



CHARLOTTESVILLE CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
May 19, 2025 at 4:00 PM
Council Chamber

The Charlottesville City Council convened in a regular meeting on Monday, May 19, 2025. Mayor Juandiego Wade called the meeting to order, and Deputy Clerk of Council Maxicelia Robinson called the roll, noting the following councilors present: Mayor Juandiego Wade, Vice Mayor Brian Pinkston, and Councilors Natalie Oschrin, Michael Payne, and Lloyd Snook.

On motion by Pinkston, seconded by Payne, Council unanimously approved the meeting agenda.

REPORTS

1. REPORT: Homelessness in Focus: A Community Briefing

Deputy City Manager Ashley Marshall introduced representatives from the Blue Ridge Area Coalition for the Homeless (BRACH), The Haven, Shelter for Help in Emergency (SHE), The Salvation Army, and PACEM to provide updates on their work.

Blue Ridge Area Coalition for the Homeless (BRACH) – Shayla Washington, Executive Director

Shayla Washington, Executive Director of the Blue Ridge Area Coalition for the Homeless (BRACH), detailed the coalition's work to make homelessness rare, brief, and non-recurring by coordinating service providers across the region. BRACH's role is to serve as the Continuum of Care (CoC) lead agency, manage HUD and state grants, coordinate performance standards, and oversee the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) with about 65 users. BRACH maintains the by-name list of people experiencing homelessness. Data shows a rising trend in unsheltered individuals, with the majority coming from Charlottesville and surrounding counties, primarily due to high rental costs and evictions. BRACH plans to expand outreach, develop a Lived Experience Advisory Council, and enhance strategic planning and professional development for Continuum of Care providers.

The Haven – Owen Brennan, Executive Director

The Haven is a day shelter in Charlottesville operating year-round, providing meals, showers, laundry, mail services, and housing support. It partners with BRACH, UVA Health (offering on-site medical and psychiatric care), and the City's Department of Human Services. In the past nine months, the shelter recorded 21,715 visits (about 80 people per day), served 20,000 meals, and supported 412 unique guests. Key programs include a Homeless Information Line for at-risk residents, Homelessness Prevention offering up to \$3,500 in rental assistance within 14 days of eviction, the Rapid Rehousing Program serving roughly 40 households annually with a 90% success rate, and the Laura DeLapp Haven Housing Fund for "light-touch" assistance like deposits and first month's rent. Most clients are Charlottesville or Albemarle residents, and there is a noted gap between prevention funding and community need. Collaboration with the city during extreme weather events has been essential. During council discussion, Brennan noted that most Rapid Rehousing participants transition to permanent housing before the two-year limit, and the Haven supports expanding low-barrier overnight shelter options.

Shelter for Help and Emergency (SHE) Shelter – Anna Mendez, Executive Director

Anna Mendez, Executive Director, presented on the organization's regional work addressing intimate partner violence through crisis response and prevention. The organization provides a 24/7 crisis hotline, emergency shelter, financial and legal advocacy, prevention education, pet-safe sheltering, and language access services. In 2024, it provided 66,000 shelter nights, answered 1,400 hotline calls, and secured over 100 protective orders. Recent policy changes allow survivors to bring any dependents who lived with

them during the violence and extend shelter stays to support housing stability. Challenges include a lack of affordable housing, which delays exits from shelter. During council discussion, Mendez explained that extended stays are necessary due to housing shortages, and noted that most clients transition to market-rate housing after saving sufficient funds.

The Salvation Army – Mark Van Meter

Major Mark Van Meter presented on the organization's operations, which include a 58-bed shelter and a daily soup kitchen serving meals year-round. In 2024, the shelter provided 16,000 nights of stay at roughly 75% capacity, served 54,000 meals, and assisted 1,900 cases encompassing 4,500 individuals. On average, about 10–11 residents per month exited the shelter to stable housing. Van Meter highlighted an upcoming project, the Center of Hope at 207 Ridge Street, which will feature a 114-bed facility including seven transitional apartments, an expanded 120-seat dining area, and a year-round low-barrier shelter initially offering 50 beds. The organization operates entirely on community donations, with no local, state, or federal funding, providing approximately \$1 million in services annually.

People and Congregations Engaged in Ministries (PACEM) – Cindy Chambers, Deputy Director

Cindy Chambers, Deputy Director, presented on a faith-based nonprofit that provides seasonal, low-barrier shelter and housing navigation services through a network of over 50 congregations. The program serves 30–40 men and 15–16 women nightly, often operating over capacity, and offers transportation for guests on Sundays or when the shelter is off a main bus route, temporary storage for personal items, and harm-reduction support. In 2024, the organization assisted roughly 300 guests, with 32 moving to permanent housing and 14 to temporary housing. Approximately 40% of guests report mental health diagnoses, and 70% are men, many of whom are seniors or have medical conditions. PACEM's Secure Housing Program, aimed at older adults and women, provides support for deposits and short-term case management, successfully housing 25 participants this year. Key challenges include increasing medical needs and a shortage of accessible housing options.

Deputy City Manager Marshall clarified that the community currently lacks a dedicated family shelter. The Salvation Army formerly provided this service but cannot do so in its current facility. The City's Department of Human Services works to stabilize families through housing programs such as *Pathways* and hotel placements when needed.

