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ITEM 1: CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Flaute called the Riverside, Ohio Special City Council Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. at the Riverside Administrative Offices located at 5200 Springfield Street, Suite 100, Riverside, Ohio, 45431.

Mayor Flaute invited new council member Dan Teaford to lead the pledge of allegiance.

ITEM 2: ROLL CALL: Council attendance was as follows: Ms. Campbell, present; Mr. Curp, present; Deputy Mayor Denning, present; Ms. Fry, present; Ms. Lommatzsch, present; Mr. Teaford, present; and Mayor Flaute, present.

Staff present was as follows: Mark Carpenter, City Manager; Dalma Grandjean, Law Director, and Katie Lewallen, Clerk of Council.

ITEM 3: EXCUSE ABSENT MEMBERS: No members of council were absent.

ITEM 4: SWEARING IN OF NEW COUNCIL MEMBER: Mayor Flaute administered the oath of office to Councilman Dan Teaford.

ITEM 5: CHARTER REVIEW:

A) Meet the Candidates -

Ms. Lori Luckner: My name is Lori Sue Luckner; I've lived in Riverside 20 years now. I have been involved before. I know most of you up there. I was on Parks & Rec, Multi-modal, and the last Charter Review Committee. I worked at Wright State for 17 years and now I'm an administrative assistant for home health care. I just want to get a little bit involved again with being on the charter review.

Mr. Curp: What do you feel would be the key element of the charter review commission; what you'd like to see them do, what you think they are supposed to be doing? Ms. Luckner: I know last time; it takes time to go through each piece of the charter to see how it compares to other council's around, other cities; see if we want to change anything, review it. It is a tedious project, but it is just a matter of seeing if anything needs updated and brought into modern time so to speak. It is always good to look at it and see if there is anything we need to update.

Ms. Lommatzsch: Lori, I know I sat with you on that one; how do you feel about the fact that we made recommendations to the ballot and the residents voted it down? Does it leave you any bad taste? Ms. Luckner: No, no, not at all. I don't have any bad taste at all about that. We made the suggestions and it was the people's choice not to and that is the way it goes. Sometimes it works; sometimes it doesn't, and you just continue on. Ms. Lommatzsch: Do you think some of those same issues are relevant today? Ms. Luckner: I would have to look at them again to see what they were five years ago.

Mayor Flaute: There is no special thing that you are looking at? Ms. Luckner: No, no. Mayor Flaute: Very open minded then. Ms. Luckner: Yes.

Deputy Mayor Denning: Your schedule is very open because I am not sure how often they are going to meet. Ms. Luckner: It depends on what nights they meet; it all depends. If I remember last time we set a schedule. For the most part, I can work around things.

Mr. Todd Pultz: I'm Todd Pultz; live at 565 Recess Drive. I grew up in Riverside, and have been here my whole life. I'm currently the Vice-President of Operations for Moonlight Security. We operate out of six cities in three different states; we also manage security for a nationwide operation as well. I think what probably prepares me for a charter review is that a lot of my Masonic and Fraternal background I spent a lot of time going through bylaws and things along those lines. More than just updating what the city does

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from a charter standpoint, I think it is also important to look to the future and see what might need to be changed down the road. Maybe not right now, but being retro-active is not always the best thing for a city to be successful so we need to find out some things maybe that are going to come up in a few years and try to take a good outlook on that to make some adjustments ahead of time before trying to recoup and fix things after they went the wrong way. Mayor Flaute: Where did you live before? Mr. Pultz: I grew up in Crown Village Trailer Park behind Stebbins. Milk and cheese and boxed macaroni were my meal for 16 years.

Ms. Lommatzsch: So your time commitment, this usually runs about six or eight weeks, maybe as much as once a week. Mr. Pultz: I am at your beck and call. Ms. Lommatzsch: I mean it just depends; they usually section things off and give you time to review everything before you come to each meeting, but it can run as long as six or eight weeks. Mr. Pultz: I am fortunate enough that in my position in the company I kind of make my own schedule and have the support of a family that gives me the time away. Mr. Teaford: Your evenings are free? Mr. Pultz: Yes.

