

The City Council of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina convened for a Business Meeting on Monday, September 28, 2020 at 5:06 p.m. in Room 267 of the Charlotte Mecklenburg Government Center with Mayor Vi Lyles presiding. Councilmembers present were Dimple Ajmera, Tariq Bokhari, Ed Driggs, Larken Egleston, Julie Eiselt, Malcolm Graham, Renee Johnson, James Mitchell, and Victoria Watlington.

**ABSENT UNTIL NOTED:** Matt Newton and Braxton Winston II.

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**Mayor Lyles** said welcome to the September 28th Charlotte City Council Business meeting. I called this meeting to order and welcome everyone who is joining us, the Councilmembers who are joining us, and the staff, as well as those of you who are watching on either the Government channel the City's Facebook page, or the City's YouTube page.

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### **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE**

Councilmember Watlington gave the Invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Councilmember Eiselt.

**Mayor Lyles** said I did also want to recognize for the members of the Jewish faith in this community who are celebrating Yom Kippur, one of the Holiest days of the Jewish year when they celebrate what we would be informed of as a Day of Atonement or this day He will forgive you to purify you that you are cleansed from all of your sins before God. So, for nearly 26-hours, it is almost time, the community abstains from food and drink and they have a number of traditions that they follow, but at the end what I think that I remember most about Yom Kippur is that the end of time of fasting and introspection there is a time of joy where people begin to share with each other their spirituality, forgive people of their sins and seals of their upcoming year for life, health, and happiness. I think all of us can learn something from Yom Kippur, so thank you very much for our Jewish Community for their faith and the work that they are doing.

**Councilmember Winston arrived at 5:10 p.m.**

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### **ACTION REVIEW**

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

There were no consent agenda item questions.

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

**Marcus Jones, City Manager** said what we have tonight is a 2020 Bond Campaign Update. Regarding the 2020 Bond Campaign Update, there have been some questions from the Councilmembers about where we are. So, we are going to have a team present tonight. So with that said, Mayor, that's what we have in terms of the Action Review.

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### **ITEM NO. 3: BOND CAMPAIGN UPDATE**

**Kelly Flannery, Chief Financial Officer Treasurer** said thanks to the actions of this body including three actions that you took over the summer, Charlotte voters will be able to vote on street housing and neighborhood projects. The Charlotte Regional Business Alliance is leading a campaign to educate and promote the upcoming referendum and here virtually to discuss the campaign is the president and CEO of the CLT Alliance, Janet Labar.

**Janet Labar, CEO of Charlotte Regional Business Alliance** said personal thank you to members of the Council for putting these bonds on the ballot especially in these unprecedented and remarkable times. It is an important validation for our city's progressive spirit and quality of life and the wisdom of its citizens to keep us on the right track. The bonds that are on the November 3rd ballot will fund Street and neighborhood improvement as well as affordable housing. The total investment for all three as you know is \$197 million. So, I want to share just a few key selling points and messages about the bond. First, the City of Charlotte should help all of its residents strive towards a better life, and bond investments are an important way to do so. Second, bonds have always been important as Charlotte moves forward. These bonds will continue that progress as we emerge from the current pandemic. Third, this is the final installment in a 10-year capital improvement plan. Voters approved the 1st three installments in 2014, 2016, and 2018 by wide margins. Back there was an average of 70% approval. Lastly, make sure to get to the end of the ballot and vote yes and all three bond questions.

So in case you're wondering polling has shown really solid support and I'm happy to share those details with you offline if you're so inclined to understand them more and additional information is certainly available at our website which is [ww.voteyesforbonds.com](http://ww.voteyesforbonds.com). Some of the campaign highlights I'd like to share and there is a Campaign Committee in place and working hard. It is Co-chaired by Keith Cockrell who's the Global Technology and Chief Operating Officer at Bank of America and Angela Yochem who is the EVP and Chief Digital and Technology Officer of Novant Health. There are more than 20 community members representing businesses, neighborhoods, and organizations that have volunteered to participate. The Charlotte Executive Leadership Counsel and Investors and the Charlotte Regional Business Alliance have also pledged to raise the funds in support of this committee. In fact, we're already close to reaching the campaign goal of \$350,000 and it's important to note no public dollars are being used for the campaign.

As I mentioned the Campaign Committee has been meeting and it's supported by a professional team with more than a decade years of experience leading Charlotte Referenda Campaigns in victory and they're the ones who are handling our daily operations. That includes Joe Bost from CRBA and Brian Francis with Francis Consulting Services, he is our Campaign Manager, Adam Bernstein with Chernoff Newman who is our Counsel and Communication, Amanda Dewees also with Chernoff Newman who is advising us on communication, and then Lisa Crawford, she is our grassroots coordinator. So, bond referenda have historically kicked off after Labor Day and we are pretty much right on schedule. If anything, we are a little earlier than normal and anticipating early voting and balance [inaudible]. So, our outreach strategy is fairly wide and deep, there is both traditional and non-traditional communications channels that are designed to engage likely voters who are supportive of the bonds. I'm going to cover a few of these things here. Our website went live 2 weeks ago. The first of 4 direct mailings went out on Friday.

Our paid media campaign will begin next week and we're already active on social media. There have been some Facebook live briefings we're planning in October about each bond question. We're training digital ambassadors, these are advocates who will represent the campaign at virtual events and share messaging online and on their social channels. Then we have a robust, Get Out and Vote Program and poll workers on who will be at voting sites. Of course, there's a lot of traditional grassroots outreach also being done. Two ways that you can help as City leaders here. First, communicating with your constituents, and second is helping us find volunteers. Under that first point, our

campaign team is ready and can provide you with some resources for some virtual events. There's another way that you can share by sharing some of our social media posts and of course, let us know what you are hearing from their constituents. I'm happy to address some of those questions and then second under that bullet point we are seeking poll workers. That will be a mix of both paid and volunteer staff. Second, if you know folks who'd be interested, we do have a resource page on our website. It's under the get involved page. We encourage you to direct them there.

Our social media channels on the website as well as an email address. Thank you for your time right now and for your leadership again and for putting this on the ballot. I'm happy to answer any questions you might have.

**Councilmember Eiselt** said Janet, thank you for the overview of the Bond Campaign. I do have a question maybe or point of clarity for Mr. Baker, our City Attorney, in that the local government can't promote these bonds that's why we have our help from the wonderful alliance to do that. But when Janet mentions sharing their campaign, can we do that?

**Patrick Baker, City Attorney** said you can share educational material. What you can't do is use global funds to support the bonds, but you can share education.

Ms. Eiselt said so can we share something that says vote yes for the bonds?

**Councilmember Egleston** said as an individual yeah.

Mr. Baker said yes.

Ms. Eiselt said okay I just want to clarify. Thank you.

**Mayor Lyles** said you'll be asked to do that from the campaign for an ask to make speeches, not this be political but just to say what's the information that we have.

**Councilmember Driggs** said I wanted to first to commend Brian Francis, he had somebody called me up and read aloud the script as to why we should vote for the bonds, and I said I know about the bonds, I'm on the Budget Committee, give me a break. My question though is we base the amount of these bonds on a capital process in our budget and we have a list of actual items so other than the generality in the language that will go into the actual referendum, can we talk at all about what kinds of things like the things that are in the pipeline because that document exists right? We've got it and it actually foots to the amount of the bond offering. The thing is we don't want to in any way be bound by that so we don't want to make representations that, that is necessarily exactly what's going to happen. But I think it would be useful to provide a little more content around the generality of the three different categories and I've been asked that by a number of people.

Ms. Flannery said can I just add really quick the City does have a website and can share that link with you that has all that detail.

Mr. Driggs said okay. Can you send me the link?

Ms. Flannery said yes.

**Councilmember Mitchell** said Janet, following up a Councilmember Eiselt's question. I know in the past they usually ask us to sign our name to support the bonds. Are you going to do that again this year so we would know to look out for that email and quickly respond to it, those of us who would be supporting the bonds?

Ms. Labar said that's a great question Councilmember Mitchell. I don't know the answer that but I'll find out from our campaign team and circle back.

Mr. Mitchell said okay thank you.

Ms. Labar said I wanted to add to Councilman Driggs's question too. I think Kelly answered it well. Our website, so yes, the bonds do have some details but we don't have the dollar amount associated with the project. I think the city's site actually does a better job of that.

**Councilmember Newton arrived at 5:18 p.m.**

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**ITEM NO. 6: CONSENT**

Motion was made by Councilmember Egleston, seconded by Councilmember Driggs, and carried unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda as presented with exception of Item No. 35 which was pulled; Item No. 40 which was settled, and Item No. 46 which was deferred to October 12, 2020.

