

The City Council of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina convened for The Oath of Office Ceremony on Monday, December 2, at 7:00 p.m. in the Meeting Chamber of the Charlotte Mecklenburg Government Center with Mayor Patsy Kinsey presiding. Councilmembers present were John Autry, Michael Barnes, Patrick Cannon, Warren Cooksey, Andy Dulin, Claire Fallon, David Howard, LaWana Mayfield, James Mitchell and Beth Pickering.

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I. MUSIC PROCESSIONAL

The Music Processional was by the Charlotte Fire Department Pipe and Drum Band.

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II. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Kinsey said I am Mayor Patsy Kinsey, at least for the next few minutes, and thank you all for being here tonight for our Ceremonial Meeting to swear in our new City Council and Mayor. It is nice to have so many family and friends in attendance tonight. I also want to thank our ushers from the Mayor's Youth Employment Program who handed out the programs to all of you this evening. I would like to ask everyone to stand for our Invocation, the Posting of the Colors, the Pledge of Allegiance and our National Anthem.

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III. INVOCATION

The Invocation was given by The Rev. Dr. Everett Goodwin, Interim Pastor of Myers Park Baptist Church.

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IV. POSTING OF THE COLORS

Posting of the Colors was by Charlotte Fire Department and Charlotte Mecklenburg Police Department Honor Guards.

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V. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Children of the Councilmembers led the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

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VI. NATIONAL ANTHEM

The National Anthem was sung by Mr. Samuel McKelton.

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VII. AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

Mayor Kinsey said I have the distinct honor of presenting this year's Mayor's Citizen Awards. It is tradition at this ceremony to offer awards to distinguished members of our Community who have served with distinction, honor, selflessness and courage. Tonight I am proud to present the Harvey Gantt Award to an individual who has displayed courage, civility, service and leadership throughout a long career of community involvement. This individual was elected to the Charlotte City Council in 1999 and has his fingerprints on some of Charlotte's most successful economic development projects and community achievements. For 14 years Councilmember James Mitchell has served the residents of District 2 and the Citizens of Charlotte with an undying commitment to their well being. As Chair of the Council's Economic Development Committee, Councilmember Mitchell played a physical role in helping the City reach an agreement with the Charlotte Knights on their new uptown stadium set to open this spring. He also led the Council's negotiations for the Carolina Panthers, ultimately locking in a deal that keeps the team in Charlotte for at least 6 years and protects the 5,000 jobs and \$600 million in

economic impact the Panthers generate for our region. The Panthers have thanked Councilmember Mitchell by playing one of their best seasons. In addition to his work in Charlotte Mr. Mitchell has also served as President of National League of Cities; National Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials and the North Carolina Black Elected Municipal Officials. On top of all of that he is just an all around nice guy. James it has been a pleasure to serve with you and on behalf of our City, thank you for all you've done to make Charlotte a better place.

Mayor Kinsey said another Mayor's Award is given to a citizen who has demonstrated unselfish leadership for our community and it is my pleasure to announce that the 2013 recipient of the Mayor's Award is Julian Underwood. Mr. Underwood has a long history of service in our community. In addition to being a World War II Veteran and a retired Nations Bank (now Bank of America) Vice President Mr. Underwood has devoted years of his life to volunteering as a leader in the Shannon Park Neighborhood Association and at Briarwood Elementary School. At the School Mr. Underwood has done everything from greeting students and staff as they enter the building each day, to obtaining a grant for playground equipment, to even helping monitor students in the cafeteria. Since June of 2002 he has annually awarded a \$500 Underwood Educational Scholarship to a deserving 5th grade boy and girl, providing the scholarship to 20 students since its inception. For his outstanding service Mr. Underwood has received many accolades, including the Order of the Long Leave Pine, one of the most prestigious awards given by the Governor of North Carolina. In 2011 President Barack Obama recognized Mr. Underwood for the President's Volunteer Service Award after he volunteered more than 1,300 hours at Briarwood Elementary that year alone. Unfortunately Mr. Underwood could not be with us tonight, but I know he is watching from home. Mr. Underwood you are truly the embodiment of unselfish leadership and on behalf of our City I want to thank you for all your contributions to our community. I would like to present the award to Vicki Fewell President of the Shannon Park Neighborhood Association. She will accept it on Mr. Underwood's behalf and make sure that he gets it.

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VIII. CONFIRMATION OF MUNICIPAL ELECTION RESULTS

City Clerk, Stephanie Kelly confirmed the November 5th Municipal Election Results as follows:

Charlotte Mayor	Patrick B. Cannon, Elected	51,130
	Edwin B. Peacock, III	45,036
	Write-ins	190
Charlotte City Council At-Large	Michael D. Barnes, Elected	54,836
	Claire Greene Fallon, Elected	47,296
	David Howard, Elected	52,772
	Vi Alexander Liles, Elected	53,727
	Vanessa Faura	33,916
	Mark Frietch	32,710
	Ken Harris	41,762
	Dennis Peterson	33,080
	Eric A. Cable	7,602
	Write-ins	239
Charlotte City Council		
District 1	Patsy Kinsey, Elected	9,912
	Write-ins	233
District 2	Alvin Austin, Elected	9,979
	Darryl Broome	2,459
	Write-ins	10
District 3	LaWana Mayfield, Elected	7,541
	Eric Netter	1,733
	Travis Wheat	444
	Write-ins.	21

District 4	Greg Phipps, Elected	7,429
	Michael Zytkow	3,653
	Write-ins	24
District 5	John Autry, Elected	8,111
	Write-ins	96
District 6	Kenny Smith, Elected	15,004
	Write-ins	255
District 7	Ed Griggs, Elected	11,319
	Bakari Burton	4,411
	Write-ins	10

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IX. PRESENTATION TO RETIRING COUNCILMEMBERS

Mayor Kinsey said I would like to take a moment to recognize each retiring Councilmember individually for their service to our community. We will start, going alphabetically, with Mr. Cooksey. Mr. Cooksey is elected from District 7, actually once elected we all represent the all the citizens of Charlotte. On behalf of our City I would like to present you with a photo of the Charlotte Skyline and your name plate. Mr. Cooksey is completing his third term on the Charlotte City Council and we will miss your wit and historical reference and you have kept us on target many, many times. We are going to miss you; you've done a great job.

