

The City Council of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina convened for a Dinner Briefing on Monday, May 2, 2016 at 5:21 p.m. in Room 267 of the Charlotte Mecklenburg Government Center with Mayor Jennifer Roberts presiding. Councilmembers present were Al Austin, John Autry, Edmund Driggs, Julie Eiselt, Claire Fallon, Patsy Kinsey, Vi Lyles, LaWana Mayfield, Greg Phipps and Kenny Smith.

**ABSENT UNTIL NOTED:** Councilmember James Mitchell

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#### **UPDATE FROM CITY MANAGER'S SEARCH PROCESS COMMITTEE'S MEETING ON APRIL 25, 2016**

**Councilmember Driggs** said you will recall from our prior reports that an RFI was sent out to perspective search firms and the deadline for reply was April 21<sup>st</sup> so we did in fact receive replies and those were reviewed by staff and then by the Council Search Committee on April 25<sup>th</sup>. Following that discussion staff went back over things and came back with a recommendation with which the Committee concurs so I would ask Chery Brown to talk us about what she saw. You should all have this sheet of paper that has the names of the responses we received.

**Human Resources Director Cheryl Brown** said I'm going to reiterate some of the points that were shared with you by our Committee Chair, Councilmember Driggs and as you know the Committee consists of Councilmembers Driggs, Austin, Kinsey, Smith and Mitchell. At your places you do have a spread sheet that we prepared; Stephanie Whitesides of Human Resources staff has been working with me on this project and she prepared the spread sheet for you. As you were informed we did release a Request for Information (RFI) on April 5<sup>th</sup> and we asked responses to come into our Procurement Division on April 21<sup>st</sup> and again we have worked very closely with our Procurement Staff on this process. Just to give you a little bit of background, Procurement posted the RFI on the North Carolina Interactive Purchasing Site (NCIPS) which is maintained by the State of North Carolina Purchasing and Contracts Division. Vendors can register with the State to receive automatic notification of any new bidding opportunity posted on the NCIPS or they can choose to monitor that site for bids at their discretion. We did upload the RFI to the State site. Procurement also developed a list of vendors in conjunction with Human Resources and some general input from the City Manager's Office and further generated a bidder's list through the City's Prism Vendor Management System. Procurement sent a mass e-mail to all City registered vendors to notify them of this new solicitation. In addition Procurement researched phone numbers and called a list of vendors provided by Human Resource that are not registered with the City to obtain valid e-mail addresses. In several instances a message was left that notified them of the RFI opportunity and pointed them to the NCIPS site along with the request for them to contact Procurement with any interest or particular need regarding the RFI.

A total of 105 vendors were provided a courtesy e-mail or phone call and of those 105 32 of those were Charlotte companies; four of these 32 were also MWSBE's and altogether there were 25 MWSBE solicitations that were forwarded. Procurement received 10 responses to the RFI and of these ten four really rose to the level of further consideration. These four listed on the spread sheet you have in front of you; they are all on the first page and that includes GovHR, Ralph Anderson and Associates, S. Renee Narlock and Slave and Management. The four firms were chosen because of their experience in public sector city manager recruitment across the country and also as the person that the firm had assigned to be the lead consultant on the project. I can say from past experience that you can get a good firm and then sometimes you get a consultant that works well with your board and sometimes you don't so that is a big consideration when we are review these firms.

The Council Committee responsible for leading the search had expressed an interest, and I believe you all concurred, that a nationwide search be conducted utilizing a firm that had experience and success in placing city managers in larger cities across the country. Of these four firms Human Resources conducted initial reference checks with several prior clients of the firms and the work of the consultants that had been assigned to those projects. For the most part we received positive feedback about all of the firms that we spoke to previous customers, however

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based on their many years of past experience and recruiting city managers for larger jurisdictions around the country the level of service provided is described by the references. The extremely positive and relative feedback provided about the lead consultant to be assigned to our project and the familiarity with this region, Human Resources recommends to you that Ralph Anderson and Associates be awarded the work. Council Committee Members were polled and I believe based on their feedback the Committee concurs with this recommendation.

Mr. Driggs said from my personal reading of this; and by the way the Committee got a book with the full responses from all the respondents and the key thing was who had a track record in this particular type of search and if you look at the Anderson response there is a page and a-half of searches they have done like this. The Manager also confirmed to me that they have an excellent reputation, that they are regarded as a leader here. The consultant who would lead the search is Bob Burg who is individually recognized as an authority in this field. Certainly I have reached the conclusion that I concurred with the staff and the Committee also recommends to full Council that selection. I would say that what we would like to do is get the Committee to authorize us to move ahead but subject to a personal interview with Mr. Burg to satisfy ourselves about his individual involvement and maybe dig a little more into the kind of contacts he has, etc., but if possible we would like to agree tonight that this is the firm we will work with unless that interview would cause the Committee to come back to you and make another suggestion, so that is the proposal.

**Councilmember Austin** said I just want to piggyback on Mr. Driggs said. The cost did cause me some initial trepidation but the Committee itself had great dialogue about making an investment, also looking at the number of years this particular firm has been in business was a considerable factor plus the page and a-half of type of city managers in cities they have secured. Cost was a factor initially, some trepidation but I think we decided that we would move forward with that one as our recommendation.

Mr. Driggs said if I might add also; in terms of how the people that were excluded that were pretty readily taken off the list, there were one or two instances where the fees they were proposing to charge were way out of proportion to what we saw from other firms and there was no indication that they had any better credentials. They tended to be the larger firms so we just thought there was no point in digging too deep and make that work and Anderson actually came in a bit higher than a couple of our front runners, but when we went back to them and said we were looking closely at their proposal they cut the fee from \$48,000 to \$38,000. That compares with numbers kind of in the mid-20s' for a couple of the other leading contenders. My own view is for process as important as this and given the clear superiority of Anderson that is an investment we should be prepared to make.

**Councilmember Mayfield** said I'm trying to get an understanding of out of these top four we got from two years to seven years to 44 years in business. That is a wide range as far as their experience in doing this work. I'm a little concerned with how you all identified this top four and how someone with two years of experience, and if you read the customer comments, how they even made it in the top four to be in comparison with 44 years.

**Councilmember Smith** said that is not two years of experience; for example Renee Narloch has 22-years of experience in recruiting, she has had her own business for two-years. Her years in business is the term that her firm has been in business, not how long she has been in the business.

Ms. Mayfield said still the number of years in business there is a wide range from having this particular business where you are either the lead or you are in this role from two years to seven years to 44 years. Even with looking at someone with the comments, since you are only providing us with what you consider your top four there is no information on the back as far as number of years in the business or any customer comments. To bring it to us tonight to say well we are saying that this group that has been in business for 44-years and is looking at charging \$44,000 which is a considerable amount I'm just trying to get more clarification on how you narrowed it down with such a wide range. There was no-one with 20-years' experience or 12 or 15 to jump from years in business; I'm not talking about experience, but years in business.

Mr. Smith said nobody else jumped out with the breadth of a search it left out so when you looked at some of these other firms and some of the searches they had focused on we didn't feel

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they had the depth of capacity that the firms that we listed in our top five had. They may have had some municipal work but it might have been limited to Police Chiefs but regarding city manager searches we took the top five that we collectively felt like their experience level in participating in searches matched up in municipality size and scope of work. We had some folks that submitted that had done some work in very small, more rural communities that we didn't feel matched up to what the Charlotte search would entail.

