

ACTION REVIEW

The City Council of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina convened for an Action Review on Monday, January 27, 2020 at 5:08 p.m. in Room 267 of the Charlotte Mecklenburg Government Center with Mayor Vi Lyles presiding. Councilmembers present were Tariq Bokhari, Ed Driggs, Larken Egleston, Julie Eiselt, Malcom Graham, Reneé Johnson, Matt Newton, Victoria Watlington, and Braxton Winston II.

ABSENT UNTIL NOTED: Councilmembers Dimple Ajmera

ABSENT: Councilmember James Mitchell

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ITEM NO. 1: MAYOR AND COUNCIL CONSENT ITEM QUESTIONS

Mayor Lyles said is there any consent item that a Councilmember would like to have a separate vote? Any item for comment from the consent agenda?

Councilmember Bokhari said could I have Item No. 20 please for comment?

Mayor Lyles said yes, we also have a speaker on Item. No. 41, and the staff has a deferral until February 24 for Item Nos. 48, 50, and 51.

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ITEM NO. 2: AGENDA OVERVIEW

There was no Agenda Overview presented.

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ITEM NO. 3: 2040 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN TWO-YEAR OUTLOOK

This item was deferred to an upcoming Strategy Session.

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ITEM NO. 4: BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS UPDATE

This item was deferred to the February 3rd Strategy Session.

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

There were no consent agenda item questions.

Councilmember Ajmera arrived at 5:10 p.m.

Patrick Baker, City Attorney said I was going to introduce you to, if you do not know her already, Lina James, she is the new Deputy City Attorney. Lina is a familiar face in City Hall; she has been with the City for almost 12 years and was in private practice before then. She is a UNC undergrad and a Loyola New Orleans graduate and got her JD from Loyola New Orleans. Her pedigree has been in litigation and also transactional work with the Engineering Department, which is mostly now the General Services Department and Storm Water and Charlotte Water, so please welcome Lina.

Mayor Lyles said I am impressed that you would leave the Big Easy for us, so thank you.

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ITEM NO. 6: CLOSED SESSION

Motion was made by Councilmember Egleston, seconded by Councilmember Eiselt, and carried unanimously to go into closed session pursuant to N.C.G.S 143-318.11(a)(4) to discuss matters relating to the location of industries or businesses in the City of Charlotte, including potential economic development incentives that may be offered in negotiations.

The meeting was recessed at 5:16 p.m. for a closed session in Room 267. The closed session recessed at 6:32 p.m. to return to open session in Room 267.

Mayor Lyles said we will have two items that will come on the agenda, the Comprehensive Plan, as well as Boards and Commissions update when we return. We will try to do this on time. My suggestion is that we defer the discussion on the 2040 and have that as a report as a part of our Strategy Session. The second thing is that we will come back and add the Boards and Commissions, depending on what we have on the strategy session.

I also want you to know that I have invited Mr. Tom Hendrickson, who has announced that he wants to do the redevelopment of Brookhill Village, and I have invited him to come and speak to the Council, because he has been doing media interviews. I thought it would be good for him to come and talk to us as well. He has agreed to come to the Strategy Session as well.

The meeting was recessed at 6:33 p.m. to move to the Meeting Chamber for the regularly scheduled Business Meeting.

BUSINESS MEETING

The City Council of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina reconvened for a Business Meeting on Monday, January 27, 2020 at 6:35 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, Malcom Graham, Reneé Johnson, Matt Newton, Victoria Watlington, and Braxton Winston II

ABSENT UNTIL NOTED: Councilmember James Mitchell

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

Mayor Lyles said I have already heard from one of the scout members about circus animals, so I want you to know that we have a very engaged civic group with this troop.

Councilmember Bokhari gave the Invocation, and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Cub Scout Pack 55.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

ITEM NO. 9: HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS MONTH

Mayor Lyles said tonight, I would like to ask Mark Blackwell of Justice Ministries, as well as other members of the community representing Human Trafficking Charlotte to please stand where you are.

Councilmember Egleston read the following proclamation:

WHEREAS, human trafficking is a form of modern-day slavery – a multi-billion dollar criminal industry that denies freedom to 24.9 million people around the world; and

WHEREAS, according to the FBI, the average age girls are recruited into trafficking is 12 to 14 and the average age of boys and transgender victims recruited is 11 to 13; and

WHEREAS, in some cases, traffickers trick, defraud or physically force victims into providing commercial sex; in other cases, victims are lied to, assaulted, threatened or manipulated into working under inhumane, illegal or otherwise unacceptable conditions; and

WHEREAS, according to the National Human Trafficking Resource Center, North Carolina is number ten in the United States and has been in the top ten since 2012, and the city of Charlotte is considered the number one destination in North Carolina for trafficking; and

WHEREAS, Human Trafficking Awareness Month is a great opportunity for the city of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County to address the issue of sex and labor trafficking in our community; and

WHEREAS, Human Trafficking Awareness Month is a great opportunity to recognize the local programs that provide shelter, programs and services, as well as recognize the individuals advocating for trafficking victims in our community; and

WHEREAS, Human Trafficking Charlotte (HTCharlotte) and all the local programs and services thank the city of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County on making Human Trafficking a priority in 2020:

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, Vi Alexander Lyles, Mayor of the City of Charlotte, and George Dunlap, Chair of the Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim January 2020 as

“HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS MONTH”

in Charlotte and Mecklenburg County and commend its observance to all citizens.

WITNESS OUR HANDS and the official Seals of the City of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County.

Mark Blackwell, Justice Ministries said I am the Director of Justice Ministries. We serve survivors of sex trafficking in the region, and I just want to again recognize my coworkers up standing to my left. This is a solid group of people that are represented here that have been doing some great work in our community. We just wanted to thank you for this recognition; this is passionate work for all of us serving our neighbors really is what we are doing. For you all to stand alongside us is special to us, so we really appreciate you all taking the time to stand with us in this fight against human trafficking.

Something that you may not know is, within the topic of trafficking, there is various topics. There is labor trafficking, sex trafficking; there is even a horrendous thing like organ trafficking in the black market. Even in Charlotte in the topic of sex trafficking, you may not know that there has historically been about 51 illegal-massage parlors in our city. We have worked with CMPD and others to try to address this issue, and there have been some volunteers representing multiple organizations across the way who have taken time to collect data on these locations, and we have taken time to quantify and correlate some of this. Through some of the efforts, it has reduced from 51 to 31. That is about 39% decrease.

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ITEM NO. 10: NATIONAL MENTORENG MONTH PROCLAMATION

Mayor Lyles said I am going to ask the members of the Mayor's Mentoring Alliance Advisory Board to please stand: Victor Nicholson; Deon Wimbush; Dana Sidberry; Alexander Arrington; George Buggs II; Iris Caldwell; Lotticia Shefferson; Kenyatta Wheeler; Kevin Campbell; Kimberly Roseboro; Rachelle Joyce; Ross Danis; Rwenshaun Miller; Tracie Campbell; Tiffany Johnson; and our staff Tom Warshauer. I would like to recognize this group.

I want to say, a week ago, we had, I think, over 400 people in a room celebrating the work that this committee does. This advisory board is very active, making sure that the people in our community who need someone to be a role model to help them navigate through life. They make it possible. There is nothing better than to see a number of these young people recognize the people who give them direction and their gratefulness for doing that. We had a really good time; the music is really loud, and the kids love to eat, but I think that the real gratification for our community comes as a result of your work.

Mayor Lyles read the following proclamation:

WHEREAS, each January, National Mentoring Month celebrates the selfless contributions of mentors and encourages residents to become mentors to assist youth in reaching their highest potential; and

WHEREAS, mentoring is an effective approach that benefits youth by pairing them with a caring, responsible person who can provide guidance and motivation, and strengthen their confidence; and

WHEREAS, mentorship enhances the social capital of youth through exposure to a variety of experiences and opportunities that lead to increased economic mobility; and

WHEREAS, our community supports mentoring through the Mayor's Mentoring Alliance, which educates mentoring organizations about best practices and mentoring standards, ignites impactful and enduring mentor-mentee relationships, and connects Charlotte's mentoring community; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor's Mentoring Alliance will honor those who uphold mentoring during their Annual Awards Ceremony on January 16, 2020:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Vi Alexander Lyles, Mayor of Charlotte, do hereby proclaim January 2020 as

"NATIONAL MENTORING MONTH"

in the City of Charlotte and commend its observance to all citizens.

WITNESS MY HAND and the official Seal of the City of Charlotte.

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PUBLIC FORUM

Problems with STS Bus Service

Charles Moore, 7509 Nutmeg Lane said once again, I am here to talk about the problem with STS busses and how poorly they ride. Now, after 18 months of talking to you about this, I really feel like there is a certain amount of apathy and indifference on your part towards this issue, and I would appreciate your looking into doing one thing that I have asked you to do for the last 18 months, come ride the bus with me. Now, I am not going to land blast our three newest members of council, because they have not had a dog in

this fight, but Mr. Graham, a large number of your constituents actually use STS, and I would implore you to talk to them and find out what is going on. All I am asking is for this council to appoint a representative or two to go for a ride on the bus. That is all I am asking. They will pick you up on Davidson Street at the handicap entrance of this building, and ride for about an hour. I ask for one hour out of your busy schedule.

I would be willing to bet money if it was the Lynx line or the [inaudible] up the street trolley line, or if I was connected with a soccer franchise, you all would be all over this, but you are not, yet there are 30,000 people who utilize STS. When they get on the bus and ride and get off and complain, they are worse off for the ride than when they got on the bus; folks we have got a problem. City agencies do not like to talk to other city agencies, especially if they are going to talk bad to them. So, you have a leadership problem from above you all, not being interested in this, and the CATS people end up not paying any attention either, because they do not feel they have to. You have not experienced part of it.

Mayor Lyles said I want to call your attention to an agenda item tonight where we are going to do some additional mobility and pilot programs with connecting C. W. Williams Health Center with two new vehicles that are going to focus on people who have special needs for transportation. We are not ignoring you; we are just slow sometimes.

