

CITY COUNCIL VIRTUAL MEETING

Regular Meeting

June 23, 2020

The ninety-ninth meeting of the City Council of Charleston was held this date convening at 5:08 p.m. over video conference call (Zoom).

A notice of this meeting and an agenda were made available on the City's website June 17, 2020 and appeared in the Post and Courier on June 21, 2020.

PRESENT (13)

The Honorable John J. Tecklenburg, Mayor

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 5:08 p.m.

The Clerk called the roll.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "If you all would like to join us, I'd like to call on Councilwoman Delcioppo to lead us in an invocation."

Councilwoman Delcioppo opened the meeting with an invocation.

Councilwoman Delcioppo then led City Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you so much. So, we don't have any public hearings tonight. We do have our approval of City Council minutes from June 9, 2020."

Councilmember Mitchell said, "So moved."

Councilwoman Jackson said, "I'll second."

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

No one asked to speak.

On a motion of Councilmember Mitchell, seconded by Councilwoman Jackson, City Council voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the June 9, 2020 City Council meeting.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "So, we're going to roll right into our Citizens Participation Period. We have a recap, I believe, that Vanessa will give us on the e-mails, and I think you've seen the phone messages that we've received. They were sent out today by e-mail, and then we will attempt to do a live Citizens Participation. About 40 people have signed up. We normally just do a 30-minute Public Participation Period. I feel we should just allow a minute per person, so we'll run a little over this evening based on the interest of our citizens tonight. So, I will ask though, I see most of you are muted, but I'll ask City Council and staff if you're not speaking or addressing the meeting to please keep your phone on mute, and we'll give one minute. Now, either Tracy or Jennifer, citizen when you all are speaking, we'll give you all a notice at about 50 seconds that the minute's almost up and then let you know it is up after a minute, but I must say just in the interest of time when so many people signed up that if you go way over, we'll have to respectfully mute you and move on to the next person. So, one minute we're going to allow, and we're thankful for everyone participating, signing up, and sharing your comments with us. So, with that said, Vanessa, you want to give us a recap of the comments sent in?"

The Clerk said, "For those people who left comments, I'll start with the removal of the John C. Calhoun Statue. We received 291 people who are in agreement that the statue should be removed. We also received 50 people who indicated they thought that the statue should not be removed or in other words they were opposed to the removal of the statue. Four people would like to relocate the statue, and one person would like to purchase the statue.

The next item is the owner of a King Street Grocery Store said he would be reporting damage from May 30th to the City.

Six people think that the City is too lax on the COVID-19 measures, and an ordinance should be passed that requires masks.

Another citizen said that we should improve public transit followed by someone else who said, this is a citizen also, that indicated that they oppose short term rentals.

Three people are opposed to 5G legislation, and the final request was to stop a work order for Dominion to cut down trees.

Next, Mayor, I have a list of 41 people who would like to speak, and I can call out their names if you want me to do it that way, in maybe groups of five, recognizing that they have one minute each. Would you like for me to continue?"

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Yes, I did want to share in addition to the numbers that you mentioned that Gregg Smythe sent me a petition of 168 donors. She noted that they were mostly white women of Charleston who signed up to show their support and have contributed over \$20,000 to advance racial equity and healing in our community, and he included the list of the 168 individuals who participated in that as well, but let's proceed with the 41, absolutely. Yes, ma'am."

The Clerk said, "Okay. I'll call five people at a time, and they have one minute. The first is Bobby Baker followed by K.J. Kearney, Michael Kogan, Gerald Truesdale, III, and Aaron White."

Councilmember Gregorie said, "Mr. Mayor, we have someone that's visual that shouldn't be there on our screen. I think it's Mr. Ferguson."

The Clerk said, "Okay. I can't see anyone other than you."

Councilmember Gregorie said, "He just left. Thank you."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Alright. Back to Dr. Baker."

Dr. Bobby Baker said, "Mr. Mayor and City Council, the question I have tonight is, 'What are we teaching our children?' If you do hundreds or even thousands of good deeds for the common good, you better not make any mistakes or express any opinions that could be considered objectionable because every good thing that you have done will be completely erased, and instead of being respected and appreciated for all of the positives in your life you will then be hated for even making a single mistake, so you have to be perfect for your entire life. One of the speakers at the Mayor's Press Conference in Marion Square this last week said, 'The Calhoun monument is just a token.' Statues of Washington, Roosevelt, war memorials, Christopher Columbus, Grant, and even Lincoln have been vandalized and removed all over our nation. The message that we're sending out is that we will not settle for a more perfect union, but that we must have a perfect union. We want to erase all of our history and pretend that is has been and must always be perfect without allowing any possible mistakes."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you, Dr. Baker, and let me mention for those who might not be familiar with this Citizens Participation Period, and I understand Dr. Baker was just making a hypothetical question, but this is not any kind of question and answer period. We're here just to listen to your remarks, and I just thought I'd let our citizens know that. Who's next?"

The Clerk said, "Next is K.J. Kearney to be followed by Michael Kogan, Gerald Truesdale, Aaron White, and then Celeste Washington."

Tracy McKee said, "So, the next person that is on the line is actually Aaron White."

The Clerk said, "Okay. So, your order has changed from what I have on the sheet?"

Ms. McKee said, "Well, they're just not on the call."

The Clerk said, "Alright. Well, just let me know. Thank you, Tracy."

Ms. McKee said, "Aaron White is now unmuted."

Aaron White said, "Thank you. To our Honorable Mayor, Councilmembers, and concerned citizens, good evening. My name is Aaron White, and I rise today in support of the resolution to remove the John C. Calhoun Statue from Marion Square. My wife and I are lifelong Charlestonians. I'm a local social worker, therapist, and a young community leader who chose to remain here to give back to those in our beloved community of Charleston. My support for the removal of this statue runs deep. Charleston is a place that we want to be proud of. It is a place where people should feel welcome regardless of the color of their skin, their gender, religion, creed, or their sexual orientation. As an African American male, this statue represents the antithesis of those values and has long stood as a testament to the ills of our past and the things that continue to remain today. But those who argue heritage, the statue's historical significance, statues are for memorial and celebration and not for historical significance."

The Clerk said, "Thank you."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you, Mr. White."

The Clerk said, "What about Celeste Washington?"

Ms. McKee said, "She's not on the line either. Next let's go to Ed Sutton."

The Clerk said, "Ed Sutton followed by a Ms. Pringle."

Ed Sutton said, "Hey, this is Ed Sutton here, and I know that my time is brief on this call, but I wanted to frame this current dilemma that we're in about who we honor in our community in terms of how the military thinks and operates. I'm a 14-year veteran and counting, and three combat tours to Afghanistan. Our nation's military prides itself on fighting for freedom, fighting for freedom of press, and fighting on the right side of history. When we look at the values of John C. Calhoun, there's no debate here. He was an advocate for slavery. He was an advocate for bondage. He wanted to keep people down, and that runs counter to our military's values, it runs counter to Charleston's values here in 2020. So, when we talk about Marion Square and who we want to honor, we need a unifier. We need somebody that brings this community together and shows the best of who we are as a City and three names come to mind, Septima Clark, Robert Smalls, and Clemente Pinckney. Those are people that lead with their heart and did good by this community and brought us all together. My name is Ed Sutton, and that's my opinion on this issue."

The Clerk said, "Thank you."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you, Ed. Appreciate it."

The Clerk said, "Ms. Pringle."

Ms. McKee said, "Bear with me. I have her. Hold on."

The Clerk said, "Okay."

Pringle Franklin said, "This is Pringle Franklin. I live in District #9. First of all, I want to applaud Mayor John Tecklenburg and the 12 members of our City Council for your courage and working together to bring down the statue of Senator Calhoun in a peaceful fashion, but I would ask you this evening to consider going one step further by deciding to place a peace dove high up on the column where Senator Calhoun's likeness is now standing. Once Calhoun comes down, how unifying would it be to have either one dove or nine white doves representing the Emanuel 9, representing peace, representing hope, and brotherly love? How wonderful would it be for the people of our City to gather together in Marion Square and be able to look up to the sky and to see this universally recognized symbol of the white dove. Thank you."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Ms. Franklin, thank you so much. We appreciate that beautiful thought. I must share with you there's an incredible memorial that's already been designed for the Emanuel 9 that will be on the property of Emanuel AME Church that we're all trying to raise money for that, as well. Tracy."

The Clerk said, "So, next will be Grace Clark, Henry Smythe, Bernard Powers, and Gregg Smythe."

Grace Clark, "I'm Grace Clark, and my family came to Charleston April 17, 1763. We were French Huguenots escaping religious revolution. We have had family members that fought in the Revolutionary War and every war since. We love Charleston, and we love South Carolina and we love our nation. We're farmers, engineers, doctors, nurses, attorneys, and judges, and I'm here today to ask you to please not remove our history. Not all history is good, but it is our history and rather than remove history I suggest that we educate others by adding to the monuments that we have in Charleston. We have a rich African American history that includes leaders like Septima P. Clark, Denmark Vesey, Robert Smalls, the 54th Massachusetts, and we do have statues to some of those, and we must remember that we are now the home for the new International African American Museum, \$75 million dollars 40,000 square feet. We are doing what we can to honor the black men and women. So, we're Charlestonians, we're South Carolinians, we're better than this."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you, Ms. Clark."

The Clerk said, "Okay. Henry Smythe."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Former Councilmember."

Henry Smythe said, "Thank you for the opportunity to speak. I am in favor of the resolution to remove the John C. Calhoun monument from Marion Square. I understand the arguments about preserving our history and heritage, but there's more than white heritage involved in the rule of discussion. We also have African American heritage to be considered. Mr. Calhoun's explicit public arguments and actions in support of slavery should not continue to be publicly honored in the public space of Marion Square. I urge the members of City Council to support this historic and timely resolution providing for the removal and relocation of the John C. Calhoun monument. Thank you."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you, Henry."

The Clerk said, "Okay. Bernard Powers followed by Gregg Smythe."

Dr. Bernard Powers said, "Good evening. My name is Bernard Powers, the Director for the Center for the Study of Slavery in Charleston at the College of Charleston, and I thank you for the opportunity to say a few words tonight. I want to call your attention to Calhoun as not just a slave holder, but as one of the main architects of the pro-slavery argument which meant that slavery was the best of all possible foundations on which to establish a society and the best of all possible social positions for African people to be consigned to, and this is what Calhoun stood for. The pedestal of his statue has three words, 'Truth, justice, and the Constitution.' Those words are not explained. His beliefs with regard to those such things are not explained. What is the truth that he stood for? Certainly not the truth of racial equality. Calhoun believed that slavery-

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "I'm sorry, Dr. Powers."

Dr. Powers said, "Thank you."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Yes, sir. Thank you for that insight."

The Clerk said, "Gregg Smythe."

Gregg Smythe said, "Yes. Hello. Thank you, Mayor and members of Council. I am Gregg Smythe, and together with Madeleine McGee, we started a fund named Women for Unity collecting over \$20,000 over the past three days with 174 names of people in favor of relocating the statue and advancing racial equity. One signor from our new group Women for Unity said this so beautifully, 'Dear Gregg and Madeleine: You have created something wonderful. Growing up in the south I was a member of the United Daughters of the Confederacy forever. I have felt so confused lately. Women for Unity is what I've been looking for to back up with money and in which to participate. Congratulations!' We have gotten a tremendous outpouring of feeling from women who really think this is a time for change, and we want you to know that we know this conversation will continue well beyond this historic action that you're about to take, and we stand ready to help you with the Special Commission on Equity, Inclusion, and Racial Conciliation. Thank you."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you kindly."

The Clerk said, "Okay. We have Nelson Rivers, Madeleine McGee, Marc Knapp, and Max Milliken."