Mr. Driggs said if I could just add to that; the fact is we are recommending the firm that has 44-years in business but we did want to study the individual background of the consultants that would be on this assignment and their resumes indicate that the four that we chose each had consultants who had a lot of individual experience in the field. One of the things I liked about Anderson was that Burg would be heading a team where in fact there are seven other consultants named who will participate in the search and that was the precisely the reason that we liked them. The eliminations were not done based on that criterion; the eliminations were done based on looking at the searches they had performed of the personal histories of the consultants and then what they were proposing to charge and there was a pretty stark delineation.

Mr. Austin said we also looked at the customer feedback as well so a lot of those individuals got knocked out as well.

**Councilmember Eiselt** said I have a question about the process and this is for the Committee as well. As part of that process can you ever go out and say here are the cities that we really are looking at for some of the things that they've done that we would like to achieve or we'd like to accomplish and then reach out to those cities to see if they used a search process, who they used and then solicit an invitation from a search firm, or does that never happen that way? In other words if we have cities like Denver or Louisville.

Mr. Austin said that we compare ourselves with?

Ms. Eiselt said yeah.

Mr. Austin said in the process I think we sent out to 100 or so different types of organizations and so the people that came back to us, the 10 or so that we got, we were only able to look through that 10 or so to determine whether they were going to be viable or not. Of that 10 or so staff did quite a bit of vetting of comments from those individuals, those HR people that they worked with in those cities to see what kind of positive or negative they had with working with that particular search firm. I think we looked through several variables as Mr. Driggs said, we looked at number of years in business, what type of cities, what types of hires they were doing and the customer feedback as well.

Ms. Eiselt said I understand that; I'm just saying –

Mr. Austin said you meaning calling the City of Austin and say who did you look for X Y Z.

Mr. Eiselt said sure; how long has your city manager been there and did you use a search firm.

Mr. Driggs said the input we got from staff was that there were conversations like that. It is really hard given how few firms have really strong resumes in a search of this kind, to fine tune it to the point where you go whoa we've got four wonderful firms here, let's find the one that will locate the person that meets – we think these guys have the best overview of the community of candidates and the greatest likelihood of then in the subsequent process helping us to choose among those. I don't know whether we could have tailored our search firm search to that degree.

Ms. Eiselt said I think to Ms. Mayfield's point that it isn't often the firm it is the individuals and they have their stable of expertise; they've got their client base and their retain search and so it is the question of how long the firm has been in business isn't as relevant to the actual consultant and what searches they have done. That is why I ask that.

**Councilmember Kinsey** said this is my second or third search, I can't remember, but I've also been on search committees of all things Conductor of the Charlotte Symphony, but I think it is standard procedure is what we followed. I think staff has done a really good job; some of us had

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other people we talked to and the person I talked to was Jim Prosser who is Executive Director of Centralina of Council of Governments; he is a former manager and the COG does this kind of search for smaller municipalities in the region and he highly recommended Anderson and felt that any of these four were okay. There was one he wasn't too familiar with, but he highly recommended Anderson so that sort made me feel better.

Mr. Smith said Union County was highly recommending of him.

**Mayor Roberts** said that is good to know.

**Councilmember Phipps** said do we know if the firm will be conducting its search as a part of its scope of work exclusively or would they have other concurrent projects that they would be working on in addition to this one for Charlotte?

Mr. Driggs said I don't think there is any undertaking on their part that they aren't serving other clients.

Ms. Brown said I would agree.

Mr. Phipps said so we are comfortable that they will have the capacity to be able to run concurrent searches and we are not –

Mr. Driggs said they have 725 clients and that is one of the advantages of this firm; they are very deep compared to a couple of the others we looked at which tended to be focused on the one consultant who had moved from somewhere else and had been in business alone for a couple of years. This has more institutional substance that we can draw.

Mr. Smith said it was a unanimous conclusion that Anderson was who we wanted to go with.

Mr. Driggs said yes, on the Committee. For what it is worth to Council and describing our process and we want to be sure that all input has been considered.

Ms. Mayfield said to my colleague's comments as far as other cities; with the size of the firm if you go to their website there are four other cities right now that they are hiring for, not to mention numerous other positions throughout government. You can go to their website and see all the positions they have out there so there are multiple positions and I think it is surprising that you would consider spending \$40,000 on a search.

Mr. Austin said I said the same thing, however we felt it was a good investment and we need to make sure we do this and do it well.

Mayor Roberts said the question about the contract; is that negotiable or is that pretty much what they want?

Mr. Driggs said again we got their original quote; we went back and told them we thought it was high, they came back to us with an adjustment so whether or not we can fine tune that I don't know but we had a basic negotiation with them already.

Ms. Mayfield said now much did we pay a few years ago for a search firm?

Ms. Brown said in the most recent city manager hire? I think it was around \$26,000 to \$28,000.

Mayor Roberts said it is my understanding that you would like a motion to approve Ralph Anderson as the consulting firm and the city manager search subject to one personal interview with Robert Burg.

**Councilmember Lyles** said I am really fine with the recommendation but what I found is the most important is to lock down the team and penalties if they are reassigned or consequences if they are reassigned.

Mr. Driggs said that would be the point of the last conversation to tell them okay, you are looking good but we need to lock this down so here are the questions we have to get answers to before we move forward.

Ms. Lyles said when you hire them we need to make sure those are the folks that are going to be there; if that wasn't mentioned already.

Motion was made by Councilmember Driggs and seconded by Councilmember Smith to approve Ralph Anderson and Associates as the consultant for the City Manager search subject to one personal interview with Robert Burg.

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

YEAS: Councilmembers Austin, Autry, Driggs, Eiselt, Fallon, Kinsey, Lyles, Phipps and Smith.

NAYS: Councilmember Mayfield.

Mayor Roberts said Mr. Driggs do you have an update on the timing; what is the next step?

Mr. Driggs said we do have some dates; maybe Ms. Brown knows.

Mr. Brown said looking at the calendar we will move to go ahead and hold an interview with Mr. Burg who is the lead consultant from Ralph Anderson and we want to do that of course sooner than later; we don't want that to slow down the process. The Council Committee, with your input, has already narrowed the list of participants for the community input process so we have that step that has been completed. That will be one of the first task the search firm undertakes, to come into Charlotte and facilitate those group meetings to get the input from citizens, business leaders to each of you, City staff, department directors and gather the input to go into the candidate profile which will then be used to advertise for the position and for you all to use to narrow your list of candidates. The search firm will also begin passively recruiting I guess is how I put that; they do have a large data base of current managers that they can access as well as second chairs and other people with the type of experience that you are seeking so they will begin that contact process. We have scheduled for the first of June, if we can get everything together and in order and get our meetings with our stakeholders completed, we would look to be concluding the search probably between the first or second week of June. We want to allow for a good month so from that starting point a good month to complete the search and then present to you all a set of finalists for review toward the end of June or early July. We are doing our best to work with the summer schedule and your calendars to get these subsequent meetings on your calendar. From there hopefully around mid to late July we would begin to schedule the in person interviews with the candidates.