Mayor Flaute: Can you tell me something how you worked with a group and how you interacted with a group and came to a decision? Mr. Pultz: Sure, we do it all the time. Most of what my job is now is negotiating contracts. A lot of times I am negotiating security contracts with large municipalities. One of our largest clients is the City of Dayton, everyone comes from a different walk of life and have a different opinion, but the big thing is for us to find wherever that common ground is no matter how far away we need to be on other issues, find that common ground, work there and build from there and at least figure out the small things we can figure out right off the bat, and then tackle the big ones as you get into it. You can't be so stuck on your opinion and beliefs that you are not willing to listen to somebody else or see their views or at least try to get there from that perspective because we are not all right although we have our own opinions. We have to work together and know everybody has some different views.

Ms. Fry: On your application, you talked about the challenges you see in the community and your desire to conquer them, can you elaborate on that? Mr. Pultz: I grew up in Riverside my whole life; I've been around and my family is still here. There are lots of challenges that plague the City of Riverside. When I say plague, I don't mean that in the most horrible terms as it comes across. I think one I have seen for many years is the financial piece of things and I think you guys feel that as well as the city council. I sat in here last time when you were talking about a fire grant and the money they wanted for that. It wasn't just how much money can you get, but how much money is it going to cost the city. I forget who asked those questions, but those were the right questions to ask. I think more than that Riverside has the same challenges as Dayton. For me, one of the big passions I have is the opioid addiction and that causes a lot of issues in our city that are the unintended consequences of drug addiction. As a security company, we work very closely with a lot of clinics and other organizations. The owner of our security company also owns some treatment clinic and housing. My wife and I have a rental property, LLC, where we have a few rentals in the City of Dayton and a big part of that is transitioning people from addiction treatment into housing into their work environment. I don't know if that falls under charter review, but you ask me about the challenges the City of Riverside has and I think that is the biggest one. We went from a security company of 100 + people on the street that never had to deal with it to 50 percent of my officers now carrying Narcan in their back pocket. Probably not during charter review, but when you ask me about the challenges the city faces that is what I would say and suggest the city council to tackle and get ahead of the curve here. Ms. Lommatzsch: The charter is the backbone of the city that is what rules everything we do.

Ms. Kathy Stankowski: My name is Kathy Stankowski and I've lived in Riverside my whole life. My parents lived here for 60 years. We are the original village of Riverside. To be honest about the charter, I don't really know a lot. I've read about it to kind of get

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updated to what it is and I see where it is extremely important. There are a lot of things in Riverside, living here all my life, a lot of zoning and everything kind of dumpy in some places and I think the zoning needs to be stricter. Not so much telling them to spend money to fix their place, but clean the place. I feel there should be more growth here for businesses coming in. There are so many things that can be done or try to be done that I would like to be a part of. I worked at Miami Valley Hospital in the emergency room, I was in social services and now I am an office manager at Life Essentials where we do guardianships for indigent people with mental health that has no family. We become their health care power of attorney.

Deputy Mayor Denning: You aren't going to have any issues with your schedule in the evenings? Ms. Stankowski: I'm a straight 8:00 am - 4:30 pm and home at night.

Mayor Flaute: I know you work with groups and non-profits; how do you deal with coming to decisions? Ms. Stankowski: We are a non-profit, yes. Very good, I have been there for nine months as the office manager and we do a thing called socks for seniors. We collect and ask people to donate socks. They normally gather around 3,000. This year, I was able to get over 6,000 pairs of socks. We have 190 clients; they all got stockings with 10 pairs in it. We give most of the Medicaid facilities like Maria Joseph, Dunbar; they all go 250 pairs, half for women and half for men. We took 2,000 pairs to the Veteran's Administration. This was the first time I organized it; I had no clue what I was going into because the girl that did it left and I handled it and I doubled it.

Mr. Jeff Skinner: My name is Jeff Skinner; I have lived in Riverside my whole life also; grew up in Overlook Homes went to Overlook School, a lot of people don't remember Overlook School. Like other people were saying, I think there are some improvements that can be made in Riverside, but Riverside is a good place to grow up. I've enjoyed living here and I would just like to be able to take part in that and be able to help make the decisions to make changes if they need it and if they don't need made then back up that decision.