Affordable Housing

James Lee, 3501 E. Independence Boulevard said it is always a pleasure to talk before you guys, and I always come here to say something, and I always change it up before I get to where I am now. I want to say, first of all, happy birthday to my daughter, who just turned 33 today. I couldn't imagine what it would be like for me to be a father and be homeless in this city, trying to find a place for me and my family to go. So, what I am going to do is, I am going to introduce you for the time that I have left, to some people who live in your city.

A 27-year old young lady, she has two children, a nine-year old and a two-year old. She is homeless; she has been homeless since October. She has been living in a car in this city since October. She is from New York. A young man, he is living on the streets with a one-year old child and cannot find anywhere to go, no family, no friends, nowhere to go. A young lady, 22-years old, has a one-year old daughter. She is staying at a church member's house now. She is coming out of domestic violence from her stepfather, who she was living with her mother and got kicked out, because her mother believed the stepfather instead of believing her. A 28-year old man with a four-year old son living in your city on the streets. He works temp. service, but he is living with his sister now, and he does not have a car. A young lady, she is just getting out of treatment; she has three girls: seven, six, and four-months old. She is a graduate student; she is actively looking for care for her children. I have a whole list of folks who have been calling me over the last few weeks who need our help. The team that we are putting together, we finally have a name for ourselves, the Displacement First Responders. So, you will be hearing more about us as the year goes on.

Ban on Wild and Exotic Animals

Toni Castorino, 1030 Fairway Ridge Drive NW, Concord said I am here today in support of the ban on circus animals. Your Strategy Session on January 6 was devoted to addressing violence in Charlotte. To address violence, the connection between empathy towards animals and empathy towards humans is crucial. This involves promoting positive human and animal relationships. To help end violence, we must end the exposure of children to all forms of animal abuse. Cruel circus acts, exploiting and abusing animals, must end. I have provided copies of reports examining the links between animal abuse and violence, as well as the connection between violence of children who are exposed to it and the reality of violence in our society.

Scientific findings link empathy for humans to empathy for animals. These seeds are planting at an early age. Caring and advocating for animals and caring for humans are

not mutually exclusive. Caring for animals and humans is part of humanity. Watching animals forced to perform abusive, unnatural acts at the hands of humans, using painful weapons, instills in young minds that it is okay to hurt animals, especially for the sake of entertainment. Instead, we need to teach empathy and compassion for all animals, in order to discourage tendencies towards more serious violent acts later in life. We are not against circuses. We are against all abuse and exploitation of animals. Holding on to these cruel and unnecessary acts is not only bad for animals but also the minds of our young children. We are obligated to help them learn empathy and compassion for each other and for animals.

Unattended Dog Tethering

Holly Newton, 1150 Brighton Place said it is my pleasure to be able to speak with you this evening regarding Charlotte's need to adopt an anti-tethering ordinance to ban or restrict unattended tethering of dogs. As you know, currently in the City of Charlotte, there is no ordinance in place to protect dogs from being tethered indefinitely and in all elements. Additionally, there is no law in place to protect people and children from the psychological effects tethering dogs from long periods of time causes. The American Veterinarian Association and the Center of Disease Control conducted studies, and tethered dogs are 2.8 times more likely to attack and 5.4 times more likely to attack children under 12. Just in this past month, a nine-year old girl and a 71-year old elderly woman were brutally attacked in our area.

Charlotte resident Tara Stabs said her neighbor has a dog that lives by her, and the dog is on a chair and has broken loose trying to attack the neighborhood children waiting at the bus stop. Charlotte resident Emily Weaver said she has a dog that lives in her neighborhood that is chained indefinitely and lunges aggressively at her and her children who walk outside. She knows that if the dog broke the chain, it would attack her and her kids. There is a good reason that there is a growing trend to band or at minimum, put time restrictions on unattended dog tethering all over the U.S. It is inhumane to the animal, and it is a serious public safety issue. Additionally, United for Animals, which I am the Chair of, and Holly's Hope, are organizations in Charlotte that provide free fencing, specifically for families of tethered dogs who genuinely care about their dog but need financial help. I urge you Mayor and City Council to consider the statistics of public safety and basic animal welfare outside of speculation in regard to an anti-tethering ordinance here in Charlotte.

Ban on Wild Animal Shows

Kristen Moyer, 1922 Luther Street said the City Attorney's report regarding performing, wild-animal bands offer three alternative resolutions of the issue: banning performing, wild-animal acts in their entirety; banning bull hooks; or taking no action. Only one option, a full ban, will address the animal welfare and public safety concerns that we have raised. Banning bull hooks would just ban one weapon used on one species of wild animal, the elephant. Anything can be used as a weapon by trainers, including a shovel or broom. Once they have taught the elephant to fear any device brandished by its trainer; banning the bull hook does not eliminate the cruelty. The training methods behind the scenes remain the same. There is no way to force these animals to perform these silly tricks, other than through fear and physical abuse. Further, a bull-hook ban does not address the use of other wild animals, such as: zebra, bears, tigers, lions, camels, and primates. Other devices are used on these animals, such as Tasers and whips. Banning the use of wild animals in traveling shows would be the most effective method to elevate animal abuse. This approach is not only simpler to enforce, it also recognizes that wild animals suffer from the constant confinement inherent with life on the road. A bull-hook ban also does not solve the public-safety concern. With no regulations in place to require medical testing of these animals, they are often infected with Tuberculosis, which is easily communicable to humans, not to mention the frequency with which these animals break free and do harm to themselves and to the public. There are countless organizations that have recommended that since federal and state-wide regulation and enforcement is lacking, cities must take action to protect these animals and the public welfare. The City of Charlotte has a duty to step in and in act an ordinance that will curtail animal abuse

and protect the City's citizens. It is time to ban this outdated, inherently cruel, wild-animal act from coming to our city.

All Oppressions are Interconnected

Jessica Still, 4518 Randolph Road said tonight, I would like to speak on the topic of violence and how we can make our City of Charlotte a safe place to live. The root of all oppression is the idea that some lives matter more than others. The discrimination is learned in childhood when we are taught to disregard the lives of certain animals, simply because they are different than to others. While some animals are destined to be loved, family companions, others are inherently doomed to a life of abuse and exploitation for the sake of entertainment and pleasure. The problem is that by the time a child has enrolled in school, before they are exposed to bullying, racism, sexism, and homophobia, the foundation is already laid that because some beings look differently than others, they are to be loved or exploited. There is violence in the way that we leave them outdoors to pace and shake in the extreme weather with no comfort available. There is violence in the way that we break their bodies and spirits to preform for us in concrete jungles far from their homes and potential for happiness. I bring this to you today, because we as a community, allow these injustices to continue. We must not forget that our children are watching and taking note, becoming the people they see around them. We must fight for true empathy and understanding if we are to rid the streets of violence for good. I want to remind the Council and everyone here that all beings are deserving of a life free from pain and fear. Providing basic rights to animals is not just at the beginning of our pursuit towards non-violence; it is at the very core.

Circus Animals

Gail Thomssen, 322 Haywood Street, Raleigh said I am the North Carolina State Director for the Humane Society of the United States. I am here tonight to support the ban on the use of animals in circuses. As a child with fondness for animals, I attended circuses many times with my family, excitedly watching animals preform tricks. What I did not know was what went on behind the scenes. I did not know the animals walked in a perfect straight line and jumped through rings of fire because they were cruelly forced to do so. My parents certainly didn't realize that those incredibly-powerful, wild animals were unpredictable and had the potential to attack, escape, or lash out at any time. What I know now paints an entirely different picture. Not only do animals used in circuses and traveling shows suffer, but they pose a significant safety risk to those around them. Animal trainers have been attacked and sometimes killed in front of horrified audiences. Escaped animals have been injured or come perilously close to members of the public.

In 2013, a woman attending a circus in Kansas came within three feet of an escaped tiger in a public restroom. In 2018, Sherriff Deputies in Michigan responded to a jackknifed semitruck and discovered that the rig contained eight, 600-pound tigers on the way to the circus. In response to instances like these, the public's enthusiasm for the use of wild animals has been dwindling. Many circuses are choosing to modify their shows to focus on extraordinary human performers. Cirque Italia eliminated all animal acts and has seen its attendance numbers grow. Cirque Italia, which has appeared in Charlotte, features a [inaudible] performers. These shows allow residents to enjoy the thrills of the circus without putting the public or animals at risk. Policy makers are responding as citizens express concern about the appearance of wild-animal shows in their communities. Since 2014, 62 cities and states have banned the use of wild animals. Charlotte is arguably one of the most animal friendly and progressive cities in North Carolina, and in that case, I urge the Council to join the trend of prohibiting the use of wild animals.

COUNCILMEMBER MITCHELL ARRIVED AT 7:03 P.M.

Budget Requests

Kristofer Barrows, 754 King Frederick Lane, Concord said to the three new councilmembers, congratulations on your victory; I look forward to dealing with you in the future. The first thing that I want to do is thank everybody for last year's budget, very fair.

You guys did a lot of good stuff for us, and I want you to know that it did not go unnoticed, and we did appreciate that; however, there are some things missing, or else I would not be here this evening. One of the things that I wanted to address is this city is growing leaps and bounds. There is expansion on the light rail on the way; there is expansion on the airport. The City is blowing up. With that, you are going to have to provide a workforce to provide service for these people. A lot of the things that happen around here do not ever shut down. The light rail does not ever stop rolling; the toilets never stop flushing. The airport is always moving. One of the things that we need to address to recruit new talent and to retain the talent that we have not is we have to start looking at a shift differential, second and third shift, working weekends, working holidays. These are all sacrifices that we make for the City, and we have a hard time recruiting people to come work these jobs.

Put yourself in this position. If you were looking for work and you came to us and you interviewed and we decided to offer you the job and we said, oh, but by the way, you are going to work third shift, and your weekend is going to be Tuesday and Wednesday, and you are not going to get to be Santa Clause probably ever, because you are going to have to work every Christmas. Would you take that job? Most of you would not, but even if you did, how long would you stay there before you started looking at something else? So, I would ask the Council, as you are getting ready to get your budget together, to strongly consider a shift differential for both second and third shift, for Saturday and Sunday work. Throw a little extra for people who are working on holidays, and I think that you will have a better time recruiting excellent talent and retaining the talent that you have. I work for the City.

