

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
COUNCIL CHAMBER**

Regular Meeting  
April 11, 2023

The one hundred forty-first meeting of the City Council of Charleston was held this date convening at 5:43 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 April 6, 2023 and appeared in the Post and Courier on April 10, 2023.

PRESENT (10)

The Honorable John J. Tecklenburg, Mayor

Councilmember Gregg ( <i>absent</i> )	District 1	Councilmember Waring	District 7
Councilmember Shealy ( <i>absent</i> )	District 2	Councilmember Seekings	District 8
Councilmember Sakran ( <i>absent</i> )	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	District 12

Mayor Tecklenburg called the meeting to order at 5:43 p.m.

The Clerk called the roll.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Note Councilmember Brady entering the room. If you all would like to join us, Councilmember Seekings is going to lead us in an invocation and Pledge of Allegiance."

Councilmember Seekings opened the meeting with an invocation.

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

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Alright. You all we have a few presentations this evening. If you all don't mind, I'm going to join the first two kind of together. That's a [Proclamation recognizing Fair Housing Month along with a proclamation recognizing Attainable Housing](#) since those are kind of related. I'd like to ask Geona Johnson to come forward who is the Director of our Department of Housing and Community Development. Also Otha Meadows is with us this evening. He is the CEO of the Charleston Urban League. I want to introduce to everyone Craig Logan. He's an Executive Fellow with the Charleston Chamber of Commerce. Craig, and anyone affiliated with either one of these proclamations, please come forward. Pleased to see you. Come on up, and former Councilmember Marie Delcioppo is with us this evening. Hey, Marie. How are you? Councilmember Gregorie, you want to join us up here, as well? So, if I may read this proclamation, and then I'm going to kind of merge it with the other one, as well."

Mayor Tecklenburg read the proclamations.

There was applause in the Chamber.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Next, I would like to call on Otha Meadows who is our partner with the Trident Urban League, and he helps us execute many programs regarding affordable housing. Otha."

Otha Meadows said, "Mr. Mayor, thank you, and I'd like to thank Council for all your support that you give the Urban League to allow us to do the work we do in Fair Housing. I'd just like to talk about a few of our accomplishments this past year. This past year we answered over 300 calls to our Fair Housing Hotline. We mediated over 40 cases of landlord/tenant disputes, and we distributed over 5,000 Fair Housing fliers in three languages, English, Spanish, and Portuguese to address the emerging Brazilian population in our community. The other thing that we were able to do this year, Mr. Mayor, is we were able to put QR codes on the side of CARTA buses not only on the exterior, but also on the interior. So, an individual, all they had to do was to click on that QR code with their smart phone, and that would take them directly to our Fair Housing website, and they would be able to access all types of resources as it relates to fair housing.

If I may, I'd just like to talk for a minute about the new Affirmative Fair Housing Rule that was proposed by HUD in January of this year. The new Fair Housing Affirmative Rule says that we must do a better job in creating more inclusive communities, creating more housing choice, and eliminating discrimination. Mr. Mayor, what HUD is asking us to do is to step up our game. We have to be more transparent and more accountable in how we address fair housing issues in our community. So, to that point, I'd like to talk about the fact that HUD has acknowledged that some of the policies that they have implemented have, in fact, contributed to discrimination in housing. Just to give you an example, going back to the GI Bill, over one million African American soldiers that served in World War I were denied housing opportunities through the GI Bill. So, what HUD is asking us to do is to step up our game and to come up with more progressive and more effective solutions to how we look at fair housing in this community. To that point, Geona Shaw and Adrian have connected with me, and we are currently working on a docuseries on looking at and assessing what we've done previously in the area of fair housing and what we intend to do in the future. We intend to make this information public at the end of this month, and we will use that to develop policy for an Equity Plan for the City of Charleston over the next five years as it relates to fair housing.

Again, Mr. Mayor, I want to thank you and Council for all your support in work that we're allowed to do in the area of Fair Housing. Thank you so much."

There was applause in the Chamber.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you for your partnership. So, next, I'd like to introduce to everyone, if you haven't met Craig Logan, he is with the [Trident Chamber of Commerce](#). I've got to tell, you all, I feel like the City of Charleston for a long time has been pulling a lot of the weight for the topic of the cause of affordable housing in this region. The thing we realized is it's not just one jurisdiction, it's the whole region. Everybody's got to buy and be part of the solution. So, I want to thank Craig and the Chamber of Commerce for convening a regional group of all the jurisdictions including business leaders to help be a part of this solution. Craig."

Craig Logan said, "Thank you, Mayor. Thank you, Council. I just want to say thank you for the acknowledgement from the Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce. We do realize that it is a regional perspective that we have to take to really tackle affordable and attainable housing here within our areas. I think one way of doing that is addressing the faults that we've had in the system, identifying those, and then working to convene the region together to think about solutions and implementing solutions in our area. So, happy to work alongside these

groundbreakers in this work and as we work with the Regional Housing Coalition to bring awareness to the region. A portion of that is education. People hear the words 'affordable housing,' people hear the words 'workforce housing,' and there are automatically negative connotations that come along with that. So, what we're working to do is really convene the region together to think about how we can change the narrative behind that, what actions can we put in place to make that happen, and how can we do that as a region? So, thank you for having us here, thank you for this time, and looking forward to working together with it."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Absolutely. Yes, sir. Geona, or anyone else, would you all like to make a comment?"

No one else asked to speak.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "If I could just share a brief experience I had just yesterday, I had a gentleman call my office to request a meeting. I thought it was a little odd at first because his business 'Kion,' they are a manufacturer of forklifts. The business is on the other side of Summerville in Dorchester County. His name was Jonathan Dawley. He's the head of the plant here. They're looking to make a \$52,000,000 investment and literally triple the workforce making forklifts out of a manufacturing plant. Why did he come down to talk to the Mayor of Charleston when he is way out there in Summerville? To accentuate the point that we're at a point, you all, with our region that unless we can provide more affordable housing, it limits our economic growth for this region. It's a limiting factor, isn't it? And the Chamber of Commerce has realized this providing good jobs for our region. He's ready to hire 500 new people at this manufacturing facility, and he can't find decent affordable housing. He's actually considering providing housing on the plant property. They own 80 acres there, and I encouraged him to do that and be a pilot test case for this region to have employers actually providing some affordable housing on their own property. So, anyway, I just thought I would share that experience. It really is a team effort that we need for this whole region to solve this issue. Thank you, all, for being with us tonight."

There was applause in the Chamber.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Alright. Next up we've got a proclamation recognizing [Donate Life Month](#), and I'm going to invite Dave DeStefano, he is the President and CEO of 'We Are Sharing Hope South Carolina' to the stage. You all, I'll share the proclamation first and then introduce Dave to you."

Mayor Tecklenburg read the proclamation.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "So, Dave heads up this organization. Have you all been out to Henry Tecklenburg Drive and seen their new headquarters? We opened it, we cut the ribbon on it, about six months, maybe a year ago. It is a beautiful building West Ashley. It really is terrific, and the amount of work that they do there to save lives is just incredible. I give you Dave DeStefano."

Dave DeStefano said, "Thank you, Mr. Mayor, and thank you, City Council. As he said, April is a very important time for us. It's a time for us to pause and recognize those donor heroes who have given the gift of life, and it's time for us to celebrate the lives that they've saved. The Mayor was correct in that we have seen milestones of generosity in South Carolina over the last four or five years, and it speaks to the strength, the courage, and the character of the citizens of this great State. As the Mayor said, we were able to save over 500 lives last year and facilitate 600 gifts which is a milestone in the State, and we're very proud of the people and the work that the teams do to kind of bring that gift of life to those recipients who are waiting.

Fifteen hundred people are waiting in the State of South Carolina to receive a second chance, and we won't rest until all of them get that gift. As the Mayor said, we are very excited about the new space and welcome anyone who wants to come and give presentations about health care disparities in the State and try to educate our community on health needs and health issues throughout the State of South Carolina. So, I thank you, all, very much for your time and attention, and all of the work that you do."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you, Dave."

Councilmember Brady said, "Mr. Mayor."

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Brady.

Councilmember Brady said, "Yes, I just wanted to take a moment and just say on behalf of Donate Life, as well, yesterday was National Siblings Day which was a bittersweet day for me because my sister passed away 11 months ago, last May, after having a catastrophic stroke due to complications from COVID. But, when I arrived there, she was living and going to school in Michigan, and when I arrived there, folks from Donate Life Michigan would come in to talk to us, and unbeknownst to us, she had opted into the organ donation program. She was able to donate a liver and both of her kidneys and got to do the honor walk. I thought I had kept it together pretty good until one of the nurses had shouted out that Mary was a hero. We always had a good sibling rivalry. I was the firstborn so naturally, you know, they started with excellence."

There was laughter in the Chamber.

Councilmember Brady said, "But I said at her eulogy she had kind of one-upped me there in the end because I can't say that I saved three lives. No matter the actions that I take I can't say that. I am an organ donor, and I hope that I'm able to do that and honor her memory, as well, but I would encourage you that if you don't have that red heart on your driver's license as Mayor Tecklenburg said, please think about opting into that program because I got to personally see what that did and what it means. You're not only able to save a life, but through the loss you may have other people that get to live as well and have a loved one return to them. So, I just wanted to say that and thank you, Mr. Mayor."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you for that testimony. Appreciate it very much. So, lastly, we have a [proclamation recognizing International Dark Sky Week](#). This was requested by Councilmember Brady. So, if you would come forward along with some of the representatives of the International Dark Sky Association. I think Mr. Hoffman is with us, James Hoffman, Lowcountry Stargazers Club President, and Michael Harhold of Audubon South Carolina. You all with us please come up and join us for this proclamation."

Thomas Berta said, "Tom Berta. James Hoffman couldn't be with us."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Oh, right. So, I think Mr. Hoffman, who is not with us, was a constituent of Councilmember Brady's."

Councilmember Brady said, "He was."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "No, you were, and brought this matter to our attention. Thank you for being here a year or two later. I think we're making a little progress."

Mayor Tecklenburg read the proclamation.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "So, enjoy a dark sky. I must compliment you for bringing this issue to our attention. I'm going to share that since that time we have raised awareness about the issue and, currently, in the City of Charleston, we are replacing all of our Cobra head streetlamps to be LEDs to save energy number one, but the light is focused more downward rather than up around and in all directions in the sky. For example, when we selected the lights for the Low Battery project down on Murray Boulevard and had SC Dominion put out some samples for us, we were very observant of the pattern of spread of light that it be more downward and not upward. So, sir, your advocacy has made a difference here in the City of Charleston. I welcome you to make a remark if you would like."