Councilmember Cooksey said this has been a very rapid 6 years and it has been a very long 6 years and I don't know how that works. In the limited time available I get to be the first to note that it has been an honor and a privilege to be elected from District 7 and serve the entire population of Charlotte around this dais for 6 years. I first started coming to these meetings in 1996 after I moved to Charlotte and I would sit up there and watch Council work and it has been a delight to be able to be a part of that; to serve in a variety of capacities to get a few things done; to have the frustration of not getting some things done that I wanted to get done, but that is the way it goes. I am always aware that the office existed before I had it. I am the 7th person to hold the District 7 seat and it will of course continue on once I depart so for my service this is the end, but the moment has been prepared for that I am glad to see that Ed Driggs will be following me as the 8th Councilmember from District 7.

Mayor Kinsey said I would like to invite Councilmember Andy Dulin of District 6 to join me at the podium. Andy, your humor and spirit will be deeply missed around the dais and I will miss getting picked on and picking on you. She presented Mr. Dulin with a photo of the Charlotte skyline and his name plate as a token of the City's tanks for your four terms of service in District 6.

Councilmember Dulin said all of us have family members that we could not service Charlotte without and I could not do without the love and support of my wife and my parents who are here with us tonight. Thank you very much for letting me serve. I've always looked everyday of my 8 years as my community service, not my job and I think that is a healthy way to look at it. My community service on Council has now come to an end; 8 good years, fun years, interesting years and we will find another place for me to go use my servants heart and watching this community grow and being a part of this community growing has really been a highlight of my life. I will miss the employees in this building that make us look good; I'll miss those fellows in the Mail Room, they laugh and cut-up and all the mail gets out. I'm going to miss my colleagues and I'm very pleased for your Mayor elect and you've done a fine job as Mayor too. With that I'm going to call it a day on City Council and the good folks of Charlotte that are here and the good folks that are out there have a lot to look forward to that this new Council is going to work hard for us.

Mayor Kinsey asked Councilmember Maddalon to join her at the podium. Despite his limited time on Council we were fortunate to have Mr. Maddalon step in a vocal advocate and representative of the residents of District 1 during my leave of absence. I look forward to working closely with Mr. Maddalon when I return to that seat on Council. I just have to say you have done one heck of a good job. You have really represented the residents well and thank you

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for keeping my seat warm. She presented Mr. Maddalon with a photo of the Charlotte skyline and his name plate.

Councilmember Maddalon said I would normally thank the voters but I didn't get elected to anything. These are my voters and I want to thank the Council for giving me the opportunity to do this. You will have to take my word for it when I tell you it says a whole lot about our City when a guy like me, born Billy Jordan as a boy and grow up to become Billy Maddalon through adoption and all the other things that I've been through could serve our community from a place like this. Charlotte is a special community when folks like me can be in places like this. It has been a great opportunity as the Mayor rightly points out, I didn't have a whole lot of time to be here, but I hit the ground running and I look forward to being of service in any way I can in the future and again I thank each of you; thank the folks of District 1 and I want to particularly wish the new Councilmembers coming in well and say to you as the Good Book says, when you finish your time here I hope it will be said well done thou good faithful service, thou has been faithful over a few things I shall make thee a ruler over many things.

Mayor Kinsey called Councilmember Mitchell to the podium and said it has been an honor to serve with you these last 10 years; I can't believe I've been here 10 years. Thank you so much; your energy will be missed and also your appetite because I know you love your collards and your cabbage. We are going to miss that and now somebody else will have to order it for us. She presented him a photo of the Charlotte skyline and his name plate as a small token of our appreciation for his service on Council.

Councilmember Mitchell said 14 years ago District 2 allowed a hyper, energetic bunny to serve them and along this 15-year journey you created and helped develop a public servant. I thank the citizens of District 2 for allowing me to serve you. To the new council, I wish you the best of luck and continue to move our great City. To the Mayor-Elect, my fraternity brother, Patrick D. Cannon, I wish you much success my good Omega man. To Al Austin I know District 2 is in great hands. Last but certainly not least, to the staff, this great staff of the City of Charlotte, thank you so much for developing me, nurturing me and for having the can-do attitude that you have demonstrated year in and year out. To my blessings, Kala Nicole, thank you for allowing daddy to serve this community for 14 years and to my lovely wife, Jonnie, thank you for pushing me and being supportive. City of Charlotte, thank you I love you and God Bless.

Mayor Kinsey called Councilmember Pickering to the podium and said we appreciate your service to Charlotte as an at-large representative. It was a pleasure to work with you and you will be missed. She presented Ms. Pickering a photo of the Charlotte skyline and her name plate.

