

CITY COUNCIL VIRTUAL MEETING

Regular Meeting

September 14, 2021

The one-hundred and thirty-fourth meeting of the City Council of Charleston was held this date convening at 6:21 p.m. over video conference call (Zoom).

A notice of this meeting and an agenda were made available on the City's website September 9, 2021 and notice of this meeting appeared in the Post and Courier on September 13, 2021.

PRESENT (13)

The Honorable John J. Tecklenburg, Mayor

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|-------------------------|------------|------------------------|-------------|
| Councilmember Delcioppo | District 1 | Councilmember Waring | District 7 |
| Councilmember Shealy | District 2 | Councilmember Seekings | District 8 |
| Councilmember Sakran | District 3 | Councilmember Shahid | District 9 |
| Councilmember Mitchell | District 4 | Councilmember Griffin | District 10 |
| Councilmember Brady | District 5 | Councilmember Appel | District 11 |
| Councilmember Gregorie | District 6 | Councilmember Jackson | District 12 |

Mayor Tecklenburg called the meeting to order at 6:21 p.m.

The Clerk called the roll.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Now, if you all would like to join us, Councilmember Gregorie will lead us with an [invocation](#), and then we will have the [Pledge of Allegiance](#)."

Councilmember Gregorie said, "Mayor. First, I'd really like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who really came to our need after the passing of my mother. Colleagues, you Mayor, friends, all really came to help our family get through this. What I would like to do for the invocation is say a little something about mothers."

Councilmember Gregorie opened the meeting with an invocation.

Mayor Tecklenburg then led City Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you. We have presentations to recognize two remarkable women who, unfortunately, have recently passed, one of which is Councilmember Gregorie's mom, and Councilmember, I just simply could not make anywhere near as beautiful a tribute as you just did with your invocation. I did share this [Resolution](#), of course, with you at the services this past weekend. I will just share a couple of the remarks with my fellow Councilmembers and those on the meeting about Mrs. Gregorie, her full name Marguerite Dudley Gregorie."

Mayor Tecklenburg read the Resolution.

---INSERT RESOLUTION---

Mayor Tecklenburg said, “Her life’s work will continue to live on through her family, which had a beautiful conciliation at the service last Saturday. You did a beautiful tribute, Councilmember. If you would like to add anything, that would be fine, but we wanted you and your family to know that we extend our condolences, and we know that you all will be consoled by her incredible life and achievements.”

Councilmember Gregorie said, “Thank you, Mayor. I appreciate it.”

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilwoman Jackson.

Councilwoman Jackson said, “Thank you, Mr. Mayor. You know you have our empathy, our sympathies, and our condolences. It was a beautiful family funeral that I witnessed on Saturday, Councilmember. So, thank you so much for that. I know you were trying to summarize in a friendly way, Mayor, but I think that you missed, especially for the times that we’re in now and for the work that Councilmember Gregorie has been sacrificing his own time and effort to accomplish with our Commission on Equity, Inclusion, and Racial Conciliation, the paragraph that I didn’t really hear you go into detail was ‘Marguerite Dudley Gregorie fought for the equity and justice for the African American community in Charleston. She helped organize marches and political rallies throughout the City of Charleston, including events held at Mother Emanuel AME Church. She also participated in boycotts, strikes, and sit-ins.’ I think that’s a very important part of the beautiful tribute you gave to your mom to open us up, Councilmember, because she is with you in all of that, as well. Thank you.”

Councilmember Gregorie said, “Thank you, Carol.”

Mayor Tecklenburg said, “Thank you. Alright. So, I would like to proceed with another recognition, a [Resolution](#), to another beautiful citizen of our City who recently passed, and I see family members here. I’m referring to Lucille Alethia Simmons Whipper, Lucille, to most of us. Seth Whipper, and is that Cheryl with you? So glad to have you with us this evening. Thanks for your patience. I also attended a wonderful ceremony celebrating her incredible life a week ago and now have a Resolution that I would like to share with Council and with everyone on the meeting and then ask Cheryl and Seth whether they would like to make any remarks.”

Mayor Tecklenburg read the Resolution.

---INSERT RESOLUTION---

Mayor Tecklenburg said, “Seth, Cheryl.”

Seth Whipper said, “Thank you, Mayor, for the opportunity to respond. I want to say primarily thank you very much to the City of Charleston, to you, Mayor, to the officers and members of the Council, to all of your worker bees who were so helpful and cooperative in helping us to stage mom’s home going celebration in the City of Charleston, which is her home. She started out on the Eastside really very near what will be the IAAM museum and then moved to John Street, which was her childhood home where she grew up, so she is a City girl all of the way. So, we thank you very much for this Resolution and for making her a continued part of the City’s history. Then, I want to say that in wrestling with what we were wrestling with, I don’t know that we had more notice than Councilman Dudley, but I want to extend my deepest sympathies to him. Because, you know, William Dudley Gregorie hasn’t just started being a leader in our community. I remember Dudley being a main fundraiser at the Burke High School and being so active in community affairs. I knew of his mother’s activities, so I want to extend the same

sympathies to him. I'm glad to know, Dudley, that they were going home at the same time. That will always be a part of the history of mom, your mother, and the City of Charleston. I can say no more than thank you, and we hope that we all are affected in a way by these lives and that indicate that, yes, if you know the good, you can do the good, and even though you have the power and authority to do something, doesn't mean you should always do it because there is a right way to do things. So, Mayor, thank you very much. Council, thank you all very much for the time. I know you all have serious business to take care of. We appreciate all of the courtesies and privileges that the City has offered to us in this time of our trials. May God bless you and may he keep you."

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Gregorie followed by Councilmember Shahid.

Councilmember Gregorie said, "Yes, my condolences to the Whipper family. Mom and Mrs. Whipper knew each other very, very well, and of course, Mrs. Whipper was my Guidance Counselor. So, in addition to being my Guidance Counselor, as most of you know, she was also like the mom in school, in her guidance, in her perseverance, and patience with me is a part of who I am today. I will always, always be obligated to her and love her. So, thank you, Seth, and it looks like both of us are pushing these gray afros here."

There was laughter.

Mr. Whipper said, "This is an official Corona cut."

Councilmember Gregorie said, "Mine, too. Thank you."

There was laughter.

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Shahid.

Councilmember Shahid said, "Thank you, Mr. Mayor. I just had to say 'hi' to two of my favorite lawyers, Cheryl and Seth. The legacy of your mom lives in both of you all. You remember your first encounters when you embarked on your legal career, and it was with the two of you all that we had often crossed paths. But, it's just a testament to your mom that who you all two are because you always conducted yourselves with the highest level of integrity, the highest level of professionalism, and it was just always a pleasure when we did cross paths. It was always just a wonderful experience. To Councilmember Gregorie, this applies to you, as well, is that my mother died 12 years ago. We commemorated her 100th birthday earlier this month, and it's no condolence that you never forget your mom. Because as you said, Councilmember Gregorie, she lives within you. My mother would always say to me, 'I'm your best friend,' and that is absolutely the God honest truth. So, when your mom dies, you lose your best friend. So, my prayers will be with all of you and your extended family. God bless you all, and it's good seeing you all."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "I now see D'Jaris Whipper Lewis, another one of Lucille's wonderful children. I didn't mean to overlook you, D'Jaris. I didn't see you until just now. Would you like to address us?"

D'Jaris Whipper Lewis said, "Thank you very much. I just logged in. I was on Tel-A-Ride trying to get home to log in, but I would like to thank everyone so much for the consideration and

the honor. I know that mother is free, and I certainly, along with the rest of the family, thank you so much.”

Mayor Tecklenburg said, “Yes, ma’am. God bless you.”

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Waring.

Councilmember Waring said, “Thank you, Mr. Mayor. Certainly condolences to the Whipper family, but let me say that Ms. Whipper was at the College of Charleston when I was a freshman. I did my freshman year at Carolina, and we were kind of like the second wave. While the college was one of the oldest colleges in the entire United States, they hadn’t been public that long, and you had Dr. Stern, and of course, I saw in the paper her position with the college at that time, and it was only until I read her obituary that I realized she wasn’t the Vice-President of the College of Charleston. Can you imagine you’re the second wave of integration, and you’ve literally only got a handful of African Americans on this campus? She was our confidence, if you will. Just to name a few people that you all probably have forgotten about or may not even know about. Ken Riley was one of the people that came under her tutelage. Obviously, the President of the ILA Union; Carol Etheridge, who was the Head of Human Resources over at Charleston Place for about 30-odd years; Linda Gadsden, Rural Development, giving back even to this moment was influenced by her; the late Carl Whetsell who was a pediatrician, again, that she helped mentor; Jerome Clemmons, who is a noted businessman in the community today, a good member along with her over at Morris Street Baptist; Demetria Noisette graduated high school early, and she basically took Demetria under her wing.

Demetria is now a member of the Board of Trustees, or I should say Dr. Noisette, a member of the Board of Trustees over at the College of Charleston just to name a few. I mean, I was pleased up until she couldn’t serve anymore. She and Mayor Riley made countless trips to and from the General Assembly after being gone for decades lobbying for monies. That \$25 million that came out of the General Assembly over the years so the International African American Museum (IAAM) could be a reality. She served on the Executive Committee, as well as the Board. That’s just a special generation that your mom and dad led, as well as Councilmember Gregorie’s mom. They kept their faculties up until the very last moment. I don’t know whether we will be able to do that or not, by the way. Such a leader, and remember the ladies of her time not only had to face chauvinism from the majority community, they had to face chauvinism from their very own African American community. You know what? Somehow she made it look easy, but we all know it definitely wasn’t. So, not only is she being with you all as the days and months go by, she is going to rest with the unity that she touched as the days, years, and months go by. So, thank you for allowing us to share your mom as well as your dad, and you too, Councilmember Gregorie. You didn’t get to have your mother by yourself. Our condolences, our heartfelt condolences.”

Mayor Tecklenburg said, “Great. Thank you. Well, God bless the Gregorie and the Whipper families, and thank you all for being with us this evening. We really appreciate it.

Next, I would like to call on Chris Mack. He is the President of the [American Society of Civil Engineering](#), and I’m not surprised, to be honest with you, but we’ve received an award from them for the Low Battery Seawall Project. Chris, do you want to share that with us, please? Thank you for being with us.”

Chris Mack said, "Thank you, Mayor Tecklenburg. I certainly do, and thanks to the distinguished Councilmembers, as well. In preparation for this, I've got three brief slides, if that is okay with you and the Councilmembers?"

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Yes, sir."

Mr. Mack said, "So, real quick, I just want to introduce folks. Some folks may not be aware of the American Society of Civil Engineers. This is the nation's oldest engineering society founded in 1852. It holds 150,000-plus civil engineers in over 170 countries. We have 93 sections, 160 branches, 397 student chapters, and 118 young member groups. Here in South Carolina, we've got one State chapter, six branches, and three student chapters, those being at Clemson University, USC, and The Citadel. We have a very active group that meets monthly and has guest speakers within the industry do talks, so it's a very active group, very passionate about civil engineering. ASC also hosts nine specialty institutes. These include subject matter experts that have additional emphasis within the various subdisciplines of civil engineering such as geotechnical engineering, certainly what I do, coastal engineering, roads, bridges, dams, wastewater, water transit, aviation, and ports. AECOM is the leading provider, perhaps the largest provider, of technical and professional conferences for civil engineers, continuing education, civil engineering content, and then certainly codes and standards. I would suspect that many of these codes and standards were used in the design and construction of the Charleston Battery Seawall. Another thing that ASC puts out frequently is the ASC Infrastructure Report Card, and we just released that on September 8th in Columbia for South Carolina. I don't want to spoil this for anyone, so I encourage you if you can get a copy, just type in ASC Infrastructure Report Card, and take a look at that and see how they have graded our current infrastructure in South Carolina with respect to roads, bridges, dams, water, wastewater, transit, aviation, and ports. I think you will be amazed. It might also help direct funds towards some of the infrastructure that we need to repair and renovate.

ASC's purpose is to help civil engineers more and enable them to make a bigger difference. Our mission is to deliver value to our members, advance the civil engineering profession, and most importantly to protect the public health, safety, and welfare of our communities and our citizens for the different things that we design, build, and construct in the real world and in the environment. Our vision is for civil engineers to become global leaders and to build a better quality of life, particularly for the community, states, and the nation that we live in.

With respect to the Battery Seawall Project, I can think of two civil engineers such as Jim O'Connor, who is the overall Design Manager for JMT, and Frank Newham, who all of you know very well as the lead Project Engineer for this project. They certainly have made a bigger difference in Charleston and in the community. One other area that folks like Frank and Jim give back in and other civil engineers is through the STEM Program, Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics, where we contribute to the growth and development of young children K-12, college students interested in engineering, and the promotion of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

So, Mayor Tecklenburg, if I could just take a moment to read the award. Unfortunately, we wanted to present this physically at one of our ASC luncheons. There was an announcement made at the State Chapter meeting earlier this year, but as you see in that top right graphic, I'll read. This is what the plaque says that, hopefully, it will find a nice place in the City Hall. It says, 'The rebuilding of an iconic 100-year old seawall is a showcase of collaboration, innovation, and public stewardship. The project's Phase 1 was completed on time and within budget, allowing

effective use of taxpayer dollars. This was accomplished by reusing as much of the substructure as possible, innovative application of materials and tools (such as micro piles) to strengthen the wall, and effective interaction with nearby residents and city officials to minimize any delays as well as to gain the necessary support.' Quick facts of the seawall, 850 feet of seawall, it's two feet higher than the existing seawall, and a 10-foot promenade, 850 feet of road was rebuilt, 1,100 feet of storm drain, ADA compliant ramps on Tradd and Ashley, 47 palm trees, a traffic calming table, and also two planting areas. This could not have been accomplished without a phenomenal team, including the City of Charleston staff such as Frank Newham, JMT, Jim O'Connor and his staff, and Gulf Stream Construction. There were some additional subcontractors that were members of this team, including Schnabel Engineering, who were very influential in the innovation of the micro pile design. Gulf Stream Contractors had subs such as Palmetto Gunite, who were responsible for much of the concrete rebar that you see and the micro piles and resurfacing of the seawall. Excuse me, that was Beech Contractors who were responsible for the concrete rebar. Palmetto Gunite was very innovative with the delivery of the micro piles and resurfacing of the seawall. Then Pleasant Places has really put the finishing touches, which is what we see today as far as the nice curbing, the Palmetto trees, and the slate tile that you see on the promenade.

So, this is a huge success. It's a testament to civil engineers not only in the City of Charleston but nationwide, and it is an exemplary example of what we can do if we work together. Again, just to emphasize some of the project's successes. It's on time, we retained the iconic seawall, provided ADA accessibility and also ADA compliance, and also parking opportunities, unique parking situations, and then there is a low impact innovation with the use of the micro piles. One other element about that is the design was very forward thinking. So, the micro pile foundation design not only aided in the construction of the seawall, set it up at perhaps a lower cost, but it provided adaptive capacity. So, in the future, if sea level rise, for example, is observed to be higher than projected today, you've got the ability with this seawall to add additional elevation to the crest without the need to rebuild the foundation and seawall. So, again, it was very forward thinking and leverage adaptive, risk management adaptive design, so hat's off to the entire team."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Great. Thank you, Chris. We appreciate your recognition and your work as an engineer with the American Society of Civil Engineers. Time needs to move on, but we could thank each one of those folks you already named. I guess I've just got to shout-out to our own Frank Newham. He was a Project Manager. This is really his baby and, Frank, I don't know if you're on the line tonight or not, but thanks to you. You've done an incredible job marshaling our contractors and subcontractors, and I think it's really a tribute to Frank, but the whole team, you're right. So, thanks, Chris, appreciate the recognition this evening."

Mr. Mack said, "Mayor, one last point I forgot to mention. One other element about Frank and Jim, and this is critical to all civil engineers, especially licensed in ethics, and I've got to borrow from that wonderful tribute that Seth Whipper made for his mother, and he said, 'If you know the good, you can do the good,' and I am certainly going to use that with future ethics training for young engineers coming into the profession. Again, I thank you and a lot of success to the City and JMT. Thank you, Mayor. Thank you, Councilmembers."

Councilmember Seekings said, "Mayor."

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Seekings.

Councilmember Seekings said, "Mayor, if I might just briefly, I know we've got a long night ahead, but I just would like to echo the sentiments from Chris and ASC. I think you couldn't have picked a better project to recognize nor two engineers better to recognize. Jim O'Conner has really put his heart and soul into this and come up with an incredible design, but Frank Newham, who is literally out there every day, and he's got lots of other assignments around the City, as well. I mean, we all know how much the guy is going to fix flooding from now until into perpetuity. He has really taken this project to heart and soul, and really, what you see out there is an extension of his vision and his hard work. One other thing, if you all ever go down and walk and see this project ongoing because this is just one of what is going to be four or maybe five phases, there is one other person who should absolutely be recognized, and it's a woman named Laura Boisclair, who works for JMT. She is out there every day making sure that what was envisioned is actually put out there in the field. She has not missed a day since it started, and it's incredible what she has done with this project so, thanks for recognizing it. Frank, if you're out there, Jim, if you're out there, and, Laura, if you're out there, thank you for what you've done and what you're going to continue to do for the City to make us a better and safer place. So, thank you."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Great."

Councilmember Seekings said, "And thanks for the picture, by the way, that's in my background, Jim."

There was laughter.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Alright. So, we have no public hearings this evening, thankfully. We do have approval of some [City Council minutes](#) from July 29th, August 11th, and August 17th."

Councilmember Griffin said, "So moved."

Councilwoman Jackson said, "Second."

The Clerk said, "Mayor. These are just from July 29th and August 11th."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "We don't have the 17th, just the 29th and August 11th. We have a motion to approve. Are there any additions, deletions, or corrections?"

No one asked to speak.

On a motion of Councilmember Griffin, seconded by Councilwoman Jackson, City Council voted unanimously to approve the minutes for the July 29, 2021 and August 11, 2021 Special Meetings.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "So, next up is our [Citizens' Participation Period](#). We have 58 people who have signed up. This evening you all, particularly with our late start, we really need to keep our Citizens' Participation Period to 30 minutes. So, I know it's hard to express yourself in 30 seconds, but I'm just going to have to ask you all to do that because time is moving on, so, please, keep your comments concise. I do want to just share, and we do have this at every meeting, but I guess given the experience of recent meetings, I want to share this with everyone. 'Any person who speaks to City Council should conduct himself in a manner appropriate with the decorum of this body.' We have a Code called Section 2-28, and it simply

includes things like no profanity, no cursing, no yelling, no fighting words against anyone personally. I'm going to use this expression: Everybody is entitled to an opinion, right? And we respect that. That's why we have this, to listen to you. And this virtual format, it shouldn't be an issue tonight, but I just want to say, we need to be respectful of other people's opinions. Once you've given your opinion, I think it's appropriate to respect the next person's opinion and let him have his or her say as you've just had. So, those are rules of the road here for Public Participation at the City of Charleston, and with that, I'm going to call on Madam Clerk to call out the names and proceed. Again, I apologize for the shortness of time, but just 30 seconds each, please. Thank you."

The Clerk said, "I would like to let everyone know at the beginning that in order to unmute yourself, you will need to press *6. So, I will just go through the names, and when I call your name, if you will press *6. When I call time, your microphone will be muted, and we will go on to the next person. Our first speaker is Tamika Gadsden."

1. Tamika Gadsden said she supported and advocated for the Commission and asked that it be fully funded and that it be supported by City Council. She was a little disoriented because of the flow of City Council and the delay, but she also asked that Council demonstrate more respect for its constituents by not loading up the agenda with other items so that items like the Commission had to suffer, and they couldn't advocate and voice their opinions for the Commission and for the work.

The Clerk said, "Brian Turner."

2. Brian Turner, Preservation Society of Charleston, spoke in favor of advancing new protections of the City's burial grounds. He commended Council and Councilwoman Delcioppo, in particular. It spoke to their collective values as a City. Moving forward they wanted to push for a more formalized inventory of gravesites to provide landowners more guidance and predictability, and they were a willing partner in that effort. He also thanked members of Council for their perseverance as public servants. He realized there were difficult circumstances, and Council deserved their gratitude.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you."

The Clerk said, "Joe Elmore."

3. Joe Elmore, President and CEO of Charleston Animal Society, reminded Councilmembers and the Mayor that without citizen advocacy, there would be no women's rights, no civil rights, no historical preservation, no environmental protection, and no animal protection. There would be no democratic society nor this republic. The Animal Society was requested by the City to be involved in the overall carriage issue back in the early 2000's and was even referenced in City Code.

The Clerk said, "Marcus McDonald."

No one asked to speak.

The Clerk said, "Tracy Liebmann."

No one asked to speak.

The Clerk said, "Felice Knight."

4. Felice Knight urged Council to vote in favor of an ordinance to create a permanent Commission on Equity, Inclusion, and Racial Conciliation. As Chair of the History and Culture Subcommittee of the Special Commission, she could attest to a need for the Special Commission to drive the implementation process of those recommendations. Her Subcommittee alone contributed more than 200 pages to the Special Commission Report.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you, Dr. Knight."

The Clerk said, "Next is Genia Holbrook."

5. Genia Holbrook said Councilmember Griffin perpetuated falsities at the last Council meeting regarding the Equity and Inclusion Report. She said Councilmember Griffin did not accurately and truthfully convey the information, for those that hadn't read the report. The report never mentioned 'defund the police.' She said it was an election year and questioned whether the term was used to mislead supporters and constituents—

The Clerk said, "Next is Ted Corvey."