Mr. Berta said, "Thank you, Mr. Mayor, City Council, and the people of Charleston. This came to my, well, I can say I'm an amateur astronomer, been doing that for many, many years. I came from places where you can see the Milky Way as beautiful as you can. I used to come down here as a young kid visiting with family to see the Milky Way, to see the stars. Do you see that here now? No. That's something we can change though. That's why we're bringing this International Dark Sky Week to the forefront for everybody here to let you know we don't want you to do away with your lights, we just want you to use them in a proper way. Use them when you need them, use timers, direct them downwards, and shield them. Don't let them go into your neighbors' windows to wake you up. So, with that, Mr. Mayor, the International Dark Sky Association thanks the City, the Mayor, the Council, and the people of Charleston. Let's make this a more safer place and better for all like sea turtles, birds, and nocturnal animals. They need the darkness just as we do. Thank you."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you very much."

Mr. Berta said, "Thank you."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Yes, sir. Would you like to say a few words?"

Michael Harhold said, "No, sir."

Councilmember Brady said, "Alright. I'm just batting a thousand today. No, I wanted to thank Tom for bringing this to my attention as we got to sit down and talk about it. I actually have my sea turtle socks on today because of International Dark Sky Week, but just the streetlights are kind of the beginning. We've been working overtime and hope to bring something to Council soon. To think of light pollution as we think of noise pollution, it's a quality of life issue the same way that we measure if your neighbor is playing a stereo too loud or there's a car too loud, and it begins to disturb your quality of life. We want to begin to think of light that way because apparently there's really nothing that stops you technically from having a spotlight on the side of your house and shining it into your neighbor's window or your neighbor's yard. Obviously, that disturbs them, that can disturb their animals. We, basically, have somewhat of a 24-hour City where you have nurses, doctors, convenience store workers, truckers, all types of occupations who live in and around you that don't work 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. So, being able to bring that light level down can help them live a higher quality of life, but also, we need to be good neighbors. In especially the areas that I represent, I know the paper had done an editorial on it, as well, and I represent Johns Island and outer West Ashley that kind of butts up against the Urban Growth Boundary. So, it kind of makes sense as we get out towards edges of the City

that we would ramp down the amount of light there, but understanding that on the Peninsula it's probably going to be more concentrated. So, we look forward to working with everybody here to bring forward something to Council soon and begin to hopefully address this quality of life issue. So, thank you, everybody."

Councilmember Shahid said, "Mr. Mayor."

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Shahid.

Councilmember Shahid said, "To accent what Councilmember Brady mentioned, there is a wonderful exhibit at the Smithsonian Institute if you haven't been to Washington recently that depicts this light pollution that Councilmember Brady is mentioning. If you ever get a chance to go up there, it just shows you the impact that light pollution has on our environment and on our residents. I would just encourage you to do that if you have an opportunity the next time you're in Washington."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Great. Thank you. Any other comment from Council?"

No one else asked to speak.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Hearing none, we will move along. Thankfully, there are no public hearings tonight. I do want to ask for approval of our [City Council minutes from March 14<sup>th</sup>.](#)"

Councilmember Mitchell said, "Move for approval."

Councilmember Gregorie said, "Second."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Any corrections, additions, or deletions?"

No one asked to speak.

On a motion of Councilmember Mitchell, seconded by Councilmember Gregorie, City Council voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the March 14, 2023 City Council meeting.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Next up is our [Citizens Participation Period](#). Thank you, all, who have joined us tonight to share some words with us. I'm going to turn it over to Madam Clerk to call everyone out to come speak to us."

The Clerk said, "Sure. We have 13 people. Did you want to set a time limit?"

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Let's do 90 seconds."

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

1. Anthony Bryant said he was filing a complaint against all of the City's partnerships because people who didn't live downtown were walking in their community, and they had no right to take his name out of the Peninsula. He said not one of them paid a dime in taxes, but how much had his parents and family paid the City of Charleston over the years? They had not one opinion over him, and what they needed to do was buy some better vines.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you, sir."

The Clerk said, "Mohammed Idris."

2. Mohammed Idris said racism was dead and buried. He said they weren't suffering from racism. They were experiencing greed, envy, jealousy, and ignorance, but racism was used to keep the masses fighting each other. He was raised on the Holy Bible which said, 'The truth will set you free.' He said it was the 11<sup>th</sup> day of April which was the same day they took Jesus off the cross at the 11<sup>th</sup> hour. He said there were 13 letters in 'April Fools' Day,' and there were 13 members of the Council. He said they used the name of Jesus to do their work. They open up in the name of Jesus, but they did the work of the devil.

The Clerk said, "Suzanne Hardie."

3. Suzanne Hardie said that CAJM held its annual Nehemiah Action on March 20<sup>th</sup> where they asked public officials to commit to specific actions that would affect systemic changes in their community. He said Councilmembers Bowden and Waring, and Chief Reynolds agreed to attend and respond to their requests regarding the Racial Bias Audit. Also, both Councilmembers agreed to the following: to hold the Police Chief accountable to host a community meeting by the end of April in conjunction with CAJM to present the data and analysis pertaining to racial disparities and have that meeting twice a year, to participate in a stakeholders meeting convened by CAJM and other interested parties within the next 60 days to discuss how the community expected to engage with CPD, and to hold the Chief and the CPD leadership accountable to participate in that stakeholders meeting. She thanked them both for their leadership. She said unfortunately Chief Reynolds was unable to attend, but he had agreed in the two previous discussions that he could say yes to their requests with a few minor wording changes. She said the agreements that he made paralleled those by the Councilmembers to host a community meeting and that the addition was to work with CAJM pre- and post-meeting to make sure they built those meetings to be successful and to participate in the stakeholders meeting. She said the Public Safety meeting presentation was a good start in starting to share that information, particularly around data analysis, but public dialogue was not included.

The Clerk said, "Time."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you."

The Clerk said, "Betsy LaForce."

4. Betsy LaForce, Coastal Conservation League, said they knew that change didn't happen overnight, and that was especially true for policy change. She said it took a long time to get there with the slab-on-grade ordinance before Council for second reading. Many diverse stakeholders were involved. She said they wanted to thank Council and City staff, especially for working so diligently over the past four years to understand and support the ordinance to restrict slab-on-grade foundation types for Single-Family dwellings in the 100-year floodplain. She said on behalf of the Conservation League, the Historic Charleston Foundation, and the Southern Environmental Law Center, they respectfully asked that Council support it again. The

past ten years of flooding events had shown them that it didn't take a history of flooding to be at risk of flooding, especially in Charleston's lowest-lying areas. She asked how did they accommodate growth without exacerbating flooding? She said it was by being adaptive and updating policies as when they knew better, they could do better. Passing the ordinance signaled the Council's ongoing commitment to patterns and risks associated with sea level rise and development-related flooding issues. She said the ordinance also complimented the work Council had put forth over the past five years including the formal adoption of the Dutch Dialogues Final Report as guiding policy, and approval of the new City Stormwater Plan.

The Clerk said, "Time."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you."

The Clerk said, "Former Councilmember Jackson."

5. Former Councilmember Carol Jackson told Council to please adopt the slab-on-grade ordinance. She was proud to have been part of that four-year process. She was there primarily to say Happy Fair Housing Month and National Attainable Housing Week. She was glad to see her friends and colleagues on the podium. She brought to Council's attention a probably forgotten connection to those great words that everyone was affirming and saying to step up their game on bringing housing to the region by reminding the Council that they had a list of first reading ordinances that had been on paper going on a year. She said number six had been deferred, and it was a simple ordinance already written and amended to update the City's Fair Housing law so that it came into substantial compliance with the Federal Housing law. That became the next domino to play in what they all thought was low-hanging fruit to accomplish out of the Housing and Mobility Special Commission Subcommittee which was to establish a Fair Housing Assistance Program in the City.

The Clerk said, "Time. Katie Freer."

6. Katie Freer said she had heard that evening lots of City Councilmembers talking about how world-class the City was. She said they all knew that it was, but she thought perhaps they forgot that everybody else in the world was watching Charleston and watching Council. The seal of the City of Charleston stamped on each ordinance stated '*Aedes mores juraque curat,*' she guards her buildings, customs, and rights.' She said Council was the guardian of the City and the ones that citizens expected to hold the line to guard the City from what others coming in wanted to do. She said there was a coup of people coming in around the guard gates and trying to ask for a little change here and a little change there against the rules already put in place, the City's zoning ordinances in particular. She was not interested in seeing eight-story buildings.

The Clerk said, "Time. Josh Dix."

7. Josh Dix, Government Affairs Director, Charleston Trident Association of Realtors, said they had worked on the slab-on-grade policy extensively, but with every policy, there was a negative consequence. As the City continued to build and continued to grow, the City needed some reliable policies in place. He said they had heard about affordability, attainability, and Fair Housing Month. None of those things could be

achieved with the current development approval process in place. All of those policies worked in conflict of actually reaching attainability in Charleston. Whether they liked it or not, growth was happening, and they could either plan for it or they couldn't. They either wanted a more resilient Charleston or they didn't. They either wanted more affordability or they didn't, but density was a conversation they had to have. Height was a conversation that they had to have. Nimbyism waved bye to Charleston a long time ago and was in the rearview mirror. He said they now allowed bias and personal greed to drive their policies, and they had to stand up. They needed reform, and they had to start at the top and work all the way themselves to the bottom. Because until they addressed those dilemmas in the design review process in the Zoning Code, they would not achieve affordability. They would not address resiliency.

The Clerk said, "Time."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Yes, sir."

The Clerk said, "Edward Jones."

8. Edward Jones said they had a serious problem. He showed a flier put out by the Parks and Recreation Department that said McMahon Park, James Island County Park, Johns Island County Park, James Island Recreation Center, and Bees Ferry Center. He said that was good, but the problem was in West Ashley alone they had Forest Park, Deming Park, and Willie Gaines Park, and none of those were included in the City-sponsored Easter Egg Hunt. Westchester Park and Thomas Johnson Park on James Island were not included. There wasn't anything at Mitchell Park downtown where the kids from Gadsden Green would have attended an Easter Egg Hunt. Also, there wasn't anything at Martin Park where the kids from Meeting Street Manor, Cooper River Court, and Breakview would have come to. There was also Philip Simmons Mall Park where there was Ansonborough and Drake Street public housing. He also mentioned Moultrie Park at the end of Wilson Street.

The Clerk said, "Time. Lisa Boston."

9. Lisa Boston said she was the one Edward Jones gave a petition to and she went around got signatures on the petition.

The Clerk said, "Aaron White."

10. Aaron White said he was a member of CCPLC. He was under the impression that they took Edward Jones away from their park as he was needed in the Sanitation Department until they hired somebody else, but the work was not getting done because they didn't have their founder at CCPLC. He said that wasn't right.

The Clerk said, "Tony Daniell."

