

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBER**

Regular Meeting
February 28, 2023

The one hundred thirty-ninth meeting of the City Council of Charleston was held this date convening at 5:13 p.m. at City Hall and over video conference call (Zoom).

A notice of this meeting and an agenda were made available on the City's website February 23, 2023 and appeared in the Post and Courier on February 27, 2023.

PRESENT (12)

The Honorable John J. Tecklenburg, Mayor

Councilmember Gregg	District 1	Councilmember Waring	District 7
Councilmember Shealy	District 2	Councilmember Seekings	District 8
Councilmember Sakran	District 3	Councilmember Shahid	District 9
Councilmember Mitchell	District 4	Councilmember Bowden	District 10
Councilmember Brady	District 5	Councilmember Appel	District 11
Councilmember Gregorie	District 6	Councilmember Parker (<i>absent</i>)	District 12

Mayor Tecklenburg called the meeting to order at 5:13 p.m.

The Clerk called the roll.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Please note that Councilmember Shealy came back in the room and Councilmember Mitchell. Thank you, all, for being with us this evening. If you would like to join us, Councilmember Brady will lead us in an [invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.](#)"

Councilmember Brady opened the meeting with an invocation.

Councilmember Brady then led City Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you very much. Next, I'm very proud to have a [proclamation this evening recognizing Grammy Award Winners Ranky Tanky.](#)"

There was applause in the Chamber.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "I'm going to ask the members of Ranky Tanky to please come forward. Charlton Singleton, Quiana Parler, Kevin Hamilton, and Quentin Baxter please join me on the podium. Clay Ross is the other bandmate. He lives in New York City and is not able to attend this in person. Hopefully, maybe he's here virtually. Is that right?"

Charlton Singleton said, "Yes, he is."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "So, let me just shout out this here. I'm going to proclaim this proclamation."

Mayor Tecklenburg read the proclamation.

There was a standing ovation in the Chamber.

Quentin Baxter said, "Thank you, Mayor Tecklenburg, and to everyone in the room. It's just a huge honor once again as always to represent the culture and spread the spirituality of this culture around. We talk about it a lot. It's not a gospel band. It's not a church band because this is an honest effort to celebrate this music in a secular way, but not forgetting or forsaking its spiritual content. So, we appreciate all of you for being here, and we appreciate Charleston for really accepting the band and holding the band up. And I have to say thank you to all of my brothers and my sister for not embarrassing the culture while we're on the road."

There was laughter in the Chamber.

Mr. Baxter continued, "But we sincerely thank you for your thoughts and prayers. Our travels have been wonderful, with no dangers, and it's because of the prayers of people, and it's because of the prayers of the people at home, so we appreciate it. Thank you."

There was applause in the Chamber.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Anyone else? You're good. Well, thank you, again. I must, on a personal note, say that even though I've never played with them as Ranky Tanky, I've had the honor of sitting in from time to time with everyone behind me, and it's just a personal honor that you all have been so successful, and Quentin is right, it's a spiritual experience to listen to Ranky Tanky. It's truly a spiritual experience. You all have captured something really unique and special about the Lowcountry and the City, and beyond all of that, how about that sweetgrass hat he's got?"

There was applause in the Chamber.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "So, next, I'd like to recognize the [City of Charleston 2022 Employees of the Year Shameka Hicks and Troy Williams](#). Will you all please come forward and join me at the podium? This is taken, you all, from the nomination letter that they had for our Customer Service Initiative. For those of you that don't know, and maybe you will think about this in the future, when you encounter a City employee who is doing a remarkable job, we accept applications for Customer Service Initiatives by our employees. Those nominations are made by fellow employees who feel like their fellow employee really did a good job and helped something along and also by citizens, as well. Every quarter we recognize outstanding initiatives by our employees to give good customer service, but at the end of the year, we pick out a very special employee, in this case, two, who did just a remarkable job in some aspect of customer service. From their nomination letter submitted by Sarah Stern: 'In August, during a week of incessant rain, Shameka Hicks and Troy Williams were driving to one of the Recreation Department playground locations. While driving, they passed a man standing on the sidewalk. A little while later on the way back, they saw the man lying on the ground partially in the street with his face in a puddle of water. They immediately stopped and ran to help him. They were able to move him out of the street, his face out of the puddle of water, and he was somewhat conscious. It was clear that the man was experiencing a medical emergency. They called for EMS and were able to flag down a passing police officer. They stayed with him until EMS arrived. Thankfully, Shameka and Troy were aware of their surroundings and spared no time whatsoever in jumping into action to help a fellow citizen.' They did not share their story when they got back to the office. They simply felt they were doing the right thing. Their supervisor was

made aware of these actions a few days later and submitted the nomination as she felt they should be commended for saving a citizen in need and representing the City of Charleston so well. So, if I may ask you to just join me in giving a rousing applause for Shameka and Troy.”

There was a standing ovation in the Chamber.

Troy Williams said, “Well, thank you, everybody. To my friend, Councilmember Shahid, whom I’ve known personally for a while, to my boss, Laurie, thank you, to Mayor Tecklenburg, to Council, we thank you for allowing us in being able to do what we do. We enjoy it. We have a lot of good times, and we have hard times, but I thank God for everything that goes on. To my friend Edward Jones, that has taught us a whole lot in Recreation, too, I can’t say enough about him. This is overwhelming. I thank you.”

There was applause in the Chamber.

Shameka Hicks said, “I don’t know why they put me in front of the mic.”

Mayor Tecklenburg said, “We might be here the rest of the night.”

Ms. Hicks said, “I do like to talk now, but like Mr. Williams said, I would like to say thank you for this honor. I don’t think I’m a pillar in my job, but you all make me think otherwise with this honor. I’ve been working with the City for 19 years. I didn’t intend to do this, but I love my job, and I love my kids. With our kids in this community, if they don’t have anybody strong that is willing to look out for them, then they aren’t going anywhere. So, thank you, Laurie, for hiring me 19 years ago. I appreciate it. Edward Jones, is also my cousin, he has helped me a lot in my years working with the City. He has helped me adjust to the different communities because I have worked every last single park that is in the Recreation Department. I am familiar with all of the faces within the City of Charleston, Daniel Island, West Ashley, and James Island. So, thank you for this opportunity, I appreciate it, and I look forward to maybe about 20 more years. Maybe.”

Mayor Tecklenburg said, “At least.”

There was laughter and applause in the Chamber.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, “Good stuff.”

Councilmember Waring said, “Mr. Mayor.”

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Waring.

Councilmember Waring said, “I want to take a personal privilege. I just want you to know that St. Patrick’s Catholic Church is in the house. Charlton, would you stand up? The bass player grew up in St. Patrick’s, and the Employee of the Year has attended St. Patrick’s, so St. Patrick’s Catholic Church is a talented church.”

There was laughter and applause in the Chamber.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, “Wow. Okay. So, next up, maybe not as exciting as what we’ve just had, is our [public hearings](#). We’ll ask Mr. Morgan, I think, to come forward and make some presentations to us.”

Councilmember Brady said, "Mr. Mayor. Since these all deal with rezonings, can we take one through seven together?"

Councilmember Mitchell said, "Second."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Let's see. Are they all the same kind of thing there?"

Councilmember Mitchell said, "Yes, they are."

Councilmember Seekings said, "Except for one."

Councilmember Brady said, "But it's still zoning to a different Height District. They're all rezonings."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Can we take number one separately?"

Councilmember Brady said, "Yes. I can amend it. We'll take one separately, but two through seven together."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "And then we can put two to seven together. Alright."

Councilmember Shealy said, "Mr. Mayor."

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Shealy.

Councilmember Shealy said, "I'd like to just, I know I'm going to have questions on number six, so I don't know if we can take it separately or not."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Okay. We can take number six separately, as well. No problem."

Councilmember Brady said, "So amended."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Alright. I guess we have a motion on the floor that we take number one, numbers two through five and seven together, and number six separately."

Councilmember Mitchell said, "Second."

On a motion of Councilmember Brady, seconded by Councilmember Mitchell, City Council voted unanimously to take Item #1, Items #2 through #7, and Item #6 separately.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, [Item #1.](#)

Christopher Morgan said, "Alright. Thank you, Mr. Mayor and members of Council. We've got the slides here, and you all should have had access to the slides on your own in your packages, but we have a request here at 657, 661, and 663 King Street to change an area that is a 6 Story Height District and also a 4 Story Height District to a 5 Story Height District, so it's taking some down a little bit lower and taking some areas a little bit higher. I'll show you that through these maps here. Also, there is a slight difference in what the Planning Commission recommended which is a 25 ft. setback for the start of the 5 Story District from King Street

versus the applicant's request of a 20 ft. setback. Fairly minor, but I'll explain more about that in a minute. That's what that little note is about.

So, you all are familiar with the property, I think. It's at the corner of the overpasses for I-26 that connect I-26 to the Septima Clark Parkway, and the overpasses are over King Street. It's just north of Line Street. It's in the Cannonborough-Elliottborough neighborhood. Here we see the area in green that is proposed to go from the 4 to 5 Story District, and then the area in blue and this dotted area would go up from 4 stories to 5 stories. This area which is currently 6 stories would go from 6 to 5, so that's a pretty substantial reduction and more of a reduction than there is an increase here. Then if it was a 25 ft. setback here, it would be compatible with what happens further south on King Street, as well, and I've got a few other images here. So, in our Comprehensive Plan, this is in our City Centers area so that is the area where bigger heights go and more density, so this is all compatible with that. The aerial images shows that these are vacant lots at present, parking areas, in an area of King Street that's emerging with other uses and new buildings. There is a new building that was built just north of the overpass, a five-story office building. Here is a street view that shows this section of King Street. In the distance, you see the five-story office building next to the overpass, and again, this is the area. We saw this slide just a minute ago. The one difference on this between what the Planning Commission recommended and what the applicant requested is the difference in the setback of the fifth story. The tradition on this area of King Street is that it would be 25 ft. back, that's what staff recommended, and that's what the Planning Commission endorsed. The applicants had requested a 20 ft. setback instead of 25 ft., fairly minor. Here we have a broader view of King Street that shows where 50 ft. setbacks are. Those are for that 4-Story to 5-Story break. On the eastern side, they're at a 50 ft. setback. On the western side, they're typically at a 25 ft. setback although in this block they have been a 50 ft. setback, so they are bringing that forward, and that again is why staff had suggested the 25 ft. setback just to be in keeping with the rest of that western side of King Street. The Planning Commission did recommend this request with the 25 ft. setback."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Alright. Would anyone like to be heard on this matter? Yes, sir."

The Clerk said, "Mr. Mayor, we do have a sign-up sheet for the public hearings."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "We do."

The Clerk said, "For the public hearings. Yes."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Okay."

The Clerk said, "I think Mr. Bryant signed up first to speak."

Anthony G. Bryant said, "You can go ahead."

James Wilson said, "Thank you, sir."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Please proceed."

The Clerk said, "And, Mr. Mayor, what's the time limit?"

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Ninety seconds."

The Clerk said, "Thank you."

1. James Wilson, Womble, Bond, Dickinson Law Firm, said they were basically leveling the site. Currently, it was 4 Story and 6 Story, and they wanted to bring the 6 Story down to 5 Story and bring a little bit of the front part from 4 Story up to 5 Story. All in all it was a net decrease for the property. He said the Planning Commission voted unanimously in favor of it, and they (the applicant) were on board with the 25 ft. setback that staff and the Planning Commission recommended. He said they thought it was consistent generally with the Comprehensive Plan and the surrounding properties.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you, sir."

The Clerk said, "Anthony Bryant."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Mr. Bryant."

2. Anthony G. Bryant said under FCC 230 Congress identified all corporations and third party speech on their platform providing 18 law enforcement agencies administration and enforcement of 696,444 law enforcement offices in the United States to use platforms to observe, surveillance, and fact finding that could conduct and direct initiatives. Under Planning and Zoning, there was a local zoning ordinance throughout the Country and 18,000 departments outside the Country, as well. He said they could interact with the National Police and Troopers Association, Inc. with which he had made public comment. He said because of the local zoning ordinances the partnerships came with all of the land use zoning. The City had a big issue with people who were unhoused and people at risk to be unhoused. The people who were currently unhoused walked around the neighborhoods trespassing and force could be used on them based on those facts. He told Council that the information was on their desks. He told Council they needed to make the people visible, and that was his overall public comment and his citizens participation comment.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you, sir."

The Clerk said, "Mohammed Idris."

Mohammed Idris said, "Is this public hearings or Citizens Participation?"

The Clerk said, "This is public hearings."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "This is a public hearing about the property up on King Street."

Mr. Idris said, "No."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Okay. We'll come back to you on public participation."

The Clerk said, "Those were all of the speakers that we had signed up."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "But did anyone else want to be heard on this matter?"

No one else asked to speak.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Seeing none, it comes to Council."

Councilmember Brady said, "So moved."

Councilmember Mitchell said, "Second."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Alright. We have the motion to approve."

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Seekings.

