A Regular Meeting of the Houston City Council was held at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 2, 2009, Mayor Bill White presiding and with Council Members Toni Lawrence, Jarvis Johnson, Anne Clutterbuck, Wanda Adams, Mike Sullivan, M. J. Khan, P. E., Pam Holm, James G. Rodriguez, Peter Brown, Sue Lovell, Melissa Noriega, Ronald C. Green and Jolanda “Jo” Jones; Ms. Deborah McAbee, Division Chief, Land Use Division, Legal Department; Ms. Claudia Vasquez, Director Citizens Assistance; Ms. Marty Stein Agenda Director; Ms. Marta Crinejo, Assistant Agenda Director present.

Note: Council Member, District H Position, vacant.

At 2:01 p.m. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Lovell stated that Council Member Lawrence would begin presentations. Mayor White, Council Members Johnson, Sullivan, Holm, Rodriguez, Brown Noriega and Green absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Lovell presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Council Member Lawrence invited LIPS, Ladies In Purchasing Stock, to the podium and stated that today was a special day to her, this group had 16 years of rodeo history in Houston, the group went to auctions and bid, sometimes on champions, but many times on those which not many were bidding, they wanted the youth to always feel like champions; that rodeo was all about youth, scholarships and making each feel like champions; and presented a Proclamation to them proclaiming today as “LIPS Day” in Houston, Texas. Council Members Johnson, Sullivan, Rodriguez and Green absent.

Council Member Jones invited Mr. Steven Karpas, Jeffer Smullin and Brant Koch to the podium and stated that those present were all involved with the Houston Marathon; that tomorrow was Houston Running Day which encouraged all to stay healthy, this was very big and a citywide initiative; and Mayor White presented a Proclamation to the group proclaiming June 3, 2009, as “June Running Day” in Houston, Texas, and encouraged all to get out and run. Council Members Johnson, Sullivan, Rodriguez and Green absent.

Council Member Jones invited Mr. Chris Butler, Mr. Steve Tennerman and Ms. Andrea Jones to the podium and stated that she was chair of the Houston Housing Department and affordable housing was very important to her; that June was National Homeownership Month and many were present from Housing today; that a home was the most fundamental place all needed and presented the group a Proclamation proclaiming June as “National Home Ownership Month” in Houston, Texas. Mayor White stated that this team and those in the HAP Program had done a remarkable job and if he had to choose an MVP for the City of Houston it would be Chris Butler. Council Members Johnson, Sullivan, Rodriguez and Green absent.

Council Member Jones stated that the Affordable Housing Drive would be held Friday, June 5, 2009, in Hermann Square in front of City Hall from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and there would be lending institutions, etc., to navigate the course of homeownership and invited all to attend. Council Members Lawrence, Johnson, Sullivan, Rodriguez and Green absent.

Mayor White stated this was opportunity to share with Council Members and citizens something really special within the community which was organizations who had many present today in the project a Community of Respect; it was a broad based activity with many nonprofits and faith based organizations representing multiple jurisdictions and the Anti Defamation League’s successful No Place For Hate initiative involved 200 schools and the Community of Respect initiative was to be a shining light and example of what it meant to treat people with respect and this particular initiative provided easy to use resources to help businesses, organizations, and houses of worship to demonstrate their appreciation for diversity and
whenever diversity was celebrated and viewed as an asset it made it more so; that cities were becoming more diverse and this challenged the limits in recognizing it; introduced some who were present including Council Member Abraham from Sugarland and the current chair of the Anti Defamation League Southwest Regional Board, Mr. Scott Atlas and chair elect of ADL who also served as chair of the Civil Service Commission, he could not think of anyone who put in more pro bono hours on various city projects than he and many others and their superb staff and to all he would say today was a special time and place and they recognized ADL’s efforts; that he did want to note a participant, the Bridgeway Foundation, who dedicated 50% of profits contributed to nonprofit organizations in the community; and presented a Proclamation proclaiming today as “Community of Respect Day” in Houston, Texas. Council Member Sullivan absent.

Mr. Scott Atlas stated that he was chair of the ADL this year and they were grateful so many companies, houses of worship and organizations throughout the city were participating and that so many were present today; that they were delighted Sugarland joined in as the inaugural city and that Council Member Abraham was present; and thanked the Bridgeway Foundation as it was their vision combined with their financial resources which helped make this initiative a reality; and thanked Council Members for their support. Council Member Sullivan absent.

Council Members thanked, commended and congratulated the group on all they did to make Houston a great city.

At 2:40 p.m. Mayor White called the meeting to order and called on Council Member Khan who invited Mr. Mubeen Khumawala to the podium to lead all in prayer and Council Member Khan led all in the pledge of allegiance. Council Member Jones absent.

At 2:42 p.m. Mayor White requested the City Secretary call the roll. Council Member Jones absent.

Council Members Khan and Lovell moved that the minutes of the preceding meeting be adopted. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Jones absent. MOTION ADOPTED.

At 2:43 p.m. the City Secretary began calling the public speakers. Council Member Jones absent.

Mr. Patrick McIlvain, 1618 Weber Street, Houston, Texas 77007 appeared, presented information and stated that he was present on behalf of the Super Neighborhood 22 Council and the letter he presented stated their position on the proposed move of the Center Street recycling drop-off facility; that he was also present under the capacity of vice president of the First Ward Civic Council and they thanked Council Member Brown for tagging the item and allowing them to voice opinion; that they were supportive of the recycling program and would like to be included and the program expanded, but new construction was going on near the proposed location and traffic congestion with the new shopping center, etc. Council Members Adams, Rodriguez and Jones absent.

Council Member Noriega allowed Mr. McIlvain to continue; and Mr. McIlvain stated that the First Ward and SN22 both thought the current location of the recycling center was best for all and urged the move not be approved. Council Members Adams, Rodriguez and Jones absent.

Council Member Lovell stated that the center was being moved and there would still be a full service center and actually more suitable and convenient, it was only being moved a couple
of blocks and services would be added. Council Members Adams, Rodriguez and Jones absent.

Council Member Holm stated that SN22 was always active and did their homework well and suggested the city take time to work with a community which was always so engaged. Council Members Adams, Rodriguez, Noriega and Jones absent.

Council Member Brown thanked all who came and stated that his view was they needed more time to consider what the right thing to do would be, the area was in transition and there were many problems. Council Members Adams, Rodriguez and Noriega absent.

Mr. Indravadan S. Trivedi, 9043 Beechnut #18, Houston, Texas 77036 (281-889-5813) appeared and expressed appreciation for a proclamation. Council Members Adams, Rodriguez and Noriega absent.

Council Member Khan stated that the center and people involved did a great job in educating the community and teaching people how to be more at peace within themselves; and Mr. Trivedi stated that their goal was love, peace and friendship. Council Members Adams, Rodriguez and Noriega absent.

Ms. Melissa Webb, 8102 Pella Drive, Houston, Texas 77036 (713-776-0584) appeared, presented information and stated that she was present to speak on an ordinance presented to Council several weeks ago on behalf of what was taking place within the abortion providers here in Houston; that it was brought to their attention women had not been given information for them to make an informed choice and accordance to the Texas “Right To Know Act” they were to be given the information and asked the city to enforce such so they did not end up with deep regret; and she wondered if they were looking into this at all. Council Members Adams and Noriega absent.

Mayor White stated that there were many various groups, activities and organizations in the city which did reach out to young women and he felt her concerns as expressed today were appreciated. Council Members Adams, Brown and Noriega absent.

Ms. Deborah Elaine Atkins, P. O. Box 263252, Houston, Texas 77207 (832-292-5203) had reserved time to speak but was not present when her name was called. Council Members Adams, Brown and Noriega absent.

Mr./Coach R. J. (Bobby) Taylor, 3107 Sumpter, Houston, Texas 77026 (202-FA3-4511) had reserved time to speak but was not present when his name was called. Council Members Adams, Brown and Noriega absent.

Mr. John Gillmore, 503 Explorer, Austin, Texas 78734 (512-261-0320) appeared, presented information and stated that hopefully they could save the city half a million dollars in taxpayer dollars; that he and his partner, Herbert Richardson, owned several apartment complexes in Houston with one, Greentree at the Garden Apartments, they purchased in 2001 and the City of Houston Housing Department contributed $500,000 toward the acquisition and renovation in exchange the property would restrict 37 units for 10 years to low income housing and after completing all renovations, etc., satisfactory to the Housing Department they applied for their retainage and because of internal problems at the department which included allegations of malfeasance the retainage was never paid them; that in 2007 they met with Mr. Sampley in the Housing Department and he presented a new inspection report from HUD containing 33 additional items totaling over $300,000 worth of work to do and the items were never agreed to in the original agreements and had nothing to do with the original 10 year restriction period and Mr. Sampley stated if they guaranteed the new scope of work and abided
by the original restrictions the city would fund additional work and convert all prior and promised funds to a grant, then months later Housing inquired whether all was completed and they said no, no funds were ever issued and they found the 10 year restriction period had never even begun and the project file was never closed because the retainage was never paid and that was because the Housing Department was shut down at the time they were to receive that retainage, in 2009 they met again with Housing and told them they were out of gas, negative cash flow and no sane prospective purchaser would purchase the property with conditions as stated today, it was unmarketable because of the mishandling of the situation and without the city’s help the option would be to let it be foreclosed in which case they would lose hundreds of thousands of dollars, low income housing restrictions would be eliminated and the $500,000 City of Houston second lien would be wiped out and then the city would be obligated to reimburse the $500,000 to HUD; and urged the city abide by Mr. Sampley’s 2007 proposal of funding new repairs and converting funds into a grant at the expiration of the restricted period.