Reverend Nelson Rivers, III said, "Thank you, Mayor Tecklenburg and members of Council. This is Reverend Nelson Rivers, III, a native of Charleston. I've lived on Blake Street, America Street, and Rutledge Avenue. I support, concur, and ask that you would move to move, take down the statue of John C. Calhoun, and you know why. The Mayor and I have had extensive conversations about this. I also think you should not relocate it anywhere of significance. It should go to what the State has already paid for. The State pays for a crypt and a grave at St. Philip's Church. He should go there with other dead folk and other dead things about Charleston, and thirdly I think you ought to change the name of Calhoun Street. I would suggest Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive. There is nothing in Charleston named for Dr. King that's an old street or avenue. Secondly, I think that Rutledge named for John Rutledge, the street I grew up on Rutledge Avenue, John Rutledge was as bad as Calhoun, and we should have the street changed to Denmark Vesey Avenue. There are many reasons why we should change these, but I keep hearing folks telling me that when I had no decision, no input, and no standing I should accept what was done without me. I refuse to. I've been fighting against it for 40 years. I'll fight 40 more. Thank you."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you, sir."

The Clerk said, "Madeleine McGee."

Madeleine McGee said, "Good evening, Mayor Tecklenburg and members of Council. My name is Madeleine McGee, and I like many on this call grew up downtown in the midst of our fair City, and I want to elaborate on Gregg Smythe's story of the women who have come forward in three short days, almost all white women, and why did we ask white women? Because white women through the Ladies Calhoun Monument Association were responsible for raising the money and putting Mr. Calhoun on this pedestal, and so it is important to us that you know that there are white women who believe that this monument to slavery, which is really what that message was being sent, does need to come down. Thank you for the brave action that you are taking today, and thank you for listening to your constituents. I invite and offer participation going forward. Thank you."

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

The Clerk said, "Marc Knapp."

Ms. McKee said, "I cannot see his number. I'm going to check one more time. The number he registered with is not on the line."

The Clerk said, "So, the next person will be Max Milliken."

Max Milliken said, "Good evening, Mayor Tecklenburg and City Council. My name is Max Milliken, and I am a student at the College of Charleston. I would like to speak tonight on the matter of the resolution to relocate the John Calhoun monument. I would like to start by saying that I am in favor of the monument relocation and that I urge members of City Council to vote to pass this resolution. I have spent my entire life in Charleston. I was born here. I go to school here, and I believe that there is something truly beautiful about the City and the people who live here. As long as I have known Civil War and Reconstruction history, I have been confused as to why the story of Charleston is told differently or sometimes not told at all in Marion Square and in other public spaces. Growing up on James Island and attending public school, I learned empowering stories of leaders such as Septima Clark, Denmark Vesey, Harriet Tubman, Esau Jenkins, and many, many others. I learned of their bravery and of their passion for public good and the equality of all people under the law. My classmates and I would learn of these figures and their importance to the history of the Lowcountry, and this is the history that we as the people of Charleston are truly proud of. So, bringing me to my next point, it perplexes me that a 115 foot monument to a man who dedicated his entire public--"

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you, Max. Appreciate your kindness."

The Clerk said, "Okay. Michael Allen followed by Maggie Mae Mell."

Michael Allen said, "Good afternoon, Mayor Tecklenburg, City of Charleston City Council. I am Michael Allen, a member of the City of Charleston History Commission, a 37½ year veteran of the National Park Service, and ironically 40 years ago this very summer I found myself involved in understanding the dynamics and the sensitivity of the Civil War at Fort Sumter. In my time, I realized that John C. Calhoun was a transformative figure in the history of our nation and our State. Transformative not in a way that we would be looking at him from a perspective of lifting up all souls, but lifting souls over one to another. So, this afternoon I want to echo to you affirmatively that I wholeheartedly support the removal of the John C. Calhoun Statue from where it presently stands given the fact that the process of placing that monument and monuments across the entire south was a part of the systematic effort to erase the Civil War. So, thank you, and I support this effort."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you, Michael."

The Clerk said, "Okay. Maggie Mae Mell."

Ms. McKee said, "That phone number is not on either, so we can go to the next one. Alyssa."

The Clerk said, "Alyssa Harmke."

Alyssa Harmke said, "Good evening, Mayor Tecklenburg and Councilmembers for the City of Charleston. My name is Alyssa Harmke, and I'm here to speak on behalf of our food and beverage community. I've been here a part of that community for almost three years now. Over the past three months, our food and beverage community has endured a rollercoaster of changes. They now face yet another obstacle, as we've seen a significant spike in positive COVID-19 cases. I'm encouraging you all to mandate an ordinance regarding face masks in public and consider implementing additional regulations for the hospitality industry. In the interest of time, I won't go over every suggestion I've made, but I have provided you all with a proposal with a list of ideas. This list comes from my own experiences, as well as several conversations with fellow bartenders and wait staff. The Palmetto Pride Campaign that was just announced by Governor McMaster and supporting agencies just isn't enough. That's an elective program, and we've seen how well suggested protocols have worked so far. Our hospitality industry is huge here. Thank you."

The Clerk said, "Thank you."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Alyssa, I saw your thoughtful remarks and have passed them along to staff. We're going to have a Special Meeting on Thursday just to discuss any future action on COVID-19. We'll take those into account. Thank you, Alyssa."

The Clerk said, "Brett Barry, Sam Skardon, and Jeneen Nance."

Brett Barry said, "On May 30th, Mayor Tecklenburg allowed protesters to not only roam throughout Charleston, but to continue into the night which resulted in the foreseeable destruction of businesses on Upper King Street. A man was almost beaten to death by this mob. These businesses were just starting to recover from the shutdown, and for many, this failure of leadership destroyed their dreams and their livelihoods. The Mayor and Councilman Shahid quickly patted themselves on the back for a job well done when, in fact, it was Sheriff Al Cannon who brought peace back to Charleston, not our City leaders. Now, the Mayor is proposing to fulfill an unachieved objective of rioters and vandals. He is going to reward them by proposing monument removal in a City whose economy is based on historical tourism. Will anyone on City Council take this opportunity to stand up and lead us back to fixing the economy of the City rather than spending time on destroying the basis of Charleston's economy, our historical landscape? Please, no monument removal. Thank you."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you, sir."

The Clerk said, "Sam Skardon."

Ms. McKee said, "The number for Sam, as well as the next person, Jeneen, are not on the line, so we can move down to Charles Stephens."

The Clerk said, "Okay."

The Assistant Clerk said, "This is Jennifer. I think I saw Jeneen's number sign on earlier, and I put her name on here. I don't know. She may have signed off."

Jeneen Nance said, "This is Jeneen Nance, and I'm here."

Ms. McKee said, "Okay."

Ms. Nance said, "Thank you."

Ms. Nance said, "Is it my turn?"

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

Ms. Nance said, "I'm here to contribute to the conversation about removing the John C. Calhoun Statue from Marion Square. It is good to right a wrong, and slavery is not just a wrong, it is an evil. However, there is something you are overlooking. On June 17, 2015, the congregants of Mother Emanuel AME Church responded to a brutal massacre motivated by racism with super human acts of love and forgiveness. At that moment, it did not matter that there was a statue of John C. Calhoun a few yards away. Who they were was not, in the least, guided or challenged by a monument. They instinctively knew how to heal from tragedy and injustice, and Charlestonians responded in kind. The sufferers had a deeply Christian heroic instinct to seek the greater good for all through forgiveness and unified the community by letting them mourn with them. The whole world watched in wonder. This City became a light on a hill. It finally came into its own as the Holy City by the sea. After this experience, why do we now turn to divisiveness by not looking for a way we can unify under the current of people? Monument removal may offer a sense of retribution and even some satisfaction, but it does not offer healing. Maya Angelou said, 'When you know better, do better.' Charleston should know better."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you, Ms. Nance."

The Clerk said, "Charles Stephens followed by Emmanuel Ferguson."

Charles Stephens said, "Thank you. Ladies and gentlemen, my name is Cal Stephens. I am the Chairman of the Palmetto Society of Charleston. The Society, established in 1777, is made up of approximately 40 organizations in Charleston with thousands of members. The mission of the Palmetto Society is to celebrate the victory of Sullivans Island and educate the public of the historical significance of that event. Two of the major heroes in this battle are Colonel William Moultrie and Sergeant William Jasper, and they are memorialized at White Point Gardens. These memorials are a physical remembrance of the battle and the men who fought for the rights and liberties we now enjoy in the greatest nation and the world. We have grave concern over the recent trend of removal and destruction of monuments, including those of our Founding Fathers. The experience of centuries has taught us that a free society, in which all have an opportunity to fulfill their finest aspirations, was built on historical traditions and enduring principles when memorialized those best traditions and the people who embody them. If we have neglected the opportunity to memorialize others who deserve to be remembered and emulated, let us go about that. There's plenty of room in our public spaces for that to recognize admirable people of all backgrounds. We don't need to pull down, no need to destroy, no room to build. Thank you."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you, sir."

The Clerk said, "Emmanuel Ferguson."

Emmanuel Ferguson said, "Hello, Council and Mr. Mayor. I appreciate the opportunity to address everyone at this time. As a Charlestonian, I just feel compelled to add my voice to the chorus of those who are in support of the relocation of this monument, the John C. Calhoun Statue. However, as a member of any chorus, I don't need to sing it alone, so I'll allow the others who are also in support to speak for me in my support of the removal of that monument. I do, however, just want to take this moment to remind everyone in Charleston that we are known for

our hospitality and to please just continue civil discourse without name calling. Thank you so much, and you all have a good day.”

Mayor Tecklenburg said, “Thank you, sir.”

The Clerk said, “Dexter Mitchell, followed by Eric Manning.”

Ms. McKee said, “We’re going to skip to Eric Manning. The number that Dexter Mitchell registered with is not on the call.”

The Clerk said, “Alright.”

Eric Manning said, “Good evening, Mayor and Councilmembers. Thank you for giving me this opportunity to share, of course, in support of removing the Calhoun Statue. Within our faith tradition of African Methodism, we recite and we refer to the summary of the Decalogue when we are in the worship service. The first four commandments deal with our relationship to God. The second six deal with our relationship to man. The first commandment tells us that we are not to have any other Gods before our God. The Calhoun Statue is high and lifted up and could be considered an idol. We are to love our neighbor as ourselves. If we say we love God, whom we never have seen, yet we cannot love our neighbor who we see every day, then we have not the love of God within our hearts. The Calhoun Statue causes immense pain for members of one side of the members of the Charleston community, and they do not embrace the love in which God has commanded us. That being, the Calhoun Statue. So, we must continue to demonstrate love towards each other. We must continue to show love to whomever our neighbor may be, and if we are to love our God supremely, let that be observed by removing the Calhoun Statue. Thank you so much.”

Mayor Tecklenburg said, “Thank you, Reverend Manning.”

The Assistant Clerk said, “Mr. Mayor, I think Maggie Mae Mell is on the call and, Tracy, I don’t know if you can unmute her.”

Mayor Tecklenburg said, “Great. Maggie Mae.”

Ms. McKee said, “I am looking for her now. The phone number that I have is not on the call, the one that she registered with.”

The Assistant Clerk said, “Okay. I think I had just labeled her for the call, so she might have signed off.”

The Clerk said, “While you’re checking on that, I’ll move forward with Samantha Siegel, followed by Tynishia Brown.”

The Assistant Clerk said, “This is Jennifer. Actually, I found Maggie Mae, and I’ve unmuted her.”

Maggie Mae Mell said, “I would like to express my support for the removal and destruction of the Calhoun Statue and all monuments that celebrate racism. I would like to address comments made by Councilmembers regarding the defacing of the statue claiming in that it made your job harder. I am not here to make your job easier. Citizens of the City are not here to make your job easier. In fact, we are explicitly here to make your job hard. That’s how government works. I’m

here to hold your feet to the fire and ensure you enact the will of the people and not the will of the gilded few. Doing the right thing is often difficult, and hiding behind that difficulty is an excuse of the cowardly. Hiding behind the guise of respectability politics is shameful and un-American. We do not form this more perfect union by asking politely, but rather we rise up loudly and violently against the injustices we face, and we will continue to rise up because our union is still flawed. Finally, I would like to remind Councilmembers that your vote is recorded. When these monuments come down, and I assure you they will, people will look back and see who stood for what was right and who stood in support of racists and traitors who would have burned the United States of America to the ground before they gave up the ability to enslave, torture, and murder their fellow humans. Thank you.”