Mr. Driggs said we did circulate to Council kind of a spread sheet that showed all the events staggered etc. so we are still working from that schedule and we will come back to Council if it looks like that timetable isn't current and if anybody needs that again we will be happy to get it to them.

Mr. Phipps said you made mention that the list of stakeholder engagement; do you have that list paired down to a reasonable number. Have the nominees been notified whether or not they have been selected?

Ms. Brown said no sir they have not been notified and as far as pairing down the list you all provided some additional names to the names that were already listed and we were able to incorporate all of those names. We have one of the groups; it was the community group or the business group that was a bit large. One of the groups was a little bit larger than say a max of 25 because we want to keep the size of the group to a reasonable level, but also we know that not everyone will be able to attend so we are comfortable that we are not too heavy with participants and once we get the search firm in and get plugged into their schedule and they get plugged into our needs, which they already have a good ideal of those needs because of the scope of work that was provided to them in the RFI, then we will be able to nail that down.

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Mr. Driggs said no names have been taken off the list so the idea is that we will extend the invitations; we will see what responses we get and at that time we will decide and we know what recommendations were made by members of Council so nobody will find that somebody they recommended got taken off and they didn't know about it. My colleague just reminded me what we did discuss in committee was that we would not have other government people included in these groups. There was a suggestion if somebody from Mecklenburg County I think, we decided not to include government people.

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## **COUNCIL GUIDANCE ON INTERIM ZONING POLICIES**

**Assistant City Manager Debra Campbell** said while they are trying to get the presentation pulled up I'm going to make some preliminary opening comments; I know that we have a hard stop because we've got to get down to the Citizens' Forum.

Thank you for allowing staff to bring this important issue to you to continue our conversation around the rezoning process. Ed McKinney with Planning Staff as well as Mike Davis with Department of Transportation are going to be giving the majority of this presentation, but I wanted to kind of set up what the expectations are for this presentation and this series of conversations that we are having with you all. You all identified a number of concerns and issues at the Workshop that we had in April. What staff has done is kind of categorize those issues in a way and we will be presenting that information back to you and hoping that you can confirm that those were indeed some of your major issues. We are going to provide you with some information about what the Zoning Ordinance says or things that should be considered as you make rezoning decisions and we are going to highlight because you all talked about this issue in particular related to the rezoning process; some concerns about transportation issues. We are doing all of this to hopefully set up a more detailed conversation in June to talk about are there some changes that we could make through the rezoning process that will affect some short-term policy things and what issues or concerns may need to have a much deeper dive and should be included in some of the more longer-term initiatives that we have underway like the Transportation Action Plan, the Bike Plan, the Charlotte Walks Plan and the update of the development ordinance. The only thing I would ask is we do have places where there are breaks so if you could let us get through that and staff will go as quickly as possible through the presentation.

**Mayor Roberts** said so we will wait until you tell us; are there any question.

Ms. Campbell said we will have a slide that says Questions and Discussion.

**Interim Planning Director Ed McKinney** said Mike Davis and I will walk you through what Debra just described. Let me just talk a little bit about the topics; as Debra described what we are going to do is frame a few issues; we will stop at key points so we can have a conversation but we wanted to highlight a couple of things and walk you through some details that hopefully will inform the discussion tonight. I will walk through a reminder for all of us about what the foundation in our ordinance is for how you make decisions on zoning cases month by month. I will take the discussion we had with you in April and put it back into that foundation so you can compare the discussion we had in April to the decisions, structure and the framework of the foundation to our zoning decisions. I will then hand it to Mike who will walk you through and give you a kind of under the hood look at how C-DOT staff particular view with all the things that were just described from a specific transportation standpoint, so we will do a deeper dive on just that topic. We will come back and talk a little bit about next steps and how we might structure our next conversation with you in June.

The foundation for how we make zoning decisions; these five things you see here, a lot of which should look familiar. They are really taken directly from our Zoning Ordinance and our Zoning Ordinance kind of clarifies exactly what is the foundation and consideration that we should be using as we make decisions for zoning cases.

Plan Consistency – I'm going to walk through these one by one; Plan Consistency, again you are familiar with that Character & context which is a component of that Plan Consistency. Community infrastructure – all of the things that deal with capacity, a lot of the issues we talked

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about last time – transportation is an example, schools are an example. Community resources or things like historic resources, culture resources and again there are some provisions in our Zoning Ordinance specifically on how we should deal with affordable housing. What you are going to see when I walk this is kind of the foundation that also helps us identify where we think there are some gaps because clearly from the discussion from the kind of things we are facing month by month, there are some potential questions and gaps as we try to make decisions on zoning cases.

**Councilmember Autry** said for purposes of this discussion how are we defining affordable housing?

Mr. McKinney said I will get there; I'll walk you through that in just a moment. What I will do is specifically how it is described in our Zoning Ordinance today and then the question is really what is the gap for us.

Again the first one, Plan consistency; you are familiar with this obviously all the decisions you make on a zoning case conclude with the Statement of Consistency that you make to kind of confirm and validate decision. I won't belabor this; it is based on our adopted plans. We have a whole scale of plans that go from General Development Policies down to geographic specific area plans so that decision we make and a lot of the analysis we do as staff is to determine what this petition is and how it relates to the policies and plans in place. Another one and again this is pulled directly from our Zoning Ordinance and guidance for how we make decisions is what we would term Character and Context. It is saying you may consider the character or the context of the project and its immediate surroundings. Again there is some question about how we make that determination; certainly our Area Plans in many cases are very specific about the character that we are trying to insure, the character we are trying to create in future developments so a lot of times as staff we are using the language and the policies that are in our Area Plans to inform this notion and again it is an opportunity for you to use that as a way to inform your decision, again with some gaps that we need to decide as we go forward.

Community Infrastructure is probably one of the biggest ones and a lot of the conversation we had with you back in April was around capacity, are we keeping up with the pace of development. We describe here some specific things but also we are not limited to those but the obvious ones are roads; we talk a lot about Parks and Recreational facilities, schools, Police and Fire, it gets into stormwater drainage, water supply, garbage, all of the kinds of services we provide as a City. As you know probably the top one for you monthly are transportation, schools, in some cases Parks and Rec, kind of our basic facilities, fire and police.

The next one is Community Resources and again it is a category that is designed to say will this petition adversely affect some key resources that we are trying to protect as a community. Kind of loosely defined, archeological, environmental, historical and cultural so we have some guidance in those areas in our General Development Policies, but again there is some room for some interpretation and in some cases our Area Plans will identify some specific resources but there is always room for interpretation for how we should address that petition by petition.

The last one gets to the question about Affordable Housing so again this is specific defined and literally the words that you see on your screen and you handout are exactly how it is defined in our ordinance and it really says two things. Again what is interesting here is to notice what it says and what it doesn't say which is it really provides some basic lanes for us. One is we can't discriminate and it defines exactly in this case the definition for affordable housing, but it also says that we are able to consider the ramifications and concentrations for affordable housing. Those are sort of two book-ends that we can talk more tonight about the fact that probably isn't the kind of aspirational discussions that we are having as a community; it provides some basic legal foundation for the things that we can or cannot do. Lots of room for interpretation sort of as a community what the Council's ultimate goals are for really insuring, protecting and enhancing affordable housing in our community in the long-terms. I lay all of that out as just the facts so the black and white of what is in the Zoning Ordinance is that you can see and I think the questions that are coming up from us with you monthly are around is this enough guidance or do we need to go a little bit deeper on some of these issues that you all have better guidance in the decisions you make on a zoning case.