Council Members Adams, Brown, Lovell and Noriega absent.

Council Member Jones stated that she would like to help if she could and sit and look at his documentation, but at Housing they had to follow HUD rules for their funds, but her office would work with him and Housing to see if the project could be saved. Council Members Adams, Brown, Lovell and Noriega absent.

Mayor White stated that early 2005 or late 2004 there were a very large number of multifamily loans and grants made where there was a default on mortgages or inspection did not meet basic building standards; that it was in the neighborhood of $80 or $90 million and between Mr. Walsh and Director Wilson and Mr. Sampley striving to not lose any affordable housing stock and recognizing their role was not to preserve anyone’s equity but to try and preserve the housing stock and exercise their rights as lender or grantor; that he had seen properties turned around and some had new ownership, it was an enormous undertaking and Mr. Sampley was in the room and their goal was to retain the affordable housing stock they had and to protect the financial interests involved with public funds. Council Members Adams and Brown absent.

Ms. Meg Poissant, 5102 Center, Houston, Texas 77007 (713-880-5553) appeared and stated that she thanked Council Member Noriega for helping with neighborhood concerns and she was a full time litigation attorney and lived and had an art gallery at 5102 Center and she invested in the neighborhood when no one else wanted to be there and property around her was abandoned; that she followed rules and loved the neighborhood, but unfortunately now they were building six bars across from her, one was open, and already her clients had no where to park for the art gallery and she had lost the quiet she enjoyed for 16 years because people partied until 4:30 a.m., and she hoped the city could produce incentive to bar owners and help those living there. Council Members Adams, Brown and Jones absent.

Council Member Noriega stated that there was an organization forming with the entertainment businesses in the Washington Avenue corridor but they had not done this long enough for peer pressure to work; that the city could probably add to their efforts, they had parking signs and issues that had gone up and the neighborhood may need to review it a bit, whether they have parking on one side, both sides or no sides of the street, the Parking Department needed to meet with the neighborhood and get Traffic Flow people involved and she could continue working with businesses but others may need encouragement to work with the neighborhood. Council Members Adams, Brown and Jones absent.

Mayor White stated that they did send out two to three weeks ago to bar owners a request for information and were exploring the following topic, if someone sought permitting based on a particular use of property and requiring requirement and then changed the use it was not right and they needed to work through that and people would come and ask for special relief but he
was sticking with the neighborhood, if the permit was based on something and then turned out to be a bar they did not believe in switching bait at the City of Houston and unless someone dissuades him Planning had been given marching orders; that some issues would be in a Super Neighborhood meeting June 8th and one problem was they did have a situation, and this was why he hoped the Parking Commission would be a vehicle, if a place was popular with a mix of residences and retail then there were certain amounts of parking and those issues needed to be dealt with in Parking Control and try and balance it and the other issue was the powers of the municipality in relation to bars; that he would be open to all suggestions on solutions; and to Ms. Vasquez and Ms. Stein were people complying with existing permit applications and were there other criteria which should be used concerning parking space set aside for retail and he had reviewed other cities but he had not been able to find the “silver bullet” for high concentration of retail. Council Members Clutterbuck, Adams, Brown, Lovell, Green and Jones absent.

Mr. Isiaka Owolabi, 7447 Neal Ridge, Missouri City, Texas 77489 (832-880-0512) had reserved time to speak but was not present when his name was called. Council Members Clutterbuck, Adams, Brown, Lovell, Green and Jones absent.

Mr. William Beal, 4718 Boicewood, Houston, Texas 77016 (713-633-0126) appeared as “Super Man” and stated that in case some on planet Earth did not know where God was he was located up in space, looking out to the end of time where you could go no further; that his question was why could people not get along with one another; and continued expressing his personal opinions until his time was about to expire. Council Members Clutterbuck, Adams, Brown, Green and Jones absent.

Mr. Robert Tucker, 5146 Cortelyou, Houston, Texas 77021 (832-374-7113) appeared and stated that last time he came before Council he addressed a cancer in Palm Center, an incident where a non commissioned security officer put a gun in his face and he appreciated a response and now was present regarding the Motown Concert at Miller Outdoor Theater where an usher said he needed to not move while the music was playing and got an officer who told him to do what the usher said, but he was trying to pass out flyers. Council Members Adams, Brown and Green absent.

Mayor White thanked Mr. Tucker for coming and stated that he remembered his last visit; that Sergeant Babb with HPD was present and could take information, but he would try and shoot straight and he did not think Council’s scope here was big enough for ushers at Miller Theater, he may consider if there was anyway he may alter his conduct to see that he would not be in the same circumstance again, once a psychologist who gave him coaching said if something occurred to you on more than one occasion and frustrated you then you should think whether you were approaching it in the right way and that was what he would say to him. Council Members Johnson, Clutterbuck, Adams, Brown and Green absent.

Mr. Pete Navarro, 2520 Country Club, Pearland, Texas 77581 (281-997-8379) appeared, presented information for viewing and stated that he was present regarding the Greater Southeast Management District collecting taxes under false premises, he had been calling five years to see how it happened and was told a legislature passed a law saying they could collect there only on commercial property, but no one seemed to know of it and he did not understand it. Council Members Johnson, Clutterbuck, Adams, Brown, Lovell, Noriega and Green absent.

Council Member Khan stated that Mr. Navarro brought up an important issue, was there oversight for management districts since they collected taxes, they were to be put back in the boundaries of their district; and Mayor White stated that he would say improvements had been made on the TIRZ but there were many to be made; that Council Member Clutterbuck had been in hours of meetings with him and Council Member Lawrence was veteran to many meetings; that all growth and ad valorem taxes as a city would be in TIRZ, in other words TIRZ tax went
up the City of Houston ad valorem tax revenues probably went down; that the idea was if merchants decided to assess themselves to make improvements then the city would not stand in their way, but they were getting more and more complaints on management districts and if they did not think they were getting their monies worth they needed to let the city know, there was room for improvement. Council Members Johnson, Clutterbuck, Adams, Brown, Lovell, Noriega and Green absent.

Council Member Lawrence stated that his business was being taxed, the state formed the management districts not the City of Houston so he needed to speak with his state representative; that in five years they would come back for signatures, they had to get 50 businesses agree for the district and they would have to again; that they held hearings and he needed to find out who the officers were, they were accountable and records were open; that if he called her office she would give him names; and Mayor White stated that his material had some of those names and contact information on it. Council Members Clutterbuck, Adams, Brown, Noriega and Green absent.

Mr. Perry Radoff, 3112-2 Midlane, Houston, Texas 77027 (713-629-0670) appeared, presented information and stated that with the Mayor and Council’s support there was a series of seven cadet classes per year and increased officers and now was more enforcement, fast team, etc., and he wanted them to know how important the classes were and recommended the classes be continued. Council Members Clutterbuck, Adams, Holm, Brown and Green absent.

Mayor White stated that he thanked him, he was a model of informed civic involvement and he appreciated him coming; that he would mention several dimensions were not fully accounted for by simple headcount, one was they were getting close to the goal of 318 officers taking out of desk positions and placed into patrol positions, etc., also the level of overtime today was substantially higher than in 2003 when they began and they would retain overtime funding and significant investments had been made to improve productivity of officers, but there would always be a trade off on property tax rate and amount placed into public safety. Council Members Johnson, Clutterbuck, Adams, Holm, Brown and Green absent.

Mr. Bruce Krewinghaus, 6118 Valkeith, Houston, Texas 77096 (713-771-3379) appeared and stated that he was president of Southwest Houston 2000 and Mr. Radoff was their crime prevention chairman who did an outstanding job as eluded to; that he too was present supporting higher cadet classes; that what officers did in their area on Apartments to Standard Program and Blue Star Program and keeping youth in school was wonderful and he thanked them for that; that the city was also good on opening the Morris Branch Library in their area and they had a great celebration with 500 people showing up and they thought the new police station coming would make a great difference; that with the city’s investment in their area they were looking for great improvements. Council Members Johnson, Clutterbuck, Adams, Khan, Holm and Brown absent.

Council Member Clutterbuck thanked Mr. Krewinghaus and Mr. Radoff for coming and for all the work they did; that the entire group of volunteers put on a spectacular opening for the new library and it was quite an inspiration. Council Members Johnson, Clutterbuck, Adams, Khan, Holm, Rodriguez and Brown absent.