Each provider noted that the individuals they serve are generally residents of Charlottesville City or Albemarle County.

2. REPORT: Youth Council

Juanika Howard introduced the Charlottesville Youth Council for the 2024–2025 cycle.

The Youth Council, composed of Charlottesville City middle and high school students, identified key issues affecting students at Charlottesville High School (CHS), focusing on mental health and school safety. The council conducted two focus groups with CHS students who had attended the school for at least one year. Participants were asked about their experiences with school safety, mental health, and how these factors affected academics and home life.

Students reported limited trust in school personnel, including counselors, and other staff responsible for providing support, noting that counselors were often underutilized and difficult to access. Frustration was also expressed regarding CSAs enforcing cell phone policies, which sometimes resulted in classroom disruptions and missed buses at the end of the school day since phones must be picked up after school. To address these concerns, the Youth Council proposed several actions, including revising cell phone

enforcement policies by shifting responsibility to teachers, increasing counselor capacity and accessibility, updating school safety procedures, and emphasizing dialogue over punitive measures.

For future councils, the current Youth Council recommended selecting topics that are relatable and allow for meaningful student input, remaining open to different perspectives while expressing opinions respectfully, taking advantage of opportunities to engage with students from across city schools, and ensuring the process is both enjoyable and collaborative.

CLOSED MEETING

On motion by Pinkston, seconded by Payne, Council voted unanimously to convene in closed session pursuant to section 2.2-3712 of the Virginia Code, as authorized by Section 2.2-3711(A)(1), for discussion and consideration of prospective candidates for appointment to the following boards and commissions: Board of Architectural Review; Board of Building Code Appeals; Board of Zoning Appeals; CDBG & HOME Taskforce; Charlottesville Affordable Housing Fund Committee; Charlottesville Redevelopment and Housing Authority Board; Citizen Transportation Advisory Committee; Community Policy and Management Team; Historic Resources Committee; Housing Advisory Committee; Human Rights, Commission; JABA Board of Directors; MACAA Board; Minority Business Commission; Personnel Appeals Board; Piedmont Virginia Community College Board; Region Ten Community Services Board; Retirement Commission; Sister Cities Commission; Social Services Advisory Board; Towing Advisory Board; Tree Commission; Vendor Appeals Board; and Youth Council.

On motion by Pinkston, seconded by Snook, Council voted 5-0 (Ayes: Oschrin, Payne, Pinkston, Snook, Wade; Noes: none) to certify the closed meeting.

On motion by Pinkston, seconded by Oschrin, Council by a vote of 5-0 (Ayes: Oschrin, Payne, Pinkston, Snook, Wade; Noes: none) approved the following appointments to boards and commissions.

- Board of Architectural Review: Jennifer Lauer
- Charlottesville Affordable Housing Fund Committee: S. Lisa Herndon
- Community Policy and Management Team: Barbara Station
- Historic Resources Committee: Julie Basic, Matthew Morrill, Lucy Pola, Elizabeth Shillue
- Human Rights, Commission: Jayson Whitehead
- JABA Board of Directors: Elliot Weiss
- MACAA Board: Sarah Shalf
- Minority Business Commission: Teira Farley, Conan Owen
- Piedmont Virginia Community College Board: Leslie Fravel
- Region Ten Community Services Board: Francesca Diggs, Richard Stott, Joe Szakos
- Retirement Commission: Lindsay Ideson, William Newberry
- Sister Cities Commission: Alicen Brown, S. Lisa Herndon, Edward Herring, Cherry Stewart
- Social Services Advisory Board: Avan Batten, Benjamin Dick, Omwira Nkere
- Towing Advisory Board: Erin Morris
- Vendor Appeals Board: LaQuinn Gilmore
- Youth Council: Grant Patterson

BUSINESS SESSION

City Council observed a moment of silence.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilor Payne announced the winners of Alex Zan's 10th annual My Help List Contest, a thinking,

reading, and writing competition for students in Charlottesville and surrounding counties. The 2025 My Help List Award winners are Elijah Fernandez, a 7th grader from Fluvanna County; Alexandra Kim, a 4th grader from Mountain View Elementary; Zoe L. Hulbart, a 2nd grader from Jackson Via; and Haley Gray, a 9th grader from Albemarle High School.

RECOGNITIONS/PROCLAMATIONS

- **PROCLAMATION: Public Works Week**

Councilor Oschrin read a proclamation acknowledging May 18 to May 24, 2025, as Public Works Week. Mike Goddard, Deputy Director of Public Works Department, accepted the proclamation with remarks.

Councilor Pinkston read a proclamation acknowledging May 2025 as Older Americans Month. Dabney Wellford, representing the Jefferson Area Board for Aging, accepted the proclamation with remarks.

COMMUNITY MATTERS

Mayor Wade opened the floor for comments from the public.