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This is taking the same categories and what we've done is list out all the things you told us in April and what we tried to do is put them where we thought they fit within these categories. We can debate whether they are in the right spot but we wanted to just reflect back to you the kind of things we felt we were hearing and where they landed. So Plan Consistency; a lot of discussion last time about where is our vision and sort of the incremental nature of the decisions we are making, are we focusing development intensity where we want. Some broader economic questions about jobs and really getting investment in all the places and neighborhoods we want to see. Are we really implementing the plans and a lot discussion about are our plans up to speed with the nature of development that is happening now and what can you do as a Council to help us prioritize thinking about some of those issues.

Character and context; again a little bit of interpretation of where some of your thoughts would land but the notion of what is the big picture, are we making sure that we are creating places that we are proud of or are we creating the kind of walkable places that we intended to create and do they fit into that larger context. It is a notion of kind of incremental decisions, too many variances, are we kind of whittling away piece by piece the character in places through the decisions we are making.

Community infrastructure – again lots here where the discussion was around broad capacity of things and the costs of development. Are we sharing that costs, how we are accounting for that, are we planning for and do we have the infrastructure necessary to deal with development and transportation is probably just one example. Schools is another and thinking about open space; the range and are we providing the right kind of community infrastructure around the pace of development that we are seeing.

Community resources – the question about are we doing the things from a historic preservation standpoint and environmental stormwater; are we really insuring and protecting and doing no harm in the development that we are creating. Finally Affordable Housing – this is pretty ... version and as you know there has been lots of discussion pretty recently on a number of cases about how are we doing with affordable housing and the question is, is this kind of incremental negotiation project by project the right approach and how do we define it. Again, just a quick reflection of the things that you and the discussion we had with you back in April. Maybe the question is does that structure make sense; are there things and issues we didn't touch upon, maybe some further reflections and ideas that came from April that you want to expand upon.

Mr. Autry said back on slide #6 – Community Infrastructure, Parks and Recreational facilities, are we talking about facilities owned, built and operated by the County's Department Parks and Recreation?

Mr. McKinney said it is an open question; that is literally all it says in our Zoning Ordinance that you as the City Council have the ability to consider that among other facilities in your decision. Obviously parks is just an example; schools is another one where the issue is what is the right way in which we are coordinating amongst agencies on growth issues, it is a big issue for us.

Mr. Autry said so if we have a zoning decision and we are going to consider proximity to a park or recreational area is that a decision that we want to be a part of our ... in making land use decisions? I'm just confused about that especially seeing as we have no purview of where, how and when those get built. In Minneapolis we learned that nobody in Minneapolis lives more than four blocks from a park. Is that the kind of criteria we want to have for the citizens of Charlotte for their quality of life?

**Mayor Roberts** said I can tell you that one of the goals of the County is to have everyone within a half mile of the greenway or park and they have that in their vision.

Mr. Autry said my question is how do we use Parks and Rec's facilities in making land use decisions? How should that be a consideration of what we do?

**Councilmember Lyles** said I agree with you; we can say you are going to be within a half mile, but we have no ability influence to make that happen and what we say to one you get a demerit or you don't get to check that box and we can encourage or figure it out. I wonder if the context is really around what we heard in the SouthPark study a little bit more about public space, not

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open but public and I may not know if there is a difference between those two things. I guess what I heard at SouthPark is that you can create ways to walk and bike and move around without a car but if it is not accessible to the public it really doesn't work for it being created. I don't know whether the ordinance was adopted when we had Park and Rec as a City function and I don't know the answer to that, but I would say for me going forward I would be looking how to create public spaces in our community infrastructure or how do we assess that there are places for people to gather and sit and be a part of the community more than recreational facilities in and of themselves. Were you going to answer my question about when did we put this in or do you know?

Mr. McKinney said one comment and I don't want to stop your discussion, but two quick things to remember. You are getting a little nuisance of the words here – the may is really an important part so all of the things beyond the plan consistency topic are all the things; essentially the door is open, you may consider, but it is not a requirement. Two other things so you will get a little bit of sense of what we do now is certainly on every case we are coordinated with Parks and Rec so if there is a planned greenway or some other planned project we are making sure that we are connecting those dots. Then we do in some cases in some of our zoning categories, TOD being an example, we do have specific requirements for more urban type open spaces so we have over time embedded in our ordinance with the kind of open spaces that are a part of urban places while still coordinating with Parks and Rec at a county level to make sure that we are protecting the bigger investments we are making as a community.

Mr. Autry said I've just got to come to on slide #9 are we getting investments in all of Charlotte and I don't think we are. Specifically every month as we look at the zoning agenda and the lack of activity in District 5 for instance is still putting extra burden on the southern wedge and its revenue. How do we correct that; should we correct that? Councilmember Smith, you put it very succinctly last week with we couldn't give Eastland away to developers because of the potential for their investment paying off and the tax burden that they would have to assume. So how do we create a mechanism to help change that dynamic? It is just been a frustration since 2011 for me.

**Councilmember Mitchell arrived at 6:06 p.m.**

Ms. Lyles said I understand that frustration and I think we all hear it; you express it every opportunity that is available and we hear from your district residents and we see it when we drive through. I think the impact of investment on the east side has been disrupted by a number of major public projects; Independence Boulevard being one that has really caused some issues there. I do see, maybe not in the time that we can do this, but the study of the Silver Line and the focus on trying to give us the opportunity to build out our 2030 Transit Plan and to move forward with that as well as the Gold Line and that is the problem. We really don't have the opportunity to create some of those opportunities. The capital budget which was done in 2011 or 2012 that talked about some of the investments we need to do haven't occurred because of the disruption of the transportation system I think with Independence Boulevard and we need to resolve that. I think there are plans but you are right it is not a sense of urgency and that was my comment to you. I also have one other comment about public spaces.

Mr. Autry said I think the City made a conscious effort a couple decades ago about they wanted to see development and make sure that University City got built out and so the focus was shifted. I think they got the development they were hoping for there and now with the Blue Line Extension being placed in there it is on steroids, but yet in east Charlotte it is re-languishing and I spoke about it last week about how it is not from lack of attention or neglect or dumping on it from the City, it is just a dynamic that is a conundrum. I've been searching for it now for going five years as to what might be the key to unlocking that potential that is just sitting there.

Ms. Lyles said I just wanted to say going back to the public spaces; Mr. McKinney actually was on the trip to Denver but we've seen this in other cities where play is now being integrated into urban design and how do that creatively. We have some ideas of other places doing that very successfully and I actually wonder when we bring the rezonings in, for example around a planned development, how do we talk about the concept of public space and play and making it something that is accessible and desirable that way. I don't know if this is where we can go in the future but I would like to see some consideration of it in the new rezoning ordinance.