Councilmember Seekings said, "Just a quick question for either Mr. Morgan or Mr. Wilson, what's going there?"

Mr. Wilson said, "Thank you, Councilmember Seekings. So, the plan is to do a combination of Accommodations use, a hotel use, but also have sort of more apartment type short term rentals. It's already zoned for this use and we're, of course, going to go through the BZA process with that, and our plan that we will present to the BZA will be substantially less than the 50 units that it's currently zoned for right now. So, more to come on that."

Councilmember Seekings said, "Do you all plan to activate the street with some kind of retail?"

Mr. Wilson said, "Yes. There is a plan for the first floor to be a Commercial use of some sort of retail or other Commercial use and then do Accommodation units upstairs."

Councilmember Seekings said, "Thank you."

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Shahid.

Councilmember Shahid said, "What is the Twisted Bubble?"

Mr. Wilson said, "I honestly don't know, Councilmember Shahid. That's the name of an LLC."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "So, speaking of the use, I remember for years this site was the parking lot for the tractor trailers from David Jones Seafood and oftentimes you could pick up the scent of the shrimp that was long since passed. It was a pretty smelly place, so I hope that this will be an improvement on the use of the property. Any other comments or questions?"

No one else asked to speak.

On a motion of Councilmember Brady, seconded by Councilmember Mitchell, City Council voted unanimously to give first reading to the following bill:

An ordinance to amend the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Charleston by changing the Zone Map, which is a part thereof, so that 657, 661, and 663 King Street (Peninsula) (approximately 0.31 acre) (TMS #460-04-04-090, 091, and 092) (Council District 3), be rezoned from 6 Story Old City Height District and 4 Story Old City Height District classification to 5 Story Old City Height District classification. The property is owned by the Twisted Bubble LLC.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "So, now we will take these rezonings together, two through five and number seven, together, and we will come back on number six."

Mr. Morgan said, "So, we have [200 Magnolia](#) which is a recent annexation in the City. It's about a quarter acre lot. It would come into the City as STR. I'm sorry. This is not a recent annexation. Excuse me. This is a rezoning here, and it is a rezoning from Single-Family Residential (SR-2) to STR. STR is occasionally used in this neighborhood, and this is a little bit larger lot. It has double frontage on Lolandra, and the request is for the STR designation. Both staff and Planning Commission did endorse this. It is in our Suburban designation in the Comprehensive Plan, and we all felt comfortable as did Planning Commission with this request, and this is just a comparison. It's a slightly higher density but given the size of the lot, I think the feeling was that it was appropriate there. Just an aerial image, and here we go, and we'll keep going with the next one.

The next one is [35 Riverdale](#), and this is a recent annexation. It's about a fourth of an acre. The requested zoning is Single-Family Residential (SR-2). You see it was R-4 in Charleston County, and there it is in West Ashley. In the Plan, it's in our Suburban area and that is in line. The Planning Commission, of course, recommended for that, as well.

Then, we have [1610 Poinsettia Road](#) which is a recent annexation. It's a quarter acre lot that would come in the City from R-4 in the County to SR-1, and you see it's adjacent to some other SR-2s in the City, but it's a little bit bigger lot over here, and we have it in the Suburban category in the Comp Plan. Here is an image of the property, and Planning Commission recommended for that, as well.

Then, we've got [222 Island Drive](#) which is also in West Ashley, a recent annexation. It's nine-tenths of an acre lot, and it would come into the City as SR-1. There you see an image of it. There it is in the Comp Plan. It is in our Low Impact and Conserved, however, it is already developed, so we felt comfortable that the SR-1 was going to be appropriate in this location, and that's just a recommendation of Low Impact and Conserved, and the Planning Commission did recommend approval on this one.

Councilmember Sakran was excused from the Chamber at 5:40 p.m.

And then, the next one is number six which is [1888 Raoul Wallenberg](#). This is a true donut hole. It's surrounded by City limits. Also, it's surrounded by General Business zoning, and it has a Commercial use on the property at present. We will show you it's in our Neighborhood Edge recommended district, so General Business given the surrounding zonings would be compatible with that."

Councilmember Shealy said, "Mr. Mayor, just a point of order. I want to make sure we know we're not voting on this now. I know he's discussing it."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "That's correct. If you don't mind just coming back to this in just a minute."

Mr. Morgan said, "Okay. Yes, sir. Back to 222 Island Drive, that's two through five."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "And number seven."

Mr. Morgan said, "Oh, okay."

Councilmember Sakran returned to the Chamber at 5:41 p.m.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "So, skip on through number six, and let's do number seven."

Mr. Morgan said, "[Number seven](#) is our future park site on Johns Island. It's known as the Griffith Tract. It's off Maybank Highway in one of our Center areas that are designated in our Comprehensive Plan for Johns Island, so it's a very well-located park. It has large borrow pits on it. The zoning that's recommended for it is Conservation zoning which is, typically, what we like to zone our parks because that's the most appropriate category, so we're really excited to bring this one forward. I think you all are familiar with it, and it was in our Suburban Edge and City Center designation in our Comp Plan, but Conservation is compatible with all of those. Here is just an image from the street, and Planning Commission did recommend approval on that."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "So, Mr. Morgan it may be just a scrivener's error, but on number four your map showed which is consistent with what I know as Poinsetta and not Poinsettia. You put an 'i' in there."

Mr. Morgan said, "Yes."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "I think it's Poinsetta, and just to let anyone know who is interested who may not know, the portrait just to the right of Reverend Jenkins over there in the corner is a portrait of Joel Poinsett who was a Charlestonian who served as the Ambassador to Mexico in 1820s. He was a botanist, as well, and discovered this beautiful red flowered plant which they named after him the Poinsettia. There we go. Okay. So, the items that we currently have under review are 200 Magnolia Road, 35 Riverdale Drive, 1610 Poinsetta Road, 222 Island Drive, and 3111 Maybank Highway. Would anyone like to be heard on any of those items, properties?"

No one asked to speak.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Hearing none, it comes to Council."

Councilmember Brady said, "Move for approval."

Councilmember Mitchell said, "Second."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "We have a motion to approve them all. Any questions or discussion?"

No one asked to speak.

On a motion of Councilmember Brady, seconded by Councilmember Mitchell, City Council voted unanimously to give first reading to the following bills:

An ordinance to amend the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Charleston by changing the Zone Map, which is a part thereof, so that 200 Magnolia Road (West Ashley) (approximately 0.23 acre) (TMS #418-13-00-164) (Council District 3), be rezoned from Single Family Residential (SR-2) classification to Single-Two Family Residential (STR) classification. The property is owned by John Stanford Jennings Kerr.

An ordinance to amend the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Charleston by changing the Zone Map, which is a part thereof, so that 35 Riverdale Drive (West Ashley) (approximately 0.28 acre) (TMS #4181400063) (Council District 11), annexed into the City of Charleston December 6, 2022 (#2022-200), be zoned Single-Family Residential (SR-2) classification. The property is owned by Allison Ryan.

An ordinance to amend the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Charleston by changing the Zone Map, which is a part thereof, so that 1610 Poinsettia Road (West Ashley) (approximately 0.25 acre) (TMS #3511200101) (Council District 9), annexed into the City of Charleston December 6, 2022 (#2022-201), be zoned Single-Family Residential (SR-1) classification. The property is owned by Roberto Abbati.

An ordinance to amend the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Charleston by changing the Zone Map, which is a part thereof, so that 222 Island Drive (West Ashley) (approximately 0.90 acre) (TMS #3491400021) (Council District 11), annexed into the City of Charleston January 10, 2023 (#2023-014), be zoned Single-Family Residential (SR-1) classification. The property is owned by Peter Green.

An ordinance to amend the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Charleston by changing the Zone Map, which is a part thereof, so that 3111 Maybank Highway, 1850 Griffith Lane, 3114 Cane Slash Road (Johns Island) (approximately 26.1 acre) (TMS #3130000064 and 063) (Council District 5), annexed into the City of Charleston January 10, 2023 (#2023-016), be zoned Conservation (C) classification. The property is owned by City of Charleston.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Now, back to number six."

Mr. Morgan said, "Okay. So, [number six is 1888 Raoul Wallenberg Boulevard](#). It is, as I was saying earlier, a donut hole surrounded on all sides by Commercial designations already in the City of Charleston. It has Commercial use on the property. It is in our Neighborhood Edge which the GB would be compatible with that given the surrounding zonings. Here is the Commercial structure on the property there, and Planning Commission did unanimously recommend the Commercial designation of GB."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Alright. Anyone from the public like to be heard on this property?"

No one asked to speak.

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Shealy.

Councilmember Shealy said, "Thank you, Mr. Mayor. Mr. Morgan, I just wanted to check, when this was in the Public Service District and in the County, was the zoning the same exact as what GB would be?"

Mr. Morgan said, "I don't have down what we had it in the County, I think it would have been a CC probably because that is the County's closest to our GB, and again, it has a Commercial use on it. I'm not quite sure why it never annexed prior to this, but, typically, when we've got so much stuff around a particular property that's all in the same district, we bring it in in the same district."

Councilmember Shealy said, "I guess my main concern is this is a great retail spot. I think it's been retail, it's been a karate studio, and it's back to retail, I think, now. It's a great business spot. With GB, would they be able to put apartments or condos there?"

Mr. Morgan said, "That is correct. Yes, sir. In all our Commercial districts, you have allowances for Residential."

Councilmember Shealy said, "You can see how close it is to Ashley River Road and why that may be a concern to me in my past comments about putting apartments and condos on Ashley River Road. I guess I would like to know more information about whether they could have done that under their current zoning in St. Andrews."

Mr. Morgan said, "If it's the CC which I think it was in the County, they allow, typically, 10 to 12 units an acre. In the City, we allow 26 units an acre. We don't have a Commercial district in the City that doesn't allow Residential in it. Typically, they're 19 to 26 units an acre in our Commercial districts."

Councilmember Shealy said, "Alright. Is there no way to confirm what they had and what the zoning exactly was?"

Mr. Morgan said, "I can look that up. If you all wanted to act on it tonight, we can look it up and give you the final information at the next meeting or I mean in advance of that. I'll double-check. I'm pretty sure it was CC."

Councilmember Shealy said, "I'd appreciate that. I mean, I certainly want to do what they deserve to have, but I don't want to up zone and cause more traffic for constituents of mine and my fellow Councilmembers that represent that district, so if we could. I don't know whether I, I mean, I guess I will make a motion to defer until we can get that information."

Councilmember Waring said, "Let me second that, and I'll tell you why. I pass there every day, but also at GB, a bar can go there. Can't it?"

Mr. Morgan said, "Yes, sir."

Councilmember Waring said, "Right. I wouldn't think that would be appropriate."

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Appel.

Councilmember Appel said, "So, the CC district in Charleston County allows 16 principal dwelling units per acre."

Councilmember Shahid said, "What about a bar?"

Councilmember Appel said, "That's going to cost extra. We will figure that out."

Mr. Morgan said, "They do allow bars in CC. I know that."

Councilmember Appel said, "Yes, the CC district is the County's most intense Commercial district."

Mr. Morgan said, "Absolutely."

Councilmember Appel said, "I know that."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "And, Councilmember Appel, are you confirming there with your information on your laptop that it is CC zoned in the County? Or was?"

Councilmember Appel said, "Well, I'm not sure what it was zoned in the County. I thought the question was what does CC allow?"

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "I see now. So, it was in the City of Charleston."

Councilmember Appel said, "Yes, and I mean I'm just looking at this."

Mr. Morgan said, "I mean, it's on that one."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "It's on the other slide."

Mr. Morgan said, "I'm sorry about that, so it was CC."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "It's CC."

Councilmember Shealy said, "So, they would have been able to put apartments or condos, but not as many I guess as they can under our zoning. Is that correct?"

Mr. Morgan said, "Yes, sir."

Councilmember Shealy said, "Well, I guess I'll--"

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "I think the difference would be like two units."

Councilmember Shealy said, "But is there any other zoning that would be the same number of units or a closer number of units if they were to choose to do that? I don't know that they're doing that, but it's a concern."

Mr. Morgan said, "Our Commercial districts that would allow the type of uses that they've had here you could potentially have Community Transitional (CT), but that's 19 units an acre, so that still is more than the County, and then, you've got Limited Business which is also 19 units an acre. Those are the districts that really would be compatible and given that you've got other GB around it, typically, that's something we shy away from because we try to make the district as compatible with one another as possible if they're similar uses."

Councilmember Shealy said, "Okay. I did want to mention, too, that in the writing up of this Wallenberg is misspelled. It's spelled correctly on the map, but it's misspelled in the write-up."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "What's that?"

Councilmember Shealy said, "Wallenberg is b-e-r-g and it's spelled b-u-r-g on here, so just a point of clarification."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Noted."

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Appel.