11. Tony Daniell said he had another letter written to another friend of Councilmember Appel and that he was supposed to be helping his dad, but the City was helping Councilmember Appel and his friends. He said Councilmember Appel was going behind his back, promising his dad he was going to help him after all of the traffic in the neighborhood had been jammed through his father's neighborhood and through his father's yard. He read the letter: 'My understanding was Fairway was blocked

because of a major cut-through that doesn't exist any more thanks to the opening of the Connector.' He said the cut-through argument was nonsense. He asked Council if they were going to obey the Fair Housing law or were they going to toss that one aside, too. He asked which laws Council was going to pick and choose to enforce or not. He continued reading the letter: 'I am familiar with the vocal minority.' He said somehow or another he got tagged on e-mails as the vocal minority. He had just come home from combat and that was what he got known for writing letters pertaining to the law and Council had unfairly blocked the road. He said the City's former lawyer Chip McQueeney had told Council the same thing in that a temporary blockade was the only thing authorized. He said Councilmember Appel had said the roads were still open, but they had trees in it which was ridiculous.

The Clerk said, "Time. Jerome Harris."

12. Jerome Harris said there was an extended discussion about the Racial Bias Assessment at the March 13<sup>th</sup> meeting and the question was raised regarding the process. He was pleased to report that the Police Department had agreed to co-host a meeting with CPAC.

The Clerk said, "Reverend Charles Heyward."

13. Reverend Charles Heyward said that highlighted in the CNA's final conclusion was the critical need for community engagement by the City of Charleston Police Department. He quoted, 'A partnership with the key community partners and the broader community will be essential in assuring that required changes are institutionalized in changing the department's culture. The community's input and oversight for progress in implementing the recommendations will be crucial to its continued success.' It had been three-plus years since the final report and community engagement had not yet happened. Optimistically it could be because of confusion about what community engagement was really like. When they first began researching that area of policing, they met with the Sheriff of Denver, and he shared something that had stuck with them in that it took him some time to really understand what community engagement and community policing looked like. He grew to realize that it was not barbeques, coaching kids' teams, or midnight basketball, but true community engagement was inviting the broader community in, to write the department's use of force policy, to discuss the department's racial disparity data, to collaborating and addressing those issues, and to agree on how best to conduct the ongoing communication between the community.

The Clerk said, "Time. And those were all of the speakers that we had. We did receive some comments. This is just a summary of the comments received by citizens who have not already spoken. All comments were sent to City Council in full for their review prior to the Council meeting. Emily said she was a resident of West Ashley and urged the Council to support the redevelopment plan for the old Piggly Wiggly site. They did not need another gas station or a storage unit. The staff, Council, and developers have put much thought into what the needs were, and it would be great to enjoy an evening that didn't require going downtown.

Sam Spence said the Preservation Society reiterated its opposition to the rezoning at 155 Meeting Street. The rezoning would permit up to seven stories across several properties as well as the right to gain an 8-Story from the BAR. The new 8-Story building would be built just 18 ft. from the rear of 3-Story buildings along King Street dwarfing the historic streetscape. They

have a very serious concern that repeated approval of height deviations is changing the character and human scale of the City, and those were all of the comments we received.”

Mayor Tecklenburg said, “So, next up is our [Petitions and Communications](#). We have a couple of appointments. One, Councilmember Brady, to the [Carolina Art Association Board](#), that’s the Gibbes, and also three appointments to our [Tourism Commission](#).”

Councilmember Mitchell said, “Mr. Mayor, on the Tourism if we could separate the first one, the first new appointment that’s on that Committee.”

Mayor Tecklenburg said, “Okay. Well, why don’t we take every item separately because they’re not that many? If we could have the motion to approve Councilmember Brady to the Carolina Art Association first.”

Councilmember Waring said, “Move for approval.”

Councilmember Mitchell said, “Second.”

Mayor Tecklenburg said, “Any discussion on that?”

No one asked to speak.

On a motion of Councilmember Waring, seconded by Councilmember Mitchell, City Council voted unanimously to appoint Councilmember Brady to the Carolina Art Association Board.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, “Next up, the Tourism Commission. Could I entertain a motion for Ms. Fort to be taken separately? I thought that was the request from Councilmember Mitchell.”

Councilmember Mitchell said, “I asked.”

Councilmember Shahid said, “I have a question, Mr. Mayor, before we go to that motion for clarification.”

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Shahid.

Councilmember Shahid said, “Your staff sent me this e-mail breaking down the names of the current members of this Tourism Commission and the three vacancies. According to the graph that I got, can we just specify as to which vacancy each of these folks are fulfilling? One says Tourism and then two of them say Peninsula resident, but it doesn’t specify which seat these three appointees are going to take.”

Mayor Tecklenburg said, “Okay. I hate to say I don’t have that information in front of me.”

The Clerk said, “Dan Riccio is online.”

Dan Riccio said, “Liz Fort and Andrew Kuhn I believe are the residents’ choice for the position. Tourism basically means a position that oversees or they’re a member of the tourism industry, and this particular individual is a tour guide with a local tour company.”

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Mr. Kuhn."

Mr. Riccio said, "Mr. Kuhn. Yes, sir."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Yes, he's Tourism, and the other two were just residents?"

Mr. Riccio said, "Downtown residents, Peninsula residents."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Okay. Alright. So, respectfully, we had a request from Councilmember Mitchell to separate Ms. Fort, and I considered that as a motion."

Councilmember Mitchell said, "That was the motion from me."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "That was the motion at the time, and I separated the vote accordingly. Does anyone want to second Councilmember Mitchell's motion?"

Councilmember Waring said, "Second."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Alright. So, we have a motion to approve Ms. Fort?"

Councilmember Mitchell said, "No, not to approve. I'm not going to support her right now because being on the Council for years, I've been on there, she was fighting Tourism with the horse and carriage ever since I've been here. We have made so many changes to that, and every year there's a fight going on, and I don't know why this is, she is on this board, and she was one of the ones fighting us the whole time since I was here. That was my problem with it, and I just can't support it. I mean, it's up to you, my colleagues, to do what they want to do, but I can't support it."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "So, Councilmember Mitchell, your motion would be to--"

Councilmember Mitchell said, "Not to support."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Not to approve Ms. Fort to the Commission."

Councilmember Seekings said, "He can vote."

Councilmember Mitchell said, "I'm going to vote that way. My colleagues can vote for their own convictions. That's just me."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Alright. So, any other discussion?"

Councilmember Brady said, "Just as a point of order it's a little easier for clarification if we do the motion to approve with the second so that an 'aye' is in favor of it and a 'nay' is against."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Duly noted. We have a motion to approve Ms. Fort to the Commission. An 'aye' vote would be to approve her, a 'nay' not to."

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Parker.

Councilmember Parker said, "Thank you, Mr. Mayor. Which Councilmember is on this Commission? Is there a Councilmember on the Tourism Commission?"

Councilmember Seekings said, "Councilmember Gregg."

Councilmember Parker said, "Okay."

Councilmember Seekings said, "And he's staying there apparently."

Councilmember Shahid said, "That's why he's not here."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Any other comments?"

The Clerk said, "Mr. Mayor, who is the second to Councilmember Seekings' motion to approve?"

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Councilmember Waring, I think."

The Clerk said, "Okay. Thank you."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Any other comments?"

No one else asked to speak.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Let me ask for a roll call on that if I may just so we're clear."

Councilmember Seekings said, "I'm happy to discuss it. Mr. Mayor, before we do a roll call, can I say something, please?"

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Seekings.

Councilmember Seekings said, "Thank you. Alright. So, the way that people get onto this Commission is they apply through the portal. Ms. Fort applied through the portal. It comes to the Mayor's Office and he recommends this to Council. I, like many of you, not all of you, have received some letters disparaging Ms. Fort and making some statements about her that I'm just going to tell you straight up right now are not true. I would encourage you all, if you're thinking at all about not approving this to consider the following: If you were to take a heat map of Charleston and the hottest place on that heat map for tourism, that is where Ms. Fort lives. She lives right in that corridor. She is absolutely qualified to give opinions about what goes on in tourism around here. If you ask the Charlestowne Neighborhood Association whom they would put forward and recommend for this Commission, it would be Liz Fort. She is not what she has been painted out to be by one of the industries that the Tourism Commission oversees, and there are many of them. What she is, is a dedicated citizen who is willing to go forward with this. I don't know if you all got this letter, but this is one that got my blood pressure through the roof. Of the sins that have been bestowed upon her to encourage you all not to vote for her is that 'She is an ultra-privileged Peninsula resident.' That's in a letter from a lawyer. Shame on that lawyer, first off. Secondly, the carriage industry which apparently some people, not all, are launching this attack on her, where do they make their money? 100% of it is on the Peninsula, and about 99% is in that corridor on East Bay Street. People who don't get a medallion to go on the East Bay Street Corridor gripe about not being in that zone. Am I right about that, Mr. Riccio, who's out there? That is the hottest zone out there for carriage tours, for walking tours, for bus

tours, for everything. She's qualified. The fact that some people don't like her is not a reason not to vote for her at all. I know her personally. She is a reasonable person. She and I don't always get along and agree on things, but she's always committed and thoughtful.

Now, after I received a couple of these letters, one of the allegations was this would disrupt the Tourism Commission, and no one wants her there. I talked to Mr. Riccio who runs the meetings. He's fine with it. Nod 'yes,' say something."

Mr. Riccio said, "Yes, sir."

Councilmember Seekings said, "Thank you very much. I talked to four members of the Tourism Commission. Not a single one of them has any problem with her being on there. She's just another perspective. She's qualified. She's dedicated. She needs to be on that Commission. There is no reason to vote her off, and if for some reason, she or anybody else goes off the rails on any committee or commission, we can bring that up and deal with it, but to make a decision in advance that she's going to be some disruptive force when she lives in the middle of all of this and will be a natural representative of the people who are inundated with tourism and not have a voice on it. It's like having someone on the front lines in the foxhole and not letting them call in and tell me what's going on. That's what she's going to be doing and then making recommendations. And, by the way, there are, what, 11 members on the Tourism Commission that make recommendations. They're not a policymaking board, they're not like the Planning Commission or the BAR, they just are the sense of communications through Mr. Riccio or through the Chairperson back to City Council. They've got no authority to do anything of substance. If there's some idea that there's some subterfuge in the carriage industry, let me just say this. I've been on this Council for 13 years, and I've been very supportive of the carriage industry. Many of you might know, I lived for a long time and still own a property that is in between not one, not two, but three of the carriage barns and have been supportive of them. I would not support someone I thought was going to go in there and just go and undermine all of the work that we've done, but I am supportive of someone who lives every single day in the middle of eight million tourists that come here annually and sees with her eye and can report back both through her eye and on behalf of the people who live in that hot zone, and it's a hot zone. She needs to be on this Commission. She has volunteered, she has been put forward, vote for her, vote for her. Don't leave this out. If this becomes the standard that we get a couple of letters accusing someone of being an overprivileged Peninsula resident, my goodness, no, no, no. Vote for Liz Fort."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you."

