

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

April 26, 2022

A meeting of the Committee on Ways and Means was held this date beginning at 4:31 p.m.

PRESENT (13)

The Honorable John J. Tecklenburg, Mayor

Councilmember Gregg	District 1	Councilmember Waring <i>arrived @ 4:34 p.m.</i>	District 7
Councilmember Shealy	District 2	Councilmember Seekings	District 8
Councilmember Sakran	District 3	Councilmember Shahid	District 9
Councilmember Mitchell	District 4	Councilmember Bowden	District 10
Councilmember Brady <i>arrived @ 4:44 p.m.</i>	District 5	Councilmember Appel	District 11
Councilmember Gregorie	District 6	Councilmember Parker	District 12

1. INVOCATION:

The meeting opened with an invocation provided by Councilmember Mitchell.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

On a motion of Councilmember Shealy, seconded by Councilmember Mitchell, the Committee on Ways and Means approved the minutes of the April 12, 2022 Committee on Ways and Means meeting.

3. BIDS AND PURCHASES:

On a motion of Councilmember Shealy, seconded by Councilmember Mitchell, the Committee on Ways and Means voted unanimously to approve the following bids and purchases:

a. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY: ACCOUNT: 940100-52206 AMOUNT: \$100,000

Approval of Electronic Document Management System (EDMS) digital scanning services for existing documents as part of the new Electronic Document Management System in the amount of \$100,000. State Contract #4400016689. This purchase includes all necessary services to complete scanning to digital format of documents, plans and drawings for multiple City departments as part of the new Electronic Document Management System project. This will allow for the significant reduction in the use and storage of paper and printed copies while improving the City's access to and use of documentation as well as the ability to provide documentation upon request. Funded through ARPA.

ACCOUNT: 940100-58012 AMOUNT: \$159,139.73

b. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY: ACCOUNT: 940100-52206 AMOUNT: \$174,076.27

Approval to purchase software & services to implement Phase IV of the new Electronic Document Management System (EDMS) in the amount of \$333,216.00. State Contract #4400016689. This purchase includes all necessary software and services to implement the fourth and final phase of the new Electronic Document Management System to facilitate the conversion of existing printed documents and plans to digital format and to process future documentation in digital format, significantly reducing the use of paper, saving money, time and storage while improving the City's interaction with residents and customers. This project will add the following departments and divisions into the previously installed base system implemented under Phase I: Municipal Court, Clerk of Council, Prosecutor's Office, Budget Management, Finance, Procurement, Real Estate Management, and Safety Management. Funded through ARPA.

c. PARKS DEPARTMENT: ACCOUNT: 170100-52206 AMOUNT: \$15,000

Approval to process a change order to increase the Pest and Termite services contract from \$70,000.00 to \$85,000.00 by adding several City locations to the current contract with Palmetto Exterminators, 624 Orleans Road, Charleston, SC 29407. Solicitation #19-P062R. The amount needed for this item is \$15,000.

d. POLICE DEPARTMENT: ACCOUNT: 200000-52036 AMOUNT: \$25,920

Approval to process a change order to increase the Tasers contract from \$288,000.00 to \$313,920.00 for taxes to the current contract with Axon Enterprises, Inc., 17800 N. 85th St., Scottsdale, AZ 85255. Sole Source. The amount needed for this item is \$25,920.

4. BUDGET, FINANCE, AND REVENUE COLLECTIONS: APPROVAL OF THE 2022 AMENDED STATE ACCOMMODATIONS TAX BUDGET APPROVED BY COUNCIL ON 12/7/21, TO AMEND THE BUDGET TO INCLUDE GRANT AWARDS FROM THE 2022 GRANT PROCESS HELD IN EARLY 2022. THIS WAS APPROVED BY THE ACCOMMODATIONS TAX ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON 4/14/2022.

Councilmember Seekings said Item 4 was the State Accommodations Tax Budget for distribution that the City did annually. There were several criteria that applicants should meet to be funded. He said one of the recipients of a considerable sum of money, \$150,000, which was against the recommendation, was the Charleston Food and Wine Festival. He said the difference between 2022 and five years ago was that the Festival was produced and centered in the City of Charleston. Over time, they moved to North Charleston. Councilmember Seekings said he reviewed how much the City funded the Festival in the past five years. In 2017, they received \$150,000. In 2018, they received \$150,000. In 2019, they received \$140,000 with an additional \$37,500 from ARPA funds. The total in five years was \$515,000, and in response, they moved their operations to North Charleston. Funding was used to give back to the industry and in the community to advertise and get people to the City of Charleston.