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**Councilmember Driggs** said I have a couple points if I may; first I appreciate your concern for the taxpayers in my district. I would remind you that the CIP was originally kind of put forward precisely as a mechanism that was supposed to put \$816 million mainly along the east/west, actually nothing in our area on the basis that would help to kind of promote the distribution of value around the City. That was the whole story then.

Mr. Austry said the CIP that we approved did not include the Gold Line as it did in 2012 when it was not approved and I believe that rail transit could have really been a game changer and I think it was the center piece of that whole effort in 2012.

Mr. Driggs said right and I don't want to debate the issue; I'm just point out that was a concern that was acknowledged and was advanced as part of the rationale for the CIP. I mention on slide #6; we've talked about Parks and Rec, the other thing over which City Council doesn't have much control is schools and I would really like to see us establish more of a working relationship with CMS because it feels to me like we get some information that is not always reliable about the impact on the schools, but I don't feel that we are kind of incorporating the schools into our thought process. I get asked by members of the public; how could you approve that or whatever and I try to say we tell the schools what we are doing and they look at it and they say that 16 students. I've gone to principals and talked to them and said is this a problem for you and they say no, no bring it on, bring it on because you know our funding will kind of step up as our enrollment increases, but somehow between the City and CMS we are not responsive to the public on the question of schools, just an observation. Point two, on slide #8, the affordable housing piece, I think this relates to a question that was asked before; are we making a clear distinction between subsidized housing and housing that is simply within the reach of people in those categories when we talk about affordable housing?

Mr. McKinney said in the ordinance it is literally the way it is written there so I don't think it touches the issue of subsidized necessarily except how it is defined here.

Mr. Driggs said okay I think that is something we need to look at at much greater length. My last comment was some of the aspirational things we want to do along the lines of ULI involve either what I would consider to be a kind of coercive intervention on the part of the City to kind of force things to happen in ways other than the way they would or ideally they involve getting various people, as we saw in Denver actually, to buy into a concept so that private sector people are participating in an attempt to realize the sort of thing that was proposed for SouthPark. The question I guess to my colleagues as well, how do we not write an ordinance that has tons of requirements in there and socially engineers everything, but instead create a more cooperative environment with developers who see the benefits of themselves to participate in a scheme that centers around parks or has the walkability and the bike ability etc. I'm a little nervous about the prospect of just trying to push that through in government.

Ms. Lyles said I just wanted to say the definition of subsidizing housing is a federal definition that we have here in Charlotte and it would fall underneath the 80%, but obviously I wasn't really sure whether you were saying what is subsidized housing or I'm concerned about subsidized housing being separate from below 80% so I was just going to follow-up on that.

Mr. Driggs said all I was intending was to say we use this term affordable housing and to me there is often ambiguity about whether we mean housing where the affordability is the result of a subsidy or whether we are talking about market rate affordable housing and to me there is a difference.

Ms. Lyles said I understand what you are saying the difference but if you go the laws that are required for CDBG for our Housing Authority funding they define it not market affordable housing for subsidized housing but market housing is at a point of whatever the market bears and the percent type income. It may be a difference I'm not quite sure but for our rules and purposes it is under the 80%.

Mayor Roberts said we do have about 20 more slides and 15 minutes but these are good questions and some of these are going to be questions that can't be answered right away.

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Mr. McKinney said with that let me do one quick thing and then I'm going to hand it to Mike to talk in more detail about transportation and we try to get into more details of how we are dealing with specific transportation issues. This diagram is hopefully trying to be a quick transition to I think connecting the dots and a couple of comments you all have about the vision and the plan and how do we not engineer but provide a framework for what we want to see happen. This tried to be a simplified version of what the context is today so as we think about a complicated rezoning case on a Monday night these are the categories that we are dealing with. We are thinking about plan consistency; we are trying to tie it to the Area Plans and our policies. We are thinking about these other considerations that I just outlined, capacity, community character. Ultimately we are here in this case because it is a rezoning and there is this issue of plan consistency so we are debating whether this is the right thing to do and the vehicle for that which we use primarily is the conditional rezoning process.

That last column is sort of all the things we are negotiating, some by staff and some by individual Councilmembers, lots by neighborhoods to try to see if we can't achieve some of the goals that we have in the Area Plans or these other considerations and get to a vision. What this conversation is all about is there are some gaps so we are struggling with are we making the right decision. I want to make a plug to a bigger kind of opportunity and have you think about a not too distant future where we have a different development ordinance. I'm going to do a quick plug to the long-term but again not too far off which is a new development ordinance that begins to deal with these issues. All these issues in these gaps we are talking about tonight are not new to us, certainly they are not new to you and they are actually a part of how we've designed the process and the reasons and the rationales as to why we are thinking about this development ordinance. Two things I want to highlight there is using the ordinance and the process to clarify and provide some clear vision for the place we are trying to create and then use that as a foundation for insuring that we've got the tools, the zoning districts themselves to be ways to translate and implement that vision; ultimately and potentially providing less reliance on the kind of conditional negotiated process that I just described. How are we going to do that and this will be the last part of my plug and I'm going to hand it over to Mike, which is place based so this notion that we get a better vocabulary for the kinds of places that we are trying to create so in a place like SouthPark, if urban open spaces and those relationships are important let's make sure we define those terms and then make sure we have zoning districts to implement them. That is a broad brush; I wanted to give you a sense while we are talking about specifics of cases tonight and the need to have some better direction on cases month by month. I did want to give you a preview of how these issues would be dealt with ultimately in our development ordinance. With that I will hand it to Mike to talk about the transportation of this and walk through in a little bit more detail what we do from a staff perspective.

**Mike Davis, Transportation** said this is my outline for tonight and in the interest of time I'm going to suggest that what this is really meant to do is to distill down some things that go on in considering growth and development and boil them down to those things towards the end of this presentation that really are what I think are sort of a tricky policy based issues. To do that I'm going to try to create two distinctions; one is sort of those things that go on by right through development versus that which is rezoned and then the other part is within rezoning that which is fairly straight forward and technical versus those things that are tough policy based trade-off types of decisions and talk about the Transportation Action Plan along the way.

Just in terms of Council's feedback and we've gotten this both at the policy level but also certainly on any given rezoning meeting, but we've talked about the need for transportation options and diversity of choices. Are we really creating walkable places as we go or are we just increasing traffic; focused where we want more intense development to go, more transportation options in low income areas, considerations wound congestion and impacts on neighborhoods, safety and incomplete sidewalks and pedestrian crossings and the fact that we have sort of a disconnected bicycle network. Part of telling this story is to point out that again a lot of things happen with or without rezoning so one way to talk about that is this is our standing as a City. By population we rank 17<sup>th</sup> and we've talked about this in other venues but adding new 44 new residents per day on average or 400,000 over the next 25-years is going to move us up. These other cities on the right are growing as well so it is not about our ranking, the point here is we have to begin to think of ourselves as a place that is in the top ten cities today is a way to think about that. If we want to look at the Metro region what I would point out is that we rank 23<sup>rd</sup> as a Metro region and one thing that is useful to sort of look at this scale is it gives us the ability to

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compare ourselves against those same peer Metro environments and how we rank in congestion so whereas we are 23<sup>rd</sup> in population, we are 25<sup>th</sup> in congestion the point here is that there is a pretty tight correlation between big places and congested places and you would expect that we would be roughly in line from one to another. Part of the idea here is as we have more people we are going to have more development; most of that will happen without rezoning and with that development there will be increased amount of traffic which brings us to the Transportation Action Plan (TAP).