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Mitchell.

Councilmember Mitchell said, "Mr. Mayor, that's my option and my opinion."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Yes, sir."

Councilmember Mitchell said, "So, people don't have to preach on what I say, you vote your own conviction. That's what I'm saying so I don't have to go through all these changes and ramifications and all, but that's my opinion/position on it. Thank you very much."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you, sir. Please call the roll."

Councilmember Shahid said, "Mr. Mayor."

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Shahid.

Councilmember Shahid said, "Before we are done with this, I got the same letters that we all got. I talked to Councilmember Seekings about this woman and to find out what was the uproar over all of this, and I asked for this information from your officer concerning this makeup of the Tourism Commission. I just want to make this statement very clear. We have a bunch of these boards and a bunch of these commissions, and I've been railing against what sometimes I think are packing of these boards and commissions. What's really critically important that these commissions have is diversity and a little bit of controversy is okay with some of these boards and commissions, quite frankly, if you want to get a different viewpoint from different citizens on what's going on. In my district, I have owners of the carriage industry, and I've been besieged by letters from them concerning this. I'm going to take Councilmember Seekings at his observation as to the qualifications of this woman. If she's somewhat controversial, that's okay, but I think that it's critically important that these boards and commissions from citizens do represent a diverse cross-section of our community. That's why I've been very particular in making sure what slots they fill in to make sure that we're following those rules and regulations, so I'm going to support her based on Councilmember Seekings' representation to me about who she is and what she represents."

Councilmember Mitchell said, "Mr. Mayor, I call for the question because I'm not running for dog catcher. So, let's move on, and vote, and get it over with."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Madam Clerk, a roll call vote please."

The Clerk said, "Councilmembers Gregg, Shealy, and Sakran are absent. Councilmember Mitchell."

Councilmember Mitchell said, "Nay."

The Clerk said, "Councilmember Brady."

Councilmember Brady said, "Nay."

The Clerk said, "Councilmember Gregorie."

Councilmember Gregorie said, "Aye."

The Clerk said, "Councilmember Waring."

Councilmember Waring said, "Aye."

The Clerk said, "Councilmember Seekings."

Councilmember Seekings said, "Aye."

The Clerk said, "Councilmember Shahid."

Councilmember Shahid said, "Aye."

The Clerk said, "Councilmember Bowden."

Councilmember Bowden said, "Aye."

The Clerk said, "Councilmember Appel."

Councilmember Appel said, "Aye."

The Clerk said, "Councilmember Parker."

Councilmember Parker said, "Aye."

The Clerk said, "Mayor Tecklenburg."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Aye."

The Clerk said, "The motion carries."

On a motion of Councilmember Seekings, seconded by Councilmember Waring, City Council voted to appoint Liz Fort to the Tourism Commission.

The motion carried 8 to 2. The vote was not unanimous. Councilmembers Mitchell and Brady voted nay.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "So, we have two other appointees Andrew Kuhn and Dana Campbell."

Councilmember Gregorie said, "Move for approval."

Councilmember Seekings said, "Second."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "We've got a motion to approve. Any conversation?"

No one asked to speak.

On a motion of Councilmember Gregorie, seconded by Councilmember Seekings, City Council voted unanimously to appoint Andrew Kuhn and Dana Campbell to the Tourism Commission.

Councilmember Brady was excused from the Chamber at 6:47 p.m.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Next, I would ask Council to, please, note the letter you have on your desks from our Planning Department. They do plan to come to the Community Development Committee and to the Human Affairs Committee regarding our [Board member appointments to the BAR](#). However, they have made a respectful request that we go ahead at our next meeting and at least appoint one alternate member to the BAR-Large because there is a question of having enough members in place to be able to conduct business until we can have our full review. Then, without objection, we will bring that forward to you at our next meeting, and I would like to call on Mr. Summerfield in addition to making a request to you about yet another citizen committee that we're forming that we need every Councilmember to make an appointment to. Mr. Summerfield."

Councilmember Brady returned to the Chamber at 6:48 p.m.

Robert Summerfield said, "Thank you, Mr. Mayor. Members of Council, my apologies, there was supposed to be a second memo in addition to this one that I was going to put on your desks today. So, I'll just verbally announce it, and then I will send it to each of your e-mails. Starting next week, we will have our consultants in town to kick off the official start of the Zoning Code re-write. As a part of that, we would like to establish a Citizens' Advisory Committee for that effort and as a part of that, I'm requesting that each member of the Council submit someone that they would like to participate on that Committee as a part of our Citizens' Advisory group. In addition to the Citizens' Advisory group, which will include members that have been recommended by each Councilmember, we will also have other advocacy groups and organizations. We will also have a Technical Advisory Committee that will have folks from the Home Builders Association, Trident Realtors, some of the more technical boards and association groups, as well as various City staff participation on that Technical Advisory Committee to help guide our consulting team and our staff members working on that project as we begin to draft what the new Zoning Code for the City of Charleston would look like. I just wanted to put that out there because we are moving forward very fast with that. I apologize that that memo did not make your desks this afternoon."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Right. You will get it out to them later this week. We appreciate your excitement on that."

Mr. Summerfield said, "Yes, and we appreciate that excitement."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Next, I'd like to call on our Legal Department regarding approval of a [Tri-Party Inter-Governmental Agreement with the County Board of Elections.](#)"

Julia Copeland said, "Thank you, Mayor, and members of Council. So, you all should have gotten an e-mail last week with a copy of this with a memo explaining what this is, but just to briefly recap, this is memorializing the arrangement we already have in place between the County Election Commission and our Municipal Election Commission. It spells out the rights and responsibilities of each party. It's a year term with one automatic renewal subject to 120 day's notice for termination. So, we would recommend that you approve this, and they're also doing this with every other municipality basically papering the relationship between each one for future elections."

Councilmember Seekings said, "So moved."

Councilmember Gregorie said, "Second."

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Seekings.

Councilmember Seekings said, "Just a quick question. When we went through redistricting, we had the representative from the County here, and there was some conversation about the representations made about notification on our redistricting and our new maps and that there would be notice going out to the citizens of Charleston as to know which district they live in noting that more than half of the residents are going to be in new districts. How are we doing with that?"

Councilmember Bowden was excused and returned to the Chamber at 6:51 p.m.

Ms. Copeland said, "On the website [www.southcarolinavotes.gov](http://www.southcarolinavotes.gov), the new maps are listed. I do believe it's also on the City of Charleston website that the new districts are noted. I spoke with Isaac Cramer today. If we want the postcards to go out physically to all of the new residents that would be affected by the redistricting, we need to let them know because it's a cost of about \$30,000 to get it done."

Councilmember Seekings said, "Absolutely."

Ms. Copeland said, "Okay."

Councilmember Seekings said, "I mean, yes."

Councilmember Appel said, "We just saved them money on the asphalt at the Riverland Terrace Boat Landing."

Ms. Copeland said, "We did actually."

Councilmember Seekings said, "Beautiful."

Ms. Copeland said, "I will let him know tonight. Any other questions?"

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "I think we do need to give our citizens notice of what voting district they're going to be in."

Councilmember Seekings said, "And sooner rather than later."

Ms. Copeland said, "Absolutely."

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Gregorie.

Councilmember Gregorie said, "Yes. Mr. Mayor, in addition to that, when this has happened before, I sent letters to my old constituents explaining the difference and to anyone that was added to my district, and I used our administrative money to do it. So, it's doable."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Okay. Tips for the--"

Councilmember Gregorie said, "Just some tips. Otherwise, folks will be going to the polls to the wrong place to vote. I still have people trying to vote for me in my old district, and that's a long time ago."

Councilmember Seekings said, "For or against?"

Councilmember Gregorie said, "For me, and they're angry when they can't."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Right."

Councilmember Gregorie said, "But you really have to give them as much information as you can about the change. Otherwise, it's going to be mass confusion."

Ms. Copeland said, "Understood."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Alright. We're good. Thank you for that approval. Next up is an update on the City's--"

The Clerk said, "You need to vote."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "We did vote on that. Did we not? We approved it before you asked the question about the notice. If there's any doubt of the matter--"

On a motion of Councilmember Seekings, seconded by Councilmember Gregorie, City Council voted unanimously to approve a Tri-Party Inter-Governmental Agreement with Charleston County Board of Elections and Voter Registration and the City of Charleston Municipal Election Commission regarding the provision of election services for the calendar year 2023.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Next, is an [update on our City's Flooding and Sea Level Rise Strategy](#). I give you none other than Dale Morris, the Senior Policy Advisor. He's our Chief Resilience Officer. Dale."

Dale Morris said, "Mr. Mayor, members of City Council, and members of City staff, and the public, the City has a Flooding and Sea Level Rise Strategy. The first one was adopted in 2015 and updated in 2019. One of the great things about the City of Charleston is this applies to all of the decisions you have made and the investments you've made as the City is doing a lot, and has done a lot, and will continue to do a lot. One of the first phone calls I got when I started here in the City was from a bond writer in New York City who just happened to call and say, 'Hey, we're looking at your 2019 Flooding and Sea Level Rise Strategy. Is it current?' We looked at it, and we passed it to Amy Wharton, because she's the boss on those kind of questions, and the Flooding and Sea Level Rise Strategy needed to be updated, so we went through a long process. The 2019 strategy is a very good strategy, but you are again constantly updating policies, and updating plans, and Matt is implementing projects. There's just a lot underway. And, the old strategy from 2019 just was missing a lot of really important information on the drainage projects, on Spring/Fishburne, on the Low Battery, it's very important projects to show what we're doing. The projects in Shadowmoss and in Church Creek, what was going on there with the buyouts and the restoration of the stormwater part, the Dutch Dialogues recommendations near and dear to my heart, but also the City Comp Plan, the Land and Water Analysis, it's just a lot of work that's going on.

So, I took it upon ourselves with Katie McKain, Kaylan Koszela in the Mayor's Office, and a very young person I want to introduce to you in a second who helped us update the strategy. I want to thank Mindy Sturm. She provided an internship to us so we could hire Hastings Marek last summer. Hastings is a College of Charleston graduate student in Sustainability and Environmental Studies. She taught two biology classes this morning plus defended her thesis this afternoon, so she's here tonight to do this. So, appreciate that, and I want to thank Amy Wharton and Matt Frohlich for finding a little bit of extra money for making Hastings able to work with us longer, and all of the City staff, Planning, Stormwater, GIS, Public Service did a lot of work to help Hastings put this thing together for us. The strategy has been vetted by the Resiliency and Sustainability Advisory Committee and by some trusted parties including Susan Lyons, the head of Groundswell, who also has a background as a journalist. When you're looking at the strategy, it is online only although we do have a paper document for you. It is intended really to address the common questions that bond writers, or citizens, or stakeholders, or businesses coming here who are looking at Charleston and saying, 'What is

the City doing regarding flooding and sea level rise strategy? Why is it doing it, and where can I learn more?' So, Hastings, will you run the City Council through this?"