Mr. Teaford: Have you ever been on any of the volunteer boards that we have? Mr. Skinner: No, sir. Mr. Teaford: Is there a reason why or just been busy because we always need volunteers for a lot of different situations and it is admirable for anybody to step up and volunteer for these boards, but o.k. thank you. Ms. Lommatzsch: It is a good place to start.

Mayor Flaute: You won't have conflicts? Mr. Skinner: In my job, I do home medical, now I am on call one night a week, but if you set a schedule, I can tell them I can't do this night so that shouldn't be a problem, if I know in advance.

Mr. Benjamin Lowery: Good evening, mayor; good evening, city council. My name is Ben Lowery and just moved to Riverside approximately a year-and-a-half ago over on 553 Recess Drive. I've been in the military for approximately 12 years and my last assignment was right here at Wright-Patt. I have since transitioned out; I'm in the Reserve still. While being in the military, I've served in special operations command along with several of the investigative agencies along there. As an accredited federal agent, I do believe I can be pretty objective when it comes to reviewing technical documents to include the charter. I can provide as much clarity or objectivity as possible to see if it is in the view of the way the city is supposed to be moving towards the progressive manner I do believe you guys want to roll. I chose to move to Riverside because I saw a lot of potential for my children to grow here with the opportunities of Wright-Patt being here along with the educational opportunities, I felt this was a good place to start my family.

Mr. Teaford: Being in the Reserve, do you know when you might have to go do something? Mr. Lowery: Absolutely sir, I'm in a unique position called an IMA program; where everything I set to include the time I actually depart that is 12 days straight, once a

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year. The rest of the days are during the day unless I am volunteering to help with some of the investigative apparatuses that come from Wright-Patt and that would be however much I want to be involved. To answer your question, I'm pretty flexible when it comes to this.

Deputy Mayor Denning: You are a registered voter? Mr. Lowery: Yes, sir. Deputy Mayor Denning: Only being here a year-and-a-half, you know. Mayor Flaute: Being new that is a good perspective that we need, also; it's good to have the old perspective, too. You worked with groups in your past military work? Mr. Lowery: Absolutely, a lot of it has to do with coming together as a team and deciding as a group what is the best opportunity. I've never been in a leadership role so pretty much wherever they tell me I have to go; I go with a smile as long as it makes sense along the way. Mayor Flaute: Being in the military shows a lot of leadership there. Thank you for your service to our country.

Mr. Don Rauch: The name is Rauch, rhymes with 'wow'. I was born in Dayton then lived in the west side in farm country and the only thing I knew about Riverside here was when we went by to go up to Ohio State and watch football games. I graduated from Ohio State in 1963 in accounting and economics. I spent 20 years in the Air Force as an officer in the Air Force and retired here. It was nice I came back to this area; my parents were here so they had their grandchildren to see awhile and we stayed here. This is probably one of the finest places to live of all the places I have been. Just a whole lot of people that came here and said wow, this is different. We, Margaret and I, I say that for the two of us because we are both here, it was ten-and-a-half years we moved to the City of Riverside. We are voters here; we are registered; we vote every year. I work with the voting thing three different years and after I retired, I went to the place in east Dayton to do things with people that need some help and got to know a lot of people that were living quite differently than I have in my life. When you talk about what I can and can't do timewise, we have already made a long time ago to be gone 12 days in April which would be like one week; if that is a problem then that's I problem, I can't change that. Ms. Lommatzsch: You don't get beat up for missing one meeting. It is just a regular thing that has to happen over a period of time. As long as there is a quorum, is there? I'm not sure there is a requirement, but you are allowed once in a while. Mr. Curp: The group may be finished by April. Mr. Rauch: I did take some time today to go through a lot of that stuff on the Charter information. There are things that can be done; I can see that. Everybody tries to control their dogs, but not those cats running around everywhere and I never I could find that word in there so maybe we could do something about that, especially the feral ones. We have one that is as big as a dog. There are some other things that I find to be very interesting.

