Michael-Paul James, 7 votes – Councilmembers Bokhari, Driggs, Harlow, Mayfield, Mitchell, Newton and Phipps.
- Eric Zaverl, 8 votes – Councilmembers Ajmera, Bokhari, Egleston, Eiselt, Mitchell, Newton, Phipps and Winston.

Mr. James and Mr. Zaverl were appointed.

ITEM NO. 25: APPOINTMENTS TO THE CHARLOTTE INTERNATIONAL CABINET

The following nominees were considered for one appointment for a three-year term for a representative of the Charlotte Regional Business Alliance beginning July 1, 2019 and ending June 30, 2022:

- Sven Gerzer, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Driggs, Harlow, Mayfield and Phipps

Results of the first ballot were recorded as follows:

- Sven Gerzer, 10 votes – Councilmembers Ajmera, Driggs, Egleston, Eiselt, Harlow, Mayfield, Mitchell, Newton, Phipps and Winston.

Mr. Gerzer was appointed.

The following nominees were considered for one appointment for a three-year term in the Education/Non-Profit category beginning July 1, 2019 and ending June 30, 2022:

- M. Stefanie Arteaga, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera and Winston
- Victor Rodriguez, nominated by Councilmembers Egleston, Eiselt, Harlow, Mayfield and Newton.

Results of the first ballot were recorded as follows:

- M. Stefanie Arteaga, 6 votes – Councilmembers Bokhari, Egleston, Eiselt, Mitchell, Newton and Winston
- Victor Rodrigues, 5 votes – Councilmembers Ajmera, Driggs, Harlow, Mayfield, and Phipps

M. Stefanie Arteaga was appointed.

ITEM NO. 26: APPOINTMENTS TO THE CITIZENS REVIEW BOARD

The following nominees were considered for a three-year term beginning August 1, 2019 and ending July 31, 2022:

- Mary Susan Cox, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Driggs, Mayfield and Newton
- Samuel Smith, nominated by Councilmembers Bokhari, Egleston, Eiselt and Phipps.

Results of the first ballot were recorded as follows:

- Mary Susan Cox, 3 votes – Councilmembers Ajmera, Driggs and Mayfield
- Samuel Smith, 8 votes – Councilmembers Bokhari, Egleston, Eiselt, Harlow, Mitchell, Newton, Phipps and Winston.

Mr. Smith was appointed.

ITEM NO. 27: APPOINTMENTS TO THE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

The following nominees were considered for one appointment for a three-year term for an At-Large member beginning July 1, 2019 and ending June 30, 2022:

- Elizabeth Frere, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera and Harlow
- Ciara May, nominated by Councilmembers Driggs, Eiselt, Mayfield and Newton
- Chris Muryn, nominated by Councilmembers Bokhari and Egleston

Results of the first ballot were recorded as follows:

- Elizabeth Frere, 3 votes – Councilmembers Ajmera, Driggs and Newton
- Ciara May, 3 votes – Councilmembers Harlow, Mayfield and Phipps
- Chris Muryn, 5 votes – Councilmembers Bokhari, Egleston, Eiselt, Mitchell and Winston

Since no nominee received at least six votes, a run-off is required. This item will be brought back for a run-off vote at the July 8, 2019 Business meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting was adjourned at 10:38 p.m.



Stephanie C. Kelly, City Clerk, MMC, NCCMC

Length of Meeting: 5 Hours, 31 Minutes
Minutes Completed: August 8, 2018