Hastings Marek said, "Sure. Hi, everyone. I'm Hastings, and I was brought on really for three key tasks. The first being update the Sea Level Rise Strategy with the latest science. The biggest change being 14 in. sea level rise by 2050, and that was from NOAA's Interim Prediction from March 2022. This is also the amount of sea level rise that the City is going to assume over the next 25 years for the Comprehensive Water Plan that's currently under development. Next, was to collate numerous City documents and web pages from GIS, Stormwater, and Planning departments that explain our flood challenges we have and also what we're doing about them. And, lastly, to develop StoryMaps that follow the 2019 strategy and contain more comprehensive information in an attractive, dynamic, and easily updated format so that citizens, businesses, stakeholders, and others can see what we are doing. We also hope that this can help City Councilmembers communicate with their constituents.

So, Kaylan is downstairs on Zoom working through this. First, we're going to talk about how you guys should navigate this. To navigate the StoryMap, we have key topics that are under the white bar, and so those are like the main key topics. There are sub-topics in the blue navigation bar. And, then, StoryMaps imbed slideshows, links, and external sites. You can see Kaylan kind of working through those. So, if you click on a link, it will actually take you to the City website right there, and then you could also imbed different websites as well. If you see below, there is the TIDEeye application. That's how you generally use the StoryMap.

Next, we're going to the Executive Summary. So, the Executive Summary was really to show our key goals for the sea level rise strategy, and it's really consistent with the 2019 strategy. There are not a whole bunch of updates here.

The next would be the Strategic Plan, and this is also similar to the 2019 Sea Level Rise Strategy Update where we have infrastructure, governance, land use, resources, and outreach and partnerships as our key components. Then, further down on the page we actually have an initiatives chart that can track what we're doing in real time, and I think we're going to work to update that this summer.

Next, we have our Sea Level Rise Introduction. This is really a coalition of new data from NOAA, USGS, and NASA about sea level rise and what we're going to see for future projections. A lot of different graphs are included here as well as some different resources from NASA, USGS, and NOAA. In addition, on the intro StoryMap, we have a collection in centralization of a number of already existing GIS sites and different information that can be found. So, you see there are technical reports, there are different graphs, that one's from NASA, as well as we have different graphics that were on different City documents that we collated together.

Next, we will go to the Infrastructure section. This is where we have some of the largest projects explained in detail. This is under the direction of the Stormwater Department. So, you can see we have the Spring and Fishburne Drainage Project. We have a lot of the different updates, we have overviews, and we have a lot of pictures and graphics from those projects. We also have the Low Battery Project right under that, as well. And, so, you can see the image we have there, and it's also a description of the project and background information. Our intention is to add a summary list of the other stormwater projects to this, and so this will include a lot of the more minor projects that City Council funds, as well.

Next, we will go to the Land Use and Planning StoryMap. This includes the 2021 City Comprehensive Plan, and you can see we actually include links to that City Plan, and we have different graphics that were taken from the City Plan, as well. In addition, we also have the Land and Water Analysis, and a lot of the graphics that they offer. This is to give a better understanding of some of these documents so we can break it down so users will be able to find information quickly. We also have information on the Rosemont Resilience Plan and the Johns Island Restoration Plan.

Next, we will go to the Governance StoryMap. This one includes things like the Stormwater Design Manual that was a really progressive document. We have links, as well as a description of what's so innovative about it, descriptions and summaries of information. We also have the Comprehensive Integrative Water Plan, and we're actually going to have our future updates located there, as well. We also have information on buyouts, our floodplain management, and our Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Next, we will go to the Resources StoryMap, and this StoryMap is really about bringing together all of the different tools, resources, and information that we have around the City, as well as outside the City with our partnerships. Users are able to find these resources, click on them, and navigate to those different pages. So, you can see we have TIDEeye up on the screen right now, and then we also have things like FloodStat.

Next, we will navigate to our Outreach and Partnerships StoryMap, and I'll give it back to you Dale to talk about that."

Mr. Morris said, "Thank you, Hastings. So, you can see here if we would print this document, it would be about over 100 pages. There's just a lot of work that has been done by City staff, and others, to explain what we're doing, explain why we're doing it, and to showcase to the world all of the things that we're doing, so this is a very important document. It's also collated for you all to share and to send to your constituents. So, we do have a one-pager for you all we will send to you. It does have a QR code on it. You can embed the QR code in your presentations, which I will start doing next week, and everyone that you show can then come to this StoryMap. You can look at it on an iPad, or a Tablet, or an iPhone, or go to websites. This is a really important document.

In the last section we have up here, again, following the 2019 strategy is Outreach and Partnerships. So, we need local, regional, national stakeholders, and partners. We have a number of those working with us. I'm in constant contact with those folks, the Mayor is, we just have a lot of friends helping us, the Preservation Society to the National Resources Defense Council, the Conference of Mayors to many more. So, this is very important, but I want to sort of wrap up this sort of summary of the sea level rise strategy. One of the best partners that we have here locally is the College of Charleston. They are a tremendous asset to us. They bring all kinds of really smart students here, young adults, to learn, to create knowledge, to create services for us and become members of the community. Hastings came last summer to work with us and for us, and she created this document. This is a living document. We can update it on the fly. If you all pass something tonight on slab-on-grade, we can update it tomorrow, so it is constant and current, and people can see it almost in real time. It's a beautiful, attractive document, a lot of graphics in it, so it's accessible, and it isn't just a Bible. So, that's our strategy, and we're sort of proud of it, and I hope you are, too, and let's give Hastings a big applause for what she did. Thank you."

There was applause in the Chamber.

Councilmember Mitchell was excused from the Chamber at 7:05 p.m.

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Parker.

Councilmember Parker said, "Thank you, Mr. Mayor. I just wanted to say a quick thank you. Thank you, Mr. Morris and your team. You brought this conversation over to James Island and had some great conversations. I think it's just a really good conversation to have, especially in a place like James Island. I will say, I won't name names, but you did mention that James Island was kind of at the top. We have the three biggest problems. We take on all three, I think, above the Peninsula. Is that right? Tell me, again."

Mr. Morris said, "James Island is a tricky spot, not only because of its governance and the challenges with governance there, but because it is so low lying, and you're really exposed to coastal storm surge, and you have rain bombs, too. So, yes, James Island is a tricky—the water plan team is still scratching our heads like, 'Okay, what do we do here?' So, we're working on it."

Councilmember Parker said, "Thank you. Well, again, thank you for bringing the conversation, but I just wanted to bring that to y'all's attention, Public Works, just keep that in mind, okay. Thank you. You heard it from the smartest guy in the room."

There was laughter in the Chamber.

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Waring.

Councilmember Waring said, "Is that something you can push out to Councilmembers individually or the link we have to put--"

Mr. Morris said, "Yes. I will send it to you. I'll send you the QR code so you can snap your phone, and we'll send you the link tomorrow. Okay?"

Councilmember Waring said, "Alright."

Mr. Morris said, "It's available through a normal standard website link, but it runs in the RGIS Program which makes it more attractive and not so heavy for your computer to snap through. So, there's a technical reason why we chose the StoryBoard, but it navigates like a website, but it runs under a different system."

Councilmember Waring said, "So, if we wanted to send it to others, what would you recommend?"

Mr. Morris said, "We will send you the link and you can send them the link, or you can send them the QR code. I'll send them both to you all tomorrow."

Councilmember Waring said, "Thank you."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Any further questions?"

No one else asked to speak.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "I can't thank y'all, enough. And, Hastings, you've done a beautiful job. Thank you so much. Terrific effort, and, Dale, as well. I would ask for Council's approval, but in essence, y'all, have approved all of these things. This is just putting all of this information of things that we've been working together on for the last number of years into one resource, into one place, where you can not only see what we've done and are doing and have passed already, but as Dale mentioned, rather than print something and then next week it's out of date, we have it digitally now to where it can be easily updated. It's a living, breathing document, if you will, albeit virtually. So, thank you, all, for this amazing resource. Good work."

Councilmember Waring said, "Mr. Mayor. I'm just curious if anybody saw the article that was in the Guardian about Charleston."

Mr. Morris said, "Yes."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "We'll do that."

Mr. Morris said, "So, I happen to know the author. She had asked to be part of the Dutch Dialogues to observe, and she did. I had spoken with her one or two times when I was still with The Water Institute before I came to the City of Charleston. I will say on record there were a number of things she has wrong. There are a number of things that she says we should be doing that we are doing. We will have a conversation with her, and we can also send her this document to brag about what we're doing."

Councilmember Waring said, "Thank you."

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Gregorie.

Councilmember Gregorie said, "There were a number of things that she said that were correct though, as well?"

Mr. Morris said, "Yes, sir."

Councilmember Gregorie said, "Okay. Thank you."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Alright. So, thank you, all, again very much. Lastly, we have the approval to authorize an [Amended Allocation Agreement on one of our opioid settlements](#). Back to Ms. Copeland."

Ms. Copeland said, "Thank you, Mayor. So, members of Council, this is the second round of opioid settlements. This would just authorize the Mayor to sign those documents to participate in the Allocation Agreement with the Attorney General. I just want to happily report that we were in front of the Board today and were granted approval on our first application for \$560,000 which is going to be dispersed amongst police, fire, and housing actually for preventative measures for opioid matters. So, good news."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "That just came today?"

Ms. Copeland said, "We just learned today, this afternoon."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Great. Terrific. Alright. So, can I ask for a motion to approve?"

Councilmember Seekings said, "So moved."

Councilmember Waring said, "Second."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Any discussion or questions of Ms. Copeland?"

No one asked to speak.

On a motion of Councilmember Seekings, seconded by Councilmember Waring, City Council voted unanimously to authorize the Mayor to execute on behalf of the City of Charleston an Amended Allocation Agreement and new settlement agreements with Teva and Allergan and retail Defendants Walmart, Walgreens, and CVS in the South Carolina Opioid Litigation.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Next, is our [Council Committee Reports](#). First up, is [Committee on Special Facilities](#). Was that Councilmember--"

The Clerk said, "That was Councilmember Shealy's, and he's not here."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Okay. Would anyone like to report on that Committee meeting?"

No one asked to speak.

The Clerk said, "I think they mainly just had updates on the City's Special Facilities. No action is required."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Right. No action required on that. Next up, our [Committee on Public Safety](#). Councilmember Shahid."