Ms. Barbariann Lacourse, 1600 Louisiana, Houston, Texas 77002 (832-880-2010) appeared and stated that she was falsely arrested and had a Grand Mal seizure in august 2008 and taken to St. Joseph’s Hospital, they called HPD and supposedly they took her to Ben Taub, Psychiatry Ward, but they never had her, instead they took her to the Mykawa Jail and she was arrested for public intoxication and in the mean time seizures were so bad she let go of her urine, etc., and should have been taken to a doctor and let take a shower, but instead kept her over night in the same clothes and lost her showers and let her go barefooted and still
disoriented and they would not give her records to her, but she had hospital papers to show them and she wanted to know what was going on and how she would be compensated and presented paperwork to Ms. Vasquez. Mayor White, Council Members Johnson, Clutterbuck, Adams, Khan, Holm, Rodriguez and Brown absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Lovell presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Upon questions by Vice Mayor Pro Tem Lovell, Ms. Lacourse stated the incident was August 27, 2008 and nothing had happened yet, she was trying to be compensated by the hospital and police; that she had filed an IAD report. Mayor White, Council Members Johnson, Clutterbuck, Adams, Khan, Holm, Rodriguez and Brown absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Lovell presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Upon questions by Council Member Jones, Ms. Lacourse stated that Advocacy was for disabled people and they called the Mykawa Jail and they said she was never there, never arrested and she was there overnight and spoke with the judge on the television; that she had Grand Mal seizures since she was two years old; that she was on SSD. Mayor White, Council Members Clutterbuck, Adams, Khan, Holm, Rodriguez, Brown and Noriega absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Lovell presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Vice Mayor Pro Tem Lovell stated that Sergeant Babb with HPD was present and her file was given to him by Ms. Vasquez and he would speak with her at this time. Mayor White, Council Members Clutterbuck, Adams, Khan, Holm, Rodriguez, Brown and Noriega absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Lovell presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Ms. Anna Martin, 3114 Airport Blvd., Houston, Texas 77051 (713-733-1904) appeared, presented pictures for the Mayor to view and stated that she had pictures showing the manhole in her yard, they fixed it, the cost was $4,000, manhole five feet wide and five feet with exposed pipes and very dangerous, it was sinking again; that every time it rained it got lower and needed to be jumped on now; that also the vacant property was vacant 12 years and it was boarded up, each time she had to call to have it cut, no one wanted lizards, snakes, etc. Mayor White, Council Members Clutterbuck, Adams, Holm, Rodriguez, Brown and Noriega absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Lovell presiding.

Vice Mayor Pro Tem Lovell stated she would separate the pictures and return a set to her and see the mayor received a set and Mr. Gary Drabek with Public Works was present and would speak with her at this time. Mayor White, Council Members Clutterbuck, Adams, Holm, Rodriguez, Brown and Noriega absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Lovell presiding.

Mr. Larry Wangelin, 2510 Southwick, Houston, Texas 77080 (713-934-9855) appeared and stated that he lived in Houston since 2002 and here he felt he was a flood test dummy; that they flooded two weeks after he was in his house; in November 2003 again; in May 2007 again and substantially with over $70,000 in damages and past April 28th flooded approximately $47,000 in damages; that on the storm water management site their street was listed as having adequate drainage. Mayor White, Council Members Clutterbuck, Adams, Holm, Rodriguez, Brown and Noriega absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Lovell presiding.

Council Member Khan stated that flooding was a major issue and the last flood he spoke of had 2,500 homes flooded and Public Works was conducting a review and would present a briefing to Council and he would be more than happy to share the information with him. Mayor White, Council Members Clutterbuck, Adams, Holm, Rodriguez, Brown and Noriega absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Lovell presiding.

Council Member Lawrence stated that 35 neighborhoods had flooding and were invited to a meeting here, all were invited; that they received a hard rain in April, 11 inches, streets were
built for two inches of rain per hour, Mr. Drabek was present and could speak with him at this time; and upon questions, Mr. Wangelin stated that it was Buttermilk Creek; and Council Member Lawrence stated the maintenance for Buttermilk Creek was done by the Flood Control District and the city could not clean it out; that Public Works could not help him because it was county; and Mr. Wangelin stated that someone needed to be an advocate for them and he should call his commissioner to get it cleaned out. Mayor White, Council Members Clutterbuck, Adams, Sullivan, Holm, Rodriguez, Brown and Noriega absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Lovell presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Vice Mayor Pro Tem Lovell stated that Mr. Drabek could give him information to assist him; and she was sorry for his flooding. Mayor White, Council Members Clutterbuck, Adams, Sullivan, Holm, Rodriguez, Brown and Noriega absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Lovell presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. Otis Jordan, 7663 South Glen Willow, Missouri city, Texas 77489 (281-723-370 appeared, presented information and stated that there was misunderstanding on the incident he reported on March 31, 2009, regarding the hangman’s noose in the captain’s locker at Station 41, the day it happened it was reported to two assistant chiefs and somehow they said it was off the record and said forget about it so it seemed to be a cover-up; that when something was reported to a supervisor they were supposed to act and they did not and then months later he went to Chief Boriskie and asked he investigate it because he did not have the picture and the guys were scared to bring it forward, but the assistant chiefs knew of it, but there was an old trick, if they wanted to keep from punishing an officer which was a non minority they would investigate it early, slap him on the wrist with a reprimand, a 42, and it would be over with; that under civil service law you could do nothing and that was not right; that the rope could only be used for terroristic intimidation, in threatening members of the Fire Department; that he was standing with others in the community and they wanted a resignation of Chief Boriskie and the two assistant chiefs under him, they wanted them to go back to the fire station where they could act in a position they were familiar with and one they could handle. Council Members Adams, Holm, Noriega and Jones absent.

Council Member Johnson thanked Mr. Jordan for his leadership; and upon questions, Mr. Jordan stated that they were asking for resignations in the position of command, they should not be covering up; that the incident was reported in January and one firefighter was disciplined for breaking the chain of command, but he went to that assistant chief because he was African American and the one who had the noose should be given a desk job and not be over 15 men. Council Members Adams, Holm, Noriega and Jones absent.

Council Member Green stated that no one stood behind discrimination; and upon questions, Mr. Jordan stated that in January they were doing a program with a young kid and his parents in the captain’s room so they may have all seen the noose; that Mr. Al Bennett and Mr. Jesse O’Quinn reported it the same day; that he let Chief Boriskie know a few weeks later there was a picture of a noose in a locker but they were scared to bring it to him because they were scared he would expose it so he never got the picture, but he did say to the Chief there was a picture of a noose in a locker at a fire station; that was all he told him because he did not have the picture, no evidence, and nothing had happened to anyone except the one who reported it and he wanted this taken seriously and something done to those breaking the law, they wanted leadership in that area; that they needed bold steps and the Fire Chief belonged to the union and the union had a letter they sent out where discrimination of 146 firefighters in the city were sent out even to people’s homes and 100 of those on the list were African American and the Fire Chief should be representing all, the letter was what they called a scab list and his name was one of those on it, it was passed around and the Fire Chief and command staff were a member of this and they should be neutral. Council Members Adams, Holm, Noriega and Jones absent.
Ms. Sandra Wicoff, 1475 West Gray, Houston, Texas 77009 (713-520-1220) appeared and stated that she was executive director of a nonprofit called the River Performing and Visual Arts Center and they served children with disabilities; that they had been around since 1996 and throughout were housed at the Metropolitan Multi-Service Center on West Gray and today was present to say the program had grown tremendously and she wanted to credit the Houston Parks and Recreation Department and Doug Earl and the staff there, adaptive recreation had been promoted much more since the Parks Department took over and the activities were increased for the youth and adults. Council Members Adams, Holm, Noriega and Jones absent.

Council Member Clutterbuck thanked Ms. Wicoff for coming and stated that the River was an outstanding program run by many volunteers for disabled children to be able to express themselves; that her daughter had volunteered there and enjoyed it very much. Council Members Johnson, Adams, Holm, Noriega and Jones absent.

Ms. Chitra Viswanathan, One Hermann Museum Circle #1031, Houston, Texas 77004 (713-470-8440) appeared and stated that she had a spinal cord injury ten years ago and was completely paralyzed since that time; that some people came last week to speak on the center and she was an active user and also served on the Friends Advisory Council there; that when she went earlier on there were really no adaptive recreation programs to speak of and she stopped going, but about a year and a half ago she began coming back and was impressed with changes since being taken over by Parks and Recreation and all those involved, it made a humongous difference in her life. Council Members Johnson, Adams, Holm, Noriega, Green and Jones absent.

Council Member Khan thanked Ms. Viswanathan for coming and stated that he visited the center and it was probably the only facility the city had where people with physical challenges could have recreation and he thought they needed to continue making it bigger and better and he appreciated all those who worked there. Council Members Johnson, Adams, Khan, Holm, Noriega, Green and Jones absent.

Ms. Lin Perez, 3418 Yoakum, Houston, Texas 77006 (713-302-7620) appeared and stated that she was a retired rehabilitation nurse and on the Friends Council at the Metropolitan Multi-Service Center and she worked on the facilities sub committee and their concern was the building facility itself and there had been a lot of unused square footage remodeled and put to use such as the weight room expanded, a handicapped accessible garden and paths being developed also more sports activities; that they would still like more medical supervision and support in the pool area. Council Members Johnson, Adams, Khan, Holm, Noriega and Green absent.