Mayor Tecklenburg said, “Thank you, ma’am.”

The Clerk said, “Thank you. So, now we’ll go to Samantha Siegel and Tynishia Brown.”

Samantha Siegel said, “Thank you for the opportunity to speak tonight, Mayor and City Council. I am the founder of Save the Angel Oak. A group responsible for saving the Angel Oak from development after a decade long battle. I am pleased to hear the parking lot is finally being relocated as the current parking lot is on the tree’s roots. I would like to recommend a hydrologist be employed before any plans for the surface parking lot are considered. Changing the hydrology of the site is the single greatest threat to the Angel Oak, and should further be reviewed or as any impervious surfaces are being considered, it is of paramount importance that a hydrologist study these plans to ensure the health of the Angel Oak. Also, I wholeheartedly support removing the John Calhoun Statue. Thank you.”

Mayor Tecklenburg said, “Thank you, Samantha.”

The Clerk said, “Tynishia Brown.”

Tynishia Brown said, “Good afternoon or good evening, everyone. My name is Tynishia Brown. I’m here to support removal of the Calhoun Statue and relocating it or if someone else wants to buy it and take it away. It doesn’t need to be displayed publicly in front of everyone to see. They are Confederate. That is not the American values. That has nothing to do with America. They were traitors. If you want to draw any type of understanding or connection to that, that’s absolutely fine as an individual, but as a State and as a City, it makes no sense to uphold that kind of stuff. Although they did things that are nice, it could be documented and put into a plaque, but other than that, glorifying them as the entire person when they were not great as an entire person is counterproductive, and it shows where you stand as far as racial issues go. Thank you.”

Mayor Tecklenburg said, “Thank you, Ms. Brown.”

The Clerk said, “Okay. I think this is Aveus. It’s an unusual spelling, so Aveus Johnson.”

Aveus Johnson said, “I’m here to speak in reference to the removal of the John C. Calhoun Statue. I am in agreement about the John C. Calhoun Statue needs to be removed with no relocation. This statue is a symbol of white supremacy, hate, and racism, and if you do not vote in favor of the removal with no relocation, then in my eyes you are a racist. Yes, the statue is a part of history, but must we continue to praise this part of history as if it was right? If we are truly going to progress and take steps in the right direction, creating change and justice and equity for black people of the City, then this needs to happen. This is a start. So, let’s take it even further.

I am also proposing that a black firm be hired to do this job. Take the statue down, no relocation. Thank you.”

Mayor Tecklenburg said, “Thank you, Ms. Johnson.”

The Clerk said, “So, next will be Paige. She did not give us a last name. Paige followed by Eric Corcoran.”

Paige said, “Thank you very much. I appreciate you allowing this time for us to speak, however, I cannot tell you how disappointed many of us in Charleston are that the Mayor and the Council would even consider taking down a grand monument such as the Calhoun Monument. Charleston is admired and famous for her historic preservation, and this resolution goes against everything that Charleston residents have valued for over a century since the preservation movement began. Many Charleston residents depend on tourism which is centered around the City’s historical structures. The City of Charleston is an outdoor museum. This process of passing a resolution, and then executing it without proper community input, is undemocratic. We have not been given an opportunity to speak until now, and City Council has already made up its mind. Two thousand two hundred and twenty-seven Charleston residents have signed a petition to save the monuments and all monuments in Charleston. However, we’re not wealthy and powerful people, but we are voters and we are residents of Charleston. Who on City Council is willing to speak up for historic preservation? Thank you very much.”

Mayor Tecklenburg said, “Thank you, ma’am. Appreciate it.”

The Clerk said, “Okay. Is it Erik Corcoran?”

Eric Corcoran said, “Erik Corcoran, yes.”

The Clerk said, “Great.”

Mr. Corcoran said, “My name is Erik Corcoran, and I emigrated from Ireland, a country that has a very long history with the British and the oppressors for hundreds of years who did horrific things to the Irish people. But, we look at the monuments of these English oppressors, and we look up, and we say, ‘We won’, and it’s part of our history. I truly believe that if you destroy history, you destroy your country. So, I beg you Mr. Mayor and leaders to really think about the long-term effects of this, that we must learn from where we came from in order to grow as a people. That’s my heartfelt plea to you tonight.”

Mayor Tecklenburg said, “Thank you, Mr. Corcoran.”

The Clerk said, “Courtney Burks, followed by Casey Winter.”

Courtney Burks said, “I am against the removal of the John C. Calhoun Statue. You cannot just erase history, especially Lowcountry history. Just because you are offended by it, does not mean you should forget about it. That monument should stay up there as a symbol of how far we have come as a society and as the south. Also, you all are just letting the City go to the hands of thugs because you are wanting their vote. You are more concerned about your seat rather than the history of where you came from. Half of you are probably from the Lowcountry and have Lowcountry ties. You don’t have to turn your back on your history, your ancestry. That is wrong. We already have people wanting to rename streets. Are we going to take down the Washington Monument downtown at the Light Infantry? Are we going to take down all of the

buildings that were segregated? Where do we draw the line? You let this go, and everything else is going to follow.”

Mayor Tecklenburg said, “Thank you, ma’am. Appreciate it that.”

The Clerk said, “We now have Casey Winter and Audra Rhodes.”

Casey Winter said, “In support of removing or destroying the Calhoun Statue, if you’re worried about history, history isn’t destroyed over the removal of a statue. Statues do not teach history. Germany has made progress from its dark past. Germany doesn’t have a statue of Hitler to remember and honor their Nazi heritage which lasted longer than the Confederacy. The world doesn’t need a statue of Hitler to remember what he did. We have books, archives, and museums. We don’t need a statue of Calhoun looking over downtown in a position above all to know that he was a man, a staunch defender of slavery, and argued it was a positive good for the race relations of whites and blacks. If you call the statue heritage, you admit your heritage is the argument for the positive for the enslavement of black people. Thanks.”

Mayor Tecklenburg said, “Thank you, sir.”

The Clerk said, “Thank you. Audra Rhodes.”

Audra Rhodes said, “Yes. Hi. Good evening, Mayor Tecklenburg and City Councilmembers. My name is Audra Rhodes, and my family and I have been in Charleston since the early 1700s and as a descendent of Charles Pinckney himself, the stories that I heard about him whenever I was younger made me very proud to be a South Carolinian and his descendant. I was proud because narratives and stories are important. It’s possible that nobody in South Carolina’s history was as influential in shifting the narrative in the south to uphold white supremacy in the early 1800s than John C. Calhoun, as he worked his entire life to shift the beliefs in southerners’ minds that slavery was actually a positive good for slave owners and enslaved individuals alike. So, the statue needs to come down and not go back up. Calhoun Street needs to be renamed, and we need to leave that up to our black community, and I also would just like to remind us that narratives are also used as a tool of distraction. For example, right now, what we should be talking about as Charlestonians is properly funding black schools in Charleston. Why the most vulnerable communities are reaching rising sea levels and the rising level of the flooding in Charleston are typically black neighborhoods and why their--”

Mayor Tecklenburg said, “Thank you, Ms. Rhodes. We appreciate that. We got your drift.”

The Clerk said, “Next is James Bessenger and Mark Timms.”

Ms. McKee said, “So, this is Tracy. I cannot find those numbers on the call. So, the next person up is Frank Grimball.”

Frank Grimball said, “I am a past President of the Society of the Cincinnati with a simple request that you preserve the statues of the American Revolutionary War heroes. Only once, since 1783, has a government ordered the removal of a statue, an American Revolution hero. The Nazi’s did that in 1942 in Paris. Why? Because the ideals of the American Revolution are the exact opposite of what dictators, fascists, and communists believe. These purposes here today treat cheaply the people created equal and put this country on a path to end slavery. The victory in the American Revolutionary War put us on a path to end slavery. Some will say because they owned slaves the statues should come down. Solomon, the wisest man ever, built the temple

with slaves. Do we shred the Old Testament? Of course not. It would be silly. So, preserve our statues of our heroes.”

Mayor Tecklenburg said, “Thank you, sir.”

The Clerk said, “Next, the final two will be Howell Morrison, followed by Mark Calhoun.”

Ms. McKee said, “So, those numbers are not on the call either, but I did notice that Michael Kogan has joined the call. We skipped over him earlier.”

The Clerk said, “Okay.”

Michael Kogan said, “Gentlemen and ladies, I urge you to seriously consider the grave decision you are about to make. Charleston is its history. It is its beauty. The Calhoun Statue enhances both. For half the years of our country’s existence, this magnificent monument has been a defining icon of our skyline. To remove it is to strike at the heart of our aesthetic and historic identity. By doing so, you would put Charleston on the slippery slope downward into historic amnesia and aesthetic impoverishment. All of the founders of this City owned slaves. Are we going to remove every street name and every statue in the City? Are we to dilute our City of the memorials which beautify and enrich our environment? Please consider the consequences of such a rash and thoughtless act. Do not erase the icons of memory, the sacred posts of our population. This will only cause hate and division, not reconciliation.”

Mayor Tecklenburg said, “Thank you, Mr. Kogan. Appreciate it.”

The Clerk said, “That concludes my list, Mr. Mayor.”

Howell Morrison said, “One moment, can you hear me?”

Mayor Tecklenburg said, “We can, sir.”

Mr. Morrison said, “This is Howell Morrison, and I was on the line when they declared I wasn’t, but I’ve unmuted. May I have my minute?”

Mayor Tecklenburg said, “Yes, sir. Absolutely. Please proceed.”

Mr. Morrison said, “Thank you, Mr. Mayor. I also speak as a past President of the Society of the Cincinnati for the State of South Carolina. Whether or not the Calhoun Monument is moved, I hope the City will follow the lead of Dr. Bernard Powers and Mr. Robert Rosen who stated in their recent editorial to the Post and Courier to construct a new monument at White Point Gardens to the African Americans who fought for the Union during the American Civil War. The current protest movements have no interest in distinguishing between historical figures based on the merits of their lives, their aggressions demonstrating the capacity to destroy whatever they feel represents the establishment. The destruction and vandalism that Gandhi, Churchill, Christopher Columbus, Saint Junípero Serra, General Grant, President Roosevelt, President Lincoln, President Washington, President Jefferson, those have all been indiscriminate attacks in the last two weeks. We must pause to remind ourselves that men like Washington, Jefferson, and our own General William Moultrie played important roles in establishing this country as the first great republic of modern time.”

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Time, Howell. Thank you so much for your comments. I appreciate that. Alright. Did we have anybody else we're going to recognize?"

The Clerk said, "That was it on my list, Mr. Mayor."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Okay. Thank you all citizens. That was a very robust discussion and comment from you all. We so appreciate the comments. So, that's the end of our Citizens Participation Period, and I'm going to call on Councilmember Robert Mitchell."

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Mitchell.

Councilmember Mitchell said, "Mr. Mayor and Councilmembers, if I'm in order, I would like to make a motion that we go with the resolution of relocating the John C. Calhoun Statue and bring it down. I'm asking my colleagues to go along with me. As a person that was out there for a long time in the Civil Rights Movement, I know how the City of Charleston was all of those times back in the '50s. A lot of us talk about heritage. We talk about peace coming together. It wasn't that way. You didn't have it. It didn't happen. So, now is the time we need to have some healing process, and I don't think a statue is really going to bring any healing process to us if we let it stay there. So, my motion is to bring the statue down, relocate it to some other place other than Marion Square where it's located. It's sitting so high and in my teaching coming up, I only sit with God that sits high and looks low, not a statue, so I don't worship a statue. So, people who are calling and saying they worship a statue, I think something is wrong in that equation to me. The statue needs to come down, and I'm voting and making that motion. I'm asking someone to give a second, and let's go on with it."