1. Louis Huschen, city resident, advocated for City Council to support and fund safer bike lanes and pedestrian infrastructure, as well as increase the number of dedicated bike lanes within the City of Charlottesville.
2. Jill McKinley, PTO Chair of Johnson Elementary School, requested City Council's support for a long-term partnership plan with UVA, developed by Charlottesville City School parents and to be presented to the CCS Board. She noted that the plan focuses on four key areas: supporting teacher retention and housing, expanding afterschool and enrichment programming, improving digital access and academic achievement, and strengthening school infrastructure.
3. John Hall, city resident, shared information about a proposed recycling initiative for the City.
4. Kate Fraleigh ceded her time to Mr. Harold Folley and Mr. Hicks. Mr. Hicks, representing the local organization The People's Coalition, asked City Council to deny the proposed Albemarle-Charlottesville Regional Jail (ACRJ) expansion project. Mr. Folley shared the names of local organizations opposing the project.
5. Ronald Ignatz shared his concerns regarding Peregrine's access to sensitive data collected in the FLOCK database.
6. Stephen Christianson, President of Hill and Wood Funeral Service, requested City Council support for Agenda Item #18 – Ordinance to approve a Revocable License Agreement to Hill and Wood Funeral Service for use of public parking spaces.
7. Miles, city resident, retracted some statements he made at previous City Council meetings regarding Peregrine's use of data accessed through the FLOCK system; however, he also expressed his remaining concerns about the issue.
8. Richard Allen shared his concerns regarding the high budget costs associated with the proposed Albemarle-Charlottesville Regional Jail renovation project.
9. Mario, city resident, discussed his personal safety concerns at his housing apartment complex.
10. Don Gathers, city resident, expressed his support for The People's Coalition request for City Council to deny the regional jail expansion.
11. Kelly Hart, Albemarle County resident, expressed her concern about over-policing and urged City Council to reconsider the regional jail expansion project.

12. Andrew Shelton, Albemarle County resident, shared his concerns regarding Peregrine’s access to sensitive data and FLOCK.
13. Rosia Parker, city resident, voiced her support for The People’s Coalition opposition to the regional jail expansion and suggested that the City Council allocate the project’s funding to programs focused on preventing interactions with the criminal justice system.
14. Kate Fraleigh, city resident, read a statement on behalf of Reverend Brenda Brown-Grooms, expressing opposition to the regional jail expansion and urging the City Council to allocate funding toward affordable housing, enhanced public transportation, economic and educational development for children, and mental health initiatives independent of police involvement.

CONSENT AGENDA

Deputy Clerk Robinson read the following Consent Agenda items into the record, and on motion by Pinkston, seconded as amended by Oschrin, Council unanimously adopted the Consent Agenda (Ayes: Oschrin, Payne, Pinkston, Snook, Wade; Noes: None).

3. Resolution to appropriate Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services Victims of Crime Act Grant Award FY25 - \$123,600 (2nd reading)

Appropriation of Charlottesville Student Victim Outreach Program Department of Criminal Justice Services Victim of Crimes Act Grant \$123,600

WHEREAS the City of Charlottesville has been awarded \$123,600 from the Department of Criminal Justice Services;

WHEREAS this award requires a 20% match in the amount of \$30,900;

WHEREAS the funds will be used to support Evergreen, a program operated by the Department of Human Services. The grant award covers the period from July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Charlottesville, Virginia, that the sum of \$123,600 is hereby appropriated in the following manner:

Revenue – \$154,500

\$123,600	Fund: 209	Cost Center: 3413018000	GL Account: 430120
\$ 30,900	Fund: 209	Cost Center: 3413018000	GL Account: 498010

Expenditures - \$154,500

\$148,140	Fund: 209	Cost Center: 3413018000	GL Account: 519999
\$ 6,360	Fund: 209	Cost Center: 3413018000	GL Account: 599999

Transfer From

\$30,900	Fund: 213	Cost Center: 3413003000	GL Account: 561209
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AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this appropriation is conditioned upon the receipt of \$123,600 from the Department of Criminal Justice Services.

4. Resolution to appropriate \$26,210.96 to the Charlottesville Albemarle Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals ("CASPCA") (2nd reading)

Resolution to Appropriate \$26,210.96 for Charlottesville-Albemarle Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals

WHEREAS the Council of the City of Charlottesville has authorized the execution of an new agreement for the provision of animal shelter services with the Charlottesville Albemarle Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (CASPCA);

WHEREAS the amount of the first payment due in accordance with the new contract is for an amount that exceeds the original budgeted payment for CASPCA;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Charlottesville, Virginia, that a total of \$26,210.96 is hereby appropriated to the Charlottesville/Albemarle SPCA in the following manner:

Revenues - \$26,210.96

Fund: 105 Cost Center: 9900000000 G/L Account: 451050

Expenditures - \$26,210.96

Fund: 105 Cost Center: 9713006000 G/L Account: 540100

5. Resolution to appropriate \$20,000 in Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services - Children's Justice Act One-time Grant Program funds (2nd reading)

Appropriating Grant Funding in the Amount of \$20,000 Received from the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services- Children's Justice Act One-Time Grant Program in the amount of \$20,000 and Execute a Grant Agreement

WHEREAS the City of Charlottesville has been awarded \$20,000 from the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services for the City of Charlottesville Children's Justice Act (CJA) One-Time Grant Program for the creation of a children's space in the Juvenile and Domestic Relations courthouse; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Charlottesville, Virginia, that upon receipt of the awarded grant funding from the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services, the sum of \$20,000 is hereby appropriated for expenditure within the Department of Public Works, for the activities defined in the City of Charlottesville CJA application, as follows:

Revenues:

\$20,000 Fund: 209 I/O: 1900599 G/L Account: 430120 State (Fed Pass-Thru)

Expenditures:

\$20,000 Fund: 209 I/O: 1900599 G/L Account: 430120 State (Fed Pass-Thru)

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that City Council hereby approves the terms of the grant agreement between the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services and the City of Charlottesville and authorizes the City Manager to execute the grant agreement and other related documents, requisitions or

agreements, on behalf of the City; provided that the City Manager may delegate signature authority to a Deputy City Manager or other applicable staff.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this appropriation is conditioned upon the receipt of \$20,000 from the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services.