Council Member Lovell stated that she lived in the neighborhood and was proud of the facility; that a taskforce was put together and they would be meeting on a weekly basis and she felt the taskforce and those using the facility needed to come together and determine what the use of the facility should be and what they needed and then come to the Mayor and Council and educate them; and Mayor White stated this was more planting a seed, there would be people working over hours and he believed there were other cities who were a higher tax environment and they provided more social services and one source of funding particularly for seniors and the disabled was the Medicare/Medicaid reimbursement, there were certain physical therapies which could be reimbursed through federal programs and he wondered if the city took advantage of those opportunities. Council Members Johnson, Clutterbuck, Adams, Khan, Holm, Brown, Noriega and Green absent. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Council Member Sullivan stated he had recently seen a press release from the Mayor that there was a new director for disabilities and maybe they should see that person was at least
aware or involved; and Ms. Perez stated if they could get that individual’s name and any cities which utilized funds the way he described them so they could make contact and understand how it worked; and Mayor White stated that Chicago was one and the name of the person was Jeff Anderson. Council Members Johnson, Adams, Khan, Holm, Brown, Noriega and Green absent.

Ms. Jazmine Ryan, 3809 Aberdeen Way, Houston, Texas 77025 (832-438-8803) appeared and stated that she was present regarding the Multi-Service Center at West Gray, she understood someone spoke last week on behalf of all disabled people and the responses were negative and she and others were present today to shed a more positive light and provide a different perspective, the Houston Parks and Recreation Department had successfully overseen and implemented programs to ensure the growth of the center; that 11 years ago she began having severe balance problems and found she had a rare spinal cord disease and became permanently in a wheelchair; that she became severally depressed from the psychological impact of transitioning from once a caregiver to the patient and then found the center and the facility absolutely changed her life, she had developed a sense of camaraderie and found the second family she was so desperately craving and had only seen positive changes in growth and thanked all the support staff. Mayor White, Council Members Johnson, Adams, Khan, Holm, Noriega and Green absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Lovell presiding.

Council Member Jones stated that having what happened to her she was very strong and commended her; that she knew Joe Turner had gone to visit all the parks to get an idea of what was going on and she was thankful they had more days of programming and hoped to do more. Mayor White, Council Members Johnson, Adams, Sullivan, Khan, Holm, Rodriguez, Noriega and Green absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Lovell presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Upon questions by Vice Mayor Pro Tem Lovell, Ms. Ryan stated that basketball was played Mondays and Thursdays from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.; that her shot was not that good; and Council Member Lovell stated that she would be by to watch. Mayor White, Council Members Johnson, Adams, Sullivan, Khan, Holm, Rodriguez, Noriega and Green absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Lovell presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. Tomas Lobo, 3838 Glen Arbor #1, Houston, Texas 77025 (832-722-2958) appeared and stated that he was present on the Metropolitan Center also, he had been going there 5 years and before the Parks and Recreation Department took it over it was more for those without disabilities, but now it was a sports hub for those with disabilities; that he played wheelchair basketball for college and the Center had done a lot in contributing to that and he was on full scholarship. Mayor White, Council Members Johnson, Adams, Sullivan, Khan, Holm, Rodriguez, Noriega and Green absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Lovell presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Upon questions by Council Member Lovell, Mr. Lobo stated he went to the University of Texas in Arlington and his shot was not that good either. Mayor White, Council Members Johnson, Adams, Sullivan, Khan, Holm, Rodriguez, Noriega, Green and Jones absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Lovell presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Council Member Clutterbuck thanked Mr. Lobo for coming and stated it was wonderful to hear praise and thanks and the Parks Director was amazing and Doug Earle did a tremendous job and she was glad the center was being used more. Mayor White, Council Members Johnson, Adams, Sullivan, Khan, Holm, Rodriguez, Noriega, Green and Jones absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Lovell presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. David Fowler, 3430 Brinton Trails Lane, Katy, Texas 77494 (832-731-6091) appeared and stated that he served as president of the Texas Chapter of the Paralyzed Veterans of
America and also on the Houston Commission of Disabilities and Texas Governors Commission on People With Disabilities and he served on the Advisory Council to the West Gray Multi Service Center and he understood people were present last week with their bad news and today they were present giving the other side of the story; that those present came on behalf of the Advisory Group and the group did not know they were coming, they met every other month at the center to hear concerns, issues and compliments of citizens or consumers who used the facility and those who came did not tell the whole story, there was much praise some of which they heard earlier and the new construction had made a big difference; that the cleanliness increased by twofold easy and the Parks Department had created new adaptive recreation programs and they had a large increase within the programs since they had taken over. Mayor White, Council Members Adams, Sullivan, Khan, Holm, Noriega and Green absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Lovell presiding.

Vice Mayor Pro Tem Lovell thanked Mr. Fowler for coming and stated that she hoped Joe Turner and his staff were listening as many complimentary things had been said. Mayor White, Council Members Adams, Sullivan, Khan, Holm, Noriega and Green absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Lovell presiding.

Mr. Johnny Banda, 930 East Lake, Houston, Texas 77034 (713-854-6868) appeared and stated that he was present to reiterate what was already previously said, he was paralyzed in the Marine Corp and he remembered going through rehab and seeing people in chairs going through obstacles and wondering how they did it and now many years later he was able to do the same and the West Gray facility was great now. Mayor White, Council Members Adams, Sullivan, Khan, Holm, Brown, Noriega and Green absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Lovell presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Council Member Jones stated that she remembered when games were at the University of Houston in 1987 and being really surprised as she spoke with different people to find people falling out of beds had been paralyzed, and people diving into shallow waters, etc., and she gained a tremendous amount of respect when she got into a wheelchair and was challenged around the track, it wore her out and many went on from the trials to represent the U. S., but people’s lives did not have to end when something happened and anything they could do to help they wanted to do. Mayor White, Council Members Adams, Sullivan, Khan, Holm, Brown, Noriega and Green absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Lovell presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. Timothy O’Brien, 1303 Ruthven, Houston, Texas 77019 (832-771-7263) appeared, presented information and stated that the email being passed out was sent February 12th to Dr. Rhea Lawson, head of the library, the last sentence said “Can you address this please so I don’t have to go back to City Hall again like the time before, but he was back again as she had not addressed it and it was a simple issue having to do with the inner library loan system; that they did not check the item when you got it out and when you returned it, it was not always taken off your account, at his university he gets a receipt to show when he takes it back, but at the library he said he was bringing the inner library loan back could he get a receipt and they said they did not do it, but told him he did not return something that he never had so he was looking for a system; that Dr. Lawson was not accountable. Mayor White, Council Members Adams, Sullivan, Khan, Holm, Brown, Noriega and Green absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Lovell presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Council Member Clutterbuck thanked Mr. O’Brien for coming to Council, expressed condolences from Council to him regarding his father and stated this was an issue they were dealing with, there were efforts to employ a new system of tracking which would bring them up to the 21st century and hopefully they would not have such problems again; and Mr. O’Brien stated that in the meantime it would be great to just keep a receipt book at the desk. Mayor
White, Council Members Adams, Sullivan, Khan, Holm, Brown, Noriega and Green absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Lovell presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Vice Mayor Pro Tem Lovell stated that they had received a report and Dr. Lawson was wonderful and always responsive and they admitted they simply missed his email and they had sent over Ms. Veronica Davidson with the Library System and she was present to specifically speak with him. Mayor White, Council Members Adams, Sullivan, Khan, Holm, Brown, Noriega and Green absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Lovell presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. Tim Roth, 9713 Pine Lake Drive, Houston, Texas 77055 (713-935-9550) appeared and stated that he lived in Long Point Woods and presented two pictures for viewing; that there was a significant rainfall April 28th and he was present as they never flooded before, but there was a problem now; that he represented no group but there were about 1,000 houses in his and surrounding area where two things had happened, the new property with the HEB was not allowing the water to pour off into the drainage ditch where before when it was Daniel Industries water came off and went into the ground; that they also lowered Bunker Hill and it was now lower than the neighborhood, their whole neighborhood was now concerned about a tropical storm, before there was grass; that he emailed the Flood control district and his response was Ike debris was removed and there was not enough to dig the channel any deeper and to him that eliminated the possibilities for their neighborhood and they were in big trouble and the city should not pay those who designed Bunker Hill as they had now become a retention pond, they should be held accountable. Mayor White, Council Members Adams, Sullivan, Khan, Holm, Brown, Noriega, Green and Jones absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Lovell presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Council Member Lawrence stated that all city streets were lowered and she hoped he did not flood again; that she flooded and had 18 inches in her house, the ditch he spoke of separating the Fidelis property was a county ditch and they could do nothing about it; that many people were spreading wrong information, the city had not hired Bunker Hill to be done, it was being done by the Memorial City TIRZ who hired a very competent engineering company and it was designed properly, but the rain received was 11 inches in some areas and nothing could be done about it, with that anyone would flood and she would give him a contact number at this time. Mayor White, Council Members Lawrence, Adams, Sullivan, Khan, Holm, Brown, Noriega, Green and Jones absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Lovell presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