The TAP is the City's comprehensive plan for transportation and it was adopted ten-years ago so we are in our second five-year update but one of the key parts of the TAP is that includes our long-term strategy, or at least our 25-year strategy, on how we want to make public investments to create the big types of investments on the transportation system and it also acknowledges that we have to do that through partnerships. All of that is what is happening in the background. If we now move into what is happening in terms of just specific development this is the part that is not rezoning; these are just where development ordinances sort of takeover to cause certain things to happen. These that are listed here are just some of the myriad ordinances that impact how the City takes shape from a transportation perspective, but a key part of this is there is no City Council involvement in these activities other than to set the ordinances themselves. The transportation improvements that come out of the application of these ordinances are typically localized, but it is how we get safety and some incremental improvements along the way so here is sort of a quick visual example. This is a single family type story line that you could tell a similar story for commercial or mixed use development, but part of what we are going to concern ourselves with in transportation is that streets line up and vehicles approaching the street can see to make their turns; we're going to create turn lanes, we're going to put in sidewalks and all those things happens literally because we have ordinances to force those things to happen and they are positive.

Now if we talk about what happens when someone rezones; these are the straight forward, in other words not the tough sort of policy issues, but it is pretty straight forward for us to do some determination on well how much more traffic might there be or less in some cases with a given rezoning to determine whether or not we ought to study that to better understand certain specific impacts of that. From that we might determine well what mitigations do we need in order to address those that are particularly large impact for developments? We are also going to make sure that nothing is being proposed that is actually inconsistent with those ordinances I just described and we are going to identify safest more efficient locations for access. This last one is a long one and I will just say where we don't have specific ordinances that require certain types of improvement but we still think they are good things to do; dedicate rights-of-way for future widening, improve pedestrian crossings, things of that nature. We are going to try to secure those though negotiated commitments in a conditional zoning process. That was the easy stuff.

These are what I think are the four policy questions that I believe are the ones that are recurring in one way or another so the first one is one we talked about a lot; why do we support intensification in transportation corridors and activity centers? Here is my perspective on that and it again goes back to where I started a few slides ago. The growth to some degree is inevitable and so the whole theory about putting that growth into activity centers and in corridors is based on the idea that we think that is where we have the most transportation capacity both today, but more importantly where we think we can continue to make investments and more capacity in the future so along transportation corridors that is maybe a little bit more obvious but in activity centers as we've talked about a lot is it about creating more street network and redefining the character of those environments as we go. We are not totally making this up as we go; we have adopted policy guidance that is captured in the Centers, Corridors and Wedges Growth Framework and establishes that sort of key principle.

The second one; why aren't we fully mitigating the impacts of traffic? Part of that is that sometimes we do and in fact in Charlotte's history we've been able to do that in a lot of cases as we have concentrically grown outward and we take little roads and make them into bigger streets and intersections. We typically do that by requiring developers to mitigate where those impacts are created, but we know eventually we will create environments where we are going to run into conflicts with other policy goals that we have. If we keep widening we are going to impact neighborhoods; we are going to make it harder to walk around or make it harder to access transit so we now are in a trade-off environment and we have to ask ourselves how far do we go. The

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policy guidance that we use was created through the Urban Street Design Guidelines and it creates that sort of policy trade-offs.

Number three – why do we try to connect streets together even if we know that can create impacts on neighborhoods in terms of cut-through traffic? The best way I can answer that is just to acknowledge we've got a significant portion of our development history that was built on a philosophy of having everything disconnected and oriented out to arterial streets and what I can tell you is that the most difficult problems we face in transportation sort of stem from that kind of a land use pattern or transportation pattern. We understand that those impacts exist and so we try to do a couple of things; create enough of a network that there is no one street that is overloaded, but we also have mitigation tools in terms of traffic calming and other things that are meant to try to ameliorate some of those types of issues. Our adopted policy guidance on this is captured in the Transportation Action Plan directly and prior to that there were just formal adopted policy statements adopted by City Council.

The last of the four questions and one that comes up a lot; what are we doing about the accumulative impact of each development and when do we say there is too much congestion? The answer is Charlotte does not have a policy that governs when there is too much congestion so our history has been that we have focused on form and scale as being appropriate or not and where some of this comes from, and I will explain the idea a little bit. The idea is that when we do Area Plans there is some vision that is done around what is the proper intensity and mixture of uses in order to preserve places and intensify others and of course that is going to take advantage of Centers, Corridors and Wedges as well. We also have information about the large scale investments and the transit system and what we think will be the long-term big picture thoroughfare network for the CRPTO's Thoroughfare Plan. All of those things sort of act on an Area Plan that is meant to sort of give us guidance on what should the use be, how intense should it be and part of what goes on in the background is the regional modeling, the planning of new major transportation investments that are meant to sort of accompany that growth based on that plan and vision.

The last thing to sort of tie it altogether is all those policies I just described, all those public sector investments that will need to be made; they are all tied together in that Transportation Action Plan document and it is currently underway through the Transportation/Planning Committee as part of its tenth year in existence as a five-year update.

Mr. McKinney said in the interest of time I will jump ahead to the discussion with you at your June Workshop. In April we heard a lot from you and tonight I think you've heard a lot from us to kind of a little bit of reaction and maybe what we want to think about in June is how we begin to have a conversation to hear from you to prioritize where are the most important issues and give us some direction as to how we might find some short-term and long-term policy options.

Mayor Roberts said I think that is a really good point. If Council does have more issues and questions they didn't see in this presentation about what is found in zoning and planning to ask the question and then suggest if there is some fix that you think might work or some way it takes into consideration and give some ideas because that is always helpful.

Mr. Smith said this could be a follow-up question; I was at a luncheon about two months ago and they were talking about the Santa Fe code which is a couple pages, 22 guiding principles and government by in large stays out of it. How comprehensive is our code compared with other peer cities; Nashville, Indianapolis, Louisville and some of those towns and again I don't expect you to have an answer off the top of your head, but I would be curious as we take a deeper dive into rewriting the ordinance are we ballpark with other municipalities or are we a little more onerous or are we less onerous? I thought it was interesting on the Santa Fe model that they lob out 23 principles and then tell everybody else to sort of have at it versus ours looks pretty complicated.

Mr. McKinney said that is a great question and certainly requires a lot more discussion so we will do some follow-up on that.

Ms. Mayfield said I had a conversation earlier today regarding potential development and we were talking about that live, work, play tying in with what we are doing. When we are working

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to expand sidewalks and/or replace older sidewalks since we know now we want the planting strip setback. The maintaining of a sidewalk because in driving through a number of neighborhoods where the grass is overgrown, the trees are overgrown, the sidewalks are still not accessible to citizens because they are still having to go into the street because of the overgrowth. Are we also having discussions as far as what that maintenance looks like as we are trying to have this more walkable community? If we are creating those bike lanes, but you are walking in the bike lane because you can't walk on the sidewalk because of obstruction, are we having those conversations as far as the expectation of who is supposed to maintain that?