6. Resolution to Appropriate Police Warehouse Outlet Sales Revenue to Equipment Replacement Fund (2nd reading)

Resolution Appropriating Funds for the City Equipment Replacement Fund \$5,600

WHEREAS \$5,600.00 of revenue collected from the sale of a 2013 Impala, vehicle #3138, be appropriated for use to purchase replacement police vehicles through the Equipment Replacement Fund;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Charlottesville, Virginia that a total of \$5,600.00 be appropriated in the following manner:

Revenues – \$5,600.00

\$5,600.00 Fund: 106 Cost Center 3101001001 G/L Account: 435999

Expenditures – \$5,600.00

\$5,600.00 Fund: 106 Cost Center 3101001001 G/L Account: 599999

7. Resolution to allocate \$134,967 from Council's Strategic Initiatives Fund to support local service agencies

Resolution to Allocate \$134,967 Funds from Council's Strategic Initiatives Fund

WHEREAS the City Council discussed providing additional funds to the Blue Ridge Area Coalition for the Homeless (BRACH), Piedmont Housing Alliance (PHA) and the Tonsler League during a budget work session on April 10, 2025;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Charlottesville, Virginia, that the following allocations be paid from the Council's Strategic Initiatives Fund:

BRACH for Permanent Supportive Housing and Replacement of Lost Grant	\$ 22,786
PHA for Eviction Prevention Assistance	\$125,691
Tonsler League – League Operations	\$ 30,000

8. Resolution to appropriate \$304.80 in State assistance and citizen donation for Spay and Neuter Program at SPCA

**Resolution to Appropriate to State Assistance Funds for Spay and Neuter Program at S.P.C.A.
\$304.80**

WHEREAS the City has received assistance in the amount of three hundred four dollars and eighty cents (\$304.80) from the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles ("DMV") for sales of license plates bought to support they spaying and neutering of pets and stray animals; and

WHEREAS these funds are appropriated to the local agency that performs the local spay and neutering

program, which is the Charlottesville/Albemarle Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (“SPCA”); and

WHEREAS supporting the SPCA with additional funds will increase the level of service that SPCA can provide and potentially supplement the level of funding that is needed from the City each year;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Charlottesville, Virginia, that a total of \$304.80 is hereby appropriated to the Charlottesville / Albemarle SPCA in the following manner:

9. Resolution accepting three (3) streets into the City's Street Maintenance Program

Accepting into the City’s Street Maintenance Plan the following Streets: Rialto Road, Stonehenge Avenue, Castalia Street Extended

WHEREAS Stonehenge Ave Ext. plans were originally approved by the City of Charlottesville Department of Public Works (“Department”) on May 24th, 2019, and;

WHEREAS Rialto Beach plans were originally approved by the Department on September 23, 2011, and;

WHEREAS the PUD plans for Stonehenge Ave Ext. and Rialto Beach have been completed by the developers and/or remediated by the City of Charlottesville, Virginia, and;

WHEREAS the Public Services Manager for the City of Charlottesville, Virginia requested the City accept the Street Sections into the City’s street system for maintenance, and;

WHEREAS City staff has inspected the Street Sections of Rialto Road, Stonehenge Avenue and Castalia Street Ext. and recommend their acceptance into the City’s street system for maintenance, and;

WHEREAS The Street Sections have been built to the specifications and standards required by the City’s approved plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the City of Charlottesville, Virginia, on recommendation of the Department that the Street Sections of Rialto Road, Stonehenge Avenue and Castalia Street Ext. are hereby accepted into the City street system for maintenance.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

The City Manager’s Report covered the Quarterly Financial Report and Community Interventions. Budget Director Krisy Hammill presented the third-quarter financial update for FY25, highlighting that as of March 31, approximately 67% of budgeted revenues had been collected. The 2025 reassessment showed residential values increased by over 8% and commercial values by over 6%, resulting in a 7.74% overall rise from 2024. Revenues are tracking 1.89% above the \$251M adopted budget, though sales, meals, and lodging taxes remain below expectations. Expenditures are at 79% of the budget, which aligns with projections, though they remain difficult to track. A surplus is anticipated but not yet projected, with future impacts from federal and state changes still uncertain.

Finance Director Chris Cullinan updated Council on the City’s American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds, totaling \$19.6M received in 2021 and 2022. Of this, \$18.4M has been spent, with remaining funds allocated and obligated for specific projects that must be completed by September 30, 2026. To date there

is no indication whether the federal government will pull back the already obligated funds. If that were to occur, the accrued interest on the unspent funds will support those projects.

Deputy City Manager for Operations James Freas introduced the new Capital Project Dashboard, an online tool for tracking City construction projects. Councilor Oschrin suggested adding completed projects to the map for context.