Councilmember Appel said, "I was going to add one other thing. If you zone that a different designation from GB, and it's surrounded by GB on all sides, I mean one could argue that it's a spot zoning issue, as well. So, you typically try to avoid that in zoning practice, and also I would say that a lot goes into density other than just the amount of units that are allowed per acre. I mean, the County has different lot coverage requirements, height requirements, setbacks, and I mean, you really have to study the site and compare and contrast to get a full picture of what's allowed under the County's regulations versus the City's regulations. Also, keep in mind we've got stronger stormwater regulations than they do, and that determines how much of a site can be developed. So, it's complicated, but I would generally say that it's typically easier to develop in the County. Their zoning ordinance is a lot more, let's say, ours is a lot more ornate. How about that?"

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Ornate."

Councilmember Appel said, "Yes. How about that? It's a little bit more, it's got a little bit more, well, I'll just leave it there."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "We have more requirements."

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Bowden.

Councilmember Bowden said, "There's that little parcel behind this. I assume that somebody would access that from Raoul Wallenberg through this parcel?"

Mr. Morgan said, "I think so, and it was already in the City."

Councilmember Bowden said, "Would that limit the amount of, I mean, the size of the building they could even put there I would imagine, right?"

Mr. Morgan said, "Yes, sir."

Councilmember Bowden said, "Okay."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "You have an aerial of that?"

Mr. Morgan said, "Yes, sir, right there. I can't tell if there's access around the side there or not."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "That's a separate parcel behind it. Is it owned by the same owner? Do we know?"

Mr. Morgan said, "I am not sure, Mayor."

Councilmember Bowden said, "That leaves access through William Kennerty."

Mr. Morgan said, "Through William Kennerty. Right."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Is that right? Okay, probably a separate owner then, a different owner if it's accessed differently. Alright. Well, Councilmember Shealy, do you want to---"

Councilmember Shealy said, "Yes, I'll withdraw my deferral."

Councilmember Waring said, "Me too."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "You feel satisfied with the discussion?"

Councilmember Waring said, "I need to fess up, Mr. Mayor. That was a 7/11 when I was in high school."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Is that right?"

Councilmember Waring said, "It was."

Councilmember Shahid said, "It was a 7/11 when I was in high school, too."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Alright. Do we have a motion on the floor to approve?"

The Clerk said, "We need one."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "We need one."

Councilmember Gregorie said, "So moved."

Councilmember Mitchell said, "Second."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "We have a motion to approve and a second. Any further discussion or questions?"

No one else asked to speak.

On a motion of Councilmember Gregorie, seconded by Councilmember Mitchell, City Council voted unanimously to give first reading to the following bill:

An ordinance to amend the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Charleston by changing the Zone Map, which is a part thereof, so that 1888 Raoul Wallenberg Boulevard (West Ashley) (approximately 0.35 acre) (TMS #3531300031) (Council District 2), annexed into the City of Charleston January 10, 2023 (#2023-015), be zoned General Business (GB) classification. The property is owned by Corduroy Properties LLC.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "So, next is our approval of City Council minutes from January 24th."

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Shahid.

Councilmember Shahid said, "Before we go to that, just a comment, and Councilmember Shealy and Councilmember Waring were present with me when we had this presentation. I know that Mr. Morgan's very much involved with this about Ashley Landing regarding just exactly the type of zoning that is allowed to include Residential units, and I think this is why

we're bringing this issue up to the forefront. It may be worthwhile because there has been a lot of social media traffic on this issue about allowing Residential units in a Commercial area, so here is another example of where we are in West Ashley with rezoning or annexation issues. So, it may be worthwhile for us to be looking at re-examining when including Residential units, or the density of Residential units, in these Commercial zones. There's a lot of anxiety about this particularly on Ashley Landing as to the number of units they can develop over there. We've got a long way to go with that process, but I just wanted to bring that up. This is an opportunity to have that discussion, and maybe we just need to look at some of those general Commercial zoning rules about addressing the density or even permitting Residential units along with apartments and things of that nature in the areas of West Ashley."

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Waring.

Councilmember Waring said, "I'd like to follow up with that. If you all remember, some years ago on James Island behind the post office off of Central Park Road, there was a movie theatre, and it was purchased. It was zoned GB, and the number of apartments that went in there, the surrounding neighbors were very disenchanted with, and we run into the thing with this same location Ashley Towne Landing where the Publix currently is now. It's going to go away and, I think, 278 units coming there. No improvements to Sumar Drive. That's what's going to be the primary ingress and egress. That's a lot of cars in that little short block. I think there's a petition right now circulating and they really don't, well, it's got to go before the Design Corridor Review Board. So, there's some oversight there, but the fact is by-right you get a certain amount of Residential units in GB. When GB is granted, in most cases people aren't thinking about hundreds of apartment complexes, and I think we need to revisit that as a by-right because to see neighbors frustrated that they have no say-so, their Council people have no say-so, frankly, the Mayor has no say-so, I think that needs to be revisited."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "So, I completely agree. If I may elaborate on that just a little bit more, two things. One about four or five years ago, we went through an exercise, City Council with the Planning Commission, because Light Industrial and Heavy Industrial also have Residential entitlement in the City of Charleston. We spent hours going through looking at each individual light and heavy industrial property to gauge whether they ought to have Residential entitlement or not. Unfortunately, from my view, we never completed that exercise, and that change never occurred. I would, respectfully, say that we should look at that again when we do our zoning update over the next year. We've hired our consultant finally to help us with that, but, secondly, let me suggest this to Council because you bring up just a vital excellent point, and it affects affordable housing, as well. Because we've got this big number out there for General Business, 26 units per acre. So, if you've got ten acres of land, you could build 260 apartments on it, right, and we're not requiring a single affordable unit on it. It's allowed by right, and I would suggest to Council and our Planning Department as we change the Zoning Code to reduce the by-right ability to develop Residential products and have voluntary zoning just like we have Mixed-Use that if someone proposes to do a density comparable to what's allowed now, 26 units per acre, that we have a requirement that a certain number of those units are affordable just like we do in the Mixed-Use categories, as well. It would be voluntary. Otherwise, they might be limited to 10 or 12 units per acre, right? So, anyway, that's something we can work on, but it ties in with both of your comments and, frankly, if we had had something like that looking at all of the apartment development that we've seen in the last five years, we would have picked up a good many affordable units in the City, and that's water under the bridge now, but we could change it for what comes next. Alright. Any other comments?"

No one else asked to speak.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "So, next, our [minutes from January 24th, 2023.](#)"

Councilmember Shealy said, "Move for approval."

Councilmember Brady said, "Second."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "We have a motion to approve and a second. Any additions, deletions, or corrections?"

No one asked to speak.

On a motion of Councilmember Shealy, seconded by Councilmember Brady, City Council voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the January 24, 2023 City Council meeting.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Next up is our [Citizens Participation Period](#), and I will turn this over to Madam Clerk. How many folks do we have?"

The Clerk said, "We have ten people signed up to speak. Did you want to keep the time limit at a minute and a half?"

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Yes. That will be fine."

The Clerk said, "Alright. The time is a minute and a half. Anthony Bryant."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "I think he mentioned that his comments included Citizen's Participation."

The Clerk said, "Alright. I thought that was just for public hearings. Suzanne Hardie."

1. Suzanne Hardie, 32 Prioleau Street, said she had 275 signed petitions from people who worked or lived in Charleston asking that the contract for the assessment of the Racial Bias Audit go to Public Safety for review and revision which Council had already handled. She said CNA pointed out a number of times in their recommendations that a lack of appropriate community engagement would be a major impediment to the audit's success. She said to date, there continued to be no public engagement with the group who asked for it to help make it work for them. The community should get input specifically on the assessment as to who and how they're involved, for example, an online survey and forums conducted by CPD was not going to engage the affected community. If the affected community wasn't engaged, then the conclusions that came from that would not be credible to the people who asked for the review. She said none of them wanted that as they all wanted it to work for all of them. She said they also remained concerned that the party hired was actually not independent or neutral having already been working with CPD on the current audit which lacked data and any connection to racial disparity. Trust couldn't be developed if they didn't have an independent assessor, so they asked Council to look at that again.

The Clerk said, "Time. Mohammed Idris."

2. Mohammed Idris asked Council why a store would sell Little Debbie Devil Cremes to people throughout the world and call them Little Debbie Devil Cremes, black and white? Racism was dead. It had been executed in 1975 by the son of the Honorable Elijah Mohammed. He said they were not suffering from racism, but rather from greed, envy, jealousy, and ignorance, and the black and white issue was used to keep the argument going while they ran off with the money. He said they kept the black-and-white argument going and Councilmembers Gregorie, Waring, Seekings, Shahid, and Mitchell knew that racism was dead.

The Clerk said, "Time. Marcus McDonald."

3. Marcus McDonald, Charleston Black Lives Matter, thanked Council for the recognition of HARCC at the last meeting. He said to look at the history and current issues with the police and the black community in the City. The target was often young black men who looked just like him. He told Council to think about them when they made those decisions with the Racial Bias Audit Council had made earlier. He said the contract was for 500 guns, cars, or some laser and when he said to defund the police, Council called him crazy or radical, but when he said put funds into transparency and accountability, money seemed to be tight which was weird. He liked USC as much as the next guy, but USC didn't have the experience and the authority to implement the review of the audit. He asked what happened when the Chief didn't like what they said. He asked if they would resign and would the Chief continue to reject eliminating the Racial Bias Audit as a key goal. Every time he brought up racial bias, and it got brought up in his department, he talked about crying mothers. He knew several crying mothers and fathers who had been brutalized by his police force including himself. In 2018, on the way back from the Addlestone Library he was pulled over on a bike. In 2021, he was violently arrested by CPD while fighting for justice for someone that they killed, Jamal Sutherland. He was choked by two officers, and his property was destroyed. He asked Council to not skimp the people and give them the transparency and accountability that the community had demanded.

The Clerk said, "Edward Jones."

4. Edward Jones asked Council to think about something that he got from the kids until the next Council meeting. He said the Upper King lived in a palace and the King died, but the Prince was there and would become the next King. He said if they put a clown in the castle, and the King died, he asked Council what the clown would become. He gave Council until the next Council meeting to answer that question.

The Clerk said, "Zac Viscidi."

5. Zac Viscidi told Council to please read their e-mail as he was unable to make his pedicab rebuttals at the last Council meeting because he was leading 38 7th Graders on a five-day fieldtrip to New York City. He felt if he could do that, he could operate safely two, three, maybe even four pedicabs. He said they all knew teaching wasn't the most professionally rewarding in terms of economics, so when he risked his capital after Council made a promise, he expected Council to hold up its end of the bargain and not rescind it at the last minute. It was a community-minded business shuttling passengers, he was the face of the City, and he met lots of people. There was a lot of room for engaged residents, taxpayers, and community

members who supported the City. He told Council to not deny that and take it away. He was also a public servant, and he got into public service to support the next generation of entrepreneurs to reach out a hand and bring people up. He said it seemed like Council was putting hurdle after hurdle of delay, and he didn't understand why they couldn't have a fair, open, and competitive bid on something that Council already approved. He asked Council what the hold up was and where the block was coming from. He said Council had approved it three times, and now Council was delaying it, and he didn't get it.

The Clerk said, "Time. Daniel Ben-Yisrael."

6. Daniel Ben-Yisrael, Real Estate Development Manager for Drayton-Parker Companies, LLC and Gregory M. Parker, Inc., said he was there to bring to Council's attention a matter of concern that they had with the development review process and the duration of time that it took for plans to be reviewed and approved by CWS. His comment was not directed towards the City staff as they enjoyed a good working relationship with the City staff, however, they were aware of efforts by the City to improve its processes, as well. As it related to CWS, he wanted to bring to the Mayor's attention and to Councilmember Waring's attention, as he sat on the Board of Commissioners for CWS, they had experienced unreasonable and significant delays in the review process. In many instances, it took better than 60 days to receive meaningful comments on their development plans, and that not only adversely impacted the review process, development process, and ensuing real estate development, but it also delayed the receipts of much needed tax revenues, license fees, etcetera for the City, as well. He respectfully asked for the Mayor's assistance and Councilmember Waring's assistance to do whatever was necessary to help CWS improve its development review process.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you, sir."

The Clerk said, "Tony Daniell."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Mr. Daniell."

7. Tony Daniell said 30 months was a long time, and he was still there. He said Councilmember Appel sent out a letter and got some responses back on April 8, 2021. One of them was from Drake Rogers. He said to make sure they were clear, Counsel for the City said the only thing allowed in his neighborhood was a temporary blockade from 1976, and they weren't closing the road nor abandoning the road. He read a response: 'Ross, I spoke with Tom Finnegan and Joe Goode both of whom suggested I e-mail you directly. For 20 years, we've had a constant ongoing problem with parents of Harborview Elementary driving through a park in the neighborhood to cut the line.' He said if they had ever dropped their kids off at school while they sat there, if they cut in front of another parent, it wouldn't take long for them to hear about it. He said they didn't need Drake Rogers to fix it, and they didn't need trees in the middle of the road to fix it. He read, 'They had numerous homeowners who walked their dogs daily.' He guessed their dogs were more important than him, and that was why they wanted to keep the roads blocked. He read, 'For two decades, I have been attending annual meetings, and the main point of discussion has been to keep traffic out of the neighborhood.' He thought what Mr. Rogers meant to say was, 'out of our side of the neighborhood,' because it hadn't

left the neighborhood as it went to his street. He had 800% more traffic than anybody else in the entire neighborhood because of the illegally blocked roads. It was his understanding he had not lived there for 35 years. Mr. Daniel had been in the military. It was people like him that volunteered to leave that would fix Ukraine. He left home with the idea that his family would be taken care of. He took care of the Country, government took care of his family, and Council had failed on their portion.