**Councilmember Mitchell** said I don't have a question on an item, but I do have a question. I'm reading through this and there's a category I see here called WBE under Disadvantaged Business Enterprise. so I've got a question for the staff. When did we start using WBE as a category?

**Marie Harris, Strategy & Budget Deputy Director** said I could get somebody, Councilmember Mitchell, but that's more with the federal classification. That's not our CBI (Charlotte Business INclusion). The disadvantage language is the federal language.

Mr. Mitchell said okay but first time seeing WBE.

**Mayor Lyles** said I thought maybe if my memory might not be the best, but I thought at one time we asked for some information to separate those that were that WBE so that we would actually have more information about the M being the black businesses. I remember we had a conversation about that.

Mr. Mitchell said I think it was conversation only Mayor; we did have a conversation in our Committee meeting about it.

Ms. Harris said I will definitely get you some follow up information to clarify that. Thank you.

Mr. Mitchell said okay, I appreciate that.

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

The following items were approved:

**Item No. 16: Allison Transmission Repair Services**

(A) Approve a unit price contract with Dartco Transmission Sales and Services, Inc. for Allison transmission repair, rebuild, and replacement services for an initial term of three years, and (B) Authorize the City Manager to renew the contract for up to two, one-year terms with possible price adjustments and to amend the contract consistent with the purpose for which the contract was approved.

**Item No. 17: Charlotte Department of Transportation Warehouse Lease**

(A) Approve a lease between the City of Charlotte and Waters Incorporated of Charlotte, as managing agent for WWD Associates LLC, O'Hair Limited Partnership, Domar Corporation INC., Crittendon Commodities LLC, and Waters Management LLC, for warehouse space located at 4414 Monroe Road, tax parcel number 161-071-19, and (B) Authorize the City Manager to negotiate and execute all documents necessary to complete the transaction.

**Item No. 18: Construct Sugar Creek Road Streetscape Project**

Approve a contract in the amount of \$3,055,954.65 to the lowest responsive bidder Mountain Creek Contractors, Inc. for the Sugar Creek Road Streetscape project.

**Summary of Bids**

Mountain Creek Contractors, Inc.	\$ 3,055,954.65
Blythe Development Co.	\$ 3,121,508.50
Mountaineer Contractors, Inc.	\$ 3,269,281.21
Nassiri Development, LLC	\$ 3,474,562.30
Showalter Construction Co., Inc.	\$ 3,644,640.45
Sealand Contractors Corp.	\$ 3,939,171.83
Dane Construction, Inc.	\$ 4,398,627.05

**Item No. 19: Fuel Supply Products, Fleet Cards, and Related Services**

(A) Approve a unit price contract with FleetCor Technologies Operating Company, LLC d.b.a Fuelman of GA for the purchase of fuel supplies, fleet cards, and related services for a term of five years, and (B) Authorize the City Manager to extend the contract for up to two, two-year terms with possible price adjustments and to amend the contract consistent with the purpose for which the contract was approved.

**Summary of Bids**

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

**Item No. 20: Furniture, Installation, and Related Services**

(A) Approve the purchase of furniture, installation, and related services from a cooperative contract, (A) Approve a unit price contract with Universal Equipment Company for the purchase of furniture, installation, and related services for a term of three years under Omnia Partners Public Sector Contract Number R191805, May 1, 2020, and (B) 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. 21: Construct Chandworth Storm Drainage Improvement Project**

Approve a contract in the amount of \$8,359,221.20 to the lowest responsive bidder Zoladz Construction Co., Inc. for the Chandworth Storm Drainage Improvement Project.

**Summary of Bids**

Zoladz Construction Co., Inc.	\$ 8,359,221.20
United of Carolinas, Inc.	\$ 9,635,817.95
Hall Contracting Corporation	\$ 9,675,613.20
Sealand Contractors Corp.	\$ 9,943,647.73
Dellinger, Inc.	\$12,288,837.00
Blythe Development Co.	\$12,425,573.60
Vecellio & Grogan, Inc.	\$14,558,500.00

**Item No. 22: Reuse Line Extension to the University of North Carolina at Charlotte**

Approve a contract in the amount of \$3,486,674 to the lowest responsive bidder B.R.S., Inc. for the Reuse Line Extension to the University of North Carolina at Charlotte project.

**Summary of Bids**

BRS, Inc.	\$3,486,674.00
Sanders Utility Construction	\$3,998,736.56
Fuller Construction	\$3,999,502.06
Garney Construction, Inc.	\$4,433,882.20
Hall Construction	\$4,482,913.06
Don Moorhead Construction	\$4,747,740.20
State Utility Contractors	\$5,393,151.10

**Item No. 23: Water Facility On-Call Maintenance and Repair Service**

(A) Approve unit price contracts for on-call maintenance and repair service for an initial term of two years to the following: BW Service Solutions, LLC (SBE); Carolina Lift Stations, LLC; Kemp Construction, Inc.; Crom, LLC dba Crom Coatings & Restorations; The Harper Corporation-General Contractors; and (B) Authorize the City Manager to renew the contracts for up to three, one-year terms with possible price adjustments and to amend the contracts consistent with the purpose for which the contracts were approved.

**Item No. 24: 4710 Yorkmont Road Facility Lease**

(A) Approve a three-year lease agreement with Sky Chefs, Inc. for a facility at Charlotte Douglas International Airport, and (B) Authorize the City Manager to approve up to two, one-year extensions consistent with the purpose for which the agreement was approved.

**Item No. 25: Airport Aircraft Ground Power Units**

(A) Approve a unit price contract with ITW GSE Inc. for the purchase of ground power units for an initial term of three years, 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. 26: Airport Aircraft Pre-Conditioned Air Systems**

(A) Approve unit price contracts for the purchase of pre-conditioned air systems for an initial term of three years to the following: ITW GSE Inc., JBT Aerotech Corporation, 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. 27: Airport Architectural Consultation Services**

Approve contracts for architectural consultation services with the following firms for a three-year term RS&H Architects Engineers Planners, Inc.; GS&P/NC PC; Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc.; C Design Inc.; DAS Architecture, a K2Mpowered Company; The Wilson Group Architects, PA.; HKS, Inc.; Gensler Architecture Design & Planning PC; and Landrum & Brown Inc.

**Item No. 28: Airport Environmental Assessment for the Fourth Parallel Runway Contract Amendment**

Approve a contract amendment #2 for \$707,200 with Landrum & Brown, Inc. for an amendment to the previously approved Environmental Assessment for the Fourth Parallel Runway and associated projects.

**Item No. 29: Airport Master Water Meter Installation**

Approve a contract in the amount of \$1,512,654 to the lowest responsive bidder State Utility Contractors, Inc. for the Airport Water Master Meter and Backflow Preventer Installations project.

**Summary of Bids**

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

**Item No. 30: Airport North End-Around Taxiway Project Design Amendment**

Approve contract amendment #1 for \$26,225,945 with Talbert, Bright & Ellington, Inc. for additional design services and construction administration support of the Runway 18C/36C North End-Around Taxiway project.

**Item No. 31: Airport Passenger Assistance Services Contract**

Approve contract amendment #5 with Prospect Airport Services, Inc. for Airport Passenger Assistance Services for a one-year term.

**Item No. 32: Airport Planning Consultation Services**

Approve a contract for planning consultation services with the following vendors for an initial term of three years: Kimley-Horn & Associates Inc., Landrum & Brown Inc., Ricondo & Associates Inc., RS&H Architects Engineers Planners Inc., and WSP USA Inc.

**Item No. 33: Airport Taxiway Shoulder Pavement Rehabilitation Phase I**

Approve a contract in the amount of \$1,150,050 to the lowest responsive bidder Boggs Contracting Inc. for the Taxiway Shoulder Pavement Rehabilitation Phase I project.

**Summary of Bids**

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

**PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS**

**Item No. 34: Aviation Property Transaction - 9029 West Steeleberry Drive**

Acquisition of 4.93 acres at 9029 West Steeleberry Drive from Sambath Peo and Ravy Kong for \$399,330 for EIS Mitigation Land South.

**Item No. 36: Charlotte Water Property Transactions - Goose Creek Sanitary Sewer Extension to Fairview Road, Parcel #8**

Resolution of Condemnation for 22,831 square feet (0.54 acres) in Permanent Easement plus 7,182 square feet (0.17 acres) in Temporary Construction Easement at Qual Park Drive from Donald Denny Allen and Carolyn Allen for \$7,550 for Goose Creek Sanitary Sewer Extension to Fairview Road, Parcel #8.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 51, at Page (s) 66.