6. Ted Corvey spoke on behalf of the Charleston Horse and Carriage advocates in support of their proposed ordinance that he had helped draft the previous year. They were disappointed on how this went with the Commission, but they believed it was a tiny step forward. They asked that Council amend the current version back to the City's original version dated February 19, 2021, and they hoped that Council would at least enhance protections for child safety and drug and alcohol screening.

The Clerk said, "Next is Maurice Washington."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Former Councilmember."

No one asked to speak.

The Clerk said, "Next is Tony Daniell."

7. Tony Daniell said he was sorry for the loss of Mrs. Gregorie, and he hoped that her neighborhood did not illegally close the roads blocking her emergency access. If they had, one of the Councilmembers would have raised their hand and said it was wrong, and it wouldn't be tolerated. He said if Councilmember Appel represented her district, they would have had the same problems.

The Clerk said, "Next is John Harmon."

No one asked to speak.

The Clerk said, "Next is Kim Cameron."

8. Kim Cameron said the Commission's sole purpose would be to justify its very existence, an attempt to drum into a diverse and loving community that they were anything but caring and compassionate folks that co-existed harmoniously every day. They saw many examples of this capacity within the fabric of society. She connected frequently with the many foreign-born residents such as herself and the common thread was always how inclusive and welcoming Charleston had been and continued to be.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you."

The Clerk said, "Luis Bravo."

No one asked to speak.

The Clerk said, "Katie King."

9. Katie King spoke in support of making the Special Commission on Equity, Inclusion, and Racial Conciliation a permanent fixture. She also echoed Tamika Gadsden in ensuring it was funded and supported by City Council. The City had clear and present problems in innumerable ways, but most recently with the proposed plan to expand I-26 and I-526 and displace over 100 families. If people spent over a year tirelessly working together to identify opportunities and come up with actionable items to implement change, why would they disband this and not make it permanent?

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you."

The Clerk said, "Next is Jessica Morse."

10. Jessica Morse said since this had become such a political issue she was not a Trumper or even a Republican, she was just a mother of a child with epilepsy and sensory issues. She said none of Council wore their masks properly at the last City Council meeting. They pulled them down around their chins when it was their turn to speak, and they touched them constantly. She understood it was a long, intense meeting, but it was shorter than a school day for their children. The children did not get to pull their masks down in order to be heard. A two-year old could not even keep a hat on his head, and it was ridiculous to think that he could keep a mask on his face for eight hours a day in school or even an hour at the grocery store. Parents, not the government, knew what was best for their own children.

The Clerk said, "Next is Joye Ridgeway."

11. Joye Ridgeway said she opposed the teaching of Critical Race in the schools and the creation of a Committee that would remove monuments from the City, or any actions to make a Commission on Equity, Inclusion, and Racial Conciliation a permanent Commission, that would continue to produce extreme policy proposals for the City.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you."

The Clerk said, "Cava Compton."

No one asked to speak.

The Clerk said, "Tom Knaust."

No one asked to speak.

The Clerk said, "Joel Sadler."

12. Joel Sadler said he was a downtown resident and co-owner of Sightsee Shop on Line Street, and he voiced his support of the Commission. He said Charleston as they knew it would not exist were it not for the Black labor and culture, despite centuries of exploitation. As a white business owner in downtown Charleston, he benefited from the history of white supremacist policy while Black citizens were only further disenfranchised. Given this ongoing reality, he asked Council to operate not from a place of white guilt, but white gratitude for African Americans that made the City they knew and loved. Council's approval to make the Commission permanent was a necessary step.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you, sir."

The Clerk said, "Next is James McMahan."

No one asked to speak.

The Clerk said, "Nancy McMahan."

No one asked to speak.

The Clerk said, "Jerome Harris."

13. Jerome Harris said he was a member of the Criminal Justice Task Force of the Commission, and he urged Council to approve the ordinance and to expedite discussions of the recommendations by the subcommittees of the City Council. By doing this, the City would put itself on the forefront of cities attempting to address questions of racial justice and equity.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you, sir."

The Clerk said, "JoCarol Ayer."

No one asked to speak.

The Clerk said, "Mara Brockbank."

No one asked to speak.

The Clerk said, "Belvin Olasov."

14. Belvin Olasov spoke in support of the Special Commission on Equity, Inclusion, and Racial Conciliation to be fully funded and continued to address the deep-seated

racial inequity still faced in the City. Also, in his capacity as the co-Executive Director of the Charleston Climate Coalition, he said that the community's work on environmental justice would be crucial to an effective Climate Action Plan which he believed all of Council had dedicated themselves to affecting.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you, sir."

The Clerk said, "Charles Stevens."

15. Charles Stevens spoke in opposition to the adoption of the recommendations of the report of the Special Commission. He strongly urged Council to vote against making the Special Commission permanent. It was a solution looking for a problem. It would generate nothing but division among the citizens, and it wasn't who they were.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you, sir."

The Clerk said, "Sarah Thompson."

No one asked to speak.

The Clerk said, "Alex Brook."

16. Alex Brook said he supported the Commission on Equity, Inclusion, and Racial Conciliation and for the Mayor to make sure he provided public progress reports on the recommendations set forth by the Commission. He also asked that if they were going to hold more City Council meetings that they would mute other people instead of choosing to mute people when a black man wanted to speak on the history of the City.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you, sir."

The Clerk said, "John Robinson."

No one asked to speak.

The Clerk said, "Allyson Sutton."

17. Allyson Sutton said she supported the permanent expansion of the Commission. The CVB spent over \$3 million per year with major publications to win the #1 City award, but for whom were they the #1 city? Tourists who spent three days in the City or Black citizens who for more than 300 years had built the City from the ground up? The Black community had been disenfranchised for generations, and it was time they started righting those wrongs for a more equitable future. Council had an opportunity in front of them right now to start making that change to be recognized not by the destination, but as a City with smart leaders.

The Clerk said, "Renee Brockinton."

18. Renee Brockinton said following the tragedy of Mother Emanuel Charleston came together—

The Clerk said, "I think we're having some technical issues with Ms. Brockinton's line. We will come back to her. Mike Trama."

19. Mike Trama said condolences to the Whipper family. He said to please make the Commission permanent, fund it, staff it with full-time resources, and he asked for transparency of those resources. He wanted to see the assessments posted on the City's website because he believed Council was implicitly biased, and that was why he was speaking two hours late.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you, sir."

The Clerk said, "Devon Hanahan."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Ms. Brockinton, are you back on?"

20. Renee Brockinton said following the Mother Emanuel tragedy Charleston came together as the City united in love and showed the world God's passion and grace. There was no division between race, nor political affiliation. What the City now proposed was divisive and demeaning to all Charlestonians regardless of color and would bankrupt and destroy the City they loved.

The Clerk said, "Next is Devon Hanahan."

No one asked to speak.

The Clerk said, "Donna McClain."

No one asked to speak.

The Clerk said, "Elizabeth Fort."

No one asked to speak.

The Clerk said, "Brett Barry."

21. Brett Barry said last month Council rejected the report of the Commission on Equity, Inclusion, and Racial Conciliation. He asked why Council this evening would vote to elevate the Commission by not only making the Commission permanent, but also specifically charging it with advancing the recommendations of the final report which they just rejected. The Mayor had given the final report to the Committees for their consideration. Empowering the Equity Commission would only encourage further extremist recommendations that Council would have to respond to. He asked Council to vote against making it permanent.

The Clerk said, "Alfred Pinckney."

No one asked to speak.

The Clerk said, "Naomi Matthews."

22. Naomi Matthews said whereas most blacks were descended from slaves, most whites were not descended from slaveowners. What the Mayor and City Council proposed would bankrupt and desolate the City, causing irreparable damage. Reparations should be made only by verified descendants of Charleston slaveowners and only to verified descendants of Charleston slaves.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you, ma'am."

The Clerk said, "Michael Kogan."

23. Dr. Michael Kogan spoke against establishing the Special Commission on Equity, Inclusion, and Racial Conciliation. He said Council wisely rejected the radical and extremist suggestions in the report. He told Council to not establish them permanently, as they were trying to recreate the educational system, dragging race into every topic, and stripping the City of its beautiful historical monuments. It would disrupt the City further.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you, sir."

The Clerk said, "Next is Pat Barry."

24. Pat Barry said he was incapable of articulating his position in 30 seconds, so he would just say the bottom line was that he was against the Special Commission on Equity, Inclusion, and Racial Conciliation.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you, sir."

The Clerk said, "Mamie Rand."

25. Mamie Rand said she was in opposition to the Commission. CRT was the belief that society was organized by racism. She told Council they were stomping on the legacy of Martin Luther King, Jr. The U.S.A. was the least racist country in the entire world. CRT was a strategy and tactic to obliterate their way of life to care about how one looked, instead of how one acted. It fostered the belief that everything could be blamed on racism.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you."

The Clerk said, "Leigh Williams."

No one asked to speak.

The Clerk said, "Ashley Regan."

No one asked to speak.

The Clerk said, "Mimi Wood."

26. Mimi Wood said she opposed some of the recommendations of the Commission, specifically CRT. CRT perpetuated victim mentality and divisiveness. It was not Charleston. It was not Mother Emanuel. It did not honor the memories and work of

Mrs. Gregorie and Dr. Whipper. It did not promote unity in consideration to make the Commission permanent. She urged Council to look at the recommendations, she hoped Council would do so with an eye towards unification, common sense, and a win-win outcome. She thanked Council for their time and service.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you."

The Clerk said, "Denise Barry."

No one asked to speak.

The Clerk said, "Tammy Kanapaux."

No one asked to speak.

The Clerk said, "Lynz Piper Loomis."

No one asked to speak.

The Clerk said, "Samantha Montemagno."

No one asked to speak.

The Clerk said, "Suzanna Hinkle."

No one asked to speak.

The Clerk said, "Kelly Smith."

27. Kelly Smith said she supported the permanent expansion and full funding of the Commission on Equity, Inclusion, and Racial Conciliation. Even decades after Jim Crow, Charleston found ways to dehumanize Black Charlestonians and made them unwelcome. They built the City in the first place, and created the culture that everyone loved and profited from. She asked that Council look at Evanston, Illinois as an example of what could and should be done. It was time for white Charlestonians to own that dark past in ways that actually mattered, beginning with reallocating funds from the bloated police budget.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you."

The Clerk said, "Judy Dixon."

28. Judy Dixon said she strongly supported the Commission on Equity, Inclusion, and Racial Conciliation and urged Council to vote in favor of making it a permanent Commission. The Commission's work over the past year and the resulting report was an expressive start to an issue that the City and all in the community needed to commit to, but there was a lot more work to do which was why the Commission needed to be a permanent City priority, funded and staffed accordingly. Charleston was regularly voted #1 by Travel and Leisure.

The Clerk said, "Roman Hammes."

29. Roman Hammes said he was against the Equity Commission. Page 25 of the report would establish a board that would have unilateral authority to remove monuments. It was an unelected board, and he thought that was a really bad idea. They had seen all across the country how it had spiraled out of control with statues of Frederick Douglass, Washington, Lincoln coming down, Kit Carson, Lewis and Clark, Teddy Roosevelt being taken down. He asked when it stopped. The people in Charleston were opposed to it. It was not helpful. He asked that Council vote down that Commission.

The Clerk said, "Tara Wood."

No one asked to speak.

30. Suzanna Hinkle said she supported the Commission on Equity, Inclusion, and Racial Conciliation. She said please vote to make the Commission permanent and to fully fund it. She would also like to see published progress reports on the recommendations made by the Commission and actual work based on their recommendations so that the entire year-and-a-half of work was not a waste. She told Council to please commit to doing right by their citizens.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you, ma'am."

The Clerk said, "Tony Fogle."

No one asked to speak.

The Clerk said, "John Jones."

No one asked to speak.

The Clerk said, "Tharin Walker."

No one asked to speak.

The Clerk said, "Those were all of the speakers that had signed up to speak. Then, we did receive some comments, Mr. Mayor. Ten people--"

Marcus McDonald said, "Hello."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Yes. Please identify yourself. Were you signed up?"

Mr. McDonald said, "Yes. It was Marcus McDonald on the list of public commenters. I might have missed my name earlier."

The Clerk said, "Yes, sir."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Please proceed."

30. Marcus McDonald said he supported the Commission on Equity, Inclusion, and Racial Conciliation. At the last meeting, he was booed, heckled, and had racial slurs

yelled at him. He would never wish that on anybody. He urged Council to vote in favor of the Commission. It was imperative. At the meeting, a Councilmember said it was democracy. There had never been a time in history where the City of Charleston had been a democracy for Black people.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you, sir. Is there anyone else on the line whose name was called out, but was unable to connect if you want to try *6 now?"

The Clerk said, "Mayor, it might be better if I go down the list of the names that I had on the list, so that we don't have people who weren't on the list asking to speak."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "I see. Okay."

The Clerk said, "So, let me go back down our list. Tracy Liebmann."

No one asked to speak.

The Clerk said, "Maurice Washington."

No one asked to speak.

The Clerk said, "John Harmon."

No one asked to speak.

The Clerk said, "Luis Bravo."

No one asked to speak.

The Clerk said, "Cava Compton."

No one asked to speak.

The Clerk said, "Tom Knaust."

No one asked to speak.

The Clerk said, "James McMahan."

No one asked to speak.

The Clerk said, "Nancy McMahan."

No one asked to speak.

The Clerk said, "JoCarol Ayer."

No one asked to speak.

The Clerk said, "Mara Brockbank."

No one asked to speak.

The Clerk said, "Sarah Thompson."

No one asked to speak.

The Clerk said, "John Robinson."

No one asked to speak.

Mara Brockbank said, "This is Mara Brockbank."

The Clerk said, "Yes. Please proceed."

31. Mara Brockbank said the Black communities could be self-sufficient and self-governing with their own elected Mayor, City Council, and law enforcement agencies. It would allow new Black cities to thrive and prosper independent of whites. Furthermore, Black citizens living in the new communities could charge tourists a fee to visit the land where their enslaved ancestors toiled, lived, and died. She said it would be a good way to deal with it.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you, ma'am."

The Clerk said, "Devon Hanahan."

No one asked to speak.

The Clerk said, "Donna McClain."

No one asked to speak.

The Clerk said, "Elizabeth Fort."

No one asked to speak.

The Clerk said, "Alfred Pinckney."

No one asked to speak.

The Clerk said, "Leigh Williams."

No one asked to speak.

The Clerk said, "Ashley Regan."

No one asked to speak.

The Clerk said, "Denise Barry."

No one asked to speak.

The Clerk said, "Tammy Kanapaux."

No one asked to speak.

The Clerk said, "Lynz Piper Loomis."

No one asked to speak.

The Clerk said, "Samantha Montemagno."

No one asked to speak.

The Clerk said, "Tara Wood."

No one asked to speak.

The Clerk said, "Tony Fogle."

No one asked to speak.

The Clerk said, "John Jones."

No one asked to speak.

The Clerk said, "Tharin Walker."

No one asked to speak.

The Clerk said, "Those are all of the speakers that I had on my list."

Two audience members interrupted the meeting.

The Clerk said, "Mr. Mayor, I have called all of the names that we had on our list. We will move on to our comments section of the meeting."

A man interrupted the meeting.

The Clerk continued, "We had ten people submit comments that said there were no clinical studies proven to show the difference in infections between schools with mask policies or without and mask wearing should be optional not mandated, one person said history sells, and if the City removed anymore monuments or statues they would take tourism elsewhere, one person urged City Council to disband the Commission on Equity, Inclusion, and Racial Conciliation. They said it was outrageous to include the SCDHAH report concerning historical markers in cemeteries throughout the State. Seven people said to mandate masks and not let loud anti-maskers dictate the health of the community. The children and the elderly should be protected as citizens of Charleston were dying in high numbers. One person claimed Ivermectin was a recommended treatment for COVID-19 in Japan, one person said his public comment wasn't mentioned at the August Council meeting and requested that a copy of his public comment be added to his FCC complaint, one person said the police should continue to be funded because there were new gangs in town from Texas, seven people said Critical Race Theory was not the source of unity the City needed, and CRT was destructive and did not

support those efforts, one person said the City continued to ignore requests to unblock illegal road closures, ten people said adoption of Critical Race Theory will further divide the community. The City was not racist, and the report addressed issues that didn't exist. One person said the best way to establish equity was to adopt a fair tax code, 19 people said to extend the Commission on Equity, Inclusion, and Racial Conciliation Commission permanently, eight people said not to vote for the Commission on Equity, Inclusion, and Racial Conciliation to become a permanent Commission, four people said it was disturbing to see the Confederate Flag flown on public property in White Point Gardens. It does not leave positive impressions to tourists who visited the City. One person said City Council were cowards for hosting a virtual meeting to avoid facing the public and that Marxist ideas would destroy Charleston, and those were all of the comments that we received."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Well, thank you, Madam Clerk, and I want to thank everyone that participated. Again, I apologize we have such short time. We do only allow 30 minutes for this period, and so we have a pretty high demand of people wanting to make themselves heard, but thank you all for being with us tonight and sharing your thoughts and opinions. So, next is our section on Petitions and Communications. First up is [appointment of three Code Enforcement Officers.](#)"

Councilmember Griffin said, "So moved."

Councilmember Shahid said, "Second."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "We have a motion to approve and a second. Is there any discussion?"

No one asked to speak.

On a motion of Councilmember Griffin, seconded by Councilmember Shahid, City Council voted unanimously to approve the appointment of Code Enforcement Officers Joshua Folsom (Assistant Fire Marshal), Nichole Lamb (Assistant Fire Marshal), and Matt Schneider (Assistant Fire Marshal).

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you for your patience, Colonel Johannes with the [U.S. Army Corps of Engineers](#). His nickname is Drew. We're so glad to have you with us along with Wes Wilson who we have been working with now for nearly four years with the study and Environmental Impact Statement for Flood and Risk Management for the Charleston Peninsula. It has been a remarkable partnership between the City and the Corps to get us this far, and they were really listening after they presented the first draft of the plan. They accommodated a lot of public comments, and now they have an optimized plan that they will share with us and open yet another 45-day public engagement for our citizens to be able to make comments. So, with that, should I turn this over to you, Colonel, first?"

Colonel Andrew Johannes said, "Yes. Good evening, Mayor Tecklenburg, distinguished Councilmembers for giving us some time tonight to present the updated Charleston Peninsula Coast Risk Management Study. The City continues to be a very valued member and just a great non-Federal sponsor as we move forward with this study, and we would like to continue that relationship. As Mayor Tecklenburg said, tonight I've got Wes Wilson with me. He is the main project lead. I also have Nancy Parrish and Brian Williams. We've got some experts on our teams that are here to answer any questions. What I'm going to do is just go over a very brief overview of what is new, and then I'm going to pass it off to Wes to give a little bit more detailed

update. Obviously, we're running a little short on time, so I'll try to keep my part a little bit more brief. One of the major changes from the last study is you went from what we call Environmental Assessment, to an Environment Impact Statement. That Environmental Impact Statement, what that means is that we've broadened our scope of what we're looking at. We really went in and tried to refine the results, and we really included a lot more public engagement so that we can come up with optimized plan that the Mayor mentioned that has the most benefit to everyone. So, what's different and what's new? Well, the new things are since the April 2020 release, the first being that it's nature-based features which again, Wes will go into the details a little bit on this. We expanded our Environmental Justice Review as well as fine-tuned some of those details with the ultimate goal of making up a plan that's better in enhancing our coastal resiliency specifically focused on the Peninsula. So, what is that? Well, actually the most important take-away, and I know the City is very concerned about this, too, because the City has a cost breaking share with the Federal government. We reduced the costs down from \$1.75 billion down to \$1.1 billion. That's \$1.75 billion down to \$1.1 billion. We also increased the benefit to cost ratio, and this is really important when it goes up to the Chief of Engineers for determining which projects go forward nationally and go forward to Congress to get funded. We increased it from 2.2 to 10.2 which we're real excited about that because that definitely increases the chances of getting Federal investment with this. It also means, too, that when we look at this it means that every dollar or two dollars we spend, every dollar we spend, we get ten dollars back in investment, and that's real important because, remember, when the Army Corps does a project with one of our non-Federal sponsors, the Federal government is helping fit the bill, so that's important. So, it's those Federal taxpayers all across the nation that invest and clearly, with this type of cost-benefit ratio, the City of Charleston is somewhere where I think the Federal government wants to invest to keep the Peninsula as it is.

Lastly, too, we also included and, obviously, this is looking at the vulnerability piece of just the Peninsula in general. We're looking at the flooding problem, but just understand that this isn't an isolated project. It's integrated in with the City's holistic 'fight the flood' strategy, and this specific one is looking at the storm surge capacity. If you have been kind of following the news lately, you might have seen from Ida, and some other places that have experienced this kind of thing, and so, again, we're really excited to be where we're at and ready to move forward. Also, understanding too, we don't do this in a vacuum. This is something that we can pull across the whole Corps of Engineers to pull that expertise, so when we actually implement a solution, we bring that with us, again, and then, lastly, with the draft review, like with the last one, we have a 45-day comment period going through October 25th. We would really like to get your feedback again, so we continue to refine this plan, the study, as we move forward. With that, I will pass it over to Wes Wilson, and he will give you a little bit more detail of what the plan entails."

Wes Wilson said, "Alright. Mayor, how much time do I have? I've got a short presentation here."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Proceed. You shouldn't be penalized for our running over. We apologize to you for being a little late getting here."