The Clerk said, "Time."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you."

The Clerk said, "Jerome Harris."

8. Jerome Harris, 528 Cecelia Cove Drive, said he had put in a comment earlier requesting that Council defer the action on the Racial Bias Evaluation. He pointed out that the proposal was not what was called for in the recommendations of the original report. He said the original report called for an 18-month initiative tracking, monitoring, and communicating, but what they had now was a proposed evaluation. He thought Council's conversation would be helpful in terms of the Public Safety Committee. He also noted that CPAC was not involved and didn't have input into the development of the original RFP that went out. CPAC met every other month and made inquiries regarding what was happening and could it have been described and put into the scope of work. With regards to the scope of work in the document Council was going to approve, they saw it when Council saw it in their documents the prior week. He thought it was important that transparency be made and thought what Council was about to do moved them toward that. The legitimacy of the hard work that the Police Department was doing to make a difference should be recognized, but people needed to have a sense that what was said was accurate. He also pointed out that when CNA gave Council the report in September 2019, it indicated that the follow up would cost \$180,000, and that was the same figure that Council quoted in terms of the bid that came in. The Mayor, Council, and the Police Department decided not to fund that.

The Clerk said, "Time."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you, sir."

The Clerk said, "Those were all of the speakers that we had signed up. We did receive some comments online, and I'm just going to summarize the ones from citizens who have not already spoken tonight. Jake Thomas said the City should proceed with the planned and already approved additional pedicab night-time operating decals. He said failure to rebid the decals would be a failure to the City to its citizens and its guests and that a competitive bid had not occurred since 2011. This disadvantaged new companies.

John Zillioux said that for BZA-Site Design he thought regarding the new elementary school on River Road that they did a great job locating the building site such that only one tree needed to be removed. The other comments were sent to Council in full, and those were all that we received."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you, and no one online?"

The Clerk said, "No, sir."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Great. Thank you for participating this evening. We appreciate that. Next up is our [Petitions and Communications.](#)"

Councilmember Brady said, "Mr. Mayor."

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Brady.

Councilmember Brady said, "Thank you. I would move to take [\(a\). through \(c\). and \(e\). through \(i\). together.](#) but I know that several Councilmembers wanted to speak on Item (d). to strip it out for further discussion."

Councilmember Mitchell said, "Second."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Okay. Run that by me again, if you don't mind, please."

Councilmember Brady said, "That would be Items (a). through (c). and (e). through (i.), and then Item (d). would be stripped out for further discussion."

Councilmember Mitchell said, "Second."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "We will take (i). out. Did you include (d). as in 'dog?'"

Councilmember Brady said, "No. Item d. as in 'delta' would be stripped out for further discussion, but the others would be taken together."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Okay."

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Appel.

Councilmember Appel said, "Thank you, Mr. Mayor. I have no objection to this. I just want to make sure we recognize former Councilwoman Marie Delcioppo who is in the audience who is up for a vote. Let's make sure we give her a hand. I mean, if you're going to drive all of the way downtown, find a place to park, and come her, you might as well get recognized."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Yes. I was just getting ready to do that when we move forward, but I'm glad we now recognized Councilmember."

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Shahid.

Councilmember Shahid said, "Thank you, Mayor. Under Item h., the Design Review Board, can we just get a clarification. I'm looking at two different classifications for Mr. Ben Whitener. Is he a Citizen seat or an Architect seat?"

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Ben Whitener. He is listed on the agenda as a Citizen seat. Let's have Mr. Summerfield confirm. This is on the Design Review Board."

Councilmember Shahid said, "But I have it from the Clerk's Office listing him under a Citizen seat, but on the online agenda he's listed as an Architect seat. I think that was the same confusion on the handouts we got last Council meeting."

The Clerk said, "Yes. So, he's listed on the memo as a current DRB member as an Architect seat, but as a reappointment as a Citizen seat."

Robert Summerfield said, "Yes. So, I'm looking at it, so we have him as a citizen. It does indicate, unfortunately, this is one of the problems with the Boards Plus is not all of the information is 100%, but according to our information he is listed as a Citizen seat. He is an architect, but he is in the Citizen seat. We have Dinos Liollo as the architect, and then we have two alternate architects."

Councilmember Shahid said, "And, this is sort of my confusion with this because I want to make sure we have, not that I, I love all of my architects and what they bring to this Design Review Board, but I would like to have a non-architect citizen on this Board. For those of us who have been before the DRB, these citizens spend a lot of time, energy, and effort on there, and they do a wonderful job. I'm not being critical of it, but I do think that the DRB needs to have a balance of citizens just they're not necessarily lawyers, architects, or realtors, they're just citizens who bring a different flavor to this. I think sometimes we get a little bit too technical on this Board, and if so, we're putting in another architect for a Citizen seat, I have a little concern about doing that."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Okay."

Councilmember Shahid said, "So, we may need to defer this issue until we get it clarified, but I'd really like to see just another citizen because I've got some people in mind who may fit that bill who are just citizens who would not fulfill as a professional role."

Mr. Summerfield said, "So, in the age of technology, we're getting up to minute updates and apparently he is an architect filling an Architect seat, not a Citizen, although he is a citizen, I think, of the City, not just an architect, as well."

Councilmember Shahid said, "And I'm not picking on him. I don't want Mr. Whitener to think that because he does a really good job. So, how many Citizen seats are on the DRB right now?"

Mr. Summerfield said, "There are two layperson seats, and then there are a number of specific seats, architect, landscape architect, someone who knows business real estate and development. I can't remember, off of the top of my head, all of the different criteria, but in the ordinance, we have a number of designated seats for specific professionals, and then we have two essentially layperson seats, if you would, or Citizen-at-Large seats."

Councilmember Shahid said, "Who are the two laypeople on the DRB right now? That's my confusion."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "It shows one up for reappointment to be Stefanie Tillerson."

Mr. Summerfield said, "So, we have Stefanie Tillerson and then Andrew Smith is what I'm showing as the two Citizen seats."

Councilmember Shahid said, "Is Andrew Smith an architect?"

Mr. Summerfield said, "No. Andrew Smith is, so we identify the citizens if they have a profession, and he is listed in what I have here it says he is a professional landscape architect."

Councilmember Shahid said, "Yes. This is the confusion that we're having on this Board. I move to defer DRB until we can look into this a little bit longer."

Councilmember Waring said, "I'll second."

Councilmember Brady said, "Mr. Mayor. I'll amend my original motion to strip out this item for discussion, as well."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "(h). and (i)."

Councilmember Brady said, "(d). and (h)."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "(d). as in delta."

Councilmember Brady said, "(d). as in delta."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Okay good. (d)., (h)., and (i)."

Councilmember Brady said, "It's just (d). and (h)."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Oh. Just (d). and (h). Okay. Thank you."

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Appel.

Councilmember Appel said, "He was before me."

Councilmember Waring said, "Just a point of order."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Yes, sir."

Councilmember Waring said, "I thought the Councilmember moved to defer and I seconded it, but then Councilmember Brady came. The deferral takes precedence as you know. Councilmember Brady came back and amended his motion, so now I'm asking Councilmember Shahid if he would withdraw his deferral, so that your motion can go forward."

Councilmember Gregorie was excused from the Chamber at 6:22 p.m.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "That's a good point of order. We could go ahead and take up the deferral on approval for Item (h). for the Design Review Board."

Councilmember Waring said, "But if he withdraws that motion, Councilmember Brady--"

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "That does take precedence, so I would rule in favor of that request. So, we have a motion to defer approval. Do you want to just strip out that one appointment or just come back altogether for DRB, correct?"

Councilmember Shahid said, "I think this should all come back together with DRB, so we know what the composition is."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Okay. Alright. We have a motion to defer approval of Item (h). for Design Review Board and a second."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Any discussion?"

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Appel.

Councilmember Appel said, "Thank you, Mr. Mayor. I have a question and then a comment. My question is, will a deferral disrupt quorums or any upcoming meetings from not being able to go forward?"

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "I think generally the folks that are on there continue to serve even if their term expires."

Mr. Summerfield said, "The boards are evergreen until they are replaced or say, 'I'm not attending a meeting anymore.' They continue in their position."

Councilmember Appel said, "Got it, and my comment is, and I certainly think we can spend some more time and think about this, but I would just remind my colleagues DRB is a technical board. They deal only with architecture, site design. This is not a policy board. This is not a board where, frankly, random people's opinions about development and things of that nature, are supposed to be addressed. So, I think the DRBs and BARs that get into trouble around the State are the bodies that act like policy bodies, that try to decide what development they want, and where. The DRB is only supposed to look at design, and so, when you're talking about design, that's why we have seats and roles for architects, engineers, and landscape architects. You need that technical expertise because if you don't, you can create problems and these boards can get sideways in serious and significant ways. So, I'm not saying there's no role for regular folks on the Board, but let's just keep in mind this is a technical board that has a very limited scope of review, and we need to have people that are experts in various technical fields on this Board."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Alright. Thank you."

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Shahid.

Councilmember Shahid said, "And I agree with that. I think that sometimes what happens with the Design Review Board is that, particularly, members of our community don't understand the limited role of the DRB, and sometimes their issues that come up, they get off, out of lane, on this. So, there is a reason why when this ordinance was created, it provided for laypeople on there, so I think you've got to have that balance of just folks who live in the community and bring a contribution that is not technical. The idea behind this is to make sure it's a diverse board and has those technical professionals on there, but also provide a layperson's perspective on this, as well. That's a very critical part because, we brought this up earlier, citizens need to feel they have a voice on these boards. This is very important and as things go through, particularly, in West Ashley, and I know it's happened on Daniel Island several times, that folks don't feel they have a voice. If they don't fit this category of being an architect, or an engineer, or a landscape architect, they can't be heard on this, and this is the opportunity for laypeople to be heard and offer their input on these, which are, very technical components, but still, there's something that we all can understand and appreciate. So, I think it's really important

that on all of these boards, particularly, the DRB, that it is well-balanced, and that's something I think we need to take recognition of."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Understood. Alright. We have a motion to defer the DRB approvals."

On a motion of Councilmember Shahid, seconded by Councilmember Waring, City Council voted unanimously to defer the Design Review Board appointments.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Now, we will take up [all of the others except for \(d\). for delta including two new appointments to the Human Affairs and Racial Conciliation Commission, including former Councilmember Marie Delcioppo.](#) Thank you for being with us. Any comments or questions about any of those other appointments?"

No one asked to speak.

On a motion of Councilmember Brady, seconded by Councilmember Waring, City Council voted unanimously to approve the following Appointments and Reappointments under Petitions and Communications:

(a). Commission on Women:

- Trischia Khouri – Chair appointment
- Leslie Skardon – New appointment

(b). Human Affairs and Racial Conciliation Commission:

- Tom Orth – New Appointment (*Recommended by Councilmember Kevin Shealy*)
- Marie Delcioppo – New Appointment (*Recommended by Councilmember Boyd Gregg*)

(c). Minority & Women Business Enterprise (M&WBE) Advisory Committee:

- Joan Berry Robinson – Reappointment
- Emily Murray – New Appointment
- Jerome Smalls – New Appointment
- Kip Watson – New Appointment

(e). Board of Architectural Review – Small (BAR-S):

- Laura Altman – Alternate seat – Reappointment
- Lindsay Van Slambrook – Attorney seat – Reappointment
- Fillmore Wilson – Construction seat – Reappointment
- William Turner – Lay person seat – New Appointment

(f). Board of Zoning Appeals-Site Design (BZA-SD):

- Jennifer DeCiantis – Arborist seat – Reappointment
- Kelvin Huger – Attorney seat – Reappointment

- Ruthie Ravenel – Real Estate seat – Reappointment

(g). Board of Zoning Appeals-Zoning (BZA-Z):

-- Jeff Tibbals – Attorney seat – Reappointment

(i). Planning Commission:

-- Loquita Bryant-Jenkins – Citizen seat – Reappointment

-- McKenna Joyce – Attorney seat – Reappointment

-- Harry Lesesne – Citizen seat – Reappointment

Councilmember Gregorie was not present for the vote.

Councilmember Gregorie returned to the Chamber at 6:26 p.m.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, “And then, now, [Item \(d\). for the Board of Architectural Review – Large \(BAR-L\)](#). Councilmember Brady or Councilmember Sakran, did you want to be recognized?”