**Item No. 37: Charlotte Water Property Transactions - Irwin Creek Tributaries to DeWitt Lane and Yeoman Road Sanitary Sewer Replacement, Parcel #24**

Resolution of Condemnation for 34,062 square feet (0.78 acres) in Sanitary Sewer Easement and 59,415 square feet (1.36 acres) in Temporary Construction Easement at 3722 South Tryon Street from Box Fight, LLC for \$557,125 for Irwin Creek Tributaries to DeWitt Lane and Yeoman Road Sanitary Sewer Replacement, Parcel #24.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 51, at Page (s) 67.

**Item No. 38: Property Transactions - Idlewild/Monroe Intersection - Phase I, Parcel #5**

Resolution of Condemnation for 2,827 square feet (0.065 acres) Sidewalk Utility Easement, 831 square feet (0.019 ac.) Temporary Construction Easement, 2,827 square feet (0.065 acres) Waterline Easement, 44 square feet (0.01 ac.) Utility Easement at 5791 Monroe Road from Mora Suites LLC for \$9,125 for Idlewild/Monroe Intersection - Phase I, Parcel #5.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 51, at Page (s) 68.

**Item No. 39: Property Transactions - Idlewild/Monroe Intersection - Phase I, Parcel #6**

Acquisition of 3,959 square feet (0.091 acres) Sidewalk Utility Easement, 1,870 square feet (0.043 ac.) Temporary Construction Easement, 3,959 square feet (0.091 acres)

Waterline Easement at 5811 Monroe Road from Landmark Construction Group Inc for \$44,000 for Idlewild/Monroe Intersection - Phase I, Parcel #6.

**Item No. 41: Property Transactions - Idlewild/Monroe Intersection – Phase I, Parcel #8**

Resolution of Condemnation for 2,909 square feet (0.067 acres) Sidewalk Utility Easement, 1,834 square feet (0.042 ac.) Temporary Construction Easement, 2,909 square feet (0.067 acres) Waterline Easement at 701 Ashmore Drive from James M. Cullen and Anne Bell Cullen for \$26,925 for Idlewild/Monroe Intersection - Phase I, Parcel #8.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 51, at Page (s) 69.

**Item No. 42: Property Transactions - Idlewild/Monroe Intersection - Phase I, Parcel #9**

Acquisition of 531 square feet (0.012 ac.) Fee Simple, 933 square feet (0.021 ac.) Utility Easement, 1,124 square feet (0.026 acres) Sidewalk Utility Easement, 117 square feet (0.003 acres) Temporary Construction Easement, 190 square feet (0.004 acres) Retaining Wall Easement, 1,124 square feet (0.026 acres) Waterline Easement, at 5936 Monroe Road from 5936 Monroe Road LLC for \$21,175 for Idlewild/Monroe Intersection - Phase I, Parcel #9.

**Item No. 43: Property Transactions - Idlewild/Monroe Intersection - Phase I, Parcel #14**

Resolution of Condemnation for 763 square feet (0.018 acres) Utility Easement, 2,614 square feet (0.06 acres) Retaining Wall Easement, 656 square feet (0.015 acres) Storm Drainage Easement, 2,614 square feet (0.06 acres) Sanitary Sewer and Waterline Easement, 2,614 square feet (0.06 acres) Sidewalk Utility Easement, 477 square feet (0.011 acres) Temporary Construction Easement at 700 Jerilyn Drive from Jerilynn M. Morra for \$40,800 for Idlewild/Monroe Intersection - Phase I, Parcel #14.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 51, at Page (s) 70.

**Item No. 44: Property Transactions - Idlewild/Monroe Intersection - Phase I, Parcel #16, 17**

Resolution of Condemnation of 767 square feet (0.017 acre), 20 square feet (0 acres) Utility Easement, 1,618 square feet (0.037 acres) Retaining Wall Easement, 5,225 square feet (0.12 ac.) Sanitary Sewer and Waterline Easement, 5,225 square feet (0.12 acres) Sidewalk Utility Easement, 4,630 square feet (0.106 acres) Temporary Construction Easement, at 6011 Monroe Road from Starnes Residential Properties LLC for \$127,275 for Idlewild/Monroe Intersection - Phase I, Parcel #16, 17.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 51, at Page (s) 71.

**Item No. 45: Property Transactions - I-85 North Bridge, Parcels #2, 2.1, 2.2, 12, 12.1, and 13**

Acquisition of 436 square feet (0.01 acres) in Storm Drainage Easement, plus 4,428 square feet (0.102 acres) in Sanitary Sewer Easement, plus 944 square feet (0.022 acres) in Sidewalk and Utility Easement, plus 594 square feet (0.014 acres) in Slope Easement, plus 3,930 square feet (0.09 acres) in Access Easement, plus 42,367 square feet (0.973 acres) in Right-of-Way and Utility Easement, plus 266 square feet (0.006 acres) in Waterline Easement, plus 17,031 square feet (0.391 acres) in Temporary Construction Easement, plus 19,704 square feet (0.452 acres) in Utility Easement at 1000 Louis Rose Place from DB Mainstreet Environmental Way LLC for \$154,220 for I-85 North Bridge, Parcels #2, 2.1, 2.2, 12, 12.1, and 13.

**Item No. 47: Property Transactions - Matheson Avenue Streetscape, Parcel #4**

Acquisition of 1,526 square feet (0.035 acres) Storm Drainage Easement, 822 square feet (0.019 acres) Sidewalk Utility Easement, 2,092 square feet (0.048 acres) Temporary Construction Easement at Matheson Avenue from Marwan Marzouk and Sahar Marzouk for \$17,525 for Matheson Avenue Streetscape, Parcel #4.



**Item No. 48: Property Transactions - Matheson Avenue Streetscape, Parcel #11, 12**

Resolution of Condemnation for 728 square feet (0.017 acres) Slope Easement, 895 square feet (0.021 acres) Temporary Construction Easement at 2604 North Davidson Street and 613 Jordan Place from Neese Sausage Company for \$35,075 for Matheson Avenue Streetscape, Parcel #11, 12.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 51, at Page (s) 72.

**Item No. 49: Property Transactions - Providence Road Sidewalk Improvement (Greentree Drive - Knob Oak Lane), Parcel #2**

Resolution of Condemnation for 1,921 square feet (0.044 acres) Sidewalk Utility Easement, 1,063 square feet (0.024 acres) Temporary Construction Easement at 3051 and 3039 Providence Road from Providence Children's Academy LLC for \$16,425 for Providence Road Sidewalk Improvement (Greentree Drive - Knob Oak Lane), Parcel #2.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 51, at Page (s) 73.

**Item No. 50: Property Transactions - Providence Road Sidewalk Improvement (Greentree Drive - Knob Oak Lane), Parcel #4**

Resolution of Condemnation for 1,639 square feet (0.038 acres) Sidewalk Utility Easement, 1,925 square feet (0.044 acres) Temporary Construction Easement at 3124 Providence Road from Betty S. Gamble for \$21,350 for Providence Road Sidewalk Improvement (Greentree Drive - Knob Oak Lane), Parcel #4.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 51, at Page (s) 74.

**Item No. 51: Property Transactions - Providence Road Sidewalk Improvement (Greentree Drive - Knob Oak Lane), Parcels #5, 6**

Acquisition of 3,434 square feet (0.08 acres) Fee Simple, 2,296 square feet (0.05 acres) Fee Simple in Existing R/W, 1,718 square feet (0.039 acres) Temporary Construction Easement, at 3132 and 3200 Providence Road from Thomas Michael Todd for \$161,300 for Providence Road Sidewalk Improvement (Greentree Drive - Knob Oak Lane), Parcels #5, 6.

**Item No. 52: Property Transactions - Providence Road Sidewalk Improvement (Greentree Drive - Knob Oak Lane), Parcel #7**

Resolution of Condemnation of 673 square feet (0.015 acres) Temporary Construction Easement at 1600 Rutledge Avenue from Robert Adam Rainey and Cheryl Nicole Rainey for \$2,275 for Providence Road Sidewalk Improvement (Greentree Drive - Knob Oak Lane), Parcel #7.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 51, at Page (s) 75.

**Item No. 53: Property Transactions - Providence Road Sidewalk Improvement (Greentree Drive - Knob Oak Lane), Parcel #22**

Resolution of Condemnation of 25 square feet (0.001 acres) Utility Easement, 5,450 square feet (0.125 acres) Temporary Construction Easement at 0 Meadowood Lane from Providence Place Townhouse Association Inc for \$31,300 for Providence Road Sidewalk Improvement (Greentree Drive - Knob Oak Lane), Parcel #22.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 51, at Page (s) 76.