Mr. Wilson said, "Thank you, sir. Well, I'll go ahead and dive into it. Again, thank you, Mayor, thank you, Council for the time to provide an update on the Charleston Peninsula Study. To remember why we're here, this is a Federal feasibility study that investigates coastal storm impacts on the Charleston Peninsula and in partnership with the City of Charleston and its stakeholders. We're exploring effective, economically viable, and environmentally sound solutions to mitigate those coastal storm risks and build endurance to coastal resiliency. So, this is a four-year feasibility study. We kicked off in 2018, and we are going to submit a final detailed

report to Congress in the summer of 2022. As Lieutenant Colonel Johannes just mentioned, we published a draft environmental assessment in April of 2020. We since then have transitioned to an Environmental Impact Statement so that has enabled us to do more analysis on project impact, clearly define mitigation measures, and offer this expanded public engagement review period that we're currently in right now. As the Commander mentioned, this feasibility is just one piece of the City of Charleston's long range flooding strategy, a piece of the puzzle, a very significant piece of the puzzle, an expensive piece of the puzzle, and this primarily addresses coastal storm surge in conjunction with some other flood mitigation efforts, and we take into account sea level rise and tidal flooding into our analysis.

So, with that, I'm going to jump into the Optimize Plan. So, we are excited about the costs going down and the benefits going up, but let me talk to you a little bit about the map on the right. So, broadly, the plan includes, it's similar to our draft assessment released in April of 2020, a perimeter storm surge wall. The height varies based on the topography of the Peninsula, with pump stations and gates. There is also non-structural areas where construction of the storm surge wall is not practical, and we're excited about the new feature of nature-based features like living shorelines we added as part of the plan. Those are identified by the areas in blue. Additionally, why did we add nature-based features? Well, based on public and agency feedback, we integrated and am proposing oyster living shorelines to compliment the combination wall. That's the area of the wall that's built in the marsh, to help reduce erosion in front of the wall and maintain the wall and reduce scouring from the combination wall.

Additionally, so what has changed since last year's report? The cost on the left has decreased from \$1.75 billion to \$1.1 billion. We've reduced impacts to the wetlands, we reduced the impacts from 111 acres to 35 acres, we've adding living shorelines, and we've fine-tuned our economic and engineering analysis. All of this has changed the benefit cost ratio from 2.2 to 10.2. So, what does it matter, as some of the analysis that is taking place and the modifications of the plan? In the original plan, we had a breakwater, and that breakwater was at the tip of the Peninsula. The breakwater provided no additional benefit to the project with the wall in place. So, when you think of having no wall and only a breakwater, the water would go around the breakwater and would flood the Peninsula. So, that only added costs to the project, and that was a significant reduction of costs. It was a \$300 million breakwater. We added aesthetic mitigation. So, during our optimization phase, the study team worked with the City of Charleston and other stakeholders to determine conceptual ideas as a basis for aesthetic mitigation. So, the Corps is working with the City, right now, to develop a Memorandum of Understanding that will further detail the process to determine how we will define aesthetic mitigation in a design phase. Aesthetic mitigation is important to the Corps to ensure that whatever we construct for a storm surge wall will be integrated into the urban fabric of this historic City. If aesthetic mitigation is not the appropriate path forward, the City can elect to fund betterment features to further enhance the design of the wall. One of the questions we received from the last draft EA is will the wall create a bathtub effect? So, one of the things that we looked at after the report had been released is that we did additional modeling and analysis and refined our interior drainage to mitigate any interior flooding caused by the storm surge wall. This plan includes five temporary, those are the flags in blue, and five permanent small to medium hydraulic pump stations to address and alleviate the potential bathtub effect. By small to medium hydraulic pump stations, that would be similar to the Concord Street pump station near the aquarium. Next, one of the main questions that we got from the draft Environmental Assessment was where is the water going to go? Will the wall adversely impact surrounding communities? The answer is 'no.' So, over the last several months, we have conducted a thorough review on whether the wall would deflect water or increase flooding in surrounding areas, and according to the model and analysis, the storm surge wall induced a marginal difference in water service

elevations, meaning there was a marginal difference with the wall versus without a wall, and an increase of around an inch. So, our basis is this marginal increase in water service elevation would be detected during a severe storm event of 9- to 17-foot and would not result in any additional economic damages.

Then, the final bullet is why did we elect to go non-structural in certain areas? Just to elaborate on this point a little bit, I'll help you understand. First, it's not based on home values. Home values aren't even a consideration in non-structural. Second, it's not based on whether a community qualifies for a wall. It's based on engineering trade-offs. Is a wall constructible in this location? We are proposing a 12-foot wall around the Peninsula. Where is the 12-foot contour tie-ins? What are the environmental impacts? What are the cultural impacts? What are the real estate impacts? Are we going to be doing buy-outs and displacing residents? What are the interior hydrology impacts? Is there adequate subsurface drainage in these areas? Is there real estate to construct pump houses and locations, and what is the risk behind the wall? So, we looked at all of these potential trade-offs to help formulate our non-structural areas. And I'll just elaborate on a couple of these areas. For instance, the Rosemont area, each had unique trade-offs that led us to this non-structural proposal. In Rosemont, it is our understanding there is no subsurface drainage. We are trying to keep these communities together, the inability to tie-in to the 12-foot contour, so if the water goes around the community, you could have backslide flooding, you would have to encapsulate the community and put pump stations where there is limited real estate available, and the wall would potentially displace residents in this community, and that is something that we do not want to do. Where the wall is located now, we are not displacing any residents, and we did not want to do that in these other communities. Bridgeview is very similar to Rosemont, and they have additional inability to tie-in to the 12-foot contour which would significantly impact cultural resources in this community. Specifically, the historical cemeteries that surround it. Non-structural is part of the overall plan. This is to address coastal storm surge on the Peninsula. Costs to raise and floodproof these homes is part of the overall project costs. Sixty-five percent is paid by the Federal government, 35% is paid by the City of Charleston. There are no costs out-of-pocket for any of these homeowners.

So, I just wanted to take a second to elaborate a little bit on non-structural, and when the Corps does formulate these plans, there are many trade-offs we have to consider, and we believe these are the right solutions for these areas. I've got just a couple of slides, and then we can have a Q and A. So, the Federal cost share comes down to \$715 million, 65%, and non-Federal cost share is \$385 million. Details of these costs are currently under refinement and will continue to undergo scrutiny throughout the duration of the study. USACE and the City will determine future funding requirements, so after we leave the feasibility phase, we are going to work with the City to determine future funding requirements on an annual basis. The cost share amount at \$385 million is not required upfront, so it's not required when the study is submitted to Congress. It is broken up on an annual requirement over each government FY. So, USACE, the Corps of Engineers, will not seek funding from Congress during the design and construction phase unless the City has identified their cost share match. I just wanted to make that clear to the folks on the line. It's very important that we continue our relationship after feasibility with the City to ensure that, one, if we have an annual requirement for funding that the City has a cost share match available.

To get down to the \$1.1 billion, we have reduced the environmental mitigation costs by \$125 million, we have reduced the construction costs by \$125 million, our pump sizes have been reduced from our initial draft assessment, we have eliminated the breakwater costs, and we have refined the non-structural costs. So, we did further analysis on costs that would be included to raise homes and flood proof condos, we increased cultural mitigation costs based on

consultations with Historic Charleston, the Preservation Society, National Park Service, and other Federal agencies, and we've added aesthetic mitigation costs, and that number comes out to be about \$50 million. So, with all of the changes, we have reduced costs by \$650 million. I wanted to bring this slide to light because I know it impacts a lot of folks on the line, that question of where does the water move? So, we looked at areas in James Island, West Ashley, North Charleston, Daniel Island, and Mt. Pleasant, and we ran 11 storms in hundreds and hundreds of points within all of these locations. There was only a small number of areas that the water service elevation increased about an inch. Based on that, structural damages are highly unlikely, and the construction of a wall would have a negligible adverse effect of increased flooding during a surge event.

I think the next few slides tell a pretty good story of why we're here today. So, the one thing we look at is life/safety. How many police stations, how many healthcare facilities, and how many fire stations are at risk of flooding with a similar storm surge of Hurricane Hugo? Almost half of the healthcare facilities on the Peninsula are at risk of damages from a similar surge as Hurricane Hugo. With a project in place, with the wall in place, with the non-structural solutions in place, all of those at risk police stations, healthcare facilities, and fire stations would go down to zero. I think that's a pretty telling number. We looked at the same historical impacts without a project on the Peninsula. Over half of the historic structures on the Peninsula are at risk of damages for a similar storm surge as Hurricane Hugo. With the project in place, that number goes from 54% down to 2%, so a dramatic drop in the historical and cultural charm we have here in Charleston.

I have a couple of timeline slides, and then we'll open it up for questions. So, we are in the first phase of the Corps of Engineers' four-phase process. We are in the study phase. We don't know a lot of the questions yet. We haven't designed. We haven't done a lot of the heavy lifting in our engineering analysis. That all comes during the design phase. So, we know where we are based on we have a significant Federal interest, we have a general idea of costs that will still go under further refinement, and we have a general idea of a conceptual alignment, conceptual non-structural areas, pump stations, and gates, but we don't know all of the answers yet, and all of those answers will be figured out during the design phase, and that's next.

Finally, a lot of words, I'll summarize these real quick for everybody. September 10th, we release the draft report, draft EIS to the public. It's open for review and comment for 45 days. Tonight we have provided you guys with an update. The Corps of Engineers will host a virtual public meeting on October 5th. The details of that will be published on our website. The review and comment period ends, so we stress everybody gets their comments before October 25th. November 15th is a big day for the Corps of Engineers. It is the agency decision milestone. So, the Corps of Engineers changes from a tentatively selected plan to a recommended plan. So, the agency gets behind the plan, the agency as in the Corps. After that milestone meeting, we will need some information and some signed documents from the City. In December, we would like to get a letter of support for our recommended plan, a signed financial certification that ensures that you will be able to come up with the cost share in the future, a signed Memorandum of Understanding between the Corps of Engineers and the City of Charleston to assess visual impacts in PED phase, and a signed Memorandum of Agreement to assess cultural impacts in PED phase. Once we get all of those documents, we can begin our final rounding of a report and submit it to our Corps of Engineers Division office in March 2022. Now, the public will have one more opportunity in June 2022 to see how all of their comments and how all of the input that they're going to provide in the next 45 days was incorporated into the plan. Now, the June 2022 date is not a formal comment period, but it is more of a review of how

the comments that the public submitted were incorporated. Then, in August 2022, we will have the signed Chief of Engineers Report that we will submit to Congress.

I encourage everybody to visit our website. There is loads of information. This is where the Draft Feasibility Report is located, and we have FAQs and scoping videos. We hope to put this portion of the City Council meeting on our website and future videos, as well, for reference. Then, how to comment? There are many ways to comment. We have written comments. You can send it to my address. We have an electronic form on our website, or you can e-mail comments to the e-mail address at the top. Again, I stress to everybody that the end of the comment period is October 25th, 2021. So, with that, I am all done, Mayor. I'll turn it over to you, sir."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Well, thank you, Wes, for that presentation and your remarkable efforts on this over the last almost four years with us. Councilmembers, I know we have a lot to study with this Optimized Report, and we also have, I think you all know, a select committee, we call it our 3x3 Committee, that has been following this every step of the way. They plan to come to us at our next meeting in two weeks and make observations and some recommendations to Council of their own after a lot of review of everything and, of course, they're just seeing the Optimized Plan as of last Friday themselves. I don't see anybody's hand shooting up. I did want to call on Dale Morris for just a minute. As you know, Dale just came to work with us as our Chief Resiliency Officer with Mark Wilbert's retirement, but Dale is no stranger to us. He's been working with us for years and was one of the leaders of the Dutch Dialogues process that we went through. We're really blessed and lucky to have Dale with us. Dale, do you want to go ahead and share any observations from your perspective?"

Dale Morris said, "Yes, just briefly, I want to begin by thanking you, Mr. Mayor, and City Council, and everyone for welcoming me to the City a number of years ago in the Dock Street Theater when we kicked off the Dutch Dialogues. That was just the beginning of my now four- or five-year relationship with the City. I want to thank you for the opportunity to dig in on these issues, resilience issues, flood issues, trying to make the place safer and more resilient and adaptable as the climate changes, the weather changes, and the seas rise. There is a lot of work to do, and I'm happy to do that on behalf of the citizens, the Council, the Mayor, and the staff. I'm excited to dig in, but I think I would be remiss if I didn't acknowledge and highly value Mark Wilbert's tremendous service to the City for the last eight years. I'm taking his position. He has left some big shoes for me to fill, and I'm going to do my best to do that, and again, thank him for the work that he has already done, and he has given to me. I just want to make these very few comments.

In this Feasibility Study, there is a number of many different types of flood risk, flooding and causes, and we have discussed that in the Dutch Dialogues Report. I worked on the Discovery Report on the Surge Structure Analysis last winter. I've been a part of the City Comp Plan Update and the Land and Water Analysis. So, a surge is about one of three or four types of flooding, but it is often the most deadly, and it is often the most impactful if an event occurs. These are not quite black swan events, but these are events that may only occur once every 20 or 30 years, but when they do, they wipe out communities. When you think of New Orleans after Katrina, Galveston after Ike, New Orleans and Louisiana after Laura last year, to other storms, you think of New York post Sandy. I can go on and on, but those are surge events and rainfall events, and they combine for just devastating impacts to people's homes and people's lives and jobs and businesses in the tax base. These surge issues are something that we should not underestimate, and I'm pleased that the City is focusing on this as one part of this larger puzzle.

To remind the folks here, as Wes mentioned, this is a Feasibility Study, so this is the first part of the effort. You go to feasibility, to PED, to construction, to operation and maintenance, and they're all essential, but this is really the first. There are a lot of legitimate questions that folks have about the structure, how it's going to operate, and what it's going to look like. Those are legit, and we're going to have to work through them in PED. The Feasibility Study is not the place for that. There was enough funding for the Army Corps to answer all of those questions, so we'll work on those in PED if we get that far. I just want to say, these updates that have been made over the last four to six to eight months by the Army Corps of Engineers, it's very clear that the comments that are submitted by citizens, by interest groups, lobby groups, non-profits, businesses, City Councilmembers, and I can go on and on, the Corps listened to them and updated the plan according to a lot of those wishes. So, we expect the comments that will be submitted to this optimized plan to be looked at and reviewed, and hopefully, the plan, if necessary, we will revise it there. Again, some of these changes were major that the Corps made. With the reduction in costs, of course, you reduce the costs and have the same benefits. Your BCR, your benefit cost ratio, goes up. That's a simple mathematical function, but I'll close with this. This increase of the BCR, the Benefit Cost Ratio, from 2.2 to 10.2, in essence, you can translate that into meaning that for every dollar spent on this, you will get \$10 of avoided losses, so every dollar spent saves you \$10 in the future. So, if you're a trader on Wall Street, you would place that bet over and over and over. So, surge is, again, one of these events that come along, not frequently, but when they happen, they wipe places out, and I think our job is to make sure that the City of Charleston doesn't get wiped out in an appropriate way, and that appropriate way is something we will discover if we move in the PED, and there will be more public engagement. I'm available to any and all of you over the next months and weeks. If I can help you understand this or process this, I'm happy to do that. I rely upon the Corps on some points and, of course, my extensive knowledge about this. Briefly or in closing, if we need to do some public engagement with the Council, with neighborhood groups, association groups, whatever, please knock on the door or give me a call. I'm happy to engage where I can and help to create an understanding of this. Thank you, Mayor."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you, Dale."

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilwoman Jackson.

Councilwoman Jackson said, "Thank you. Thank you, everyone. It does sort of feel like a reunion as we welcome our friends on the Army Corps and just to see the way that the process has improved as to the results. I'm not a big Wall Street knowledgeable investor, but I think we can all recognize a 10 to 1 deal when we see it. That's very, very encouraging, especially when it comes to the ability to gain approval from Congress. So, I think I'm reacting to the situation that we're in right now, tonight in particular, that this is a long meeting. We got off to a late start. There is a lot of information. The report got to our inboxes over the weekend, and I know I've gotten some questions from the public, but I don't think our public citizens have really realized that this deadline of 45 days is on them. I know we've got a City Plan meeting on September 23rd, but if we could have a couple of Council work sessions or maybe schedule appointments so that two or three of us could come in to meet with you, Dale, at strategic points in time. I do feel like we need to be as educated as we possibly can be, and I've been sitting in on the 3x3 Committee meetings over the last several weeks, months, and that in itself has been a great background, but I know I have the luxury of being retired so I can do that on a morning, and a lot of us cannot. So, I would really encourage you to not just say 'call me.' I think we should have a schedule that you publish, and we can sign up and literally come in because otherwise, the clock is going to be ticking, and then we'll all be complaining that we're trying to make huge decisions that are just up against a deadline. So, that's my suggestion. Thanks."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Good suggestion. Is there anybody else at this point?"

No one else asked to speak.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "We will follow that suggestion and set up some times where you all can drill down on this and get the report from the 3x3 Committee. I do think well before the cut-off date for an engagement that we should have a full Council meeting workshop dedicated to this topic. So, a lot more to come. Wes, thank you. Colonel, thank you. I do want to share with Council, not only our partnership on this study, but the Army Corps of Engineers has had an office here in Charleston, as of this year, for 150 years, and they have done everything from building the Intercoastal Waterway to make the Port of Charleston a world-class port to supporting our military at Joint Base Charleston, Fort Jackson, and other facilities. They have really served this City, State, and nation over the last 150 years, and we thank you all for your service. Thank you for being with us tonight."

Colonel Johannes said, "Thank you, Mayor."

Mr. Wilson said, "Thank you."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Alright. Next up is our [report on COVID-19](#). This is, once again, the last thing I wanted to have on the agenda again, but we are forced to because we may have thought we were done with COVID-19, but it is not done with us yet. The numbers have continued to rise in this State. Hospitalizations are at a critical level, as we'll hear in just a minute from Jeff DiLisi with Roper St. Francis, and most sadly, deaths are at an alarming rate throughout the State of South Carolina. Very briefly, Shannon Scaff, you want to give us an update on what's going on in the City, and then I'll call on Jeff DiLisi. Shannon."

Shannon Scaff said, "Yes, sir. Good evening, Mr. Mayor and members of Council. I'll just rattle off some numbers to you real quick. The Emergency Management Team is standing by if we choose to activate, but confirmed cases 3,552, confirmed deaths 35, probable deaths at the number of 8 with a percent positive of 12.9. MUSC reports 89 cases per day per 100,000 for Charleston County residents as of 12 September. Twenty-two are reported probable and confirmed deaths among Charleston County residents in the last week. According to DHEC, the seven-day average of cases in the Lowcountry as of 9/11 is 249.7. The two-week cumulative incidents rate is 1,078 per 100,000 in Charleston County. 58.6% of eligible South Carolina residents have received at least one vaccine. 49.7% of eligible South Carolina residents have completed the vaccination, that's according to DHEC. I'll answer any of your questions. That's all I have."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Great. Thank you, Shannon. So, next, we're pleased to have with us Dr. Jeff DiLisi. He is the President and CEO of Roper St. Francis. Jeff, thanks for being with us."

Dr. Jeff DiLisi said, "Thank you so much, Mr. Mayor, and thanks to the City Council for having me tonight. Yes, I wish there were different reasons that I was here talking to you and the City Council today but, unfortunately, as you said, we are in our third, and I think, the most dramatic surge in COVID-19 patients. At Roper St. Francis Healthcare, we have seen higher numbers over the last couple of weeks than we have seen in any of the other two surges. COVID-19 patients make up 41% of every patient in our hospitals right now. Again, we're going on three weeks in a row of record numbers, and I think we've tried to get this message out of

there, but 85% to 90% of those patients hospitalized are unvaccinated. So, we're stretched thin. I just wrote a letter to the Post and Courier that you will all see probably tomorrow morning. I think it's online now, but we've had to delay some surgeries. Obviously, we're doing everything emergent and urgent, but we backed up surgeries a little bit to be able to take care of all of these COVID patients.

When I go out to the frontlines and visit our healthcare workers, they're tired, both physically and mentally exhausted. I mean they are true heroes. They are doing everything they can to take care of these patients, but the stress in our system and the other systems in the Lowcountry is really pretty incredible, and it's been a very terrible surge that we've seen. We're not out of this yet, unfortunately, and we certainly feel that we have a responsibility to care for the community. It can't just rest on the healthcare workers. We all need to be in this together, and so I applaud, Mr. Mayor, you and the City Council for looking at this issue of masking. I think it's really important. We just heard the vaccination rates rattled off, and we're not to the number in this area that you need to be to have herd immunity. When you think about these numbers, we're not even at 60% in our area yet. We're probably a little lower than that in the surrounding counties. We're going to continue to see infection, and we're going to continue to see hospitalization, and most sadly, we're going to continue to see death. I can't even tell you the heartbreaking stories I've heard from our frontline workers. We've had pregnant women where we've helped to deliver the babies, and those babies are going to grow up without a mother because the mother died unvaccinated. We've, unfortunately, had 20-some year olds die unvaccinated, and there is only one way to slow this down.

Until we get everybody vaccinated, we've got to mask. It's really important. We know that it reduces the risk of transmission if everybody is sort of masking, especially indoors. It's just critical to help, again, reduce the burden on our healthcare systems because we're all pretty much tapped out at the current moment and to try to get the numbers back down. Finally, I'll say it, I don't want masking. I don't want to have to wear a mask. I want to be able to go out to dinner and get to know our community. I've been here for about nine or ten months now. I want to get to know all of you better and get to know even our own Roper community even better, but now is not the time. We can get there, and to get there what we need is to get everybody vaccinated. So, please, I encourage if you're on this if you're not vaccinated, please, please, we plead with you to get the vaccination. It's safe, it's effective. I tell everybody that there has never been a larger clinical study done of anything ever, right? The vaccine has been given literally billions with a 'b' of times, and it is safe and it works. It prevents hospitalization. So, again, I applaud you for bringing up the issue. It's something that is very near and dear to us at Roper St. Francis Healthcare. We want to help support the community. We don't want to mask, but I think it's something that we just have to do right now to keep everyone safe. So, Mr. Mayor, I'll turn it back over to you, and I'm certainly happy to answer any questions that you or anyone on the Council may have."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you. Are there any questions for Dr. DiLisi?"