Councilwoman Jackson said, "I second that motion."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "We have a motion made by Councilmember Mitchell and a second by Councilwoman Jackson. Alright. Councilmembers, I'll open the floor if anyone, I guess before we start any further discussion, I did want to make the point about the history. I really do hear our citizens' remarks about Charleston's incredible history. Some of it though is tragic, and the purpose of this resolution is not to discard any of our past, but to honor our lessons and not to erase any of that history, but to write a new chapter in history. Unlike the cities we've seen now that were just mentioned where statues have been pulled down and destroyed, this motion will preserve and protect the statue actually and put it in an appropriate place where its history can be told, not from a high towering over the City, but in a place where that contextualization can occur. Now someone just referred to a wonderful idea that was proposed in an Op-ed this past Sunday by Dr. Bernard Powers and Mr. Robert Rosen, two local noted historians. I have asked those two gentlemen to co-Chair a Task Force, an Advisory Task Force, that will advise the City on the future location of Mr. Calhoun, but to also advise the City and the Commission on Equity and Racial Conciliation from a historical point of view, additions that may be made to our City to recognize those citizens who have not been recognized before, and to make a balanced, historical review of any future changes that would ever be made. So, we are going to respect our history, and we're going to do it in a very balanced and reasonable way. So, I did want to let Council know that, in addition to the removal, we will have this Advisory Task Force by Dr. Powers and Robert to help advise us going forward. The floor is open."

Councilmember Gregorie said, "Mr. Mayor. This is Gregorie."

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Gregorie followed by Councilmember Shahid.

Councilmember Gregorie said, "Yes, just so that we're consistent. As you know, the Commission has a History and Culture Sub-Committee, and I just think instead of us having an additional Task Force that that should flow through the Commission, and they can be co-Chairs, if need be, of the Subcommittee on History and Culture but, I think, if we create another Task Force it becomes confusing."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "I understand, and my intent was I mentioned the Commission for this group to advise the Commission and, hence, all of Council as well, by way of the Commission. Absolutely. Thank you."

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Shahid followed by Councilmember Shealy.

Councilmember Shahid said, "Thank you, Mr. Mayor, members of Council, and Madam Clerk. Today, City Council is called upon to vote on the resolution to remove the John C. Calhoun Statue and for it to be relocated to a suitable location. The debate surrounding this resolution has and will be one of the more public and controversial decisions before this Council. For most of us, it will be an easy decision, a decision long overdue. Two years ago, this body was presented with a resolution calling for the City to issue a formal apology for its role in slavery. That resolution passed by a thin margin. Without hesitation or a second thought, I wholeheartedly supported that resolution. Today, I have reached my decision with an equally firm and absolute resolve. A monument is, by definition, something erected to keep alive the memory of a person, their beliefs, and their deeds. We are familiar with the history of the statue with the first one being erected soon after the end of reconstruction in 1887 and the current one in 1896. The memory enshrined in this statue is that of an elected official who was a prominent proponent of slavery. The Calhoun Statue is the one symbol, object, document, or marker which has universally and consistently, since it was erected, drawn the ire of the black citizens of our community as much as the Confederate Flag flying over the State Capitol.

John C. Calhoun, and this statue which has memorialized him, has spanned over three centuries with a legacy tied to white supremacy, secession from the Union, the passage of Jim Crow laws and practices, and efforts to defeat civil rights advances. The question before us is not whether to remove the statue, but why have we spent so much time and energy debating over a symbol that divides us? We need symbols that unite us. How then can we expect to make true progress on racial equality, basic human rights and education, and housing and employment opportunities and advancement, and in criminal justice reform if we spend so much time doing what should be the obvious? Monuments should be erected to help keep alive the memory of someone and some belief that is universally accepted. This statue, from day one, failed that basic test. We are called upon to recognize Charleston's rich heritage and diverse cultures. We are tasked to honestly examine this past and present and to set the course for Charleston's future as a united City. This resolution helps fulfill that responsibility. I ask all of us to stand together in peace working to address racial inequalities. Madam Clerk, please note my vote as being a solid 'yes'. Thank you."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you, Councilmember Shahid."

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Shealy.

Councilmember Shealy said, "Thank you, Mr. Mayor. On Sunday, May 31st, between sunrise and probably 10:00 a.m., the people of Charleston showed our real Charleston

community. I got downtown I guess about 7:30 a.m., parked my car near Marion Square, and there was a guy there with a five-gallon bucket picking up trash, glass, debris, all kind of nasty things with his bare hands. When I parked, I got out, and he said, 'Well, you're late.' He was right because there were a lot of people in the street cleaning up at 7:30 in the morning, and I started to walk down King Street a little bit. I spoke with another man who was cleaning up. He told me about the horrible night that he had experienced, and he let me know he's homeless, but he said, 'This is his home, and we need to work together.' I turned back down toward Marion Square, and a lady asked me if I had any extra gloves, and she told me her boyfriend is one of our downtown firefighters and that she just felt like she had to do what she could after hearing what had gone on that night. Some of my West Ashley constituents showed up, came to me, and asked me where to start. I told them, 'Listen, I was just told I was late, so jump in wherever you can.' Not long after that, I partnered with other City and County Councilmembers to try to jump in and do our part.

As we worked, I saw people from every part of Charleston who were represented that morning. Every person who is a Charlestonian, you were represented. There were thousands of people there and, yeah, there were different emotions being displayed, and some of you know about that. There was heartbrokenness, there was anger, there was sadness, but everybody there had a strong passion for Charleston and worked together to repair and clean up Charleston that morning, and all of this is being done with the threat of the Coronavirus that could have given anybody a legitimate reason to stay home. So, I'm not blaming anybody that didn't come down there because certainly there were concerns, but these people fought through those concerns to build Charleston back up. As we got to about 10:00 in the morning, those people were all asking what needs to be next, and they were asking that because it was complete. It was pretty much cleaned up. Now, there still needed to be some repairs, glass replaced, and things like that, but the cleanup was done by 10:00 a.m. That's the true spirit. That's the true spirit of Charleston.

Now, five years ago, those feelings of heartbrokenness, anger, and sadness hit Charleston even harder. We lost nine of the greatest people in our community, members of Mother Emanuel. The way that happened is unbelievable. They welcomed a man in to learn about the love of Jesus Christ, and he pulls out a gun and shoots them only because of the color of their skin. I don't even want to imagine how I would have felt if that were my immediate family members. Had this been done in any other place, any other group of people, there would have been destruction, riots, evil all throughout. However, the family members in the middle of their worst nightmare with an incredible sense of loss and grief that most of us I hope will never know, they gave forgiveness, and they wanted peace for Charleston, and since then, many of those have stepped up to be our top community leaders in a very peaceful way. They've made Charleston stronger, and they've united us. We could have been ripped apart, but right now, there is a wedge in our unity right now. We're not united right now, and we've got to find a way to join together as the greatest City once again.

Now, I've heard and read the different opinions of John C. Calhoun, some defending who he was, and the great things that he's done and, of course, those who know his racist actions. Our community has come together strong for the 51 years that I've lived in Charleston. When I was approached with the idea of removing the statue from Marion Square, I was very concerned because I know people on both sides are very passionate, but I believe the statue can be relocated to a place where it can be safely displayed for those who choose to visit it, and I believe we should move it there. I just believe it's the best solution and the best compromise. So, I say to those of you who have been peacefully protesting, I want to say thank you for staying peaceful, and thank you for expressing your feelings, but for those who did harm to our City, you've accomplished nothing here other than adding to your criminal record. This has nothing to do with

you. You're not the reason for my decision tonight, and for those of you who were disrespectful to the Mayor and City Councilmembers last week at the press conference, you almost blew it, so this isn't about you either. For those who chose to vandalize that monument, your only accomplishment is now you have a criminal record, and you may be reminded of that every time you apply for a scholarship or a job. You're not the reason for tonight because you were not there to bring peace to our community, and that's what we need, and I'm going to support relocating the Calhoun Statue because it's a wedge that's splitting us apart. I support this for the good people who jump in for the good of our community, like on May 31st. It's for the families and leaders that have emerged from the Mother Emanuel tragedy who have shown tremendous strength, love, forgiveness, and leadership. It's beyond words what they have done for Charleston. My decision has nothing to do with anything going on outside of the City of Charleston, and it has nothing to do with politics on a national level. Charleston is more important and more personal to me than that. It's for hundreds of black leaders in Charleston who have made our City better every day, and that list is too long for me to go through right now, but I can tell you Councilmembers Waring, Mitchell, Lewis, and Gregorie, as well as the late Councilmember Louis Waring, I know that because of the last two-and-a-half years that I've spent on City Council understanding their character and their devotion to our City that they wish the best for every single person in Charleston. It doesn't matter your background. It may be hard for someone to know what I'm talking about because you haven't spent that time seeing these men devote their lives, taking away time from their families and their businesses to make life better for every person that lives in Charleston. So, my hope and prayer is that everyone will come together in Charleston. That's why I'm making this decision, and if you don't do anything else, I hope tonight that you'll pray that Charleston unites even stronger through this. Thank you, Mr. Mayor."

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Brady.

Councilmember Brady said, "Thank you, Mr. Mayor. I want to thank Councilman Shealy for that. You can tell how heartfelt that was. I know many of us echo a lot of the same sentiments, as well. I want to thank you for helping with the cleanup, as well. I know we saw each other, as well as some other Councilmembers, but tonight, I want to thank the citizens on both sides of this issue that have called, posted online, and sent emails expressing their opinions about the resolution that we're currently considering. It is heartening actually to see so many people involved in the civic process in Charleston and who care deeply about our great City. I did not get involved in politics to be divisive, but having the way in on divisive issues is where we find ourselves. However, I promised my constituents that even if you didn't like the way that I vote sometimes, I would never hesitate to tell you why I voted one way or another on a particular issue, and this is one of those instances. I know I may lose some votes and support over this issue, but I have to vote my conscience today. I believe that principles only mean something if you stand by them when they're inconvenient. People have been equating the debate over taking down the Calhoun monument with the argument that there are no statues to the Nazis in Germany. While I understand the underlying premise to that line of thinking, it is not analogous to this particular case. A more analogous example would be to ask where are the statues to the American colonists who remained loyal to the British, those loyalists who opposed the Continental Army and sided with the British against the United States. When asked that way, the answer becomes particularly clear. There aren't any. By not having statues of British loyalists, did we erase their history during the Revolution? Of course, we didn't.

As a history major, I know that the study of history is key to understanding who we are and how we can affect a better future. As someone who has studied history extensively, I do not want to see history erased. However, not once in my study of history, have I 'learned' history from a statue. That's because statues and monuments are put up during specific times in specific

places for specific reasons. Their effect is often to try to rewrite and reframe the actual history of an era. The erection of the John C. Calhoun statue in Charleston is actually what fits this description. The first statue was erected in 1887, which just happens to be ten years after federal troops left Charleston and coincides with the passing of Jim Crow Laws and the rise of the Klan. This monument was repeatedly vandalized. In June of 1896, it was put 115 feet in the air, which June of 1896 just happens to be one month after the Plessy vs. Ferguson decision from the Supreme Court, which declared separate but equal. To me, the symbolism could not be clearer of raising a nullifier, someone who advocated for the dissolution of the United States and someone who describes slavery as a positive good, 115 feet in the air. It was so that everyone who passed by would be forced to literally and figuratively look up to his memory of white supremacy. His likeness could both literally and figuratively look down on those whom he considered his unequal and would have gladly enslaved just generations before. I want to implore my colleagues on Council to vote with me on removing the statue of John C. Calhoun so that we can send a message that in a Holy City, we place white supremacy, white supremacist thoughts back where it belongs, on the ash heap of history. Thank you.”

Mayor Tecklenburg said, “Thank you. “

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilwoman Jackson.

Councilwoman Jackson said, “Thank you, Mr. Mayor, and thank you, Councilmembers. I will be voting to remove the statue and relocating it to an appropriate location. I want to say thank you to the people who have contacted us on both sides of this decision, and also, in the nuances of supporting the removal, then not wanting us to relocate to anywhere where it can be part of a fully holistic and contextual explanation of Charleston’s history. I, too, am a history major. I believe that we have to speak about what we have done in the past, what we have learned, and the lessons still to be learned. So, I think this decision tonight will speak loud and clear to the next generations that we don’t want to erase our history. We want to learn from it. We don’t want to repeat a lot of it, and we want to grow into the part that we can be proud of and know that it’s something that will continue to frame us. I had a mother that always prayed with her friends that children would learn their lessons at the lowest possible. I know that studying a lot of the back and forth about this statue and being part of a little bit of its last time in Marion Square, that we probably did not learn lessons at the lowest level possible.