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**BUSINESS**

**ITEM NO. 8: BUSINESS INVESTMENT GRANT FOR RETIREMENT CLEARINGHOUSE, LLC**

Motion was made by Councilmember Egleston, seconded by Councilmember Driggs, and carried unanimously to approve the City's Business Investment Grant to the Retirement Clearinghouse for a total estimated amount of \$78,000 over seven years.

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**ITEM NO. 9: LEASE OF CITY-OWNED PROPERTY TO HABITAT FOR HUMANITY OF THE CHARLOTTE REGION, INC.**

Motion was made by Councilmember Egleston, seconded by Councilmember Eiselt, to Adopt a resolution approving a five-year lease agreement between the City of Charlotte and Habitat for Humanity of the Charlotte Region, Inc. for the use of property located at 2035 Patton Avenue (tax parcel identification 078-382-01).

**Councilmember Mitchell** said this property, do we have a visual because I know also the Greater Enrichment is over there. So, I want to make sure it's not any of the facilities that they were using on Patton Ave.

**Mayor Lyles** said I think this is the one you drive down in the area.

Mr. Mitchell said if they share it, we have a 99-year lease with Greater Enrichment. I thought it's for all the parcels there so I want to make sure.

Mayor Lyles said I hope not, I mean we have a 99-year lease.

Mr. Mitchell said yes.

Mayor Lyles said we can't double lease. They have put kids and equipment together.

**Councilmember Egleston** said with regard to Mr. Mitchell's question it says Habitat has been using this facility since 2000.

Mayor Lyles said someone needs to come up and tell us exactly where the parcel on Patton Ave is. Is it the equipment storage area or does it infringe at all upon Greater Enrichments space?

**Angela Charles, Assistant City Manager** said it's all the same piece of property, the same parcel.

Mr. Mitchell said so, it is the same so there sharing it?

Ms. Charles said it is. They are sharing it.

Mr. Mitchell said okay.

Mayor Lyles said and they have always done it that way?

Ms. Charles said yes, always done it from the beginning.

Mayor Lyles said I know this is going to be off, but I just want to make sure. What's that little place where I see the trucks driving down in a hill?

Ms. Charles said that is the old pipe yard and that is a rehab contractor who is leasing that space

Mayor Lyles said okay, because I knew there were two parcels with equipment on them.

Ms. Charles said it is.

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

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 51, at Page (s) 64-65.

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#### **ITEM NO. 10: APPROPRIATE PRIVATE DEVELOPER FUNDS**

Motion was made by Councilmember Driggs, seconded by Councilmember Egleston, to and carried unanimously to (A) Approve developer agreements with Arlington Properties; Quality Automotive; Crescent Acquisitions, LLC; Crescent River District, LLC; K Sade Ventures, LLC; TAC Cannon Avenue, LLC; and Lidl US Operations, LLC for traffic signal modifications, and (B) Adopt Budget Ordinance No. 9897-X appropriating \$361,471 in private developer funds for traffic signal installations and improvements.

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 63, at Page(s) 327.

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#### **ITEM NO. 11: OCTOBER 2020 CITY COUNCIL ELECTRONIC REGULAR MEETING SCHEDULE**

Motion was made by Councilmember Egleston, seconded by Councilmember Eiselt, to (A) Approve the October 2020 City Council Electronic Regular Meeting Schedule, and (B) Authorize the City Clerk, or her designee, to adjust the October 2020 City Council Electronic Regular Meeting Schedule in accordance with the North Carolina's statewide emergency declarations, the Governor's executive orders, and phased reopenings.

**Councilmember Johnson** said I have a question. Can you clarify what the meetings will look like?

**Mayor Lyles** said we have some choices about that. These are the meetings that as long as we're under 2.5 and when we go to 3, they will be governed by the Governor's regulations. That's why we have the executive orders and the regulations around the COVID item. So, that's how that will work.

Ms. Johnson said okay so, they will all be virtually then?

Mayor Lyles said well they will always be virtual to the public. We have done a survey of governing bodies inside of the County and the County as well as the majority of other city councils that are already meeting or not, they are meeting in person. So, I think that if that is still a discussion about meeting in person, then we can have that discussion at some point. But right now, under the Governor's orders, we can meet as a group.

**Councilmember Watlington** said the document says virtually. So, just so we're clear.

Mayor Lyles said I'm sorry Ms. Watlington?

Ms. Watlington said this attachment in here, it's got under the proposed, it's got meeting begins at 5:00 PM virtually on the 2nd the 3rd, and the 4th Monday. So, I think it's just a Strategy Session right now that is in person correct?

Mayor Lyles said I'm not where you are on the agenda.

Ms. Watlington said I think Mr. Jones is nodding. So, I'm okay.

Mayor Lyles said the document under the proposed.

**Stephanie Kelly, City Clerk** said it is virtual to the public.

Mayor Lyles said I think it's virtual to the public is so that it's not virtual for the Council Members.

Ms. Watlington said it's got in here meeting can be viewed on the government channel. That's for the public, but then in the last 3 meetings, it says separately meeting begins at 5:00 PM virtually.

Mayor Lyles said I really, I can't find it on that legislative page. Is it the page that says City of Charlotte, City Council electronic regular meeting scheduled for October 2020 that's attached?

Ms. Watlington said yes.

Mayor Lyles said and your question is?

Ms. Johnson said I just want to make sure that I understood what you were saying because I thought you said in person but in the document it says virtual. So, I was just trying to get clarity.

Mayor Lyles said I think right now virtual means for the public.

Ms. Watlington said that's why I'm saying that it doesn't on here. It's separate.

Mayor Lyles said I understand what you're saying.

Councilmember Eiselt said so, what are we voting on?

Mayor Lyles said we're voting on the agenda for virtual meetings for the public as well as any other meeting under the governor's regulations and guidelines for the COVID rules.

**Councilmember Winston** said are we have a group discussion about media's moving forward on the 5th or does this count as our time to have that conversation?

Mayor Lyles said I've had a long discussion with almost every Councilmember about this. If you want to have a discussion about it, it would probably be October the 12<sup>th</sup>.

Ms. Watlington well then, I moved to [inaudible].

Mayor Lyles said did I answer your question, Mr. Winston?

Mr. Winston said what is happening on October 12<sup>th</sup>?

Mayor Lyles said we have a Council Meeting.

Ms. Eiselt said Business Meeting.

Mr. Winston said so I guess this is the discussion so, I'm going to say what I told the Mayor; in order to have in-person meetings, we should have regimented testing. We should have a much more physically distant space than what is happening in Room 267 right now. We need responsible mask-wearing, which has not been the case in any of our group meetings. We should be more physically distant from each other. There should be physical barriers between us.

Those are the things that I want to have to make me feel comfortable with having in-person meetings and so far, we have made no adjustments and just waited for the Governor's order which doesn't stop a virus. and I'm not comfortable with it yet.

Ms. Eiselt said actually the protocol did change tonight we had temperature checks and we had to sign a form that said we acknowledged that we had not been around or infected by COVID. So, that part of it from your recommendations was put in place for those of us here in 267.

Mr. Winston said that is still insufficient.

Mayor Lyles said well I understand. We can talk about it on October the 12th if people feel uncomfortable. That's what I really said. If you feel uncomfortable then I understand that's how you feel and you can make this decision. It's just how do we do this in a way that manages the electronic portion of it and it's pretty right now fluid. So we can talk about it on October the 12<sup>th</sup>.

**Councilmember Egleston** said I think the question, the only question that matters that I think is being asked and I don't necessarily have a strong preference one or the other but I think the question is from now until October 12 can Councilmembers participate and vote in a meeting via WebEx or not? I think that's the only thing that seems to be unclear.

Mayor Lyles said I agree with that. That's why I said if you're uncomfortable you can have this choice. Ms. Ajmera and Mr. Winston both opted for that, but except for the closed sessions which we have to do with everyone here. We will be having a closed session on October 5<sup>th</sup> as well and I think I went through this with everyone on the schedule but yes, you have the option of being on WebEx just as Ms. Ajmera chose and Mr. Winston chose today.

At some point when the regulations, if we ever get to 3, then I think that's another discussion. It's 2.5 now that's one thing we're allowed when we get to 3, I think that's called the reopening and I don't know what the Governor is going to do but I think that looking at the survey of other governing boards in our County, people have begun to meet or start to meet in October in person. But I think the question is also you can meet in person but how? That's why we've got to cover some of the how of it. Temperature checks, we started on the forms today. I understand rapid testing is not something readily available to people that are not or asymptomatic of COVID right now because they are needed in other places.

**Councilmember Newton** said I think we need to figure out what works for us and I still am trying to understand exactly the substance of the motion here. I personally don't know if I feel comfortable adopting the Governor's language so much as what we want as a Council so, as long as it doesn't violate any restrictions you know from the state which, I don't think it would if we were just to say hey if you don't feel comfortable being in person you can continue to do it virtually. I don't feel comfortable myself imposing any sort of in-person mandate on somebody who doesn't want to be here because of the current environment with COVID and I don't blame them.