President Joseph Charles, P. O. Box 524373, Houston, Texas 77052-4373 (832-407-5344) appeared and stated that he wished to charge the City Secretary for sabotaging his case charge address where he mentioned Council Member Clutterbuck and Congressman Archer; and continued expressing his personnel opinions until his time expired. Mayor White, Council Members Lawrence, Adams, Sullivan, Khan, Holm, Rodriguez, Brown, Noriega, Green and Jones absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Lovell presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. Ted Brakhage, 3210 Tilson Lane, Houston, Texas 77080 (713-464-8481) appeared and stated he was present last week and he wanted to thank Council Members Lawrence and Sullivan, he agreed the noose should not be allowed in the Council Chambers, there were young students visiting and he was surprised other Council Members did not agree with them; that he was in support of the Houston Fire Department and regretted he was not able to be one, but this place was an inappropriate place for a noose. Mayor White, Council Members Lawrence, Adams, Sullivan, Khan, Holm, Rodriguez, Brown, Noriega, Green and Jones absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Lovell presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. James Partsch Galvan, 1611 Holman, Houston, Texas 77004 (713-528-2607) appeared and stated June 2, 2009, www.mayorgalvan.com; that Washington Avenue was the new Westheimer and he supported the Washington Street Art Festival and would vote for Ed
Gonzalez for District H Council Member; and continued expressing his personal opinions until his time expired. Mayor White, Council Members Lawrence, Adams, Sullivan, Khan, Holm, Rodriguez, Brown, Noriega, Green and Jones absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Lovell presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Ms. Mary Taylor, 1403 Fashion Hill Drive, Houston, Texas 77088 (281-445-0682) appeared and stated that she was present regarding the YMCA funding by stimulus money for Willow Run and all their streets were flooding, the stimulus money should be used in Willow Run and the Mayor should take charge and get the funding for them. Mayor White, Council Members Lawrence, Adams, Sullivan, Khan, Holm, Brown, Noriega, Green and Jones absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Lovell presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

At 5:11 p.m. City Council recessed until 9:00 a.m., Wednesday, June 3, 2009. Mayor White, Council Members Lawrence, Adams, Sullivan, Khan, Holm, Brown, Noriega, Green and Jones absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Lovell presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

The Houston City Council reconvened at 9:00 a.m. Wednesday, June 3, 2009, with Mayor Bill White presiding and with Council Members Toni Lawrence, Jarvis Johnson, Anne Clutterbuck, Wanda Adams, Mike Sullivan, M. J. Khan, P. E., Pam Holm, James G. Rodriguez, Peter Brown, Sue Lovell, Melissa Noriega, Ronald C. Green and Jolanda “Jo” Jones; Mr. Arturo Michel, City Attorney; Ms. Martha Stein, Agenda Director and Ms. Marta Crinejo, Assistant Agenda Director, present.

Note: Council Member, District H Position, vacant.

At 8:33 a.m. City Secretary read the descriptions or captions of items on the Agenda.

At 9:37 Mayor White called the meeting to order. Council Members Adams, Sullivan, Holm, Brown, Green and Jones absent.

Council Member Khan moved to hear the Mayor’s Report at this time, seconded by Council Member Lovell. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Adams, Sullivan, Holm, Brown, Green and Jones absent. MOTION 2009-0305 ADOPTED.

MAYOR’S REPORT - Office of Veterans Affairs

Mayor White stated that one of the great sources of pride of the community was the way that they treated their returning veterans, that they could always do better but they had a goal to treat their returning veterans as VIPs and to learn from mistakes in prior conflicts, that had not always been the case, that they were really fortunate to have dedicated people who could tell them a little bit on how they were doing in that regard and recognized Mr. Buddy Grantham.

Council Members Adams, Sullivan, Holm, Brown, Green and Jones absent.

Mr. Buddy Grantham, Director, City of Houston Office of Veterans’ Affairs, reviewed the “Returning Veterans Initiative”, a copy of which is in the City Secretary’s office for review, and recognized Mr. Vincent Morrison, Harris County Veterans Service Officer; Gene Tulich, President of Houston Military Affairs; Shane Linnel, Texas Workforce Commission’s Texas Veteran Leadership Program, who helped review the program with him. Council Members Adams, Rodriguez and Green absent.

Mr. Grantham introduced Colonel Mark N. Campsey, Commander of the 72nd Brigade Combat Team, who thanked Mayor White for the Office of Veterans Affairs and stated that it
was a military tradition to thank people who went above and beyond to provide outstanding service to their families and soldiers and presented Mayor White with a coin of excellence and thanked him for his support and looked forward to the continued service with the City of Houston. Council Members Adams, Rodriguez and Green absent.

Mayor White thanked Mr. Grantham and stated that he would tell his colleagues that they did interact with so many citizens in the community by virtue of their jobs and people around the table, that he thought it was important that people knew there was a resource for people who had problems who were returning veterans, that it was going to be up to them to make a strong statement that there was no such thing as forgotten wars or a forgotten sacrifice, that people who were coming back, as well as the families of those who served would not be forgotten; that he would not have enough detail to go into, but would tell them that what Mr. Grantham said about the benefits of the new GI Bill was not just a benefit for those men and women who took advantage of them, there was some potential eligibility for all those with honorable discharges after 9-1-1, under the way it was written, and thought that it kicked in on August 1, 2009, the new schedule. Council Members Holm and Green absent.

Council Members Sullivan, Noriega, Johnson, Brown, Khan and Jones thanked Mayor White and expressed appreciation for his bringing this program to the Mayor's Report, and thanked Mr. Grantham for what he was doing at the Office of Veterans Affairs, that they appreciated the Members of the Armed Services and thanked them for the service that they give to them every single day. Council Members Adams, Holm, Green and Jones absent.

Council Member Sullivan stated that one area that he thought they needed some assistance was that apparently the Houston Airport System had kind of pushed them off to some temporary room because he had volunteers in the Kingwood area, the Republican Women's Club who volunteered at the airport for the USO and at the meeting two weeks ago they gave him an earful about what they called the poor conditions at Bush where they were now located, that he did not get the full story but wanted to bring it up in public so that if it was what they say he felt they had an obligation to do better, so if that was something they could look into and work on he would appreciate it, and Mayor White stated that they ought to follow up today and would authorize them to contact Colonel Potts, the Acting Aviation Director, who should be sensitive to these concerns, that he did not learn about it until Council Member Sullivan made a comment about it at the mike, but they certainly that they would address that particular issue. Council Members Adams, Holm, Green and Jones absent.

After further discussion by Council Members, Mayor White stated that he wanted to thank them all for being present and thanked them for what they did for their community. Council Members Lawrence, Clutterbuck, Rodriguez, Brown and Lovell absent.

9:00 A.M. - REPORT FROM CITY CONTROLLER AND THE CITY ADMINISTRATION REGARDING THE CURRENT FINANCIAL STATUS OF THE CITY including but not limited to, a revenue, expenditure and encumbrance report for the General Fund, all special revenue funds and all enterprise funds, and a report on the status of bond funds - was presented.

At 10:26 a.m. Mayor White stated that they would go back to the regular order of business and the Monthly Financial Report and recognized Ms. Annise Parker and Ms. Michele Mitchell for the report. Council Members Lawrence, Clutterbuck, Sullivan, Rodriguez, Brown and Lovell absent.

Ms. Annise Parker, City Controller and Ms. Michele Mitchell, Director, Finance Department, reviewed the Monthly Operations and Financial Report, a copy of which is on file in the City Secretary's Office for review. Council Member Rodriguez absent.
Council Member Khan stated that in the report, on the debt ratio, they saw that now Aviation was 23.4% where as the Controller said the policy was to maintain it at 20%, that they were also saying something about ratio of unhedged variable rate debt, what did that mean, unhedged, did it mean the SWAPS were not part of this debt, and Ms. Parker stated that as they knew they had actually been trying to refund the Airport System debt for nearly two years now and they kept evaluating the market and making other decisions which was why they saw the percentage of variable rate debt creeping up and unhedged meant exactly that, it was not involved in any of the SWAP transactions.

Council Member Brown stated that he had a question about the FEMA reimbursements, that it had been represented a little differently in their two reports; that the Controller’s report seemed to be more pessimistic than the Finance Department’s report, and asked if they could comment on that; that his other concern was as they were looking at Fiscal Year 2010 should they not also be seeing that in the context of what they thought would happen in Fiscal 2011 and 2012, that it was not a one shot window but was an evolution over time and thought that current policy ought to be conditioned in some way by what they projected into the future, and Ms. Parker stated that Ms. Mitchell made a presentation putting the FY2010 Budget into a 5 year projection and perhaps Council Member Brown was not able to attend that presentation but was sure she could forward that to him; that his other question as to why her numbers were more conservative then Ms. Mitchell’s, that was actually what they considered their job to be, to try to look for problems and where the administration may be over optimistic they would find though that over the course of a year the numbers should converge as they were right now; and the third question was about Ike, and Ms. Mitchell stated that she and the Controller meet and speak on a frequent basis about all their numbers to be sure that they were seeing the same things even through their numbers were different, because they looked at some of the things differently, as they should, that as far as Hurricane Ike was concerned she was very optimistic for 2010, she knew that the Mayor was reaching out to Washington to make sure that they continued to keep the FEMA representatives here to complete the PWs that were in process right now, that the one piece that she did not have for him was the insurance piece, but if there was an insurance then she still believed that in 2010 they would be able to fund back, if all the money was obligated by FEMA and she believed it should be by at least the end of 2010 but she was hoping by January or February they would be able to put back the Rainy Day Fund and then they had the other $10 million and they would look at that as well, that she thought that they were going to come out with a more positive outlook, this was where she had not given out any new numbers to the Controller but she believed that they were not going to have a liability as it related to Ike, that she thought they were going to have a surplus so that was how her numbers were looking now.