Councilmember Pickering said serving Charlotte for the last two years has been an utter complete pleasure and honor. Thank you for giving me this opportunity. There is nothing I've enjoyed more than going to every corner of this City and seeing the wonderful work done by fabulous people on your behalf; it is heart warming. Some Councilmembers and some of you out there know that I recently lost a good friend, Mike Armstead; the finest person I've every known. The kind of person who does the right thing simply because it is the right thing to do; looks out for others; talks about integrity and honesty and loyalty and trust. He considered himself a dinosaur because he felt like he was the only one talking about this. I now think of him as an unsung hero. Why do I mention this? I mention this because it occurred to me that many of you are unsung heroes. You are out there quietly doing the right thing, looking after neighbors, driving carefully, courteously, considerately, caring about people you know and people you don't know. I have one message for you and that is keep doing what you are doing. It makes a difference, not only because it is the right thing to do, but it makes for a great city. People like you make for a great city and that is what we are all about. That is my message to you. Thank you staff, best in the business, City Manager thank you and previous City Manager, Curt Walton incredible. I want to give a special shout out to the Solid Waste Services People, those are the folks who keep this City clean every day and we were so proud during the DNC when we kept hearing how clean this City was, so thank you for what you do everyday. Thank you to the folks who helped me with my campaign, your support means everything to me. Thank you Charlotte for giving me this opportunity; I will never forget it. If I can help you in anyway please tweet me, call me, text me and thank you so much.

Mayor Kinsey said thank you again to the five retiring Councilmembers for their service to our community, the dedication to this Council and for sharing their vision for Charlotte with our citizens. Reflecting on what this Council has accomplished over the past year, one can see just how deeply each of these officials cares for Charlotte and its citizens. This Council passed the most far reaching and progressive and community investment plan in Charlotte's history. This Council addressed head on challenging policy decisions around transit funding and development all while working to foster job creation, protect our environment and quality of life and provide mobility options that will help manage the City's exponential population growth. Despite the State's legislation this Council stood together, we stood firm and today Charlotte Douglas International Airport remains under our control. I am happy to be returning to my District 1 seat tonight, even though I am retiring from Council as Mayor. Thank you to all my colleagues on Council for appointing me to this position, to all of the City staff and the citizens of Charlotte. It has been the honor of a lifetime to serve you. Now it is my privilege to invite Mayor elect Patrick Cannon to the podium to officially assume the role of Mayor.

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X. OATH OF OFFICE ADMINISTERED TO MAYOR-ELECT

The Oath of Office for Mayor-Elect Cannon was administered by the Honorable Tyyawdi M. Hands, Judge, Mecklenburg County District Court.

Judge Tyyawdi M. Hands said it is my distinct honor and privilege to administer the Oath of Office to my friend and mentor, our Mayor-Elect. With his wife and children by his side the Mayor-Elect took the following Oath of Office: I, Patrick D. Cannon, do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to the State of North Carolina, and to the constitutional powers and authorities which are, or may be established for the government thereof and that I will endeavor to support, maintain and defend the Constitution of said State, not inconsistent with the Constitution of the United States, and that I will discharge the duties of my office as Mayor of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina to be best of my knowledge and ability, so help me God.

Mayor Cannon said I know it gets old to some when I say it, but God is good and all the time, God is indeed good. Before I get too emerged in my speech which I hope that you will bear with me on, I want to say a few thank yous if I might. One of course would be to the Manager of the Cannon campaign in that of Gwen Thomas and Anetta Watkins Ford. They worked extremely hard and did some things to help to get over to where we are. There were hundreds of volunteers who invested their time and energy to be able to see us through and I thank each and every one of you so much that were part of the campaign for your level of support. I want to thank also the lady who had me some 40 some odd years ago, Carman Cannon. Mom thank you for the level of support that you've always been, giving me the energy and the ability to always believe in me and to know that I can achieve regardless of anybody saying to me that I would never go anywhere or do anything or become anybody. This night you have made a difference. Of course to my children Porsheia, Patrick and Britney, thank you all for your level of support for dad. You all have been there and been very supportive and I thank you so much for it. Where would any man be without truly having somebody that is a real backbone for him in his times of need, in his times of sorrow and in his good times like we celebrate tonight, my wife, Trina? Thank you so much. I am so blessed! To the fine people of City Council District 3, thank you for giving me my start back in 1993, I truly appreciate it; and the citizens of Charlotte in the at-large capacity for electing me to City Council at large and also to my colleagues for electing me as Mayor Pro Tem. I certainly appreciate that. I couldn't have done it without you, so thank you and also I just want to simply say to each and every one of you the only thing between Charlotte and its success is air and opportunity. There is plenty of air, but the question becomes what will we do as a community to take advantage of the opportunity. It is right before us.

This Chamber is full of such rich history. We gather here tonight surrounding by the many community leaders of today, not just to swear in a new Mayor, but to start the next chapter of the history of our great City. I think of Mayors who have come before me, each with different challenges and opportunities, but all with the same goal in mind, moving Charlotte toward its destiny.

Stan Brookshire was Mayor when I was born. His challenges were many ranging from desegregation to a modern freeway system.

Eddie Knox, Mayor during my middle school years and one of my mom's favorite, so much progress in his two terms that I can't name them all; but, First Baptist Church in uptown was reborn as Spirit Square for the arts, Tryon Street turned into a Transit Mall and Charlotte's 3rd Airport Terminal opened just to name a few.

Harvey Gantt, the first African American Mayor of Charlotte and one who believed in establishing strong relationships.

Richard Vinroot, who is here with us tonight, a Mayor who was a great consensus builder within the Council.

Pat McCrory, a public safety and transit advocate as well as our longest serving Mayor, who is now Governor of our State.

Anthony Foxx, with a transit focused agenda, brought the democratic national Convention to the Queen City and is now the Secretary of Transportation.

And of course, my friend and colleague of many years, Patsy Kinsey, in her five months as Mayor, continued to carry the torch on important issues for our City.

These are Mayors who all knew something every leader should – working together works. In the words of Henry Ford, “coming together is a beginning, keeping together is progress; working together is success.”