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Shealy.

Councilmember Shealy said, "Thank you, Dr. DiLisi. I appreciate your time and being here. I know at our last or one of our Special Meetings, I think it was August 11th, Dr. Sweat talked to us about the Delta variant, and he talked to us a little bit specifically on their epidemiology website and some of the numbers there. Can you talk on that? Do you have anything on that because there is some interesting numbers that I'm seeing on there that I think should be discussed, if possible, or do we have anybody from MUSC to talk on that?"

Dr. DiLisi said, "What numbers are you referring to? I mean I'm happy to comment on the numbers, but what kind of rate or numbers are you referring to?"

Councilmember Shealy said, "Well, Dr. Sweat had told us in our meeting on August 11th that, he was teaching us a little bit about this Delta variant, and he showed charts from I think it was the UK, India, and Springfield, Missouri, I believe. He said these curves are steep on the Delta variant. They climb real fast, and then they drop off very quickly, and he also let us know that hospitalizations were down with the Delta variant compared to the Alpha variant. When I look on that website, I see that the Delta variant has gone up steeply, and the numbers have dropped off quickly. This is on the MUSC website. I'm looking at it right now on my screen, and it is showing those numbers dropping very, very quickly on that website. He talked about the RT number, the reproduction number, and he said if that number is above 1.0, then we've got cases growing. If it's below 1.0, then we're not in a growth situation. I look at this thing probably every two or three days at least, sometimes every day, and we're below that 1.0 number that he's talking about. It just happens that it's at 1.02, so it did tick up just a little bit, but it's at that 1.0 number that he said if it's above, then we're in growth. If you look at that chart, those numbers are coming way down on number of cases per day in the last week or two."

Dr. DiLisi said, "Well, hospitalizations are going to trail that by a couple of weeks. So, we've seen a slight decrease in the number of positive cases. I would certainly not call it steep and nor what I would call the rise in hospitalizations. I heard that, too. It was a steep up and steep down, but I'll tell you I remember this because I went away at the end of July for vacation with my family for a week, and our numbers were in the 20s. At the beginning of July, it was less than 10. By the end of July, it was 20s, and it's gone up ever since then."

Councilmember Shealy said, "Okay. This chart is showing a decline since. It's hard to tell the way it's done, but it's showing a decline for the last week or two, and it's a very steep decline."

Councilmember Griffin said, "Since about August 25th."

Councilmember Shealy said, "Yes, that's probably about right, Councilmember."

Dr. DiLisi said, "Well, we have seen record numbers in our hospitals. Last week was as high as it's ever been. I think on Monday we even set a new record of positive patients in our hospitals. I assure you we're not admitting anybody that doesn't need to be admitted."

Councilmember Shealy said, "I got you. I understand. I mean this chart is also showing the number of cases, I mean this is coming from Charleston County School's website, with the number of cases dropping pretty substantially for Charleston County Schools. It's showing of eligible people, so of 12-year olds and above, immunity in the Charleston area being 83% on this website. Now, it does say for all of them it would be about 68%. Now, that's not vaccination numbers, but that's total immunity on there. So, I mean the numbers that I'm seeing and I've been looking at, it just kind of tells a little bit of a different story with the numbers coming down so quickly and the amount of immunity increasing. So, I was hoping that maybe Dr. Sweat or somebody from MUSC would be able to maybe answer the questions of what I'm seeing on their website."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "We did not ask Dr. Sweat to be with us this evening. I'm happy to have him come to our next meeting or give you a special update if you would like."

Councilmember Shealy said, "Okay. Thank you. Thank you, Dr. DiLisi. I appreciate it."

Dr. DiLisi said, "Thank you."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Are there any other questions for Dr. DiLisi?"

No one else asked to speak.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you, doctor. We appreciate you being here, and you mentioned wanting to be here to support us. I feel the responsibility that we want to support you and your healthcare professionals who, as you have mentioned, have been under such stress to serve our community. Unfortunately, in a number of cases, as you mentioned, so many who are hospitalized are unvaccinated. I've used the term this is an optional pandemic, and it's really a shame to date that more people have not been vaccinated. It's not too late. We still need to urge folks to get vaccinated. The other thing that we can do as a community is to wear masks inside, as the CDC recommends, when you're around other people. Not when I'm here by myself, it's fine, but if you're in an enclosed space with a lot of other folks, that's when we should be wearing masks right now in order to take the pressure off our healthcare system. Heaven forbid if you have another kind of malady right now that needs attention and they have such a preponderance of COVID patients that they're having to take care of. So, we bring to you, yet again, tonight, [an ordinance asking for a requirement for mask coverings](#) in certain circumstances and generally express its inside when you're around other people and not a lot more complicated than that with the normal exceptions. Julia is probably online and could answer some questions. I'm sure you all have read the proposed ordinance in your agenda. Can I entertain a motion to approve this ordinance?"

Councilmember Waring said, "Move for approval, Mr. Mayor."

Councilmember Mitchell said, "Second."

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Griffin.

Councilmember Griffin said, "Thank you, and I just want some clarity real quick. This is an Emergency Ordinance, correct? So, it will need a two-thirds vote to get passed?"

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "This is not an Emergency Ordinance. It's a first reading, and it will require a majority vote to pass."

Councilmember Griffin said, "Okay. I was under the impression it was an Emergency Ordinance. My opinion doesn't really change. This thing stinks. I've never seen an ordinance like this. Number one, it looks like it was just a bunch of copy and paste put together. It looks like it is a response that our City is throwing a temper tantrum because we didn't get what we wanted when we decided to jump onto the Columbia lawsuit against the Attorney General. We didn't get our way with that, so we're going to try to put that into an ordinance to punish our citizens. But, I think, probably the most disgraceful thing in all of this is there actually is language in here that 'if any person' so that, in this case, would be an adult or a child that is found to not be wearing a mask can be fined \$100, \$200, and \$500. Mr. Mayor, I want to see you go write that first ticket to a five-year old that is not wearing a mask. I mean, this is absolutely ridiculous. You've gotten everything you've wanted. You got the encouragement piece in the Resolution. We had a meeting a couple of weeks ago where we didn't take action,

and since then, the numbers have continued to drop. Go look on DHEC's website. Look at the number, look at the graph."

A citizen interrupted, "I'm sorry, the doctor said people are dying."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Pardon me, sir."

Councilmember Griffin continued, "We can't even conduct a normal meeting because we have people that have to chime in all of the time. We're the laughing stock sometimes of the community because we can't even conduct a meeting. I can't even get my point across as a Councilperson because we've got people that are always chiming in. We should be meeting in person. We just said at our last meeting that we were going to do that, and then all of a sudden, here we are over Zoom again because you're scared, Mr. Mayor, to meet in person. That's my thought process, that's what I believe. I called up to City Hall, and supposedly we're going to have a meeting on the 28th at City Hall after we all talked about how we weren't going to go back to City Hall because it wasn't a good space to meet. We are not doing things right with the City. We're not. We are confusing our citizens daily. We're now going to go back to having our Livability officers go around and start writing tickets and harassing people that come to our City. I'm disgraced with the mask ordinance, I'm disgraced that we're not meeting in person, and I'm disgraced that come November, you might fire several dozen of our employees because they haven't been vaccinated, even though the Federal government and President Biden has said that if you are over 100 people at a business, and you don't want to get vaccinated, you get a weekly test. We don't have that option in the City. So, our first responders, our fire department, our police officers, our public service personnel, their jobs are on the line even though they have worked for the last couple of years during this pandemic and done so on our behalf and kept us going. They're now wondering whether or not they're going to have a job in a couple of months. So, to say that maybe this ordinance itself has just really brought out just a lot of distress in me, I'm just really disappointed at the direction that we're going, and I just cannot believe that we now have an ordinance that we're going to vote on that you can go fine a five-year old. I mean if that isn't the most ridiculous thing I've ever seen as a municipality. We ought to be ashamed of ourselves. Thank you."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you, sir. Is there anyone else?"

No one else asked to speak.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Just to let you know, Councilmember Griffin, our vaccination policy does allow for a waiver if our employees choose to pursue one which would necessitate testing, as you mentioned, so we do allow for that."

Councilmember Griffin said, "But every employee is going to have that opportunity, sir?"

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "They do if they request it. Yes, sir."

Councilmember Griffin said, "Alright. Thank you."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Is there anyone else on the ordinance?"

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Waring followed by Councilmember Brady.

Councilmember Waring said, "I'll defer to Councilmember Brady. Go ahead, Councilmember."

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Brady.

Councilmember Brady said, "Thank you, Councilmember Waring. When we talked about this at the last meeting, I had mentioned the fact that we don't like it when the State government comes down on us and starts overriding us as elected officials. The Charleston County School District just announced yesterday after their meeting that they're going to use Federal funds to enforce a mask mandate in schools. So, it seems to me if our ordinance is going to talk about enforcement in schools, and we have an elected body that oversees all of the County schools, those decisions are best left to those elected bodies. I think it's the same thing with our private schools. They have boards that are responsible to the school and the parents that sets those policies. So, I would like to ask that we strip that out of the ordinance, and then if not, just based on being consistent with that, I'm going to have to vote against it."

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Waring.

Councilmember Waring said, "Thank you, Mr. Mayor. Last Wednesday, Senator Scott had a commission on aging workshop at the Waring Center on St. Francis' campus and came out with a lot of fact points on aging. After the conference was over, we spoke about a number of things. One of the things he spoke about was the high 90 percentile of the U.S. Senate that has been vaccinated, in the U.S. Congress, I mean the high 90 percentile, north of 95% has been vaccinated, and a high percentage of Governors all across America have been vaccinated. I'll certainly reach out to him to see if somehow that information can be pushed out. As a result of that, as part of that gathering, I spoke to Mr. Anthony Jackson, who I believe is the Chief Operating Officer, Dr. DiLisi, you may be able to correct me on that. The same urgency that Mr. DiLisi has just told us, obviously, Mr. Jackson didn't know I was going to ask this question, but I asked him how things were going. He said things were going good. I asked him how things were going in hospitals. The angst that came over his face as to how the ICU units are really backed up and the over proliferation of people who were unvaccinated being in there, and in particular, the stress that's being put on our healthcare providers on a daily basis. It was almost as though he was saying he didn't know how much longer they can take it. So, I understand. I wish politics had never, ever, ever gotten involved in this because science is what should lead on this. The science was the reason that I voted on this. Now, Councilmember, and I would ask our Legal Counsel if there is a provision in this, since I made a motion that a five-year old can be fined. That certainly ought to be stripped from this ordinance, and I'll be happy to amend my motion to be able to allow that to occur. But we, at the very best, we can follow the signs and take our best efforts and our best steps, and support our healthcare professionals and executives on this one. I'm going to vote to support the measure. Thank you, Mr. Mayor."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you. Would anyone else like to be heard?"

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Seekings.

Councilmember Seekings said, "I'm just going to speak briefly to this. First, I want to thank Jeff for coming in and talking to us. I will just say this to answer any questions about whether or not there are issues out there in the healthcare world that have been brought about by COVID in our community. I think, Jeff, including you on this call, there is nobody who has spent more time inside of Roper this past week than me. I have spent a lot of that time talking with people working inside that hospital, and they are stressed. It is not a joke. I've spent a lot of

time there over the last 18 months, and in no time during the last 18 months have they been as stressed as they are right now. There's a reason for that, and the reason is because people are getting sick with COVID, and we, to the extent that we have jurisdiction over it, need to help our healthcare professionals who have come here to ask us for that help. It's not something we love to do. I know that the people that we run into every day on the street who don't get to see it in real time don't like it, but if we don't partner with our healthcare facilities, our healthcare providers and give them the help that they're asking for, this is going to go on for a long time. To those who think this all stinks, for those who are inside that hospital and are suffering, and for the people that are giving them care, that stinks. If you have not seen it, Roper produced a video with one of its doctors. He's an infectious care specialist, and it is incredible to watch not just to hear what he has to say, but to see his body language, from someone who's been on the front lines for over a year. What we are doing is such a small part of the big picture. We need to do it. We don't need to love it. We don't need to give tickets to five-year olds. We need to ask people to be adults, to get vaccinated, and to help out the people who are getting sick and who are on the front lines. Really, it's the people on the front lines. The people getting sick can help themselves in a lot of ways by getting vaccinated and being compliant in other ways. But those who are providing the healthcare, I'm just telling you what I saw this last week inside of Roper was rough. It was really rough, and it was in the faces of the healthcare providers. Not to be overly dramatic about it, but there's drama that's associated with it, and it's not the drama of politics. It's the drama of healthcare. So, let's do the right thing. Let's keep a very close eye on it. To my fellow Councilmembers who are looking at dashboards and numbers, let's also listen to the doctors who are in there, because that's real time, and it's not over yet. It's just not. I don't love the fact that we're asked to do this. I don't love the fact that we have to vote for it, but I do like the fact that we can do a very small part in getting us back on the road to recovery and giving, among others, Jeff DiLisi and his team support. With that, I will turn it over to you, Mr. Mayor."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Councilmember Mitchell and then Councilmember Delcioppo, but let me mention one thing. As Councilmember Griffin had asked, this is not an emergency ordinance, so this is just first reading. We will not be writing a ticket to anyone until we get second and third reading. So, if any of you have any tweaks, please send them to me and Julia, and we can make some minor adjustments before second and third reading, one of which I know about as well, is that we don't want to conflict with anything the School District passed last night."

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Mitchell.

Councilmember Mitchell said, "Yes, Mr. Mayor. I understand what people are saying. I understand what my colleagues and the community are saying, and even in the community, what they're saying, even when they fight me about it saying, 'I shouldn't do this' or 'I shouldn't vote on it.' I'm looking at the safety part of this. This thing is very serious. A lot of people don't do anything until it hits their front door, and once it hits their front door, then they want to scream and holler. It's too late. We've got to be proactive with this. My two-year-old grandson had COVID. My daughter had COVID, and she works for Roper Hospital, because she is a certified, clinical medical assistant. So, I had it right in my family. I've got a friend right now. He went into pneumonia. This is right in my circle. Friends of mine have already died from it, right even in my church. When I went to Maryland, Mr. St. Julian Devine's son died from this also. I have seen it right here. We have to look at things and be proactive. I might get beat up because of voting for it, but so be it. I'm going to do what's right because I have it at my backdoor. People are going to wait until it gets to their backdoor and they say, 'Oh, I should have done this, I should have done that!' It's too late. We are looking at everyone. We are here to make decisions based on

everyone to help out if we can. It's safety. It's not a cure. Even the mask is not a cure, but if the mask can help, so be it. My little grandson, right now he's wearing a mask, and it doesn't bother him. He is only two-and-a-half years old. Right now it doesn't bother him. His daycare had COVID. They had to shut it down three different times. My daughter's paying \$200-something a week for him to go there. People, we've got to stop looking at things and hearing what people are saying. We're looking to the numbers, the scientists and the doctors. The doctors will tell you, if you go into the hospitals, you'll see, all the beds are filled up. The ICU beds are filled up. I had four constituents call me today. They can't even get their surgery because it's not as important. You have to have a dire need before you can get a surgery right now. This is a very serious matter we're looking at right now, people. My colleagues, this is very serious. This is not a game here. I'm running for reelection, and if this makes me lose the election, so be it. That's how I look at it, so be it. Right now, I'm going to support this measure. If you have tweaks, contact the Mayor and Julia, but we have to go and do something. That's what we're sitting here for. We took an oath. Go read your oath. We are here to work for everyone in the City of Charleston. If we have to do something to keep people safe, that's what we're here for. Things have changed. This is not the way it used to be. Things have changed a lot. I hope everyone will listen carefully and open their ears because tomorrow it might be at your front door. It might be at your house tomorrow because you don't know who you'll come into contact with. I wear my mask all the time, even in my house. I don't know why I'm wearing it in the house because there's nobody here but me, but I still have it on. So be it."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you, Councilmember."

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilwoman Delcioppo followed by Councilwoman Jackson.

Councilwoman Delcioppo said, "Thank you. First of all, I personally have absolutely no problem with a mask mandate. You don't have to tell me to do whatever I can to take care of myself and other people. That's just a matter of being a decent human being. I can't take care of somebody any more than they want to take care of themselves. This perpetual cycle that we're spinning just aggravates me to no end because it's about respect for the sanctity of life and the absolute blessing that you are here in this body housing this soul. It just blows my mind that anybody would be disrespectful to this amazing gift from God. With that being said, there are people who are. This Council continues to neglect the fact that we bridge two counties. We have to keep that in mind. I will agree with Councilmember Brady when it comes to the schools. They are a separate, elected body. What this ordinance would do is have four schools, Daniel Island and the three Philip Simmons Schools, which are inside the City of Charleston, doing something completely different than the rest of Berkeley County. I'm not saying that's right or wrong. Again, we talk about, and I completely agree, residents are so confused. The rules of the game are constantly changing on them. Now you're setting up some sort of system where kids in the same school district are not all playing by the same rules. If I wanted to direct the policy of the schools, I would have ran for school board. I did not run for school board because I wanted to take care of the issues that City Council takes care of. We talk about the curriculum of schools and things like that. That is not our job. We have gotten so far removed from what exactly it is that City Council is tasked with doing. I'm not stepping into the schools and telling them what to do. If parents don't like their school boards, then there are elections for that. Just like if they don't like us, there are elections for us, etcetera. We have to continue to keep that in mind, and Berkeley County has taken a pretty strong stance on where they stand on the mask mandate in schools. I can't change that any more than I would accept a school board coming in and directing City Council what to do. It's such a disconnect.

The other thing that I want to know is how will this be different than last time? All we got last time was what an absolute nightmare this mask mandate was. These people like me, like many of you who continue to wear masks, we continue to wear masks and all we were was frustrated by those people not wearing masks. So, I was inundated with phone calls, texts and emails and everything else, like I'm sure many of us were, of why isn't the mask mandate being enforced? I'm going out to dinner, I'm going here, I'm going there, I'm seeing all these people without masks on. We were even told it's extremely difficult to enforce. So, how is this time different? It's kind of like the definition of insanity. I'm going to do the exact same thing again, and I'm going to expect a different outcome. I just want to hear how this time is going to be different. Is there some sort of different enforcement? Again, to the points also made about little kids, I know that Livability, and I believe, if memory serves me correctly, I'm not looking at the ordinance right now, the Fire Marshal and them would be involved with this. I know they'll use their best judgement and not write a \$500 ticket to a five-year old or anything like that. But, when it's there, and it's a possibility, I don't know. Please keep in mind that we are in two different Counties, and I want to know how this time will be different than when we were just here a couple of months ago, and we all wanted to rip our hair out."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Well, thank you, Councilmember. I'll just try to simply say that when we had a mask mandate in place before, compliance went up. Enforcement is difficult, I admit. I think in looking out for the public safety and health of our citizens, what we're just simply trying to do is, in a very good and strong way, ask our citizens to do what the CDC recommends. That's when you're in an enclosed space, in a building, and around other people, you ought to be wearing a mask."

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Jackson.

Councilwoman Jackson said, "Thank you, Mayor. I really appreciate your questions, Councilmember Delcioppo. I guess off the top of my head, what I have experienced that is different since, let's say, the end of July, when we were all made increasingly aware that this Delta variant has a whole new impact on parts of our population that, thankfully, we didn't really have to worry about to any huge extent with the original version of the virus. We were concerned about the elderly and the frail and the people in nursing homes and that kind of generational difference. Now, this variant is attacking younger people and then bringing it back through to those of us who are vaccinated. I have three friends who, thankfully they weren't that ill, but they had breakthrough cases from their grandchildren. We've had people on our own payroll here in the City whose little preschool kids have been positive and had to quarantine. Thankfully they were not that ill. They didn't have to go into the hospital, as far as I know. I have other friends whose parents have had to move out. They've had to send their children to their grandparents to quarantine because the grandparents at least don't have to work, so the parents would not be infected by the children who are positive. This is a whole new ballgame. I'm praying that these spiking numbers are going to be true to what we learned with Dr. Sweat a month ago. I haven't seen that they've come down significantly. I'm not reading the website every day. I admire Councilmember Shealy for looking at everything on a daily basis, but when you check it out periodically, it's a whole new set of concerns.

I want to associate myself with Councilmember Mitchell. I, too, am up for election this year, and if this is the reason that the voters decide that they would prefer a different representative for District 12, then that would be something that I could certainly be peaceful about. I am voting for this for what I consider the right reasons. My kids are educators. They're each in their classrooms every day with populations that are actually seeing their own friends and teachers, and so more and more younger people are trying to get vaccinated, which is

great. I really think that we're growing a whole other generation of responsible, responsive citizens in the ways that my parents taught us, being the greatest generation who sacrificed really the bulk of their growing up and young adult lives for our Country. I really think that Councilmember Seekings hit it on the head. None of us like this. It's hard to be unpopular. It's hard to get all of these frustrated people leaving messages in our voicemail and our email and sending them around to the whole Council, but I consider that the responsibility that we've taken on as elected officials. So, I'm ready to vote in favor and see how the tweaks come back to us for a second reading."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you. I'd like to go ahead and call the question unless somebody else has something pressing."

No one asked to speak.

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

An ordinance requiring face coverings in certain circumstances in City of Charleston to reduce risk of exposure to COVID-19 during the public health emergency and recovery.

The vote was not unanimous. Councilmembers Shealy, Brady, and Griffin voted nay.

The Clerk said, "Mayor, I'm sorry. I was going to ask for a roll call vote. I'm sorry about that."