The Festival was now centered in their culinary village. They brought famous chefs and crowds of people to North Charleston and placed people in hotel rooms in the City of Charleston, which created an influx of cars in and out of the City. He checked with hotels and foot traffic on King Street during the Festival compared to other festivals like Sewe and the Cooper River Bridge Run. Hotels had a higher occupancy rate the week after the Wine and Food Festival than during the Festival. He understood that the Festival had signed a three-year contract with North Charleston. Councilmember Seekings said funding festivals in North Charleston was not one of the missions of the City of Charleston; instead, it was to protect the few dollars and allocate them to priorities within the City. He said he would love to have a conversation about the Festival

returning downtown, but in the meantime, they should not be funded by the City to operate in North Charleston.

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Councilmember Sakran said there were still a number of events still held downtown and agreed with Councilmember Seekings that funding the Festival should be rethought for the following year. Coordinators of the Festival shared with Councilmember Sakran that they had issues with the space for several years. He suggested if the City wanted the Festival to return downtown, an alternate location should be planned for them. He asked a few questions like; when would in-person meetings be resumed for non-profit organizations and community organizations to come to ask questions? How was the list created, and who vetted the list? Councilmember Gregorie said it was an application process, and anyone could apply. Many organizations from Charleston received funding from the City, and to Councilmember Sakran, the Charleston Food and Wine Festival did not seem financially in need of funds. The Children's Museum received \$65,000, and there were no other organizations on the list that focused on youth and education issues. Everyone needed to have access. The Gibbes Museum was a top-line item, and Councilmember Sakran asked that other youth and education organizations be funded to the same tune as other organizations. Councilmember Gregorie said ownership of the facilities must also be considered.

Councilmember Shahid said that he, too, had several questions per his research. He asked if the City charged the Charleston Food and Wine Festival rent for any of the spaces they used. If the \$100,000 allocation was stripped or reduced, could it be used to fund other projects? The Charleston Black Expo only received \$25,000. Councilmember Gregorie said that most of the organizations received the amount they asked for if he was not mistaken. Councilmember Shahid said he believed it was somewhat disingenuous that the Festival moved out of the City of Charleston. He read an email they sent to the City regarding the benefit they brought to the City,

which was true. The Charleston Wine and Food Festival indeed brought great benefit to the City, but if the City were to spend money on City promotions, the event should remain in the City.

Councilmember Waring said it was good for the new Councilmembers to know the relationship between the City and the Gibbes Museum. The City had 50 percent ownership. Mayor Tecklenburg said he attended an event of Charleston Food and Wine at the Gadsdenboro Park, across from the International Africa-American Museum, which was strategically planned because there was a gospel brunch in hopes of continuing to continue a relationship with the Museum. The Festival did have issues with Marion Square, which may have led them to move their main stage to North Charleston. They kept several events in the City of Charleston and promoted them through the association of many restaurants. Mayor Tecklenburg said he appreciated that the Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee cut the funding at the Committee level, and cutting it more was okay with him. Still, he suggested the City continue funding and see what happens over the next couple of years. The Festival would still be in both cities.

Councilmember Gregorie said he was unaware the Festival was leaving the City and learned from television. In response to Mayor Tecklenburg, Councilmember Seekings said he agreed with the Mayor, and the City should stay in the game with the Festival, but part of the game should be a discussion with them about what the future held. If the City were to invest so much money, would it still be the Charleston Food and Wine Festival centered in Charleston? He said they traded off the most valuable mark that South Carolina owned, Charleston. To add money on top of that for the Festival to spend the money in North Charleston did not sit well with him. The Festival was only one year into its 3-year contract. There was no transportation currently for moving people back and forth, so the City should stay engaged with them, but one of the engagements was not to send a check but to have an open and honest conversation about how funds would be managed. He said on their website that they listed the City of North Charleston as a partner, and the City of Charleston was not listed.

Councilmember Shahid asked how much money did the City of North Charleston fund the Festival. Mr. Jerue said no funding came from the City of North Charleston.