Dog Tethering

Kelsey Joseph, 1540 Lakedell Drive said I am here today to address the issue of unattended tethering of dogs in our city, most importantly, I want to address the fact that Charlotte is falling behind other North Carolina cities on this issue. We are failing the animals of our city, and we are letting them suffer tremendously. Raleigh, Ashville, Chapel Hill, and many more have enforced a ban on the tethering on dogs with no negative impact shown; 85% of the top-20 cities in America have a ban or at minimum a time restriction on unattended tethering. I know that there is a worry that a ban like this would unfairly affect low-income communities. I too would not want to see that happen. Charlotte has two non-profit, fence-building organizations. They build fences, free of charge, for low-income families that have chained dogs. Both of these organizations, United for Animals and Holly'z Hope are ready to take action if Charlotte adopts an ordinance banning or creating a time restriction for unattended dog tethering. Dogs deserve better than to be tied up with heavy chains and left out in extreme temperatures 24 hours a day, 365-days a year. I appreciate your consideration on this topic, and I hope that you will choose to do the right thing and end needless suffering for so many animals in our community. Thank you.

UE 150 Budget Proposal

Dominic Harris, 9015 Pinnacle Cross Drive, Huntersville said thank you all for serving the public duty; I know it is not the easiest job in the world, but somebody has to do it. Second thing I would like to do is thank all of you who chose to engage UE 150 as we have been fighting for workers right in the City of Charlotte. For every one of you all who have been engaged with us over the year, I appreciate you all, special thanks, because you all chose to sit down and talk to us when you really did not even have to. I am going to ask you all do a little bit more. We get to form these unions, because we want to engage with you on a level that is equal. Us as employees do not often have the chance to participate in the decision-making process. We know that you are all democratically elected, and we live in a democratic nation, so we want to have a chance to speak out as we are a democracy.

The State of North Carolina has a Jim Crow Law that bans us from collective bargaining. It is an old Jim Crow Law that came up to stop white employees and black employees from getting together and negotiating with their employers, but that does not stop us from

meeting and bargaining with you all, sitting down at a table and coming up with a gentleman and gentlewoman's agreement. So, we can sit down, and we can advocate for ourselves with you guys. We have a budget that we send to all of you guys and your respective department heads, and we would like to sit down with all of you guys and talk about that budget.

Bringing Positivity to the City of Charlotte

Sheridan Brown, 1300 Cortland Road W. said I just want to ask for the City of Charlotte that we can bring more positivity, things for the kids and bring more festivities, keep the youth out of trouble. A lot of kids go through a lot of things or so we call it. I just want to bring more foundations to schools and things like that; therefore, I want to sit down with you all and ask that we can bring a foundation for the City of Charlotte to bring everybody together and all parents and kids together and we can all sit down, and we can discuss a lot of positive things that these kids are going through.

I wanted to talk about gun violence in Charlotte, North Carolina. I want to come to an agreement that everybody has gone through a situation in life and things like that, but we also have a lot of people who are in this, a lot of people who do not need to see these types of things like that. So, we ask that we come together and build more community relationships, therefore there will not be so much violence going on in the City of Charlotte. We just want to stop and bring everything to equal.

Pollutants Near Residential Neighborhoods

Stuart Collins, 1825 Windham Place said this is more of an informational presentation for you; 5g wireless technology is coming to the United States of America. The health concerns regarding this technology are horrific. The scientist who have done work, the ex-military members who have developed the technology- It originally was developed as a microwave weapon. One of the countries of the world has taken steps to outlawing it; that is Israel. Israel has spent a lot of money and research on developing high-tech, fast technology but is delivered mainly through fiber optics. The reason why I am talking with you is that as a citizen of the City of Charlotte, I think that it is a public health concern that we are looking at the implementation in all of our neighborhoods of technology that could break up single and double strands of DNA. It could cause oxidative damage, disruption of cell metabolism, increase blood-brain barrier permeability, melatonin reduction, disruption to brain glucose metabolism, and generation of stress proteins. This is a microwave weapon that is being sort of introduced to us as a fast form of download technology, so we can have fast videos, fast service on our telephones, but there has yet to be a significant public debate in this country about whether or not the citizens and the consumers wish to sacrifice our health, not just our health but the health of the environment, because it heats up the atmosphere, the health of the plant life, because it disrupts all forms of communication and biological functions and of the animal life.

Affordable Housing

Nichel Dunlap, 1412 Baxter Street said I come before you on behalf of UE-150 as a city worker here. I am going to piggyback behind Mr. Lee's agenda that was brought before you all. A part of UE-150, many concerns here for the City workers happens to be, I am sure you all are familiar with Medicare for all, and you also have heard time and time again affordable housing. Myself, being a part of the Cherry community, Mr. Egleston I have met you on several occasions, that particular neighborhood has undergone gentrification, but for me to stand here and not present you all that the City of Charlotte has undergone gentrification. It is not just a certain area of the City. So, being a city worker here, my concern is that if we could just take some time and think that if it was our mother, father, sister, brother that we pass daily under the bridges, that are up going to work, leaving from the shelters, in transitional housing, what would we do? How would we help them?

Charlotte is one of the finest cities here in the United States of America. I can say that because I was born and raised here. I work here. I am in the streets; I am in the trenches.

I am helping the City everyway that I can. So, what I am asking is if you all would just take the time. I know there is some money out there. If we could just figure out a way to where we could open up our hearts to the people here in Charlotte so that we could continue to make this city as great as it is and set the example across the nation that we take care of our people. We do not close our eye. We will not act as if the problem does not exist, and we will do what we can to help whomever we can and set the example and the standard for other cities across this nation.

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CONSENT AGENDA

Motion was made by Councilmember Egleston and seconded by Councilmember Driggs to approve the consent agenda as presented, with the exception of Item Nos. 48, 50, and 51, which will be deferred to February 24, 2020; Item No. 41, which was pulled for a separate vote; and Item No. 20, which was pulled for discussion.

Item No. 21: Specialized Testing and Inspection Services for Various Construction Projects

(A) Approve unit price contracts for geotechnical and construction materials testing, special inspections, and geothermal well and building enclosure testing services for various projects for an initial term of three-years to the following: ESP Associates, Inc.; Kleinfelder, Inc.; S&ME, Inc.; Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions, Inc.; Terracon Consultants, Inc.; Summit Design and Engineering Services, PLLC; Froehling & Robertson, Inc.; Nova Engineering & Environmental, Inc.; Gavel & Dorn Engineering, PLLC, and (B) 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.

Item No. 22: Modular Unit for Street Maintenance Division

(A) Approve the purchase of a modular unit from a cooperative contract, (B) Approve a unit price contract in the amount of \$709,222.19 with William Scottsman for the purchase of a modular unit under OMNIA Partners (formerly US Communities), entered on July 1, 2016, expiring June 30, 2021, and contract number R160101, and (C) 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. 23: Mallard Creek Water Reclamation Facility Reliability and Ultraviolet Improvements Construction

Approve a guaranteed maximum price of \$26,147,301 to Crowder Constructors Inc. dba Crowder Construction Company for construction manager at risk services for the Mallard Creek Water Reclamation Facility Reliability and Ultraviolet Improvements project.

Item No. 24: McDowell Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant Diffuser and Clarifier Mechanism Replacement

Approve a contract in the amount of \$3,928,878 to the lowest responsive bidder M. B Kahn Construction Co., Inc. for the McDowell Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant Diffuser and Clarifier Mechanism Replacement project.

Summary of Bids

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|----------------------------------|----------------|
| M.B. Kahn Construction Co., Inc. | \$3,928,878.00 |
| State Utility | \$3,976,000.00 |

Item No. 25: McMullen Creek Tributary-Quail Hollow Segment Sanitary Sewer Replacement, Rehabilitation, and Repair Construction

Approve a guaranteed maximum price of \$2,295,253.69 to Atlantic Coast Contractors, Inc. for Design-Build construction services for the McMullen Creek Tributary-Quail Hollow Segment Sanitary Sewer Replacement, Rehabilitation, and Repair project.

Item No. 26: Valve Insertion System

(A) Approve the purchase of the Hydra-Stop Valve Insertion System and accessories, by the sole source exemption, (B) Approve a contract with Hydra-Stop LLC for the purchase of Hydra-Stop Valve Insertion System and accessories for the term of five years, and (C) Authorize the City Manager to amend the contract consistent with the purpose for which the contract was approved.

Item No. 27: CATS Wheelchair Lift Replacement Parts

(A) Approve the purchase of bus wheelchair lift replacement parts, by the sole source exemption, (B) Approve a contract with Hogan Mfg. Inc. for the purchase of bus wheelchair-lift replacement parts for the term of three years, and (C) Authorize the City Manager to renew the contract for up to one, two-year term with possible price adjustments and to amend the contract consistent with the purpose for which the contract was approved.

Item No. 28: Street Lights for CityLYNX Gold Line Phase 2

Authorize the City Manager to approve a payment to Duke Energy in the amount of \$1,320,414.05 for the installation of street lights along the CityLYNX Gold Line Phase 2 project.

Item No. 29: Bulk Fluids for CATS Fleet

(A) Approve unit price contracts for the purchase of bulk fluids for an initial term of three-years to the following: Colonial Oil Industries, Inc.; Dilmar Oil Company Inc; Northeast Lubricants Ltd.; Brewer-Hendley Oil Company, and (B) 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.

Summary of Bids*

* The complete Summary of Bids is available in the City Clerk's Office.

Item No. 30: Airport Aircraft Pre-Conditioned Air System Parts

(A) Approve the purchase of pre-conditioned Air System Parts, by the sole source exemption, (B) Approve a contract with Twist Aero LLC for the purchase of aircraft pre-conditioned air system 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. 31: Airport Custom Carpet

(A) Approve the purchase of custom carpet, by the sole source exemption, (B) Approve a contract with Bloomsburg Carpet Industries, Inc. for the purchase of custom carpet 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. 32: Transfer Aviation Mural to Cabarrus County Schools

Approve the transfer of an Aviation mural entitled "Centennial of Flight" without monetary consideration to Cabarrus County Schools as authorized under G.S. 160A-274 and approve all contracts related to this transfer.