Mayors and Councils – past and present – have focused on opportunities in which government could serve as a catalyst, facilitator, partner and participant for success. We must be prepared to lead and to follow. We work hand in hand with citizens, business leaders, charities, community organizers and faith leaders for the betterment of Charlotte. And, we work hand in hand with the City's professional staff, the over 6,000 men and women who provide essential services to the City. Our success hinges not on the efforts of a few, but the sweat of many. Why? Because working together works.

As I look toward the future as your newly elected Mayor, my fundamental goal remains the same as those who preceded me – moving Charlotte forward with the same collaborative spirit that has always existed in this can do and will do City. However, to achieve a win for everyone throughout our city and region, it takes a collective can do and will do attitude. Our priorities over the next two years are not my personal wants, but rather the community's needs and the City's aspirations. Working together they include: Economic Development and Global Competiveness; transportation; housing; jobs and opportunities for all, and community safety through prevention. We can and will make progress in each of these areas. Let me briefly explain how.

Charlotte's history is steeped in commerce starting with its humble beginnings at the intersection of two local trading paths in the heart of the Center City at Trade and Tryon. As the world has become increasingly connected, Charlotte has emerged as a global intersection allowing industries located here to create, import, manufacturer and deliver any where any time. We must capitalize on these opportunities and increase our global competitive edge. Here are five areas where we can do so.

Currently the 6th busiest, Charlotte Douglas International Airport provides a gateway to the US and the world through our reputation as one of the lowest cost, highest service airports, and soon to be the second largest hub to the world's largest airline, the new American Airlines. More gates to attract other carriers for more jobs and competition will provide a real opportunity for Charlotte and the region through this economic engine.

The Norfolk Southern Intermodal Facility opens early next year, linking rail and truck service to east coast seaports. With leadership that is intentional, the intermodal will have a \$7.6 billion
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impact over the next 20 years. We will maximize this facility by improving the infrastructure around it and promoting development that diversifies us ever more so businesswise as we work to make Charlotte a global hub for distribution of goods as the expansion of the Panama Canal occurs.

If we suggest to our youth that they need to be able to compete on the international stage, then Charlotte should have leaders operating with a global mindset, working with domestic and international political and business leadership. The success of this intermodal effort, with creating this global hub in mind, will create both blue and white color job opportunities, expand our tax base for continued investment in the City across the board and generate positive attention for not only Charlotte, but the region and the State of North Carolina.

Our regional transit system has reached new milestones this year. Transit is the backbone of our future as the region grows by 70% to more than 2.5 million over the next 20 years. We must continue smart redevelopment all along the LYNX Blue Line from the University in the north to our southern border. We must work together to find funding solutions for other transit lines and for the complete transportation system for cars, walkers and bikers and we must not let anything prevent us from reaching our goals. A thriving global City is one that can move people and goods.

We must be entrepreneurial and inclusive. Of course Charlotte has large employers that are huge economic drivers, but so are the small businesses and entrepreneurs willing to take risks and follow their dreams. As Mayor, I will work hard to foster a rich entrepreneurial environment where startups can flourish. I'll do that by supporting resources such as Packard Place, serving as a connector for public and private resources and making it known that Charlotte welcomes and embraces entrepreneurs.

The City of Charlotte has a long history of creating and implementing strategies to support local businesses, including two programs that we must make more accessible and more impactful. They are the Charlotte Business INclusion Program, adopted earlier this year. It enhances competition in the City contracting and procurement opportunities for minority, women and small business enterprises and the Business Façade Grant Program, which must be reinvigorated. It provides matching grants to property owners to improve the curb appeal of their businesses and the overall image of their communities. This of course helps spur other development.

Finally, as part of our competitiveness, we must make Charlotte the easiest place to do business, to start or relocate a business, to build commercial and residential structures and to renovate our existing buildings. I have asked the Chair of the County Commission and she has agreed to join me in examining the zoning and permitting process shared by the City and County to insure that our respective work is seamless to business, consistent, efficient in short, to ensure that there is no better place to develop and do business than in Charlotte-Mecklenburg.

Economic development and Global Competitiveness provides the foundation needed to generate resources for us to pursue all of our other goals and achieve our destiny. We aspire to be a top global city and we can only achieve this by working together; the city, the county, the state, different Chambers of Commerce, businesses large and small, Central Piedmont Community College, area universities, the faith-based community along with the citizens of Charlotte all in one common lock step. We must ensure that we include all voices of Charlotte.

Our future depends on our youth. They will fill our seats tomorrow so today we must commit to provide them with the skills and experiences the need in order to be successful. The Mayor's Youth Employment Program supported 3,200 youth last year, but we need to expand it further. I've said it before and I will say it again, we need a better balance of both blue color and white color opportunities so everyone can have an opportunity for a job. We need real work experiences and apprenticeships from a broader range of businesses to fill all of the jobs that a diverse economy demands.

You know an economy economically that is strong is one that can allow us to continue to move forward. An economically productive city will also be safer and a safer city for us will be a more competitive city in the global economy. Thus, in addition to jobs, we must also promote

community safety through prevention. We are all proud of our historically low crime rates, but together we can do more. As I have always said a neighborhood watch program means nothing if nobody is watching. Watching is not someone else's job. It is the job of each of us in concert with our public safety officers. It is also our responsibility to support our youth and people at risk of violence. A key to who I am and how I got to where I am today came from having mentors as a youngster through Big Brothers and Big Sisters of America. Thanks Jake and Phil for the mentors that you were. I am committed to expanding the Mayor's Mentoring Alliance to give other young people the opportunity I had then and today. I will also strongly support the cadet and explore program with our police and fire departments to build relationships between youth and public safety officials and also open career doors for them. Together we will prepare the next generation of leaders by providing them with valuable life experiences and supporting them with caring community relationships.