Councilmember Sakran said, “Yes. Thank you, Mayor. Thank you, Councilmember Brady for taking this out and separating it so we can have a discussion on Item (d). So, I’m going to ask my fellow Councilmembers to defer Item 1.(d). under Appointments which is BAR - Large. The reason for my deferral request is to discuss the makeup of BAR – Large and potentially increase that number from five to seven board members, and I’d request that we defer and send it back to, my guess is Community Development. Perhaps that’s where DRB discussion needs to also end up for additional discussion, and then, I also ask the Mayor and staff to get with BAR – Large current members just to gauge their opinions on moving it from five to seven. The second reason I want to make for my request for deferral is I’ve received several communications regarding some concerns with meeting quorum requirements. These are large projects. Often times people have to recuse themselves, so it really ends up being decided by two, three, or four people. So, I think increasing that number from five to seven would negate some of those concerns. Then, lastly, just some concerns regarding consistency and predictability around decisions. There have been some instances and discussions on BAR – Large where, let’s just say, less than predictable outcomes have occurred, so I want to make sure that we have that discussion in Community Development. So, I would just ask my fellow Councilmembers to, respectfully, defer this and send it back to CD.”

Councilmember Brady said, “I’ll second it.”

Mayor Tecklenburg said, “So, that might take us a little while. It’s a little more than just the specific personnel that’s being recommended. If we’re going to go to Community Development, discuss expanding the number of people who serve on the board, and then also get input from staff, from, say the preservation groups, the community, and also from the board itself. Is that what you’re asking?”

Councilmember Sakran said, “I’m fine with that. Thank you, Mayor.”

Mayor Tecklenburg said, “Yes. Okay. Any further discussion?”

Councilmember Gregorie said, “Yes.”

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Gregorie.

Councilmember Gregorie said, "Yes. As we consider these boards, I really think we need to also take into consideration diversity because when you look at some of these boards, there are very few people that look like me or many of us in here. So, when we're making these appointments, I just hope that we can make sure that we consider diversity in our recommendations for appointments."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Yes, sir. Sometimes having a few more members can help make that easier, too."

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Seekings.

Councilmember Seekings said, "So, thank you, Mr. Mayor, and I'm glad Mr. Harris is still here. One of the things that we've taken up at the HARCC is a subcommittee on looking at internal procedures of the City, so I think if this is going to go around and about the table, it should come back to the HARCC, too. Now that we've got two new members, we can now talk about I think internally how we set up our boards, and there are some other recommendations that, I think, will come from that subcommittee, so I just don't want it to be left off of that agenda, as well."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Terrific. We can do that."

Councilmember Seekings said, "Thank you."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Alright. So, back to Councilmember Sakran."

Councilmember Sakran said, "Unless there's anyone else, I mean, speaking of HARCC, I just wanted to say thanks to Marie for being here and thanks for joining me. We look forward to your participation. Thank you."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Yes. Any further comments or questions?"

No one else asked to speak.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "So, we're going to defer the BAR appointments, as well."

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Shealy.

Councilmember Shealy said, "So, if we defer this, the people being reappointed are not reappointed. Does that mean that the BAR is still meeting while this is deferred?"

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Just as was asked before they will continue to serve until they're replaced as long as they are willing."

Councilmember Shealy said, "Okay. Thanks."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Yes."

On a motion of Councilmember Sakran, seconded by Councilmember Brady, City

Council voted unanimously to defer the appointments to Board of Architectural Review – Large (BAR-L).

Mayor Tecklenburg said, “So, and on your desks, I have a proposed appointment for our next meeting, my appointment to the Charleston Police Advisory Committee or CPAC. I think there are a few Councilmembers who are looking for you all to come forward with an appointment, as well, so please submit that to me so I can get it to Council for our next meeting.”

Councilmember Shahid said, “And I have a name for you, Mayor. I’ll send you my e-mail on.”

Councilmember Seekings said, “If we’re on that list, can we get a reminder?”

Mayor Tecklenburg said, “Terrific.”

Councilmember Seekings said, “Thanks.”

Mayor Tecklenburg said, “Yes. We want to get that committee back up to snuff, so to speak. Okay. Next up is our [Council Committee Reports](#). First, is the [Committee on Community Development](#). Councilmember Mitchell.”

Councilmember Mitchell said, “The Community Development Committee met on Thursday, February 16th at 3:00 p.m., and we only had one item under New Business. It was an ordinance to amend Section 7-14, Article 1, Chapter 7 of the Code of the City of Charleston, South Carolina to Establish an Advisory Livability Review Board for Certain Code Violations, and that passed unanimously. Then, we had on number (ii). just for discussion dealing with the Hope Center, and what I would like to do is to have a motion to approve the item that we had on the Committee and also ask Ms. Latosha Jenkins-Fludd to come up and give us a little presentation of what took place during the Community Development Committee so the other Councilmembers can hear about what’s happening to the Hope Center, if you may.”

Mayor Tecklenburg said, “Terrific. So, can we entertain a motion first to approve the formation of the Livability Board?”

Councilmember Mitchell said, “Move for approval.”

Councilmember Gregorie said, “Second.”

Mayor Tecklenburg said, “We have a motion and a second. Any discussion? I think everybody knows that this is to address vacant and abandoned properties in the City of Charleston primarily but may also take up other Code Enforcement matters.”

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Sakran.

Councilmember Sakran said, “I’ll be brief. I just want to thank Mr. Riccio and his team. This is something that I had asked for or brought up several months back, and I appreciate him getting on this and resurrecting this board. So, thanks, Dan.”

Mayor Tecklenburg said, “Yes, sir.”

On a motion of Councilmember Mitchell, seconded by Councilmember Gregorie, City Council voted unanimously to give first reading to the following bill:

An Ordinance to Amend Section 7-14 of Article 1, Chapter 7 of the Code of the City of Charleston, South Carolina to Establish an Advisory Livability Review Board for Certain Code Violations and the Abatement of Vacant Structures that Constitute a Public Nuisance, and for the Livability Review Board to Hear Appeals Pursuant to Section 21-64 of Article III, Chapter 21 of the Code of the City of Charleston, South Carolina.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Next, I'm proud to present a rock star of the City of Charleston, [Latosha Jenkins-Fludd, our Director of the Hope Center](#). She is going to give a very brief presentation about what they have been up to. While she is coming up here, I've got to just tell you, I was there on Saturday. She had all of our partners there who were providing wrap-around services to those in need. It was an amazing gathering on Saturday. That part was uplifting. The somber, sobering part was there were hundreds of citizens there, and you could see in their faces they were there for help. They needed help, and so I'm just so pleased with Latosha's work that she's really bringing the right resources together to provide that kind of help to our citizens that need it. Latosha."

Latosha Jenkins-Fludd said, "Thank you, Mayor Tecklenburg. Good morning, I'm sorry, good afternoon, you guys. It's been a long day. My name is Latosha Jenkins-Fludd, and I'm the Executive Director for the City of Charleston Hope Center. The City of Charleston Hope Center falls under the Department of Housing and Community Development where Ms. Geona Shaw Johnson oversees it. The first slide that you're looking at right now is the Hope Center at its new location in the future at 9 Cunnington Avenue. This is an aerial view of the rendering for what the new center is going to look like. I'm very excited about all of the great work that we've done as a team along with our partners in making this space a place where the unhoused can come and receive the assistance that it needs. If there are no questions, I will move on to the next slide. This is what the land parcel looks like at the moment. It's undeveloped, but we plan to get it developed soon. I think it would be more appropriate for me just to move through the slides and to ask questions or get questions at the end. The Hope Center, our Mission, our Vision, and our Values: the mission of the Hope Center is to connect our neighbors through the support and services that promote wholeness and stability. The vision of the Hope Center is to serve as a collaborative community resource center to provide comprehensive services to those who are homeless or at risk of experiencing homelessness. The values of the center are respect, compassion, safety, inclusivity, and service.

Councilmember Appel was excused from the Chamber at 6:35 p.m.

According to HUD, there are four categories of homelessness that our clients encounter that we assist on a daily basis at the Hope Center. The first category is Literal Homelessness which are individuals and families who live in a place not meant for human habitation including the streets or in their cars. The second category is the Imminent Risk of Homelessness where individuals or families will lose their primary nighttime residence within 14 days, and they have no other resources or support networks to obtain other permanent housing. Category 3 is Homeless Under Other Statutes which means unaccompanied youth under the age of 25 years old who do not meet any of the other categories, but are homeless under Federal statutes, have not had a lease, or have moved two or more times in the past 60 days, and are likely to remain unstable because of special needs or barriers. Category 4 is people that are fleeing domestic violence. Individuals or families who are fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating

violence, sexual assault, or stalking who lack resources and support networks to obtain other permanent housing.

What you're looking at right now is the 2022 South Carolina State of Homelessness Report. For the Homeless Management Information System, we had 13,399 people that were served; for our Annual Point in Time Count, in 2022 we had 3,608 people; for the Department of Veterans Affairs: Data on Homelessness, VA Housing Programs served 2,388 people; for the McKinney-Vento Data Program here in Charleston, we had 2,834 unsheltered students; for the PATH Program which serves people who have mental health issues, we had 874 persons served; for the Department of Corrections, we had 9,790; and for 2-1-1, we had 37,183 calls for homeless prevention and 5,219 calls received for homeless services.

Councilmember Appel returned to the Chamber at 6:38 p.m.

Here is some of the organizations that are served and funded by the City of Charleston: Humanities Foundation was able to assist with 44 people; One80 Place, 190; Charleston Pro Bono Legal Services, 70; the Navigation Center, 1,749; Neighbors Together, 10 for the CARES Act funds; and Palmetto Community Action Partnerships, 20, also through the CARES Act funds; and for the Palmetto Community Roper St. Francis Ryan White Clinic, 593 people were served which brings us up to a total of 2,677 people total served by organizations funded by the City of Charleston in the years of 2021-2022. Yes, sir."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "When you see that number up there 1,749, those are folks that were assisted by the City of Charleston through our former Navigation Center now known as the Hope Center. Is that right?"

Ms. Jenkins-Fludd said, "Yes, sir, Mr. Mayor. Thank you for that correction."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "So, if you look at the vast majority of folks that are being helped, are actually being served directly by our City, just for your information."

Ms. Jenkins-Fludd said, "Yes, sir. The unsheltered neighbors that the City of Charleston Outreach Team has encountered and provided assistance to between June 2021 and May 2022, our Outreach staff at the Hope Center have had 660 encounters with unhoused individuals. Of that number, 128 were new contacts and 472 of those persons were at least encountered once before.

We also partner very closely with the Charleston County School District McKinney-Vento Program, and the purpose of that program at the School District is to assist with the youth and families who lack fixed, regular nighttime residence who are living doubled up in shelters/transitional housing, hotels or motels, or any place not meant for human habitation. For the years of 2021-2022 school year, we had 274 students that were homeless and from July 2022 until the current, we actually have 289. The Charleston County School District helps 289 homeless students in the district through the McKinney-Vento Program and our partnership. We actually meet with those families, we help them find employment, we get them connected to government services and housing referrals in order to assist the district with eliminating the barriers to being homeless or to prevent them from being evicted from their homes.

What you're looking at now is what's going to be the new Hope Center. We have a total of 9,000 sq. ft. What you're looking at is Floor Plan #1, and I know it may be a little hard to see, but I'm happy to answer any questions about it after the presentation concludes. The current

services that we provide at the Hope Center is as follows: the Hope Center has served 310 people from June of last year until February of 2023 since we began our operations on June 6, 2022. Some of the services that we offer at the Hope Center are showers, laundry, clean clothing, food, respite from adverse weather, access to a social worker, access to free mobile telephones, access to housing, and access to healthcare. One thing I want to say that makes the Hope Center a little bit different from most other organizations, even though they all do good work, is we don't turn anyone that's homeless away. You can literally move to Charleston and your whole life is falling apart, you can literally have worked at a job for 30 years and lost your job, and you can come to the center, and we will help you to the best of our ability in order to help you and your family become stable. With some of the other organizations if you don't meet their requirements, sometimes help can be a little bit more challenging, but our goal is to truly meet everyone where they are and to provide the assistance that we can. If we don't offer it in-house, we will get you connected to a resource agency that can help you with it. Some of the future services at the Hope Center are employment classes, financial and budgeting classes, legal assistance, and behavioral health services.

Some of the collaborative partners that we currently partner with are the City of North Charleston, Coastal Community Church, they come once a month and they do community feedings, Fetter Healthcare Network – ShelterNet, One80 Place, Palmetto Project, Palmetto Community Action Partnership, Pro Bono Legal Services, the SHIFA Clinic, Seacoast Church, the Rotary Club of Charleston, the Continuum of Care, and Trident United Way. I have been always thinking about, what can we do to make the center a better place? What are some of our strengths? I think that I am very privileged to be able to be a part of the work that we are doing everyday when it comes to our homeless population. Even though the Hope Center has only been open for less than a year, I think we have done really great things in the community for such a short period. Some of the strengths that we subscribe to is we also follow the Housing First Model. We believe everyone has an access and a right to housing. We provide comprehensive wrap-around services in one location which is very important. One of the things I did when I first took this position is I actually went to the encampments where the unhoused live and I asked them, 'What are some things that we can do best to help you?,' and one of the comments I heard is, 'People tend to help us. They send us to a bunch of places and no one ever knows if where they sent us actually helped.' So, instead of just telling Mr. Smith, 'Mr. Smith, go to DSS,' we are actually working with DSS directly and then following back up with that representative to make sure that the help he requested was actually given. In addition to that, we are very strong with cross sector collaboration and knowledge and finding funding for housing assistance. Some other opportunities we have are rental and utility assistance, respite from adverse weather conditions, and establishing systems to ensure that homelessness is brief and non-recurring. Some of the threats the center faces are limited available housing, landlord discrimination, unaddressed client mental health issues, lack of community capacity, and some of our weaknesses are limited funding for financial assistance requests and limited provider capacity and inadequate client income.