Councilmember Shahid said, "Thank you, Mr. Mayor. The Committee on Public Safety met yesterday afternoon. We met live, actually, and we had several matters of business to address. I was a little bit disappointed in the lack of public input and attendance to this meeting. I mean, I wanted to make sure we were done in public when we got to the Racial Bias Audit update. Anyhow, the very first item of business that we had was an approval to submit the 2022 Fire Prevention and Safety Grant. We have Assistant Chief David Griffin. You just want to give a quick update on that, Chief?"

Assistant Fire Chief David Griffin said, "Yes, sir. So, this is our document through 2026. It gives us the roadmap for where we want to be. So, we focused on three specific strategies which are operational excellence, organizational resilience, and also community engagement. For us to be able to do that, we had to do a SWOT analysis which is Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats. So, from there we created a 'Safer Charleston' as our vision statement with our mission statement being, 'Excellent people providing exceptional service.' We think if we can focus on that for the next four years, we can create a safer Charleston."

Councilmember Shahid said, "So, the Committee voted to approve this strategy after-the-fact and that we're going to have more of a dedicated Public Safety Committee meeting to go into the details of this a little bit more deeper. So, thank you for that update, Chief. Appreciate it."

Assistant Chief Griffin said, "Yes, sir."

Councilmember Mitchell returned to the Chamber at 7:13 p.m.

Councilmember Shahid said, "Other items of business that we approved were an application for the US Conference of Mayors for \$100,000. Actually, this is something that the Mayor mentioned that he had come across. This money will help us to gather data analysis related to the Police Department's Racial Bias Audit and give us a design in the public Dashboard. There is no match for this. This is just a grant application only, but we also approved that, as well. We also approved a MOU for the department with the Greenville County Sheriff's Office. And, as we took up in the Ways and Means Committee, as adjusted, a police approval of a continuation application for Elder Advocate, and we adjusted the numbers on that just slightly. So, Items 3, 4, 5, 6, I move for approval."

Councilmember Mitchell said, "Second."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Any discussion or questions?"

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Parker.

Councilmember Parker said, "Thank you, Mr. Mayor, and thank you, Mr. Chairman. If we do not receive the grant on Item (a), can we please discuss during next year's budget season if this is not? Because I don't believe this is in our current budget season. So, if we do not get this grant, could we please keep that up for discussion to make sure we try and fund that?"

Councilmember Shahid said, "Yes."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Yes, ma'am."

Councilmember Shahid said, "The next item was that we received a Racial Bias Audit and data update. We had Dr. Jill Eidson present with Chief Reynolds, Chief Walker, and Captain Bruder. You should have received a copy, if you have it, of the slide presentation that they gave us. If you did not receive it, I'll make sure you all get a copy of it. So, we went through where we are with this audit. There are a couple of key points I just want to bring to everyone's attention. We had this discussion about benchmarking, and benchmarking is a way to sort of gauge where we are with this audit and how we compare ourselves with prior years. This is sort of a tool to understand how we sort of stack up on things, with stops and interactions with the public. We also talked about traffic stops, use of force, and things of that nature. So, there are a lot of good, interesting statistics in here. One of the key points that they brought out is there is a disparity by gender, and by race, as to that type of interaction, but that necessarily does not mean that the disparity equals bias in and of itself. So this is an ongoing process that we're working with. As you know, we also approved funds to hire a third-party outside auditor to gauge where we are with all of this. I can get into more details if you want me to get into more details, but that's a really quick summary of what we were able to accomplish over about an hour's time dealing with this."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you, and Jill is here as well as these deputies are here for the meeting just in case anybody had any particular questions."

Dr. Jill Eidson said, "Good evening, everyone. Yes. We did provide an update. This is a starting point in a long process that we hope to continue to engage you all and the community, in terms of looking at our data in relation to several points of interest that the audit found. We

have better data now, because of the audit, and so we are happy to start digging into them and being able to try to tease out patterns that might be affecting some of the disparity in doing what we can, what's within the power of the Police Department to address them. So, we are looking forward to having more to say on this, but this is just the start of an engaged conversation that we hope you will be able to have once in a while with you all and to keep the public informed."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Terrific. Any questions?"

No one asked to speak.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "And, by the way, we didn't take a vote on the prior items that we had a motion on the floor I think for--"

Councilmember Shahid said, "Item (e), I think."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "That's right and the prior ones. So, could I digress just a minute and ask Council to take a vote on that item."

On a motion of Councilmember Shahid, seconded by Councilmember Mitchell, City Council voted unanimously to Items K.2.(a). through K.2.(e). of the Committee on Public Safety Report, as amended:

- a. Fire Department: Approval to submit the 2022 Fire Prevention & Safety Grant after-the-fact in the amount of \$92,641.00 for smoke alarms, a fire extinguisher training prop., and creating a fire prevention vehicle. A match of 5% (or \$4,411.48) is required and will be budgeted in FY2024.
- b. Police Department: Approval to submit an application for US Conference of Mayors \$100,000.00 for the Police Reform and Racial Justice Grant to help strengthen data analysis related to CPD's Racial Bias Audit and design a public data dashboard. There is no match required for this grant.
- c. Police Department: Approval of the Law Enforcement Assistance and Support Agreement between CPD and Greenville County Sheriff's Office.
- d. Police Department: Approval of a continuation application for an Elder Advocate and Resource Specialist for CPD Family Violence Unit under the Victims of Crime Act Grant Program in the amount of \$145,058.23. The award results are expected in August 2023. Due to the necessity of the Resource Coordinator position if this grant is not awarded CPD intends to include the position as a priority in the departmental budget for FY2024. This project requires a 20% City match of \$29,011.65 which will need to be budgeted for FY2024. **(AS AMENDED)**
- e. Adoption of City of Charleston Fire Department's Strategic Plan

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Any additional questions about the report on the Racial Bias Audit and Data Update? A lot more ongoing and to come."

Councilmember Waring said, "I just wanted to say I'm very happy you are on board."

Dr. Eidson said, "Yes. Thank you. Yes, the department is fully committed to this effort, and one of the grants that we hope to apply for, if we're awarded that funding, will help us even get better presenting the data that we've collected."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "That's right. And, Councilmember Bowden, there were specific numbers, and we are reporting those now, and I felt like it was a very progressive step, a step in the right direction. Thank you to Chief Walker and Jill. Appreciate your efforts."

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Bowden.

Councilmember Bowden said, "I watched it on YouTube. I really appreciated the effort that you all put into it. I don't want anybody to think that we're not all on the same team here and have the same goals, so I thought you did a great job. I just didn't hop on. I never want to mess with the quorum stuff. So, appreciate it."

Dr. Eidson said, "Thank you, sir. Appreciate it. Thank you, all."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you so much. Alright. Next up is our [Committee on Traffic and Transportation](#), Councilmember Seekings, who just met this afternoon."

Councilmember Seekings said, "Thank you, Mr. Mayor. The Committee on Traffic and Transportation met today at 3:00 p.m. It was actually a very interesting meeting. The first thing that happened is we had a report from the South Carolina Ports Authority. Actually, Barbara Melvin is here along with her team, and Lowe's Jacob Lindsey was here, and what they did is, it's actually I think for the first time that anyone has seen this unwrapped, is they gave us a presentation on their thoughts about the mobility side of the Union Pier PUD and its development. Essentially, we have asked them to share that presentation with us, which we will then in turn share with all of you. I think it will go through some refinement, but what you will see is that it opens up transit corridors north and south, and east and west, that don't currently exist in our grid, with one exception, and that's Washington Street. It will open up Concord Street, then east/west, and I think the best summary I can give you all is they're looking at both the land, within the confines of Union Pier and the PUD, as well as areas around Union Pier outside of the PUD and, specifically, north of Union Pier, Washington Street, and to me, one of the most important portions of it is East Bay Street. East Bay Street, not just south of Calhoun, but north of Calhoun so it touches on and, if there are some adjustments made, benefits to the neighborhoods to the north, the west, and the south of Union Pier. What the thought process is, and it will take some intergovernmental cooperation, but the Ports, and specifically Ms. Melvin, has gotten up and said this, that she's committed to engaging at the State level with the DOT to make this a reality, is to reconfigure and lighten the load on East Bay Street. Shift a little bit to the east on Washington Street, and then open Concord Street up. If you now come from south to north, you come up Concord Street, past Fleet Landing, and what you run into, if you're not looking up and you're looking down, you will run into a fence, even though Google Maps tells you that Concord Street keeps going. It doesn't, and it's been closed for a good period of time.

So, the other thing is they emphasize they are going to be thinking holistically and complete streets-wise on this that it will not just be for cars, but bike/ped and transit. They have met with the BCDCOG and CARTA. So, there is a lot of work still to do on this, and our Technical Review Committee is going to require, as part of their process, traffic studies and they have looked about the traffic generation onsite, grid generation, and all of those things. The numbers initially that they talked about, in terms of trip generation, during prime and peak hours are not as stunningly large as you might think they would otherwise be. I think they told us in the

morning prime time, on and off Union Pier, they are estimating about 800 cars an hour and in prime time in the afternoon about 900. Now, if you put that in perspective and think about it for a second, yesterday when the cruise ship was here in town, and it's here twice a week 52 weeks a year, there were probably four times that number of cars generated by that cruise ship because its embark/debark holds 3,500 passengers, and every single one of them, in some form or another, comes rubberized, comes either in a car, a bus, or something in between. So, the net effect of all of this is they know it's going to create mobility issues, and it will generate traffic and traffic counts, and they're going to take into account of that, but balancing against the reduction in traffic, it will actually I think, once they open up that grid, be very beneficial. So, it was a good initial report. It was the first time we saw it with a lot of questions asked. There were a lot of answers given. What some of the answers were, we will get back to you on that, and we invited them to do that, and I believe that they will sooner rather than later. I've seen some communications tonight that they're interested in getting back here pretty quickly, so it was a good report. We will make sure it gets generated and sent to you all just so you can see the mapping that they're preliminarily thinking about, so that was that.

We took up the parking meter contract approval. As you know, we're going to change the meter heads on all of our parking meters downtown. It turns out to be about 1,100 of the meter heads, and some of them will also be parking kiosks instead of meters. We have 1,700 plus or minus on the Peninsula. This went through a rigorous process. It's upgrading our technology to make it easier for customers, and also easier for Mr. Somerville and his team to track parking revenues, to track parking compliance, and all of those things, so its technology generated. I don't believe we need to take action on this because it came through Ways and Means. We've already approved it, but just so you know over the course of three years, the investment the City is making between hardware, software, and maintenance is \$800,000.

The last thing we got from Mr. Lawrence, which we've asked, and I think this Council is interested in, is a monthly update on Upper King Street and the traffic patterns up there. It was a brief update today because we had a long meeting. They made some very minor adjustments to when they put the meter bags out and some other things, but *status quo ante* things are going well up there. There has been no change in sort of what's happening up there in the negative, and they still feel positive about it, so that's my report. It was a good meeting and more to come on Union Pier, in particular."