Item No. 33: Eastland Mall Redevelopment - Amendment to Extend the Pre-Development Agreement

(A) Authorize the City Manager to amend the existing pre-development agreement with Crosland Southeast to extend the expiration date to June 30, 2020, and (B) Authorize the City Manager to extend the agreement for up to two, six-month terms.

Item No. 34: Set Public Hearing on Mallard Creek Area Voluntary Annexation

Adopt a resolution setting the public hearing for February 24, 2020, for Mallard Creek Area voluntary annexation petition.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 50, at Page(s) 387-389.

Item No. 35: Set Public Hearing on The Towns at Mallard Mills Voluntary Annexation
Adopt a resolution setting the public hearing for February 24, 2020, for the Towns at Mallards Mills voluntary annexation petition.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 50, at Page(s) 390-391.

Item No. 36: Refund of Property Taxes

Adopt a resolution authorizing the refund of property taxes assessed through clerical or assessment error in the amount of \$337,497.15.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 50, at Page(s) 392-398.

Item No. 37: Meeting Minutes

Approve the titles, motions, and votes reflected in the Clerk's record as the minutes of: October 28, 2019, Business Meeting; November 12, 2019, Strategy Session; November 18, 2019, Zoning Meeting; November 25, 2019, Business Meeting; December 2, 2019, Swearing in Ceremony; December 9, 2019, Business Meeting; December 16, 2019, Zoning Meeting; and January 6, 2020, Strategy Session.

PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS

Item No. 38: Airport Property Transactions - 2900 Little Rock Road and 2900 Keeter Drive Acquisitions

Acquisition of 8.763 acres at 2900 Little Rock Road and 2900 Keeter Drive from DSA Rental Properties, LLC and SMA Rental Properties, LLC for \$8,350,000 and all relocation benefits in compliance with federal, state, or local regulations for Charlotte Airport Destination District Project – CENTRAL.

Item No. 39: Property Transactions - 16th Street Streetscape, Parcel # 2

Acquisition of 911 sq. ft. (0.021 ac.) and 654 sq. ft. (0.015 ac.) Storm Drainage Easement, 7678 sq. ft. (0.176 ac.) Sidewalk Utility Easement, and 7443 sq. ft. (0.171 ac.) Temporary Construction Easement at 201 E 16th Street from Consolidated Pipe & Supply Company, Inc. for \$150,175 for 16th Street Streetscape, Parcel #2.

Item No. 40: Property Transactions - Beaverdam Creek Interceptor Phase 1, Parcel #7

Acquisition of 422,573 sq. ft. (9.701 ac.) and 31,049 sq. ft. (0.713 ac.) in Sanitary Sewer Easement, plus 7,921 sq. ft. (0.182 ac.) in Temporary Construction Easement at Garrison Road from The Estate of Clarence H. Grier for \$13,418 for Beaverdam Creek Interceptor Phase 1, Parcel #7.

Item No. 42: Property Transactions - I-85 North Bridge, Parcel #15

Acquisition of 139 sq. ft. (0.003 ac.) in Fee Simple and 1,573 sq. ft. (0.036 ac.) in Storm Drainage Easement, plus 1,182 sq. ft. (0.027 ac.) in Sidewalk and Utility Easement, plus 2,085 sq. ft. (0.048 ac.) in Temporary Construction Easement at 1200 West W.T. Harris Boulevard from Electric Power Research Institute Inc. at \$11,675 for I-85 North Bridge, Parcel #15.

Item No. 43: Property Transactions - Lakeview Road Farm to Market, Parcel #7

Acquisition of 1,731 sq. ft. (0.04 ac.) in Storm Drainage Easement, plus 6,920 sq. ft. (0.159 ac.) in Sidewalk and Utility Easement, plus 9,386 sq. ft. (0.215 ac.) in Temporary Construction Easement at 6051 Lakeview Road from Eastgroup Properties, L.P. for \$34,700 for Lakeview Road Farm to Market, Parcel #7.

Item No. 44: Property Transactions - South Tryon 10120 8-inch Sanitary Sewer, Parcel #2

Acquisition of 18,694.9 sq. ft. (0.429 ac.) in Sanitary Sewer Easement at 2632 South Tryon Street from Martha F. Gainey for \$12,450 for South Tryon 10120 8-inch Sanitary Sewer, Parcel #2.

Item No. 45: Property Transactions - Water Oak Storm Drainage Improvements, Parcel #6

Resolution of Condemnation of 609 sq. ft. (0.014 ac.) in Storm Drainage Easement and 665 sq. ft. (0.015 ac.) in Utility Easement at 4511 Water Oak Road from Joel L Adelman and Stephanie W Adelman for \$10,925 for Water Oak Storm Drainage Improvements, Parcel #6.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 50, at Page(s) 400.

Item No. 46: Property Transactions - Water Oak Storm Drainage Improvements, Parcel #10

Acquisition of 1,797 sq. ft. (0.041 ac.) in Storm Drainage Easement, 102 sq. ft. (0.002 ac.) in Temporary Construction Easement, and 78 sq. ft. (0.002 ac.) in Utility Easement at 4527 Water Oak Road from Jason L. Broady and Kelly E. Broady for \$19,915 for Water Oak Storm Drainage Improvements, Parcel #10.

Item No. 47: Property Transactions - Water Oak Storm Drainage Improvements, Parcel #24

Acquisition of 2,556 sq. ft. (0.059 ac.) in Storm Drainage Easement, 148 sq. ft. (0.003 ac.) in Sidewalk and Utility Easement, 1,844 sq. ft. (0.042 ac.) in Temporary Construction Easement, 311 sq. ft. (0.007 ac.) in Utility Easement, and 1,597 sq. ft. (0.037 ac.) in Existing Storm Drainage Easement at 627 North Sharon Amity Road from Lindsay Ann Nagele and Andrew Robert Nagele for \$37,650 for Water Oak Storm Drainage Improvements, Parcel #24.

Item No. 49: Property Transactions - Water Oak Storm Drainage Improvements, Parcel #31

Acquisition of 557 sq. ft. (0.013 ac.) in Storm Drainage Easement, 382 sq. ft. (0.009 ac.) in Temporary Construction Easement, and 76 sq. ft. (0.002 ac.) in Utility Easement at 4517 Night Heron Lane from Whitby Pond Homeowners Association Inc. for \$13,425 for Water Oak Storm Drainage Improvements, Parcel #31.

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Item No. 20: Smart Parking Meters

(A) Approve the purchase of single space smart parking meters, by the sole source exemption, (B) Approve a contract renewal with IPS Group, Inc. for Smart Parking Meters and Wireless Data Services for the term of two years, (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, and (D) Authorize the City Manager to purchase such additional software licenses, services, hardware, maintenance, and support as required to maintain the system for as long as the city uses the system.

Councilmember Bokhari said I think that we all know that longer term, we are not necessarily in the future state that we want to be with smart parking and coding the curb and everything of that nature, but this is obviously something that is incremental that is a little bit of technical [inaudible], so to speak, that we need to clean up in relation to having multiple vendors and out there. I do not want to hold this up, and I want to approve it. I do support it; I just want to ask. One thing that has jumped out to me is within the 400 or so of these smart-parking meters that we are going to be approving for bringing back to a better standard, like the other ones we have, I ask a pretty simple question that I think deserves a little more research, which is, single versus double spaced meters. Right now, this approach is for single-space meters, which means that if the number is 400, and they cost X dollars apiece. That is it. Clearly, just doing something as simple as, in this case, moving to a double space meter, where it is one meter that accepts one credit card but can adjust to two spots, clearly if economies are where I think that they are, it would at least reduce the price for the City in this and maybe get us into a longer term view of how are we maximizing efficiency and minimizing the physical foot print that is there? So, if we have your commitment that while this approval is up to this point and you can go and kind of figure out in the short term how to maybe make tweaks to maybe instead of getting

400 it is getting 200 at a third of the price or something, if you feel comfortable with that, I feel comfortable saying that I am supportive of it, but it came up late in the day, and there wasn't enough time for anyone to get real answers to this, so I just wanted to give you a chance to comment on that.

Marcus Jones, City Manager said there are two things going on right now. One is that as staff as CDOT Director, Liz Babson who is amazing, was going through the evaluation of the technology, we realized that if we went out with an RFP six-months ago, we wouldn't have done all of our due diligence, and we would have gone out with an RFP that would have potentially given us something less than what we desire. So, what we are attempting with this paper tonight is an ability to extend for another year so that at a bare minimum, we can fix the broken meters that we have that we are not collecting revenue on. That is going to increase our revenue, but as we move forward within the next year for new RFP to go out, it would include everything that you are saying and more, because we are gathering data as it relates to smart technologies around this space.

Mr. Bokhari said full agreement on the longer-term strategy, I guess all I would say is as you are looking to these short term, one-year propositions, and you are literally buying new units. If that ends up being what you have to do, I will just encourage you to look at the double capabilities versus the singles. Longer term, I know you are staff are aligned to this, but I am just going to say it out loud for the public; there are amazing technological advancements in this space right now, license-plate, reader technology. With all of this stuff, I feel like we are operating in a circa 1990's mode right now, at best, and we are going to get away from coins and have coins and cards. I would really encourage us to get out there and get on the cutting edge of this.

A vote was taken on the motion and carried unanimously.

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Item No. 41: Property Transactions - Hinsdale - Tinkerbell Drainage Improvements, Parcel #250

Ilonka Aylward, 2813 Hinsdale Street said Charlotte-Mecklenburg Storm Water created a project to which if they go through with it, my house will fall down a steep slope into the creek. That is not my opinion. That is the opinion of an independent engineer. You have materials in front of you, and there are two letters from an independent engineer called Damont Engineering. The thing about the terrain that you need to know is that my house sits on a very steep slope about 20-foot up. At times, it is vertical, and no man has ever been able to walk straight up or straight down. The basic tenant of engineering and construction and the basic tenant of the law is that you do not disturb slopes like that. For some bizarre reason, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Storm Water has come up with several projects that disturb the slope.