On a motion of Councilmember Seekings, seconded by Councilmember Waring, the Committee on Ways and Means voted unanimously to approve the 2022 Amended State Accommodations to include grant awards from the grant process held in early 2022 as amended, to freeze funding for the Charleston Food and Wine Festival and allow the opportunity to discuss a long-term strategy for the organization to revisit the City when the application process reopened in the fall.

Councilmember Gregorie said the Committee members that were on the A-Tax Committee were representatives of the hospitality industry. Initially, the members suggested the Charleston Food and Wine Festival have more than the allocated \$50,000, and should be granted \$100,000. He said it was reasonable to not approve funding, but to allow them the time to come back to the City.

Ms. Wharton said the timing would work and the application process would start again in July and would be due in August. In mid to the end of August, BFRC would go through the budget process for 2023.

5. OFFICE OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS: APPROVAL TO ACCEPT THE GRANT AWARD IN THE AMOUNT OF \$20,000 FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)'S PANDEMIC RESPONSE AND SAFETY GRANT PROGRAM FOR COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH

ENHANCED SAFETY PROTOCOLS FOR CHARLESTON FARMERS MARKET AND WEST ASHLEY FARMERS MARKET. THERE IS NO CITY MATCH REQUIRED.

On a motion of Councilmember Brady, seconded by Councilmember Mitchell, the Committee on Ways and Means voted unanimously to approve the grant award in the amount of \$20,000 from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)'s Pandemic Response and Safety Grant Program for costs associated with enhanced safety protocols for Charleston and West Ashley Farmers Markets.

6. PARKS – CAPITAL PROJECTS: APPROVAL OF INTERNATIONAL AFRICAN AMERICAN MUSEUM GMP CHANGE ORDER #15 WITH TURNER CONSTRUCTION COMPANY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,332,588 FOR SUBCONTRACTOR CLAIMS DUE TO ROOFING DELAYS (\$244,076), GENERAL CONDITIONS FOR THE CONTRACTOR DUE TO DELAYS IN SUBSTANTIAL COMPLETION (\$689,706.34), PAYMENTS FOR BUILDER'S RISK INSURANCE DUE TO CONTRACT EXTENDING PAST THE CONTRACTUAL COMPLETION DATE (\$270,355) AND VARIOUS CHANGE REQUESTS IN DESIGN AND MATERIALS FROM THE IAAM (\$1,128,450.66). FUNDING WILL COME FROM THE OWNER SITEWORK ALLOWANCE (\$354,644), THE MOISTURE BARRIER BALANCE (\$65,167) AND THE OWNER CONTINGENCY ALLOWANCE (\$220,500) IN THE GMP CONTRACT. THE REMAINDER NEEDING COUNCIL'S APPROVAL IS \$1,692,277, AND THOSE FUNDS WILL COME FROM THE IAAM. APPROVAL OF CHANGE ORDER #15 WILL INCREASE THE GMP CONTRACT BY \$1,692,277 (FROM \$59,829,652 TO \$61,521,929). THE FUNDING SOURCES FOR THIS PROJECT ARE: ACCOMMODATIONS TAX (\$13,200,000), CHARLESTON COUNTY ACCOMMODATIONS TAX (\$12,500,000), STATE FUNDING (\$14,000,000), IAAM CONTRIBUTIONS (\$53,000,000).

On a motion of Councilmember Waring, seconded by Councilmember Mitchell, the Committee on Ways and Means voted unanimously to approve of International African American Museum GMP Change Order #15 with Turner Construction Company in the amount of \$2,332,588 for subcontractor claims due to roofing delays.

7. PARKS – CAPITAL PROJECTS: APPROVAL OF INTERNATIONAL AFRICAN AMERICAN MUSEUM GMP CHANGE ORDER #16 WITH TURNER CONSTRUCTION COMPANY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$372,071 FOR LANDSCAPING CHANGES, SECURITY CAMERA AND ALARM CHANGES, AND KITCHEN CHANGES. FUNDING FOR THIS WILL COME FROM THE IAAM. APPROVAL OF CHANGE ORDER #16 WILL INCREASE THE GMP CONTRACT BY \$372,071 (FROM \$61,521,929 TO \$61,894,000). FUNDING SOURCES FOR THIS PROJECT ARE: ACCOMMODATIONS TAX (\$13,200,000), CHARLESTON COUNTY ACCOMMODATIONS TAX (\$12,500,000), STATE FUNDING (\$14,000,000), AND IAAM CONTRIBUTIONS (\$53,000,000).