Mr. Davis said part of the policy work that is supposed to be done this year and it sort folds up into the Transportation Action Plan, is an update to Charlotte's Pedestrian Plan which is called Charlotte Walks so under that umbrella it deals with not only with what do we want to build but what are the strategies for how we will build new and how we will maintain.

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## CITIZENS' FORUM

### Charlotte Greenway System

**Lloyd Scher, 9815 Meringue Place** said they always say start out with a joke and I just found out last week that when you did in North Carolina you go to the Ways and Means Committee in the Senate so you don't go to Heaven. The Charlotte Observer has been running a series of articles about the growth of Charlotte and the development. I want to talk to you about two people that really had insight. One of them was a Democrat who a former Mayor which I won't mention anymore made a promise to his wife and the family right after he died that the City would name something appropriate after Al Rousso. Al was my mentor; he was like a father to me, but the promise was made and Doris is now ill and the kids have wondered why didn't anything get done. I'm going to suggest that we name the park at the square after Al Rousso.

The second person is a Republican; this man was a far way thinker. Councilmember Jerry Tuttle came up with an idea to make a walkway from Freedom Park to downtown Charlotte along Sugar Creek so that the employees and people could walk that during lunch. Now he envisioned something more like San Antonio, but that didn't happen. The media killed them; they called it Tuttle's Puddle, they attacked him constantly. This was a great idea and it has become one of the crown jewels of the City. When we get done building and I'm on the commission, we finally authorized 188 miles around Charlotte of this area. We don't even have a plaque; we don't even have a section named after him and I would like to ask the Council and the Mayor to look into these ideas, to recognize these people, especially Jerry. Jerry; what they did to him, he lost the next election because of it, but he was right and when someone is right you've got to really think hard. It is like the light rail; oh we don't need it well in 150 years from now when we are all dead and buried they are going to be saying thank you for building the light rail. I ask in the future if you all would consider following up on what the former Mayor did and made a promise to a family that something nice would be done. Al Rousso was the first person that ever gave credit to African Americans in Charlotte. I had one lady tell me she wanted a watch for her husband and Al said pay me a dollar a week whenever you can; never wrote it down and every week she came in and paid a dollar. The last week she came in he gave her back the money and said take your husband out to dinner. Please consider both Jerry Tuttle and Al Rousso as you look at naming things in the future.

**Mayor Roberts** said thank you; we appreciate the history.

### Community Relations

**Willie Bee Simpson, P., O. Box 16537** said I stand before you on behalf of a message that has been given to me many years back and it made me so afraid that God was going to remove even me from this earth and I pleaded with God about sparing the City of Charlotte and those of you who may be looking and thinking that they are just mere words, whether you believe it or not there was a dark cloud hovering over Charlotte, the whole City, and I saw that with my own eyes and I pleaded with God that he spare this City, move the cloud and it did happen. The floods, the storms, the wars, the twin towers; I was in New York and I saw an airplane flying close to the towers before they came down and I said what does this mean, is somebody practicing. I said I

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hope nobody ever hits those buildings, but I say that when I was there I was filming it also and I have it on tape. Later on they did come down by terrorist and I would hate for something like that to happen here in Charlotte. I've been troubled in sleep and in my mind about this HB2 Bill and the passing of some Bill that you Councilmembers had passed and some voted against it. I state to you and I stand before you now to say that God was not pleased with the passing of that and I thank God for the Governor coming against it. It goes deeper than that, the same floods you see in Texas and other place; earthquakes, I've written about it on my post, Willie Bee Simpson, on YouTube, Google and Facebook; I've written about this before it even happened. So the floods are everywhere; they are talking about war and fighting and we've been in wars for so many years. I just wanted to let you know; Romans 1 tells you about the abomination and Sodom and Gomorra; you don't want Charlotte to be a Sodom and Gomorra.

### **City of Charlotte Employee Wages**

**Ashley Hawkins, 5527 Larchmont Avenue** said it is my pleasure to appear before you this evening to speak again on behalf of the employees. Your employees in Sanitation, Utility and Special Transportation Services Departments; there are individuals in these Departments who spend their days doing some of the most unpleasant and thankless jobs you will find in the City and they keep our City safe and make it a sanitary place to live. They are our van drivers, our laborers and our garbage men, although they prefer the term Sanitation Technician. They are vital members of our City's infrastructure and its communities and yet among them there are over 200 who currently make just over \$11 an hour. Many have done so for years and with the lack of structure to fairly dictate raises and merit increases and for a family of four this wage is well below the federal poverty line. When the budget for 2017 takes effect these employees will move into the proposed non-exempt hourly pay plan and they can expect a future of more regulated and transparent pay increases. This proposal will move the wedge forward to \$13.58 per hour and this is great news and it is a great first step in the right direction, but it is not enough. Action NC Raise Up for 15, the Fast Food Workers Movement and UE 150, the union that represents City workers, are advocating on behalf of these workers that the minimum wage for City employees should reach \$15 per hour. There are those that might think this request is selfish in the face of balancing a budget where our Fire and Police Departments have asked for personnel and those needs have not been met, but this does not change the fact that these workers deserve the thanks and respect of a living wage. No one working for our government should qualify for housing or food assistance and I believe that goes for City Council as well; so when you all want to have a living wage campaign, we will be there for you also.

The road to a world class city is paved with good jobs and stable communities and how can we purport to be a leader of any kind if we are taking advantage of people who cannot advocate for themselves. As public sector workers lacking the right to collective bargaining these workers are essentially at the mercy of the City Council. The North Carolina Justice Center estimates that a livable wage is \$17 per hour for a two-person household to comfortably afford the rising cost of housing in Charlotte. I'm a proud citizen of a wonderful City that is historically progressive and defiant and while there are those in our State's Capital that have seen fit to see that this City and no city in North Carolina can pass a living wage ordinance, Raleigh cannot dictate how you treat your own employees. To that end I would like to present to you with this petition which bears over 200 signatures of people in support of raising the wages of City workers to at least \$15 per hour and allowing them a voice in the work place by recognizing the UE 150 Bill of Rights. We are not asking for the moon or the repeal of Taft Hartley and we would like to thank the Mayor, the City Council and the City staff for the steps you have taken so far and we have great faith in your work on this issue in the future.

The meeting was recessed at 6:44 p.m. to move to the Council Chambers for the Manager's Recommended Budget Presentation.

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### **MANAGER'S BUDGET RECOMMENDED PRESENTATION**

The City Council of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina reconvened in the Meeting Chamber of the Charlotte Mecklenburg Government Center at 6:48 p.m. for the Presentation of the Manager's Recommended Budget with Mayor Jennifer Roberts presiding. Councilmembers

present were Al Austin, John Autry, Ed Driggs, Julie Eiselt, Claire Fallon, Patsy Kinsey, Vi Lyles, LaWana Mayfield, James Mitchell, Greg Phipps and Kenny Smith.