Additional, we must remember those who are in need to re-enter society's economic mainstream. Whether it is the ex-offender looking for a second chance or a military veteran returning from the battlefield, we must help their transitions back into society, providing them affordable housing, training, counseling and most importantly jobs. We must also increase the efforts to prevent domestic violence through partners like Safe Alliance and the Jamie Kimble Foundation for Courage which just merged with an organization that I've been a part of and surely support which is called eNOugh.

We need to do more to prevent the victimization and despair that comes from families and individuals having no place to call home. More than 2,000 people are homeless on any given night in Charlotte-Mecklenburg due to the lack of supportive and affordable housing. We can do better as a society and we will through partnerships that provide supportive housing developments. Global competitiveness, jobs, transit, housing and community safety for all from our most successful to our most vulnerable can be realized. We can do this!

As Mayor, I am committed to collaboration, leading by example because working together works. For too long Charlotte has been known as the "Great State of Mecklenburg". We should reject this notion and instead demonstrate that we are a Great City of Opportunity, part of the great State of North Carolina and that Charlotte is prepared to partner, not only with our county of Mecklenburg and the towns and cities within and around it, but also with our General Assembly and the entire state. Within the City, I will be a full partner to the business community, the faith community, the philanthropic community and the residents of the City of Charlotte.

I often like to share a passage my mother posted in our home when I was in middle school that has kept me grounded ever since. It read "You, who think you know it all, are very annoying to those of us that already do". While the author is unknown, the message is clear – nobody like a know it all. As Mayor, I will look to, listen to and partner with subject matter experts to make Charlotte an even better place for all of us to live, work, recreate and raise a family. All of our interests and successes are linked. Together, let's write this next Chapter so that the future Charlotteans will look back on our progress with amazement and admiration. All those seated or standing in this Chamber tonight in favor of working together, let it be known by saying Aye. All opposed? The Aye's have it.

Thanks for your support and being here tonight. God bless the wonderful City of Charlotte and our region; God bless the great State of North Carolina, and God bless the United States of America. Thank you.

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XII: OATH OF OFFICE TO CITY COUNCIL-ELECT

Mayor Cannon asked the five new Councilmembers to find their seats behind the dais and asked their family members to join them. Mayor Cannon administered the following Oat of Office:

I, (elected official), do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to the State of North Carolina, and the constitutional powers and authorities which are or may be established for the government
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thereof, and that I will endeavor to support, maintain and defend the Constitution of said State, not inconsistent with the Constitution of the United States, and that I will discharge the duties of my office as City Council Member of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina to the best of my knowledge and ability, so help me God.

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XIII: MY COUNTY TIS OF THEE

Sai the Violinist presented a beautiful rendition of My County Tis of Thee.

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XIV: REMARKS BY CITY COUNCIL

Mayor Cannon said at this time I would like to go around the dais and have each member of the body make a few brief remarks, starting with Patsy Kinsey, District 1.

Councilmember Kinsey said thank you to the voters of District 1 for reelecting me. I very much appreciate it and I will do my very best to serve you well. Thank you to my family for supporting me, cooking meals, cleaning up the kitchen and to the staff. We have a wonderful staff here and I'm looking forward to working with the new Council.

Mayor Cannon called next Greg Phipps, representing District 4.

Councilmember Phipps said it feels good to be back on the Charlotte City Council. As I reflect on the campaign, which was a long one for me, I have many people to thank. For you see you are looking at a guy that's still a work in progress when it comes to fundraising and a novice at running a political campaign. First of all, I'm thankful for the prayers and words of encouragement from people all over, especially from my Pastors Troy and Penny Maxwell of Freedom House Church. I also thank a host of friends and volunteers, for had it not been for them, I wouldn't be in this seat today. I want to thank the voters of District 4 who elected me to represent them; my campaign manager Dan McCorkle and treasurer Felicia Mushat. The endorsements my campaign received from several newspapers, the Charlotte Firefighters Association, the Fraternal Order of Police and the Black Political Caucus of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County. Numerous phone calls and mailings were made on my behalf. I also thank the Precinct Chairs throughout District 4 for the "Get out the Vote" neighborhood canvassing and phone banking. I want to recognize a special University City resident who organized her apartment complex so that I could arrange some valet voting at the Hal Marshall Center, Ms. Zieta Williams. She comes to us from the City Council in Chesterfield, South Carolina. Thank you very much. Finally, I want to thank my family, my father who traveled from Baltimore to be here tonight and especially my wife, Lemair who has been by side for the last 30 years and was the life blood of my campaign. From Back Creek to Highland Creek, from University City to Hidden Valley, District 4 is on the move. I can see progress and hope all around with all the construction that is going on. It is a big District and I promise to be engaged, prepared and responsive to constituent needs. I salute my campaign opponents, who like me, want to see great things in the District in general and for Charlotte in particular. I intend to leverage the knowledge and ideas from Levester Flowers, Will Russell, Leonard Richardson and a young man who made history earning a spot on a ballot after attaining thousands of signatures, including mine, Michael Zytkow. It just feels good to be back on City Council and I thank you very much for your time.

Mayor Cannon called on Michael Barnes, City Council At-Large.

Councilmember Barnes said first I want to thank everybody who voted for me and I want to thank the Good Lord for getting me through that campaign and getting my campaign team through it safely and the volunteers. I really appreciate the support that I have gotten from the people of this City both in District 4 and now on a city-wide basis. My mother is here; she traveled here from Eastern North Carolina and she is the reason I'm here and I thank her so much for being here and I love her. My oldest sister and her husband are here and their daughter and I appreciate them coming from southeastern Virginia to be with me tonight. Of course my lovely wife and my babies are here and I appreciate them sticking by daddy for the last, for my wife 8

years on Council and for my son who is 7 and my girls are 4. I appreciate them putting up with daddy going to so many meetings. Thank you as always for what you have done to support me. It will be my goal over the next two years to continue doing what I've been doing for the last 8 years and that is to make decisions that I believe are in the best interest of the city from an economic development perspective; public safety perspective, infrastructure creation perspective and to do what I believe is right. I think those of you who supported me recognize that I try really hard to do what is good for the city and I look forward to serving with these fine people, the new Mayor, the new members of Council and the veterans of Council to make those decision and moving this city forward and I thank you all so much for being here and God bless you.