On a motion of Councilmember Waring, seconded by Councilmember Mitchell, the Committee on Ways and Means voted unanimously to approve of International African American Museum GMP Change Order #16 with Turner Construction Company in the amount of \$372,071 for landscaping changes, security camera and alarm changes, and kitchen changes.

Councilmember Seekings said there were distinguished guests in the building from the International African American Museum who should be recognized. Present was former Mayor Joe Riley, Edmund Most, and Bob Faust, Program Director and Sr. Project Manager of Cumming Corporation. Mr. Most said Mayor Riley was an instrumental figure and acted as the client in Capital Projects for the entire duration, along with the fantastic people he brought on his team. Mr.

Most said he had worked on the project since 2014 under a previous administration. Bob Faust worked Cumming, and Mr. Most said the project could not be done alone without the help of Cumming. The project was too complex. Cumming was fantastic and did the heavy lifting. Mr. Most thanked both Mayor Riley and Mr. Faust for their support in making everything happen. On Friday, the Temporary Certificate of Occupancy (TCO) was secured on the third floor of the building, which was a monumental achievement. This meant that staff could work inside the facility and help build the curatorial work and the up-fits of the museum.

Councilmember Waring asked what was the total funding and said the asset was coming to the City of Charleston. Mr. Most said the figure was somewhere between \$94,000,000 and \$98,000,000, but closer to the \$98,000,000 range. Councilmember Waring said, "In government, we say that's \$100,000,000."

There was laughter in the Chamber.

Mr. Most said it was the second largest capital project in the City's modern history behind the Gaillard Auditorium.

There was applause.

Councilmember Shahid said he went with Councilmember Waring to tour the facility. When they uncovered the facility, the building in which those who were enslaved, it was the first introduction to Charleston. African Americans exited the boat and went to a housing area to be cleansed. He said it was a chilling experience to witness where the exact footprint of the building was located. That part of the building would be highlighted when the public visited. The experience set the tone for the purpose of the museum and its impact on the citizens of Charleston and visitors. Councilmember Gregorie said the Museum's projection was anticipated to be 150,000 visitors annually.

8. PARKS – CAPITAL PROJECTS: APPROVAL OF CANNON ST. FIRE STATION #6 RETROFIT – FEMA HMGP 4166-10 GRANT MODIFICATION ACCEPTANCE FOR ADDITIONAL FEDERAL FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$564,216.75 FOR PHASE 2 OF THE CANNON ST. FIRE STATION RETROFIT PROJECT. THIS INCREASES THE FEDERAL FUNDING FOR BOTH PHASES OF THE PROJECT TO \$3,942,388.50. THE ADDITIONAL MATCH OF \$188,072.25 WILL COME FROM 2018 GENERAL FUND RESERVES. THE PROJECT IS COMPLETE. APPROVAL OF THIS GRANT MODIFICATION DOES NOT ADJUST THE TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET OF \$5,754,229. FUNDING SOURCES FOR THIS PROJECT ARE: FEMA HMGP (\$3,942,388.50), 2015 IPRB BOND (\$1,126,057.25), 2015 GENERAL FUND RESERVES (\$269,000), AND 2018 GENERAL FUND RESERVES (\$416,783.25).

On a motion of Councilmember Shahid, seconded by Councilmember Seekings, the Committee on Ways and Means voted unanimously to approve of Cannon Street Fire Station #6 Retrofit-FEMA HGMP 4166-10 Grant modification acceptance for additional Federal funds in the amount of \$564,216.75 for Phase 2 of the Cannon St. Fire Station Retro-fit project.

Councilmember Seekings encouraged the Councilmembers to visit the Cannon Street Fire Station. When he visited on Sunday morning, he witnessed people walking down the street and interacting with the firefights, which brought life to that corner. He said it was an incredible space that would keep the citizen protected.

9. STORMWATER MANAGEMENT: APPROVAL OF CHURCH CREEK DRAINAGE BASIN IMPROVEMENTS FEE AMENDMENT #6 WITH WESTON & SAMPSON ENGINEERS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$69,574 FOR THE FINAL US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS PERMITTING FOR THE GLENN MCCONNELL PARKWAY CULVERTS. APPROVAL OF FEE AMENDMENT #6 WILL INCREASE THE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT BY \$69,574 (FROM \$618,231 TO \$687,805). FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT IS THE DRAINAGE FUND.