The first idea was that they would take the sewage, and they would zig it from the left side of the creek to the right side of the creek, cut it right under my house with a couple of manholes, then zig zag it back. So, the sewage would go left, right, left, like a hunted rabbit, and for that, they wanted to disturb that slope, then they gave up this idea. I actually had to give them an opinion of an engineer saying the sewage could just go straight and not cut into the bank, very expensive with a 12-foot manhole.

After that, the Storm Water decided that they would move a weigh wall. That got into the bank, and I got them an opinion of an engineer saying that the weigh wall should not have gotten into the bank. It would seem now that they have absolutely no business of cutting into the bank. So now, the gratuitously cut the bank, and the problem is because it is so steep, there is no- You know how you have to have two to one. For one horizontal, you only can have one vertical, and that is how the land will hold. My house is too close to the creek; the slope goes kind of like this, one six to one. I do not know why they would want to cut it, but they do. So, I was king of shocked that Charlotte-Mecklenburg Storm Water would do a project that seems so wrong, that the engineer said so wrong, that is against the law, but that is just how it is, which brings me back to the second problem.

In doing the research, it turns out that how could they do it through permit and I asked. They have to have erosion permit, and they have to have permitting from U.S. Corps of Engineers. It turns out that on lots of projects. I am shocked myself. Charlotte-Mecklenburg Storm Water builds structures without ever getting permits. When you go home today, some of you take Highway 16-

Councilmember Bokhari said I was wondering, Mike is it possible for you to come down and give a little bit of the City's perspective here? I have had a few conversations with staff, and I believe that we would all benefit directly hearing from Mike, who as we all know, we have a lot of confidence in, and they have been working on this for a very long time.

Mike Davis, Storm Water Deputy Director said I will just explain very briefly and try to speak to a couple of the concerns that we have heard. What I would start from just briefly is that there is a public purpose to the project where we have a sincere, shared interest with Dr. Aylward, as we have no intent to do any more construction than as necessary, disturb any more of the stream system than as necessary. The purpose of the project is to increase the stormwater capacity in the neighborhood, and in order to do that, we will have to replace some pipes that travel underneath some streets. Dr. Aylward's home does sit in close proximity of the top of the stream bank at the outfall of one of those pipes. In order to make that pipe bigger, we will need a wing wall that that by completing that construction will require us to connect it to the natural stream bank that is there. Our goal is to minimize how much of that will happen.

Dr. Aylward has worked collaboratively with city staff, and we started working on this about a year ago, and we have made a series of design revisions to try to further minimize that disturbance, and there is some balance that we get into with that. So, we deferred this now a couple of times, one of which so that I could sit personally with Dr. Aylward, visit her at her home, review these exhibits personally so that by the time that if it came to this, I could tell you all that we have done what we think is reasonable to minimize that disturbance.

Mr. Bokhari said from my perspective, I have not been deep in this for as long as they have, but I have tried to bring myself up to speed as they have been having these conversations. I am of the mindset that I have a lot of confidence and no reason to doubt the expertise, capability, or authentic approach of Mike, of the entire team doing this, and it has been a little bit of a moving target, and we have delayed and deferred for a while. I know and trust that even with an approval tonight, that Mike and team will continue to work with Dr. in minimizing all of the impacts, but I do not believe that, based on what I have learned, we can afford to delay any longer based on how this has gone on. So, I would encourage you all to ask any questions that you would have, but I also would encourage you to support this now and place our trust in Mike and the team.

Councilmember Ajmera said how does this impact their property? I am not clear on that; there is a lot of research that has been presented to us. I just do not know the impact to their property.

Mr. Davis said Dr. Aylward owns the property adjacent to the creek and property on the other side of the creek, and her homes sits on the top of the bank, so what we would be doing is the minimum amount of disturbance we need to the side of that bank. She has a couple of retaining walls separating her home from where we would be doing our work, so the way that the project is designed, there would be no physical disturbance to her home or the walls that separate her.

Ms. Ajmera said that is not what this report says, the one that was- Dr. could you tell me the report that you got from the engineer, does it show an impact to your home?

Ms. Aylward said yes, the report says in plain English, if they cut the slop under my house, the house will eventually fall into the creek. He said that in engineering words, but that is the bottom line. Indeed, when I first spoke to Mr. Keen and Mr. Lesner, who are with the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Storm Water and I said look, this will happen then we will have a

law suite and let's don't do that. There is an alternative, an easy way. What they said to me is we do not care; you will never prove it in court. So, even if your house falls into the creek, you are just never going to prove it. Those were their words. So, the engineer said, if the City turns the wing wall to go along the creek, then the City will not have to grade just so high. That made sense. Amazingly, the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Storm Water did turn the wing wall, but they still grade, and in fact, after I complained to the City Engineer, the proposed grading got seven times bigger. You have two inserts there, yellow and red. Well, it used to be graded just a little bit, and now it is a much longer grade.

Ms. Ajmera said I think that answers my questions, so I hear conflicting responses. You are saying there would not be any impact to the property. Your report that you are presenting says it does. I am not clear. I think that I need some sort of an independent engineering study done that shows that it is not going to have an impact, and if it does, we need to work with the property owner. I would not feel comfortable going with this. If we were to put ourselves in the shoes of the homeowner, if it was us, how would we feel if there was going to be a damage to the property? That does not mean that I am doubting or do not have confidence in your expertise, but this is an important decision. This is going to affect someone's homeownership, and I just would not want to move forward with something where there is a conflicting report in front of us.

Councilmember Winston said my question relates to the engineer's report. What is your interpretation of the report that is represented?

Mr. Davis said I would start from that I hope you can appreciate that we also would not want any harm done to the house. So, it gets my attention when someone brings to bare a concern about that and has taken the trouble to bring in an outside opinion. What I will also tell you is, at some point, someone has a seal, a set of engineer documents, and become the engineer of a record, who is licensed in North Carolina. So, what we did is tried to understand what that technical report is suggesting, put it back on our consultant engineer, who is putting their seal on this studying what they need to from a geotechnical perspective to understand what can happen when you reengineer that slope, what we can expect to happen. So, ultimately, we find confidence in that.

Mr. Winston said you find confidence?

Mr. Davis said in that engineer's work and sealing of that plan with the amount of review and scrutiny that we have had over just this issue.

Mr. Winston said again, you find confidence in the work of the outside engineer-

Mr. Davis said that we have hired. We use a private designer, a private engineering consultant firm. So, what we do is we act as sort of a client or owner of that project, and we want it built to meet our requirements. We bring in an outside design engineer, who is a licensed professional engineer. They design it. There are several ways that this could be designed. As Dr. Aylward has referenced, we have changed the designed a couple of times. We have tried to- I do not know if you want to go this far in. There is a trade off while you minimize a construction disturbance; you take on a little bit of incremental risk in the long-term stream disturbance, because there is a function served by this end wall that is meant to reduce channel erosion. So, we found ourselves in a situation where we could make some changes but only to a point to satisfy the near-term and end-term goals, but ultimately, we rest on that sealed engineer record.

Mr. Winston said my last question, let's say we vote to push this forward, and we do the work. What protections does the property owner have should they come back in a couple of years after the next hurricane or something like that and the house does in fact collapse?

Patrick Baker, City Attorney said you have thrown a couple of things into that equation there, because if a hurricane comes, sometimes houses collapse without anything else going on there. It is an issue, and Mike has referenced the sealed plans, because these are important documents, because that is what the engineer is staking themselves on,

the ability to do this in a safe way without being able to potentially disturbing the entire geography of the location. If they cannot do it in a safe way, they shouldn't be sealing these plans, because ultimately, that is what we have to go on that they can actually do this construction safely. So, there is potential risks associated with it, which I assume we have gone through, and that is why the engineer, I assume, is saying that they could do this safely. There is clearly a disagreement between her engineer and our engineer going forward.

Mr. Winston said what is the risk to this property and property owner should we not approve this and the storm water work does not get done?

Mr. Davis said that speaks to the larger project purpose. This is a neighborhood-wide project; there are properties that are uphill, upstream of this location. What the project seeks to do is increase capacity, the whole system, so to reduce flooding in the neighborhood. So, as you collect that water in what is now an increased capacity system, it will need to travel through this pipe on its journey to get to the creek. So, if you did not increase the capacity and do this work, you would be exposing that location to flooding. One of the project goals is to actually bring some stability to the channel itself to reduce erosion over time, so we would lose that benefit.

Councilmember Watlington said I just have a question about the sequence of events; I just want to make sure that I am crystal clear. You have a plan. You had the independent engineer review the plan. At what point did the engineer of record seal or proceed to want to seal the plan? I am confused with why the engineer would want to seal it then find that there were gaps.

Mr. Davis said the answer to your question is that we are at 99% design completion. This is the last real estate parcel for the project, so the final sealed drawings will not occur until those plans get to 100%, which would include resolution of this issue. I have not memorized the dates at which time everything happened, but generally to your question, we found that there were opportunities to, we believe, satisfy some of Dr. Aylward's underlying concerns about how much disturbance we were taking on. So, let me be clear, there was not a belief that the prior design was not acceptable; we believed there was an [inaudible]. We hear what you are saying; maybe this will work better if we find a way to reduce the limits of disturbance, so we slightly modified that end wall that we have been talking about, to try to relieve some of that concern.

Ms. Watlington said which you do not feel like it reduces the safety risk of the plan by making modification?

Councilmember Driggs said you studied her engineer's report, and you looked at it in the light of what your own findings were, and you were able to kind of satisfactorily, in your own mind, kind of rebut, or you felt indicated in your original conclusion even after reading that report?

Mr. Davis said yes, our team reviewed those findings, reviewed our own designs and had confidence of the final sealed drawings with that design would be acceptable.

Mr. Driggs said we are not going to be able to second guess this discussion taking place with the engineers. My own feeling is that we have to place our confidence in our engineering staff and the engineer record. Otherwise, we would have to delve right into all of the whys, wherefores, and hire other experts and who knows. I am kind of with Mr. Bokhari on this; I feel confident that the work we have done represents a responsible outcome and will be in fact safe for the house.