How do we achieve long-term success? We achieve long-term success by providing comprehensive wrap-around services using evidence-based practices, we maintain and enhance collaborative partnerships, we engage the community as a partner in the provision of services and the operation of the center, we ensure that the staff has the technical expertise to provide solutions to challenges by our clients, we share our story, and we continue to raise capital to support the programs and services at the Hope Center. Thank you, and if you are interested in donating, please visit www.homelesstohopefund.org."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Any questions for Latosha?"

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Bowden.

Councilmember Bowden said, "Thanks for that presentation. The numbers of people that you've helped, do you have any sense of where those people generally stay? I mean, do they generally stay somewhere downtown or are coming from West Ashley to receive services there? Because from my perspective, and I don't have any numbers to back this up, but I've just perceived an increase of homeless individuals in like outer West Ashley which is not something that I would expect. Even when I was driving to Costco yesterday and saw like a grocery cart with a bunch of stuff on it. I mean, it looked like somebody was using it for their belongings just kind of in the road, and I know I've gotten just a bunch of e-mails about folks living over there. And I'm just wondering if we're doing enough for the people who live in West Ashley and if not, how we can help. Do we need to put together some sort of group of interested folks?"

Ms. Jenkins-Fludd said, "Thank you for that question, that's actually a great one. This past Saturday we held an event called Super Saturday. We connected with our service providers, and we provided outreach services to the community in need, and we saw 300 people there that day. We literally at 12:30 p.m. had to stop people, unfortunately, from coming because we would not have the manpower to meet the need. I believe that the numbers of the homeless, they vary. A lot of them are concentrated in different parts of the City of Charleston, but for our homeless population a part of their survival is they migrate. So, they go from the City of Charleston to North Charleston, they go West Ashley, they may go to Summerville, and then they go to places where they can sometimes hide without being seen or where they think that they have access to resources much quicker than a different city. So, honestly, it depends to be honest with you. I'm happy to follow back up and give you final numbers because we're still compiling our data from Saturday, but it fluctuates between downtown and North Charleston the most."

Councilmember Bowden said, "Thank you."

Ms. Jenkins-Fludd said, "You're welcome."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Any other questions?"

No one else asked to speak.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Again, my commendations, Latosha, you really are doing a great job. You saw, by the way, the floor plan. It's hard to see up here on the screen, but in the next just week or so, we will be finalizing these plans with our pro bono architectural firm on this project LS3P. By the way, they're taking it all the way to construction documents as part of their gift to the City. It's really a value of some hundreds of thousands of dollars, and when we finalize this in the next week, I would like to share that with Council and the exterior elevations of the building, as well, because it's going to be a very handsome building in addition to being very functional. One thing I'll point out this flexible area over here on the first floor would serve as a day center for those needing assistance and also on hot days just to be able to get out of the sun and the heat, but on cold evenings could serve as our own City-operated warming shelter. We do not have one in the City of Charleston, hard to believe. We would look to a good partner like Seacoast to help us operate it when we do go into that mode, but I wanted to share I visited the one in Columbia just a few weeks ago that the City of Columbia operates, and they're a little more inclusive in terms of the temperature that they set up shop which is 40 degrees. Most of the folks in Charleston that do warming shelters wait until it gets to 35 or even 34

degrees, and I do think starting at 40 degrees is much more humane. It would mean that we're open more nights a year than the current operators do, and they are wonderful. I don't mean to disparage them at all. They're relying totally on volunteers and all like that, but I think that would be a very humane thing to do, so my goal, at this point, when we get this together is that we would operate at 40 degrees and below and have a warming shelter available for our citizens who need it, so more to come, and then we've got to finish funding it.

We're doing great on the fundraising effort. We've got about another, we've been trying to do the balance with private philanthropy, we're about a million dollars away from our \$7 million goal, so we really are making progress. When we had a meeting at the existing Hope Center two weeks ago, we had a \$500,000 commitment from a very generous citizen, so we're real close. As Latosha said, if anybody wants to help donate, I'll say that to everybody in the room and anybody online, www.homelesstohopefund.org which is managed by our partner, the Palmetto Project, by the way. They've been our partner on the financial side of our fundraising for homeless efforts ever since Tent City some years ago. Okay. I could go on, but I won't. Latosha, thank you, again, very much."

Ms. Jenkins-Fludd said, "Thank you, sir."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you for that report. Council, thank you for your support on this as we go forward. Next up is our [Committee on Recreation](#), Councilmember Shealy."

Councilmember Mitchell was excused from the Chamber at 6:51 p.m.

Councilmember Shealy said, "Thank you, Mr. Mayor. The Committee on Recreation met last Tuesday at 2:00 p.m. We had an Enterprise Manager Report that Laurie actually gave, but she was talking about our Enterprise Manager, Justen Braddock, and Bethany Doman who is our Marketing Coordinator. They've worked hard for the last several months and have gotten some great sponsorships in. The big win for them is that the Charleston RiverDogs gave us \$15,000, so it was a big win for us. Dave Echols happened to be in attendance. He was recognized, didn't speak, but was recognized and thanked for that. But if you know any business leaders out there, us as Councilmembers, encourage them to try to talk to our Enterprise Manager. We're coming up with some great new ideas and some great new ways to help raise funds through our Recreation Department. So, if you have any business owners that you see that do a lot of advertising, if you would help Justen out with that and help Laurie. I know they would appreciate it. We do look forward to hearing from our Enterprise Manager more at our future Recreation Committee meetings, as well, and hope to have more great stories like he did this time.

We've got two lighting projects going on at our tennis centers, the Maybank Tennis Center and the Charleston Tennis Center. The work has probably been completed now at the Charleston Tennis Center, I would imagine, Laurie. I know it was close when we met last week."

Councilmember Mitchell returned to the Chamber at 6:52 p.m.

Laurie Yarbrough said, "Yes, that is correct. I'll speak up for Jason. I don't think he was able to be here tonight, but the Charleston Tennis Center is finished. If you go by there, the lighting is not spilling over at all, but the light is great. The LED lights are awesome, so, hopefully, we will get some great comments from our players, and the work has started at Maybank Tennis Center. So, it'll start on the hard courts and then go to the clay courts."

Councilmember Shealy said, "Great. Thank you, Laurie, and there are a couple of poles that have to be put up at Maybank. It's just a little bit more work at Maybank than there was at Charleston Tennis Center, but glad to see that will be up and operating real soon."

We had a disc golf update. Mr. Kronsberg's team walked the disc golf course at West Ashley Park. The damaged steps that were there will be removed, and some timber-type earthen steps are going to be installed in there. Supplies have been ordered to replace the bridges that are needing replacement, and Ms. Laurie Yarbrough also walked the course with Bart Altman, who heads up the disc golf community, to look at all of the work that he has done on that course. Mr. Altman applied also for a permit to use Hampton Park in December to have a big disc golf tournament, so, and he would like to have some future events similar to that at West Ashley Park as we move along and improve that park. But, also, the Enterprise Manager, Justen, will be meeting with Mr. Altman, as well, about some ways that we may be able to sponsor disc golf and maybe put some signage on the holes and some different ideas that they're throwing around, so I'm excited to hear what comes out of that. There were some good discussions on the request from the pickleball community to have some storage at the Bees Landing courts. I think Ms. Copeland has given the go ahead on that, and Laurie and her team are working through that now. Mr. Don White from the pickleball community visited our meeting, as well, and was recognized and spoke.

Laurie gave us a great update on youth sports and field use. We looked at sports going all the way back to 2013, mainly in four boroughs: Peninsula, James Island, West Ashley, and Daniel Island. Three of those four areas are growing at a pretty good pace in participation with the Peninsula actually seeing a decline in youth participation. Laurie shared she thinks it's just because there are less children living on the Peninsula than there were in the past, and that's why that participation is down a little bit. So, there's more participation in most sports. Tackle football has less participation happening right now. There are concerns for safety there, but to make up for some of that we've got additional flag football offerings which also is less expensive for the participants and, of course, helps that safety concern. Ms. Yarbrough showed us where the athletic fields and all of our fields and courts were located, explained the seasonal participation in each of those, and she also showed the list of non-City permitted athletic organizations who use our fields, and the amount that they use those. She explained the multiple marketing processes we have to let the community know about our sports and recreation offerings. She spoke about the joint usage agreements that we have with Charleston County schools, and it's being updated with improvements to Stoney Field now, of course, and the anticipated use of fields in coordination with St. Johns High School. Robin Cooper has just done a great job. Things are growing out there. We're getting more and more participation in most of our areas, and I think she's done an outstanding job. Last night I was walking through West Ashley Park and Stacy Collins was telling me we had just under a thousand kids out there. It was incredible to see that many kids out primarily on the soccer fields last night as I was walking through West Ashley Park. Also, Mallary Scheer is working on an agreement with USA Management who specializes in finding seasonal aquatics staff throughout the Carolinas and Georgia. As a Committee, we unanimously approved the seasonal lifeguard contract with the ability for Mallary to finalize that negotiation and, I think, we as a Council need to vote to move that contract forward as negotiated by Legal Counsel. So, I guess, I'd like to make that motion that we do so. Thank you."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "So, there was a motion, did we have a second?"

Councilmember Shahid said, "Second."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Yes. Alright. Any further discussion on that? This is really going to help our aquatics program this year."

The Clerk said, "Mr. Mayor, staff withdrew this at the Ways and Means meeting because they're still working on it."

Councilmember Shealy said, "Okay. So, it does not need--"

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "It should actually come back to the Ways and Means Committee next time, but the Recreation Committee approved it in concept, and it's just subject to the final Legal negotiation on the contract to come forward."

Councilmember Shealy said, "Alright. I'll withdraw my motion then."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "It should be coming to our next meeting."

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Waring.

Councilmember Waring said, "Yes. I do have a question to the Chairman of Recreation, well, more something to report than a question. This is new for Councilmember Mitchell. I didn't get to run this by you. I have a good friend who is in the restaurant business, and a couple of months ago or about a month ago, they had an occasion to go to the Devine Center and actually go into the commercial kitchen. He told me that he thought there were several violations. This person has been in the restaurant business about 40 years. Some simple corrections he thought needed to be made over there. So, I actually went by Monday, went inside, and actually took some pictures. There's some paint on the wall as big as my palm curling over in the commercial kitchen. So, I think before we get some people from DHEC by there, I think we ought to get some maintenance over there to take a look at that."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "We will be glad to."

Councilmember Waring said, "Okay. Great."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Yes, sir."

Councilmember Waring said, "And, then, the second thing was, do we have any pickleball courts on James Island? Because I've got a couple of friends on James Island burning me up on that."

Ms. Yarbrough said, "Yes, sir. We do. We have pickleball courts lined off at Thomas Johnson Park, and then because we have no lighted pickleball courts we've actually put some temporary tape down at the corner of Harborview and Fort Johnson on one of the existing tennis courts to allow for pickleball to be played in the evening."

Councilmember Waring said, "So, about how many do we have on James Island?"

Ms. Yarbrough said, "So, right now, we have four that are run all of the time there and then one that's got just temporary lines down. I can also share that the Lowcountry Senior Center is moving forward on a project. Their membership has done fundraising, and they're looking to put at least two courts in their area of space on James Island, as well."

Councilmember Waring said, "Well, it's actually a person who is a member of that who is burning me up about it."

Ms. Yarbrough said, "Yes."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "How many courts are they putting in?"

Ms. Yarbrough said, "They're looking at two with the possibility of more depending on whether or not they put lights in and how much the costs come in. The popularity at the Waring Senior Center of those pickleball courts has certainly spurred the members of the Lowcountry Senior Center to look for the same thing."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Off the chart."

Councilmember Waring said, "Whatever we can do to help that at the Senior Center on James Island, please let us know. Thank you."

Ms. Yarbrough said, "Yes, sir, and we will do that. We have a couple of work orders called in at St. Julian, that is a commercial kitchen, but we do not have a DHEC permit to serve and cook food out of that. That was a little bit before my time, but there are some things that would have to be done to make that a functioning commercial kitchen with a DHEC permit including a new vent and exhaust system, so there's some cost to that. So, right now, it's more of a holding kitchen, so when events rent it, they have a refrigerator, a place to put and store things and bring them out."