Council Member Clutterbuck moved to accept the Monthly Operations and Financial Report, seconded by Council Member Khan. All voting aye. Nays none. MOTION 2009-0306 ADOPTED.

At 10:39 Mayor White stated that they would turn to the consent agenda. Council Members Clutterbuck and Adams absent.

CONSENT AGENDA NUMBERS 1 through 40

ACCEPT WORK - NUMBER 1

1. RECOMMENDATION from Director General Services Department for approval of final contract amount of $500,656.00 and acceptance of work on contract with AAA ASPHALT PAVING, INC for Police Academy Running Track - 4.96% over the original contract amount - DISTRICT B — JOHNSON — was presented, moved by Council Member Khan,
seconded by Council Member Green. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Clutterbuck and Adams absent. MOTION 2009-0307 ADOPTED.

PURCHASING AND TABULATION OF BIDS - NUMBERS 4 through 7

4. ORDINANCE appropriating $73,645.00 out of Equipment Acquisition Consolidated Fund for Purchase of Hybrid-Electric Cab & Chassis Mounted with an Aerial Manlift for the Parks & Recreation Department – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2009-0467 ADOPTED.

4a. SANTEX TRUCK CENTER, LTD. for Hybrid-Electric Cab & Chassis Mounted with an Aerial Manlift Truck Body through the Interlocal Agreement for Cooperative Purchasing with Houston-Galveston Area Council for Parks & Recreation Department - Total $224,305.00 - Equipment Acquisition Consolidated Fund – was presented, moved by Council Member Khan, seconded by Council Member Lovell. All voting aye. Nays none. MOTION 2009-0308 ADOPTED.

5. AGILENT TECHNOLOGIES, INC for Gas Chromatograph/Mass Selective Detector for Houston Police Department - $107,195.70 - Grant Fund – was presented, moved by Council Member Khan, seconded by Council Member Lovell. All voting aye. Nays none. MOTION 2009-0309 ADOPTED.

7. RUSH TRUCK CENTERS OF TEXAS, LP. for Cab & Chassis Glider Kits and the Refurbishment of City-owned Dump Truck Bodies through the Interlocal Agreement for Cooperative Purchasing with Houston-Galveston Area Council for Department of Public Works & Engineering $554,650.00 - Storm Water Fund – was presented, moved by Council Member Khan, seconded by Council Member Lovell. All voting aye. Nays none. MOTION 2009-0310 ADOPTED.

RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES - NUMBERS 8 through 40

8. RESOLUTION acknowledging and supporting the Fort Bend Central Appraisal District’s Resolution to purchase a tract of land located in the City of Rosenberg, Fort Bend County, Texas, and to construct a new Fort Bend Central Appraisal District Office on said tract of land for conducting appraisals for various taxing entities, including the City – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. RESOLUTION 2009-0014 ADOPTED.

9. Omitted

10. ORDINANCE releasing certain territory in Waller County in the vicinity of the City of Waller, Texas, from the extraterritorial jurisdiction of the City of Houston – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2009-0468 ADOPTED.

11. ORDINANCE consenting to the addition of 66.6382 acres of land to HARRIS COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 24, for inclusion in its district – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2009-0469 ADOPTED.

12. ORDINANCE consenting to the addition of 59.58 acres of land to HARRIS COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 36 of Harris County, Texas, for inclusion in its district – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2009-0470 ADOPTED.
13. ORDINANCE consenting to the addition of 13.255 acres of land to HARRIS COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 321, for inclusion in its district – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2009-0471 ADOPTED.

14. ORDINANCE consenting to the addition of 2.4003 acres of land to TERRANOVA WEST MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT, for inclusion in its district – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2009-0472 ADOPTED.

15. ORDINANCE establishing the south side of the 600 and 700 blocks of Harold Avenue within the City of Houston as a special building line requirement area pursuant to Chapter 42 of the Code of Ordinances, Houston, Texas - DISTRICT D - ADAMS – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2009-0473 ADOPTED.

16. ORDINANCE establishing the south side of the 600 and 700 blocks of Harold Avenue within the City of Houston as a special minimum lot size requirement area pursuant to Chapter 42 of the Code of Ordinances, Houston, Texas - DISTRICT D - ADAMS – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2009-0474 ADOPTED.

17. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing third amendment to Contract between the City and the TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY for the PM 2.5 Air Monitoring System (#FC70069) - $67,999.50 - Grant Fund – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2009-0475 ADOPTED.

24. ORDINANCE appropriating $250,000.00 out of Equipment Acquisition Consolidated Fund for Planning Phase Services for Municipal Courts Case Management System Project for the Information Technology Department – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2009-0476 ADOPTED.

27. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing Amendment No. 2 to Lease Agreement between the City of Houston and SHELL OIL COMPANY for certain premises at George Bush Intercontinental Airport/Houston - DISTRICT B - JOHNSON – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2009-0477 ADOPTED.

32. ORDINANCE appropriating $200,000.00 out of Public Library Consolidated Construction Fund for Purchase and Installation of Security Fence under an existing Citywide Contract with THE FIERRO GROUP LTD. CO. dba FENCEMASTER OF HOUSTON and HVAC Equipment under an existing Job Order Contract with WILLIAMS & THOMAS, LP DBA JAMAIL CONSTRUCTION for the South Post Oak Multi-Service Center and Vinson Branch Library - DISTRICT D - ADAMS – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2009-0478 ADOPTED.

33. MUNICIPAL Setting Designation Ordinance prohibiting the use of designated groundwater from beneath a 22.5 acre site located in 5610 Polk Avenue Houston, Harris County, Texas, commonly known as Polk Street MSD, Houston, Texas, 77023 and portions of Clay Street, Hughes Street and Polk Avenue Right-of-way, City of Houston, Harris County, Texas; and supporting issuance of a Municipal Setting Designation by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality DISTRICT I - RODRIGUEZ – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2009-0479 ADOPTED.

34. ORDINANCE appropriating $1,478,000.00 as the City's Match out of Street & Bridge Consolidated Construction Fund for Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) Construction of the Herman Brown Park Trail Phase II Bikeway Project - DISTRICT I - RODRIGUEZ – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2009-0480 ADOPTED.
35. ORDINANCE appropriating $173,500.00 out of Street & Bridge Consolidated Construction Fund as an additional appropriation to Contract between the City of Houston and AECOM USA GROUP, INC F/K/A J.F. THOMPSON, INC for Design of South Shaver Road from Gulf Freeway (IH-45) to Galveston Road (State Highway 3) (Approved by Ordinance No. 00-313) - DISTRICT E - SULLIVAN – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2009-0481 ADOPTED.

36. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing Professional Engineering Services Contract between the City of Houston and HUITT-ZOLLARS, INC for Design of On-Call Structural Engineering Projects $60,000.00 - Building Inspection Fund – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2009-0482 ADOPTED.

37. ORDINANCE appropriating $500,000.00 out of Metro Project Commercial Paper Series E Fund; approving and authorizing Professional Engineering Services Contract between the City of Houston and GUNDA CORPORATION, INC for Intelligent Transportation System Design Services – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2009-0483 ADOPTED.

38. ORDINANCE appropriating $1,100,000.00 out of Metro Project Commercial Paper Series E Fund; approving and authorizing Professional Construction Management & Inspection Services Contract between the City of Houston and KIMLEY-HORN & ASSOCIATES, INC for Intelligent Transportation System Design Services – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2009-0484 ADOPTED.

40. ORDINANCE No. 2009-454, passed first reading May 27, 2009
ORDINANCE granting to TENNESSEE GENERAL CONSTRUCTION, INC, A TENNESSEE CORPORATION, the right, privilege and franchise to collect, haul and transport Solid Waste and Industrial Waste from commercial properties located within the City of Houston, Texas, pursuant to Chapter 39, Code of Ordinances, Houston, Texas; providing for related terms and conditions; and making certain findings related thereto - SECOND READING – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2009-0454 PASSED SECOND READING IN FULL.

MATTERS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA WERE CONSIDERED AS FOLLOWS:

PROPERTY

2. RECOMMENDATION from Director Department of Public Works & Engineering, reviewed and approved by the Joint Referral Committee, on request from D. B. Mangum, Gullett & Associates, Inc., on behalf of Magellan Pipeline Company, L.P. [Magellan Pipeline GP, LLC (Larry J. Davied, Vice President) General Partner], for the sale of a 20-foot-wide subsurface pipeline easement within an existing CenterPoint Energy transmission easement, within the Battaglia Tract (Q45-001), out of the Reels and Trobough League, A-59, Parcel SY9-069 - DISTRICT I – RODRIGUEZ – was presented, moved by Council Member Khan, seconded by Council Member Clutterbuck, and tagged by Council Member Noriega.

