

# CHARLOTTESVILLE CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

August 21, 2023 at 4:00 p.m.

Council Chamber, 605 E. Main Street

The Charlottesville City Council met at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, Aug 21, 2023. Mayor Lloyd Snook called the meeting to order and Clerk of Council Kyna Thomas called the roll, noting the following councilors present: Mayor Lloyd Snook, Vice Mayor Juandiego Wade and Councilors Michael Payne, Brian Pinkston and Leah Puryear.

On motion by Wade, seconded by Pinkston, Council by a vote of 5-0 (Ayes: Payne, Pinkston, Puryear, Snook, Wade; Noes: none) adopted the meeting agenda.

## REPORTS

### 1. REPORT: Ranked Choice Voting

Jim Knix, Secretary of the Charlottesville Electoral Board, shared background information about Ranked Choice Voting (RCV), also known as Instant Runoff Voting. RCV is a voting system where voters use a ranked ballot to sequentially rank their candidate choices in order of preference, rather than selecting a single or limited number of candidates as their choice for a winner. If a voter's first choice does not win, their vote counts toward their next choice.

Taylor Yowell, Charlottesville Voter Registrar, shared a presentation explaining RCV and how it works. Locally, ranked choice voting would only apply to City Council elections. Costs would be significant for outreach, education, software upgrades, staffing overtime and ballot printing. In order for the city to implement RCV, City Council would need to draft, introduce and adopt an enabling ordinance. City Council would also be responsible for developing an education and outreach plan. Ms. Yowell requested notice as soon as possible when Council would like to vote on RCV since there are statutory requirements for implementing the system as well as lead times for procuring materials and developing and distributing educational materials. She suggested waiting until after the 2024 General Election, possibly December 2024, and trying the process with a Primary since there are no write-ins with a Primary election.

### 2. REPORT: Charlottesville Area Alliance Annual Presentation

Kristin Miller, Co-Chair of the Charlottesville Area Alliance (CAA), presented the annual report. The Vision of CAA is to "become the most age-friendly community in the country." The Mission of CAA is to "lead the advancement of this vision, with a focus on transportation, housing and social participation." Members of the Alliance are: Albemarle Housing Improvement Program (AHIP), Albemarle County, Alzheimer's Association, City of Charlottesville, Cville Village, Fluvanna County, Hospice of the Piedmont, Home Instead, Jefferson Area Board for Aging (JABA), JAUNT, Legal Aid Justice, OLLI, Piedmont Housing Alliance (PHA), Region Ten, The Center, Sentara Martha Jefferson Hospital, Blue Ridge Health District, Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission, United Way, UVA Health, Westminster-Canterbury of the Blue Ridge and others. One in five people are aged 65 or older in the Blue Ridge Health District. CAA requests that the age 65 and older population be considered when voting on policies and initiatives.

### **3. REPORT: Botanical Garden of the Piedmont**

Jill Trischman-Marks, Executive Director, introduced Conzi Palmer, President of the Board of Directors for the Botanical Garden of the Piedmont (BGP). Ms. Trischman-Marks presented an update on Botanical Garden efforts. The mission of BGP is to invite all community members and visitors to engage in nature, to educate and inspire through the beauty and importance of plants, to advance sustainability, and to promote human and environmental well-being. For the first time Annual Operating Fund donations exceeded budget expectations. The silent phase of the first Capital Campaign raised almost 50% of the \$10 million goal in less than 24 months.

BGP provides a variety of free programs to the public, all possible with funding provided by private grants. Ms. Trischman-Marks reviewed several projects in process to grow BGP and improve services, and she requested help with acquiring a Charlottesville Area Transit bus stop.

### **CLOSED MEETING**

On motion by Pinkston, seconded by Puryear, City Council voted 5-0 (Ayes: Payne, Pinkston, Puryear, Snook, Wade; Noes: none) to meet in closed session as authorized by the Code of Virginia Section 2.2-3711(A) (3), for:

(1) discussion or consideration of the acquisition of real property for a public purpose, or the disposition of publicly held real property, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiation strategy of the Council, specifically discussion of prospective real estate transactions for the Sugar Hollow Reservoir and the proposed 0 East High Street development, and Section 2.2-3711(A)(8) consultation with the City Attorney regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice, specifically, legal matters regarding the proposed Sugar Hollow Reservoir real estate transactions and the proposed 0 East High Street development.