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Parker followed by Councilmember Shahid.

Councilmember Parker said, "Thank you, Mr. Mayor, and thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just quickly, one important question that was brought up was cost of the streets, just so everyone's aware. You know they talked about the PUD and how these streets, some are State right now, they'll be City, so I think that was an important question and will hopefully be addressed at our next meeting."

Councilmember Seekings said, "Right, and in response to that, we have been working through the whole question of what it costs the City in general to own streets as opposed to the DOT, and we're still not where we want to be. I know that's been of great interest to Councilmember Gregorie. We're working through that. We own a lot more streets than people think, and the PUD did say that the idea was for those streets within the PUD to be dedicated to the City. Outside of the PUD and particularly East Bay Street, we do not own that. I don't think that's something we want to jump into any time in the near future, but we do want the DOT to take a look at it. By the way, for those who have been here for a long time, there has been

numerous studies, reports, and recommendations to reconfigure and calm East Bay Street over the course of the last 30 years. This is our really once in a lifetime opportunity to actually do it.”

Mayor Tecklenburg said, “Absolutely.”

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Shahid.

Councilmember Shahid said, “Just a quick comment about that presentation and one of the things that really hit me that we forget about is the way that this Port is now designed, it does cut off a lot of north/south, east/west access through the Peninsula. It’s almost like a wall in essence, so the infrastructure that would be implemented here is going to improve a lot of traffic flow opportunities for us. So, I just attended as an observer, and I appreciate the thoroughness of that report that we received from the SPA. My other comment is at your next meeting, please take up my ordinance on the overnight trucking. I think that’s going to be out there for a while. Thanks.”

Councilmember Seekings said, “So, all apologies from the Committee as Chairman. I did decide to put that to the next one just because of the length of the meeting we knew we were going to have, so you will have it on the next agenda.”

Mayor Tecklenburg said, “Thank you.”

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Waring.

Councilmember Waring said, “Thank you, Mr. Mayor. The [Committee on Public Works and Utilities](#) did meet yesterday. All actionable items passed unanimously, and I move for the adoption of the report.”

Councilmember Brady said, “Second.”

Councilmember Waring said, “Before the vote, I would like Mr. Fountain to come to the microphone so that you can explain a piece of work that I know Councilmember Brady has actually been working on, a wonderful grant that was awarded for Barberry Woods that experiences tremendous flooding. We don’t have all of the money, but we have some going that way, and if you would please touch on the check valve that was put in at Washington Street and Union Pier and the cost effectiveness of that and the collaboration that was involved with that.”

Matt Fountain said, “Yes. Thank you, Councilmember Waring, so I’ll start with the Union Pier discussion. So, we did install a check valve on Washington Street near the entrance to Union Pier. It’s an area that’s very low-lying, very heavy flooding. It hadn’t previously been check valved because it’s a very, very large outfall pipe, about a 60-in. pipe. It’s the largest check valves we install. They’re very expensive. The Mayor did reach out to the State Ports Authority when we started looking at this, to see if they would be interested in cost sharing something since there is obviously an economic benefit to them from access to their terminal. Then, the Stormwater Department reached out, with the Mayor’s support and Councilmember Waring’s support, to Charleston Water System who often supports our check value installs in areas where they see issues with their sewer system. Basically, as you get floodwaters entering their sewer pipes, that increases their service demand and then also the cost of treating all of that water, so they have an annual allocation that they consider for us. So, both of these entities agreed to basically split the project three ways with us. We were able to get those valves ordered and installed. It was a pretty interesting process to install those valves underneath the pier terminal

in the Port. The Port was great to work with. They did a great job working with our contractor and getting us good, clear access. So, we ran that project, valves went in, we saw evidence of significant improvement, even in the recent flood events this weekend. We didn't get quite the 8.4 tides they were originally predicting, but we still ended up with about a 7.8 ft. tide. We will continue to monitor those, because there's always a chance that we will find an additional connection that wasn't visible with those lower flood levels, but so far so good on the improvements there."

Councilmember Waring said, "So, it cost about how much?"

Mr. Fountain said, "So, again, those check valves are extremely expensive because of the size. We're talking 5 ft. diameter valves. It's about \$300,000 for that project."

Councilmember Waring said, "But if we had to put a pump station there, how much would that have cost?"

Mr. Fountain said, "Most pump stations are generally running on the order of \$15 million."

Councilmember Waring said, "There you go. \$300,000 versus \$15 million with collaboration with allies."

Mr. Fountain said, "Yes, and that does not include the property for the pump station, that's just the actual station itself. Then, again, we only spent \$100,000 for that, the other \$200,000 came from the other two entities."

Councilmember Waring said, "Just repeat the amount of the grant again for Barberry Woods."

Mr. Fountain said, "So, for Barberry Woods we have been notified that they intend to award us the grant. We don't yet have the grant agreement document to accept, but this is the South Carolina Office of Resilience. This is their ARPA funding. They had about \$50 million of ARPA funding to hand out across the State. They had 76 projects that were applied for. They awarded, I'm going to get the exact number wrong, about 17 projects. Barberry Woods was notified for an award of \$4.6 million out of that \$50 million. So, they said it was one of their best scoring projects. It's a great infrastructure project, which is what they want to see and support, and it also has a pretty significant LMI population within the project boundaries, so that was another one of their scoring criteria which helped us do well with that grant."

Councilmember Waring said, "Thank you so much for your quality work and professionalism. Thank you, sir. One last thing on that report, we had a long discussion on a gate on Gordon Street that was deferred, but I move for the adoption of the report."

Councilmember Brady said, "Second."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Right. Any discussion or questions?"

No one 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. Acceptance and Dedication of Rights-of-Way and Easements:**

- (i). Barberry Woods Drainage Project – Acceptance of a Permanent Drainage Easement on TMS# 312-00-00-263 of 3.13 acres to the City of Charleston.

**b. Public Service Department Update:**

- (i). Environmental Services Update
- (ii). Request to place a fence/gate in the Third Avenue R/W at 208 Gordon Street. Recommend denial. (**DEFERRED**)
- (iii). Discussion on the collection of contractor generated debris

**c. Stormwater Management Department Update:**

- (i). Update on South Carolina Office of Resilience ARPA Stormwater Infrastructure Project Awards – Barberry Woods
- (ii). Washington St at Union Pier Check Valve Project Update

Mayor Tecklenburg said, “And as an additional note, Matt Fountain, and I, and Dale met with the representatives from the South Carolina Office of Resilience, along with the representatives from Congresswoman Mace, Senator Scott, and Senator Lindsey Graham this morning over at our Ehrhardt Tunnel Extension because all of those parties help collaborate for us to get that \$10 million grant to make that project possible. They came just to check and make sure we were proceeding along with the project, and of course, we are. Well, it’s making great progress, but just to let you all know the Office of Resilience they were singing our praises, y’all. They really appreciate the work that Matt Fountain, and Dale, and all of our professional team has been putting forward. Alright. [Committee on Ways on Means](#), Councilmember Gregorie.”

Councilmember Shahid said, “So moved.”

Councilmember Mitchell said, “Second.”

Mayor Tecklenburg said, “As amended.”

Councilmember Mitchell said, “As amended. Second.”

Mayor Tecklenburg said, “Any discussion?”

No one asked to speak.

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

(Bids and Purchases

- (Fire Department: Approval to submit the 2022 Fire Prevention & Safety Grant after-the-fact in the amount of \$92,641.00 for smoke alarms, a fire extinguisher training prop., and creating a fire prevention vehicle. A match of 5% (or \$4,411.48) is required and will be budgeted in FY2024.
- (Police Department: Approval to submit an application for \$100,000.00 for the US Conference of Mayors Police Reform and Racial Justice Grant to help strengthen data analysis related to CPD's Racial Bias Audit and to design a public data dashboard. There is no match required for this grant.
- (Police Department: Approval of a continuation application for an Elder Advocate and Resource Specialist for CPD Family Violence Unit under the Victims of Crime Act Grant Program in the amount of \$145,058.23. The award results are expected in August 2023. This project requires a 20% City match of \$29,011.65 which will need to be budgeted for FY2024. **(AS AMENDED)**
- (Stormwater Management: Approval of Barberry Woods Improvement Fee Amendment #5 with W.K. Dickson & Co., Inc., in the amount of \$7,500.00 for a site assessment report according to EPA standards. This will include interviews of owners, operators, and occupants, a search for recorded environmental cleanup liens, review of Federal, tribal, State, and local government records and conduct visual inspections of the subject property and adjoining properties. Approval of Fee Amendment #5 will increase the professional services contract by \$7,500.00 (from \$1,434,248.00 to \$1,441,748.00). Funding for this project comes from the Drainage Fund (\$12,856,843.00) and the SC Conservation Bank (\$100,000.00).
- (Parks-Capital Projects: Approval of the Municipal Operations Complex professional services contract – Construction Administration in the amount of \$2,818,756.00 with Cumming Management Group, Inc., for construction and project management services for the design and construction phases of the Municipal Operations Complex. Approval of the professional services contract will obligate (\$2,818,756.00 of the \$8,618,756.00 project budget. Funding sources for this project are General Fund Reserves (\$700,000.00), Capital Contribution (\$5,100,000.00) Charleston Neck TIF (\$2,818,756.00).
- (Planning and Sustainability: Approval of the National Park Service Underrepresented Communities grant award of \$75,000.00 with a \$25,000.00 City match, and grant agreement to support community education and outreach; and historic surveys of African American settlement communities interested in pursuing National Register nomination or other state/local historic designations. The Grant period is 04/01/2023 through 03/31/2025. This includes a \$20,000.00 City match from ARPA, approved for FY2023 budget and \$5,000.00 from 4300000-52920.
- (Authorization for the Mayor to execute on behalf of the City of Charleston, a quitclaim deed and any other documents necessary to quitclaim property designated as Charleston County TMS# 463-10-04-034, being the site of a sewer pump station, to the Commissioners of Public Works of the City of Charleston, South Carolina. The property is owned by the City of Charleston. (22 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Charleston, SC 29403) [Ordinance]
- (Request approval of the revision to the application for the County Greenbelt funds from the City's "URBAN" Greenbelt allocation previously submitted. The revision adds four parcels and increases the funding request by \$12,360.00. Attached Resolution in support of the revised application is part of the required submittal. Funds will be used to acquire five parcels totaling approx. 58.8-acres (including wetlands/water area). Charleston County Greenbelt application is in the review/approval process. (0 Ashley Hall Road) (TMS# 351-04-00-007; 353-15-00-001; 351-03-00-096, -097, and -098) [Resolution]

(Authorization for the Mayor to execute on behalf of the City of Charleston a Third Addendum to a Memorandum of Agreement with Friends of the Lowline to allow the City to utilize TIF funds to continue conceptual design work. [Ordinance]

(Please consider the following annexations:

- 2245 South Dallerton Circle (.27 acre) (TMS# 310-07-00-055), West Ashley, (District 5). The property is owned by Janet Hancock.
- 2223 North Dallerton Circle (.26 acre) (TMS# 310-07-00-028), West Ashley, (District 5). The property is owned by Christopher and Conner Morgan.
- 2138 Wappoo Drive (.24 acre) (TMS# 343-06-00-181), James Island, (District 11). The property is owned by David and Savannah Hurt.
- 912 Savannah Highway (.16 acre) (TMS# 418-13-00-184), West Ashley, (District 9). The property is owned by Alexander Cooker.