Councilmember Griffin said, "I'll ask for a roll call vote please."

The Clerk said, "Councilwoman Delcioppo."

Councilwoman Delcioppo said, "Yes."

The Clerk said, "Councilmember Shealy."

Councilmember Shealy said, "Nay."

The Clerk said, "Councilmember Sakran."

Councilmember Sakran said, "Yes."

The Clerk said, "Councilmember Mitchell."

Councilmember Mitchell said, "Yes."

The Clerk said, "Councilmember Brady."

Councilmember Brady said, "Nay."

The Clerk said, "Councilmember Gregorie."

Councilmember Gregorie said, "Yes."

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 Griffin."

Councilmember Griffin said, "Nay."

The Clerk said, "Councilmember Appel."

Councilmember Appel said, "Yes."

The Clerk said, "Councilwoman Jackson."

Councilwoman Jackson said, "Yes."

The Clerk said, "Mayor Tecklenburg."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Yes."

The Clerk said, "The motion carries. It was 10-3."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you kindly. And thank you again, Dr. DiLisi, for being with us this evening and for your patience. Next up is our Council Committee reports. First up is the [Committee on Community Development](#). Councilmember Mitchell."

Councilmember Mitchell said, "Yes, Mr. Mayor. Community Development met on September 9th at 2 p.m., and we had a couple of items under new business. We had a presentation on the Special Commission on Equity, Inclusion, and Racial Conciliation for the final report and recommendations. We took that as information only. I asked her to send information out to all the Councilmembers so they can read over it, and then it would come back to us for approval. Right now, it was only for information at my Committee meeting. Item 2, we had discussion on the Cooper River Bridge Redevelopment Area, which is a Phase 2 Tax Increment Finance Project. That was approved, and we had discussion on some of the places that will be renovated, torn down or repaired, which is the Martin Park House, which is so small, for the kids to come. We need to have more space in that particular place. They don't have a kitchen, and there are so many kids there. They are looking at it very seriously to do something with that and some other items they have. That was approved. Under old business, we had the Hope Center with Mr. Casdell Singleton and the Palmetto CAP. That was deferred because the State was dealing with something, so we couldn't approve it. If you need some more information on it, I think Ms. Geona Shaw Johnson, I don't know if she is on the line or not, but she can explain it if you need more explanation on that, or our attorney probably can explain it more."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "We'll be bringing that back to our next meeting."

Councilmember Mitchell said, "Okay, so that's good. The only one I had that was approved was number 2, the Cooper River Bridge Redevelopment Area Phase 2. I ask for approval on that."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Any discussion or questions on that, Council?"

No one asked to speak.

The Clerk said, "Who is the second?"

Councilmember Shahid said, "I'll second."

The Clerk said, "Thank you."

On a motion of Councilmember Mitchell, seconded by Councilmember Shahid, City Council voted unanimously to adopt the following item from the Community Development Report as presented:

a. **New Business:**

- (ii) Discussion of Cooper River Bridge Redevelopment Area – Phase II Tax Increment Finance Projects

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "I think Councilmember Gregorie did, too, but he was on mute. We had a report already, so to speak, on [Human Resources](#) at our Ways & Means Committee. Do we have anything to add, Councilwoman Jackson?"

Councilwoman Jackson said, "No. Thank you."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Okay, thank you. So, next up would be [Committee on Public Safety](#). Councilmember Shahid."

Councilmember Shahid said, "Thank you, Mr. Mayor. Members of Council, the Committee on Public Safety met yesterday at 2:00 p.m. We got an update and review to consider the adoption of the City's Emergency Operation Plan. That was for information purposes only. We appreciate Shannon Scaff and his update on that plan and what that plan entails. It includes a response to several contingencies. There was no action taken on that agenda item. Next, we recommended the approval of a Memorandum of Agreement between the Police Department and James Island Charter School and Berkeley County School District for SRO's. That was approved unanimously, as well. We received a report from Chelsea Frances and Chief Curia on accepting the 2021 Port Security Grant. This had several components to that. We took this up already on Ways and Means. It was dealing with a total grant amount of \$785,000 for another fast boat, Haz-Mat response, and a unit marine fighter training. Our match grant was \$196,000. That was also recommended unanimously. Finally, approval to accept an award for an elder advocate and resource specialist for the Police Department. This was sort of in line with what we've already approved in the years past. That resulted in a total match of \$51,442.45. I recommend Items 'b-e' be adopted by this Council."

Councilmember Shealy said, "I'll second."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "We've got a motion and a second. Any questions or comments?"

No one asked to speak.

On a motion of Councilmember Shahid, seconded by Councilmember Shealy, City Council voted unanimously to adopt the following items from the Committee on Public Safety Report as presented:

b. Approval of a Memorandum of Agreement between CPD and James Island Charter High School regarding SRO's for the 2021-2022 school year.

c. Approval of a Memorandum of Agreement between CPD and Berkeley County School District regarding SRO's for the 2021-2022 school year.

d. Approval to accept the 2021 Port Security Grant in the amount of \$785,554 for a SAFE Boat Vessel and Digital X-ray Systems to be used when dealing with explosive devices, updated technology for the Fire Department and the Haz-Mat Response Unit Marine Fighter Training. There is a request to budget a cash match of \$196,389 for 2022.

e. Approval to accept an award for an Elder Advocate and Resource Specialist for the CPD Victim Services Unit under the Victims of Crime Act Grant Program. The award acceptance documents are due by September 30th. This project requires a 20% grant match of \$16,836. The City will be responsible for covering additional program costs not covered by the grant, resulting in a total match of \$51,442.45.

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

Councilmember Waring said, "Thank you, Mr. Mayor. All items that you see listed on the agenda passed unanimously, and I so move for the adoption of this report."

Councilmember Shealy said, "Second."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Any discussion?"

No one asked to speak.

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

a. Acceptances and Dedications of Rights-of-Way and Easements:

- (i). **Westedge, Phase 1 (TMS Nos. 460-00-00-017; 460-00-00-021; 460-00-00-034).**
Authorization for the acceptance and dedication of those certain rights-of-way designated as Westedge Street, Horizon Street, and District Drive and the City of

Charleston drainage easements shown on the final subdivision plat for the development. This authorization is subject to the City's approval of the final dedication package for the development.

- Title to Real Estate (460-00-00-021);
- Exclusive Stormwater Drainage Easements (460-00-00-017);
- Exclusive Stormwater Drainage Easements (460-00-00-034)
- Plat

(ii). **The Crossing at Verdier (TMS No. 301-00-00-803)**. Authorization for the acceptance and dedication of those certain rights-of-way designated as Kirby Court and Pepperbush Street and the City of Charleston drainage easements shown on the final subdivision plat for the development, upon compliance with all dedication requirements. All infrastructure has been constructed or bonded. This subdivision includes 42 lots. This authorization is subject to the City's approval of the final dedication package for the development.

- Title to Real Estate;
- Exclusive Stormwater Drainage Easements;
- Plat

(iii). **The Crescent (26 Broughton Road) (TMS No. 421-10-00-005)**. Authorization to accept and dedicate exclusive stormwater drainage easement as shown on attached plat. This authorization permits acceptance of the drainage easement upon final approval by the Director of Stormwater Management and Corporation Counsel of the easement agreement and plat, draft copies of which are attached hereto.

- Exclusive Stormwater Drainage Easement;
- Plat

(iv). **The Crescent (19 Johnson Road) (TMS No. 421-10-00-023)**. Authorization to accept and dedicate exclusive stormwater drainage easement as shown on attached plat. This authorization permits acceptance of the drainage easement upon final approval by the Director of Stormwater Management and Corporation Counsel of the easement agreement and plat, draft copies of which are attached hereto.

- Exclusive Stormwater Drainage Easement;
- Plat

(v). **Wildwood Town Homes Horizontal Property Regime (TMS No. 350-05-00098)**. Authorization to accept and dedicate exclusive stormwater drainage easement as shown on attached plat. This authorization permits acceptance of the drainage easement upon final approval by the Director of Stormwater Management and Corporation Counsel of the easement agreement and plat, draft copies of which are attached hereto.

- Exclusive Stormwater Drainage Easement;

- Plat.

b. Public Service Department Update:

- (i) Amended Third Party Inspection Policy

c. Stormwater Management Department Update:

- (i) Forest Acres – Recommend Approval of Fee Amendment #8 with Thomas and Hutton in the amount of \$445,400.00 to authorize work for construction administration, construction inspection, and finalized record drawings for Phase 2A/B of the project. This work will be funded by reallocating \$146,572.46 and \$110,000 from prior Amendments #4, and #5 respectively as well as an additional \$188,827.54. Funding for this project comes from the 2012 Stormwater Bond, the Drainage Fund, and Local Option Permit Income.
- (ii) Church Creek – Approval of Fee Amendment #2 with Biohabitats, Inc. in the amount of \$680,608.00 for final design, permitting, property services, and contract documents for the Bridge Pointe Ecological Park, Wolk Drive Project, and Crosstown Mid-Basin Storage Project. Funding for this project comes from the Drainage Fund and two National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Grants.
- (iii) Floodplain Manager Support – AECOM Program Manager Contract WA#8 in the amount of \$40,000 to provide technical and staffing assistance for the floodplain management division. Funding for this task comes from the Stormwater Fund.

d. Miscellaneous Business:

Discussion of ordinance to adopt regulations on routine inspection and maintenance of private septic tank systems (Requested by Councilwoman Carol Jackson)

Mayor Tecklenburg said, “And finally our [Committee on Ways and Means](#), Councilmember Gregorie.”

Councilmember Mitchell said, “Move for approval.”

Councilmember Shealy said, “Second.”

Mayor Tecklenburg said, “A motion to approve and a second.”

Councilmember Waring said, “Mr. Mayor?”

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Waring.

Councilmember Waring said, “I’d like to offer an amendment on the MOU at the Northbridge site to remove any language dealing with the 99-year lease for \$10.00 to the developer.”

Councilmember Shealy said, “I’ll second that.”

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "I'm not sure an amendment is in order at this time, Councilmember Waring, but I must share with you that the 99-year lease, as outlined, is really a part of a future development agreement. We're not committed to that by way of this MOU. That would be a commitment made in a future development agreement with the developer."

Councilmember Waring said, "Mr. Mayor, that's even more reason to remove the language."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "I'm saying when we discuss the development agreement and vote on it, that's when you would decide whether that gets included or not. Regardless, I believe the amendment is out of order at this time."

Councilmember Waring said, "Well, I would say to call a point of order on that because that was done at a different meeting at the Ways and Means meeting. This is a new meeting, the City Council meeting. You would be right if I did that at Ways and Means, you would be correct, but not at the City Council meeting. It's an entirely different meeting."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Can I call on my parliamentarian?"

Councilmember Brady said, "I have to defer to Julia on this one."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Julia or Wilbur?"

Councilmember Waring said, "What you're referring to, Mr. Mayor, at the meeting, if I were not on the prevailing side, I could not bring that issue up at that very meeting. You would be right. This issue wasn't even a motion to be voted on, even in the Ways and Means meeting. I'm bringing it up as a new issue at a new meeting of City Council. We have already adjourned Ways and Means. If I had brought that up at Ways and Means and it failed, and I brought it up at the Ways and Means meeting, I would be out of order."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "The motion on the floor was to accept the report from the Ways and Means Committee. That motion was made by Councilmember Gregorie, I believe. Is that right, Madam Clerk?"

Councilmember Shahid said, "I did."

The Clerk said, "I didn't record the motion with the second on the report. I don't think we've had a motion yet on the report."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "I thought we had a motion on the floor."

The Clerk said, "Who made the motion?"

Councilmember Griffin said, "Councilmember Waring did."

The Clerk said, "Councilmember Waring made a motion to amend the Ways and Means report. That was seconded by Councilmember Shealy."

The Assistant Clerk said, "I have Councilmember Mitchell made the motion."

The Clerk said, "Councilmember Waring made a motion to accept the Ways and Means report as amended by removing the 99-year lease, seconded by Councilmember Shealy, but was there a separate motion made by another Councilmember to approve the report as is?"

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "That's right. I'm trying to find out who made the motion, so I can ask him whether he will accept this amendment or not."

Councilmember Waring said, "You mean at Ways and Means?"

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Was it Councilmember Mitchell that made the motion to accept the Ways and Means report?"

Councilmember Mitchell said, "I probably did. I don't remember."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "That's what Velvett just reported."

The Assistant Clerk said, "Yes, Councilmember Mitchell made the initial motion to accept the Ways and Means report as is."

The Clerk said, "Who was the second?"

Councilmember Shahid said, "I think I was the second."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "He had a second, and then Councilmember Waring made an amendment seconded by Councilmember Griffin."

Councilmember Griffin said, "No, not seconded by me."

Councilmember Brady said, "Shealy."

Councilwoman Jackson said, "Shealy."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Oh, I'm sorry. Councilmember Shealy. I apologize. Going back to Councilmember Mitchell, will you accept this amendment to your motion, sir?"

Councilmember Mitchell said, "Okay, I accept it."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Okay, so we have an amendment on the floor now that we can take action on. The amendment is to remove any reference in our MOU, if it's in there, regarding a 99-year lease for \$10.00. Is that the amendment?"

Councilmember Waring said, "Yes, sir."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Any discussion or questions?"

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Griffin.

Councilmember Griffin said, "Yes, sir. I don't know how I feel about this because this could affect the MOU, and the other party to this deserves to have an opportunity to weigh in on this issue. I actually supported the MOU at our Ways and Means Committee meeting. I'm a little hesitant about us not getting at least quarterly updates about the progress and what the money

is being spent on. I would hate for us to just give a blank check to you, Mr. Mayor, almost \$700,000, and you all just work on this without us knowing what is being spent. I think we all need to be completely transparent about that process and how that money is being spent along the way. I don't just mean going to the West Ashley Revitalization Commission either. It needs to come to Council. This is a lot of money that we're spending, taxpayer money that we're spending, and I'd like to get some assurances that we're going to be getting those updates and knowing how that money is being spent along the way."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Alright, thank you. Ms. Copeland, are you on the line?"

Ms. Copeland said, "I am, Mayor. I'm trying to follow this conversation, but I feel like we are voting on a report that's already been on a prior agenda, and the report was approved by the Ways and Means Committee. Therefore, you should be voting on approving the report, not pulling a separate item out and reviewing it all over again."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Alright. Share that with me again, please."

Ms. Copeland said, "I believe the way this is currently sitting on the agenda is the approval of a report that has come out of Ways and Means, that's already been vetted by the Ways and Means Committee and approved by the Ways and Means Committee."

Councilmember Mitchell said, "Correct."

Ms. Copeland said, "So the way I think this should be approved right now is just the approval of the report, not pulling a separate item out of the report, which is not listed on the agenda for consideration as a separate item. It's just a report that we're all considering and voting on."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "So, my initial ruling to say that the amendment was out of order, you're concurring that would have been correct?"

Ms. Copeland said, "Yes, sir, I am."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Alright."

Councilmember Waring said, "Mr. Mayor, I think we need to go to Robert's Rules of Order. It's another meeting. The person that made the motion, Councilmember Mitchell, accepted the amendment. That ought to be voted upon. It's not an opinion. That's why we have Robert's Rules of Order in black and white, so we can refer to it."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "I'm responding to our Counsel's report at this time and her advice. I would concur with that. I'm going to rule that the amendment is out of order and that we're going to vote on the original motion to accept this report from the Ways and Means Committee."

Councilmember Waring said, "I do have a question. If this fails, then does this come back on the floor? Councilmember Griffin has already said he's unsettled with almost \$700,000 being spent without it coming to Council and keeping us informed. As you know, your approval on spending is \$40,000 before you have to come before Council. The way this MOU is written, \$683,000 could be spent prior to you coming to Council, which doesn't keep us informed and doesn't keep the public informed. Councilmember Griffin is right. If this amendment is not

accepted, and this report fails, then do we get to put a new motion on the floor? That is my question to Ms. Copeland.”

Mayor Tecklenburg said, “That’s a hypothetical. Let’s call the question.”

The Clerk said, “Mr. Mayor, Councilmember Shahid has his hand up.”

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Shahid.

Councilmember Shahid said, “To answer Councilmember Griffin’s concern, and I think Julia pointed it out. Julia, correct me if I’m misstating this. The \$683,000 that we’re talking about only comes into play if we reject the plans that Landmark has first. So, no money is going to be spent by the City on a monthly basis or quarterly basis or anything along those lines. That’s number one. Number two, we get reports from the development process as it’s going through, and none of this money can be spent without City Council’s approval, not the West Ashely Revitalization Commission’s approval. It has to come back through City Council to approve the eligible expenses. Am I misstating that, Ms. Copeland?”

Ms. Copeland said, “I’m sorry, Councilmember Shahid. Are you talking about the \$683,000?”

Councilmember Shahid said, “I think the question came from Councilmember Griffin about the expenditure, the \$683,000. I think, based on your presentation, those are just defined as eligible expenses.”

Ms. Copeland said, “Correct.”

Councilmember Shahid said, “Eligible expenses only come into play if the City rejects Landmark’s plan.”

Ms. Copeland said, “Correct.”

Councilmember Shahid said, “Those expenditures can only be made by the approval of City Council.”

Ms. Copeland said, “The out of pocket expenditures can only be made if approved within 30 days of submitting the contract by either the Mayor or someone he designates, which we’ll assume is going to be someone in the Finance Department.”

Councilmember Shahid said, “What oversight does the City Council have on the expenditures of \$683,000 is the question I think he’s asking.”

Ms. Copeland said, “Well, Landmark will be submitting on the 20th of every month an audit or a layout of all the expenditures that they’ve spent to date based on that plan.”

Councilmember Shahid said, “And that would come before City Council?”

Ms. Copeland said, “That could, yes.”

Councilmember Shahid said, “Then that’s what we need to ensure to make sure that everybody is up to date on what those eligible expenses are.”

Ms. Copeland said, "Yes, sir, and that's stated in the MOU."

Councilmember Shahid said, "Thank you."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Okay, I'm going to call the question."

Councilmember Griffin said, "Mr. Mayor?"

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Griffin.

Councilmember Griffin said, "I believe since I was a member of the majority that I can make a motion that we can reconsider this. I'd like to have some further discussion on this. I'm still feeling up in the air about this, to be honest with you."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Right now, we have a motion on the floor to accept the Committee report. Any further questions or discussion? I'd like to call the question."

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

(Bids and Purchases

(Office of Cultural Affairs: Approval to accept a grant in the amount of \$39,075 from SC Arts Commission for general operating support (7/1/2021 to 6/30/2022). A 3:1 City match is required. Matching funds will come from the FY21 budget appropriation.

(Office of Cultural Affairs: Approval to accept a grant in the amount of \$12,500 from SC Arts Commission for subgranting (7/1/2021 to 6/30/2022). A 1:1 City match is required. Matching funds will come from the FY21 budget appropriation.

(Parks Department: Approval to submit the 2021 Palmetto Pride Tree Grant for the inkind request of 25 trees to be planted within City parks. There is no City match required.

(Housing and Community Development: Approval of a contract amendment in the amount of \$10,000. The amendment would increase the overall award from \$50k to \$60k. The amendment would allow Charleston Habitat for Humanity (CHFH) to continue providing assistance to residents who own their homes and have been identified in partnership with the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD). Through this partnership, CHFH will have assisted twenty persons or six households. The increased costs related to building supplies and lumber have contributed to the need for the increase in the award. The funding for this contract is derived from prior-year Community Development Block Grant funds.

(Housing and Community Development: Approval of a Fourth Amendment to the City's Agreement with Terracon Consultants, Inc. The amendment extends the agreement for an additional year (September 20, 2021 – September 19, 2022) and provides \$61,000 in funding to facilitate environmental reviews on the City's scheduled affordable housing developments and rehabilitation projects.

(Parks-Capital Projects: Approval of CFD Savannah Highway Fire Station #11 Amendment #4 to the Professional Services Contract with Liollo Architecture, Inc. in the amount of \$43,750 for the extension of construction administration services beyond their original contract and Fee Amendment #3 from February

28, 2021 to June 17, 2021. This takes it through substantial completion. This Fee Amendment approves an additional 110 days to the contract. The approval of Fee Amendment #4 will increase the Professional Services Contract by \$43,750 (from \$825,125 to \$868,875). The funding sources for this project are: 2015 Installment Purchase Revenue Bond (\$8,369,524), Proceeds from Sale of Real Estate (\$1,135,607), and Hospitality Fund (\$380,000).

(Parks-Capital Projects: Approval of Daniel Island Recreation Center Change Order #8 to the Construction Contract with Hill Construction Services of Charleston in the amount of \$48,543.97 for electrical revisions, owner requested IT rack, additional signage requirements, utility costs beyond substantial completion date, additional corner guard, control wires for partition controls, lights for the catwalk, fire alarm monitoring for PIV and horn strove, floor leveling for sports floor, GFI outlet/power for irrigation controls, guard rails, moved niche for artifacts, landscape changes, cleanout forebay/pond and stormwater inlet, additional smoke detector and two additional data drops. Approval of Change Order #8 will increase the Construction Contract by \$48,543.97 (from \$9,020,744.84 to \$9,069,288.81). Funding for this project is Land Sales (\$948,000), S.C. Sports Development Grant (\$52,125), 2018 GO Bond (\$9,813,718.85).

(Stormwater Management: Approval of Church Creek NFWF Renaturalization, Habitat Restoration and Flood Protection Project Fee Amendment #2 with Biohabitats, Inc., in the amount of \$680,608 for final design, permitting, additional outreach, and contract documents including bidding services for the Bridge Pointe Ecological Park, Wolk Drive and Crosstown Mid-Basin Storage areas. Approval of Fee Amendment #2 will increase the Professional Services contract by \$680,608 (from \$525,000 to \$1,205,608). Funding sources for this project are: Drainage Fund (\$1,724,825), and two National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) Grants (\$125,000, \$1,345,000).