On motion by Pinkston, seconded by Payne, City Council certified by the following recorded vote that to the best of each Council member's knowledge only public business matters lawfully exempted from the open meeting requirements of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed, or considered in the closed meeting: 5-0 (Ayes: Payne, Pinkston, Puryear, Snook, Wade; Noes: none).

### **BUSINESS SESSION**

Council began the business portion of the meeting by observing a moment of silence.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Vice Mayor Wade announced an August 26 men's Cancers panel discussion at Mt. Zion First African Baptist Church.

Mayor Snook acknowledged the finals of the Tonsler Basketball League; several successful back-to-school events; the Soul of Cville event; and that UVA was back in session.

## CONSENT AGENDA

Clerk of Council Kyna Thomas read the following Consent Agenda items into the record:

On motion by Pinkston, seconded by Payne, Council voted unanimously to adopt the consent agenda (Ayes: Payne, Pinkston, Puryear, Snook, Wade; Noes: none).

4. MINUTES: July 13 joint Planning Commission-City Council work session, July 20 special meeting
5. RESOLUTION: Minor Amendment to HOME FY 2023-2024 Action Plan to reprogram unspent HOME Funds from prior years to support energy-efficiency home rehabilitations through the Local Energy Alliance Program (LEAP), approximately \$111,749

### RESOLUTION

#### **Resolution Approving the Reprogramming of Unspent HOME Funds from FY 2021-2022 and FY 2022-2023 to Support Energy-Efficiency Home Rehabilitations through the Local Energy Alliance Program (LEAP), in the Amount of Approximately \$111,749.90**

**WHEREAS** the City of Charlottesville has been designated as an Entitlement Community by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and as such is a recipient of federal funds through the HOME Investment Partnerships program, and

**WHEREAS** the City is a contributing member of the Thomas Jefferson Area HOME Consortium, in partnership with the counties of Albemarle, Fluvanna, Greene, Louisa and Nelson, and through the Consortium shares in the benefits of participation in HUD's HOME program, and

**WHEREAS** city staff have recently identified unspent HOME program funds initially approved by Council for award in fiscal years 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 to the Local Energy Alliance Program (LEAP), in the amount of approximately \$111,749.90, that were unused by LEAP due, in large part, to challenges they experienced during the recent COVID pandemic, including delays to a solar panel installation program by Dominion Energy, and

**WHEREAS** LEAP has resolved these challenges to program implementation and have identified new qualifying projects that will implement energy efficiency related home repairs and rehabilitations for income-qualified homeowners, now

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the City Council of Charlottesville, Virginia, hereby approves the reprogramming of unspent HOME funds awarded to LEAP to support new efforts by LEAP to implement energy efficiency related home repairs and rehabilitations for income qualified homeowners within the City of Charlottesville and the necessary appropriation of funds.

**RESOLUTION**

**Appropriation of Unspent HOME Funds from FY 2021-2022 and FY 2022-2023 from FY 2021-2022 and FY 2022-2023 to Support Energy-Efficiency Home Rehabilitations through the Local Energy Alliance Program (LEAP), in the Amount of Approximately \$134,099.88**

**WHEREAS** city staff have recently identified unspent HOME program funds initially approved by Council for award to the Local Energy Alliance Program (LEAP) that were unused by LEAP due, in large part, to challenges they experienced during the recent COVID pandemic, including delays to a solar panel installation program by Dominion Energy, and

**WHEREAS** LEAP has informed staff of the Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission (TJPDC), who coordinates HOME activities on behalf of the Consortium members, that they have now identified home repair projects that meet the objectives the original Scope of Work for each fiscal year and that would significantly benefit income-qualified homeowners in the City of Charlottesville, now

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the City Council of Charlottesville, Virginia, that said unspent HOME program funds are hereby appropriated to the following individual expenditure accounts in the city’s HOME Fund in accordance with the respective purposes set forth; provided, however, that the City Manager is hereby authorized to transfer funds between and among such individual accounts as circumstances may require, to the extent permitted by applicable federal grant regulations, as set forth below:

