

Mike A. Brown

District 1

Jerome Heyward

District 5

Rhonda Jerome, Chair

District 2

CITY OF NORTH CHARLESTON

POLICE EVALUATION RESEARCH COMMITTEE

Montague Terrace

North Charleston Coliseum Complex

August 27, 2020

6:00 p.m.

Samuel L. Hart

District 7

Bob King

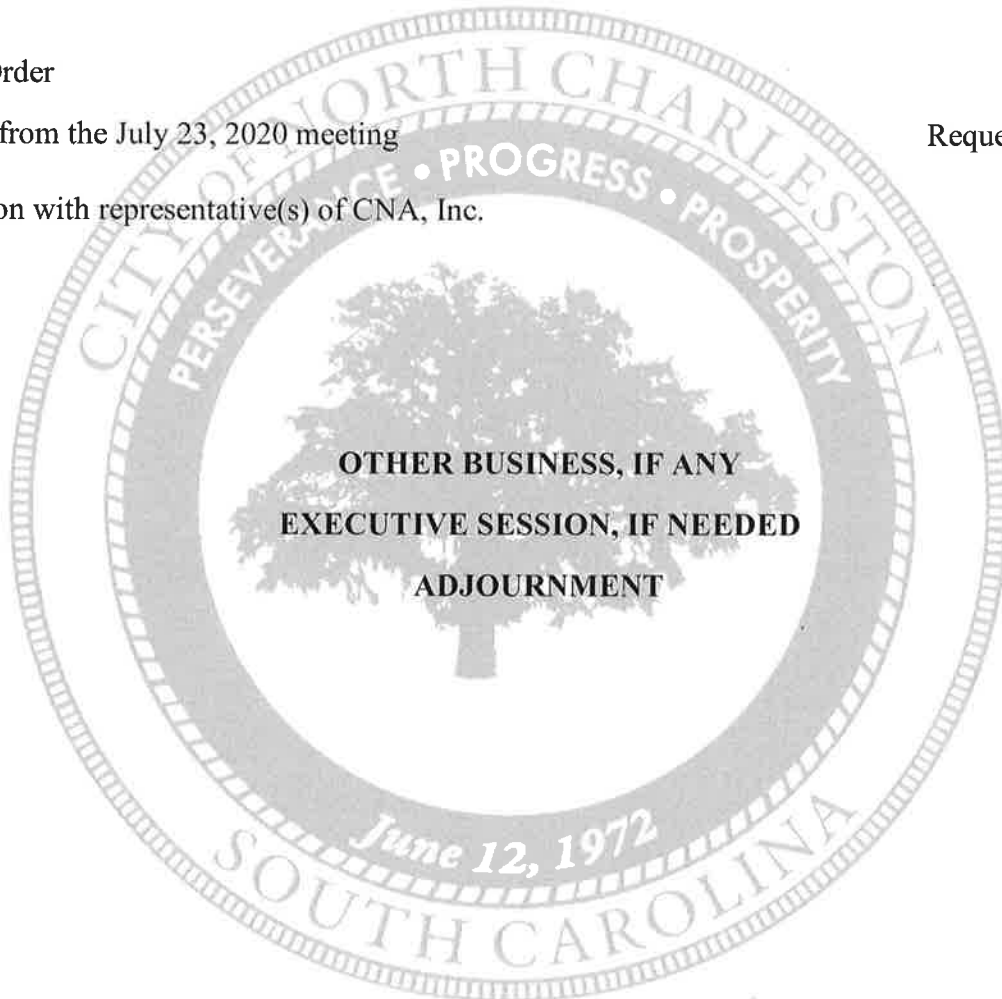
District 8

Chair Jerome

Call to Order

1. Minutes from the July 23, 2020 meeting
2. Discussion with representative(s) of CNA, Inc.
3. Adjourn

Request to Approve



City of North Charleston
Police Evaluation Research Committee
July 23, 2020
Minutes

Chair Rhonda Jerome called to order the meeting of the City of North Charleston Police Evaluation Research Committee at 6:00 p.m. in the Montague Terrace of the North Charleston Coliseum Complex, 5000 Coliseum Drive, North Charleston, SC. Other City Council members in attendance were Mr. Mike Brown (Dist. 1, came in at 6:10 pm), Mr. Jerome Heyward, Mr. Bob King, and Attorney Derk Van Raalte. Excused was Mr. Sam Hart.