Mayor Flaute: I've know you a long time; you've worked with groups in the past and how do you come to a resolution with them? Mr. Rauch: If it was the general, I just said, yes, sir. Other times, I did have people, as a manager of other people; I went to AFIT and got an advanced degree while I was here.

Ms. Margaret Sanderson: Hi, my name is Margaret Sanderson; I live at 910 Silverleaf Drive and you just heard from my husband Don. I was raised on the west side of Dayton over near Welcome Stadium. My parents moved to Beavercreek in 1956 and I was in Beavercreek from 1956 until my first marriage. With my first marriage of 17 years, I traveled extensively as he was in the US Navy and we lived on both coasts and four years in Italy. Then, when we came back we lived in Wyoming for a few years. Then I ended up back here in Ohio where we got divorced. I've been married to Don now for 18 years; have lived in Riverside for 10-and-a-half years. We had a house in Beavercreek, but it was a three-quarter acre lot and we found we were spending all of our weekend time working on the yard. We decided to sell that house and move to a property that had a smaller yard. When I came back to Beavercreek, I got my real estate license and I sold real estate for 25 years. I was very much involved with the community and with people and what was happening. I am very interested in economic development; I'm especially interested in what is going to happen with the corridor in front of Wright-Patterson Air Force Base that is why I thought it would be good to be on the charter. I'd like to know some of the ins-

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and-outs of what is going to happen in the community. As far as talking in front of groups, I've been the president of my garden club for the past four years so I speak every month at the garden club, and I volunteer with the garden club to do the flower gardens here for the City of Riverside. I have two children, one living and one deceased that's it.

Mayor Flaute: You won't have any problem with the time commitment? Ms. Sanderson: No, except for the first of April when we will be on vacation. Other than that, I am retired. A lot of the members of my garden club are getting older so we are switching to more day time meetings. We used to always, it is in our charter to have our meetings at 7:30 pm on Tuesday night, but now we are having more and more at 1:30 pm or 11:00 am; we are doing daytime meetings so the seniors don't have to be on the roads at night. That leaves me free for evenings.

Deputy Mayor Denning: On your original application you said alternate, but you would rather be a full-blown member. Ms. Sanderson: Whatever the city needs. If I could be full that would be fine; as an alternate would be fine. I'm just interested in this particular thing of the charter.

Mayor Flaute: You said you served in the Navy or your parents? Deputy Mayor Denning: Her first husband. Ms. Lommatzsch: She served as well; she served her 17 years, too. Mayor Flaute: Thank you for your service. Ms. Sanderson: As a Navy wife, yeah. I had one son that was Army Special Forces; and one son that was a Marine. Now I am married to an ex-Air Force so the only affiliation I do not have is Coast Guard.

Mr. David Watson: My name is David Watson and I live pretty much in the house that I was born in on Chesterfield Circle near Beverly Gardens. I've lived there my whole life with the exception of a 25 year period when I lived in the City of Dayton, when I was employed in the City of Dayton. If I haven't lived there, I've lived here in Riverside in one form or another. I was laughing the other day telling somebody that I've never lived anywhere further away than five miles from where I was born and the guy I was talking to started laughing. He said, "You are going to be buried at Woodland Cemetery, aren't you?" I said, "Yeah." He said, "That's more than five miles of where you are living now." I am here; I have no reason to leave. This is my home; it was my home when it was Mad River Township; it's my home now. I've grown up in this area. I've seen a lot of changes mostly for the good and I am happy to be here. I don't have any experience whatsoever serving on a council of any sort. I have read the charter in the past and am familiar with some of that stuff. It is an awful lot like the old manual procedure when I was working in the City of Dayton. If I can get by that then I can analyze this stuff. I found some things in the manual procedure years ago that I knew needed to be changed or improved and I would just like to do that again as far as that goes. I'm retired; I have an awful lot of free time so I can schedule a lot of things that I can fit with me as far as that goes without having to cancel other things. One of the things I do, I might as well say, I got into background acting about eight months ago where you have independent films or major films and they have people come and stand around and be in the background. I'm good at doing that; I don't have lines. I have some lines coming up and most of this stuff happens on the weekends, but I can adjust my things that way, too. I'm to the point nobody wants me anyway so I can pick and choose my roles or what I like to do; something that intrigues me. It is one of the reasons I got on this, too, it is just something that I am intrigued with; it is interesting to me and I want to do the best I can do to help out.