**Reprogramming Unspent HOME Funds**

Fund	Account Code	Reprogrammed HOME Funds	Amount
210	1900463	From LEAP FY21 CDBG Assisted Home Energy Performance	\$18,271.77
210	1900463	From LEAP FY22 CDBG Assisted Home Energy Performance	\$93,478.13
\$111,749.90		Subtotal HOME Reprogrammed Funds	

**HOME Local Match Funds**

Fund	Account Code	Local Match Requirement	Amount
210	1900463	HOME Local Match Appropriation from CAHF @ 20% (from CP-0084 to 1900463)	\$22,349.98
\$22,349.98		Subtotal Local HOME Match from CAHF	

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the amounts appropriated above within this resolution will be provided as grants to public agencies or private non-profit, charitable organizations (individually and collectively, “subrecipients”) and shall be utilized by the subrecipients solely for the purpose stated within their grant applications. The City Manager is hereby authorized to enter into agreements with each subrecipient as deemed advisable, to

ensure that the grants are expended for their intended purposes and in accordance with applicable federal and state laws and regulations. To this end, the City Manager, the Director of Finance, and public officers to whom any responsibility is delegated by the City Manager pursuant to City Code Section 2-147 are authorized to establish administrative procedures and provide for guidance and assistance in subrecipients' execution of the funded programs.

6. RESOLUTION: Appropriate funds from the Department of Housing and Community Development- Virginia Homeless Solutions Program Grant \$ 539,369 (carried)
7. RESOLUTION: Appropriate funds from the Department of Criminal Justice Systems FREE GRANT School Security Officer: School Resource Officer Incentive Grant Program - \$150,000 (carried)
8. RESOLUTION: Appropriate funds from the Safe Routes to School Non-infrastructure Grant - \$33,150 (carried)

### **CITY MANAGER REPORT**

Stephen Hicks, Deputy City Manager for Operations reported that the consolidated draft of the Charlottesville Development Code has been completed and the 400+ page document is available on the Cville Plans Together website. He shared dates for upcoming meetings. Public Works are staff working on their annual projects to support the start of school. The Transit leadership team continues to work with the Schools leadership team and they hope to have all twenty bus driver slots filled by the end of September. Utilities plans to have the consultant present the preliminary Decarbonization Study update in October.

City Manager Sanders congratulated regional non-profit developers that were recently notified of over \$10 Million in affordable and special needs housing funding that has come to the city and county. In addition to that \$10 Million, \$13.9 Million was awarded to those same groups by the City of Charlottesville. He stated that he extended an offer of employment for the Director for Communications and Public Engagement position. He attended the Charlottesville-Albemarle Back to School Bash, the Kindewood community celebration, and the Better Together Back to School Bash at the Boys & Girls Club. He apologized to the community for difficulties in CitySpace during a public meeting on August 8 and stated that the future Planning Commission and City Council meetings will be in Council Chamber. The quarterly financial report was provided in writing.

### **COMMUNITY MATTERS**

Mayor Snook opened the floor for comments from the public.

1. Joanie Freeman and the Green Grannies encouraged electrifying City buses.
2. William Espinosa, county resident, spoke about the qualities of fossil fuels. He discouraged the use of CNG mass transit vehicles and encouraged use of battery electric buses.
3. Brett Jones, city resident, spoke in support of Ranked Choice Voting.
4. Katie VanLangen, Co-Director for LEAP, spoke in support of Solarize Virginia, to make

going solar easier and more affordable for residents.

5. Karen Katz spoke about the threat from the Atlantis Tree of Heaven invasive species on City-owned land. She requested that the City and County work together to educate the public on the management of these trees.
6. Nicholas Co, city resident, spoke in support of Ranked Choice Voting.
7. Cecilia Lapp Stoltzfus, Manager of Food and Agriculture Programs at the International Rescue Committee (IRC), commended Council and the Department of Parks and Recreation for the land acquisition at Moores Creek.
8. John Hossack, city resident, recommended halting the Rezoning update. He referenced a lack of regional collaboration.
9. Phillip Jones, city resident, asked if the city would do a proclamation for Betty Chambers, who worked on the 97<sup>th</sup> floor of one of the Twin Towers in New York City and died in the September 11, 2001, terrorist attack. She was a graduate of Burley High School and was set to retire in 2002.
10. Bob Gibson, city resident, spoke in support of Ranked Choice Voting.
11. Robin Hoffman, city resident, spoke in support of energy efficiency work done by LEAP, about efforts by Dominion Power to install solar power, and about the success of the Meade Park Farmers Market.
12. Zyahna Bryant, city resident, spoke in support of Ranked Choice Voting and requested more community engagement and education on the topic should Council decide to move forward with it. She spoke in opposition to the Dairy Market expansion project as proposed and presented on July 25, 2023.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### **9. PUBLIC HEARING and ORDINANCE: Approve 601 West Main Street Land Sale (carried)**