Mayor Cannon called on Kenny Smith from District 6.

Councilmember Smith said Mr. Mayor; fellow members of Council I congratulate each of you on your well deserved victory and I look forward to working with each of you. To the citizens of District 6, I am humbled by the opportunity to serve you and proud to represent you. To my family, especially my wife, Bridget, my friends and by extraordinarily talented campaign staff, and all that supported my candidacy, I would not be here if it were not for your efforts, I thank each of you. And finally, today is a very important day in the Smith Household, my twins turned 5 years old today and came down here tonight. They have gone home to go to bed, but I wish Robert and Ann Gordon Happy Birthday, and my amazing wife Bridget has a birthday tomorrow and I will not share which one that is, but we wish her an early Happy Birthday.

Mayor Cannon called on Vi Lyles, City Council At-Large.

Councilmember Lyles said to my colleagues it is a privilege to sit around this dais with you. First I want to say thank you to the citizens of Charlotte for my election to the Charlotte City Council, but as a first time candidate I had to have a great team to support me; I thank especially Michael, Amy, Jean, Pam, Tonya and Willie along with all the volunteers who voted Vi. I also want to thank my family who is here and I want to thank my biggest cheerleader who is not here, John thank you, but I also want to say something about my family from Columbia. You know I always said that if you move to South Carolina you've moved one Carolina too far, but on election day, primary day my family from Columbia brought all of themselves and their power and energy to Charlotte for me. I ran for the Charlotte City Council because I just love this City. This City has given me so much more and I just have that appreciation. The thing that I really have learned all this time, government impacts the lives of every citizen and we as Councilmembers will make a difference when we want to work hard to improve all of the lives of citizens. We must work collaboratively everyday to make that difference. Our citizens depend on us to listen to them, work hard for them and serve to the best of our abilities. We can disagree without being divisive. I choose to see the good in all and I choose to act with optimism. I am excited about this City and I'm excited about what we can achieve together. Thank you so much for your support.

Mayor Cannon called on David Howard, City Council At-Large.

Councilmember David Howard said I would like to thank the wonderful voters of Charlotte that saw fit to allow me a third term as an at-large member of this City Council. It is a privilege to serve what I think is one of the best cities on earth. As a native I'm overwhelmed by the fact that I have the opportunity to help shape the future of my own town. Next I would like to thank the best campaign team in the City and I can't name you all, but you all know how I feel about you and thank you for your support. I would also like to take the opportunity to let you know that I understand that it is because of you that I sit here tonight; I don't take that for granted. I would like to thank a couple of community organizations that helped us all; that being Robin Bradford and the Democratic Party and the Democratic Women. I love you Democratic women and you know that; The Black Caucus as well as the State Democratic Party. Last and most importantly I would like to thank God and my family for your support, love and care. It is a part-time job, and that with tongue in cheek, being a City Councilmember our families feel it the most, whether it be the early meetings the late meetings, meeting and more meetings, our family is the one that pays the price for that public service so publicly I wanted to thank my wife Mary, my children Shawn and Chase and also my mother who is here. I want to thank my Mother because I definitely wouldn't be here without her and my father is watching in Atlanta, so thank you dad.

My campaign platform this time was about providing a vision for Charlotte's future. It grew out of the fact that the leaders before us provided us a great foundation to stand on. They had bit ideas about what our City could be so they worked with people in the community to bring those to fruition. It took vision, commitment patience and successful leadership to move us forward. In Charlotte we rely on that can do spirit as our Mayor said last week, the Charlotte Way to move us forward in achieving goals. Whether it was the decor and the professionalism that we used with the Democratic National Convention last year or all the other things that we do, the world is not paying attention to Charlotte and they now know that we are a city to be reckoned with. Charlotte has everything in the world the world wants, a strong business climate, a stable government, safe communities, a great climate, professional sports, Go Panthers, and welcome back Hornets, an incredible Airport and an unstoppable determination to get it right. This is what I want to work on and what I what to share with you tonight; to attract international business, to support our colleges and universities to get research and development dollars and to build a world class transportation infrastructure, including roads and transit as well as to make sure that we are the most accountable and efficiently run city government in the country. The last 7 to 8 years were challenges for our City. We took a big hit during the recession and we stood our ground. Someone one said success is a little like wrestling a gorilla, you don't quit when you get tired, you quit when the gorilla gets tired; that is what we did with the recession and economic downturn and that is what we have to do with the unemployment rate that we still have, our stalled mass transit system and our struggling neighborhoods. So tonight I pledge to this audience and to this City that I plan to dig deep to do just that. It is not whether or not it is right or wrong; it is now a D or an R, it is whether it moves us forward. That is where my vote will be tonight and moving forward. Know this that I am more determined than ever to lead by my convictions, not politics. To me it is about jobs, moms, dads and kids. That is what you are going to hear me keep saying. It is just that simple; to take that role seriously and to wake up everyday determined to move Charlotte forward. I remember hearing Rom Emanuel when he took his Oath of Office and he gave his Inauguration Speech, he said that Mayor Daly, his predecessor, had challenged them to lower their voices and to raise their sights. Let that sink in for a second. That is the challenge this Council and this City has right now. It is not about the past glories, it is about the future. Our vision can't be about making Charlotte as good as it was; it has to be about making Charlotte as good as it can be. The stronger we make our City the more opportunity she will give us back; that is how we create jobs for moms, for dads and keep this community safe going forward.