(Stormwater Management: Approval of Forest Acres Drainage Project Professional Services Contract Fee Amendment #8 with Thomas and Hutton in the amount of \$445,400 for construction administration, construction inspection and finalized record drawings for both Phase 2A and Phase 2B. A reallocation of funding from Fee Amendment #4 and #5 in the amount of \$146,572.46 and \$110,000 respectively will occur in order to supplement Fee Amendment #8. The total increase in the Thomas and Hutton Professional Services contract is \$188,827.54. Approval of Fee Amendment #8 to the Professional Services contract will result in a \$188,827.54 increase (from \$2,074,048 to \$2,262,875.54). Funding for this project is 2012 Stormwater Bond (\$15,513,805.76), Drainage Fund (\$205,072.78), and Local Option Permit Income (\$2,799,550).

(Police Department: Approval of a Memorandum of Agreement between CPD and James Island Charter High School regarding SRO's for the 2021-2022 school year. (Police Department: Approval of a Memorandum of Agreement between CPD and Berkeley County School District regarding SRO's for the 2021-2022 school year.

(Police/Fire Department: Approval to accept the 2021 Port Security Grant in the amount of \$785,554 for a SAFE Boat Vessel and Digital X-ray Systems to be used when dealing with explosive devices, updated technology for the Fire Department and the Haz-Mat Response Unit Marine Fighter Training. There is a request to budget a cash match of \$196,389 for 2022.

- (Police Department: Approval to accept an award for an Elder Advocate and Resource Specialist for the CPD Victim Services Unit under the Victims of Crime Act Grant Program. The award acceptance documents are due by September 30th. This project requires a 20% grant match of \$16,836. The City will be responsible for covering additional program costs not covered by the grant, resulting in a total match of \$51,442.45.
- (Executive Department: Approval to use ARP funds for City of Charleston employee bonuses (If approved by City Council, ordinances amending the City's FY 2021 Budget will be presented at the 9/28/21 City Council meeting).
- (Review and approval of 2022 Healthcare Budget and contract renewals:
- BCBS South Carolina – Medical and RX
 - ConnectYourCare (Optimum Financial) – HRA, HAS, FSA, COBRA, and retiree billing
- ((Deferred) Stop Loss Agreement – request to take straight to Ways and Means (Life and Disability Insurance Policy Renewal (Voluntary Insurance (information only) (Employee turnover, pay plan, and employee bonuses (information only) (Old Business – Send recommendations of the revised proposed paid family leave benefits to the Ad Hoc Budget Advisory Committee for consideration)
- (Request approval to amend the Parking Lease Agreement with Meeting Street Academy at Trolley Barn Parking Lot to decrease total leased parking spaces to 15 from 32. This property is owned by the State of South Carolina (I-26 R-O-W), leased to the City of Charleston. (Bounded by Pointsette Street, Butler Street, and I-526 Rightof-Way)
- (Request approval to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Charleston and Landmark Enterprises for Sumar Street Redevelopment Phase One. The property is owned by the City of Charleston. (TMS No. 352-08-00-006) (14 Sumar Street) (An ordinance to amend Chapter 54 of the Code of the City of Charleston (Zoning Ordinance), Article 9-Administration and Enforcement, Part 5-Vested Rights, Section 54-962-term ***(Councilmembers Delcioppo, Shealy, Gregorie, Waring, and Seekings voted nay.)***
- (Request rental of Festival Hall in the amount of \$3,000 for MOJA Arts Festival on October 8, October 9, October 10, 2021. (56 Beaufain Street)
- (Request authorization for the Mayor to execute, on behalf of the City of Charleston, the Second Amendment to the Transfer Agreement between the City and JJR Development, LLC, to include the properties located at 67 America Street, also known as 1 Father Grants Court (TMS No. 459-09-02-132), 3 Father Grants Court (TMS No. 459-09-02-183), 5 Father Grants Court (TMS No. 459-09-02-184), and 7 Father Grants Court (TMS No. 459-09-02-185) as part of the transaction and to permit closing to occur on or before October 31, 2021. [Ordinance]
- (Request authorization for the Mayor to execute, on behalf of the City of Charleston, the First Amendment to the Memorandum of Agreement with Palmetto Railways; the South Carolina Department of Commerce; and the South Carolina State Ports Authority regarding the Navy Base Intermodal Facility (NBIF) project, to make the Memorandum of Agreement effective on July 1, 2021, subject to appropriation of funds toward the NBIF. (1820 Harmon Street, Charleston, SC 29405) [Ordinance]
- (Please consider the following annexation:

- 2029 Ashley River Road (0.24 acre) (TMS# 351-02-00-034), West Ashley, (District 7). The property is owned by Ethel Mack Swinton and Thomas Swinton.

First reading was given to the following bills from Ways and Means:

An ordinance to amend Chapter 54 of the Code of the City of Charleston (Zoning Ordinance), Article 9-Administration and Enforcement, Part 5-Vested Rights, Section 54-962-term.

An ordinance amending Ordinance No. 2020-007, as amended by Ordinance No. 2021-086, by authorizing the Mayor to execute, on behalf of the City of Charleston ("City"), the Second Amendment to the Transfer Agreement between the City and JJR Development, LLC, to include the properties located at 67 America Street, also known as 1 Father Grants Court (TMS No. 459-09-02-132), 3 Father Grants Court (TMS No. 459-09-02-183), 5 Father Grants Court (TMS No. 459-09-02-184), and 7 Father Grants Court (TMS No. 459-09-02-185) as part of the transaction and to permit closing to occur on or before October 31, 2021.

An ordinance amending Ordinance No. 2021-036 by authorizing the Mayor to execute, on behalf of the City of Charleston, a First Amendment to the Memorandum of Agreement with Palmetto Railways; the South Carolina Department of Commerce; and the South Carolina State Ports Authority regarding the Navy Base Intermodal Facility (NBIF) project in Charleston County, South Carolina, to make the Agreement effective on July 1, 2021, subject to appropriation of funds toward the NBIF. An ordinance to provide for the annexation of property known as 2029 Ashley River Road (0.24 acre) (TMS# 351-02-00-034), West Ashley, Charleston County, to the City of Charleston, shown within the area annexed upon a map attached hereto and make it part of District 7. The property is owned by Ethel Mack Swinton and Thomas Swinton.

An ordinance to provide for the annexation of property known as 2029 Ashley River Road (0.24 acre) (TMS# 351-02-00-034), West Ashley, Charleston County, to the City of Charleston, shown within the area annexed upon a map attached hereto and make it part of District 7. The property is owned by Ethel Mack Swinton and Thomas Swinton.

The vote on Item 19(b) was not unanimous. Councilmembers Delcioppo, Shealy, Gregorie, Waring, and Seekings voted nay.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Next up is our bills for second--"

Councilmember Griffin said, "So, am I not able to make a motion to reconsider?"

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "I asked if anybody had any comments or discussion, and you didn't speak up."

Councilmember Griffin said, "I just said to you that as a member of the majority on that issue, I am able to make a motion to reconsider that item."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "You have that right, but you didn't make a motion."

Councilmember Griffin said, "What do you think I was just saying? That's exactly what I was doing. I was asking for some clarity about whether or not that was acceptable and whether or not I can do that."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "And I gave you that opportunity to make the motion, sir."

Councilmember Griffin said, "I'll make a motion. We need to bring Legal in because I don't know if I can make that motion in the same meeting or if that would be the next meeting."

Ms. Copeland said, "Yes, Councilmember Griffin. You can make the motion in the same meeting. You have to make it within 24 hours of the vote."

Councilmember Griffin said, "I'll make a motion that we reconsider the item on the MOU."

Councilmember Shealy said, "Second."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "We have a motion and a second. Any discussion?"

Councilmember Gregorie said, "We didn't have a second."

Councilmember Seekings said, "We had a second."

Councilmember Mitchell said, "Kevin Shealy."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Councilmember Shealy gave a second."

Councilmember Gregorie said, "Okay."

Councilmember Griffin said, "The reason why I'm asking for it to be reconsidered is because I thought that was a very ambiguous answer as to what oversight City Council has on this process. I have a hard time believing that Landmark is going to basically do \$683,000 worth of work and not know whether or not they're going to get paid back. This could take several months to do that. That doesn't make a lot of sense to me. So, they're going to continue to operate out of good faith for what could be another year without getting any payment, and the only way they get paid is if we decide to not do a development agreement? Is that what I'm understanding?"

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "This is the way I understand it. They don't want to spend a dime unless an expense is considered eligible upon review by the City. That's the way the MOU reads. For example, I know a lot of their contract will go to Dinos Liollo, who is their architect, who is going to do all this design work and run the submittals to the TRC and to the DRB. They will obviously want to get paid for their work. Prior to Liollo being authorized to proceed by Landmark, Landmark will get a proposal from Liollo, and they'll send it to the City and say, 'City, are you okay with this proposal from Liollo? We want to know that it's going to be eligible before we tell him to proceed.' Then we've got 30 days in which to tell Landmark, 'Yeah, we think that's a reasonable offer from Liollo. It will be an eligible expense.' That's the way I understand it."

Councilmember Griffin said, "But then how are they going to get paid? We just said that the \$683,000 only comes into question if we decide not to move forward with the development

agreement. I asked earlier how long it's going to take to come up with a development agreement. I was told it's going to take several months."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Right."

Councilmember Griffin said, "So Landmark is going to continue to operate and do these services and not get a single penny for several more months? Is that what we're saying?"

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "That's correct. They've got skin in this game. They're taking a risk in this game. Absolutely. Once we get to the development agreement and move forward and all agree to the Guaranteed Maximum Price, then we don't pay them a dime, but those costs get ascribed or designated to the private side or to the City side, and it will end up being covered in the development agreement. If we decide, 'Hey, man, this is too much money. We don't want to do this project. It's not going to work out. We want to build a park there or do something different,' then they had these eligible expenses approved, and we're going to pay them back for those eligible expenses that they fronted, so to speak, put the money upfront, during that time period. Does that make sense?"

Councilmember Griffin said, "Not really. I'd love to hear from them. We haven't heard from them tonight at all about whether or not they agree with that. I don't know too many business models that would go several years without getting paid."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "They signed the MOU already, but I see Jonathan Oakman on the line. I don't know if Jason is still on the line."

Councilmember Shahid said, "Mr. Mayor, can I chime in?"

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Sure."

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Shahid.

Councilmember Shahid said, "Councilmember Griffin, we asked them, them being Landmark, when we worked with them on defining these eligible expenses, there was some back and forth on coming up with that number of \$683,000. At the end of the Memorandum of Understanding is Exhibit A, and I think Ms. Copeland went through this in her slideshow. The requirements for them to perform between September and May of 2022 are outlined in those things that they're going to do to become part of the eligible expenses. As the Mayor said, they will have skin in the game to perform. If we accept what they have done, and this process is rolling forward, that \$683,000 gets rolled into the overall expenses of the project. The \$683,000 only kicks in if we reject and say we're pulling out of the project. Then we get the benefit of the work that they had done. Yes, this is a part of the parcel of us working with them and negotiating with them on these eligible expenses coming forth. They signed the agreement. This is what they asked for."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Alright. Any other questions or comments? We have a motion on the floor to reconsider."

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Waring.

Councilmember Waring said, "Thank you, Mr. Mayor. As I understand it, the \$683,000, as these invoices are submitted by Landmark to you or your designee, it will eventually be

approved, eventually accumulating all along the way up to \$683,000. None of those approvals will come before Council until it gets beyond \$683,000. Ms. Copeland or Mr. Mayor, is that accurate?"

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Ms. Copeland, do you want to respond to that?"

Ms. Copeland said, "Sure, I can respond to that. There is no provision in here that requires it to go before Council. That's something we can certainly do, but right now, it's just upon approval of the Mayor or his designee for those specific expenses up to \$683,000."

Councilmember Waring said, "That's just not transparent to Council or the public. We never spend \$683,000 on anything without it coming through Ways and Means, having a public hearing, certainly, Council gets the agenda and is able to have Q&A prior to the meeting and during the meeting. We don't spend \$683,000 on anything without transparency, and this certainly doesn't do that. I appreciate Councilmember Griffin's unreadiness. If we can amend the motion that as those invoices, anything over \$40,000 that comes through, it would come before Council for approval just to keep us informed. I also believe the 99-year part, as you said, Mr. Mayor, isn't part of the MOU, so there shouldn't be any language in there referring to that until it gets to the development agreement. If I could offer an amendment to Councilmember Griffin's reconsideration motion."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "I think it would be appropriate to just vote on the reconsideration first."

Councilmember Waring said, "I agree."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "If it passes, then we're going to reconsider it, and we can make amendments to it."

Councilmember Waring said, "I agree. You're right, Mr. Mayor."

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

No one asked to speak.

On a motion of Councilmember Griffin, seconded by Councilmember Shealy, City Council considered a motion to reconsider the Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Charleston and Landmark Enterprises for Sumar Street Redevelopment Phase One.

The motion failed 8 to 5.

The vote was not unanimous. Councilmembers Delcioppo, Shealy, Waring, Seekings, and Griffin voted in favor of the motion.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Roll call please."

The Clerk said, "Councilwoman Delcioppo."

Councilwoman Delcioppo said, "Yes."

The Clerk said, "Councilmember Shealy."

Councilmember Shealy said, "Yes."

The Clerk said, "Councilmember Sakran."

Councilmember Sakran said, "Nay."

The Clerk said, "Councilmember Mitchell."

Councilmember Mitchell said, "Nay."

The Clerk said, "Councilmember Brady."

Councilmember Brady said, "Nay."

The Clerk said, "Councilmember Gregorie."

Councilmember Gregorie said, "Nay."

The Clerk said, "Councilmember Waring."

Councilmember Waring said, "Yes."

The Clerk said, "Councilmember Seekings."

Councilmember Seekings said, "Aye."

The Clerk said, "Councilmember Shahid."

Councilmember Shahid said, "Nay."

The Clerk said, "Councilmember Griffin."

Councilmember Griffin said, "Aye."

The Clerk said, "Councilmember Appel."

Councilmember Appel said, "Nay."

The Clerk said, "Councilwoman Jackson."

Councilwoman Jackson said, "No."

The Clerk said, "Mayor Tecklenburg."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "No."

The Clerk said, "The motion fails."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "That motion fails. Take me back in time. We did take action on the Committee report, correct?"

The Clerk said, "Yes."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "So that's good. I will make efforts, more than efforts. I will be transparent and share with Council the proposed contracts that come to us from Landmark and run those by you before moving forward with the 30 day approval. Next up is our--"

The Clerk said, "Mayor, before we move to second readings, I just wanted to say item 2, we're only going to give that a second reading and not do the third reading. So that one will be a second reading only if you all want to separate it out."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Which one is that again, Madam Clerk?"

The Clerk said, "It's item M-2 under second readings."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Number 2?"

The Clerk said, "Yes, sir."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Okay. So, we have [bills up for second reading](#), 1-8, number 4, and number 8, as amended. What's the pleasure of Council?"

Councilmember Mitchell said, "Move for approval."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "We have a motion to take 1-8 together as amended."

The Clerk said, "Who was the second?"

Councilwoman Delcioppo said, "Did we do bills up for third reading?"

The Clerk said, "There are no bills up for third reading. We sent out an amended agenda to you last week. Those two bills under third reading are deferred."

Councilwoman Delcioppo said, "Okay."

Councilwoman Jackson said, "I'll second 1-8."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Bills up for second reading, bills 1-8."

Councilmember Mitchell said, "Yes."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Any questions or discussion?"

Councilmember Brady said, "Is that including item 4?"

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Well, as the motion was made, it does. 1-8 includes number 4."

Councilmember Mitchell said, "As amended."

The Clerk said, "Mr. Mayor, Councilmember Griffin has his hand up."

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Griffin.

Councilmember Griffin said, "Yes, sir. I think number 4 is an item that needs to be taken up on its own."

Councilmember Seekings said, "Second."

Councilmember Shahid said, "Second."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "I'm sorry. What was the motion again?"

Councilmember Griffin said, "I didn't make a motion, sir. There's already a motion on the floor. I just made a statement that number 4 needs to be taken up on its own, in my opinion."

Councilmember Shealy said, "I agree."

Councilmember Mitchell said, "So, I'll make the motion 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, and 7."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "And 8."

Councilmember Mitchell said, "And 8."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "The motion is now amended. We'd just take everything but number 4."

Councilmember Mitchell said, "Correct."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Is there a second on that?"

Councilmember Shahid said, "Second."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Anybody got anything on 1-3 and 5-8? Any questions or comments?"

No one asked to speak.

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

An ordinance to amend the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Charleston by changing the Zone Map, which is a part thereof, so that properties on George Street, Society Street and King Street (Peninsula) (approximately 1.74 acres) (TMS #457-04-04-007, 008, 112, 025, 113 and 017) (Council District 1), be rezoned from General Business (GB) classification to Mixed-Use/Workforce Housing (MU-2/WH) classification. The properties are owned by GS Acquisitions, LLC and ENT SD, LLC.

An ordinance to amend the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Charleston by changing the Zone Map, which is a part thereof, so that properties on Maybank Highway (Johns Island)

(approximately 8.31 acres) (TMS #279-00-00-029, 031 and a portion of 035) (Council District 5), pending annexation into the City of Charleston, be zoned Planned Unit Development (PUD) (Rhett's Cove) classification; and that property on Maybank Highway (Johns Island) (approximately 2.29 acres) (TMS #279-00-00-030) (Council District 5), be rezoned from Commercial Transitional (CT) to Planned Unit Development (PUD) (Rhett's Cove); with the Planned Unit Development (PUD) (Rhett's Cove) Guidelines attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference to serve as the development plan for such properties. The properties are owned by 1108 Gregory St, LLC, GANB, LLC, Kulick Properties and Consultants, LLC 24/7.

An ordinance to amend the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Charleston by changing the Zone Map, which is a part thereof, so that 109 Magnolia Road (West Ashley) (approximately 0.13 acre) (TMS #418-13-00-132) (Council District 3), pending annexation into the City of Charleston, be zoned Single- and Two-Family Residential (STR) classification. The property is owned by Darren Finan.

An ordinance authorizing the Mayor to execute on behalf of the City of Charleston ("City") a Transfer Agreement and all other documents necessary to convey real property, containing approximately 0.31 acres, shown on the attached exhibit, and being a portion of the right-of-way for US Route 17 (the Septima P. Clark Parkway), bounded on the north by US Route 17 (King Street off-ramp), on the south and east by the Septima P. Clark Parkway (US Route 17) (SB}, and on the west by the intersection of Fishburne Street and Coming Street for the development of rental workforce housing to the Charleston Redevelopment Corporation's Palmetto Community Land Trust.

An ordinance to provide for the annexation of property known as 233 Riverland Drive (0.27 acre) (TMS# 343-05-00-029), 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 Alex Lira.

*An ordinance to amend Chapter 7.5 of the Code of the City of Charleston related to cemeteries to add certain provisions for gravesite protection and to provide for penalties. An ordinance to amend Chapter 29, Article V of the Code of the City of Charleston pertaining to the carriage operations, emergency procedures, training, safety, carriage driver requirements, definitions, and compliance. **(AS AMENDED)***

Councilwoman Jackson said, "I move for deferral of number 4."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Now, we come to the matter of number 4."

The Clerk said, "Mayor, we need to finish the third reading of Items 1, 3, 5, 6, 7, and 8."

Councilmember Mitchell said, "Move for third reading on that."

Councilwoman Jackson said, "I'll second."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Okay. We're going to take third reading of 1, 3, 5, 6, 7, and 8."

Councilmember Mitchell said, "Correct."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Okay, any questions or comments about any of those for third reading and ratification?"

No one asked to speak.

On a motion of Councilmember Mitchell, seconded by Councilwoman Jackson, City Council voted unanimously to suspend the rules and ratify six (6) bills (Items M-1, M-3, and M-5 through M-8):

- 2021-122 -** AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF CHARLESTON BY CHANGING THE ZONE MAP, WHICH IS A PART THEREOF, SO THAT PROPERTIES ON GEORGE STREET, SOCIETY STREET AND KING STREET (PENINSULA) (APPROXIMATELY 1.74 ACRES) (TMS #457-04-04-007, 008, 112, 025, 113 AND 017) (COUNCIL DISTRICT 1), BE REZONED FROM GENERAL BUSINESS (GB) CLASSIFICATION TO MIXED-USE/WORKFORCE HOUSING (MU-2/WH) CLASSIFICATION. THE PROPERTIES ARE OWNED BY GS ACQUISITIONS, LLC AND ENT SD, LLC.

- 2021-123 -** AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF CHARLESTON BY CHANGING THE ZONE MAP, WHICH IS A PART THEREOF, SO THAT 109 MAGNOLIA ROAD (WEST ASHLEY) (APPROXIMATELY 0.13 ACRE) (TMS #418-13-00-132) (COUNCIL DISTRICT 3), PENDING ANNEXATION INTO THE CITY OF CHARLESTON, BE ZONED SINGLE- AND TWO-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL (STR) CLASSIFICATION. THE PROPERTY IS OWNED BY DARREN FINAN.