Chris Engel, Director of Economic Development, presented the request and answered Council's questions.

Mayor Snook opened the public hearing and with no speakers coming forward, the public hearing was closed.

Councilors discussed the merits of city ownership and upkeep of land, and the use of it for public benefit. They agreed to carry the item to the September 5 meeting on the Action Agenda for second reading and vote.

### **10. RESOLUTION: Approve Compensation Policy and Pay Structure for City of Charlottesville Employees**

City Manager Sanders introduced the item.

Mary Ann Hardie, Director of Human Resources, presented the proposed compensation and pay structure for employees classified as General (unaffiliated). She and the City Manager answered

questions for Council and stated that the cost to implement the Plan will be extensive, and the plan is to make adjustments in a multi-year incremental process. Mr. Sanders thanked Chris Baudo and Jamie Valencia from Human Resources for their related work.

On motion by Pinkston, seconded by Puryear, Council voted 5-0 to APPROVE the resolution establishing the compensation policy and pay structure for City of Charlottesville employees.

**RESOLUTION ADOPTING AN UPDATED COMPENSATION PLAN PAY SCALE  
FOR EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF CHARLOTTESVILLE**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Charlottesville wishes to provide a fair and equitable compensation and classification program for all employees; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Charlottesville adopted a Personnel Policy on October 17, 2022; and

**WHEREAS**, the adopted Personnel Policy requires an updated and revised classification and pay plans, along with a revised and updated compensation policy; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Charlottesville engaged with Gallagher, a global consulting service, to engage in a Classification and Compensation Plan that was completed in March 2023; and

**WHEREAS**, the results of the Classification and Compensation Study have been reviewed by City staff and presented to the City Council that contained recommendations for updates to the classification plan and pay plan; and

**WHEREAS**, Chapter 19, Article I, Section 19-3 of the Charlottesville Code of Ordinances requires that the organization have a pay plan consisting of a salary range for each class of positions in the aforementioned classification plan, which shall provide for increments within such range to be earned by length of service and satisfactory performance; and

**WHEREAS**, Chapter 19, Article I, Section 19-3 of the Charlottesville Code of Ordinances requires that such a pay plan be submitted to the city council by the city manager for review and approval; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Charlottesville engaged in appropriate revisions of the Classification Plan and Pay Plan and Policies in accordance with the presented Classification and Compensation presentation and the aforementioned Code of Ordinances sections;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Charlottesville City Council that the Employee Compensation Plan, also known as a pay plan, and City Compensation Policy be approved with implementation effective August 21, 2023, subject to annual appropriation of funds.

**11. RESOLUTION: Supporting the Sister Cities Commission's request to host a delegation from the Charlottesville Friendship City, Huehuetenango, Guatemala for an exploratory visit**

Edward Herring, Chair of the Sister Cities Commission, presented a recommendation to move forward with the exploratory process for establishing Sister City status with Huehuetenango (Huehue), Guatemala. The three-year Friendship status period began July 1, 2021, and Mr. Herring visited Huehue. The next step would be an exploratory visit by a Huehue delegation to Charlottesville. They have indicated that they will cover their own travel expenses.

On motion by Payne, seconded by Pinkston, Council voted 5-0 (Ayes: Payne, Pinkston, Puryear, Snook, Wade; Noes: none) to APPROVE the resolution authorizing the Sister Cities Commission to host a Huehuetenango delegation exploratory visit.