A public service video promoting school zone speed camera enforcement was also shown. Traffic Engineer Brennan Duncan explained that cameras activate at speeds 10–11 mph above the limit. Chief Michael Kochis noted officers can still issue tickets for any speeding violation.

Deputy City Manager for Racial Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Ashley Marshall Reynolds reminded residents to complete the Polco National Community Survey, available online and through City social media.

City Manager Sam Sanders presented a proposal for \$5.4M in Community Intervention projects, funded by \$2.8M in unallocated FY23 surplus and \$2.6M from Charlottesville City Schools gainsharing. Projects are grouped into Community Safety, Homeless Intervention, and Quality of Life initiatives. Recommendations include investments in urgent infrastructure, bus shelters, parks and emergency management equipment; a two-year pilot with Street Outreach workers with program resources and three pallet shelters; and downtown mall improvements including a mall manager, restrooms, cleaning initiatives, lighting, and accessibility software. Councilors Oschrin and Payne requested more details on the pallet shelter and Downtown Mall components.

ACTION ITEMS

10. PUBLIC HEARING and ORDINANCE to vacate a natural gas easement (Belvedere Subdivision Block 4B)

The Director of Utilities, Lauren Hildebrand, presented a request to vacate a natural gas line easement that the City acquired in 2018 from New Belvedere LLC. The design of the subdivision in Albemarle County, within which the easement is located, has since been altered, and ownership has been transferred. The request is to vacate a portion of the natural gas easement to allow for the development of lots that overlap the easement area.

Mayor Wade opened the public hearing. With no speakers the public hearing closed.

Ms. Hildebrand requested for Council to approve the item with one reading.

On motion by Pinkston, seconded by Snook, Council approved the ordinance by a vote of 5-0: (Ayes: Oschrin, Payne, Pinkston, Snook, Wade; Noes: none).

ORDINANCE VACATING UTILITY EASEMENT LOCATED AT TMP 61-160R5 IN ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VIRGINIA

WHEREAS the City of Charlottesville, Virginia, was previously granted a gas utility easement, depicted as follows:

WHEREAS Belvedere Long Holdings, LLC, a Virginia limited liability company, has requested City Council to vacate a portion the existing public utility easement identified on a plat entitled “PLAT VACATING A PORTION OF AN EXISTING GAS EASEMENT & CREATING A 15’

GAS EASEMENT ALONG FOWLER STREET & BELVEDERE BOULEVARD,
BELVEDERE SUBDIVISION PHASE 4B;” and

WHEREAS City Council has reviewed the information provided by City Staff, and conducted a Public Hearing on May 19, 2025, after publication of Notice of said Public Hearing within a local newspaper, as required by Virginia Code §§15.2-1800 and 15.2-1813.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Charlottesville, Virginia, that vacation of the above-described existing public utility easement is hereby approved. The City Attorney has prepared a Deed of Vacation of Easement to effectuate the vacation of the existing easement as approved by this Ordinance.

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED the requirement within City Code Section 2-97 (for two (2) readings of an Ordinance) is hereby waived and this Ordinance shall be effective upon its adoption by City Council without any requirement for a second reading.

11. PUBLIC HEARING and ORDINANCE to vacate a natural gas easement (Old Ivy Road)

The Director of Utilities, Lauren Hildebrand, presented a request to vacate a natural gas line easement that the City of Charlottesville was granted in 1999 to serve University Village along Old Ivy Road. The gas line runs parallel to an existing water line owned by the Albemarle County Service Authority, and the current property owner has requested that the easement be vacated to allow for land development.

Upon approval of the ordinance, the City of Charlottesville will be granted a new easement to continue providing service to University Village. The existing easement has already been abandoned.

Mayor Wade opened the public hearing. With no speakers the public hearing closed.

Ms. Hildebrand requested for Council to approve the item with one reading.

On motion by Oschrin, seconded by Pinkston, Council approved the ordinance by a vote of 5-0: (Ayes: Oschrin, Payne, Pinkston, Snook, Wade; Noes: none).

ORDINANCE VACATING UTILITY EASEMENT LOCATED AT TMP 60-24C6 IN ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VIRGINIA

WHEREAS the City of Charlottesville, Virginia was previously granted a public utility easement, depicted as follows:

WHEREAS GS Old Ivy Property Owner BFR, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, the fee simple owner of TMP 60-24C6 has requested City Council to vacate the existing public utility easement as shown on the above Plat and all existing facilities within such easement shall be abandoned prior to the vacation; and

WHEREAS City Council has reviewed the information provided by City staff, and conducted a public hearing on May 19th, 2025, after publication of notice of said public hearing within a local newspaper, as required by Virginia Code §§15.2-1800 and 15.2-1813.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Charlottesville, Virginia, that vacation of the above-described existing public utility easement is hereby approved. The City Attorney has prepared a deed of vacation of easement to effectuate the vacation of the existing easement as

approved by this Ordinance.

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED the requirement within City Code Section 2-97 (for two readings of an ordinance) is hereby waived and this Ordinance shall be effective upon its adoption by Council without any requirement for a second reading.

12. PUBLIC HEARING and ORDINANCE to approve a Right-of-Way Agreement at 220 W. Market Street

Director of Economic Development Chris Engel presented a request to approve a five-year revocable right-of-way agreement with Light House Studios to allow continued use of City-owned property adjacent to their business as a parking lot. The area is approximately 5,000 square feet and can accommodate five to six parking spaces. The property may only be utilized as a parking lot, any alternate use of the area must be approved by the City of Charlottesville.