Councilmember Eiselt said it is hard to digest this all while listening to comments, so I apologize. One of these pages makes reference to the storm water that is shooting at the bank of the land from an illegally designed outfall called erosion. It says on the left culvert wing wall down stream part of Hinsdale street, there is a storm water outfall designed faultily in violation of the Clean Water Act. Storm water hoses at right bank at a 90-degree angle, which shoots water at such force that it cuts the bank. There is a picture of it. The

U.S. Army Corp. engineers warn Storm Water that existing outfall design; warn them about it. It looks as if it then refers to after the work that has been done, it will replicate that 90-degree angle. Is that in fact a faulty design?

Mr. Davis said no.

Ms. Eiselt said it looks like it is shooting straight at the bank.

Mr. Davis said I understand the issue that is described and what you read. There are parts and pieces of it that I am not sure that I totally agree with, but I think that what is in question is whether or not- Picture there is a big pipe that is running through the street; there is a very small pipe that comes in and does not shoot as much water out. The question was, is there ever going to be enough water coming out of that small pipe that it would project across the bank and scour out soil on the opposite side of the bank? Conceptually speaking, that is not an irrational thing to question or wonder about. We looked at the hydraulics on that and based on the maximum amount of flow that we think could be processed through that pipe and the velocities discharge, it is not possible to scour the soil on the other side. So, that is an example of where the pipe could be moved, but the pipe could not be moved or altered without, in my view, unjustified expense. That is sort of the sorting out that we have tried to do is try to take on those things that we feel like represents some kind of consequential change or something that might be received well. That is an example of one that we feel like would be spending money on something that did not accomplish anything.

Ms. Eiselt said what do you feel like would be an unjustified expense? I am not saying-

Mr. Davis said sure. Generally speaking, if there is some way that we could get more benefit out of a project with a new idea, we would absolutely do that. Sometimes new ideas can even save money, and of course that is beneficial. There are also circumstances in which we can do some things that are neither here nor there that if that frankly saves us a lot of staff time in conversations like this in what may be downstream litigation, we would take that on. We would accept those kinds of changes as a net win for the city to just be able to make a change and to move on. We got to a point where we kind of exhausted those things that were simple. A couple of examples, we have modified a driveway design. We have added restrictions to what the contractor can do that that location, which will probably reflect a little bit in the bids that we ultimately get, but we thought that it added a degree of confidence hopefully to the property owner so we therefore thought that was worthwhile.

Ms. Eiselt said when you said all CWA permits must be received before my land is taken, what permits are those?

Ms. Aylward said under the Clean Water Act, there are three permits that must be received: erosion, clean water, and Army Corps of Engineers. They all must approve the design. So, first they design, then they give it to the Clean Water Act agents for permits. So, what happened here is that first, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Storm Water people told me that they had all the permits received and nothing could be changed, then I come to find out from calling the agencies that they have not even sent the design. Then I come to find out, the illegal outfall I was talking about, I spoke to a U.S. Army Corps. of Engineers agent; Crystal was her name. She said this pipe should not be perpendicular to the other bank; you should move it. You have emails from U.S. Army Corps. of Engineers to Charlotte-Mecklenburg Storm Water saying, please move the pipe, then John Keen, who is the manager of the project tells her, yes absolutely, I will give it to our consultants, which are the engineers who actually put their seal on it. Then you see, approximately an hour later, an email from Mr. Lesner who is also in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Storm Water group who says, never mind, we are not going to give it to the consultants, and a matter of fact, we have taken U.S. Corps. of Engineers off of this exchange too. We are not going to tell them. It is just too complicated and expensive.

Ms. Eiselt said now I feel like I am in court. We are not in a position to be able to do that. I personally am not real comfortable with this, because I do not understand it, and it is

kind of hard to look at this way. So, I am just not real comfortable with saying go ahead. I am not saying there is anything wrong with it, but at this point, I am not comfortable. Mike, maybe we can get together offline. I personally do not feel I can get behind this project.

Having personal experience with Storm Water, we talk about this all the time. We have such a back log, so I understand you guys have a budget and have to work with what you have, and Storm Water is an issue that we have to deal with in this city, because it is going to come back at us if we do not start paying attention to the backlog and what it is doing to our land. That is just my opinion right now, which I have no background in engineering or any of this, but I am not comfortable with this at this point.

Councilmember Johnson said is there a sense of urgency in approving this? I know you have been working on it for a while, and Councilmember Bokhari, you have seen this before, but it seems there are a few of us who are not comfortable. Could we defer this for an independent review? At the end of the day, it is her home.

Mr. Davis said the answer to the question is, you absolutely have the right to defer this vote. We are at a place in the development of the project where if we delay, that just means the project is delayed. Your question was about urgency; we have been working on this parcel acquisition for about a year. We deferred from several agendas already. My goal had been to try to avoid having any opposition frankly. So, my belief is that I am not sure there will be more that we can do between now and another vote, but again, there is not any- The only detrimental affect to delaying tonight is just a corresponding offset and the ultimate completion of the project, if that makes sense.

Ms. Ajmera said I understand the urgency where you have other projects. It is a lot of material to be read through in 10 or 15 minutes, and it is the first time that I have seen this. You might have had discussions going on, but it is the first time that Council has seen this that there was an attempt to resolve this.

I am not comfortable making a decision where I have something in front of me five minutes before the vote where it is a pretty complex issue. We are talking about someone's home. So, I would like at least a little bit of time, maybe a week or two. Mr. Davis, I know we have a consultant who is doing the actual work. Has the consultant done their independent study for this work, or was the study done by the City?

Mr. Davis said we work in a partnership with the design consultant. The design consultant is charged with doing the hydraulic calculations on the front end, then doing the construction drawings to make the project ready for construction. They do that themselves.

Ms. Ajmera said I guess that is too technical for me. Did we do this study?

Mr. Davis said the consultant does that study.

Ms. Ajmera said who is actually doing the work?

Mr. Davis said we would bid this, so what you would see is about six months from now- Next step would be to go into a permitting phase, so we would get into those, any kind of permitting issues with the Corps. of Engineers, and then we would bring back a bid- We would bid that work out and bring it back to Council the construction [inaudible].

Ms. Ajmera said so, it does not necessarily mean that the same consultant would actually do the work who has done the study?

Mr. Davis said alternative construction drawings. I would just offer to the extent that anyone would like, I would be happy to sit with anybody if that helps create some comfort. There is a delay if we go that route, but of course I would be happy to sit with anybody and review any of that information.

Mr. Bokhari said we have consent items and property transactions in here, dozens of them every time we meet in a business meeting that we all are not actively tracking each one. I am the District Rep. on this, and I have been kept up-to-date by Mike and team at a very high level, not in a detailed level, at a very high level. The bottom line that I arrived at was at the end of the day- Maybe this would pass forward the next couple of weeks for those who are thinking a delay would help. Unless you are going to become an engineer or judge in the next two weeks, you are literally not going to have anything to input on this. The bottom line is there are a bunch of things here that maybe seem credible or do not. Just in my little bit of updating, I have heard multiple things that seem to be contradictory to the facts that have been laid out to me by our expert staff, and the fact of the matter is, for those who want an independent study, our third party is independent, and their entire reputation through that seal being done to this point and ultimately when it is done, is the independent valuation you need. That is the confidence that I have there. If it ultimately goes to litigation, we have a City Attorney and entire staff that ultimately looks at this and says, yeah, we can defend that, because we believe in the process to date, then the City Manager that is on top of all of this.

So, to me, listen. I get it. You can look at this and purposely, I am not trying to get too deep into the weeds, because I do not want to be the engineer, judge, attorney, or City Manager. I know and trust until I have been given any other reason, that our staff goes at this the right way; they have been going at it for a year. The goal post has been moving, and to be honest, there are some things that give me indications that there might be problems with some of the pieces of information that we are getting externally here. So, I just encourage everyone to have confidence in our staff, our Manager, our Attorney, and if they have brought this forward to this point with all of those checks in place, then they know what the right thing is. If they are wrong, someone is going to be held accountable and get fired eventually.

Mayor Lyles said this is a property transaction for drainage improvements that have a bigger than this one person. It is always tough; Storm Water is one of our things that we struggle with, development. I look at your house. it is on two sides of a creek. I mean, it is beautiful, but I think that the real question that we have here is that this is to do the project acquisition. It is not an end product. There will be the opportunity to have further discussions, but the City Council's vote is to either approve the property acquisition or not. It is just that simple. It does not mean that the Storm Water will not continue to work through it. I think the seal [inaudible] designs and all of that will come up. This is not going to go to court tomorrow and be done. There is a process here that is in place for this continuation of a discussion between the citizen here, Dr. Alyward. You will have an opportunity to continue this discussion with the City staff, as well as to have your engineer talk to the engineer that we are using, but it has been a year, and the project around storm water is not just for one house hold. It is actually to protect our basin. There are many other households in that area as well.

There has been difficulty probably communicating, but I do believe that Mr. Bokhari has said that he has done more work on this, and in some respects, if you want more work done on it, you can do that. It does not stop tomorrow, but I do think that it is not going to do anything but delay and acquisition and something that may have more harm upstream in the basin than not.

Motion was made by Councilmember Bokhari and seconded by Councilmember Driggs to resolution of Condemnation of 894.39 sq. ft. (0.021 ac.) in Storm Drainage Easement, 2,159.35 sq. ft. (0.05 ac.) in Sanitary Sewer Easement, 4,072.2 sq. ft. (0.093 ac.) in Temporary Construction Easement, and 565.66 sq. ft. (0.013 ac.) in Existing Storm Drainage Easement at 2813 Hinsdale Street from Ilonka Aylward for \$28,600 for Hinsdale - Tinkerbelle Drainage Improvements, Parcel #250.

YEAS: Councilmembers Bokhari, Driggs, Egleston, Graham, Mitchell, Newton, and Winston

NAYS: Councilmembers Ajmera, Eiselt, Johnson, and Watlington

Mayor Lyles said please continue your conversations with the engineer and the team that works with Mr. Davis on this.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 50, at Page(s) 399.