**RESOLUTION**

**Approving an Exploratory Visit by Huehuetenango Sister Cities Delegation**

**WHEREAS**, following a thorough selection process involving substantial public input, the Charlottesville Sister Cities Commission (CSCC), in 2020, initiated a Sister City partnership with Huehuetenango, Guatemala;

**WHEREAS**, representatives of Charlottesville and Huehuetenango wish to learn more about each city's culture, government, businesses, and institutions, and further explore possible areas for collaboration between the cities;

**WHEREAS**, CSCC guidelines for affiliating with a new Sister City require at least one exploratory visit between the cities as they consider the creation of a Memorandum of Understanding to formalize the terms of a Sister City partnership;

**WHEREAS**, representatives of Huehuetenango's community and local government have expressed a desire to visit the Charlottesville area in the coming months;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Charlottesville City Council that a visit by representatives of Huehuetenango to the Charlottesville area is supported and approved, and the Charlottesville community welcomes the continued collaboration and cultural exchange with Huehuetenango.

**12. RESOLUTION: Resolution to approve Land Acquisition of Property on Moores Creek for Park and Trail Use - 410 Old Lynchburg Road**

Brenda Kelley, Redevelopment Manager, described the process for addressing property acquisition. Chris Gensic, Parks and Trails Planner, presented the request.

On motion by Payne, seconded by Pinkston, Council APPROVED the land acquisition resolution by a vote of 5-0 0 (Ayes: Payne, Pinkston, Puryear, Snook, Wade; Noes: none).



**RESOLUTION  
APPROVING THE ACQUISITION OF LAND AT 410 OLD LYNCHBURG ROAD**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Charlottesville seeks to expand publicly available areas for park, and trail uses, recreational enjoyment, and community agricultural purposes; and

**WHEREAS**, MOORES CREEK FARM LLC (the “Owner”) is the owner of land designated as County Parcel ID 07600-00-00-055E0, located on Interstate 64, Moores Creek and State Route 780 (Old Lynchburg Road), and has indicated a willingness to convey the subject land to the City of Charlottesville for creation of trail(s) and parkland (the “Property”); and

**WHEREAS**, the land to be conveyed, hereinafter the “Property”, is described as follows:

All that certain parcel of land with improvements thereon and appurtenances thereto, situated in the County of Albemarle, Virginia on the north side of Interstate 64 and the east side of State Route 780, containing 8.45 acres, more or less, as shown on a Boundary Survey Plat by Roger W. Ray & Assoc., Inc., dated May 11, 2023.

BEING the same property conveyed to Moores Creek Farm LLC, a Virginia limited liability company, by deed from Erin Lynn Page, Leigh Ann Cason Walsh, Kelley Marie Thomas, Richard Clay Cason, Jr., Hazel Patricia Holland, George Albert Cason, Jr., and Jaqueline Fay Cornachio dated December 1, 2021, and recorded March 16, 2022 in the Clerk’s Office of the Circuit Court of Albemarle County, Virginia, as Instrument No. 202200003237.

**WHEREAS**, Owner has agreed to convey to the City the Property for the purchase price of \$350,000; and

**WHEREAS**, funds are available for the purchase and development of the Property through grants from Virginia Land Conservation Fund and Land and Water Conservation Fund managed by the Parks and Recreation Department (Account PR-001); and

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Parks and Recreation seeks approval from City Council to proceed with the purchase of the above-described Property at a purchase price of \$350,000, with funding supplied by use of funds from the Virginia Land Conservation Fund and the Land and Water Conservation Fund through the Parks and Recreation trails and parkland fund; and

**WHEREAS**, use of such funding shall require the recording of a deed restriction on the parcel referenced herein; and

**WHEREAS**, upon acquisition, the Property at 410 Old Lynchburg Road will be added into the public park system; and

**WHEREAS**, a draft sales Agreement has been approved as to form by the City Attorney's Office and the City Manager, or their designee, is hereby authorized to sign this agreement in a substantially similar format and to proceed with the steps necessary to acquire and convey said land; now, therefore,

**BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Council of the City of Charlottesville, that it hereby authorizes the purchase of the above-described Property for creation of parkland and the placement of deed restrictions on the Property. The City Manager and City Attorney's Office shall take whatever actions are necessary to effect the acquisition of the above-described Property and required recordings, pursuant to the terms and conditions set forth herein.