We have caused a lot of pain and confusion about the messages that statue has sent into our community. But, I know that it won’t be in vain. I wanted to say one word directly to Councilmember Mitchell. I wish we were sitting in the Chambers, so that I could turn and look you in the eyes, sir. The first night that I was on Council, we were seated. Councilmember Griffin, Councilmember Shealy, and I took office that night, and we were asked to hear from the History Commission, the recommendation that they had made to the full Council about how to interpret the Calhoun history at the foot of the statue. Frankly, as someone who you all know grew up in the north with a father in particular and family values of Civil Rights, justice, and working in public education as my dad did, and living in the framework of a black and white relationship, I fully expected that each one of our African American Councilmembers would be championing the changes that we were being asked to consider about how to really tell the story about Calhoun.

Then, I remember hearing Councilmember Mitchell in particular and his friend, Councilmember Lewis, but Councilmember Mitchell really said it, that ‘what is the big deal about this? I have lived in the shadow of that statue. I have marched under that. I have poured myself out for all the right reasons. That statue has made wrong in Charleston, and I don’t really care’. That’s what you were honestly saying to us. I was shocked, honestly, to hear that it wasn’t going

to be a big deal with the black members of our Council who should have been saying 'right on.' Then, I went home, I thought about it, and talked to my husband about it. What I realized was, you know, it wasn't enough. Frankly, it was making a lot of white people feel better about having some action to take in response to the symbolism of the statue and the history of Calhoun being the foundation for why people could continue to think well of slavery when he was in his philosophical hayday. I really thought that was the way it was going to stay. I stood behind you, Councilmember Mitchell, on Wednesday, last week, and when the Mayor made his announcement that he was going to bring this resolution to us and tell us to vote and take the statue down. It was like I honestly saw your shoulders lift higher. It was like you were a person who thought you would never see that day. I was so grateful to be there, standing behind you, not able to hug you because we have the virus going on, but just knowing that you have been stoic and kept on your work in the shadow of that statue. Now it will be gone, and we will have new work to do. I live and pray that we can take the actions that you have been working hard on for your entire career, Councilmember Mitchell. So, I intend to join you and all of the members on the Commission to do the right thing from this day going forward, so help me, God. Thank you."

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

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Waring.

Councilmember Waring said, "Thank you, Mr. Mayor. As you all know, when I have the opportunity to speak, I know how to speak up for myself. Today, the intestinal fortitude that you have brought to us, Mr. Mayor, and the leadership that Councilman Shealy has brought to this conversation, Councilman Shealy, you spoke for me tonight. I don't need to speak about Mr. Calhoun. Councilwoman Delcioppo prayed for leadership, a wonderful prayer for leadership. I don't know if God touched you because I know you are a good man, Mr. Shealy. There was something special about what generated in you today. Quite frankly, I am very proud to serve on this Council. When we had inauguration, and everyone was sworn in, it is always a nice day. I said that we have a very smart Council, a lot of good talent coming on to Council, and we have a lot of work to do. Nobody knew we were going to have COVID-19 and a recession, and all that has gone along with it today. But, this group has hit the ground running. There has been no orientation, frankly, but we don't do this for the money. We don't really do it for the notoriety. It is the love of Charleston. We hope to visit a lot of places in the United States and around the world. This group has that and is going to live in Charleston. Why? Because we love it. There's that love that we move forward for a better community. It is that love for this place. It is a special place that unity will happen, Councilman Shealy. We've seen it before, and it hasn't gone anywhere. This is a Holy City. God comes first, and that's what makes this place so special. We can be an example for the nation and indeed the world. Tonight, that leadership will happen and, Councilman Shealy, thank you so much for the words that you brought tonight. Mr. Mayor, thank you for the leadership. I know, in particular, all of you all have been getting it from both sides on this one. But, we will lead together. Thank you, Mr. Mayor."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Yes, sir. Thank you."

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Griffin.

Councilmember Griffin said, "Thank you so much for allowing me to speak tonight. This issue is probably one of the most divisive, yet crucial, decisions we have ever made as a Council, probably in the history of the City. I was thinking about that over the weekend about myself, as a 25 year old man, trying to make a decision to remove a monument that stands for someone who

died in 1850. I'm very blessed that I was not at that time because of the suppressive behavior of our nation at that time, and how Mr. Calhoun could go even above what some would say, that slavery was a necessary evil, no he said it was a positive good. Even his thoughts were very irrational to his colleagues like Henry Clay. They didn't understand him, and he got that knowledge or his suppressive behavior from his father, who preached to him about white supremacy and paternalism. Here we are, a couple hundred years later, and we realize that those things are terrible, terrible things. We've come so far in the last 107 years. I look at this resolution, though, and, for me personally, a couple of things in the resolution I am nervous about. Number one, I think Councilmember Shealy just said it perfectly. The movement of this statue has nothing to do with anyone who created violence in our City. This is not a reward for bad behavior at all. This is a way to try to narrow the gap of racial inequality that we have in the City. As elected officials in Charleston, we have the opportunity to impact our neighbors on a daily basis, on a state and federal level that they're not able to do. I have never been more proud than being asked to be on the Special Commission for Equity, Inclusion, and Racial Conciliation. I think that that commission has the opportunity to shape this community for the rest of our time. We are going to do so many great things. We are not going to do it alone. We are going to have members of the community that are part of the dialogue all the way through. I want to look back on just a couple of years ago.

Councilmember Shahid spoke on the vote to apologize for slavery. I voted against that apology for a couple of reasons. Some people are never going to forgive me for not apologizing, and some people are never going to understand why I did it. I want to share a story with you just about how my personal feelings have changed over these last couple of years. After that vote, I was speaking with one of my best friends since we were little. He was explaining to me about how I'll never really understand what it means to be black. I never really thought about that. I never really thought about the privileges that I had as a young white man who grew up in suburban Charleston and attended the best schools in Charleston County. I never understood how great the divide is between people of color and white people in Charleston, and it is the suppressed anger or hurt. I see that now, two years later. I can see how a statue, while it is a piece of rock, can be a symbol for all that is wrong in our City. Even today, yes we have gotten past slavery, and yes we have gotten past segregation but the root of the evil still remains today. We have an opportunity, especially with this Special Commission, to really take a look at what has oppressed people of color in this City and how we can narrow the gap between white people and people of color in the City of Charleston. It's a tough thing to talk about. I would love for us to prove to John C. Calhoun every day that what he stood for was wrong, and we will never go back to that ever again. We will never allow his white supremacy views to ring true in our City. We've already proven with our actions, time and time again, how amazing we can come together in times of adversity and times of crisis. This is just another example of that. I would like to see some sort of conclusion as to where this is going to go. I have heard rumblings that we have already set up tearing it down and moving it and all of that. I'd like to hear what our plan is on that, Mr. Mayor, because as far as the resolution is concerned, it said that would be described more at our next scheduled meeting. But, I think at the end of the day, we talk about compromise. That's such a tough issue to really get behind. This is not a conservative vs liberal issue to me. This is a Charleston issue. So many of you have said it so perfectly. We, as a City, are different than every other person around this nation, around this world. We are just more loving. We have more love in our hearts, and even when we are divided on issues like this, there just seems to always be a way that we can get past that divide.

In this time of our Country right now and how divided we are, just people, we have an opportunity to show the nation and the world how loving Charleston can be and how we can use this opportunity to bring people together instead of tearing people apart. Unfortunately, when we

discussed these issues, I heard one of the people say tonight, 'if you vote against it, you're a racist'. I don't think that's true. I heard another person say, 'it's not my job to make your job easier'. I would ask those kinds of people that are hurt to come to us, and let's try to find a way that we can come together. I heard a lot of hurt in their voices. They're upset, they're frustrated. We have an opportunity to correct that, and I know we will. It's not going to be easy. I just want to know that we're going to have some finality to this situation, and where this thing is going to end up, so that the people that visit our City, 8 million people plus a year, who do come to look at monuments, and I'm sure there are people, I'm not one who comes to Charleston to see that monument, that statue. What is our plan for that, and have we already made some plans, Mr. Mayor, if you don't mind answering me on that?"

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "I'll come back to that. I'd like to hear if any other Councilmembers would like to speak."

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Appel.

Councilmember Appel said, "Thank you, Mr. Mayor. I appreciate the opportunity to speak tonight on the historic resolution before us. I want to make sure my position on this matter is preserved for the record. Our nation and our City are at a historic crossroads on the enduring issue of race. We have made substantial progress, yes, but there is no question that structural inequities persist in education, health care, housing and, yes, policing. We must keep working with our colleagues at the state and federal levels on much-needed substantive reform. Let me be clear. This, and only this, will make a real difference where it matters most in people's lives. Progress on race is not just about policy. It's also about the heart. I wish we could pass an ordinance tonight outlawing hatred or a resolution banning prejudice, or a set of guidelines prohibiting injustice, but guess what we can't. We don't have that power. At the end of the day, the community must come together and realize, once and for all, what we share far exceeds our differences. Despite these turbulent times, I believe overall we are making progress. However, there is no escaping the fact that symbols are important, too. They project who we are and broadcast what we truly honor as a community. That brings us to the issue of removing and respectfully relocating the John C. Calhoun statue in Marion Square.

First, let me say this, I wholeheartedly reject the extreme push to delete from history every monument and historical figure at odds with in even the slightest way modern norms. We cannot throw the baby out with the bathwater. We must resist a radical agenda that seeks to portray that this great country is irredeemably malevolent. It's not. We must learn from history, not ignore it, by continuing to find inspiration from this nation's aspirational founding principles. We must resist the radical left as aggressively as we confront the radical right. We need to find a balance. The Calhoun monument is a unique case. Towering over 100 feet in the air above the farmer's market where people from all backgrounds come together on Saturday mornings to share in foods, arts, and music, mere footsteps from Mother Emanuel where nine beautiful souls were crushed in an explosion of white supremacy and gun violence, here stands John Caldwell Calhoun looking down at each and every one of us. There is no doubt Vice President Calhoun is one of South Carolina's most accomplished statesmen. His place in history is secure. However, there is also no doubt, as Robert Rosen recently put it, 'Calhoun was the greatest apologist for slavery in American history'. Think about that for a moment 'the greatest apologist for slavery in American history'. Such a figure no longer belongs on a literal pedestal towering above our City. At a time, when other political leaders in the South agonized in a futile attempt to reconcile our nation's founding principles with slavery, Calhoun doubled down. He tripled down in its defense. His contributions to the anti-democratic, anti-American, doctrines of nullification in the concurrent majority not only sent his nation careening on a one way trip to the Civil War, it brought to literal ruin, this state and

this fine City. Only in recent decades have we finally managed to dig out of the ashes and once again become one of the finest cities in the world. The time has come to bring the Calhoun statue down and move it to a respectful location. He will forever have a place in history, but he no longer deserves a platform of exaltation soaring above us all. He no longer deserves such a distinction. I have heard from some that our action tonight will 'erase history'. It won't. Calhoun's place in history is secure. Respect for history does not mandate infinite servitude to the decisions made by those long till.

One final thought, there are some who will not be satisfied with our action tonight. They will insist we move on to more statues and more memorials elsewhere in our City. To these folks, my message is simple. Let's take a deep breath. Let's take our time and devote our limited resources and attention where it matters most, on education reform, housing reform, policing reform, and yes, can't go a whole speech without saying zoning reform. We have too much important work to do. Let's use this historic moment to pivot towards real reform and real progress. Thanks for giving me the time to speak this evening."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "I'm going to say Amen to that, too. Would anyone else like to be heard?"

No one asked to be heard.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Hearing none, I will respond to Councilmember Griffin's question, and really it's in the resolution itself, Councilmember Griffin. 'The statue will be relocated to an appropriate site to be determined by the Mayor in consultation with City Council.' As I announced tonight, we will also consult with local historians led by Robert Rosen and Dr. Powers, 'where it will be protected, preserved, and where the history of John C. Calhoun's life will be told.'