Ms. Lommatzsch: David needs to be thanked for his 25 years as a first responder because I am sure there were many years he was not thanked as a first responder. Mr. Watson: Yeah, I was a police officer in Dayton 25 years. Ms. Lommatzsch: So he does have a perspective. Mr. Watson: One of the things I was an active person on was the hostage negotiation team with the City of Dayton for five years. I was proud of the fact that all the time in the approximately 35 things that I was on there, never got anybody injured, never got anybody hurt. I was looking the other day they had a standoff when it was -16⁰ or -17⁰, and nobody

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got hurt and everyone got home safe. I was also proud of the fact when I was training recruits that I never got anybody in trouble and never got anybody hurt so when I set out to do what I was supposed to do; I did it right.

Ms. April Franklin: Thank you for taking my application, sorry it was late. My name is April Franklin; I've been living in Riverside for three years, but I became a resident about a year ago. We bought a home here in Riverside, and I am registered to vote. I am a military spouse; my husband is getting ready to retire after 30 years and so we plan to stay in the area at least for the next five years or so. I have three boys that are all grown-up; I have one left in the house that goes to school here. I don't have any experience with charter review, but my experience in volunteer service includes spending time in the schools with my kids, PTSO President for several years; vice-president for a couple of years. I also spent time in church doing volunteer stuff; I organized their garage sales and we used to feed the children once a week in the neighborhood because it is a smaller area so I organized that. Other than that, I loved political science; I love politics. I think what I can bring to this charter review is I spend a lot of time listening to military and I am shocked at what I hear from military individuals. We love where we live; I do not think it is a bad place to live, but it has become a negative tone in a lot of the military. All of our friends go outside where the schools are better and things like that. I see it differently and at one time, you had a lot of military because a lot of my neighbors are retired military. I'm interested in getting involved in the community and I think just my time in the military and living in different places, I can bring a different perspective to some of the things we will talk about. I am a person who when we debate, I debate. I don't debate with emotion; I'm more of a logical thinker. It's kind of o.k. does this make sense and how do we get around this without bringing in all the emotion to the subject matter. A lot of times that is what happens, our emotions are what we personally want. Government to me is still it's 'we', it's not about 'me'. It is about what is best for us in the community.

Deputy Mayor Denning: Are you from Boston? Ms. Franklin: No, I'm from Wisconsin so it's not cold here. Deputy Mayor Denning: I recognized an accent; I just wasn't sure where. Ms. Franklin: A lady said to me the other day, "How's that weather outside?" I said, "It's winter." Here I chuckle, in Wisconsin, once it gets cold; it stays cold, we are waiting for April to roll around. In Dayton, it is like five days later it is 40°. Deputy Mayor Denning: It's going to be 50 or 60 on Saturday. Ms. Franklin: I will say I love this community. I am really outdoorsy; I'm involved in Metro Parks and Dayton Hikers. I am out experiencing Dayton all the time. People say there is nothing to do there, well; there is a lot to do here. It is just a matter if you want to get out and do it. I talk to people who are like, "Where did you go? I lived here my whole life I've never heard of that." People are like what is the Metro Parks. There are 19 of them and there is plenty of hiking and good things to do there so anyway.

Ms. Lommatzsch: Where do you live? Ms. Franklin: I don't know what it is called; I just know my street, (from the audience) Spinning Hills. We love it up there; it's nice and quiet and my neighbors are all great.

Deputy Mayor Denning: You won't have any problem with the schedule in the evenings? Ms. Franklin: No, I've been lucky to be a stay at home mom and now I am retired, well, I've been retired the last 30 years. Mayor Flaute: You still have a son at home. Ms. Franklin: Yeah, I don't see him much besides when his battery is dead.