**13. RESOLUTION: Approve HOME-ARP FY 2023-2024 Action Plan and appropriate funds of approximately \$347,404 (carried)**

Anthony Warn, Grants Coordinator, presented the request to appropriate a one-time allocation from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to support the development of affordable housing.

Noting that this item included two resolutions, Council agreed to carry the items to the September 5, 2023, consent agenda.

**14. RESOLUTION: Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) Programs**

Anthony Warn, Grants Coordinator, and Alex Ikefuna, Department of Community Solutions Director, presented the request. Councilor Payne stated that he prefers to focus HUD funds on historically disenfranchised neighborhoods.

**14a. RESOLUTION: Approve the Program Year (PY) 2022-2023 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) Programs**

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

**Resolution to Approve the  
City of Charlottesville Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER)  
for the Program Year (PY) 2022-2023 CDBG & HOME Programs**

**WHEREAS** the City of Charlottesville has been designated as an Entitlement Community by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and as such is a recipient of federal funds through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) & HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) programs, and

**WHEREAS** the City is a contributing member of the Thomas Jefferson Area HOME

Consortium (TJAHC), in partnership with the counties of Albemarle, Fluvanna, Greene, Louisa and Nelson, and through the Consortium shares in the benefits of participation in HUD's HOME program, and

**WHEREAS** Council approved a 5-Year Consolidated Plan for TJAHC covering federal fiscal years 2018-2022 at a public hearing on May 7, 2018, and a 1-Year Annual Plan for the City of Charlottesville at a public hearing on May 16, 2022; and

**WHEREAS** HUD requires all localities receiving HUD funds to report on their annual accomplishments at the end of each program year through the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) tool; now

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the City Council of Charlottesville, Virginia, hereby approves the city's Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) for PY 2022-2023.

**14b. Resolution to establish City Council Priorities for the PY 2024-2025 CDBG and HOME Programs**

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

**Resolution to Establish Council Priorities for the PY 2024-2025 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) & HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) Programs**

**WHEREAS** the City of Charlottesville has been designated as an Entitlement Community by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and as such is a recipient of federal funds through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) & HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) programs, and

**WHEREAS** the City is a contributing member of the Thomas Jefferson Area HOME Consortium (TJAHC), in partnership with the counties of Albemarle, Fluvanna, Greene, Louisa and Nelson, and through the Consortium shares in the benefits of participation in HUD's HOME program, and

**WHEREAS** in accordance with the City of Charlottesville's HUD-approved Citizen Participation Plan, the city's CDBG/HOME Task Force composed of residents and community representatives will be called on to review requests for funding of potential CDBG & HOME projects and to make recommendations for funding to Council in the Spring of 2024; now

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the City Council of Charlottesville, Virginia, that the priorities and spending allowances for the FY 2024-2025 CDBG & HOME programs shall be as follows:

- A continued emphasis on expanding access to affordable housing opportunities (including but not limited to low-income housing redevelopment); workforce development

(including but not limited to efforts to bolster Section 3 training opportunities and partnerships with the City’s GO programs); microenterprise assistance; access to quality childcare; homeowner rehabilitation and energy-efficiency upgrades; down payment assistance; and improvements to public infrastructure improvements designed to eliminate or reduce barriers to access to public amenities for mobility-impaired residents

- For FY 24-25, \$89,896.51 of CDBG Entitlement funds (EN) shall be set aside for Economic Development programs
- For FY 23-34 \$89,896.51 of CDBG Entitlement funds (EN) shall be set aside for Public Facilities and Improvements, with an emphasis on projects to eliminate or reduce barriers to access for mobility-impaired residents
- The CDBG Admin and Planning budget shall be set at 20% of the total CDBG entitlement
- Any other guidelines or directions Council may wish to give in determining how CDBG and HOME funds should be spent

**15. RESOLUTION: Approving the Sixth Amended Grant Agreement, Charlottesville Supplemental Rental Assistance Program (CSRAP)**

Alex Ikefuna, Director of Community Solutions, presented the request for the annual allocation, formalizing what was already agreed upon.