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### INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

**Councilmember Eiselt** said on behalf of the City of Charlotte we want to take a moment to acknowledge a tragedy that struck our Charlotte community and our neighbors in Pineville this weekend. Pineville Firefighter Richard Sheltra lost his life Saturday night while fighting a fire in a store on Pineville-Matthews Road. Richard was just 20-years old and graduated from South Mecklenburg High. We remember his family tonight; his mother, his father and his sister as well as his extended family, his friends and co-workers. They tell us that Richard always wanted to be a Charlotte Firefighter and today we learned that he was moving through this hiring process. In fact he was scheduled to interview with our Deputy Chief next week; that is the last step in the process which means he was just weeks away from achieving that goal. Tonight we want to hold all of the Pineville Firefighters in our thoughts and prayers as well as the members of the Charlotte Fire Department, Richard's friends and family, our hearts are with you.

Ms. Eiselt gave the Invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

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### OTHER BUSINESS

**Mayor Roberts** said I have two brief announcements before we turn it over to our City Manager; the first is a reminder that the Monday, May 9<sup>th</sup> Dinner Briefing is abbreviated due to the fact that is the night of our Budget Public Hearing. Our Dinner Briefing will be from 5:00 to 5:30 p.m.; we will have a brief Closed Session and Council is encouraged to arrive early so we can begin right at 5:00. The business portion of the meeting, including the Public Hearing has been advertised to begin at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chamber and that is next Monday, May 9<sup>th</sup>. This is in response to Council feedback to begin the Public Hearing on the Budget earlier as a convenience to our community and to community members who wish to speak about our Budget.

The second thing I want to bring to the Council is a recognition of Stephanie Kelly, the City Clerk. I am delighted to announce that our own City Clerk, Stephanie Kelly, has just been announced as the new Vice President of the International Institute of Municipal Clerks. This means that she enters the line of succession to become President of the Organization in 2018; she will be sworn as VP of the 10,000 member organization on May 25<sup>th</sup> in Omaha. This is an impressive and worthy recognition and Ms. Kelly, we all congratulate you; you do our City proud and we appreciate your service so much. What a great thing for Charlotte and our City Clerk.

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### MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED FY2017 BUDGET PRESENTATION

**City Manager, Ron Carlee** said it is my pleasure to present to you staff's recommendations, the Manager's recommendations for our 2017 Strategic Operating Plan and Budget as well as our Community Investment Plan. These presentations of the budget are typically accompanied by a very long and complicated PowerPoint. We decided to do something different tonight and give you an opportunity to see the budget perhaps in a little different way and hear from many other different voices that are a part of putting the budget together and providing services in the City of /Charlotte. We have provided for you this video which we will roll momentarily and after that our Budget Strategy Director Kim Eagle will come forward and she will walk you through the package of materials that are in front of you to prepare you for your Workshops coming up; we have several Workshops in the month of May and after her presentation Councilmember Phipps, Chair of the Budget Committee will outline what the next steps are in the budget deliberation.

The Manager's Recommended Budget Presentation video was played.

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Mr. Carlee said I have the Budget staff with me and I would ask the Budget Strategy staff if they would stand and be recognized. I will now turn to Kim Eagle to provide you orientation to your budget materials.

**Strategy and Budget Director Kim Eagle** said you have several pieces of information in front of you and I would like to take a few minutes to do some orientation to the materials. You have the notebook which is the Manager's recommended budget that provides summary and detail information for all funds, general fund and the four enterprise funds. That comprises the \$2.45 billion budget that was referenced in the video. We have provided tabs in this notebook because there is a tremendous amount of information, for ease of use. Very quickly I will run through some of the contents; the Executive Summary is the first 25-pages of the book and to highlight a new section this year we have included for you on Page 16 a section titled Council Alternatives for General Fund Adjustments. This is intended to assist you as we begin to move into your process. We have budget adjustments scheduled for May 11<sup>th</sup> and this will be a tool that you will have at your disposal for that. Following the Executive Summary you will see your strategic priorities; we started talking about those in earnest in January at your Retreat, we have cross walked those with your Focus Area Plans and it is those strategic priorities upon which the recommendation is built. Then you have very detailed pages on every Department in the City, about three to four pages per Department and then following the departmental information you have a section on the Community Investment Plan and a section on User Fees. In the front inside cover there is also some material that is very important; we have consolidated even further the Executive Summary into a two-page overview of what is in the recommendation and then you have also the questions and answers from your April 20<sup>th</sup> Workshop. You also have a summary in the back cover of Charlotte Water's recommendation; it is information on their budget and what comprises the rate recommendation for Water and Sewer so that is a color, four-page brochure that you have in the back section. Finally, in the back of the book following Page 210 you have the pay and benefits recommendation; that is devoted solely to the compensation budget, so lots of detail there around pay and benefits recommendation which includes information on the Public Safety Pay Plan, the Broadbanding Pay Plan and the recommended hourly pay plan for our non-exempt employees.

The next step in the budget process is your Public Hearing which is one week from tonight and then two days later you will have your first work session which is the budget adjustments conversation on May 11<sup>th</sup>. In addition the video that was presented tonight and all of these materials are on our website so you can go to [charlottenc.gov/fy17budget](http://charlottenc.gov/fy17budget) to find all of those materials electronically as well.

Mr. Carlee said that concludes the official presentation and I believe the Chairman of the Budget Committee has some comments he would like to make.

**Councilmember Phipps** said on behalf of the Budget Committee I would like to thank the Strategy and Budget Team for bringing us to this point tonight with the Manager's Recommended Budget. Also I would like to acknowledge our Budget Committee; Vice Chair Mr. Driggs, Mayor Pro Tem Lyles, Councilmember Patsy Kinsey and Councilmember LaWana Mayfield. This is the nucleus of the group that has been working closely with the Strategy and Budget Team and the City Manager to bring us to this point.

Since January of this year, the Mayor and City Council held four Budget Workshops to discuss our priorities and help shape development of this budget. This recommendation from the City Manager and his staff is the culmination of all those efforts and discussions and its best professional recommendation for our City, but the operative word is recommendation and we received the recommendation from the Manager, but it is up to us to use the input from the Public Hearing that we are going to have a week from today as well as all the other interactions we've been having in the neighborhoods that we've already been having outreaches and we are going to continue to have outreaches during this process. Matter of fact we are having one in the morning as we talk about this budget presentation at the Tuesday Morning Breakfast Club. Over the next two Budget Workshops we will make adjustments I'm sure to the Manager's recommendation and as you have heard from Ms. Eagle we have this big binder here that has a host of information in it and I'm sure it has different other alternatives that we could seek to explore to make those adjustments. We are looking forward to that and I realize that given the personalities around this dais that there will be some discussion of some adjustments I'm sure.

I'm looking forward to this process; it is still a very fluid process and we are going to solicit as much input as we can from the public and we look forward to their comments next week so the work now begins in earnest as put our stamp on this budget and I look forward to the dialogue and discussion.

Mayor Roberts said since we all are just getting this book tonight I'm sure we will enjoy going through it and we will have questions at the next several meetings and I understand that is the agenda for this evening.

Mr. Carlee said yes ma'am it is; everyone can go home and read the budget.

Ms. Eagle said the Public Hearing is May 9<sup>th</sup> and budget adjustments May 11<sup>th</sup>.

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**ADJOURN**

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.



Emily A. Kunze, Deputy City Clerk

Length of Meeting: 2 Hours, 1 Minute  
Minutes Completed: May 23, 2016