Mayor Wade opened the public hearing. With no speakers the public hearing closed.

On motion by Pinkston, seconded by Payne, Council approved the ordinance by a vote of 5-0: (Ayes: Oschrin, Payne, Pinkston, Snook, Wade; Noes: none).

ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE LICENSING OF CITY-OWNED PROPERTY ADJACENT TO 220 W. MARKET STREET TO LIGHTHOUSE STUDIOS

WHEREAS the City of Charlottesville, Virginia (“City”), owns Market Street and its right of way (“Property”), which is adjacent to the property of Lighthouse Studios (“Lighthouse”), located at 220 W. Market Street, Charlottesville, Virginia 22902; and

WHEREAS Lighthouse desires to use a portion of the Market Street right of way for parking; and

WHEREAS since the Property is publicly owned, Virginia Code § 15.2-1800(B) requires conducting a legally advertised and duly held Public Hearing prior to the City divesting itself of any ownership interest in the Property.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Council for the City of Charlottesville, Virginia, following the conducting of the legally required Public Hearing, that the City Manager is hereby authorized to sign the following document, in form approved by the Acting City Attorney or her designee: Right of Way License Agreement between the City and Lighthouse for the above- referenced Property.

13. PUBLIC HEARING and ORDINANCE to approve a Revocable License Agreement to Hill & Wood Funeral Service (1st Street N.) for use of public parking spaces

Director of Economic Development Chris Engel presented a request to approve a five-year revocable license agreement with Hill & Wood Funeral Service, located at 201 1st Street N, to allow continued use of six on-street public parking spaces in front of their business to accommodate as-needed business operations. Hill & Wood has agreed to allow public parking in their privately owned 12-space parking lot when it is not restricted for Hill & Wood use. If the ordinance is approved, the City will install designated parking signage for the six on-street spaces. Illegal parking in these designated spaces may result in a parking ticket and/or towing.

Mayor Wade opened the public hearing. With no speakers the public hearing closed.

On motion by Pinkston, seconded by Payne, Council approved the ordinance by a vote of 5-0: (Ayes: Oschrin, Payne, Pinkston, Snook, Wade; Noes: none).

ORDINANCE GRANTING A REVOCABLE LICENSE AGREEMENT FOR USE OF PUBLIC PARKING SPACES TO HILL & WOOD FUNERAL SERVICE

WHEREAS the City of Charlottesville, Virginia (“City”), owns the right-of-way/public property, which is commonly known as 1st Street North, between East Jefferson Street and Market Street, including six (6) on-street parking spaces located within the area of such property (“Property”); and

WHEREAS Hill & Wood desires to use the Property; and

WHEREAS since the Property is publicly owned, Virginia Code § 15.2-1800(B) requires conducting a legally advertised and duly held Public Hearing prior to the City divesting itself of any ownership interest in the Property.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Council for the City of Charlottesville, Virginia, following the conducting of the legally required Public Hearing, that the City Manager is hereby authorized to sign the following document, in form approved by the Acting City Attorney or her designee: Revocable License Agreement for Use of Public Parking Spaces to Hill & Wood Funeral Service for the above-referenced Property.

14. PUBLIC HEARING and four (4) RESOLUTIONS for VDOT Subordination of Rights Agreements (Belvedere and Brookhill Subdivisions)

The Director of Utilities, Lauren Hildebrand, presented a request for City Council to approve an agreement to subordinate the City’s easement rights for three (3) public utility easements serving natural gas to the Belvedere Subdivision (Sections 2A, 2B, and 5A) and one (1) serving the Brookhill Subdivision (9–11), all located within Albemarle County, to the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT). The City will continue to own and maintain the natural gas facilities, which are required to remain in their current locations. In the event that these streets are removed from the VDOT Secondary Highway System, the gas line easements will revert to the City.

The City acquired the public utility easements to serve new homes in the Belvedere and Brookhill Subdivisions. During development, gas lines are installed prior to street paving, after which the developer seeks VDOT approval to add the roads to its Secondary Highway System.

Previously, similar requests were presented to City Council for approval through a Quitclaim Deed; however, following legal consultation, it was recommended that future requests of this nature be submitted as subordination agreements.

Mayor Wade opened the public hearing. With no speakers the public hearing closed.

On motion by Pinkston, seconded by Payne, Council approved the ordinances by a vote of 5-0: (Ayes: Oschrin, Payne, Pinkston, Snook, Wade; Noes: none).

APPROVING A REQUEST FOR SUBORDINATION OF RIGHTS OF CERTAIN GAS EASEMENTS LOCATED IN BELVEDERE SUBDIVISION-2A

WHEREAS the developers of the Belvedere Subdivision (“Developers”) previously granted gas line easements (“Easements”) to the City, over and across land within the public rights of way for Farrow

Drive, Dabney Grove, Colbert Street, Barnett Street, Griffen Grove, and Shelton Street, and more particularly described in Inst# 201400005708 recorded Albemarle County, Virginia, and;

WHEREAS the Developers wish to have these public rights of way accepted into Virginia's secondary highway system; and

WHEREAS the Virginia Department of Transportation has provided the Subordination of Rights Agreement to subordinate the City's Easements below state maintenance of the roadways; and

WHEREAS the City's Department of Utilities recommended that the Developer's request can be accommodated, so long as the City's gas lines will be allowed to remain;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Charlottesville, Virginia that, a Subordination of Rights Agreement between the Virginia Department of Transportation and the City of Charlottesville is hereby approved.