(A Resolution to execute a Fourth Amendment to the Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Charleston and Landmark Enterprises Services, LLC, DBA Landmark Enterprises, dated September 14, 2021 to extend the review period deadline to May 23, 2023. [Resolution]

First reading was given to the following resolutions and bills:

*An ordinance authorizing the Mayor to execute, on behalf of the City of Charleston, a Quitclaim Deed and any other documents necessary to quitclaim property designated as Charleston County TMS No. 463-10-04-034, being the site of a sewer pump station, to the Commissioners of Public Works of the City of Charleston, South Carolina.*

*An ordinance authorizing the Mayor to execute the Third Addendum to the Memorandum of Agreement between the City of Charleston and Friends of the Lowcountry Lowline.*

*A Resolution to approve the submittal of Exhibit A to Charleston County to request funding to pay for the acquisition of the Woodmere Tract Site*

*An ordinance to provide for the annexation of property known as 2245 South Dallerton Circle (.27 acre) (TMS# 310-07-00-055), 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 5. The property is owned by Janet Hancock.*

*An ordinance to provide for the annexation of property known as 2223 North Dallerton Circle (.26 acre) (TMS# 310-07-00-028), 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 5. The property is owned by Christopher and Conner Morgan.*

*An ordinance to provide for the annexation of property known as 2138 Wappoo Drive (.24 acre) (TMS# 343-06-00-181), James Island, Charleston County, to the City of Charleston, shown within the area annexed upon a map attached hereto and make it part of District 11. The property is owned by David and Savannah Hurt.*

*An ordinance to provide for the annexation of property known as 912 Savannah Highway (.16 acre) (TMS# 418-13-00-184), 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 Alexander Cooker.*

*A Resolution to execute a Fourth Amendment to the Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Charleston and Landmark Enterprises Services, LLC, DBA Landmark Enterprises, dated September 14, 2021 to extend the review period deadline to May 23, 2023.*

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Next, we have, I think, 11 [bills up for second reading.](#)"

Councilmember Brady said, "Move to take 1 through 11 together."

Councilmember Mitchell said, "Second."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "1 through 11 together? Alright, and we've got a second. Any discussion on any of those?"

No one asked to speak.

On a motion of Councilmember Brady, eleven (11) bills (Items L-1 through L-11) received second reading. They passed second reading on motion by Councilmember Mitchell and third reading on motion of Councilmember Mitchell. On further motion of Councilmember Shahid, the rules were suspended, and the bills were immediately ratified as:

**2023-067 -** AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF CHARLESTON BY CHANGING THE ZONE MAP, WHICH IS A PART THEREOF, SO THAT 39 RIVERDALE DRIVE (WEST ASHLEY) (APPROXIMATELY 0.3 ACRE) (TMS #4181400061) (COUNCIL DISTRICT 9), ANNEXED INTO THE CITY OF CHARLESTON JANUARY 24, 2023 (#2023-033), BE ZONED SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL (SR-1) CLASSIFICATION. THE PROPERTY IS OWNED BY ANDREW STEEN.

**2023-068 -** AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF CHARLESTON BY CHANGING THE ZONE MAP, WHICH IS A PART THEREOF, SO THAT 480 MAGNOLIA ROAD (WEST ASHLEY) (APPROXIMATELY 0.17 ACRE) (TMS #4181300151) (COUNCIL DISTRICT 9), ANNEXED INTO THE CITY OF CHARLESTON JANUARY 24, 2023 (#2023-034), BE ZONED SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL (SR-1) CLASSIFICATION. THE PROPERTY IS OWNED BY TRICIA SANDUSKY.

**2023-069 -** AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF CHARLESTON BY CHANGING THE ZONE MAP, WHICH IS A PART THEREOF, SO THAT 155 MEETING ST. (PENINSULA) (APPROXIMATELY 1.91 ACRES) (TMS #457-08-02-011, 012, 111, AND 112) (COUNCIL DISTRICT 1), BE REZONED FROM ACCOMODATIONS OVERLAY (A-1) AND 4, 6 STORY OLD CITY HEIGHT DISTRICT CLASSIFICATION TO ACCOMODATIONS OVERLAY (A-5) CLASSIFICATION AND 3, 5, AND 7 STORY OLD CITY HEIGHT DISTRICT. THE PROPERTIES ARE OWNED BY PINNACLE MOUNTAIN HOLDINGS LLC, KING STREET HOLDCO LLC, PASTIME AMUSEMENT COMPANY, THE BEACH COMPANY.

**2023-070 -** AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY OF CHARLESTON TO ENTER INTO AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT RELATING TO SOUTH CAROLINA LOCAL REVENUE SERVICES; TO PARTICIPATE IN ONE OR MORE LOCAL REVENUE SERVICE PROGRAMS; TO EXECUTE AND DELIVER ONE OR MORE PARTICIPANT PROGRAM SUPPLEMENTS; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO.

**2023-071 -** AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND DEFINITIONS WITHIN CHAPTER 27 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA AND TO PROHIBIT THE USE OF CERTAIN FOUNDATION TYPES IN THE CITY'S 100-YEAR REGULATORY FLOODPLAIN.

**2023-072 -** AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE, ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF CHARLESTON, A PERMANENT UTILITY EASEMENT AND ANY OTHER DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO GRANT SUCH AN EASEMENT TO THE COMMISSIONERS OF PUBLIC WORKS OF THE CITY OF CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA OVER A PORTION OF THE RIGHT-OF-WAY FOR HANOVER STREET.

**2023-073 -** AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE ON BEHALF OF THE CITY A PURCHASE AND SALE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY, AS SELLER, AND JJR DEVELOPMENT, LLC, AS BUYER, FOR A PORTION OF THE REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 212 SPRING STREET, CHARLESTON, SC 29403, TMS NO: 460-11-01-015 FOR A PURCHASE PRICE OF \$170,000.

**2023-074 -** AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE NECESSARY DOCUMENTS FOR THE CITY OF CHARLESTON TO CONVEY TO CHARLESTON HABITAT FOR HUMANITY THE PROPERTY KNOWN AS 1345 RUTLEDGE AVENUE, BEARING TMS# 464-13-00-023, SAID PROPERTY LOCATED IN THE CITY OF CHARLESTON, COUNTY OF CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA IN CONSIDERATION OF SIX HUNDRED EIGHTY-FIVE THOUSAND AND 00/100 (\$1.00) DOLLARS; PROVIDED HOWEVER, THAT IF NO CONSTRUCTION HAS BEGUN ON THE SITE WITHIN EIGHTEEN MONTHS OF TRANSFER, THE PROPERTY SHALL REVERT TO THE CITY; AND PROVIDED HOWEVER, THAT IF THE GRANTEE COMPLIES WITH THE TERMS OF THE TRANSFER AGREEMENT, THE CITY SHALL FORGIVE THE LOAN.

**2023-075 -** AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE ANNEXATION OF PROPERTY KNOWN AS 2919 DONCASTER DRIVE (.40 ACRE) (TMS# 358-10-00-080), 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 10. THE PROPERTY IS OWNED BY CAROLINE WATFORD AND JUSTIN CLACK.

**2023-076 -** AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE ANNEXATION OF PROPERTY KNOWN AS 818 SAINT DENIS DRIVE (.25 ACRE) (TMS# 421-03-00-093), 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 KAREN JEAN BYRD.

**2023-077 -** AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE ANNEXATION OF PROPERTY KNOWN AS 360 LYNWOOD DRIVE (.29 ACRE) (TMS# 310-12-00-076), 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 5. THE PROPERTY IS OWNED BY KARAN S. HAWKINS.

The vote was not unanimous. Councilmember Parker voted nay on Item L-3.

Councilmember Parker said, "For the record, Item 3, I'm a nay."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "A nay on number 3. So, can I ask someone to do a little filibuster while I sign?"

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Appel.

Councilmember Appel said, "There is an extremely interesting South Carolina Supreme Court case that came out last Wednesday. It's an inverse condemnation case involving the City of Folly Beach. I encourage all of my colleagues to read it. There are a lot of implications for the City of Charleston as we move forward with our Zoning Code rewrite, particularly some of the more aggressive or innovative recommendations in our Comp Plan, including elevation-based zoning. It's like a 31-page Opinion. It's probably one of the most significant land use decisions in decades in South Carolina. It's really worthwhile looking at. So, Folly Beach had what's called a merger ordinance, which basically said like if you look at the GIS system on like the north end of Folly Beach closest to the Coast Guard Station, there are double-stacked lots up there that used to be under water that were now made into land through all the Federal beach renourishment activity. I'm really oversimplifying here, but the erosion has gotten so bad there over the years. There's been so many attempts at renourishment that the Federal funding was actually at risk unless the City took certain steps to prevent development of those super oceanfront lots. So, one of the things the City of Folly Beach did is they passed this merger ordinance which basically says that if you own both double-stacked lots, you can keep whatever you've got currently, but if you go to sell it, you can't sell them as separate lots. They combine into the same lot to sort of prevent some of this bad development. They were sued for takings. They lost at the Circuit Court level. The City of Folly Beach appealed it to the Supreme Court, and the Supreme Court reversed finding basically that the City of Folly Beach could do this and not incur inverse condemnation liability for a variety of reasons. One of which was the unique situation that the City of Folly Beach found itself in due to the jetties, due to all of the studies. It just showed the importance of when you're challenged as a local government, if you have the backup, the studies, the analysis, all of the stuff we heard from earlier from Dale, the foundation that we've been setting, that the courts look at that, and it demonstrates that local government's not just shooting from the hip, that we're actually regulating for a genuine serious purpose, and it helps that inverse condemnation test. So, it's an interesting case, it's very complicated, but it was a pro-local government decision by the South Carolina Supreme Court which you don't see every day."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you, Councilmember Appel. I knew I could count on you. Any further business to come before us this evening?"

No one asked to speak.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Hearing none, we stand adjourned."

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Jennifer B. Cook  
Clerk of Council