Mayor Lyles said I agree with you that's why if you're uncomfortable you have a choice of being as Councilmembers made their choice tonight. It is individually.

Mr. Newton said I guess what I'm saying is I don't know what this language from the Governor is going to change or what, I assume it won't, but why not just you know have her own language and just say hey if you don't feel comfortable being here you don't have to and kind of move on from there?

Mayor Lyles said I think that's one of the points that we can make with we discussed this in the future.

Ms. Johnson said can I make a substitute motion.

Mayor Lyles said yes.

Ms. Johnson said I guess the motion would be that the meetings, we still have the option of being virtual.

Mayor Lyles said that's what we have now. You have the option of being virtual except for closed sessions.

Ms. Johnson said okay.

Mr. Newton said but that's not what we're saying if we're saying that we're still being regulated by the Governor's language. I mean we don't know what's going to happen there.

Mayor Lyles the motion I don't think including the Governor's language. I was just reading what's on your agenda item that says (B) you can have a meeting scheduled in accordance with the North Carolina statewide emergency declarations the Governor's executive orders and phase reopenings. It's just an acknowledgment that we're still under those regulations for COVID.

Mr. New said so, we will be moving forward until October 12<sup>th</sup> with the option for a Councilmember if they feel uncomfortable being here because of COVID that they can do a virtuous what you're saying and if that's the case then I'm okay with that.

Mayor Lyles said that's what the motion was to prove this.

Ms. Johnson said the discussion didn't sound like that at first. You said we can discuss on October 12<sup>th</sup>, but if we're keeping things the way that they have been, that we can still meet from home, and when you say if we're not comfortable I was under the impression from myself that the closed meeting was going to be first which we need to be here in person. Then we have the option to go to our office or whatever. So, I agree with Matt mandating people to come to meetings when they are not comfortable when there are over 200,000 people that have died from COVID. I think that the Council should give the option. Again, if someone is asymptomatic or has been exposed to someone who's COVID positive, does that mean we wouldn't have the option to be at the meeting?

Mayor Lyles said I'm smiling because I've never been able to mandate any behavior of any person.

Ms. Johnson said okay.

Mayor Lyles said not even my children when they were below the age of five, so it's interesting that you think about it in that tone in that way because I really do believe; I talked to everyone in the Council this week, Thursday or Friday, and I said if you're not comfortable and we did say that the closed session was going to be early which is why we're trying to get to it so that everybody can get out of here but two people said well I'm not comfortable and we're doing virtually.

Ms. Johnson said okay.

Mayor Lyles said so you have that choice. I thought that we did add some additional protocols as requested but no, there is no way that I can make any public official do anything to attend a meeting. It's just how do we want to represent ourselves as a Council and those that want to be in person are fine with doing it in person.

**Councilmember Driggs** said I just wanted to say I think there's a little bit of confusion here. This language explains to the public while we're not holding open meetings. This explains the environment in which we continue to have electronic meetings as far as the public is concerned it is not dispositive at all as to what we may decide about our in-person attendance of the meeting. So, we could pass this tonight and the issue about our in-person meetings doesn't change and the status of that is that we will talk on October 12<sup>th</sup> and until then at least we will continue to have the option for those who

choose to participate by WebEx as two of our colleagues are tonight. So, I hope we can just pass this thing and move on to the next agenda frankly thank you.

Mayor Lyles said Ms. Johnson do you understand the motion because I think that is what your substitute motion was, it really is the existing motion.

Ms. Johnson said I withdraw the motion.

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

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## **APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

**Mayor Lyles** explained the rules and procedures of the appointment process.

### **ITEM NO. 12: APPOINTMENTS TO THE BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

The following nominee was considered for one appointment for an At-Large three-year term beginning upon appointment and ending April 28, 2023.

- Shenequa Thomas, nominated by Councilmembers Egleston, Eiselt, Graham, and Watlington.

Results of the first ballot were recorded as follows:

- Shenequa Thomas, 9 votes – Councilmembers Ajmera, Driggs, Egleston, Eiselt, Graham, Johnson, Mitchell, Newton, and Watlington.

Motion was made by Councilmember Driggs, seconded by Councilmember Newton, and carried unanimously, to appoint Shenequa Thomas by acclamation.

Shenequa Thomas was appointed.

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### **ITEM NO. 13: APPOINTMENTS TO THE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ADVISORY BOARD**

The following nominee was considered for one appointment for a partial term beginning immediately upon appointment and ending September 21, 2021.

- Tracie Campbell, nominated by Councilmembers Eiselt and Mitchell.

Results of the first ballot were recorded as follows:

- Tracie Campbell, 9 votes – Councilmembers Ajmera, Driggs, Egleston, Eiselt, Graham, Johnson, Mitchell, Newton, and Watlington.

Motion was made by Councilmember Driggs, seconded by Councilmember Newton, and carried unanimously, to appoint Tracie Campbell by acclamation.

Tracie Campbell was appointed.

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### **ITEM NO. 14: APPOINTMENTS TO THE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION**

The following nominee was considered for one appointment for an At-Large representative for a three-year term beginning upon appointment and ending June 30, 2023.

- Philip Goodwin, nominated by Council members Ajmera, Bokhari, Driggs, Egleston, and Eiselt.

Results of the first ballot were recorded as follows:

- Philip Goodwin, 9 votes – Councilmembers Ajmera, Driggs, Egleston, Eiselt, Graham, Johnson, Mitchell, Newton, and Watlington.

Motion was made by Councilmember Driggs, seconded by Councilmember Egleston, and carried unanimously to appoint Mr. Goodwin by acclamation.

Philip Goodwin was appointed.

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#### **ITEM NO. 15: APPOINTMENTS TO KEEP CHARLOTTE BEAUTIFUL**

The following nominee was considered for one appointment for a three-year term beginning July 1, 2020 and ending June 30, 2023.

- Martin Doss, nominated by Council members Ajmera, Bokhari, Egleston, and Watlington.

Results of the first ballot were recorded as follows:

- Martin Doss, 9 votes – Councilmembers Ajmera, Driggs, Egleston, Eiselt, Graham, Johnson, Mitchell, Newton, and Watlington.

Motion was made by Councilmember Driggs, seconded by Councilmember Newton, and carried unanimously, to appoint Martin Doss by acclamation.

Martin Doss was appointed.

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#### **POLICY**

#### **ITEM NO. 7: CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

**Marcus Jones, City Manager** said the last time we were together I talked a bit about an agenda for the Fall Strategy Session, and after that, I went to the Budget Effectiveness Committee to talk about, I believe it's five items and I got feedback from the Budget Effectiveness Committee. So, what we have planned at this point for October 5<sup>th</sup> is an update for you on the year-end for FY2020. If you recall back in April, we said because of what was going on with sales tax, we would come back to you in early October to give you an update of where we think we are in year-end. I want to be clear the books are not closed but we feel that we can give you a range of where we believe we will end. But even more importantly how much of this is carrying through to the current fiscal year? So, while it's super, super early to talk about FY2021, we still want to show you the direction that we believe some of the key revenue sources are coming in.

Also, there was the \$14.5 million that was the contingency related to the CARES (Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic) Funds and we committed to coming back to you in early October with recommendations with that as well as that \$1 million that was left remaining from how we handled FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) funds. Then we want to have a quick discussion about your 2020 goals from the Annual Strategy Meeting to make sure that we're still on track with those as you will recall we talked about housing mobility safety and that really started with the January 6<sup>th</sup> Strategy Session as well as what we would do at the Workforce and Business Development.



So, we wanted to show you some progress that we have there as well as the situations where things may have stalled because of COVID-19 and then after a short break we would spend the balance of the day talking about the Safe Communities and all of the work from the various committees. I appreciate, I believe there are two committees that met today with topics around what would be recommended, provided, or shared at this Fall Strategy Meeting, and then we'll have a closed session. So, it's a full day, but again I was asked to run this bag Budget and Effectiveness and I think I got the thumbs up, but I'll turn it over to the Chair if there is something that's maybe a different take from that.

**Councilmember Driggs** said no, I can just affirm what you said. We had a fairly robust conversation about what the content will be and the segments and what we hope to get out of the meeting and in the end, the committee voted I think unanimously to recommend this agenda to the full council.

Mr. Jones said with that said, that is the end of our report.

**Mayor Lyles** said I think one of the questions that I had was we have a Citizen's Committee on Charlotte Moves and we have one on Governance and the Charlotte Moves is coming in and giving a report. I thought that Councilmember Eiselt would give an update on the Governance Committee's work that they've done this far. If there's time to do that on the agenda. So we would add the Citizen's Governance Committee report.