**APPROVING A REQUEST FOR SUBORDINATION OF RIGHTS OF CERTAIN GAS
EASEMENTS LOCATED IN BELVEDERE SUBDIVISION-2B**

WHEREAS the developers of the Belvedere Subdivision ("Developers") previously granted gas line easements ("Easements") to the City, over and across land within the public rights of way for Belvedere Boulevard, Barnett Street, Shelton Street, Fowler Street, and Farrow Drive and more particularly described in Inst# 201900000098 recorded Albemarle County, Virginia, and;

WHEREAS the Developers wish to have these public rights of way accepted into Virginia's secondary highway system; and

WHEREAS the Virginia Department of Transportation has provided the Subordination of Rights Agreement to subordinate the City's Easements below state maintenance of the roadways; and

WHEREAS the City's Department of Utilities recommended that the Developer's request can be accommodated, so long as the City's gas lines will be allowed to remain;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Charlottesville, Virginia that, a Subordination of Rights Agreement between the Virginia Department of Transportation and the City of Charlottesville is hereby approved.

**APPROVING A REQUEST FOR SUBORDINATION OF RIGHTS OF CERTAIN GAS
EASEMENTS LOCATED IN BELVEDERE SUBDIVISION-5A**

WHEREAS the developers of the Belvedere Subdivision ("Developers") previously granted gas line easements ("Easements") to the City, over and across land within the public rights of way for Fowler Street and Fowler Circle and more particularly described in Inst# 202200002859 recorded Albemarle County, Virginia, and;

WHEREAS the Developers wish to have these public rights of way accepted into Virginia's secondary highway system; and

WHEREAS the Virginia Department of Transportation has provided the Subordination of Rights Agreement to subordinate the City's Easements below state maintenance of the roadways; and

WHEREAS the City's Department of Utilities recommended that the Developer's request can be accommodated, so long as the City's gas lines will be allowed to remain;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Charlottesville, Virginia that, a Subordination of Rights Agreement between the Virginia Department of Transportation and the City of Charlottesville is hereby approved.

APPROVING A REQUEST FOR SUBORDINATION OF RIGHTS OF CERTAIN GAS EASEMENTS LOCATED IN BROOKHILL SUBDIVISION 9-11

WHEREAS the developers of the Brookhill Subdivision ("Developers") previously granted gas line easements ("Easements") to the City, over and across land within the public rights of way for Flora Lane, Flora Court, and Koch Court and more particularly described in Inst# 202200000894 recorded Albemarle County, Virginia, and;

WHEREAS the Developers wish to have these public rights of way accepted into Virginia's secondary highway system; and

WHEREAS the Virginia Department of Transportation has provided the Subordination of Rights Agreement to subordinate the City's Easements below state maintenance of the roadways; and

WHEREAS the City's Department of Utilities recommended that the Developer's request can be accommodated, so long as the City's gas lines will be allowed to remain;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Charlottesville, Virginia that, a Subordination of Rights Agreement between the Virginia Department of Transportation and the City of Charlottesville is hereby approved.

*City Manager Sanders introduced the new City Human Resources Director, Joe Gilkerson, and the Managing Director of the City Attorney's Office, John Maddux. City Council will be asked to approve a resolution to appoint Mr. Maddux as City Attorney at the June 16 meeting. Pamela O'Berry with Sands Anderson PC will continue to serve as Acting City Attorney until Mr. Maddux's appointment.

15. RESOLUTION to APPROPRIATE \$150,000 from the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services Operation Ceasefire Grant Program (2nd reading)

Charlottesville Police Chief Michael Kochis provided an overview of the proposed Peregrine software system, explaining that it integrates existing police data systems, such as Axon body cameras and SAP payroll, to improve efficiency and accountability. He noted that each user must log in with a unique identifier and justification for system access, similar to the Flock camera system, which is subject to audits.

Councilors discussed data privacy, legal compliance, and public concern about third-party access.

Councilor Snook raised questions regarding potential subpoenas and data protection measures, suggesting possible safeguards similar to those applied to the Flock system.

Vice Mayor Pinkston expressed support for the system, comparing it to standard business data tools and emphasizing the need for professional modernization within the Police Department.

Councilor Payne shared broader concerns about private technology firms monetizing public safety data nationwide.

Councilor Oschrin expressed reservations about timing and potential risks related to data misuse, particularly concerning sensitive personal and citizenship information.

Mayor Wade stated his support for the system, citing its value as a record management tool distinct from the Flock surveillance system.

On motion by Pinkston, seconded by Snook, Council approved the resolution by a vote of 3-2: (Ayes: Pinkston, Snook, Wade; Noes: Oschrin, Payne).