PURCHASING AND TABULATION OF BIDS

3. ORASURE TECHNOLOGIES, INC for Rapid Diagnostic HIV Test Kits for the Houston Department of Health & Human Services - 5 Years - $1,006,100.00 - Grant Fund – was
presented, moved by Council Member Khan, seconded by Council Member Clutterbuck. All voting aye. Nays none. MOTION 2009-0311 ADOPTED.

6. ORDINANCE appropriating $431,424.24 out of Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund and $204,456.00 out of Harris County Construction Fund for Emergency Relocation of the Simsbrook Sewer Line for the Public Works & Engineering Department - **DISTRICT D - ADAMS** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2009-0485 ADOPTED.

6A. RELIANCE CONSTRUCTION SERVICES L.P. for Emergency Relocation of the Simsbrook Sewer Line for the Department of Public Works & Engineering - **DISTRICT D - ADAMS** – was presented, moved by Council Member Khan, seconded by Council Member Clutterbuck. All voting aye. Nays none. MOTION 2009-0312 ADOPTED.

RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES

18. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing five (5) Single Family Home Repair Contracts between the City, as the Repair Agency acting on behalf of five (5) Homeowners, and three (3) Construction Contractors (**PPMG CUSTOM HOMES, JOSHUA DADE HOMES**, and **GENERAL CONTRACTOR SERVICES, INC**) and providing $462,241.15 in Community Development Block Grant Funds (including a 10% contingency of $42,021.92) for the demolition and reconstruction work on four (4) houses and reconstruction only work on one (1) house (Tier III) under the Single Family Home Repair Program Administrative Guidelines, as amended - **DISTRICTS B - JOHNSON; D - ADAMS and DISTRICT H** – was presented.

Council Member Clutterbuck stated that she had a question as to whether or not the properties listed were for any people who had previously been deceased, that she knew there was a news report about a particular issue, that she wanted to thank everybody for the backup, that it gave very explicit rules but she wanted clarification that none of the applicants who had applied had passed away and were on the list.

Mayor White stated that he did not believe that those were the households that they identified, that if somebody had some other information they could get it to him; that if somebody were deceased they would not meet that criteria, that there was a case where they used some other funds for dependents, that in a case that there were survivors then they had to meet the 15 year affordability requirement, that if somebody were deceased in the future, who was a homeowner, it did not automatically default or accelerate.

After further discussion Council Member Jones stated that if someone died after they build the home the co-homeowner had to meet the affordability requirements, that she spoke with HUD to make sure that it was okay and that they were following all the guidelines, that what the Mayor said was true, if somebody died after they built the house the relatives, if they wanted to move into the house or buy the house, they had to meet the affordability requirements, that if no one qualified then it had to be sold, that it ran for 15 years from the time they built the house.

Council Member Brown stated that he posed a question to the Housing and Community Development whether there were any green building standards attached to the homes because they were putting a lot of money into them and he did not get an answer, that he thought they should have a consistent policy about these homes; that the second suggestion would be that the finished slab be not 18 inches but 24 inches minimum above the crown of the road so if there was a shift in the flood plain the investment was protected, and Mayor White stated on Houston Hope they had Residential Energy Codes, and Energy Star incentives and then some additional requirements; that on home repairs, including Tier III Reconstruction, it was code, and
their energy code, basically, as they were moving through the standards that went into effect, would be very similar to what Energy Star’s were, that they tended not to impose greater requirements on affordable houses then they did on other houses in the community, that he thought issues concerning the actions which may be done in order to incentivize an ultra energy efficient home was a great issue that they might want to have a special committee meeting, that he would be reluctant to go back and re-bid. Council Member Noriega absent.

Mayor White stated that he had a piece of information to respond to Council Member Clutterbuck, that there was one instance where there was a current co-owner of one of the Tier III homes and that person would be required to meet the eligibility requirements in full, and they had. Council Member Noriega absent.

After further discussion Council Member Johnson stated that based on the information that had just been given he would like to have somebody from Housing give him an understanding of what was just said. Council Member Noriega absent.

After further discussion Council Member Jones stated that the house was built with HUD funds and there was always a requirement with HUD funds that it be affordable, but an heir could come and pay it off so that they would not lose the house.

After further discussion a vote was called on Item No. 18. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2009-0486 ADOPTED.

19. ORDINANCE declaring an intent to reimburse Building Inspection Fund No. 2301 with proceeds from Commercial Paper; appropriating the amount of $5,778,284.00 from the Reimbursement of Equipment/Project Fund No. 1850 for purposes of such reimbursement – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2009-0487 ADOPTED.

20. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing second amendment to agreement between the City of Houston and HARRIS COUNTY for Assessment and Collection Services – was presented.

Council Member Khan asked why was the County asking for more money to collect a less amount than they were scheduled to get this year versus previous years, and Mayor White stated that this was a strong request by the County and they did not do business this way, that he would say that it would probably characterize it as effecting the relationship in the long run with Harris County to pay on the same basis as other jurisdictions.

A vote was called on Item No. 20. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDIANNCE 2009-0488 ADOPTED.

21. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing contract between the City of Houston and EPSTEIN BECKER GREEN WICKLIFF & HALL, P.C. for Legal Services relating to various utility related matters, upcoming Water/Sewer Rate Cases, Legislative Assistance and Legal Consultation; providing a maximum contract amount - $1,385,000.00 - General Fund - was presented.

Council Member Clutterbuck stated that this item had a very steep price tag and understood that more than 75% of it would end up being reimbursed as had been the process and practice over the last several years, that she knew it was a very specialized legal field, that she knew that Mayor White had previously had a briefing when Mr. Hall came and gave a breakdown and if they could receive that going forward in the future she thought it was an excellent accounting of how they were getting the reimbursements, that she assumed that the
term of the contract was for a year but it was not stated in the RCA, and Mayor White stated that they would get the breakdown, and Mr. Michel stated that he believed that the contract was for the specific service which may extend beyond a year, that former Council Member Ellis had requested the type of breakdown that she was asking for and they would ask Mr. Hall to continue to provide that.

A vote was called on Item No. 21. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2009-0489 ADOPTED.

22. ORDINANCE appropriating $64,457,004.90 out of Tax Increment Funds for Reinvestment Zone Number One, City of Houston, Texas (Lamar Terrace Zone), Reinvestment Zone Number Two, City of Houston, Texas (Midtown Zone), Reinvestment Zone Number Three, City of Houston, Texas (Main Street/Market Square Zone), Reinvestment Zone Number Four, City of Houston, Texas (Village Enclaves Zone), Reinvestment Zone Number Five, City of Houston, Texas (Memorial-Heights Zone), Reinvestment Zone Number Seven, City Of Houston, Texas (Old Spanish Trail/Almeda Corridors Zone), Reinvestment Zone Number Eight, City of Houston, Texas (Gulfgate Zone), Reinvestment Zone Number Nine, City Of Houston, Texas (South Post Oak Zone), Reinvestment Zone Number Ten, City of Houston, Texas (Lake Houston Zone), Reinvestment Zone Number Eleven, City of Houston, Texas (Greater Greenspoint Zone), Reinvestment Zone Number Twelve, City of Houston, Texas (City Park Zone), Reinvestment Zone Number Thirteen, City of Houston, Texas (Old Sixth Ward Zone), Reinvestment Zone Number Fourteen, City of Houston, Texas (Fourth Ward Zone), Reinvestment Zone Number Fifteen, City of Houston, Texas (East Downtown Zone), Reinvestment Zone Number Sixteen, City of Houston, Texas (Uptown Zone), Reinvestment Zone Number Seventeen, City of Houston, Texas, (Memorial City Zone), Reinvestment Zone Number Eighteen, City Of Houston, Texas (Fifth Ward Zone), Reinvestment Zone Number Nineteen, City of Houston, Texas (Upper Kirby Zone), Reinvestment Zone Number Twenty, City of Houston, Texas (Southwest Houston Zone), Reinvestment Zone Number Twenty-One, City of Houston, Texas (Hardy/Near Northside Zone), and Reinvestment Zone Number Twenty-Two, City of Houston Texas (Leland Woods Zone) for payment of affordable housing costs, payment of administrative expenses, payment of project costs, payment to HOUSTON HOUSING FINANCE CORPORATION, and payments to certain redevelopment authorities as provided herein – was presented.

Council Member Rodriguez stated that he planned to tag this Item and Item No. 23 as well and would like for someone from the administration to come and visit with him on a few questions that he had.

Mayor White stated that Item No. 22 had been tagged by Council Member Rodriguez.