- 2021-124 -** AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF CHARLESTON ("CITY") A TRANSFER AGREEMENT AND ALL OTHER DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO CONVEY REAL PROPERTY, CONTAINING APPROXIMATELY 0.31 ACRES, SHOWN ON THE ATTACHED EXHIBIT, AND BEING A PORTION OF THE RIGHT-OF-WAY FOR US ROUTE 17 (THE SEPTIMA P. CLARK PARKWAY), BOUNDED ON THE NORTH BY US ROUTE 17 (KING STREET OFF-RAMP), ON THE SOUTH AND EAST BY THE SEPTIMA P. CLARK PARKWAY (US ROUTE 17) (SB), AND ON THE WEST BY THE INTERSECTION OF FISHBURNE STREET AND COMING STREET FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF RENTAL WORKFORCE HOUSING TO THE CHARLESTON REDEVELOPMENT CORPORATION'S PALMETTO COMMUNITY LAND TRUST.

- 2021-125 -** AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE ANNEXATION OF PROPERTY KNOWN AS 233 RIVERLAND DRIVE (0.27 ACRE) (TMS# 343-05-00-029), 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 ALEX LIRA.

- 2021-126 -** AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 7.5 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF CHARLESTON RELATED TO CEMETERIES TO ADD CERTAIN PROVISIONS FOR GRAVESITE PROTECTION AND TO PROVIDE FOR PENALTIES.

2021-127 - AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 29, ARTICLE V OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF CHARLESTON PERTAINING TO THE CARRIAGE OPERATIONS, EMERGENCY PROCEDURES, TRAINING, SAFETY, CARRIAGE DRIVER REQUIREMENTS, DEFINITIONS, AND COMPLIANCE. (AS AMENDED)

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Now, we come to the matter of number 4."

Councilmember Mitchell said, "Move for approval."

Councilwoman Jackson said, "I move for deferral."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "We have a motion on the floor to defer. Is there a second?"

Councilmember Appel seconded the motion, but it was not heard.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "I don't hear a second."

Councilmember Mitchell said, "Move for approval."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "We have a motion to approve. Is there a second to approve?"

Councilmember Waring said, "I'll second it, Mr. Mayor."

Councilmember Mitchell said, "I move for approval."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "We have a motion to approve and a second. Any comments, questions, or discussion on the second reading of number 4?"

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Griffin.

Councilmember Griffin said, "I just want to reiterate what I said last time, which was I wanted to support this Commission hanging on and continuing on as a full Commission. One thing I said was if it was going to mention critical race theory, if it was going to mention defunding the police, if it was going to mention reparations, then there's no way that I can support it, and I haven't changed on that. I thought that the Commission and our administration would come back with the understanding that our City Council actually voted down the report at the last meeting, but instead, what we see in front of us is to continue forward with these ideals that our citizens just don't support. Nobody on our City Council supports defunding the police, so then why does the report mention reallocating police funds? Everybody on this City Council, I should say, has some reservations about some of the topics in here. We made a clear stand at the last meeting that there were items that were in the report that our citizens are just not going to accept. They're not going to accept them today. They're not going to accept them tomorrow. They're not going to accept them ever. So, because we continue to push this report that clearly is dividing our City more than it is bringing us together, I'm going to vote against creating this Commission. I think that we should have found some ways to come up with some compromises, and we should have taken those ideas that our citizens don't support, and we should not continue to push them, knowing that it's going to divide our community even more. Thank you."

The Clerk said, "Councilmembers Gregorie and Shahid had their hands up."

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Gregorie.

Councilmember Gregorie said, "Yes, Mr. Mayor. Folks have been stirring the pot with the wrong ingredients. By that, I mean a bunch of lies. With all due respect, Councilmember Griffin, the recommendations are considerations. If they come before Committees, and Committees say no, it will never make it to Council. These are recommendations for consideration. I'd like to also address that there are some recommendations where the City does not have jurisdiction, State, County, or even the school board, but I think we would be remiss as a Commission, not to mention things for consideration. I bet if we were talking about the Holocaust and trying to change up the verbiage to call it something else, I bet if we were talking about race cleansing, we wouldn't be changing those terms. Why would we? Because we're dealing with issues relating to the struggle of enslaved people, why are we looking at it differently? Why are we looking at it with a pack of lies? I mean, lies. Why are we making it a political issue? I've had Councilmembers tell me that they can't support this because it would affect their election. What about the greater good?"

I'm really surprised at some of our Councilmembers who come from a heritage of struggle and sacrifice to now want us, because we're talking about Black people, to soften and change the language. Would you soften the word Holocaust for something else? Would you soften racial cleansing, which the Nazis were doing, for something else? Why is it that when it comes to issues regarding enslaved people of this Country, we're trying to soften the words, make it something different? That in and of itself, to me, is discriminatory and biased as hell. We're not consistent. We made a proclamation recently, introduced by Councilmember Appel. It passed unanimously. We didn't soften words. We didn't change language. These are recommendations. These aren't action items. They can't become action items until this Council approves them. Some of them might never even get to Council for approval if they don't get out of the Committees. Now what we're doing because the pack of lies, and I mean lies, Councilmember Griffin. I'm sorry to say, really. Some of what you're saying is not accurate. It is not true. Consideration of critical race theory is not saying that we are putting critical race theory as part of the curriculum in schools. First of all, we don't have the authority to do that as a Council. Considering 1619 as a teaching instrument, those are Charleston County School's decisions. We would be remiss as a Commission if we did not take a holistic approach to ridding this City of the vestiges of slavery and Jim Crow.

Harry, you're young. Ross, you're young. You never had to sit on the back of the bus. You never had to go in stores and not be able to try on clothes because you're African American. You don't even understand or know what discrimination is, yet you're out here pontificating on issues that you're not even familiar with. Critical race theory is a course that's done in law school. Critical race theory just has to do with systemic racism in America. Why are we afraid to face it, that it existed and still exists? I'm just not sure quite where some of my Councilmembers are coming from at this point. If we were talking about critical Jewish theory, we would be having a totally different conversation right now, but because we're talking about enslaved people who were brought to this Country, killed, murdered, slain, and raped, and I can go on and on, you guys are belittling that. Based upon your discussions, you are belittling a people. I refuse to be silent on it because that's what you're doing. It's ludicrous what you guys are doing. You're stirring the pot with the wrong ingredients. The right ingredients should be for the greater good, not for your political campaigns.

I had one of you tell me that the reason you're taking these positions is because you don't want to be associated with reparations. If people thought about that with regard to the Japanese and the Jews, change the language? You guys should be ashamed of yourselves and

what you're doing. What you're doing here, is awful. Because we're dealing with enslaved African Americans, you want to treat it differently. That's not fair. You have no idea of what discrimination is. None. You're too young, and you're white, so you have no idea. I think that you guys should really go back and read the document because you haven't. Because if you had, you wouldn't be coming up with this crap, and that's what it is. The Commission has no authority to instruct the Charleston School Board to change its curriculums. What are you guys talking about? It's not true. It's a lie. That started early on, unfortunately, with a Commission member who casts things inappropriately. You're wrong. You're wrong, Councilmembers, for placing the lives and the struggles of African Americans differently. You're doing exactly what we have been dealing with all of our lives, all of our lives. Now you're saying 'citizens.' There are 150,000 people in this town. How dare you say you represent 150,000 people's opinions because that's what you're trying to pull here. You guys have got to be very careful, especially people who are on the Commission, who voted to at least get the report to Council and then voted against it? Some of the other commissioners pulled a better 'Harry' than you did, Harry. Thank you, Mr. Mayor."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you, Councilmember. We appreciate your passion and your service as Chairman of the Committee. I'll call on Councilmember Mitchell. He's been holding his hand up. Then I'd like to make a couple of remarks."

Councilmember Shahid said, "Mayor, I had my hand up."

Councilmember Mitchell said, "Councilmember Shahid had his hand up before mine, Mr. Mayor."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Well, I missed that. I'm sorry about that, Councilmember Shahid."

The Clerk said, "Councilmember Sakran had his hand up, as well."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Oh, boy. I'm missing everybody. Shahid, Sakran, Mitchell, and then me."

Councilmember Shahid said, "Thank you, Mr. Mayor. I'm sorry that this thing has somehow gotten sideways. I think that what is happening here is distracting from the work of the Commission and what the Commission was designed to do and what the Commission was attempting to do. I hear you loud and clear, Councilmember Gregorie. You know I have the utmost respect for you and for all members of this Council. I'm going to ask for us to consider an amendment to this amended ordinance, and then I'll explain why I want to do that. I would like to strike under section 4A the bold part that says 'regarding advancing the Special Commission's final report' and strike section 4J, and this is the reason why. I think the Commission needs to be in place. I think the Commission needs to be empowered to do the work that it was designed to do. However, there are certain parts of the Commission, and I think this is where the confusion is coming in, that speaks about some of these things and says defunding the police, and it talks about reparations. It says that in there, and I read it. Maybe I'm reading it wrong. The language in sections A and J talks about advancing the final report and reporting to Council what's contained in the Special Commission's final report. When you read that language, it looks like we're supporting defunding the police, and it looks like we're supporting reparations. I know the intent of what we're trying to accomplish here because I got the email from Amber and am trying to set up a meeting with Councilmember Sakran, Councilmember Gregorie, and myself to address the issues that will be germane to the Public Safety Committee. I know that the intent of

all this was then to bring these particular points within the Commission to those specific Committees, and then from out of that, we proceed with how the implementation of some of the recommendations may or may not go forward.

Councilmember Gregorie, I'm not an African American man. I'm 66 years old, and I grew up in a segregated City. Our family ran a department store. I took the public bus, and I saw where white bus drivers directed people of color to sit in the back of the bus. I didn't understand it back then. I didn't appreciate it then. I was too young at that time to understand that. We had it in the Catholic Church. Within the Catholic Church, segregated institutions. Schools were segregated. There's an Immaculate Conception School, and several very, very important people in our community were educated through that system, but it was segregated, and it was wrong. That was within the Catholic religious organization. The Knights of Columbus, which I was a member of for a while, had segregated and discriminated against black men who were Catholic. There was a big fight about that. That was wrong. There were folks who came into my family's department store who couldn't buy things on credit. They didn't have a bank or checking account. They didn't have credit cards. I remember folks coming into our store, and we had to have programs like layaways and in-house financing to address their ability to buy merchandise at our store. The economic opportunities were scarce. So, I understand where you all are coming from. I appreciate very heartily where you all are coming from on this issue. I think that we all recognize that there are a lot of fine points in the Commission's report that we, as a City, want to address and want to embrace. What I would ask is that we amend this to take out the, and maybe rightly or wrongly, the perception that we're endorsing defunding the police and the perception that we're looking for reparations. I think if we make those adjustments to the language in 4A and 4J that we can proceed with the Commission's work and proceed how we want this report and Commission to follow through with the idea, like I said earlier, that I meet with Councilmember Sakran, Councilmember Gregorie, and others as to particular parts on the Public Safety Committee on things that the Commission came out. That's my motion, Mr. Mayor."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Alright. We've got a motion to amend the ordinance. Is there a second?"

Councilmember Appel said, "I'll second it."

Councilmember Gregorie said, "What's the amendment? Remove A and J?"

Councilmember Shahid said, "Remove the language--"

Councilmember Gregorie said, "There's no language in A or J that talks about--"

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "I'm sorry, Councilmember Gregorie. Good question. Let's go back to the maker. Please restate and make clear your amendment, Councilmember Shahid."

Councilmember Shahid said, "My amendment to section A is to remove the language 'regarding advancing the Special Commission's final report' and to remove section J completely."

Councilmember Gregorie said, "I still don't understand what you mean. In other words, just for clarity, I'm just trying to understand. 'A' talks about making recommendations regarding the advancing of the Special Commission's final report. If I understand you correctly, what you're saying is because it doesn't have the language 'defund police' in it, number one, it talks about

reallocation, but let's just be clear on what language is in the report. There is nowhere in the report that it uses the terms you just used, in terms of 'defunding the police.' You're saying, just to make sure, that you amend 'A' to exclude terms like reparations and defund the police? I'm not sure."

Councilmember Shahid said, "If I could clarify my motion, Mr. Mayor. Let me clarify my motion."

Councilmember Gregorie said, "Make sure we're talking about the same provision."

Councilmember Shahid said, "I am. I'm looking at 4A, and my motion is to remove the language that says 'regarding advancing the Special Commission's final report,' taking that language out, and then taking out all of 4J."

Councilmember Gregorie said, "Okay, so just take out the language 'regarding advancing the Special Commission's final report?' Just that language?"

Councilmember Shahid said, "Yes, sir."

Councilmember Gregorie said, "Is there a why?"

Councilmember Shahid said, "That language, 'regarding advancing the Special Commission's final report,' and then taking out all of J."

Councilmember Gregorie said, "So the underlined language is what you want removed? Am I correct?"

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "That's what he's saying. Yes, sir."

Councilmember Gregorie said, "Okay. Then the other one is you don't want any reports annually? That's what 'J' does. 'J' requires an annual report to the public and City Council on the status of advancing recommendations. You don't want any reports?"

Councilmember Shahid said, "I didn't say that, Councilmember."

Councilmember Gregorie said, "But if you remove 'J,' you don't have any."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "That's right. Councilmember Shahid, could I interject here? That's a very good point. I think we want to have an annual report to the public and to City Council. If you want to follow your logic here, it seems to me you would say 'report annually to the public and City Council on the status and activities related to carrying out the duties and responsibilities of the Commission' and delete the similar phrase of 'advancing the recommendations contained in the Special Commission.'"

Councilmember Shahid said, "I see the concern with that, and I would take that to modify my amendment. Yes, sir."

Councilmember Gregorie said, "So the part that, excuse me, Mayor, and I may be out of turn, the issue that appears to be bothering people is 'advancing the Special Commission's final report.' That's the language that's bothering you guys?"

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "That's the amendment that's being made. Yes, sir."

Councilmember Gregorie said, "Okay, so you don't want the Commission to advance anything?"

Councilmember Shahid said, "No. I didn't say that."

Councilmember Gregorie said, "Well, I'm confused."

Councilwoman Jackson said, "Mr. Mayor."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "I want to get clear on this amendment first."

Councilwoman Jackson said, "I have a suggestion about a word change that maybe will help this 'advancing' discussion."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Maybe. We had three other people on the line first. We're trying to resolve this amendment."

Councilwoman Jackson said, "This is about the amendment."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Go ahead, Councilwoman Jackson."

Councilwoman Jackson said, "Yes, this is specifically about the amendment that Councilmember Shahid has made in advance of listening to the other Councilmembers speak to the whole issue. I picked up on the 'advancing' as probably the word that defies definition. I would suggest that in the first 'A' we don't eliminate the insertion about 'regarding the Special Commission's final report,' but instead of using the word 'advancing,' I would propose that we use the word 'deliberating.' That means we are going to work on this report in the exact way that the Commission will be overseeing the work that they won't necessarily do by themselves. They're going to be sending it to the Committees and to the Commissions that have the responsibility for actions related to this report. If it's the word 'advancing,' Councilmember Shahid, let's pick another word."

Councilmember Shahid said, "My amendment is to remove the language 'regarding advancing the Special Commission's final report,' as to A and as to J. Removing that language."

Councilwoman Jackson said, "So you don't want the report mentioned? I think it's advancing that makes it sound like we're going to take everything in the report and put it to action, which if you listen to Councilmember Gregorie, he's talking about the considerations that were in the recommendations. That doesn't mean we're going to be implementing all of those recommendations. It means we're going to be deciding about them, deliberating, evaluating, prioritizing."

Councilmember Gregorie said, "I'm not a lawyer. I don't know why 'advancing' bothers anyone, but you know, wow."

Councilmember Shahid said, "I think there's a second to my motion, Mr. Mayor."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Sir?"

Councilmember Shahid said, "I think there was a second to my motion. Is that correct?"

The Clerk said, "Yes, there was. Can you repeat what your amendment is, Councilmember Shahid, just for the record and so that everyone is clear?"

Councilmember Shahid said, "Yes, ma'am. As to section 4A, remove the language 'regarding advancing the Special Commission's final report' and, as to 4J, removing the language 'advancing the recommendations contained in the Special Commission's final report.'"

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "And who seconded that?"

The Clerk said, "Councilmember Appel."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Councilmember Appel. And you're still good with the restated amendment?"

Councilmember Appel confirmed.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Okay, so who made the original motion?"

The Clerk said, "Councilmember Mitchell, seconded by Councilmember Waring."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Councilmember Mitchell, are you okay with the amendment coming to your motion?"

The Clerk said, "You're on mute, Councilmember Mitchell. We can't hear you."

Councilmember Mitchell said, "I voted as it came to us because my belief is that all these are just things that are coming from the Commission. We, as a Council, voted to give them an open door to do what they needed to do, and they brought this back to us. To me, these are recommendations. That doesn't mean we're going to pass everything they have there. It's going out to the various Committees, and the Committees will make recommendations and send it back to Council. That's my take on it. I just don't understand all that's going on. I'm probably, along with Mr. Mayor, one of the older people on here. I've been out in this community a long time. Half of you all are not out in the community and probably don't even know what we went through in this community. I keep saying it. I know people get tired of me saying this, but at 14 years old, I demonstrated and marched with King, I marched with Abernathy, and I marched with King's wife right here in Charleston. We could not go to restaurants, we could not go to the front of the stores, we couldn't buy in the stores, we had to go to the backdoor to get the same thing you're paying for at the front door. We went through some things here in the City of Charleston back in the 50's and 60's. A lot of you don't even know what African Americans went through in the City of Charleston. We're talking about these little words. We want to change these words and these phrases. I don't understand these kinds of things. Maybe I'm too old, but I don't understand. Everybody has come and moved here to the City of Charleston and wants to change everything around, but forget about the people who were here and who made the City of Charleston the way that it is.

My parents didn't own a store. My parents didn't own anything at all. They were hard workers. We had to spend our money in the same places as some of the people who are talking on this Council, who spent their money in these same places, but we couldn't have the same rights as everyone was receiving. People don't understand what we went through. We are trying

to change this thing and bring everybody together and let them know it's time to get right, but we are still playing the same games and playing the same games again because of wording. Wording doesn't mean anything to me.

We, as a Council, Mr. Mayor, these things that are going through the various committees, and the committees will make the recommendations to send it back to Council. There's nobody on here that is going to defund a police department. I wouldn't even vote for that. We know we're not going to do things like that. These are just recommendations, so when it comes to Council, we aren't going to vote for things like that. These things are going to every committee, so the housing part is going to Community Development, and the public safety part is going to the Public Safety Committee. All these committees will make the recommendations back to Council. When you look at all these words, and you try to take words out, you change the aspect of what is going on. People need to stop it. We need to stop it. When are we going to get together and stop it? People are watching this and thinking we look like a bunch of jacks. We look like the jacks now because the Council is not even together. When are we going to change it, Mr. Mayor? When are we going to change it, and people have to stop playing games. I'm tired of it."

Councilmember Seekings said, "Point of order, Mr. Mayor. Can we find out if the motion amendment is being accepted or not?"

Councilmember Mitchell said, "I'm not going to accept anything. The motion I made is standing."

Councilmember Seekings said, "Okay, great."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "He's not accepting the amendment, and I was interpreting that from Councilmember Mitchell's remarks. So, I'm going to go back to Councilmember Sakran, and then, if I may make a few remarks, I would like to."

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Sakran.

Councilmember Sakran said, "Thank you, Mayor. Thank you, Councilmembers. I would be remiss if I didn't say a few things. Dudley, I think I'm getting some feedback. Councilmember Gregorie, can you mute? Thank you. The things that really have been messing with me the past year with this project really come down to the work around diversity, equity, and inclusion, and somehow it's been co-opted as a political issue. This is where the disconnect is for me. Some on Council have conflated terms like 'critical race theory' and 'reparations,' and with all the work around diversity and equity, this is because some in our community have weaponized this as a political talking point, and you are all victims of this. Diversity and equity in the workplace, in our culture, and in our community are not political ideas. They're not political ideologies. We all can agree that what we want to create for Charleston is a better place for everyone, where everyone has access to equal opportunities and resources. We can all agree to that. The other thing that I keep hearing is this work is about the cancel culture. Let me just say this, for every person, the large majority of folks that came on tonight, and you're probably not listening anymore because it's been a long meeting, that opposed the Commission's work didn't even have the title of the Commission correctly. Did you read the report? There is no mention of defunding the police. To Councilmember Gregorie's point, critical race theory is a recommendation. We are not the school board. It's a recommendation. This work is not about cancel culture. It's about creating a Charleston where we all have equal access. The Commission's work was led by volunteers, and we made a commitment to them not to sanitize or edit the recommendations. For all those that

are listening and complaining that the local government doesn't listen and doesn't represent your interests, you should be the biggest supporters of this. This is local government, working with a small group of concerned citizens and taking their interests and recommendations to Council.

The other thing that I think Councilmember Gregorie touched upon, and Councilmember Mitchell touched upon, is part of public engagement on several City initiatives. We've heard from developers, hotel owners, small business owners. They've come with the reports, long reports, that come to Council. We might not agree with several of the recommendations from the hotel developers or small business owners, but we don't take a wholesale approach to the report and say we're not going to accept it. So, what criteria are we using here that's different when we get reports from large scale developers and hotel folks? Why is the criteria any different in this case? Who are we to determine which recommendations are worthy of debate or not? And again, these are just recommendations. As I said, the recommendations will have their day in court. We can debate them.

Lastly, throughout the year, this whole debate about what is worthy of a recommendation, to me, speaks to privilege. The very act of us trying to predetermine what is germane to actually debate on is privilege and precisely the reason why we need to be doing the work we're doing. If you all don't see that, my fellow white Councilmembers, that's a challenge. Who are we to determine what is debatable? I understand that some of these issues are political hot buttons. I'm not up for reelection, but I would vote the same way if I was. I get that there are political hot button issues, but it's our job as Councilmembers to lead and explain the differences, not inflame things more than they already are. I'm just asking us to recognize, Councilmembers, the hard work of the volunteers and the body of work that has been put into the past year. You may disagree with one, two, three recommendations, so you're going to throw out the whole report because of two or three recommendations you disagree with? Again, do we do that when hotel developers come to us with a plan for hotel development or when small business owners come to us, and we may disagree with an idea? We don't. We accept it. We accept the hard work of those folks, even though they're recommendations. So, I'm just asking us to support tonight's ordinance. Dudley, Councilmember Gregorie, removing A and J, to me, diminishes the control and power of the Commission."