Resolution Appropriating Funds for Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services FY 25 Operation Ceasefire Grant Program (OCGP) Forensic and Analytical Technology for Local Law Enforcement Award #: 547779 - \$150,000

WHEREAS the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services awarded a grant to the Police Department, through the City of Charlottesville, through the Operation Ceasefire Grant Program: Forensic and Analytical Technology for Local Law Enforcement to procure and deploy Peregrine's Ascent and Legacy Data packages for one year;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Charlottesville, Virginia that a total of \$150,000.00 be appropriated in the following manner:

Revenues – \$150,000

\$150,000 Fund: 209 Internal Order 1900588 G/L Account: 430110

Expenditures – \$150,000

\$150,000 Fund: 209 Internal Order 1900588 G/L Account: 530060

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that this appropriation is conditioned upon the reimbursement of funds or goods as supplied from the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services Operation Ceasefire Grant Program: Forensic and Analytical Technology for Local Law Enforcement.

GENERAL BUSINESS

16. Second Presentation of the 2025 ADA Transition Plan Update – Endorsement by resolution requested

The City of Charlottesville engaged Precision Infrastructure Management (PIM), a consulting firm, to ultimately draft an ADA Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan for the City.

Kevin McDaniel, PIM representative, presented the findings of an ADA assessment conducted for the City, covering Right-of-Ways, Facilities, Parks, Digital, and Programmatic Access. General recommendations included adopting a citywide digital accessibility policy, providing staff training on ADA reasonable modification and communication standards, and developing formal vendor and third-party compliance requirements. Mr. McDaniel identified Right-of-Ways and Parks as the City's top ADA areas of concern. The Transition Plan Update provides a suggested framework for developing a City ADA Work Plan. Mr. Rudacille noted that Charlottesville Area Transit (CAT) stops are included in the Right-of-Way report.

On motion by Pinkston, seconded by Oschrin, Council approved the endorsement of the 2025 ADA Transition Plan Update by a vote of 5-0: (Ayes: Oschrin, Payne, Pinkston, Snook, Wade; Noes: none).

TO ENDORSE AN UPDATE TO THE ADA TRANSITION PLAN FOR THE CITY

WHEREAS Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) applies to State and Local Government entities, protects qualified individuals with disabilities from discrimination on the basis of disability in services, programs, and activities provided by State and local government entities.

WHEREAS Title II of the ADA mandates that every public agency with more than 50 employees has an ADA Transition Plan, which describes how the City will ensure its facilities, services, programs, and activities are accessible; and

WHEREAS the City of Charlottesville thusly completed and adopted such a self-evaluation and Transition Plan in 1995, and subsequently adopted an updated self-evaluation and Transition Plan in June 2013; and

WHEREAS the City of Charlottesville has initiated a Culture of Compliance where we are firmly committed to the ADA and the elimination of barriers to public programs, services, activities and facilities; and

WHEREAS the City of Charlottesville engaged the consulting firm Precision Infrastructure Management (“PIM”) to assist the City as necessary with an update of the City’s 2013 ADA Transition Plan and to engage in an updated Self-Evaluation to support such a plan update; and

WHEREAS public review and input regarding the process of updating the plan and the draft version of the ADA Transition Plan Update plan has been received by the City of Charlottesville; and

WHEREAS this City Council is asked to endorse the "City of Charlottesville ADA Transition Plan Update Document" currently presented to Council at its May 5, 2025, regular meeting;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Charlottesville City Council hereby endorses the updated ADA Transition Plan and directs City staff to begin implementation of the plan.

17. RESOLUTION to ALLOCATE \$100,000 for the Dogwood Vietnam Memorial Foundation of Virginia and \$4,260.65 to the Capital Improvement Plan (“CIP”) Contingency Fund (Moved from Consent Agenda)

On motion by Pinkston, seconded by Snook, Council by a vote of 4-1 approved the resolution (Ayes: Payne, Pinkston, Snook, Wade; Noes: Oschrin). Councilor Oschrin opposed referencing reasons she has previously shared with the Council.

Resolution Appropriating the amount of \$100,000 For the Dogwood Vietnam Memorial Foundation and \$4,260.65 to the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) Contingency Fund

WHEREAS the City Council of Charlottesville, Virginia desires to provide \$100,000 in funding to the Dogwood Vietnam Memorial Foundation;

WHEREAS several projects in the City’s Capital Improvement Fund have been completed and have \$104,260.65 in remaining unspent fund allocations;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Charlottesville, Virginia, that that the sum of \$100,000, is hereby appropriated to the Dogwood Vietnam Memorial account as follows; and

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the remaining \$4,260.65 will be appropriated to the CIP Contingency account as follows:

Transfer From:

\$1,240.38	Fund: 426	WBS: P-01046	G/L Account: 599999
\$4,020.27	Fund: 426	WBS: P-01048	G/L Account: 599999
\$99,000.00	Fund: 426	WBS: P-01049	G/L Account: 599999

Transfer To:

\$100,000	Fund: 426	I/O: 1000052	G/L Account: 599999
\$4,260.65	Fund: 426	WBS: CP-080	G/L Account: 599999

COMMUNITY MATTERS (2)

Mayor Wade opened the floor for comments from the public.

- Miles, city resident, a recipient of a City E-Bike voucher through the E-Bike Program, expressed his appreciation to City Council.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Pinkston, seconded by Oschrin, Council voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 10:05 p.m.

BY Order of City Council

BY Maxicelia Robinson, Deputy Clerk of Council