On a motion of Councilmember Shealy, seconded by Councilmember Shahid, the Committee on Ways and Means voted unanimously to approve of Church Creek Drainage Basin Improvements Fee Amendment #6 with Weston & Sampson Engineers in the amount of \$69,574 for the final US Army Corps of Engineers permitting for the Glenn McConnell Parkway culverts.

10. STORMWATER MANAGEMENT: APPROVAL OF THE LOW BATTERY SEAWALL REPAIRS – PHASE III MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT WITH CPW FOR IN-CONTRACT UTILITY WORK ON THE LOW BATTERY SEAWALL REPAIRS PHASE III PROJECT FROM KING ST. TO LIMEHOUSE ST. REIMBURSEMENT WILL BE PROVIDED BY CPW FOR EXPENSES INCURRED IN THE CONTRACT FOR WATER AND SEWER UTILITY WORK. THE ESTIMATED DOLLAR AMOUNT IS AROUND \$2,000,000 AND COULD BE MORE OR LESS DEPENDING ON HOW MUCH ACTUAL CWS RELATED WORK IS PERFORMED DURING THIS PHASE OF THE PROJECT.

On a motion of Councilmember Seekings, seconded by Councilmember Shahid, the Committee on Ways and Means voted unanimously to approve of the Low Battery Seawall Repairs – Phase III Memorandum of Agreement with CPW for in-contract utility work on the Low Battery Seawall Repairs project from King St. to Limehouse St.

11. HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT: APPROVAL OF A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) TEMPLATE BETWEEN THE CITY OF CHARLESTON AND PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS. THE MOU WOULD BE EXECUTED BETWEEN THE CITY OF CHARLESTON AND ORGANIZATIONS PARTNERING WITH THE CITY OF CHARLESTON TO PROVIDE SPECIFIC SERVICES TO PERSONS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS OR THOSE AT-RISK OF BECOMING HOMELESS AT THE HOPE CENTER. APPROVAL IS ALSO REQUESTED FOR THE EXECUTION OF THE MOUS FOR EACH ORGANIZATION UPON REVIEW BY CORPORATION COUNCIL.

On a motion of Councilmember Mitchell, seconded by Councilmember Waring, the Committee on Ways and Means voted unanimously to approve a Memorandum of Understanding template between the City of Charleston and partner organizations.

12. HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT: REQUEST THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL APPROVE \$500,000 IN TIF FUNDING TO SUPPORT DEVELOPMENT OF FIFTY-FIVE (55) AFFORDABLE RENTAL APARTMENTS AT THE LOWLINE AFFORDABLE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT. COUNCIL ORIGINALLY ALLOCATED \$1.5M FOR THIS PROJECT, AND THE DEVELOPER PREVIOUSLY REQUESTED \$900,000 OF THE FUNDS. DUE TO INCREASED CONSTRUCTION COSTS, THEY ARE REQUESTING AN ADDITIONAL \$500,000 IN TIF FUNDING FROM THE ORIGINAL APPROVAL AMOUNT.

On a motion of Councilmember Mitchell, seconded by Councilmember Waring, the Committee on Ways and Means voted unanimously to approve \$500,000 in TIF funding to support development of fifty-five (55) affordable rental apartments at the Lowline Affordable Housing Development.

13. POLICE DEPARTMENT: APPROVAL TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR THE 2022 DUKE ENERGY SC EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS/STORM GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$12,050 FOR PUBLICATION OF HURRICANE PREPARATION GUIDES AND PROMOTIONAL PENS. THE APPLICATION IS DUE APRIL 29, 2022. THERE IS NO CITY MATCH REQUIRED FOR THIS GRANT.

On a motion of Councilmember Shealy, seconded by Councilmember Mitchell, the Committee on Ways and Means voted unanimously to approve submittal of an application for the 2022 Duke Energy SC Emergency Preparedness/Storm Grant in the amount of \$12,050 for publication of hurricane publication guides and promotional pens.