Councilmember Waring said, "We have some good equipment in there."

Ms. Yarbrough said, "It is. We had a group that donated a freezer to us like a large commercial one and a refrigerator, but we do not have the ability to legally cook in there."

Councilmember Waring said, "I'm not asking to cook anything."

Ms. Yarbrough said, "Please don't. If anybody works for DHEC, don't call me, but we do have those work orders."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "I think there's a distinction between a serving area and a bonafide kitchen. People can bring food in, and then you can serve it and store it."

Ms. Yarbrough said, "We do better at that, Councilmember Waring, being a serving kitchen rather than a cooking kitchen."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Alright. Any other questions or comments on Recreation?"

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Mitchell.

Councilmember Mitchell said, "Are you finished?"

Councilmember Shealy said, "Yes, that's all for my report."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Did you have something?"

Councilmember Mitchell said, "This is not dealing with his report. I don't have a problem with that, but my problem is right now the Eastside. I'm getting beat up, and I'm getting calls all day long and, Mr. Mayor, I called and spoke to you about it."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Yes, sir."

Councilmember Mitchell said, "And I said the people over in the Eastside are thinking that you are taking away everything that they have over there. They figure that this is by design, and that's why you're doing it. I'm getting calls like 12:00 a.m. and 1:00 a.m. from parents. They said they are actually angry because Mr. Jones is not there. There's nothing going on with the Eastside for these young people, and I'm over there every day. The park is almost empty because the kids are not coming out there because if they don't have someone that they can recognize or they can deal with, they're not going to be coming. The kids are running wild again, our young people, and I've got a problem with it, and I'm angry. I'm very, very angry. I sit here and see all of these things going on. I see what's happening to all of these parks there. I've been sitting here all of these years, and I'm doggone angry. I talked to Councilmember Gregorie when I was coming over, and I said, 'I'm angry,' because my kids who look like me, my kids are being disrupted, and they are not getting anything, and they are running wild and getting into things that they should not be getting in if they had someone there on the Eastside to work with them. I've got a problem with that, and the parents are calling me and saying, 'Oh, is this designed?' They had Mr. Jones, and they said, 'Oh, he's on the garbage truck now. Garbage and sanitation is more important than our kids running the streets?' That's what they're asking me. I tell them, 'I don't know. Call the Mayor. Don't ask me.' You know, I said, 'I don't know. I don't know what's going on,' and it teed me off, and I'm getting angry because I'm hearing all of these things that are happening at all of these parks, and I'm in the City of Charleston, I'm on the Peninsula, but go to Martin Park and Mall Park and see how many things are going on over there. Come on, that's one of the oldest parks. They're older parks. I grew up in Hampton Park back in Harmon Field, but this is over there now, and I represent that area, and I'm getting the calls.

I got a call from some big people in the community, also. They wanted to come down and do a press conference right here, and I told them 'no.' They wanted to come here and march in front of City Hall. I told them 'no.' I said, 'I'll talk to them and deal with it,' because this is what they wanted to do. I'm trying to keep all of this down so they wouldn't flare up and make us look bad in here, that people are all of a sudden causing people to be divided again. Come on, we've got to stop this kind of carrying on, so this is why I'm kind of angry, Mr. Mayor. I'm angry, and very seldom you see me get this kind of way, but I'm very angry. I work with everyone in this City and the parks and everyone, but I'm very, very angry when I see something like this happen. I don't know why Mr. Jones was moved from there. That's not my problem. I talked to the Mayor about it, but that's what he has to deal with. But if you have those kids over there and no one to work with them, they're going to run wild. They just went in those buildings on Morrison Drive. Why? Because nobody is there because they don't have anything to do anymore, so they're going to find something to do that's disruptive. Come on, people, you've got to wake up. That's all I've got to say."

Ms. Yarbrough said, "Mayor, may I respond?"

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Could we allow Laurie to respond?"

Ms. Yarbrough said, "So, the Mayor and I have talked a couple of times in regards to what we're doing in different parks in different areas. We have staff at Martin Park. I was down

there today, this afternoon. We've had a lot of things going on in our aquatics. As a matter of fact, I've spent a lot of time on Martin Park and MLK pool, so it's definitely in my eyesight. I go through there all of the time, as well as Mall Park. Councilmember Mitchell, I know you called me a couple of weeks ago when school was out, and the park house was not open. We did have an employee that called out sick that day and within 15 minutes had someone there to cover, so I am 100% understanding of your frustration. I don't want your constituents beating you up. Please call me anytime, and I'll meet you out there and work with you and your residents."

Councilmember Mitchell said, "Mr. Mayor."

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Mitchell.

Councilmember Mitchell said, "Laurie, they're not going to listen to you."

Ms. Yarbrough said, "I'm sorry."

Councilmember Mitchell said, "They're not going to listen to you because they think if Mr. Jones is not there, they're thinking that the City is doing something to him because that's what they want to do to get him off of that area. This is what's happening. This is why they're calling me. They figured that's what I'm telling Mr. Mayor, that they said the garbage/sanitation is more important than their kids. That's why they moved them off of the park because he had the kids coming. There's no basketball going on, there's no baseball going on, there's nothing going on. I'm out there every day. I'm at that park, so I'm going to tell you there is nothing going on with those young boys out there that are getting in trouble right now. Right now, as we speak, right now a new building that was built just the other day that a lot of money was put into on that Eastside, to help those kids go away to the South Carolina State University game. They put a lot of money in that, and the kids have gone in there because they don't have anything else to do anymore. They said, 'Oh, the City took Mr. Jones away from us,' that same Mayor is doing it. This is why they're calling, and that's why I called Mr. Mayor, and I said, 'I'm calling you, Mr. Mayor, and I'm pulling your coattail.' This is what I did. Very seldom you hear me get upset and angry with certain things, but I'm telling you facts. They're not going to hear anything you've got to say. Ms. Laurie, all respect to you, they're not going to hear anything you've got to say because they figured that you and the rest are doing it to them, and that's why they are pulling away. This is what's going on.

Like I said, they wanted to march in front of here, they wanted to march on the Mayor, and I'm trying to hold everything back as I always do to try to keep harmony and peace, but this is what they're doing. They want to come and petition. I said, 'No, no, no. I'll talk and handle this. Don't do this right now.' I don't need our City to look bad with this and the media pick it up and say, 'Look what they're doing to the little Black kids.' This is what's going to happen. So, I'm trying, but it's hard because they are calling me, and they are out there. I've been on the Eastside today before I came to the Council meeting. When I saw the people coming, I drove off because I knew they were coming after me, so I drove off because I don't want to hear it again because they're coming to me. They're going to call me. They're not going to call you."

Ms. Yarbrough said, "And I respect you, Councilmember Mitchell. I've worked with you for years, and I know how hard you work and the hours you work."

Councilmember Mitchell said, "I'm passionate about this."

Ms. Yarbrough said, "I understand totally and, believe it or not, while I don't live on the Eastside and haven't represented those constituents, I'm just as passionate, as well. We've now added a soccer program on Thursdays that happens right after school, and it's free and open to the kids. We've also got Des Brown who is an African American gentleman that's doing pickleball over there with the kids at Martin Park. So, we're trying to do some things in addition to not just Martin and Mall, but also at St. Julian. We're working with Charleston Promise Neighborhood who is in that school, Sanders-Clyde. It's not a perfect world, but we are efforting."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you."

Councilmember Mitchell said, "I understand, Laurie, but you're still not understanding exactly what I'm saying."

Ms. Yarbrough said, "Sir. I hear you."

Councilmember Mitchell said, "That's all I'm saying."

Ms. Yarbrough said, "I promise you I hear you."

Councilmember Mitchell said, "You know what I'm saying?"

Ms. Yarbrough said, "Yes, sir. I hear you."

Councilmember Mitchell said, "You understand what I'm saying?"

Ms. Yarbrough said, "Yes, sir. I hear you."

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Gregorie.

Councilmember Gregorie said, "Yes, just for clarification, the issue is from what I'm gleaning, the transfer of someone who was very successful with the children on the park to another place in the City. Now, perhaps, there was a greater need there, I don't know, but if moving a person or transferring a person is causing problems with regard to our children, to me there's a simple solution, just move him back. Unless there were other circumstances that perhaps we're not aware of with regard to the move, but I still don't understand why Mr. Jones was moved from Parks and Recreation to Sanitation because it appears as though it is having an effect, Mayor, in the area."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "First of all, one of the questions is about our facilities over in Councilmember Mitchell's district, and if you look at the facilities we have, frankly, compared to most other parts of the City, both facilities and staff exceed most other places we have. As Laurie mentioned, our only year-round pool at the MLK pool. We have Martin Park which has a staff, playhouse, and programs available. We have the St. Julian Devine Center which the City just reinvested a couple of million dollars in which is also staffed and has numerous programs there. We have a park house in Hampstead Square which is just a few blocks away and has programs off of there. We have the Shaw Center which is also a few blocks from there which has even additional programs, so we have facilities in this part of our City, and they're all open, and operated, and functioning, and staffed, and offering programs to our kids.

Mr. Jones, who is here, was not an employee of the Recreation Department. He worked for the Executive Department, and he was a community liaison. It wasn't dedicated as in that position to working with children and Recreation. He does have his own non-profit organization which I presume is still active, and we arranged the schedule for a dire or a pressing City need and arranged the schedule so he only has to report for that need three days a week which leaves him time to do his non-profit and still put teams together. In addition to all the facilities and staff I just mentioned, I do believe there are lots of opportunities on the Eastside. I certainly respect, Councilmember Mitchell, your passion for all of this and all like that, but honestly his position wasn't a Recreation position to start with. So, I know his passion for kids and helping them and being a mentor to kids, and we certainly support your efforts to continue to do that. So, if we could get back to the agenda."

Councilmember Gregorie said, "Mayor, can I have a follow-up question for you?"

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Yes, sir."

Councilmember Gregorie said, "It's a follow-up question because understanding that the person was on your staff, but if the neighborhood is asking for a specific person, shouldn't we consider that?"

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "I mean, sure, any consideration of our citizens should be taken into account, and I'd be glad to talk to any of them. Councilmember Mitchell, if you want to direct them to me, that would be terrific. So, if I may, this wasn't on the agenda, and it's a somewhat related personnel matter, so I'd like to proceed with the agenda and move on with our business, and happy to follow up on this with you directly, Councilmember Mitchell, and with Mr. Jones, as well."

Councilmember Mitchell said, "Alright."

Councilmember Waring said, "Mr. Mayor."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "So, next up is our Committee on Public Works."

Councilmember Waring said, "Mr. Mayor, you're right, it wasn't on the agenda, but maybe we should ask for it to be placed on the agenda next week. If you're going to cut off the dialogue, you allowed it. It's not on the agenda and you are accurate on that, and you can cut it off as the Presiding Officer, but maybe we can put it on the agenda for next week."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "I'll be happy to refer it either to the Recreation Committee or to Human Resources. I'll be happy to do that, and then it can come to Council."

Councilmember Mitchell was excused from the Chamber at 7:14 p.m.

Councilmember Waring said, "Well, we can have it come to Council because for years we've seen Mr. Jones come up here celebrating these kids. We've seen them lined up here."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "I understand that."

Councilmember Waring said, "Various State championships and the like representing the City, and we applauded them with standing ovations. I didn't know he wasn't in the Recreation Department. Once this is solved, it seems like we could put him in the Recreation

Department. It's your call. I'll stop the conversation on that, but that's a community need and a void that can be rectified. That's all."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Alright. Next up is our [Committee on Public Works](#), Councilmember Waring."

Councilmember Waring said, "Yes, sir. We met yesterday, a great report. Our Environmental people, again, are on time with their sanitation pickups which is a big victory as we all know. The increased salaries that we passed in the last budget is working. New hires are coming on. We're still not at our full complement, but success is in progress, let me put it like that. We had a number of drainage projects we got updates on. Mr. Fountain gave a great report on the Dowden Area Project, Forest Acres Project, East Oak Forest/West Oak Forest Project, Citadel Woods/Wildwood Project, and a report on recent Stormwater grants and applications which our people are literally doing. The money that we're getting on grants and stuff is just outstanding and then, obviously, we had an update on the discussion on the Army Corps of Engineers. With that, that's the extent of my report, and I move for adoption of the report, Mr. Mayor."

Councilmember Brady said, "Second."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Any discussion?"

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Shahid.