Mayor Cannon called on Claire Fallon, City Council At-Large.

Councilmember Fallon said I have so many people to thank who made my sitting here possible; my family, Hillary, who is my treasurer, made me crazy about receipts and John and Fallon and Cole and Randy. My special friends Ned Curran, Reverend Walker and David Thurman who were always there for me when I've had misgivings and Tim is not here to talk to anymore. My campaign manager, Dan McCorkle, who I fired three times, and he wouldn't go. Liseta, Garcia, Jenelle, Velma, Virginia, Marty, Bonnie and All the others, who were such dedicated and great help and especially Bishop Battle. The 47,269 people who voted for me, even though I never sent a letter, picked up a phone or called or asked for a contribution, I thank. I want to thank the people who sent me \$36,000 without being asked. I am not a career politician; this is not a stepping stone; this is what I hope the founding fathers wanted; a citizen who does their duty and then goes home. That is my mission, my calling and I thank you all.

Mayor Cannon called on Al Austin, representing District 2.

Councilmember Austin said I want to thank God for this wonderful opportunity. What you see here is a prayer that has been answered from almost 20 years ago when I asked God that I could serve and do more in this community. Thank you to the residents of District 2 for believing in me, for voting for me; I won't let you down. I see some of you in the audience and I know you will hold me accountable. I want to thank my family, my sister Mildred and her husband Walter, Mitsy and Sherry, thank you family for always being very supportive of anything I've done. In the past when my parents passed they stepped in and it is good to have a good family. I also thank the Family which includes Lisa Crawford, David Howard, Charba Ellis and Gary Leake for joining me in this wonderful campaign. I love you and you are the best. Big thanks to Gary
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Leake, my campaign manager, thank you, you are awesome and I appreciate all the early morning texts, late night phone calls. Thank you to all of the volunteers that worked the polls that canvased the communities and made calls. Thank you so much; we will celebrate on Wednesday. Thank you to all the donors that believed in my dreams and my platform. The Mayor, myself and the Council, we are but simple servant leaders. We need your prayers and your meditations as we look to the future of Charlotte. We also need to plan for the future of our children. We will be the standard of what effective government looks like.

Mayor Cannon called on Ed Driggs representing District 7.

Councilmember Driggs said I am honored to have this opportunity to serve the citizens of District 7 and all the people of Charlotte and I mean everybody. I'm very grateful to donors, volunteers and particularly the voters in the District; I won't try to name them all and I'm sure they will forgive me. I think a few of them are here tonight – thank you guys. I also want to thank and acknowledge Warren Cooksey, my predecessor. Warren was exceptional in his dedication to service, his exceptional erudition and his great personal integrity and I've learned a lot from him. In every sense of the word those are big shoes to fill. Charlotte is in a very strong position today. We have an AAA debt rating an extremely capable City Manager, a very dedicated staff and citizens who engage to many boards and commissions. Compared to a lot of cities around the country, this Council has many advantages and opportunities, but as a Republican I believe that striking the right balance between meeting the needs of today and ensuring that we are prosperous and financially strong tomorrow is critical. We need to make the right resource allocations decisions; we need to figure out how much to spend and what to spend it on. My early encounters with my fellow members of Council have convinced me that we have in common a great love for Charlotte and desire to do the best thing for the City. I think much of the time we will find that we agree about what the best thing is. When we don't I'm hoping that the various perspectives that we have will help us together to make wise decisions. My own goal is to bring my experience in finance to bear my background in economics and provide that particular perspective and I look forward to learning from the rest of you and profiting from all of your experiences. Once again, thank you very much. And finally, I would like to thank my two kids, Ted and Lilly, who could not be here tonight, they are far away, but most especially my wife, Caroline and Mr. Mayor that is a lovely lady too.

Mayor Cannon called LaWana Mayfield, representing District 3.

Councilmember Mayfield said I would like to thank all in District 3 that voted for me on November 5th, and allowed me to continue serving you. Thank you to all who volunteered their time and talents to my campaign and to my re-election; and to my team that pulled it altogether. We were a small team in 2011 and we were a small team for this campaign and I thank you for all of your work and all of the community members that stood up and have stepped out. I want to thank all of the organizations that endorsed me such as the Black Political Caucus, the Democratic Women of Mecklenburg. I want to thank Gelisa for being an amazing partner for giving me your unbridled support for all of the early morning; the late nights, the community events; the week-end; the phone calls that come at night; for supporting me and letting me know that it is okay and I'm doing exactly what I'm supposed to do. My promise to all; the residents in District 3 as well as the citizens of Charlotte is to stay as vocal as I have been in my first term on such issues as Ban the Box, on working to address the issues of housing for our most needing in the community and I promise to continue serving this community that I love so much.

There was a question that has floated as to why I challenged Mayor Pro Tem and I want to share. I never challenged the individual; I challenge the process. I believe that newly elected members should have a voice and a vote and not be expected to just go along with the process blindly or without conversation; however the votes may go tonight I want clarity around the process and for the community at large to know that tradition is not necessarily an accurate account of this particular process. With that in mind, just a little history dating back to 1999 which also includes previous members understanding that the highest vote getter would be of the majority party that would be appointed, of which I found no record, because thankfully all of our meetings are public record and can easily be looked up. In the past 7 elections four of the Mayor Pro Tem between 1999 and 2005 were not the highest vote getters. Three of the last were from 2007 to 2011; they were the highest vote getter and they were unanimously supported by Council. This

is not to say whether that is wrong or right, but simply to share background. I do look forward to working with this Council to grow this City that we all love so much. There will be many spirited debates and the opportunity for our amazing City of Charlotte staff to provide us with factual information from which we will make decisions and there is the great responsibility for us to lead growth for our City. With growth come growing pains; the ability to compromise and the opportunity to challenge the status quo for the betterment of our community. I thank you all and I ask for you to continue to pray for us for guidance and discernment and to continue to pick up the phone and call your elected because we are here to serve you.