**Councilmember Mitchell** said the location here room 267. Okay.

Mr. Jones said I think the other thing Mayor and members of council there is a meeting tomorrow morning with Gibby Harris and there are different ways that we can use this room in different formats. So, we have a plan that we're presenting to her that we will get approval for in terms of how we space out the room as well as protocols related to the extended meeting.

**Councilmember Johnson** said as far as the Governance Committee report, are you asking, the survey may give a deadline, but are we telling the public that there's a deadline to submit the survey to be included in the report or will that information be included in the report, Mr. Jones?

Mayor Lyles said I think it's an interim report.

Ms. Johnson said is there a deadline that we want to ask for that survey to be returned so that information can be considered?

Mayor Lyles said Ms. Eiselt do you know the date for that deadline?

**Councilmember Eiselt** said there is a deadline.

**The meeting was recessed at 5:50 p.m. for a break.**

**The meeting reconvened at 6:00 p.m. for the Public Forum.**

\* \* \* \* \*

## **PUBLIC FORUM**

### **ITEM NO. 5: PUBLIC FORUM**

**Mayor Lyles** said we are holding our Public Forum, and during this forum, we hear from citizens the conversation that they want us to have. We listen and then we turn it over to the Manager and the staff if it's a request to get something done or a follow-up will be done. It's on our website as well as I think it comes out in a memo as well from Marie.

### **Financial Relief for Local Business**

**Joe Kuhlmann, 4119 Firethorne Road** said first off, City Councilmembers, Mayor, and City Staff thank you guys for the thankless work that you guys have all been dealing with and you know really kind of creating a new playbook with everything COVID and pandemic related. It's really a special time and I love the fact that you guys are so dedicated to the work that you're doing. I'm coming to speak to you guys this evening for CIVA (Charlotte Independent Venue Alliance) that many of us independent venue owners have gotten together and created this organization to make sure that we can survive and thrive during and after everything that's going on right now. Our industry is very unique in that we've been forced to stay closed and we understand the safety and health measures of all that and could not agree more with them. We want to be able to be there for the recovery though and if we don't receive some help, the financial support we're going to lose many of our independent music venues. It's become very dire. Many of us are still paying our rent and utilities and we've been trying to get PPP ( Payroll Protection Program) money and other loans. Some of us have gotten them and some of us haven't. The access to capital grants and that whole, you know, it's a wonderful project. Many of our venues have not received anything on that. We love the fact that the Beverage and Food version of that has opened up. We're still not hearing and that's going to get a lot of that money is going to get gobbled up.

So, we're very grateful to City Staff members, especially in Economic Development that has heard us, that understand what we are you know, really truly dealing with and they're going to be presenting on October 5<sup>th</sup>, a comprehensive package that's going to have arts and culture and help for music venues and some relief but I'm really hoping that we can count on your support. The thing that a lot of people don't realize is that music venues help drive our community in a variety of ways. One of the biggest impacts is an economic impact. You know, many restaurants, bars, other venues, hotels, babysitters, all kinds of extra expenses that go into a night out when people go and visit live music. Not only to mention the arts and creativity and the places for our creative class and musicians to have a place to hone their skills, hone their comedy, learn production, and get involved at an early stage. So, it's really important that we have these stages surviving and sticking around for the backside and all the healing that's going to be needed once we get past a lot of this. We are going to be hosting a live stream event at 7:30, on Thursday evening.

Mayor Lyles said we look forward to the discussion on October 5<sup>th</sup>, and we have heard your voice along with the members of your organization. It is amazing how people can create something when we have to rally around each other to make sure we are all together.

**Councilmember Egleston** said can we get him to give us just the key information on that live stream he was talking about; when and where we can find it.

Mr. Kuhlmann said we are going to be sending out invitations to all of you directly. It will be Thursday Evening, starting at 7:30. If you are not able to make it then you will be able to watch it for the next 48-hours afterward and we have a petition that has gone out and we are almost at 7,000 signatures within the Charlotte Mecklenburg area.

### **Affordable Housing**

**Anna Fiscus, 5212 Fair Wind Lane** said I'm a person in long-term recovery from substance use and mental health challenges. I'm also a previously incarcerated person, a graduate of Mecklenburg County's recovery port and I work as a peer-support at Promise Resource Network, and I'm a single mother. I spent over 17 years in and out of homelessness and unwellness incarceration, parole probation. In 2015 I found myself pregnant and homeless and went into a long-term treatment program and it was there that I started to pursue obtaining housing. I just hit barrier after barrier. I applied for income-based housing. I was disqualified because of my incarceration. There were a lot of apartment complexes that I could not apply to because of my background and because I didn't have two to three times the rent in my income. I did a coordinated

assessment. That didn't result in anything and I was scared to death that I would not be able to keep my child because I would be homeless at the end of the treatment program. I did manage to get into a place at the last minute and it was my experience that they were slumlords. They had me sign an early lease termination stating that I had to pay two to three times the rent if I terminated the lease. There were termites, they didn't do repairs, and somebody was breaking into apartments, and they knew that. They broke into mine twice. So, again I had to start the process of trying to find alternative housing, paying a bunch of application fees, being denied because of my justice involvement.

Eventually, I started pursuing homeownership so that I did not have to worry about that anymore and I ended up closing on my house in September of 2019. But everybody who comes out of incarceration isn't necessarily ready to do that. So, I came here to share my experiences in the hopes that I could help others in our community who experienced the traumas and barriers around obtaining safe and affordable housing. So, we are advocating for a local fair chance ordinance to be created and implemented here in Charlotte to allow human beings with records to apply and qualify for rental housing on their merits not discriminated against because of their past. Safe affordable and stable housing is a basic human right that many are denied on a regular basis I appreciate your time and consideration thank you.

Mayor Lyles said thank you, Ms. Fiscus. We appreciate you sharing your story. I believe last Thursday, we had a contribution to the Center for Employment Opportunities launch and it deals primarily with people in reentry, working closely with the reentry folks on the County staff and they are truly advocates for this effort and I expect we will hear more about it.

### **Affordable Housing**

**Traletta Banks, 8245 Carter Creek Drive** said thank you City Council. I'm actually coming right behind Anna in support of the Charlotte Fair Chance Housing ordinance and this Fair Chance policy for housing it will prohibit landlords from asking potential renters about their criminal background until it's determined that this candidate is qualified to rent and will assure that more fair equitable processes for all people with barriers to housing. I am an individual with a criminal background who has experienced some of the same things as Anna, but this Fair Chance policy on a local level would create a lot of opportunities, even during this pandemic for individuals who are seeking housing or returning to the community from incarceration and we are asking for the City Council's support on this policy if possible.

Mayor Lyles said thank you very much. We've heard you and we're going to I think have another speaker on the same issue.

### **Affordable Housing**

**Chablis Dandridge, 1012 Allen Street** said thank you City Councilmembers. I wanted to first thank everybody for all of their hard work and effort that they put in for our community. I am also a person with lived experience however, I'm also a person who has the added challenge of a disability. I'm a paraplegic and returning back to the community with a criminal record and a limitation on my mobility and inability made it that much harder for me to reintegrate into the community. What we are asking is that the City Council supports us here on a local level to have a fair chance of getting safe and affordable housing upon our return into the community. I'm a family man, I have two sons who are adults at this point and it really helps them to be encouraged to see that in 3 years after returning from incarceration, that I was able to successfully navigate all of the pitfalls and hurdles in order to, not only become housed but to become a homeowner which was no small feat. So, on behalf of people like myself, we do appreciate that you guys are taking this very seriously. We hope that you continue to remember us or in the community who just want an opportunity to return, to come back and have a chance. So, it is our hope that you will continue to advocate on this level. I'd just like to echo the sentiment of Mr. Braxton when he said we need a local ordinance

that we can pass and push this forward because just waiting for the legislative agenda process is not going to be sufficient. So, it is our hope that that statement is heard, my voice is heard along with individuals like me and I appreciate the time. Thank you.

### Violence

**C. Maria Macon, 1101 Sunset Road** said first of all I want to say Happy Birthday to our Mayor. My birthday was yesterday. So, always keep her mind.

Mayor Lyles said happy birthday to you as well.