Councilmember Shahid said, "Thank you, Mr. Mayor. I just wanted to reemphasize what we talked about yesterday with Councilmember Waring's Committee in that these projects that are listed under 3.b. when Mr. Fountain presented it to us yesterday, when you look at the Overlay Maps in which these areas are impacting, it certainly includes a significant geographical area of West Ashley, and the impact of these projects can't go unnoticed. Just a tip of the hat to Mr. Fountain and how he's coordinating all of this. There's a lot more work that needs to be done, obviously, in West Ashley where the majority of these projects are located, but we will see the fruits of this hard work coming to realization immediately, so I just wanted to make that comment and thank Mr. Fountain for the work he is doing on that."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Great. Terrific. And, Mr. Chairman, if I may also add a comment, as I did at our Committee meeting, but I think it notes to be in the public record, when we discussed that last matter, a discussion of United States Army Corps of Engineers potential funding projects, that was relative to an authorization that was put in the Federal budget for just over \$25 million for the City of Charleston. Now, you have to take an authorization, make a project, and then get the money appropriated before you actually get the check, so it's just the beginning of a process, but you don't ever get the check unless you get authorized to start with. So, the first box got checked, and I want to publicly thank Congresswoman Nancy Mace for putting that item in the Federal budget for us, and over time that will be a significant funding source for a number of these projects in the City if we continue to work it right with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers which, of course, we intend to do."

Councilmember Mitchell returned to the Chamber at 7:17 p.m.

Councilmember Waring said, "Thank you, Mr. Mayor. He made that observation at Public Works, and thank you for highlighting that again tonight. Thank you, Mr. Mayor."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you. Alright. Next up is our---"

The Clerk said, "We need to vote."

Councilmember Brady said, "Move for approval."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Oh, move for approval. We've got an approval of the report. Any further questions or comment?"

No one else asked to speak.

On a motion of Councilmember Waring, seconded by Councilmember Brady, City Council voted unanimously to adopt the Committee on Public Works and Utilities Report, as presented:

a. Public Service Department Update

(i). Environmental Services Update

b. Stormwater Management Department Update:

(i). Dowden Area Project Update

(ii). Forest Acres Project Update

(iii). East Oak Forest/West Oak Forest Drainage Plans Update

(iv). Citadel Woods/Wildwood Project Update

(v). Report on Recent Stormwater Grants and Applications

(vi). Discussion on United States Army Corps of Engineers Potential Funding Requests

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Next, our [Committee on Ways and Means.](#)"

Councilmember Mitchell said, "Move for approval."

Councilmember Brady said, "Second."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Alright."

Councilmember Mitchell said, "As amended."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "As amended, and any comments or discussion?"

No one asked to speak.

On a motion of Councilmember Mitchell, seconded by Councilmember Brady, City Council voted unanimously to adopt the Committee on Ways and Means Report, as amended:

(Bids and Purchases (***Contract for seasonal lifeguards was withdrawn***))

(Housing and Community Development: Mayor and City Council are requested to increase the award of a HOPWA grant by \$10,000.00 from \$128,618.00 to \$138,618.00. The purpose of the increase is to address a collapsed sewer line as the developer finalizes the reconstruction of a historic home, which will provide two, two-bedroom apartments for persons earning eighty (80%) percent and below the Area Median Income in the Eastside Community.

- (Office of Culture Affairs: Approval to apply for renewal of annual support from the South Carolina Arts Commission to support the MOJA Arts Festival, Free Verse Festival, Piccolo Spoleto, and City Gallery at Waterfront Park. After-the-fact submittal due to time constraints. A 3:1 City match is required. Matching funds will come from corporate sponsorship, admissions, and private donations. This is an after-the-fact approval.
- (Office of Culture Affairs: Approval to apply for a grant in the amount of \$525,000 from Bloomberg Philanthropies to support public art initiatives in 2024 and 2025. Due to time constraints, this grant application was submitted on February 15 and OCA requests after-the-fact approval.
- (Police Department: Approval of a Research Agreement between USC and CPD in the amount of \$72,930.00 to work in collaboration to conduct a formal, external review and assessment (ERA) of progress on the racial biased audit implementation. Costs were budgeted utilizing ARPA funding. **(Approved and referred to the Public Safety Committee.)**
- (Police Department: Approval to submit an application for the FY24 SCDPS Edward Byrne Justice Assistance Grant for \$37,267.00 for an Argon Laser. The laser will be used by CPD Forensic Services for the improved detection of latent fingerprints. There is a 10% match of \$3,727 for this grant, which will need to be budgeted for in FY24 Budget.
- (Police Department: Approval of a renewal of a contract between the City of Charleston and Turn 90 in the amount of \$85,000.00. Turn 90 provides a post release re-entry program for recently released inmates. The costs are budgeted for in the FY23 Budget.
- (Budget, Finance, and Revenue Collections: Approval of an Amendment to the City's Procurement Policy to allow for an increase in certain thresholds as well as inclusion of a requirement for solicitation of an MWBE vendor when applicable. [Resolution]
- (Budget, Finance, and Revenue Collections: Approval of a License Agreement with Sandlapper Tours, Inc. for their vessel, Palmetto, to operate out of the Charleston Maritime Center.
- (Budget, Finance, and Revenue Collections: Approval of a License Agreement with Charleston Sailing Adventures for their vessel, Prevailing Winds, to operate out of the Charleston Maritime Center.
- (Budget, Finance, and Revenue Collections: Approval of a License Agreement with Sandlapper Tours, Inc. for their vessel, Skiff, to operate out of the Charleston Maritime Center.
- (Budget, Finance, and Revenue Collections: Approval of a License Agreement with Charleston Sailing Adventures for their vessel, Double Fun, to operate out of the Charleston Maritime Center.
- (Stormwater Management: Approval to increase Low Battery Seawall Restoration – Phase III Increase P172438- Vibration Monitoring with Insight Group in the amount of \$5,050.00 for additional vibration monitoring through March 2023 due to additional resident concerns about the impact of vibrations from construction work. This increase is to have 1 monitor for 4 weeks. The approval of P172438 will increase the PO amount by \$5,050.00 (from \$47,400.00 to \$52,450.00). The funding sources for this project are: Hospitality Funds (\$17,077,901.53), Municipal Accommodations Tax Funds (\$15,651,479.68), Charleston County Accommodations Tax Fees (\$400,000.00), CWS Contributions (\$4,874,746.00) and 2022 Hospitality Revenue Bond (\$37,002,490.53).

(Fire Department: Approval to apply for the 2023 Healthcare Preparedness Program (HPP) Grant. The project will be to purchase four (4) kits for the Lowcountry region as part of a bigger project in BP5 of the grant. The cost of the kit is \$75,689.66, with the total project costing \$302,759.64. This will provide the Charleston Fire Department useful tools in providing area monitoring for hazardous materials to use at large planned events such as the Bridge Run or emergency events. This is a 10% in-kind match with the grant. The department will use the salary costs of participants in the coalition to satisfy the match.

(Authorization for the Mayor to execute a Fourth Amendment to Lease between the City of Charleston and Ecovest-East Shed Development, LLC. The property is owned by the City of Charleston. (23 Ann Street, East Shed at Charleston Visitor Center, TMS: 460-16-02-010) [Ordinance]

(Please consider the following annexations:

- 19 Oakdale Place (.47 acre) (TMS# 418-14-00-003), West Ashley, (District 9). The property is owned by Elizabeth Oakley and Cindy Carter.
- 1419 Adele Street (.13 acre) (TMS# 351-07-00-046), West Ashley, (District 7). The property is owned by Kerr Adele Properties LLC.

First reading was given to the following resolution and bills:

A Resolution to amend various sections of the Procurement Policy of the City of Charleston.

An ordinance authorizing the Mayor to execute on behalf of the City a Consent and Fourth Amendment to Lease Agreement between the City and Ecovest-East Shed Development, LLC of property known as the East Shed located at TMS# 460-16-02-010 dated January 19, 2016

An ordinance to provide for the annexation of property known as 19 Oakdale Place (.47 acre) (TMS# 418-14-00-003), West Ashley, Charleston County, to the City of Charleston, shown within the area annexed upon a map attached hereto and make it part of District 9. The property is owned by Elizbaeth Oakley and Cindy Carter.

An ordinance to provide for the annexation of property known as 1419 Adele Street (.13 acre) (TMS# 351-07-00-046), West Ashley, Charleston County, to the City of Charleston, shown within the area annexed upon a map attached hereto and make it part of District 7. The property is owned by Kerr Adele Properties LLC.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Next--"

Councilmember Brady said, "Move to take [one through six together.](#)"

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Actually, number four was deferred by staff, so we have one, two, three, five, and six for approval."

Councilmember Brady said, "Yes, that's right."

Councilmember Mitchell said, "Move for approval."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "We will take those together. We have a second. Any discussion on any of those?"

No one asked to speak.

On a motion of Councilmember Brady, five (5) bills (Items L-1 through L-3, and L-5 and L-6) received second reading. They passed second reading on motion by Councilmember Mitchell and third reading on motion of Councilmember Shealy. On further motion of Councilmember Mitchell, the rules were suspended, and the bills were immediately ratified as:

2022-036 - AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE ON BEHALF OF THE CITY A THIRD AMENDMENT TO LEASE AGREEMENT PERTAINING TO THE LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY AND THE CHARLESTON DIGITAL CORRIDOR FOUNDATION OF PROPERTY LOCATED AT 999 MORRISON DRIVE DATED JANUARY 19, 2016, AS AMENDED BY FIRST AMENDMENT TO LEASE DATED JANUARY 9, 2018 AND SECOND AMENDMENT TO LEASE DATED MAY 28, 2019.

2022-037 - AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE EMERGENCY ACCESS EASEMENT AGREEMENT FOR THE BENEFIT OF SHER BROTHERS, LLC

2022-038 - AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A LEASE AMENDMENT BETWEEN CITY OF CHARLESTON AND TRAVESE POINT, LLC TO EXTEND THE LEASE TERM AN ADDITIONAL YEAR TO MARCH 31, 2024, FOR PROPERTY LOCATED 2093 EXECUTIVE HALL ROAD, CHARLESTON, SC 29407.

2022-040 - AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE ANNEXATION OF PROPERTY KNOWN AS 9 APOLLO ROAD (.2 ACRE) (TMS# 418-13-00-229), WEST ASHLEY, CHARLESTON COUNTY, TO THE CITY OF CHARLESTON, SHOWN WITHIN THE AREA ANNEXED UPON A MAP ATTACHED HERETO AND MAKE IT PART OF DISTRICT 9. THE PROPERTY IS OWNED BY SUE B. CHANSON.

2022-041 - AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 21-OFFENSES; ARTICLE II-NOISE; DIVISION 2-SOUND TRUCKS; TO UPDATE DEFINITION OF SOUND TRUCK.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "I think we have [one item up for first reading. This is to make some modifications just to the member terms for City Council and Citizen Resiliency and Sustainability Advisory Committee.](#) That's a mouthful."

Councilmember Brady said, "Move for approval."

Councilmember Shealy said, "Second."

The Clerk said, "And, Mr. Mayor, Magalie provided everyone with an amended ordinance. I don't know if she wants to go over the amendments, but does the motion include the amendment?"

Councilmember Brady said, "Yes."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "It was mostly just some housekeeping so that we stagger the terms of our Councilmembers on that Committee the way it was written before they all kind of came on and off at the same time, and we felt like it was more consistent to stagger them. Any comments or questions on that?"

No one asked to speak.

On a motion of Councilmember Brady, seconded by Councilmember Shealy, City Council voted unanimously to give first reading to the following bill:

An ordinance to amend Chapter 2, Article IV, Division 7, Section 2-183(b) of the Code of the City of Charleston to stagger the member terms of the City Council/Citizen Resiliency and Sustainability Advisory Committee.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "The next regular meeting is--"

Councilmember Waring said, "Wait a minute, Mr. Mayor, let me ask a question on number four."

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Waring.

Councilmember Waring said, "I'd like, the Standing Committee Ordinance, I'd like that to be on the next Council agenda. It was deferred for this meeting. I think we need to get to a point of voting that up or down, and if I could ask, the question was brought up whether we are unconstitutional with this. I do have a question. We could vote to modify the ordinance, I mean, we can vote to put the ordinance in place, but if we modify the ordinance, it's unconstitutional, so I think we need to look that up. So, if our Counsel can maybe bring some information on that two weeks from now, I'd be appreciative. Thank you."

Councilmember Gregorie said, "Mr. Mayor, if I may."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Could I ask first on that item was the intent of Council, I'm just trying to refresh my memory, for it to go back to the Rules Committee or not?"

Councilmember Brady said, "There is an Ad Hoc Rules Committee that we're working to schedule, if I'm not mistaken, Madam Clerk."

The Clerk said, "Yes. So, they will be meeting before March 14th, before our next Council meeting so this could be on there."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Yes. Alright. Terrific."

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Gregorie.

Councilmember Gregorie said, "Yes, Mr. Mayor, because I definitely would like for our Corporation Counsel, when it's alleged that we are looking at something that is unconstitutional, that's problematic for me, and we had no discussions on it. I know our Corporation Counsel would not submit anything for us to vote on that's unconstitutional, and I'm getting a little miffed at some of the discussions that we had that continue to question the legitimacy of the recommendations from our Corporation Counsel. I'm getting a little tired of it. I mean, we need to, I'll shut up. Okay. Thank you, Mr. Mayor."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you. Alright. Anything further to come before us tonight?"

No one else asked to speak.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "The next meeting is March 14th, and I'm sure we will see you all before then. We stand adjourned."

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

Jennifer B. Cook
Clerk of Council