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PUBLIC HEARING

ITEM NO. 11: PUBLIC HEARING ON A RESOLUTION TO CLOSE AN ALLEYWAY BETWEEN WEST CARSON BOULEVARD AND WEST PALMER STREET

Mayor Lyles declared the hearing open.

There being no speakers, either for or against, a motion was made by Councilmember Egleston, seconded by Councilmember Driggs, and carried unanimously to (A) close a public hearing to close an alleyway between West Carson Boulevard and West Palmer Street (parallel to Church Street), and (B) Adopt a resolution to close an alleyway between West Carson Boulevard and West Palmer Street (parallel to Church Street).

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 50, at Page(s) 352-356.

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POLICY

ITEM NO. 12: CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Mayor Lyles said we missed the 2040 Comprehensive two-year outlook and Boards and Commissions overview. I would also ask the Manager to add Tom Hendrickson, the proposed developer for Brookhill Village, as well as an update on the CIAA and the RNC by the Police Department. That means that we would actually be here on February 3rd for a very long and detailed discussion around a number of issues. So, we can balance that, but that is coming up. We may have to prioritize a few things before the Budget Workshop.

Marcus Jones, City Manager said what you have in front of you is a 30-day update. We will make some changes to the February 3rd Strategy Session, but what we will not change is the Council Annual Strategy Meeting summary that was asked that we could update you on some of the work that was done during the Annual Strategy Meeting and also the dog tethering provisions and the circus animal regulations. We had mentioned earlier this month that that would be on the February Strategy Session meeting.

Through all of your committee, work over the course of the last few weeks, there are a number of items that we believe are important to get before you pretty quickly. So, at the first Budget Workshop in February, we have Emergency Management and Financial Partners, an overview of Charlotte Art Support, some of the existing capital projects, an overview of the Street Lighting Program. Those we believe are very timely in terms of the Budget Workshops, then to round out at the end of the month, we have a Ballantyne Development update, as well as the Circle of Charlotte update, which has been asked for before. I just wanted our CIOs to take just a couple of minutes to talk with you a little bit about the digital alliance for Smart Cities that is occurring with Microsoft. I think this is extremely important, because we do not to get out too far with you as we are starting to

have engagement around four or five key areas that relate to technology, the customer experience, and innovation.

Reenie Askew, Chief Information Officer said I did want to step back in order to step forward, because we have a number of people that are unfamiliar with the alliance. So, the City of Charlotte and Microsoft assigned a three-year, digital-alliance agreement, and what that does is enable us to really pilot a lot of the new technology and be able to move innovation forward with the City, but what is more exciting is that this is only the second type of partnership that Microsoft has engaged in. That is real exciting for the City of Charlotte but first with Houston and now with Charlotte, very exciting.

As I talk through the different initiatives, there are about five, and the five, pilot initiatives are all build around the City strategic priorities. They are listed above; let me walk through each one of the initiatives, that way you will have an understanding of what we are trying to accomplish. So, as we look at public safety and traffic congestion, encouraging and supporting safer communities is a top priority, so I want to make sure that I keep that in focus. The objective here is to improve upon safety in the City and that is through the partnership with Microsoft as we look at technology such as one offered by a company called Genatech, and this would be deploying infrastructure that allows us to enhance our sharing amongst agencies. So, instead of us just having information that is available to us through CMPD, we can now leverage CMPD, Fire, and other agencies internally and externally throughout the city, but the best thing of all is having a single pane of glass. So, while we are looking and looking at various incidents and situational awareness, we have one lenses through which to see the event.

So, in addition to public safety and traffic congestion, we also have to think about smart street lighting. Smart street lighting is another strategy that we are using in the public safety realm, because what it enables us to do is have better lighting, better visibility within our neighborhoods. Part of that is through a partnership with Duke Energy. So, Duke Energy is in the process of changing out some of our regular lights for LED lighting. If you know much about LED lighting, you will know that it actually allows us to reduce energy consumption, and also, they last longer. We are not having to change them out as frequently, and we are looking at partnering the LED lighting in the North End Smart District. We are just in the early conversations with Duke Energy, so once we really get started, and we will talk more about those dates, we are really going to move forward and get that done in the North End Smart District.

Another very important initiative that is near and dear to a number of people is public wi-fi access. When we talk about public wi-fi access, we are really talking about improving the quality of life for our Charlotte residents by providing wi-fi hotspots in various neighborhoods. We do not know yet where we are going to implement the public wi-fi, but we are working with our Planning, Design, and Development team, because there is a number of different projects going on throughout the City. One is Five Points. The other one is the Urban Main project, and we want to align our resources to focus on the right things and the right priorities.

Another area is smart transit or connected transit. As you start thinking about how do we minimize congestion on the freeways, how do we enhance rider experience, the City will be rolling out a pilot of connected transit. So, putting wi-fi hotspots in whether it be buses or light rail, we will work with our CATS Department to help us determine the best way to approach that, but what is really key is that our riders will be able to choose how they will spend their time, whether it is working, playing, relaxing. They will have the ability to do that, because internet on the public transit really adds some additional benefits by making people more productive and additionally the sustainability portion of it where we just reduce the number of cars on the road.

The last initiative of the five is Linked in Learning Partnership. One of Microsoft's companies is actually Linked in Learning. The purchased this organization several years ago, and what it is allowing us to do is create a culture of workforce development and technology and continue attracting and retaining our employees. If you think about the growth in Charlotte over the past year, I think it has been cited at 13,000 new jobs within

2019. We look at how we partner with our HR Department to retool our existing skill-set employees. How do we attract additional talent, and how do we train those who are potential employees for the City of Charlotte, with skills that would make them attainable? Linked in Learning provides that opportunity. We have already started a pilot of linked in learning. We started that pilot January 7. That pilot will go until March 2. We are actually piloting with 50 learners; 25 are from internal quest program. The other 25 are from the career pathways programs. We have a wonderful opportunity to retool some of our existing and also increase the capability of those who want to work for the City of Charlotte.

Lastly, just to sum up what I have talked about and where we are with the pilot, we have a city-wide kickoff scheduled for February 12th. We are going to bring all of the appropriate stakeholders in the room; we are going to talk about the different initiatives. We are going to see how we best complement what is already being done in the departments by moving these forward, and as you see in front of you are the dates that we actually started the discovery in a lot of these areas, and when we start bringing the teams together on February 12th, we really anticipate being able to springboard forward from there. I wanted to make sure everyone saw what we were trying to do, understood what we were trying to accomplish and can support us as we go through this journey.

Councilmember Winston said what does the word discovery on that mean?

Ms. Askew said sorry, that is probably my technical term. I apologize. Discovery is we are actually spending time talking about what does that mean? How do we accomplish public wi-fi? How can we do that within the city? Discovery is really talking to different departments within the city, understanding what they are doing today, understanding what is going on within the community already, and how we can complement that. So, when you see discovery is when we start having those conversations.

Mr. Winston said public wi-fi, are we talking with CMS and CPCC in relation to the best places to put public wi-fi, as their students, I assume, would be the population that we really want to reach?

Ms. Askew said we have not. Actually, we have been talking internally; we have been talking a lot with Economic Development, our Planning Department as well. So, the goal is really to determine where best in our community where people maybe do not have connectivity and could leverage that connectivity. If the best place is within a university, then we will. If the best place is within some other public parks or public spaces where people can leverage that, then we will do that, but we are not sure yet exactly where we are going to place it.

Mr. Winston said I would love to see if we could explore with the street lights initiative, a solar option for street lights. It is a question that I have on today's consent agenda item, and apparently there is no solar option for street lights. I find that hard to believe. I would love to find that and take things off of the grid. Just throwing it out there, Linked in Learning, that sounds promising, connecting jobs to the future and stuff like that. Maybe there are some intersection with the circular economy in preparing our citizens for those jobs in there.

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BUSINESS

ITEM NO. 13: GOVERNOR'S HIGHWAY SAFETY PROGRAM GRANT FOR DRIVING WHILE IMPAIRED TASK FORCE

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| <p>Motion was made by Councilmember Egleston, seconded by Councilmember Driggs, and carried unanimously to adopt a resolution to apply for and accept a grant award in the amount of \$198,940 from the Governor's Highway Safety Program for a Driving While Impaired Task Force.</p> |
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The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 50, at Page(s) 357-358.

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ITEM NO. 14: CHARLOTTE FIRE DEPARTMENT URBAN SEARCH AND RESCUE LEASE

Motion was made by Councilmember Egleston and seconded by Councilmember Driggs, to (A) Approve a lease amendment between the City of Charlotte and The Meritex Corporation for a facility for Charlotte Fire's Urban Search and Rescue Team, and (B) Authorize the City Manager to execute all necessary documents to complete the lease amendment between the City of Charlotte and The Meritex Corporation.

Councilmember Winston said I would just like for my colleagues to hear from staff on what the difference is this year from last year in terms of how this is being funded.

Reggie Johnson, Fire Chief said as you know, in 2019, we lost our UASI funding and that 100% of the rent was paid for by the budget from the Fire Department. That would be the same case in 2020.

Mr. Winston said why do we not have that funding anymore?

Chief Johnson said we did share some of this information with the Intergovernmental Committee. There is a number of calculations that take place with FEMA when they are determining our risk for all of the UASI cities. In 2019, we fell out of that 85% risk. We only control a small portion of that. We sat down with FEMA, and they provided a little bit of information for us, as far as how their calculations go. For 2020's calculation, we actually improved in the portions of the calculation that we actually control, which has a lot to do with special events and things of that nature. I could have Chief Graham, who is our Deputy Director of Emergency Management provide a little bit more information as far as what we have done to this point to gather information.

Robert Graham, Fire said we have discussed it several times. We are always working to try to get it back. It is a complicated calculation how FEMA looks at it. Last year, they did not fund the City of Charlotte; they looked at the City of Charlotte and said, look, you fall below the 85% that they wanted to fund of the risk in the United States. The calculation that they used, FEMA came down to Charlotte. We spent about four hours with them. We had a huge meeting, including the State Director. The State is also a part of that overall grant process. When they look at it, last year's funding was \$2.5 million. They get 20% of that funding for their program as well. We are not the only stakeholders in this; unfortunately, when they looked at it, they said Charlotte, you are right below the threshold for funding, and we were unable to get that money.