1. The first item on the agenda was a request to approve the minutes from the June 22, 2020 Police Evaluation Research Committee meeting.

Motion by Mr. King

To approve minutes from June 22, 2020 Police Evaluation Research Committee meeting as presented.

Supported by Mr. Heyward.

2. The next item on the agenda was the Consideration of Potential for Expedited Auditor Selection.

At the prior Committee meeting the Committee directed Staff to investigate preparation of a possible Scope of Work and explore the procurement process that would follow. Two things became clear during that process. *First*, that there was substantial internal interest in the scope of work previously undertaken by the City of Charleston. *Second*, that even after development of a ground-up North Charleston scope of work, considerable time would be required to work through the normal procurement process. These observations led staff to consider whether it might be possible significantly expedite the process in a way that would meet all goals.

The City of Charleston's auditor, CNA, is familiar with the general process of performing a racial bias audit, and general issues in the Lowcountry. CNA also has a decades-long history of studying the process of how to most effectively study racial bias across the nation. While the Committee and Staff could expend significant time to develop a Scope of work, the Committee and Staff would be undertaking this without the benefit of past experience. Instead, Staff wondered if it might be more effective to invite CNA in to meet with the Committee, discuss the Committee and community's goals, and then, based on its history and expertise, return to the Committee a proposed Scope of Work with associated cost proposal / work plan for CNA to accomplish it. The City's purchasing regulations permit waiving the standard bid procedures in such circumstances.

Derk's explanation.

Mr. King questions sole sources of CNA.

Mr. Heyward encourages CNA and made a motion to invite CNA into the process.

Mr. King disagrees.

Mr. Heyward asked to adjourn the meeting.

Mr. King ask counsel to explain his scope of work prepared.

Counsel explained two scopes of work.

Mr. Brown (Dist. 1) arrives at 6:10 p.m.

Mr. Heyward motion again to invite the CNA to provide sole source presentation.

Mr. King voted No, Mr. Heyward, Mr. Brown (Dist.1), and Ms. Jerome voted Yes.

Mr. Heyward mentions separate meetings that occurred, Mr. King was unaware of meetings.

Ms. Jerome explains the meeting that occurred with the committee chair and staff.

Mr. Brown (Dist.1), considering what's at stake, all members should be present with staff.

Counsel, Derk attended committees, met with police, circulated with chair, and asked if presented scope is closed to committee's wishes. A draft was sent to committee.

The committee tonight is to review and decide on the direction and or scope of work.

Mr. Heyward complimented the Chief. Says Chief Burgess is in awkward position to advocate for company.

Mr. King suggest adopting a scope and asked for further explanation on two scopes, Legal and Mr. Heyward provided.

Derk, committee must decide the scope, he's only providing counsel.

Chief Burgess stated the staff scope was developed with legal, leaning on City of Charleston's audit wants to implement whatever committee decides to get the work done.

Chief Burgess recommends CNA.

Derk stated the are three options: CNA informed provided scope, Call in the CNA to perform scope of work, or invite CNA to inform and improve current scope of work.

Mr. King says that would waive standard bid procedure.

Only issue with Mr. Heyward's scope is the omission of Latino community.

Ms. Jerome calls on public speakers Jerod Frazier, Nashawn Hicks, and Marcus McDonald.

Mr. King encourages committee to invite a variety of bids so not to waive standard bid.

Derk advises to take bid or invite CNA for sole source.

Motion by Mr. Heyward

To invite CNA to present to the committee

Mr. King questions transparency

Mr. Brown (Dist.1) advocates to bring in CNA

Motion supported by Mr. Brown (Dist. 1)

Mayor Summey speaks and supports motion

Mr. King, Mr. Heyward, Mr. Brown (Dist.1) and Ms. Jerome, voted yes.

Respectfully Submitted,

These minutes were approved on:

Ryan Johnson, Acting Municipal Clerk