Ms. Lommatzsch: It is absolutely wonderful to see new faces here tonight that are interested in getting involved in our city. Mayor Flaute: And I feel they are highly qualified people. Any other comments about our group of applicants? Seeing none, we will put our applicants on. Does April make number nine? Ms. Lommatzsch: We don't have a limit do we? Ms. Lewallen: It is nine. Ms. Lommatzsch: Nine and an alternate; that is why I spoke to Margaret about being an alternate. Ms. Lewallen: Jesse Maxfield makes nine; he will make it next week to the work session. Mayor Flaute: You will be the alternate Ms.

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Margaret. This is a good group. Mr. Curp: The alternate can come to the meetings. Ms. Lommatzsch: Would it be council's favor for the lawyer to explain briefly to these folks the expectation? Mayor Flaute: It's the next thing on the agenda.

B) Charter Review Purpose and Progress

Ms. Grandjean: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. Basically, if you look at the charter there are nine articles that are substantive that aren't just form, and need to be examined and discussed. What we would be discussing what the ramifications of the current charter provisions are and whether anybody has any suggestions for how it might be changed. You do not have an obligation to recommend changes to the charter, but you have the responsibility to be informed and consider whether any changes should be recommended to council. When we complete our work, then we make recommendations to council as to what charter revisions should be put on the ballot. Basically, they should be important changes; if there are important changes to be made then perhaps some minor trivial changes can be made, but I don't think the city is going to have an election about some minor change that doesn't have any real consequence in the charter. My role would be to advise you as to the legal interpretation of each charter provision is and what alternatives there might be and what additions there might be based on experience in the city. I am thinking we probably want to have nine meeting, is that right? Ms. Lewallen: There was a schedule of six last time and then a seventh to fine tune anything. Ms. Grandjean: Given there are nine substantive articles there are probably some that we could even get done earlier. In regards to the question of whether you need a quorum or not, the charter commission can meet without a quorum, but can't really act without a quorum so if anything is to be voted on, any business conducted, then we would need a majority of the members to be present because a majority of the members would be required to vote on anything. So if we want to vote on whether to recommend a particular change to an article then we would want to have a majority present. If there weren't there could still be discussion and then taken up at the next meeting. It is important work. You might look at the charter as the city's constitution. It is the framework that governs the laws that can be enacted by council. The citizen's approve the charter. It is important work, and it is done every five years.

Ms. Stankowski: Is there paperwork or anything that we can look at, learn it, like maybe what the last one was like? Ms. Grandjean: We could provide you with what the changes were for last time. Ms. Lewallen: The recommendations, yes; not multiple copies tonight, but I can get those. Ms. Grandjean: It is essentially reading the text of the charter and then talking about it, and thinking about what it actually means and what the ramifications are. Deputy Mayor Denning: The charter is online on the city's website. Ms. Grandjean: It is the text. Katie, will you be putting together a notebook for them? Ms. Lewallen: Yes; I have that. Ms. Grandjean: We did that last time; you will have a notebook with the text of the charter along with an agenda, which we will set up at our organizational meeting. Mayor Flaute: You will need to vote on a chairman, is that correct? Ms. Grandjean: Yes. Ms. Lommatzsch: Have you decided when you are going to have your meeting? Ms. Lewallen: No; I was going to send out a group email and do it that way, which is kind of my thought to make sure that was appointed got on and it was on the resolution to set up what is going to work best and get a schedule together. Ms. Grandjean: Do we want to discuss it now? Does anybody have a day they are not available? I have a preferred day, which would be Wednesdays. Ms. Lewallen: There is one other person that is not here yet and that is kind of why I wanted to make sure; they will be heard next week. Ms. Grandjean: Well, we can see if they are available on Wednesday, and that would make it easy. We have a very cooperative group; I'm looking forward to this. From the audience a question on how long were the meetings. Ms. Grandjean: About an hour; meetings will be here. Do they get to sit up there? Ms. Lewallen: They do; there are nine seats. You and I will be sitting out there and they will be sitting up here. Mayor Flaute: The public is invited to these meetings. Ms. Grandjean: They are public meetings. Mayor Flaute: They may be Facebook Live; we are trying to do that. We are still trying to work through some issues. There may be questions from the general public; those who are watching you,