Ms. Macon said thank you and I'm actually speaking to Council regarding the Cure Violence 101, of which I've seen both the presentations on September 17<sup>th</sup> and September 24<sup>th</sup>. I had some concerns and my concerns are echoed by many of the organizations in the community that we work with. It appears to all of us and it's about maybe 26, 30 organizations that the City Council nor the persons who brought this idea to City Council considered bringing to the table those organizations that were already doing the work toward helping to address violence in Charlotte. That is before bringing the Cure Violence methodology or assessment tool to Charlotte. So, we wanted to address that, and we want City Council to consider bringing those organizations that are already working in this area such organizations as Mecklenburg Council of Elders and the Peacekeepers over on Beatties Ford Road, as the Males Place, and there are others bringing to your attention. The thing that concerns us pretty much is when you talk about treating violence in Charlotte as a health issue as you would a contagious disease it appears to be labeling certain areas that may identify as being infested and need to be contained. Namely zip codes 28206, 28208, 28212, 28213, and 28216, which is reported to be the test area. If you treat violence as a health issue or disease should we not take into consideration the mental health organizations that are already active in these communities and bring them to the table as well as those organizations that are active. We are saying bring them to the table so that certain ideas can be explored that are already happening or trying to happen but for funding or for the capacity building they would happen.

The safety is one of our other concerns, is the safety of the people being recruited as violence interrupters. While they have the attention of the community, meeting the trust of the community if you will, what when a person finding out they have this trust, would they be considered violating that trust once they have to write up some type of document and report back to someone. Namely City Council, or County commissioner, which means they very well-meaning the violence interrupters very well could be targeted as people that need to be taken out. That's the word on the street issue. I hope you all understand when I say taken out. I'm from Chicago. So, that's a charm.

The other thing we're concerned about is the training. The 40 hours of training, is it enough? Who will be doing the training and can they be trained for it issues that may not have been there issues where they were working but are issued in Charlotte? We want to know what does the interrupting, the contagious transmission of violence look like. What the interrupting prevention of the contagious transmission of violence looks like and what does changing the norm of the contention transmission of violence look like?

So, basically what we're asking City Council to do is bring us, our organization, to the table, who are already working in these areas. We are working with CMPD.

Mayor Lyles said thank you and we heard you. I believe that the Manager will be working on pulling together these community groups and walking through a number of the questions that you've raised and even if they're more to have that opportunity to address these issues and the questions. I have to say this, is going to take everybody in the neighborhood. Some of everybody to get this turned around so we're working as hard as we can to get up way to do that and it includes the groups that you have been talking about. So thank you very much for bringing that up tonight.

## **Violence**

**Blanche Penn, 2207 Century Oaks Lane** said I am also talking about the Cure Violence 101. I got a chance to listen to it in September and have concerns. Maria said it so well in her presentation earlier. I just want to thank the Mayor and the City Councilmembers for having us speak on this issue tonight. As a researcher and as Doctor Blanche Penn now, the methodology, and the data and things of that nature I really do a lot of research now on different things and different areas. So, it concerned me a lot about what I was listening to.

I got a chance to listen to Cure Violence 101 in September and we did have concerns about the methodology because as a researcher myself, it's very important that [inaudible]. I think the problem is kind of a lot of the organizations are having is that we are not at the table and we are doing a lot of the work that they are talking about. [inaudible] and one of their United Counsel for Teens got a chance to work with the Beatties Ford area [inaudible] and a few of the Councilmember came out to see what we were doing in those areas and so it's not that we not going to [inaudible] but I think what is happening after hearing what they were talking about, using the 45-hours [inaudible] what they are trying to do here versus what we are trying to do.

I understand the funding resources and things of that nature as they go through different challenges or whatever. But we have to really look at this presentation a little bit better. Because even when Lacey sent us the information to apply for some of that and all the questions sent to us, and I don't want to be a person, our organization is doing all of this work and getting pennies. You don't want pennies and I'm not looking at money at this time. I'm really looking at the actual work that we're doing now. That has been a problem in terms of a lot of organizations. A lot of the organizations, I'm not feeling it right now. You have some organizations that are and if they're willing to do that so be it but at this particular time, this is really [inaudible].

Mayor Lyles said thank you, Ms. Penn. It was good to see you this weekend. Our public form is completed, and you will get some follow up from the Manager's Office on your request. I think a number of these were talking about as a part of our Safe Communities plan on the 5<sup>th</sup> as well as our CARES Funding that will be a part of our agenda on the 5<sup>th</sup>. That will be live-streamed as well. Alright, thank you all for calling and letting us know what's going on, and I appreciate the support that you give to the efforts as we're trying to make our communities safer and more livable.

**Councilmember Graham** said Mr. Manager based on some of the things we just heard in reference to Cure Violence, am I correct in saying that the assessment is being done now and then once the assessment is made, that the individuals that they'll be hiring will be from the community and all of the community including community groups?

**Marcus Jones, City Manager** said that is correct. So, Councilman Graham, if it's okay with the Mayor and Council I would like to go a step further with that and clearly, we will do a write-up. But I think it's important to look at this for what it is. Cure Violence is such a small piece of our violence prevention strategy and Cure Violence was brought to this community a couple of years ago. I actually think Robert Dawkins, and some of the people around this table I think actually traveled to Chicago with the County to see what this is about. The bottom line is if we start to look at violence prevention as a strategy even have jumpstart grants. When we started this fiscal year half \$1,000,000 in jumpstart grants were dedicated towards things that can help us with violence prevention. This assessment, and I appreciate everything that is being said today, and I've had conversations with many of the Councilmembers over the course of the last few days. It's \$10,000. It's a \$10,000 assessment to see what is the capacity within the community.

My understanding of some of these groups is even as we speak talking with each other seeing if they can come together to provide some level of response to this. As you said Councilmember Graham, while there are many models the model that we're looking to right now is the checks will be written to those individuals who are community builders

here in Charlotte. Other communities have done it in different ways, including a government response. I had a conversation with our group that includes Gibbie Harris and Dena Diorio, I think it was Friday morning, with some of the concerns that have been happening. The county is ready to partner with us on the funding, whatever the funding will be, but ultimately if this body decides to do nothing with Cure Violence after the assessment you can choose to go no further.

Mr. Graham said and then If we were to take a step further, will there be some type of outreach to various community-based organizations? For the lack of a better word, some type of summit where we bring those folks together, and obviously, they'll be based on their capacity to deliver right. So, it's not like we're just going to partner with someone that does not have the capacity to help us solve the problem.

Mr. Jones said I totally agree with you. As a matter of fact, even before the Cure Violence assessment is complete, we have half a million dollars of jumpstart funds that are for this purpose. We can start making those types of arrangements, and what we said from the beginning is evidence-based programs. As we talked this past week, again the County and the City, if there are some organizations that need a little bit more to get to that capacity, we should be supporting those organizations also.

Mr. Graham said and then lastly, and I will give up the mic. We talked in your office about again working with the County to provide wrap-around services. So, many of the organizations may not hypothetically have an opportunity with Cure Violence but they may have an opportunity to working with the City and the County on other initiatives that still trying to address the same problems.

Mr. Jones said yes sir.

Mr. Graham said so mental health, counseling, substance abuse, workforce development. So, I think we just need to kind of somehow be able to better message what we're trying to do. I said it, maybe some type of community summit where we kind of talk about what the opportunities are, and then of course people will be selected based on their ability to deliver.

Mr. Jones said and I will say that one of the things that the County and the City discussed at the end of last week is it this discussion will come up at our October 5<sup>th</sup> Fall Strategy Meeting. I believe the County has a meeting the next day and the Manager is committed to also having this discussion with the County.

Mr. Graham said yes, I just think we just need to kind of roll it out a little bit different so people can know what the opportunities are and that if we are going to make this thing work, we have got to work with people on the ground who knows where Kathryn Simmons is who knows little Johnny and somebody on Baxter Street. I mean people that actually live working and understand the community.

Mr. Jones said yes sir.

Mr. Graham said okay. Thank you.

**Councilmember Johnson** said I understand we're going to talk about it on October 5<sup>th</sup> but, I was also on that training just to get some details and there was negative feedback from the community organizations. We've also received emails. I'm receiving texts right now. So, the next step in this process, and I've spoken to Marcus, the next step is on 10/1. I think there are some workshops for organizations that are interested in proceeding. Is it possible, because that sounds like we're still proceeding and we're still moving forward with the plan regardless of what the community input is? So, I understand that but I want to make sure that we, and I asked these weeks ago that we would consider local organizations. Councilmember Graham just said, do the organizations have an opportunity to be employed or to work with Cure Violence? That's what their concern is. If they want an opportunity if they're capable and that they have to provide the same methodology, the same excellent level, and the same ability to

capture the data. So, I would just ask if we could take a step back before we give the appearance that we're moving forward. This is the way we want to go regardless of all of the negative feedback that we're receiving from the organizations that were asking to do the work. That's the part.