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

**RESOLUTION  
APPROVING THE SIXTH AMENDED GRANT AGREEMENT FOR THE  
CHARLOTTESVILLE SUPPLEMENTAL RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR  
THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2023**

**WHEREAS**, on June 19, 2017, the City of Charlottesville approved the creation of the city-funded Charlottesville Supplemental Rental Assistance Program (“CSRAP”), and on April 11, 2023, City Council approved an allocation of \$900,000 from the Capital Improvement Program funds to be used for the CSRAP program, which CRHA will administer; and

**WHEREAS** the terms and conditions under which the Charlottesville Redevelopment and Housing Authority (“CRHA”) will administer the CSRAP Program are set forth within a written grant agreement effective for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023, which has been reviewed by City Council this same date.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the City Council of the City of Charlottesville, Virginia, **THAT**:

1. The CSRAP program shall be administered by CRHA in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth within the CSRAP grant agreement effective for the fiscal year

beginning July 1, 2023, which is hereby approved by this City Council; and

2. The City Manager is authorized to execute the CSRAP grant agreement on behalf of the City of Charlottesville, and the City Manager and City staff are authorized and directed to apply the funding allocated above to the CSRAP program in accordance with the terms set out within the CSRAP grant agreement.

## **GENERAL BUSINESS**

### **16. REPORT: Internal Work Group on Gun Violence**

Police Chief Michael Kochis shared background on the workgroup. In May of 2023, Interim City Manager Michael Rogers charged Chief Kochis and Misty Graves with chairing an internal working group comprised of Department Directors with the idea of developing areas of priority to address gun violence within the City of Charlottesville.

On May 26, 2023, the workgroup held its preliminary meeting and agreed that the group would examine data, speak with stakeholders, and identify specific deliverables. On June 20, 2023, the workgroup met again to discuss heat maps, data, and information gleaned from weekly community walks, the youth council and conversations with community stakeholders. On July 19, 2023, the workgroup met with members of the Charlottesville Redevelopment and Housing Authority, (CRHA) to discuss needs and ways City Government can address gun violence within the areas that are most affected. Several initiatives/ideas were discussed relating to CRHA needs. During this meeting ideas were identified and broken down into short- and long-term deliverables. The following is a non-exhaustive list of short-term and long-term deliverables presented by Misty Graves, Department of Human Services Director:

Short-term: 1. Public service announcement campaign for responsible gun ownership; 2. City government career/mentoring program/CIYIP; 3. Graffiti removal; 4. Crime prevention through environmental design (CPTED) assessments of areas most affected by gun crime; 5. City to host teen takeover nights; 6. Restructure of Police Patrol Zones; 7. Implementation of a strategic plan specifically to address gun violence (Cities United Proposal).

Long-term: 1. Youth pre-arrest diversion initiative between CPD and DHS; 2. Identify and procure an undesignated space for youth; 3. Scholarship program for professional licenses such as CDL; 4. The city enter into agreement with PVCC to guarantee employment; 5. Subsidized program fees for city residents to have access to programs.

Joey Lewis, Charlottesville Police Department Lieytenant, made a presentation about the Flock Safety program proposal, a web-based stationary license plate reader cameras). Inez Gonzalez, Executive Director of the Police Civilian Oversight Board, would have access to audit the Flock program.

Vice Mayor Wade and other councilors indicated a desire for public engagement and a public hearing on the Flock program.

## COMMUNITY MATTERS (2)

- Natalie Oschrin, city resident, spoke about the 601 West Main property and asked Council to consider what the owner wants to do with it. She stated that this Council should not use past action as a barometer and she gave ideas for the City to make the land useful. Regarding 0 E. High Street, she stated that street trees should be used in the design of the sidewalk.
- Althea Laughon-Worrell, city resident, spoke about the gun violence presentation and stated that in addition to teens and youth, young adults could benefit from more community resources. She specified the need to provide space and community for Black girls since attention is usually focused on Black boys. She spoke in opposition to the Dairy Market expansion project.
- Zyahna Bryant, city resident, spoke in opposition to the Dairy Market expansion project as proposed on July 25. She recommended that the gun violence group reach out in various ways to more youth besides the Youth Council, which is not very diverse, and to address the gap for youth ages 13-25, particularly people who do not go away to college after high school. She asked for a review of the Youth Opportunities Coordinator position to broaden service beyond black male achievement.

The meeting adjourned at 9:33 p.m.

BY Order of City Council

BY Kyna Thomas, Clerk of Council