Councilmember Gregorie said, "It totally guts it. It guts it."

Councilmember Sakran said, "I'm not supportive of any amendments."

Councilmember Gregorie said, "It's called white privilege."

Councilmember Sakran said, "If we have to defer, we can defer. And I just want to say this last thing. I understand some of the concerns. The last thing I want to do tonight is sabotage the work of our Commission members and this Commission. The long-term goal is to make sure that this Commission is permanent. We can work through some of these issues. The point is all 125 of these recommendations will have their time for debate. Folks that have come to this meeting, and I did hear several folks in the community. Some ran for political office, and some hold higher office. These are smart folks. You came unprepared and ill-informed. These are recommendations, and nothing has been decided yet. Thank you."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you, Councilmembers Sakran, Gregorie, Mitchell, Shahid, and everyone. Let me say a few words. We set up the Special Commission a little over a year ago when the scab of racism had been ripped clean, ripped off again in this Country after

the murder of George Floyd. Honestly, for this City, the City of Charleston, for 350 years, the majority of those years were periods where slavery was the institution of our City and Southern land, and then Jim Crow thereafter. A majority of those 350 years we had that heritage, right? This whole matter of appointing the Special Commission on Equity, Inclusion, and Racial Conciliation, of trying to bring people together, was to be open, to have tough conversations about what might be considered to make Charleston a more equitable and just place. The recommendations came forward to this Council recently. We did not accept them because of the comments you all are making to the point that there were some of those recommendations that many of you feel would not be acceptable. So, we didn't even vote to accept the report.

This matter before us tonight is to form an ongoing Commission to continue to address issues of equity, inclusion, and racial conciliation in our City. So, even though there were no recommendations accepted, there were no recommendations approved, and some of the recommendations that have been mentioned here have been demonized and treated like we've already completely approved them, which is the furthest thing from the truth. It's just trying to submarine this whole effort to address these issues in our City. So, do we want a mechanism, a body, that considers in our future a more equitable, more inclusive City and policies that would lead us to a more equitable place? That's why we would form this Commission, to continue the work of considering things that would make Charleston a more equitable and just place. So, I hear you. I am not looking to pull any weight from the Special Commission. They spent a lot of time on the report. I hear our Councilmembers' sensitivity about the issue of the appearance, the appearance, that we've approved all these things, which we haven't. As a compromise, I would propose an amendment that we simply delete the word 'advancing' and leave the 'regarding the Special Commission's final report' as a part of this Commission's work. They will consider those deliberations. I propose that we remove in two places the word 'advancing,' as a compromise, and ask us to---

Councilmember Gregorie said, "I second that motion, Mr. Mayor."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Let's see if we can get that approved. We've got a second."

Councilmember Gregorie said, "I second that, yes."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "So, that's in both paragraph 'A' and 'J.'"

Councilmember Gregorie said, "Just take the word 'advancing' out."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "We would remove the word 'advancing.'"

Councilmember Gregorie said, "Yes."

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Waring.

Councilmember Waring said, "Mr. Mayor, I'd like to thank you for even taking the challenge of even pulling this together. I'd like to thank in the highest way the two chairpersons, Councilmember Dudley Gregorie and Councilmember Sakran. I can't tell you how much I appreciate your words tonight, but I highly respect what you have to say. Believe it or not, this report has provided an opportunity as a member of Council. One of the things that you all may not realize is some of the same things that you all are being approached with, we also are being approached with some of those same questions by white folks asking Councilmember Mitchell, myself, and Councilmember Gregorie, but then we get a bevy of questions from the African

American community about, let's take on the subject: defunding the police. It is an opportunity to explain why we don't support that and what the police do in our community. A lot of African Americans don't understand how often the policemen and women respond to the African American community. So we're going to cut back and reduce that response? When our audit on racial bias in policing took place, I believe the recommendations from the consultant were, Mr. Mayor, an excess of 65, not quite 70 recommendations that were eventually whittled down to 40 some odd. Our Police Chief has gone about, in the most professional way, implementing those changes, which has resulted in a much more professional police force, so much so that other municipalities, in particular North Charleston, have done the same, trying to improve theirs. But for the racial bias in policing, our consultant coming up with the best practices, not only our City police force would not have been improved to the degree that it is today, North Charleston's police force wouldn't be improved to where it is today. Those hard conversations had to be held.

When the majority of people ask me or ask us, and they can respond, Councilmember Gregorie is certainly able to respond for himself about critical race theory. It gives me a wonderful opportunity to explain that that's not in the purview. That's not a duck. That's not in the purview of City Council. It is in the purview of the education professionals. It also gives an opportunity for us to have engaging conversations with members of that task force. Believe me, you don't think they've asked us some of those challenging questions when, frankly, white folks aren't around? We put people on there with the intellect, hopefully, and the fortitude to bring forth those challenging questions. So, the subject, it is an opportunity to engage. Obviously, you may have some people who are on the fringes and, in some places, hate's going to be displayed. We saw that on Daniel Island on the mask issue the other day. Some people you're just not going to be able to convince, and you are going to agree to disagree, but there are some things. Councilwoman Delcioppo and I were part of a tour of the International African American Museum building. She can speak to the positive aspect and the truth that will be told once that institution opens. What do you think Mayor Riley went through, and Mrs. Whipper went through, going back and forth to the General Assembly, trying to get \$25 million to tell America's sin that began here? It began right here. I appreciate having a Holocaust exhibit in our City. I appreciate the sensitivity of the Federal Government to put a Holocaust Museum and an International African American Museum and American Indian Museum, so forth and so on, down the mall at the Smithsonian. What a wonderful gift. But for those conversations, and yes, hard conversations, we're finishing up a meeting here that was very hard, but, you know what? The issue came on the table, we voted, and those issues were settled. That's what's going to happen to the Public Safety Committee. That's what's going to happen to the History Commission and all the others, the Housing Commission.

One of the things that's going to enable us to do this City right now, I'm not saying we're doing the end-all, but look at what we're doing for affordable housing. No other City in this State has done what we've done in the last three or four years. We have not done a very good account of telling the public, and the Mayor and I have talked about this even on this Council. We don't have a system to say what we have already done and what we are currently doing and trying to improve upon those aspects. The James Lewis, Jr. Housing Complex, the James Lewis Incubator, we just got through approving earlier today I think somewhere close to \$0.5 million and what will be \$1 million for a minority business incubator that this Council has given tacit approval to. Does that count as reparations? I don't think so, but to me, that certainly counts. But for this process, I don't know that we would have had a James Lewis, Jr. Business Incubator for small businesses. We do a heck of a lot of good. That communication or those conversations, will they be hard? I agree, but I guess that's why we get paid the big bucks. By the way, at the end of this meeting, Mr. Mayor, I want to recommend something else before we close out the meeting. I think we should engage in those conversations. Please look at it as an

opportunity, to tell the truth that both our chairpersons, Councilmembers Gregorie and Sakran, spoke to. It's an opportunity to give accurate information when people are making emotional statements. Thank you, Mr. Mayor."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you, Councilmember Waring. In fact, that incubator was one of the recommendations of the Special Commission. I failed to ask, Councilmember Mitchell, would you accept my amendment?"

Councilmember Waring said, "You're on mute."

Councilmember Mitchell said, "Yes, I accept your amendment."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you. I'd like to call the question for this ordinance."

Councilmember Brady said, "As a point of order, we still have Councilmember Shahid's amendment and second are still open on the floor."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Okay."

The Clerk said, "I think Councilmember Mitchell said he wouldn't accept the amendment."

Councilmember Mitchell said, "I didn't accept it."

Councilmember Brady said, "That's correct. You still have to vote on the amendment, and then if it fails, the original motion is considered."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "That's correct. Alright, so let's vote on Councilmember Shahid's amendment. Any further discussion on that, which was to delete the whole phrase 'regarding advancing the Special Commission's final report?'"

Councilmember Waring said, "Point of order. Point of order, Mr. Mayor. This really is a point of order. Is this amendment considered a substitute motion? If it's a substitute motion, it does take precedence. It was an amendment. It wasn't a substitute motion."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "We did not take action on Councilmember Shahid's amendment. Councilmember Brady is correct unless Councilmember Shahid wants to withdraw his amendment."

Councilmember Waring said, "No, sir. His amendment was not accepted by the person that made the motion. He did not make a substitute motion. A substitute motion takes precedence. That was an amendment that was not accepted."

Councilmember Gregorie said, "Correct."

Councilmember Waring said, "It was not a substitute motion. A substitute motion does take precedence, so I believe that point of order is correct. That we should go back to the motion that Councilmember Mitchell accepted, your amendment. That should be on the floor to be considered."

Councilmember Brady said, "To your point, though, it is not up to the recommender of the motion to accept or deny. It is up to the body whether to accept that or not because the amendment is to the motion currently presented on the floor. It had a second, it is debatable, and it can pass by majority vote."

Councilmember Waring said, "It was not proposed as a substitute motion, Councilmember Brady."

Councilmember Gregorie said, "Who made him the expert? I don't want to hear him."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Julia or Wilbur, will you weigh in on this one again for me, please?"

Councilmember Waring said, "We've been here. A substitute motion takes precedence. That's written in black and white in Robert's Rules of Order. That was not a substitute motion."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Ms. Copeland, Mr. Johnson, would you all help me out here?"

Ms. Copeland said, "So, Councilmember Shahid made an original motion, and there was a second, but you're saying it was not accepted by Councilmember Mitchell. Is that what I'm hearing correctly?"

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Correct."

Ms. Copeland said, "I would say that we need to vote on the first amendment, and if that fails, then we vote on the second suggested amendment."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Well, we don't have to vote on the second amendment separately since it's been accepted as part of the original motion."

Ms. Copeland said, "Okay, thank you."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Right?"

Ms. Copeland said, "Yes."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Alright. So, we're going to go back and vote on Councilmember Shahid's amendment separately from the motion."

Councilmember Waring said, "Mr. Mayor, point of order. These are opinions Ms. Copeland is doing. She's not flipping to substitute motions in Robert's Rules of Order."

Councilmember Gregorie said, "Right, show me the book."

Councilmember Waring said, "We did this with Frances Cantwell. We used to suspend the meeting for 20 minutes when I put a substitute motion on the floor. It was seconded. It took precedence. In Robert's Rules of Order, it says substitute motions take precedence over a previous question that was being considered. This was not a substitute motion. It was an amendment that was not accepted."

Councilmember Seekings said, "Can somebody please mute? It's hard to hear what Councilmember Waring is saying."

Councilmember Waring said, "Thank you, Councilmember Seekings. What I am saying is a substitute motion, by Robert's Rules of Order, takes precedence over the previous question under consideration. In this case, Councilmember Mitchell's initial motion. Councilmember Shahid made an amendment to that motion, and it was seconded, but it wasn't accepted by the person who made the motion. If it were made as a substitute motion, then it would take precedence over Councilmember Mitchell's motion. He did not make a substitute motion. He did it as an amendment that was not accepted. His previous question should be on the floor. The Mayor subsequently made an amendment to Councilmember Mitchell's initial motion, which was accepted by him. That is the question that should be on the floor for consideration."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Wilbur, you there?"

Councilmember Waring said, "Please look up substitute motion. That will settle it."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "I'm looking it up myself."

Councilmember Waring said, "Go to the index of Robert's Rules of Order."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "I've got it right here, but where I looked, it didn't seem like the right spot."

The Clerk said, "Mr. Johnson, I think he's on the line."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Mr. Johnson, can you help me with this point of order?"

Ms. Copeland said, "Hold on, we're looking. Honestly, I'm inclined to say that if Frances Cantwell said that, I would support whatever Frances Cantwell said, but we're looking."

Councilmember Waring said, "She actually found it in Robert's Rules of Order, substitute motion, and actually read it before Council."

Councilmember Gregorie said, "Just ask Siri."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "A motion to amend by striking out an entire paragraph, section, or article for a complete main motion or Resolution and inserting a different paragraph or other unit in its place is called a motion to substitute. The paragraph or Resolution to be inserted is said to be offered or proposed as a 'substitute.' A substitute can be offered for a paragraph or main motion of only one sentence. In such a case, the paragraph proposed as a substitute can contain several sentences. For the replacement of sentences within a paragraph, see below. A substitute offered for a main motion or Resolution or for a paragraph within a resolution is a primary amendment and can therefore be moved only when no other amendment is pending. If a motion proposes to replace one or more paragraphs that are involved in a pending primary amendment, it is a secondary amendment to which the term substitute is also applicable."

Councilmember Seekings said, "Well, that certainly clarified it. Thank you."

There was laughter

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "A primary amendment to a substitute is treated similarly to a motion to strike out and insert, as described on pages 149-153. It is open to debate at all times while it is pending with no secondary amendment pending and such debate may go fully into merits of both the original text and the substitute since this is necessary to determine the desirability of the primary amendment. But for purposes of secondary amendment, the substitute is---"

Councilmember Waring said, "Mr. Mayor, let's just go vote on Councilmember Shahid's amendment. Let's vote it up or down."

Councilwoman Jackson said, "Let's just do that. It's quicker."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Julia or Wilbur, you all got anything for me? I'll make a determination otherwise."

Councilmember Waring said, "I yield. Let's just vote."

Ms. Copeland said, "I suggest you guys just vote."

Councilmember Gregorie said, "You're going to lose."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Wilbur, you're on mute."

The Clerk said, "Wilbur, we can't hear you."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Still can't hear you."

Mr. McQueeney said, "Julia, what does he need to hit? This is Chip. I'm sorry, Jennifer, what does he need to hit, *6?"

Ms. Copeland said, "He's not on mute."

The Clerk said, "He's not on mute, and he's not on the phone, so there's no *6."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Wilbur, call us on the phone or something."

Councilmember Mitchell said, "I don't think Wilbur's going to answer the question either."

The Clerk said, "Mr. Johnson if you could call in on the phone."

Councilmember Griffin said, "I love you guys, but this is getting later every meeting. I love you guys to death, but we have to figure this out."

Councilwoman Delcioppo said, "It's absurd."

The Clerk said, "Mr. Johnson, I think you just came in on the phone. If you could press *6, that's how you unmute yourself on the phone."

Mr. Johnson said, "Can you hear me?"

The Clerk said, "Yes."

Mr. Johnson said, "I apologize. So, as I understand it, a motion was made by Councilmember Mitchell, and then an amendment was proposed that was not accepted."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Correct."

Mr. Johnson said, "So at that point, there must be a vote on the proposed amendment, up or down."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Right. That's what Councilmember Brady was saying."

Mr. Johnson said, "Yes."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "And we failed to take action at that time. I subsequently made a new amendment."

Mr. Johnson said, "You can't take up the new amendment until the first amendment ---"

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Is resolved."

Mr. Johnson said, "Is resolved, yes."

Councilwoman Jackson said, "Mayor, can I just ask a follow-up question then?"

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Sure."

Councilwoman Jackson said, "So, if we're voting on Councilmember Shahid's unaccepted amendment, are we just voting on those two locations in the document to say if we accept them or not? We're not passing the entire second reading then, is that right?"

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "That's correct."

Councilwoman Jackson said, "Alright."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "We're voting on whether you all want to accept the amendment to the original ordinance or not. Right, Wilbur?"

Mr. Johnson said, "That's correct."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "We're going to go back and vote on Councilmember Shahid's amendment, which struck the whole phrase 'regarding advancing the Special Commission's Final Report' from paragraph A and striking 'of advancing the recommendations contained in the Special Commission's Final Report' in paragraph J."

Councilmember Gregorie said, "I thought he wanted to remove that entirely. He wanted to eliminate J."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "He went back and changed it after we had some discussion so that we would maintain an annual report."

Councilmember Gregorie said, "Okay."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Okay, so it just removes those two phrases within those two paragraphs. Is everybody clear on that? We're not voting right now to approve the whole ordinance. We're just voting to approve whether you want to remove those two phrases from it."

On a motion of Councilmember Shahid, seconded by Councilmember Appel, City Council considered a motion to amend agenda Item M-4 to remove the phrase 'regarding advancing the Special Commission's Final Report' from paragraph A and 'of advancing the recommendations contained in the Special Commission's final report' in paragraph J.

The motion failed 10 to 3.

The vote was not unanimous. Councilmembers Brady, Shahid, and Appel voted in favor of the motion.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Roll call."

The Clerk said, "Councilwoman Delcioppo."

Councilwoman Delcioppo said, "Nay."

The Clerk said, "Councilmember Shealy."

Councilmember Shealy said, "Nay."

The Clerk said, "Councilmember Sakran."

Councilmember Sakran said, "Nay."

The Clerk said, "Councilmember Mitchell."

Councilmember Mitchell said, "Nay."

The Clerk said, "Councilmember Brady."

Councilmember Brady said, "Aye."

The Clerk said, "Councilmember Gregorie."

Councilmember Gregorie said, "Nay."

The Clerk said, "Councilmember Waring."

Councilmember Waring said, "Nay."

The Clerk said, "Councilmember Seekings."

Councilmember Seekings said, "Nay."

The Clerk said, "Councilmember Shahid."

Councilmember Shahid said, "Yea."

The Clerk said, "Councilmember Griffin."

Councilmember Griffin said, "Nay."

The Clerk said, "Councilmember Appel."

Councilmember Appel said, "Yes."

The Clerk said, "Councilmember Jackson."

Councilwoman Jackson said, "No."

The Clerk said, "Mayor Tecklenburg."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "No."

The Clerk said, "The motion fails."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Now, we can take up the amendment to just remove the word 'advancing' in both of those. Well, actually, no. That was accepted by Councilmember Mitchell, so now on the floor is to accept the ordinance, as amended, with the removal of the word 'advancing' in those two places. Does that make sense?"

The Councilmembers said yes.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "I'm going to call the question. Any further discussion or questions?"

On a motion of Councilmember Mitchell, seconded by Councilmember Waring, City Council considered the approval of agenda Item M-4, as amended.

The motion failed 7 to 6.

The vote was not unanimous. Councilmembers Sakran, Mitchell, Gregorie, Waring, Jackson and Mayor Tecklenburg voted in favor of the motion.

Councilmember Griffin said, "Can we have a roll call vote?"

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Yes, sir. Madam Clerk."

The Clerk said, "Councilwoman Delcioppo."

Councilwoman Delcioppo said, "No."

The Clerk said, "Councilmember Shealy."

Councilmember Shealy said, "Nay."

The Clerk said, "Councilmember Sakran."

Councilmember Sakran said, "Yes."

The Clerk said, "Councilmember Mitchell."

Councilmember Mitchell said, "Yes."

The Clerk said, "Councilmember Brady."

Councilmember Brady said, "Nay."

The Clerk said, "Councilmember Gregorie."

Councilmember Gregorie said, "Yes."

The Clerk said, "Councilmember Waring."

Councilmember Waring said, "Yes."

The Clerk said, "Councilmember Seekings."

Councilmember Seekings said, "Nay."

The Clerk said, "Councilmember Shahid."

Councilmember Shahid said, "Nay."

The Clerk said, "Councilmember Griffin."

Councilmember Griffin said, "Nay."

The Clerk said, "Councilmember Appel."

Councilmember Appel said, "Nay."

The Clerk said, "Councilwoman Jackson."

Councilwoman Jackson said, "Yes."

The Clerk said, "Mayor Tecklenburg."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Yes."

The Clerk said, "The motion fails."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Alright. Next on our agenda are [ordinances up for first reading](#).
We've got ---"

Councilmember Griffin said, "I'll move for approval, items 1 and 2."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "We have a change of zoning for 2710 Pine Log Lane."

Councilwoman Jackson said, "I'll second."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "And also an additional member on the Municipal Golf Course Commission. Any discussion?"

No one asked to speak.

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

An ordinance to amend the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Charleston by changing the Zone Map, which is a part thereof, so that 2710 Pine Log Lane (Johns Island) (approximately 4.66 acres) (TMS #312-00-00-251) (Council District 5), pending annexation into the City of Charleston, be zoned Diverse Residential (DR-6) classification. The property is owned by Carey S. Rivers.

An ordinance to amend Chapter 22, Section 25(b), to add an additional member to the Municipal Golf Course Commission and clarify terms.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Next is a workshop meeting for us to join the Planning Commission and review their Comprehensive Plan update on September 23rd. I think that will be a virtual meeting, as well. The next regular meeting will be back here at City Council on September 28th. Councilmember Waring, you wanted to be recognized before the end of the meeting?"

Councilmember Waring said, "Thank you, Mr. Mayor. I just want to have put on the agenda at the next meeting an increase in City Council's pay of \$25,000 a year to be implemented in January for an up or down vote. I just want to have that on the agenda at the next meeting in two weeks."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Alright. We can put that on the agenda per your request, but I would just ask wouldn't you want to wait until we do the budget?"

Councilmember Waring said, "Well, so that can be put in the budget. You're talking \$300,000 for 12 people. We're the largest City, municipality in the State, and I don't think anybody doubts the time that we put in. You shouldn't have to have a net worth of a million dollars to serve on this Council. I didn't really want to debate it. We can talk about it certainly in two weeks, but certainly, an increase is warranted. I don't have any trouble making that motion, putting it on the agenda for an up or down vote to be effective with the swearing in of the Councilmembers in January of 2022."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Alright, your request is duly noted. Any further business to come before us this evening, you all?"

Having no further business, City Council adjourned at 10:26 p.m.

Jennifer Cook
Clerk of Council