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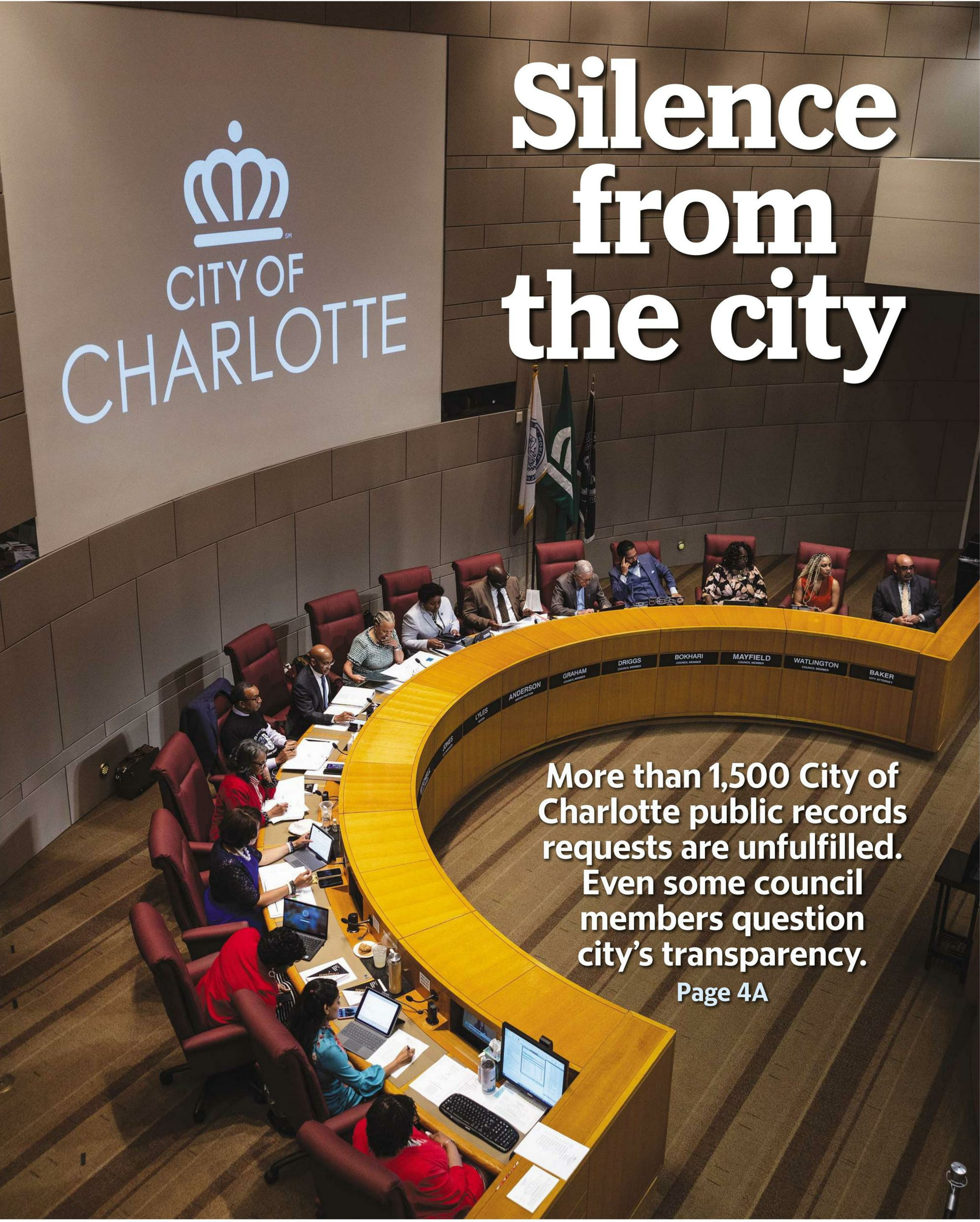
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## Helene killed a person in Charlotte; a million in Carolinas lost power

BY JOE MARUSAK  
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The storm that came ashore as Hurricane Helene knocked out power to a million Duke Energy customers in the Carolinas on Friday, including 84,000 in Charlotte and tens of thousands of others in surrounding counties.

One person was killed in northwest Charlotte and a second had life-threatening injuries when a tree fell on a house in the 4200 block of Brookway Drive, MEDIC reported shortly after 6 a.m. Friday.

Rescues were underway in the North Carolina mountains, where the National Weather Service expected up to 20" of rain and "catastrophic flooding."

A 4-year-old girl died in a Catawba County head-on wreck during heavy rains Thursday morning, State Highway Patrol Trooper Christopher Casey said.

A 2-year-old and a 12-year-old in the vehicles were hospitalized with life-threatening injuries, Casey said.

Helene brought trees down onto roads across the region, including on Interstate 85 southbound at the U.S. 321 exit in Gastonia, where a wreck involving a tractor-trailer also was reported.

The intersection of Providence and Queens roads in Charlotte was closed Friday morning. In York County, U.S. 21 was closed at Coltharp Road due to downed trees, the sheriff's office said.

As the storm barreled into the Carolinas Friday morning, Haywood County in the mountains said residents should consider all roads closed in the county due to treacherous conditions.

Burke County emergency crews rescued a person injured in flooding in the N.C. 126 area north of Lake James, Christopher White, assistant county 911

SEE HELENE, 12A



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