There are a number of things. We cannot look at other cities and see where they fall in that calculation unfortunately. So, we do not know whether Las Vegas or Orlando or anyone else, the way that they are looking at their funding. They say they do not take into account past incidents; both Las Vegas and Orlando were funded after their shootings.

Mr. Winston said is there anything that changed with our situation here in terms of paper work or anything with us?

Chief Graham said no sir, I can assure you that everything that we can possibly do to keep that funding, we are doing. Our staff is working diligently all the time; we are not the only ones who look at what we turn it. The State looks at it as well. In fact, it is actually submitted by the State, then FEMA, when they give us their analysis, which they just gave us, they gave us 10 days for a rebuttal. We spent a lot of time putting time and effort into the rebuttal. We got a five-page document back from FEMA basically saying look, these are the things that we looked at, but we have not changed our data for Charlotte.

As all the cities grow- I think that when they do the 2020 census and with the addition to Major League Soccer, those are two data points that are going to help us. One of the things that does not help us is with the boarder crossing. We are not a San Diego or a city where there is a lot of boarder crossings. That is included in there. They also do a calculation of what our military personal are in the City of Charlotte. There has been some changes, and one of the changes that Mr. Jones's analyst were able to identify, they now use Anson County in their calculation for our population density, so it lowered our number in that sector of it.

Mayor Lyles said the criteria, while you may not know the other cities, it is consistent; it is not a variable change in criteria or is it?

Chief Graham said that is a long, complicated question.

Mayor Lyles said we are fine.

A vote was taken on the motion and carried unanimously.

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ITEM NO. 15: MUNICIPAL AGREEMENT FOR THE LAKEVIEW ROAD CORRIDOR PROJECT

Motion was made by Councilmember Egleston, seconded by Councilmember Eiselt, and carried unanimously to (A) Adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a Municipal Agreement with the North Carolina Department of Transportation to accept Bonus Allocation funds for the Lakeview Road Corridor project, and (B) Adopt budget ordinance 9736-X appropriating \$3,823,000 from the North Carolina Department of Transportation for the Lakeview Road Corridor project.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 50, at Page(s) 359-359W.

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 62, at Page(s) 725.

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ITEM NO. 16: INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH UNION COUNTY

Motion was made by Councilmember Egleston, seconded by Councilmember Driggs, and carried unanimously to adopt a resolution to authorize the City Manager to execute an interlocal agreement with Union County to revise the rate charged for the sale of water between the City of Charlotte and Union County.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 50, at Page(s) 360-360B.

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ITEM NO. 17: INNOVATIVE COORDINATED ACCESS AND MOBILITY PILOT PROGRAM GRANT

Motion was made by Councilmember Egleston, seconded by Councilmember Graham, and carried unanimously to (A) Accept a grant in the amount of \$112,000 from the Federal Transit Administration for innovative mobility projects, (B) Adopt budget ordinance 9737-X appropriating \$112,000 from the Federal Transit Administration to the CATS Operating Fund, and (C) Authorize the City Manager to negotiate and execute a contract with C.W. Williams Community Health Center in an amount not to exceed \$112,000.

Councilmember Winston said I would just like to point out that this is a mode of fareless, public transportation that is an option that we are putting online right now. We should continue to innovate and look towards this.

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 62, at Page(s) 726.

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ITEM NO. 18: GENERAL OBLIGATION REFUNDING BONDS

Motion was made by Councilmember Driggs, seconded by Councilmember Watlington, and carried unanimously to (A) Adopt a resolution that makes certain Statement of Facts concerning the refunding of General Obligation Bonds issued in 2009 and 2012, (B) Introduce and adopt a Bond Order authorizing the issuance of not to exceed \$35,000,000 General Obligation Refunding Bonds, to refund 2009, (C) Introduce and adopt a Bond Order authorizing the issuance of not to exceed \$95,000,000 General Obligation Refunding Bonds, to refund 2012A, (D) Adopt a resolution providing for the issuance of the city's General Obligation Refunding Bonds, and (E) Adopt budget ordinance 9738-X appropriating \$130,000,000 to the Municipal Debt Service Fund.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 50, at Page(s) 361-363.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 50, at Page(s) 364-381.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 50, at Page(s) 382-386.

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 62, at Page(s) 727.

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ITEM NO. 19: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL TOPICS

Councilmember Winston said I just wanted to say condolences to the nine souls that were lost yesterday in the Los Angeles helicopter crash, including a legend, Kobe Bryant. He was drafted by the Charlotte Hornets; of course, he traded, but he had an immense impact, not on just the basketball world but culture as a whole. I know that he was a flawed man, just as we all are, and there are a lot of people in our community that are hurt. I only got the chance to speak to him very shortly the last time that he played in Charlotte. I was the camera man that was given the job of leading him out as he was announced, but he was a magical player, and I know as a father, yesterday was a very difficult time for me and a lot of people around this country and around this world. So, my condolences to the family and friends of Mr. Bryant and all nine souls who were on board. It will be a sad day in the arena tomorrow night during the Hornet's game.

Councilmember Mitchell said there is an Opportunity Summit scheduled for February 7th here in our great city. More details will follow; the tentative time is 1:00 p.m. at the CPCC airport location. I just want Council to put it on your schedules.

Councilmember Egleston said also condolences to the Mayor's family and friends; I know that you lost a loved one who was immensely impactful in the community this weekend. I know that it was not a surprise, but it never makes it easy. Condolences to you and everyone else who is mourning that loss.

Mayor Lyles said thank you. I would like to talk a little bit about it at the end.

Councilmember Bokhari said I would just like to quickly say several of us had a couple of opportunities today to celebrate ribbon cuttings, big things that are happening in our city. The Mayor said it, so I will kind of steal a little bit of her speech, but it really made me think about it. The first one was EY and the Wavespace, and I want to congratulate Brad Wallace and Malcom and that entire team for really going out and pushing the envelope for what is really creative in the private sector in our own backyard in innovation and entrepreneurship and connecting the community and really designing and creating things. That space I think will be something very special.

The second one in our own backyard here in the Government Center, we unveiled the CLT Development Center. The point here I think was tied together in what the Mayor's words was, well there is something in the public sector that is now bringing together a variety of groups to solve problems in new, cutting-edge ways, and I think it all kind of connected for me. We had an opportunity to go recruit a lot of technology companies in France in the last several days, and we had an opportunity to go visit a place called Station F. Station F, if you have not seen it go look it up, is probably one of the world's most premier incubators, accelerators, something where they have brought together 32 of the most incredible [inaudible] inside a single, adaptive-reuse project that ties not only all of that in but upward mobility as well as affordable housing, something incredible to see, but I think that you would probably agree, when we look at both of those places we saw today in our own backyard in the private and public sector, I was just reminded of so many things that we saw there. The fact that those are popping up in our own city really gives me a lot of faith in where we are headed. I just wanted to give everyone recognition for all the great work that was done.

Councilmember Driggs said I wanted to quickly congratulate Atrium on the groundbreaking this morning in the same vein for the expansion of their hospital facility in Pineville. This will be a tower. They are at 90% capacity, so this is definitely a public interest to see them expand that. I will mention also that one of the people present was a board member of Atrium name Mike Rucker, and I decided not to post the picture of myself with Mike, because it looks like one of those promos from Mom, I Shrunk the Kids. The guy is enormous.

I also wanted to announce that on Saturday the 8th of February, I will be hosting a townhall meeting in the Fairway room at the Ballantyne Hotel to talk about, for one, Ballantyne Reimagined, to give citizens an opportunity to talk with staff about the concerns that they have and hear their feedback and also to talk about the 2040 plan as part of our ongoing outreach to get impressions back from the public about that plan. That is on Saturday, at 8:30 in the Fairway room at the Ballantyne Hotel.

Mayor Lyles said I do want to say thank you for acknowledging and recognizing that this past week I lost two great men in my life. One is Oren Alexander. Oren was the first African America person to be hired by a wholesale beverage company in North Carolina. He was a salesman for Miller High Life, if anyone remembers that, the Champagne of Beers. He did that, but he became an entrepreneur. He was the First African America bail bonds man in Charlotte. When you think about that, he was one of those folks who bailed out the Johnson C. Smith students that were arrested during the protests of the early 1960's. He was the younger 95-year old brother of my father-in-law Romeo Alexander.

Romeo is really well known in this community; he has worked really hard, did a lot of things and served this community well, especially his community. He was one of the first people who owned an African American restaurant called Razades in Charlotte. Actually, it was very unusual to have an African American to have a restaurant. They would have what they call eat-in-kitchens. Basically, you just went to someone else's house, and you ate there and paid. He the ability to raise capital and open a full-scale restaurant that in the York Road high school, back in Charlotte's largest and most modernized, airconditioned restaurant. That was with [inaudible] when you couldn't go anyplace else except Razades.

He was one of the Colonels to lead the fund drive that build West Charlotte High School's athletic field. He was highly respected as a member of the Shriners. He funded the Romeo Alexander Scholarship to help college students that lived in the Greenville Neighborhood in the 1960's. He is known to my children as grandpa and to my grandchildren as great grandpa, and he was 98-years young. He passed away on Saturday, and it is truly a loss. I want to appreciate the work that is being done by the Levine Museum of the New South to recognize people like them that stepped up. Romeo's most pride was that he, actually after Uncle Oren, got the guys out of jail, they went over to Razades and had sandwiches, then they got on the bus and continued on the Mississippi. We sometimes forget how history forms out current and our future, and I am really proud that these two men served this community well, even when they were only allowed to serve a small part of it. I will be out. Oren's service is on Thursday's, and Romeo's is on Saturday. So, I will be out the rest of this week.

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ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting was adjourned at 8:26 p.m.



Stephanie C. Kelly, City Clerk, MMC, NCCMC

Minute Length: 3 Hours, 18 Minutes
Minutes Completed: February 19, 2020