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which you wouldn't address that night, but those might help you in guiding you when you have your following meeting. Ms. Grandjean: Would we be looking at Facebook on a computer? Mayor Flaute: No, it will be live on what you are doing and citizen's will then have opportunity to make comments, which someone is going to have to address after the meeting. Ms. Franklin: When you have Facebook Live it helps to have someone who is corresponding; if you attract them at that moment, it doesn't mean you have to give them an answer, but people like to be recognized that you heard them. Mayor Flaute: Fair enough, whether or not that will happen, I can't guarantee, but I think it will be a good thing for the general public to see and listen to.

Mayor Flaute: I just want to say we have to do this every five years. Ms. Sanderson: Who was on your last charter review, any of the same people? Ms. Lewallen: Lori Luckner is the only one from the last time. Mayor Flaute: We do this every five years so it is very important your work here. I want to publically say thank you to our clerk of council some years this doesn't happen as quickly or as well as it did this year and our clerk worked very hard on it so Katie, thank you very much for your work and the work you will need to be doing the next couple of months. We appreciate that.

ITEM 6: CITIZEN COMMENTS: Mayor Flaute invited Ms. Freda Patterson to come forward and asked that she limit her time to three minutes.

Ms. Patterson: I love my neighborhood and I love our city. I have always been proud to say that I am from Riverside until now. Council had several good honest people who really care about our city that applied for this new position. You had plenty to choose a member from. We all applied by the deadline; we had everything in by your set deadline. Now, we came to the meetings; we answered all your questions except for the one who had an excused emergency prior to the meeting who was at the following meeting. So, explain to me why one person was permitted to apply a week past the deadline and this position was posted December 7 on the Chamber of Commerce page saying that it was going to be an open position. That gave everyone a full month to prepare. Mr. Teaford did not apply until the 14th of January. Four days after the meeting where we all spoke. How and why was this allowed? He was out of town with his son; he said. Did he not have access to a phone, email, etc... for over a month? An extension was not made for anyone else, nor was it posted publicly that there was an extension for people to apply for this position. I thought rules were rules, what happened to that? Or do we just follow rules are meant to be broken? That is right, some of you do. Let's look at this. A past council member who was convicted of public intoxication and domestic violence; a current member who was convicted of sexual acts that had his record expunged; Mr. Teaford should fit right in with you guys seeing as how he has a conviction for menacing. Bottom line, you went against the rules. You appointed one of your own, but then you question why no one comes to your meetings? Obviously, it wouldn't make a difference, would it? For the first time in my life I am ashamed to say that I live in Riverside, and I am definitely ashamed of the Riverside City Council. You are all old enough to know better.

Ms. Fry: We had an unfortunate event in that when we discussed we did not want to have a hard and fast deadline the recording was not working at that point in time. Unfortunately, if you were not in the lobby, you were not privy to the discussion that we had that basically said...Mayor Flaute: No, ma'am. Ms. Patterson: In writing it said there was a deadline; in writing I have the copy from the Chamber of Commerce. Mayor Flaute: Please sit down. Ms. Fry: We gave the direction to the clerk of council that we wanted to post a suggested time frame but not a deadline; unfortunately, because we did not have a recording of that, it did not happen the way it was requested. Ms. Patterson: After it was posted there was nothing that came back that said excuse me, there is not an actual deadline, black and white, deadline. Mayor Flaute: Any other questions or comments that council would like to make? Mr. Curp: Just that we spoke about this amongst the council in that initially we set an early deadline and an issue came up about what happens if between the time of the deadline and we review the paperwork and have a meeting to review the paperwork