Do I have a MOU or an agreement in place ready to sign with that location? No, I do not. So, the first step will be to go ahead and remove the statue. I can assure it will be taken down with the most care and will be protected as we take a pause, listen to those historians, consult with the Commission on Equity, Inclusion, and Racial Conciliation, that you serve on that, will come to a decision with an appropriate site. That is our pathway.

I'd like to call the question. Beautiful remarks have been made. I concur with many of them, but I've got to shout out to Councilmember Shealy as well, Councilmember Waring, and my other Councilmembers. You really were so eloquent and heartfelt in your remarks. I will just repeat that I believe that we are setting a new chapter, a more equitable chapter, in our City's history. You're right, Councilmember Shealy. It's not about what happened around the Country or around even our City over the last few weeks. I think, as often done by this Council, to think what will it look like 50 years from now and 100 years if we were not to make this decision, and that power and figure representing all those things that you spoke of this evening by Mr. Calhoun, were still hovering, commanding that view over our City. We are making the right step. It is just simply the right thing for us to do for the future of our citizens, for bringing folks together long term and for the future of the City. So, God bless you all for your support. I now ask for the question on the resolution."

Councilmember Waring said, "Mr. Mayor, can we request a roll call vote?"

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Absolutely."

Councilmember Seekings said, "It will still be unanimous."

Councilmember Waring said, "I know, but I'd still like it for the record please."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "We would like to have a roll call vote."

Councilmember Waring said, "Yes, sir."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Madam Clerk, please call the roll."

The Clerk said, "Councilwoman Delcioppo."

Councilwoman Delcioppo said, "Yes."

The Clerk said, "Councilmember Shealy."

Councilmember Shealy said, "Aye."

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, "Aye."

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, "Aye."

The Clerk said, "Councilmember Appel."

Councilmember Appel said, "Aye."

The Clerk said, "Councilwoman Jackson."

Councilwoman Jackson said, "Aye."

The Clerk said, "Mayor Tecklenburg."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Aye."

On a motion of Councilmember Mitchell, seconded by Councilwoman Jackson, City Council voted unanimously to approve the Resolution on the Relocation of the John C. Calhoun Statue.

---INSERT RESOLUTION---

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you. Let the record show that the vote on this matter tonight was unanimous, and we have a sense of unity on this Council moving forward for racial conciliation and unity in this City. God bless you all."

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Shahid.

Councilmember Shahid said, "Mr. Mayor, I think that you and I both received a letter from Darren Lee Calhoun II. I don't know if that made it to the Clerk's office. He is the co-chair of the Charleston 350th Anniversary Historical Integrity Education Committee. I just want to make sure that that letter makes its way to the Clerk's office and becomes a permanent record. He is a descendent of John C. Calhoun and his kindest remarks were well stated and well made. Also, the women who raised the money, there was a list of those women who made those donations for racial equity. I would like to make sure those ladies names are made part of the official record, as well."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Yes, sir. Alright, next on the agenda is a report from the Resiliency and Sustainability Advisory Committee. I'm going to turn it over right away to Katie McKain, our Director of Sustainability to give you a recap of our Committee meeting and a couple of calls to action. Katie."

Ms. McKain said, "Great. Thank you, Mayor Tecklenburg, and members of City Council. The Resiliency and Sustainability Advisory Committee met on June 11th, and we had 11 of 13 members present. One of the first items I spoke about was Sustainability's next steps. We talked about our current greenhouse gas inventory and how we're almost complete with that. The data is looking really good. We are showing drops in emissions, which is a really good thing. This is a good thing, but it also means we still have a lot more to do. So, after we complete our greenhouse gas inventory, we'll start our climate action planning process. That will start this summer, and that's really exciting. We will be drawing inspiration from a green plan, so we're really updating that climate action plan and making it more modern for today and for members of Council to consider today. To work on this together with the community, we're going to be forming a Climate Action Taskforce Group. I will reach out to members of City Council. We would love your participation in the group, too. In addition to Councilmembers, you are also on the Resiliency and Sustainability Advisory Committee. They will be a part of the process, too. I will be in touch to see if anyone would like to participate on that Committee. If you have any recommendations for folks to consider to be on that Committee, I would love to hear them, and also anyone from the community, please get in touch with me if you'd like to be involved."

Next, on the agenda was considering the Earth Day Resolution. This resolution is really about internal action. It had 18 items on it about all things the City could do to help reduce our carbon footprint for our internal operations. There was one item on there called a pledge, which was for community action. The Committee voted unanimously to move that resolution forward to you tonight for your consideration. So, we'll get to that immediately after this recap.

Next, we talked about the single use plastic regulations. I gave a quick recap of the last six months since enforcement started January 1st. A lot of behavioral change has been really exciting to see, and it's very evident. The Committee also discussed the potential to amend a couple of minor portions of the ordinance potentially in the future, particularly addressing the concerns about those extra thick single use plastic bags that some retailers are using.

Next on the agenda, Mark Wilbert gave an update about the vulnerability assessment. He said that it's near completion and expected to be posted soon. Then, Mark also presented on the Army Corps of Engineers in its low flood risk management study letting everyone know that the final comment period for this first round of comments was June 19th. He gave an overview of the website and showed everyone all of the resources that were available on that website. He also announced two additional webinars that we held last week for anyone needing any final information about it before providing comments.

Finally, we had a guest speaker, Danny Kassis, who is the VP of Customer Relations and Renewables at Dominion Energy, South Carolina. He gave a presentation called Actions Today For Tomorrow. He talked about Dominion Energy's goals, their progress so far and their initiatives. The meeting was recorded on YouTube, and you can view it there. We had a public comment period in addition. So, that's a recap from the meeting.

The next item on Council's agenda is to consider this Earth Day Resolution. As you know, we celebrated the 50th anniversary of Earth Day on April 22nd. Unfortunately, due to the pandemic, our events were canceled. Our online engagement stayed strong. I'm really thankful to all the members of this Resiliency and Sustainability Advisory Committee who contributed ideas for this resolution. Like I said, they voted unanimously to send that to City Council tonight for your consideration. A lot of the resolutions, like you said, are about City internal operations and just doing everything we can to support a more sustainable Charleston. So, with that, I will turn it back over to Mayor Tecklenburg to talk about the Resolution if there is any discussion."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you, Katie. You all, Katie does an amazing job leading this effort. The meeting was really a sign of great progress that we're making. The fact that we are getting our greenhouse gas inventory up to date for the first time in some time, and then we will follow up with this climate action plan. It's really going back to the green plan that Council considered, Councilmember Gregorie and others who were there ten years ago. Many good recommendations were coming out of that. Then, I did want to share, regarding Dominion, that Mr. Kassis proposed a number of cost savings and energy saving initiatives that we can partner with them on, including, I know we had a lot of LED lights, for example, in our City facilities and buildings. Our next step would be to work with Dominion to replace our street lights with LED lights, and the savings of our carbon footprint would be pretty remarkable. So, hats off to them for working with us on those things.

We did bring to you, the Committee recommended this resolution. It's not just celebrating Earth Day, but it resolves a commitment of many action items by City staff that not just encourages, but shows our commitment to good environmental stewardship. We ask our citizens

to do the same by taking the City's new pledge to be a part of eliminating pollution that causes global climate change and ensuring that Charleston becomes healthy, continues to be a healthy, vibrant City. Do I hear a motion?"

Councilwoman Jackson said, "Move for approval, Mr. Mayor."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Do we have a second? Any discussion?"

No one asked to be heard.

The Clerk said, "Who was the second?"

Councilmember Shahid raised his hand.

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilwoman Jackson.

Councilwoman Jackson said, "Thank you. I was just hoping that Ms. McKain, you are doing an amazing job of keeping the lights on, no pun intended, while the rest of us are working on other things. I feel very confident that you never let up your goal for the City and your leadership in getting us places that we didn't even know existed yet until you researched it and gave us the ways to follow. So, I was just curious, it's a list of 19 very particular, which I love, that can literally be objective and measured, as opposed to just aspirational and subjective and feel good. As someone of the environmental pledges and things that come in our mailboxes you are courageous to do. I really appreciate that it's concrete, and it's measurable. On that basis, I was just wondering, pragmatically, how is it that you and the Mayor and Mr. Wilbert are going to work with our staff internally to make sure that everyone is keeping up? Are you going to have a contest? How are you going to keep all of us with our feet to the fire about doing the right thing in achieving these goals?"

Ms. McKain said, "That's a great question. We have a City staff Green Team that will be helping to disseminate all of the resolutions, and a game could be really fun. I think that's a great idea. We certainly want to make sure that everyone knows about it and share that with all staff. That will be a task for our Green Team."

Councilwoman Jackson said, "Well, let us know if we need to be sending out lollipops or anything, whatever it is, gluten-free. I really think that something like this is always great to have on the list of things that we all agree to, but it can get lost in the hustle and bustle of every day work. So, anything that we can do to encourage you to encourage our staff members, just please let us know."

Ms. McKain said, "Great. Thank you."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Were there any other comments or questions?"

The Assistant Clerk said, "Who was the second on the motion?"

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Councilmember Gregorie."

The Clerk said, "Was it Councilmember Gregorie? I had Shahid. I asked that question and his hand went up, so I'll change it to Gregorie."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "I'm sure they don't mind, either one."

The Clerk said, "Okay."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Any further questions?"

No one asked to speak.

On a motion of Councilwoman Jackson, seconded by Councilmember Gregorie, City Council voted unanimously to approve the Resolution to acknowledge and celebrate Earth Day 2020.

---INSERT RESOLUTION---

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Next, is our Citizens Police Advisory Council Appointments."

Councilmember Shealy said, "Move for approval."

Councilmember Brady said, "Second."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "We have a motion for approval. Any comments or questions?"

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Griffin.

Councilmember Griffin said, "Yes, sir. I noticed that I didn't have an appointment on there, as well as a couple of other Councilmembers. Are we going to have that opportunity, as well?"

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "I think the reason for that, Councilmember Griffin was, the whole Advisory Council was not up at the same time. They had staggered one year or two year appointments. So, I think your prior appointment is still on there."

Councilmember Griffin said, "My appointment resigned. I know that for a fact."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Oh, he did?"

Councilmember Griffin said, "He called and told me that. So, I will reach out to Mike Tito."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Okay. Yes, reach out to Tito, and we'll get that straight."

Mr. Ruemelin said, "Mayor, can I just comment on that for a second?"

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Yes, sir, Steve."

Mr. Ruemelin said, "Yes, Councilmember Griffin. Your appointment was Mr. Cameron Shields. I just recently spoke with him. He had intended to resign because he was going to relocate to another part of the state, but that changed, and he is going to remain in the Charleston area. I spoke with him, and he is going to continue serving on the Council."

Councilmember Griffin said, "So, he is still going to serve?"

Mr. Ruemelin said, "Yes, he is still on the Council right now."

Councilmember Griffin said, "Okay. Alright."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Okay then, terrific. Did I call the question?"

On a motion of Councilmember Shealy, seconded by Councilmember Brady, City Council voted to approve the appointments to the Citizen Police Advisory Council:

- a. Frank Walsh – Councilwoman Delcioppo
- b. Ryan Davis – Councilmember Shealy
- c. Mary Alice Mack – Councilmember Mitchell
- d. Paul Tamburrino – Councilmember Brady
- e. George Palmer – Councilmember Gregorie
- f. Anne Janas – Councilmember Seekings
- g. Melvin Hack Ezell, Jr. – Councilmember Shahid
- h. Doris Grant – Councilwoman Jackson
- i. Jerome Harris – Mayor's selection
- j. Joe Lysaght – Mayor's selection

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Next, we have an appointment of Code Enforcement Officer, Riddick Proveaux."

Councilmember Shahid said, "Move for approval."

Councilmember Shealy said, "Second."

The Clerk said, "Who was the second?"

Councilmember Shealy said, "Shealy."

The Clerk said, "Thank you."

On a motion of Councilmember Shahid, seconded by Councilmember Shealy, City Council voted unanimously to approve the appointment of Mr. Riddick Proveaux as Code Enforcement Officer.