14. POLICE DEPARTMENT: APPROVAL TO SIGN A CARFAX ENROLLMENT FORM GIVING CPD ACCESS TO CARFAX INVESTIGATIVE TOOLS WHICH PROVIDE MOTOR VEHICLE DATA FOR INVESTIGATIVE PURPOSES. THERE IS NO COST FOR THIS SERVICE.

On a motion of Councilmember Shealy, seconded by Councilmember Mitchell, the Committee on Ways and Means voted unanimously to approve signage of a CARFAX Enrollment Form giving CPD access to CARFAX investigative tools which provide motor vehicle data for investigative purposes.

15. THE COMMITTEE ON REAL ESTATE (MEETING WAS HELD ON MONDAY, APRIL 25, 2022 AT 3:00 P.M., CONFERENCE CALL: 1-929-205-6099; ACCESS CODE: 835 678 884)

- a. Request to authorize the extension of deadline from May 1, 2022 to August 1, 2022 in the Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Charleston and Landmark Enterprises, LLC regarding 14 Sumar Street. The property is owned by the City of Charleston.
- b. Please consider the following annexations:
 - (i) 2506 Birkenhead Drive (0.25 acre) (TMS # 309-13-00-051), West Ashley, (District 2). The property is owned by Christopher R Jefferies.
 - (ii) 1940 Capri Drive (0.6 acre) (TMS # 350-14-00-039), West Ashley, (District 5). The property is owned by Jeffrey and Meredith Fox.
 - (iii) 1804 Able Street (0.25 acre) (TMS # 351-02-00-035), West Ashley, (District 7). The property is owned by Lanita Brown.

Councilmember Appel, Chairman of the Real Estate Committee, said the first item was an extension of a Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Charleston and Landmark Enterprises, LLC regarding 14 Sumar Street, also known as the old Piggly Wiggly. The extension was for 90 days. The Committee on Real Estate approved the proposal unanimously. There was also a recent update on the project from the West Ashley Revitalization Committee.

Finally, there were three annexations, which were all approved by the Committee.

Councilmember Appel also recognized the new Annexation Planner in the Planning Department, Mollie Jones.

On a motion of Councilmember Appel, seconded by Councilmember Mitchell, the Committee on Ways and Means voted unanimously to approve the Real Estate report as presented and considered giving first reading to the following bills:

An ordinance to provide for the annexation of property known as 1804 Able Street (0.25 acre) (TMS# 351-02-00-035), 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 Lanita Brown.

An ordinance to provide for the annexation of property known as 2506 Birkenhead Drive (0.25 acre) (TMS# 309-13-00-051), 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 2. The property is owned by Christopher R. Jefferies.

An ordinance to provide for the annexation of property known as 1940 Capri Drive (0.6 acre) (TMS# 350-14-00-039), West Ashley, Charleston County, to the City of Charleston, shown within the area annexed upon a map attached hereto and make it part of District 5. The property is owned by Jeffrey and Meredith Fox.

Councilmember Shahid said Eric Pohlman, City of Charleston West Ashley Projects Manager, Jason Ward, and Jonathan Oakman, partners with Landmark Enterprises and Liollo Architecture were present to make a report during the Communications Updates. He said the 90-day delay was not a delay in the work. The team was scheduled to go before the Design Review Board at the May meeting, which will be one of the first in-person meetings. He wanted the public to be aware. While there was a funding issue to working out with the MOU, the other plans for public review were still going forward in May.

Mayor Tecklenburg made the following highlights on items from the Ways and Means report. He said the City had challenges managing tourism, and it was an ongoing concern. However, the City was blessed to be able to allocate \$7.5M of funds for various projects and organizations, including the City's bond service on the International African American Museum, Piccolo Festival, MOJA Festival, and other cultural organizations that brought heads and beds to the community. Continuing with other highlights, Mayor Tecklenburg mentioned the joy of having Fire Station #6 opened on Cannon Street. The City also approved moving forward with the Lake Dotterer Connection under the Glenn McConnell Freeway. Other approvals included a partnership reaffirmed with Charleston Water Service, where they would spend about \$2M to help with the \$2.7M on the Low Battery Seawall Project. He said the City set the paradigm for operating a facility and continued to help those who experienced homelessness in the City and came up with additional funding to help create 55 new affordable housing units. He commended City Council for a job well done.

There being no further business presented, the Committee on Ways and Means adjourned at 5:03 p.m.

Velvett Simmons

Assistant Clerk of Council