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amongst the council and talk about preferences, those kinds of things, what if we did have more paperwork come in from other highly qualified people? We had the situation this evening where we had paperwork from nine other people and Ms. Franklin came in this evening gave us paperwork this evening. I am not a person who would deny Ms. Franklin to express her interest in being a part of this group. Excuse me; I am not one who would discourage Ms. Franklin or anybody else who would come in at the eleventh hour, last minute, define it the way you will, and be heard. That was the position we took with the opening on the city council and that was if there were people who submitted paperwork after the recommended date that we wanted to receive the initially paperwork that we still wanted to consider those people and not turn anybody away and that is what we did. The one thing I will say is that after we screened everybody, after we interviewed everybody, there were no people that we deemed to be unqualified. We took a look at everybody and said all these people qualified; we would be interested in having each and every one of these people serve in the vacant position. Unfortunately, we only had one vacant seat we could appoint a person to. It ended up we used our best judgment and went by the guidance we established for ourselves and we made a good appointment. And, if we had appointed somebody else, that would have been a good appointment. There's no loses here.

Ms. Campbell: I know that I was on the BZA board before I came on council. Would you consider maybe consider one of the committees? Ms. Patterson: After what I had seen happen which was very unfair to everyone else who applied, at this point no. I had several of you council members that I spoke with through messaging I won't mention names of what was brought up, but from my understanding it was a surprise that Mr. Teaford come up on the day of the meeting. Once again, I know people in Riverside, I hear, I see, and I know exactly why it happened and it was unfair to every other applicant that applied for that position. Mayor Flaute: I don't know what your allegations are but I don't want to know because whatever they are, I don't believe they are true. Ms. Patterson: Would you like to see them; they are right here on my phone still, all the messages.

Ms. Campbell: I had talked to you before, but then I got sick and I was in the hospital for the last week and I didn't get back to you. I said I would check and find out because I didn't know for sure. Ms. Patterson: Correct, and did you not say that you just received an email that day saying that Mr. Teaford had applied and you were shocked, too? Ms. Campbell: I never said anything about being shocked. Mayor Flaute: We were surprised. Ms. Campbell: I didn't want to tell you anything for sure until I checked back and then I ended up going to the hospital. Ms. Patterson: Once again it seemed like there was an add-on. I did not hear from any council member prior to that there wasn't a deadline.

Mayor Flaute invited Ms. Jan Pitzer to speak and asked that she keep her comments to three minutes.

Ms. Pitzer: My comments are also regarding the appointment in the vacant seat. Beginning with the discussion of the dates, this was during the December 20th council meeting of which the audio/video was not working for a certain period of time. During that discussion little hint here, always have the backup recorder going; we seem to a lot of problems with our audio/video. I do have an issue when on an application two applicants, one of which was seated in the seat, answered the question of 'have you ever been convicted of a crime', both checked no. Both have been. I personally have never been arrested or convicted, but I think if I would that would not be something that would slip my mind or forgotten. I have a real problem with telling the truth. If you don't answer a question truthfully, how can I trust you in other situations? During the appointment, we, the residents, entrust council to place the best person in that seat. During an election, it is the voter's responsibility to check out the people running for the seat. I have attended and been present for several council appointments. None of them happened the way this one did. I'm not sure why the law director went back into the executive session discussing the candidates. When previous council has been appointed by council for a vacant seat, there has been kind of a public discussion; there wasn't. During Sunshine Laws, there cannot be a roll call taken in

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executive session. I can only assume that there was implied voting done back there because I have never seen when council came out that before it was you wrote down who you chose on a piece of paper, you handed it to the council clerk, she tallied up the two top vote getters, then they were announced, you did another piece of paper and when you came out you did an automatic. Well, I shouldn't say immediately, but there was other business handled then you got to that and it was a roll call. There was an implied some type of voting. Maybe not a roll call, but something had transpired back in executive session and I have a problem with that. We are violating the Sunshine Laws.

Ms. Campbell: We don't vote in the meeting. Mayor Flaute: We never did vote in the meeting and that is one of the reasons why our law director came back there to make sure we did everything correctly. You can ask her; it was all done correctly.

ITEM 21: ADJOURNMENT

Deputy Mayor Denning motioned to adjourn. Ms. Campbell seconded the motion. All were in favor; none were opposed. The meeting adjourned at 7:08 pm.

William R. Flaute, Mayor

Clerk of Council