---INSERT APPOINTMENT MEMO---

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Next is a brief update on the City's response to COVID-19. I am going to call on Tracy McKee. There she is. Please give us an update."

Ms. McKee said, "Sure, thank you, Mayor. Good evening, Councilmembers. I am going to keep this very brief, but I am happy to entertain any questions you all may have. I think everyone knows our numbers are up. If you haven't seen today's report, the Tri-County area here was actually responsible for a third of the cases in the state of South Carolina today. It is our time to do a better job. So, if anyone has any questions about the specific numbers and what that looks like, I am happy to address that. But, I thought it was really important to talk about, just for a second, to let everyone know that we are really doing everything. Our number one priority is to make sure that our employees are safe. Without them, we can't do much of anything, right? So, we have to make sure we are doing everything safe for them. Everyone is doing a really great job of working in a very safe way and keeping our services going. So, we will continue and are continuing to do everything that we can digitally and working to expand those things and make sure that we are continuing to increase the offerings of digital services wherever we can. As well as those that can work remotely, we are definitely encouraging that and trying to make sure that those folks that can, that they are doing so. So, with that, I'm happy to take any questions."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Any questions for Ms. McKee?"

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Gregorie.

Councilmember Gregorie said, "It is my old question, in terms of the mobile testing. I did see that you all were looking for one. Did you ever decide on a place on the Peninsula?"

Ms. McKee said, "Forgive me. Paul had sent out an email after the last meeting with some details on that. I will get back to you. I know that they are still working on that. We have been asking. I know the question came up about demographics, and so we are getting that in bits and pieces from DHEC, not on a regular basis. From the data we have received from them at the zip code level, comparing that to the general population of the area, there is nothing out of sync with the general makeups. They very much represent the population with demographics in those particular zip codes. So, we are not getting consistent, but the little bits and pieces we are getting from them, we're checking that, as well."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "So, Councilmembers, we are very concerned with the numbers rising in Charleston. I keep a weekly call going on with Dr. Cole on early Monday mornings. He is very concerned. We called a meeting tomorrow with One Region partners that came up with One Region Ready to discuss possible further actions that local government may take. Regionally, you may have read that in the last day or 24 hours the cities of Columbia and Greenville have both taken additional actions. Governor McMaster announced a new program for restaurants this afternoon. I knew we were going to have a long meeting this evening, so, I would respectfully ask that we get together Thursday at 5:30 p.m. We'll see what the regional folks say tomorrow, and look at what is going on in the state and continue to monitor the numbers and see if any further action needs to be taken. We did already put on the agenda ordinances because our emergency ordinance and other ordinances related to all of this was set to expire at the end of June. Frankly, we can defer these until Thursday if you'd like. We can pick it all up on Thursday since we will still be prior to June 30th, or I can just take a motion now to approve 7, 8, and 9. They're just continuing everything that we extended out last time we did this through the end of July. The only exception are two things on the suspension of enforcement on the Plastic Bag Ban that would end on June 30th. The retail industry has asked us, by the way, to allow them a little time to let supplies turn back over. We were fine with that. We are not going to run out on July 1st and give someone a ticket. We will give them a few weeks to let them do their supplies. So, other than that change, it's just an extension until July 15th, and certainly with all of the numbers rising, it's appropriate to keep these measures in place."

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilwoman Jackson.

Councilwoman Jackson said, "I can make a motion to approve 7, 8, and 9."

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

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Okay."

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Seekings.

Councilmember Seekings said, "Thank you, Mr. Mayor. Just very briefly, I know we are going to meet on Thursday. I would suggest to all of my fellow Councilmembers that we take this all up on Thursday comprehensively and look at all the different issues that are out there surrounding COVID. We have been consumed by a number of other things. We haven't had a Council meeting about this. As you know, I think everyone got a copy of a memo today from President Hsu from the College of Charleston. I would just ask that we take this up comprehensively on Thursday rather than doing it tonight. So, I move that we defer this until Thursday."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Well, as I said, I am fine either way. We have a motion to defer it."

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

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "You all want to put it off until Thursday, that is fine. This is all still in place until June 30th anyway."

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilwoman Jackson.

Councilwoman Jackson said, "Thank you. I appreciate what Councilmember Seekings said, his reasoning. I don't disagree. I would like to say my only reason for suggesting that we adopt the extension tonight is because we know we have an audience of citizens, and I'm not sure if that will be true on Thursday. I do think that it's important for them to understand that we are as concerned as we can possibly be, and we may be taking more measures. For certain, we are continuing this until the middle of July, until after the holiday for sure. So, that was my only thought, but as long as we're saying that, and we know we're going to do it Thursday, at least let's be serious about this."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "We absolutely will be. All of these measures are still in place until June 30th, so it will be fine because we might want to make some other changes."

On a motion of Councilmember Seekings, seconded by Councilmember Waring, City Council voted unanimously to defer Items I-7 through I-9:

Executive Order continuing the Declaration of State of Emergency in Response to the COVID-19 Virus Outbreak (DEFERRED)

Emergency Ordinance Extending Certain Emergency Ordinances Related to COVID-19 (DEFERRED)

*Emergency Ordinance to establish in furtherance of health, public safety and welfare, an Emergency Ordinance to temporarily suspend the accrual of the City's Business License Penalties, to suspend enforcement of the City's Plastic Bag Ban, and to suspend the City of Charleston's Chauffer Licensing Requirements. **(AS AMENDED.) (DEFERRED)***

The Clerk said, "Mayor. Maybe it was me, but did we do number five?"

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Yes, We did approve Officer Proveaux. I remember me calling out his name. Definitely."

The Clerk said, "Okay."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Okay, so that brings us to Committee Reports. First up, the Committee on Public Safety, Councilmember Shahid."

Councilmember Shahid said, "Thank you, Mr. Mayor and members of Council, Madam Clerk. The Committee on Public Safety met on June 11th. We heard from both Chief Reynolds and Chief Curia. They gave us a quick update as to the status of the riot that occurred on May 30th and the arrests that were made on May 31st. They reported that they were receiving a host of information requests acts. They had posted on the website the number of arrests of folks which occurred following those two days and a general update as to the morale of the officers, men and women, at both the Fire Department and the Police Department. We agreed that we would revisit the issue that occurred on May 30th at a future date to do an internal review of that process. That is something we managed to hold off until we sort of catch our breath on all these events that occurred, particularly in light of our decision tonight to remove the Calhoun statue. There was no action taken. This was all for informational purposes only. That is the end of my report, Mr. Mayor. Thank you."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Thank you. We will just take that as information. Next is our Committee on Public Works, Councilmember Waring."

Councilmember Waring said, "Thank you, Mr. Mayor. The Committee on Public Works met yesterday at 4:00 p.m. I am going to skip on the agenda down to Items b(i) through b(v). They passed unanimously, and I so move."

Councilmember Griffin said, "Second."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Those were all projects that were applications. Is there any discussion?"

No one asked to speak.

On a motion of Councilmember Waring, seconded by Councilmember Griffin, City Council voted unanimously to adopt Items b(i) through b(v) of the Committee on Public Works and Utilities as presented:

b. Stormwater Management Department Update:

- (i) Low Battery Seawall Project - Approval of Fee Amendment #6 in the amount of \$284,944.25 with Johnson, Mirmiran, and Thompson, Inc. for design and

plan preparation services for bidding Phase II of the Low Battery Seawall Repairs Project.

- (ii) Emergency Brick Arch Repair – Approval of Completed Emergency Repairs to a Brick Arch Failure on Liberty St of approximately 100 linear feet with Palmetto Gunitite Construction Company, Inc. Replaced arch section, installed manholes, and connected in roadside drainage.
- (iii) Approval of Additional Road Network Transfer Request from the South Carolina Department of Transportation to the City of Charleston. The road segment is S Market St (from the western right of way line of East Bay St to State St), State St (from S Market to Linguard St) and Linguard St (from State St to Church St). This request is a total of 0.16 miles and is being required to be considered as a continual segment for transfer due to connectivity with the SCDOT road network.
- (iv) Barberry Woods Drainage Improvement - Approval to apply for a National Fish and Wildlife Foundation grant in the amount of \$250,000 for final design and permitting of the Drainage Improvement Project on Johns Island. The grant would require a City match of \$250,000 which is available in the drainage fund.
- (v) Church Creek Drainage Improvement – Approval to apply for a National Fish and Wildlife Foundation grant in the amount of \$125,000 for preliminary design work on the Longbranch Creek improvements. The grant would require a City match of \$125,000 which is available in the drainage fund.

Councilmember Waring said, “Mr. Mayor, I’d like to go back and ask Mr. Fountain if he’d like to touch on any of them, maybe the emergency repair that we had to have, the brick arch repair, Mr. Fountain.”

Mr. Fountain said, “I can certainly do that, Councilmember Waring. The emergency brick arch repair, we had a series of these last year. This is really the first major one we had this year. This was on Liberty Street, where we did have about 100 linear feet of arch fail and started seeing curling on Liberty Street. We basically had to go and replace the section of the arch with pipe and install manholes at either end. While we were in there, we did take the opportunity to tie in the curb inlets in the system into the arch. So, at least the system should function better moving forward. It was a significant project, and we did see over \$200,000 in repair work on this one. So, we at least wanted to bring it to Council and have it discussed in Public Works and Utilities. There is still a lot of outstanding potential liability for the City if we keep moving forward.”

Councilmember Waring said, “Mr. Fountain, can you also touch on b(v), in particular, the collaboration of trying to get these matching grants?”

Mr. Fountain said, “Yes, absolutely, Councilman Waring. B(v) is the Church Creek Drainage Improvement Grant. This is looking at trying to put together an improvement package tying from Lake Dotterer into Longbranch Creek. This is in collaboration with NOAA, a federal agency that also has a lot of interest in improvements in the Longbranch Creek area, looking at the natural systems with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. I think this is one between Charleston County, the City of Charleston, and NOAA. We have a good chance to try and make some major improvements for this region of the City.”

Councilmember Waring said, "That collaboration is outstanding. Then B4, in particular Barberry Woods out there on Johns Island."

Mr. Fountain said, "Yes. Barberry Woods is the other National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Grant. We have an existing notification that we will be awarded, though we haven't had the final paperwork for Council to approve the award from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation on a planning grant on Johns Island, to look at using natural solutions similar to what we did in the Dutch dialogues. We included the Water Institute on that original Grant application as part of the Dutch Dialogues team to see basically where can you restore wetland, where can you restore streams, where can you use kind of low areas to manage stormwater. This is the second phase of grant application work of the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Fund. So, you start with a funding grant, and you can apply for these design grants. So, this would be additional design money towards that Barberry Woods project. We'll actually be bringing the scope for the preliminary engineering design to Council in the next month or so for the project work that we do have planned for that."

Councilmember Waring said, "Thank you, Mr. Fountain. Then, we had two additional items just for discussion a(i) and a(ii). Small Cell 5G location, which is still controversial in our community as I agree, probably many communities across the country, but our legal staff did a wonderful job explaining the federal guidelines on that taking precedence over certain local jurisdictions on that. That's one still yet to be determined. Then, we had a discussion about tree trimming by Dominion Energy. Phil Noble presented. Councilman Griffin had to leave the meeting early. He finished that conversation with me. Maybe you can finish that part of this report, Councilman Griffin."

Councilmember Griffin said, "Yes, sir. So, we had a pretty lengthy discussion on tree trimming. Some members of the community weighed in on the issue, and we said that we would bring it back up at the subsequent meeting and hopefully have Mr. Kassis and others from Dominion present so that maybe we can get the people from the community together with Dominion and work out a peaceful resolution. I know that they'd be happy for some constructive criticism, but we did not take any action, and there isn't any action currently to put a work stoppage on the tree trimming. Thank you."

Councilmember Waring said, "Thank you, Councilman Griffin, for stepping in for me. Mr. Mayor, that's the extent of my report."

Councilmember Griffin said, "It was an honor and a privilege, Councilmember Waring."

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilwoman Jackson.

Councilwoman Jackson said, "I just wanted to say if Councilmember Brady is over the moon on the Ross tract, then he should be on the moon about Barberry Woods Drainage improvement design."