If we were buying a product and didn't need the local organizations or we were working exclusively with an outside organization, that would be one issue. But these are the organizations that we need their relationships, we need their work, we want the grassroots organizations on the frontline to do the work. So, I support those small grassroots organizations. Many of you know I have one. So, I feel them and it's very hard for organizations to get a seat at the table. We say \$10,000 because we're so used to dealing with large numbers. We say that like it's just \$10,000, but that's three or six-months' salary for a person making \$20,000 to \$30,000 a year. So, I just think that we really need to consider that if there's a way to step back and really listen to what they're saying before we proceed with well this is the next step in this process and we're moving forward. I would ask that we hear what the community members are saying. Additionally, if we can get a report, a summary, of the feedback that you received during the training, that would be great too. So, the City Council can hear that.

Mr. Jones said so, thank you, Councilmember Johnson. We did talk. So, the reason that we went with Cure Violence because earlier on we did have a lot of discussions about who is the right entity to do this assessment. That was maybe 18 months ago, and I will be the first until you've pushed back with Cure Violence, and I say why Cure Violence? Why couldn't it be someone else? Then we got to the point that we were this Summer and because there had been such a strong track record with Cure Violence we decided to go, or I recommended to the Council that we go with Cure Violence and I still believe that that's the right thing to do. However, if the will of this Council is to pull the plug and to do something different, we can stop this thing right now.

**Councilmember Driggs** said the only thing I would mention Mr. manager, is that we talked about getting the assessment done and I remember hearing that once we have embarked on the program with them, we wouldn't be able to expect good results and less we were prepared to see it through, and that involved a substantial commitment and investment. So we shouldn't get to the end of the assessment period without that buy-in from the people that we're relying on to make it work and then sign up for the rest of the contract hoping that they will like what it is then proposed.

**Councilmember Eiselt** said just as a refresher we started looking at Cure Violence as you mentioned a couple of years ago and, in that time, we did look at other local organizations who could do the data assessment, not the work. There's a lot of great work going on, and in the meantime, that's when the jump start grant started to acknowledge the groups that are doing the on-the-ground work and it's just important to separate that because, with CMPD, we looked at UNCC, and they weren't able to provide the data. Quite frankly, they don't have that expertise. There was no other educational organization locally that had that expertise.

So, I just think we need to separate data collection and reporting by professionals who know how to do this work from the groups that are on the ground preventing the violence. So, at some point, there's got to be an overall arching umbrella that's going to give us the recommendations as to how to structure a program. I don't see it as anything more than that because then the work has to be done locally. That is the Cure Violence model. Some cities haven't had great luck with Cure Violence because it is expensive and they have stopped funding it. So, I would hope that we would get to a point where we take that information and we say thank you very much if we work with Cure Violence and then we say now we have done this locally-led by local people. Thank you.

Mr. Graham said I think we ought to move forward. It's a nominal investment. It's an assessment. The assessment part will also be the feedback that we've gotten from our community partners locally and saying we can assess all of that together and then we can make an informed decision moving forward based on the assessment from Cure

Violence. The comments from the community members and I'm meeting with a number of them this week, and so I think, and again this precedes me being here. So, that's been talked about for about 18 months and so I think we just kind of finish where we are and then we as a Council kind of take a total assessment based on feedback that we receive from our constituents, those on the ground doing the work, and we can say, as the Manager said yes no are or maybe so.

**Councilmember Egleston** said I just want to make sure from what I'm hearing and if we need to figure out officially, we can, but I want to make sure that the Manager knows what the will of the majority of this Council is and my sense is that it is to continue with Cure Violence as we've stated we're going to do. I don't think in any way it's mutually exclusive from working with the local community groups. So, I just want to make sure that staff isn't leaving here doing something that's not the will of this majority of the majority of this Council.

Mayor Lyles said I think that's a fair question. Ms. Johnson has raised the question of let's stop and I think I understood the Manager and Mr. Graham, and Ms. Eiselt says, let's get the assessment done and then have that plan or that model ready. It has been a very long time. Remember we went to John Hopkins originally and they were just data and I wasn't a big Cure Violence fan either because I thought well, we just really need to connect our data with CMPD. But what Cure Violence brings to the table is that assessment for the community component and when we looked at other areas where we would be dealing with data, they wanted to do data. They didn't want to do the community work. So, that's how the Manager, and I believe, the majority of us said let's go with Cure Violence as our program. But I have gotten those emails and questions but we have to be able to address those questions and emails. Just to make sure that I understand, Mr. Egleston said the majority of the Council what I'm hearing is to proceed through the assessment and then to get a report back that includes the comments from the various community groups as a part of that report.

**Councilmember Mitchell** said very quickly I like how Councilmember Egleston was trying to put a bow on it. So, everyone, we are on the same page. So, let me make sure I understand. So far, our only allocation has been \$10,000 for Cure Violence. Number two, this is just the assessment phase. I do like Councilman Graham's idea. Why not do a summit so we can bring the community together. Those who have the ability and who work in this space. So City Manager when would that contract expire, we currently have would Cure Violence?

Mr. Jones said I don't know as much as it's a contract but the assessment I believe would be done in the October, November timeframe and I will make sure that's correct.

Mr. Mitchell said thank you, sir.

Ms. Johnson said I wanted to clarify what I was saying. I wasn't saying stop the assessment. We talked about that two weeks ago that that was already done. What I was saying is the next step is that they received an email and said if you're interested in proceeding please attend this meeting on 10/1. That's what I'm saying is not part of the assessment. That's moving forward to the next step. So, I was simply saying if we could take a step back in the proceeding or in the process. I know the assessments are done. We need that information but before we go down the road as if we're going to contract with Cure Violence if we could take a step back and assess the information and listen to the community. So, that's what I was saying.

Mayor Lyles said so would you be okay if we had a summit and listen to the community and then continue to have the October meeting? That's what I heard from Mr. Jones.

Ms. Johnson said yes, we could do it and October 1<sup>st</sup> is Thursday. So, if you could postpone that meeting or we can proceed with it because we may use them but I do want to before we move to the next step in contracting with them or actually utilizing their services I'd like to hear from the community. We've heard from a couple of organizations and again if you attended that training, and Mr. Jones and I have spoken



with it. It seems like the overwhelming message out there from the community is that this is not something that they are supporting.

Mr. Jones said so what's important is that maybe it's safe that I'm learning, more words matter. So, the assessment is not necessarily looking at data. The October meeting is a part of the assessment. Part of the assessment is seeing what the capacity is in the community and some of the things that we've heard even tonight, some of the successful implementations of Cure Violence has been those individuals in the community that people really trust. Somebody can come out at three in the morning to assess what's going on. So, a lot of this is I think what everybody is asking is that people are sitting in rooms talking about what do different individuals in different organizations bring to the table to help with this violence interruption. So, a part of the assessment is talking to people.

Mayor Lyles said so with concurrence from the council we will continue towards the October 1st meeting and look for a report from the manager.

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**Denada Jackson** said Cameron Pruette did join in during the Public Forum.

Mayor Lyles said okay, we are going to go back and give Mr. Pruette three minutes.

#### **The outrage of CMPD's Aggression**

**Cameron Pruette, 215 Mossburn Road** said I know that there are technical glitches. I appreciate you working with me on that. I was calling and wanted to speak tonight in response to the declaration of outrage that the LGBTQ Democrats of Mecklenburg County sent out on August 27<sup>th</sup>. It's since been joined by the African American Caucus of Mecklenburg County, the Democratic Women of Mecklenburg County, and The Charlotte Chapter of the National Organization of Women. I emailed it to each of you and also sent a paper copy in the mail to each of you. I appreciate Councilwoman Dimple Ajmera's response to us on a reaching out response to the audit of the CMPD motion. We are paying attention still. I appreciate the efforts of adopting 8 Can't-Wait, but 8 couldn't wait two years ago and we are still at the point of needing dramatic reform in our policing and the way that it interacts with our community and the way that we fund our budget. We are paying attention especially to responsiveness from our City Council ahead of next year's primary elections in our scorecards and we just want to thank those who have reached out and continued to remind you that we do still need more reform desperately and I thank you so much for your time tonight.

Mayor Lyles said thank you very much, Mr. Pruette.

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#### **ITEM NO. 4: CLOSED SESSION**

Motion was mad by Councilmember Driggs seconded by Councilmember Newton and carried unanimously to go into close session pursuant to GS 143-318.11(a)(10) to view a recording released pursuant to G.S. 132-1.4A.
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The Meeting was recessed at 6:50 p.m. for a closed session and reconvened at 9:44 p.m.

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**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

  
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Stephanie C. Kelly, City Clerk, MMC, NCCMC

Length of Meeting: 1 Hour, 39 Minutes  
Minutes Completed: October 14, 2020