Mayor Cannon called on John Autry, representing District 5.

Councilmember Autry said welcome to the new members of Council and hello again to our returning members. I look forward to working with all of you. To the people of District 5, what have you done to me? Thank you from the bottom of my heart, I truly appreciate this opportunity to serve all of Charlotte as the representative elected by the voters of District 5. It is a great honor and a great privilege and I am humbled by your support and encouragement and just being there to offer advice; to listen to my ideas and my thoughts; to be a sounding board; it is a wonderful, wonderful experience. To my campaign; folks you really know how to turn it out. You did a great job especially Ms. Tina Riley Humphrey without whom I would probably not be sitting here this evening. She was in the driver's seat; she did a great job; she came in late, hit the ground running and showed a lot of people in Charlotte how to run a political campaign. Thank you. We have so much left to do; we started a lot of great work over the last two years that I have been very privileged to participate in; we have a lot of other work that needs to be addressed. For instance I refer to the Clarian Study and what we should do to modify modernize or even rewrite our zoning code because the City is not going to be able to grow out anymore. It is going to have to start growing up and we have to be very intentional and deliberate about how we plan for that because there are a lot of neighborhoods that could feel threatened by such growth and such expansion so we have to be prepared to respect those neighborhoods and do what we have to do to protect them; and we are going to do that. Our Transportation System; if this City continues to grow at the rate it is anticipated our 2030 Plan is not adequately funded. That is an issue that is going to have to be addressed. Then employment; how we bring more industry to this City to provide good jobs and I think those should be living wage jobs and I think the best way to really ensure that we have living wages is to start with City employees to make sure that they have a living wage and can afford to live anywhere they want to in this City. Then I need to thank my family, my children, Jennifer, Sarah, Jennifer and Chris; they have been over supportive of this effort and I can't thank you enough. And lastly, I would be no where without the fair Rebecca. Rebecca has really been a partner in this endeavor and if any of you have ever asked to meet with me or need to get in touch with me, you probably had to go through Rebecca because she's been managing that calendar and she has done a great job of it. We are going to continue to serve the citizens of all of Charlotte; we are going to continue to work on this Council for making Charlotte the great city that it is destined to be and we are going to make it happen right before everybody's eyes. Thank you very much, I appreciate this opportunity and let's get to work.

Mayor Cannon said thank you so much for your comments and of course to the new body and the body prior to. As Mayor I look forward to working with each and every one of you to continue to do exactly what we've been hearing around this dais and that is working for the common good of the people for the City of Charlotte in order to be able to move it forward. It is going to be essential that we do that and I think this will be a good working group to do just that because working together works.

Mayor Cannon thanked everyone for being there and said on Thanksgiving we thought we were going to have just a few people and about 60 showed up, but we were thankful just to be able to come together under one roof and have something to eat. There are a lot of places right here in the City of Charlotte that we need to make sure we are doing all we can to help them because some don't have shoes on their feet, cloths on their backs and roofs over their heads and I think there is something that this Council can play in the way of some positive roles and I look forward to it.

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XV: ELECTION OF MAYOR PRO TEM

Mayor Cannon said we have now come to the part in which you heard one Councilmember have some conversation about and that is the election of Mayor Pro Tem. People often ask me, what is a Mayor Pro Tem? He or she serves as a Deputy Mayor or President of the Council, depending on where you are from, you get those different titles. In the Mayor's absence the Mayor Pro Tem presides and when presiding shall have the right to vote on all questions, but shall have no additional vote in case of a tie. They cannot veto, which of course is the power of the Mayor. Now that you all know what a Mayor Pro Tem is let's begin the process. I will open the floor for nominations.

Motion was made by Councilmember Fallon, seconded by Councilmember Smith, to elect Michael Barnes, the top vote getter as Mayor Pro Tem.

Motion was made by Councilmember Driggs, seconded by Councilmember Fallon, and carried unanimously, to close the nominations.

The vote was taken on the motion to elect Councilmember Barnes as Mayor Pro Tem and was recorded as follows:

YEAS: Councilmembers Austin, Barnes, Driggs, Fallon, Kinsey, Lyles, Phipps and Smith.
NAYS: Councilmembers Autry, Howard and Mayfield.

Councilmember Barnes said first of all thank you to my colleagues for supporting me in the role of Mayor Pro Tem. I would also say that a lot of the work that went into getting the votes I got was because of Jacob, Carrie, Ricky, Lee, Darlene, Eva and other people who either worked on the campaign or stood in the sun or in the rain to give people my information and ask them to vote for me. I thank my campaign team for the help that they provided and also thank my colleagues for their support. I look forward to continuing to work with fine City Managers like Ron Carlee, Curt Walton and Pam Syfert to keep moving Charlotte forward. Thank you Mayor.

XVI: GOD BLESS AMERICA

Sai The Violinist played a beautiful rendition of God Bless America.

XVII: CLOSING PRAYER

Pastor Steven Furtick, Elevation Church gave the closing prayer.

Mayor Cannon said it is important to know that we have faith based leaders in our community who care so much about the City of Charlotte and Mecklenburg county that they go beyond measurers to make sure that those that are homeless, those that seek mentors, those that just want an opportunity to be able to receive something better can have it.

Mayor Cannon invited the audience to join the Council in the lobby for the reception.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:44 p.m.



Stephanie C. Kelly, City Clerk

Length of Meeting: 1 Hour, 44 Minutes
Minutes Completed: December 12, 2013