Councilmember Brady said, "Oh, yeah."

Councilwoman Jackson said, "Barberry Woods from my understanding has been a long time sort of a burden around your neck. No pun intended to the Burden Creek problems, which we also have to solve. I know, Councilmember Brady and I both serve on the Procurement Committee for the design consultant team who are going to be working on this, and they are outstanding. We're hoping that under their guidance and this kind of grant cooperative relationship

and putting all of this together, that we'll be able to create our own kind of thing where you can actually transfer wetlands use to a new location, so that we may actually be able to be the repository of money when that development or other developments are allowed, that take away wetland. So, it could be a really cool thing."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Great. Alright."

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Seekings.

Councilmember Seekings said, "Thank you, Mr. Mayor and Mr. Chairman, and Mr. Fountain. As you all know, Mr. Chairman, and Matt, there has been a lot of work done on Weims Court in the last couple of weeks which is a very small street just off of King Street with a collapsed arch which really wasn't collapsed. Mr. Chairman, I'd like to ask if you would put that on the agenda for the next Public Works meeting to get a report from Mr. Fountain, some lessons learned from Weims Court because it wasn't necessarily a collapse from age. It was a coordination of different entities that had been around that area, and I certainly would like to talk about how we can coordinate with Charleston Water Systems going forward. With you being Chairman and a member of the Board, I think it would be productive, five or ten minutes, if you don't mind."

Councilmember Waring said, "Thank you, Councilman Seekings. We've had this before, and I tell you what, you are right. That needs to be pushed up on the agenda. We need to have that collaboration between CWS and our Storm Drainage department. Thank you."

Councilmember Seekings said, "Thank you very much."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "So, and I'd like to add to that suggestion, Councilmember Waring that maybe we invite Kin Hill to come visit us from Charleston Water."

Councilmember Waring said, "That's an excellent suggestion."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Let him share how important this is for them. That would be great. Next, is our License Committee."

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Gregorie.

Councilmember Griffin said, "Move for the adoption of the report."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "You're on mute Gregorie."

Councilmember Gregorie said, "Can you hear me?"

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Now we can hear you."

The Clerk said, "Now we can."

Councilmember Gregorie said, "I've been cutting off, and I was praying that it didn't cut me off during the vote. The License Committee met at 3:30 p.m. today, and we looked at the amendments to the business license ordinance, so that it can be consistent with our emergency ordinance, and it passed unanimously. So, I move for approval."

Councilmember Shahid said, "Second."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "So, basically what we're doing, you know normally during the year, if you don't pay your business license fee on time, the late fee keeps escalating and going up and up and actually becomes quite big. So, for this year, given everything that's happened, we're capping it at five percent for the whole year. That will be the maximum late fee. Any further questions?"

No one asked to speak.

On a motion of Councilmember Gregorie, seconded by Councilmember Shahid, City Council voted unanimously to approve the License Committee report as presented and gave first reading to the following bill:

An ordinance to amend the Business License Ordinance for the City of Charleston, South Carolina for the fiscal year commencing January 1, 2020.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Next, is our Committee on Ways and Means."

Councilmember Shahid said, "Move for approval."

Councilmember Brady said, "Second."

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

(Bids and Purchases

(Planning/Business Neighborhood Services: Approval to submit a grant application to EDA in the amount of \$100,000 to develop programmatic support, technical assistance, and resilience efforts for women and minority-owned businesses. The application is rolling, however, BSN plans to submit the application by July 1, 2020. There is a recommended 80/20 match. The City match will be in-kind by accounting for the Minority Business Manager's staff time and fringe benefits during the two-year grant period.

(Stormwater: Approval to submit a grant application to National Fish and Wildlife Foundation in the amount of \$250,000 to support Final Design & Permitting phases of Barbary Woods Project on Johns Island. The application is due June 25, 2020. A 50/50 match is required. The City match, in the amount of \$250,000, is available from the Drainage Fund.

(Stormwater: Approval to submit a grant application to National Fish and Wildlife Foundation in the amount of \$125,000 to support preliminary design phase of Longbranch Creek Project. The application is due June 25, 2020. A 50/50 match is required. The City match, in the amount of \$125,000, is available from the Drainage Fund.

(Fire and Police Department: Approval of a MOA with Charleston County School District to use CCSD facilities to stage personnel and equipment during natural disasters and other declared emergencies.

(Fire Department: Approval of a MOU between CFD and FBI regarding provision of Emergency Medical Services.

(Police Department: Approval to submit the 2020 Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Grant for \$55,500 that will be used to purchase a ballistics tank and remote firing stand for the Forensics Services Division. This grant is due on June 19, 2020. There is no match required for this grant.

(Parks-Capital Projects (Stormwater): Approval of Low Battery Seawall Repairs-Phase II Fee Amendment #6 in the amount of \$284,944.25 with Johnson, Mirmiran and Thompson, Inc. for design and plan preparation services for bidding Phase II of the Low Battery Seawall Repairs project. Approval of Fee Amendment #6 will increase the professional services contract by \$284,944.25 (from \$1,594,906.80 to \$1,879,851.05). The funding sources for this project are: Hospitality Funds (\$15,087,957.53), Municipal Accommodations Tax Funds (\$15,548,816), and Charleston County Accommodations Tax Fees (\$400,000).

(Parks-Capital Projects: Approval to convert Daniel Island Recreation Center P157075 from a Purchase Order to a Professional Services Contract with S&ME in the amount of \$41,061.25 for special inspections and testing due to the PO (original amount \$29,400) needing to be increased by \$11,661.25 due to an increased number of concrete inspections resulting from small concrete pours and additional steel welding inspections since the pre-engineered steel building plans were not available at the time of inspection. Approval of the professional services contract will obligate \$11,661.25 of the \$10,813,843.85 project budget. Funding sources for this project are: Land Sales (\$948,000), SC Sports Development Grant (\$52,125), 2018 GO Bond (\$9,813,718.85).

(Stormwater: Approval of an emergency repair of a brick arch failure on Liberty Street of approximately 100 linear feet with Palmetto Gunite Construction Company, Inc., in the amount of \$221,309.20. Palmetto Gunite replaced arch, installed manholes, and connected roadside drainage inlets, PO Box 388, Ravenel, SC 29470; Drainage Funds. This is an after-the-fact approval of an emergency repair.

(Approval of a Memorandum of Agreement between the City of Charleston and Kids on Point to utilize the recreation space in St. Julian Devine Community Center during the month of July 2020. (1 Cooper Street)

(Request authorization for the Mayor to execute a Resolution approving the Greenbelt application to Charleston County for funding the purchase of approximately 11.25 acres (portion of TMS No. 279-00-00-059) on Johns Island, South Carolina, commonly known as the Ross tract. City Council previously approved the application at a meeting held on February 11, 2020.

(Approval of a Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Charleston, the Lowcountry Land Trust, Inc., and Angel Oak Park, LLC wherein the City agrees to construct a surface parking lot to serve the City's Angel Oak park on land that will be deeded to the City by the Low Country Land Trust, LLC and the Angel Oak Park, LLC as more fully stated in Exhibit A attached hereto.

(Consider the following annexations:

- 1720 Pinecrest Road (TMS# 351-12-00-038) 0.22 acre, West Ashley (District 9).
The property is owned by Elizabeth White.*
- 2118 and 2120 Saint James Drive (TMS# 343-02-00-072) 0.23 acre, James Island (District 11). The property is owned by Claire Witbeck.*
- Savannah Highway (TMS# 307-05-00-015) approx. 6.68 acres, West Ashley (District 5). The property is owned by John McLeod Bradham et al.*

First reading was given to the following resolution and bills:

Resolution approving the Greenbelt application to Charleston County for funding the purchase of approximately 11.25 acres (portion of TMS No. 279-00-00-059) on Johns Island, South Carolina, commonly known as the Ross tract.

An ordinance to provide for the annexation of property known as property on Savannah Highway (approx. 6.68 acres) (TMS# 307-05-00-015), 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 John McLeod Bradham et al.

An ordinance to provide for the annexation of property known as 2118 and 2120 Saint James Drive (0.23 acre) (TMS# 343-02-00-072), 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 Claire Witbeck.

An ordinance to provide for the annexation of property known as 1720 Pinecrest Road (0.22 acre) (TMS# 351-12-00-038), West Ashley, Charleston County, to the City of Charleston, shown within the area annexed upon a map attached hereto and make it part of District 9. The property is owned by Elizabeth White.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Now, our bills up for second reading, we have four, 1-4. We have three annexations, and we'll have the formation of our new Commission."

Councilmember Mitchell said, "Second."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Did we end up with a motion?"

Councilmember Mitchell said, "Move for approval."

Councilmember Shahid said, "Second."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Any comments?"

Mayor Tecklenburg recognized Councilmember Appel.

Councilmember Gregorie said, "Mr. Mayor."

The Clerk said, "That was Councilmember Gregorie?"

Councilmember Gregorie said, "Yes. Mr. Mayor. I just want to make sure that we're all on the same page with the Commission. I clearly understand the need for us to move forward as quickly as we can with regard to recommendations regarding monuments, etc. etc, but just for consistency, I hope that whatever we do in that regard is coordinated appropriately through the appropriate subcommittee of the Commission."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Of course, I hear you. Yes, sir."

Councilmember Mitchell said, "Councilman Appel had his hand raised."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "I'm sorry. Did we cut you off, Councilmember Appel? Did you have something to add?"

Councilmember Appel said, "Yes, Mr. Mayor. I was just going to welcome the Lawrimores, the Pasquinis, and the Clairs into the City of Charleston and, specifically, District 11. The mad rush to District 11 continues, and we're happy to have you."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Awesome. Now for third reading and ratification."

Councilmember Mitchell said, "So moved."

Councilmember Griffin said, "Second."

On a motion of Councilmember Mitchell, four (4) bills (Items L-1 through L-4) received second reading. They passed second reading on motion by Councilmember Shahid. On further motion of Councilmember Mitchell, the rules were suspended, and the bills were immediately ratified as:

- 2020-078** - AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE ANNEXATION OF PROPERTY KNOWN AS 416 RIVERLAND DRIVE (0.26 ACRE) (TMS# 343-10-00-002), 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 W. COLEMAN AND CHRISTINA M. LAWRIMORE.
- 2020-079** - AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE ANNEXATION OF PROPERTY KNOWN AS 450 RIVERLAND DRIVE (0.5 ACRE) (TMS# 343-10-00-019), 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 WHITNEY AND ALEXANDER PASQUINI.
- 2020-080** - AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE ANNEXATION OF PROPERTY KNOWN AS 334 FOLLY ROAD (0.40 ACRE) (TMS# 424-05-00-030), 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 JOHN CLAIR AND ELLEN S CLAIR.
- 2020-081** - AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 2 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF CHARLESTON BY ADDING DIVISION 11, SECTIONS 2-206 THROUGH 2-210, CREATING A NEW COMMISSION ENTITLED "SPECIAL COMMISSION ON EQUITY, INCLUSION, AND RACIAL CONCILIATION" AND DESCRIBING ITS PURPOSE, DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES, AND ORGANIZATION. **(AS AMENDED)**

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Then, under bills for first reading. We have one rezoning for property out by Carolina Bay, Councilman Brady."

Councilmember Mitchell said, "Move for approval."

Councilmember Brady said, "Second."

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "Is there any discussion?"

No one asked to be heard.

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

An ordinance to amend the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Charleston by changing the Zone Map, which is a part thereof, so that property located on Savannah Highway (West Ashley) (approximately 6.68 acres) (TMS #307-05-00-015) (Council District 5), be zoned General Business (GB) classification. The property is owned by John McLeod Bradham et al.

Mayor Tecklenburg said, "The next regular meeting will be all the way out on July 14th but, as I mentioned, I would like to call us together Thursday, less than 48 hours, at 5:30 p.m. We will have an emergency meeting solely on the issue of COVID-19 and additional actions that you may consider taking up. Anything further to come before this body tonight? Hearing none, we stand adjourned."

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

Vanessa Turner Maybank
Clerk of Council