23. ORDINANCE appropriating $40,174,045.27 out of Tax Increment Funds for Reinvestment Zone Number One, City of Houston, Texas (Lamar Terrace Zone), Reinvestment Zone Number Two, City of Houston, Texas (Midtown Zone), Reinvestment Zone Number Three, City of Houston, Texas (Main Street/Market Square Zone), Reinvestment Zone Number Four, City of Houston, Texas (Village Enclaves Zone), Reinvestment Zone Number Five, City of Houston, Texas (Memorial-Heights Zone), Reinvestment Zone Number Seven, City of Houston, Texas (Old Spanish Trail/Almeda Corridors Zone), Reinvestment Zone Number Eight, City of Houston, Texas (Gulfgate Zone), Reinvestment Zone Number Nine, City of Houston, Texas (South Post Oak Zone), Reinvestment Zone Number Eleven, City of Houston, Texas (Greater Greenspoint Zone), Reinvestment Zone Number Twelve, City of Houston, Texas (City Park Zone), Reinvestment Zone Number Thirteen, City of Houston, Texas (Old Sixth Ward Zone), Reinvestment Zone Number Fourteen, City of Houston, Texas (Fourth Ward Zone), Reinvestment Zone Number Fifteen, City of
Houston, Texas (East Downtown Zone), Reinvestment Zone Number Sixteen, City of Houston, Texas (Uptown Zone), Reinvestment Zone Number Eighteen, City of Houston, Texas (Fifth Ward Zone), and Reinvestment Zone Number Nineteen, City of Houston, Texas (Upper Kirby Zone), for payment of affordable housing costs, payment of administrative expenses, payment of project costs, payments to HOUSTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ALDINE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, HOUSTON HOUSING FINANCE CORPORATION, and certain redevelopment authorities as provided herein – was presented, and tagged by Council Member Rodriguez.

25. ORDINANCE appropriating $700,000.00 out of Equipment Acquisition Consolidated Fund for Purchase of Voice Communication Equipment for the Information Technology Department – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDIANNCE 2009-0490 ADOPTED.

26. ORDINANCE amending Ordinance No. 2009-0220 to increase the maximum contract amount and approving and authorizing first amendment to agreement between the City of Houston and the CNA CORPORATION for Professional Services for the drafting of a Regional Catastrophic Preparedness Plan for the Mayor's Office of Public Safety and Homeland Security; providing a maximum contract amount - $77,316.00 - Grant Fund – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDIANNCE 2009-0491 ADOPTED.

28. ORDINANCE appropriating $300,000.00 out of Airports Improvement Fund and approving and authorizing Amendment No. 1 to Contract between the City of Houston and AMANI ENGINEERING, INC for Professional Engineering Services (Project No. 638) - DISTRICT B – JOHNSON – was presented, and tagged by Council Member Johnson.

29. ORDINANCE appropriating $200,000.00 out of Airports Improvement Fund and approving and authorizing Amendment No. 2 to Professional Services Contract between the City of Houston and MCDONOUGH ENGINEERING CORPORATION for Miscellaneous Civil Engineering Services with the Houston Airport System (Project No. 615D) - DISTRICTS B - JOHNSON; E - SULLIVAN and I - RODRIGUEZ – was presented, and tagged by Council Member Johnson.

30. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing Amendment No. 2 to Contract between the City of Houston and 4B TECHNOLOGY GROUP, LLC for Information Technology and Telecommunications Infrastructure Field Inspection Services for the Houston Airport System (Project No. 577) - DISTRICTS B - JOHNSON; E - SULLIVAN and I - RODRIGUEZ – was presented, and tagged by Council Member Johnson.

31. ORDINANCE appropriating $250,000.00 out of General Improvements Consolidated Construction Fund, $50,000.00 out of Parks Consolidated Construction Fund, $50,000.00 out of Solid Waste Consolidated Construction Fund; approving and authorizing contracts between the City of Houston and ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING SERVICES, INC, HONESTY ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, INC, PROFESSIONAL SERVICE INDUSTRIES, INC, TECHNOLOGY SERVING PEOPLE, INC, ENVIRONMENTAL SOLUTIONS, INC, WESTON SOLUTION, INC, TERRACON CONSULTANTS, INC, GARNER & ASSOCIATES, INC and EFI GLOBAL, INC to provide comprehensive environmental consulting services citywide; providing maximum contract amounts - 3 Years - $600,000.00 each - $200,000.00 Dangerous Building Consolidated Fund – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDIANNCE 2009-0492 ADOPTED.

39. ORDINANCE appropriating $3,421,000.00 out of Drainage Improvement Commercial Paper Series F, Fund, awarding contract to R J CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, INC for
Drainage Improvements at Grade Separations, Package III, setting a deadline for the bidder’s execution of the contract and delivery of all bonds, insurance, and other required contract documents to the City; holding the bidder in default if it fails to meet the deadlines; providing funding for engineering, testing, project management, and contingencies relating to construction of facilities financed by the Drainage Improvement Commercial Paper Series F, Fund - **DISTRICTS B - JOHNSON; C - CLUTTERBUCK; D - ADAMS; DISTRICT H and I – RODRIGUEZ** – was presented, and tagged by Council Member Johnson.

**MATTERS HELD - NUMBERS 41 through 45**

41. **RECOMMENDATION** from Director Department of Public Works & Engineering for approval of final contract amount of $1,258,570.35 and acceptance of work completed by the Surety, GUARANTEE COMPANY OF NORTH AMERICA USA on contract awarded to COLT UTILITIES, INC for Delafield Street and Lidstone Street Sewer Relocation - 8.92% under the original contract amount - **DISTRICT I – RODRIGUEZ** – (This was Item 6 on Agenda of May 27, 2009, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBER LAWRENCE) – was presented, moved by Council Member Khan, seconded by Council Member Clutterbuck. All voting aye. Nays none. MOTION 2009-0313 ADOPTED.

42. **RECOMMENDATION** from Director General Services Department (i) authorizing the sealed bid sale of Parcel SY9-080, known as the Heights Recycling Center, located at 3602 Center Street at Harvard, (ii) determining a public need for an alternative recycling center site, and (iii) appointing two independent appraisers and an alternate appraiser to determine the fair market value of Parcel SY9-080 - **DISTRICT H** – (This was Item 10 on Agenda of May 27, 2009, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBER BROWN) - was presented.

Council Member Brown moved to postpone Item No. 42 for one week, seconded by Council Member Khan. Mayor White absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Lovell presiding.

After discussion by Council Members Lovell, Noriega, Brown and Khan a vote was called on Council Member Brown motion to postpone Item No. 42 for one week. All voting aye. Nays none. MOTION 2009-0314 ADOPTED.

43. **RECOMMENDATION** from Director Administration & Regulatory Affairs Department to award to KATZENBACH PARTNERS LLC for Consulting Services for Process Improvement, Reorganization and Best Practices for Purchasing and Payroll Operations for the Administration & Regulatory Affairs Department - $1,241,300.00 - General and Enterprise Funds – (This was Item 13 on Agenda of May 27, 2009, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBER GREEN) - was presented, moved by Council Member Khan, seconded by Council Member Sullivan.

After discussion by Council Members Green, Clutterbuck, Holm, Brown, Sullivan, Khan, and Clutterbuck, Mayor White stated that he shared their view in general having been a consumer in both government and private sector, management consulting services for process re-engineering, there was a particular time and role where an organization benefited from people who had these skills, that they had been hired by many large organizations including for profit organizations who did not want to spend money on consulting contracts to determine whether or not there could be significant reductions in operating costs by reordering the workloads and work procedures, a good example would be some 500 people they employed in payroll, that he was not saying that was the right number or not the right number but he was saying that somebody who had looked at numerous organizations on the payroll functions and could benchmark them would come up with an answer, that he agreed with them that it would be great to have people who had done management consulting for numerous large
organizations so they had that experience in learning curves in the benchmarks, that one problem with hiring those people in the City was that they almost all made more money if they had those experiences than any City employee currently had, but they did find individuals, and he identified Mr. Eugster and Mr. Moran, who did it simply as a matter of public service and they needed to find more of those individuals, that this particular firm, he would note, and was independent of Mr. Moran, did a very substantial project which was very impressive by a skeptic.

The idea that they would continually try to improve did not mean that the people who were working for the City in these areas were all incompetent or did not know what they were doing, but it was to say that having somebody who had worked with numerous different organizations and had that life experience, particularly in times of changing technology, could bring perspectives that was hard for those inside an organization to bring to the table. Council Members Johnson, Noriega and Jones absent.

After further questions and discussion, Mayor White stated that one of the issues was that for this kind of contract it was sort of expedited, July through November, that part of that was to access those metrics and design those metrics to see the productivity over time and that was a particular specialized skill; that the other thing, in his view if they had some troublesome vital signs and went into a cardiologist and may pay a fee to go into that cardiologist, or the insurance would, then he was not prejudging what the firm would come up, if he or Mr. Moran knew what they would come up with then they should not hire them, if they came up with and they spent blank amount of time and things were just perfect, and that was their best opinion, then so be it, that he did not want them to walk through the door and have some City employee think that there was a preexisting plan and agenda concerning their role and that they knew in advance because that was not true, that what he did know was true was that almost every other organization had gone through this a couple of times in these areas and they ought to take a look at it and he knew that anybody in this field would tell them that unless there was some process reengineering when they implement new technology, like the SAP system, then they needed to take another step before they got the full utilization of that system to enhance productivity. Council Members Johnson and Lovell absent.

After further discussion a vote was called on Item No. 43. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Johnson and Lovell absent. MOTION 2009-0315 ADOPTED.

44. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing an amended and restated Professional Services
Contract between the City of Houston and BUFFALO BAYOU PARTNERSHIP, INC for Development of Park System along Buffalo Bayou; providing a maximum contract amount 5 Years - $180,000.00 - DISTRICTS B - JOHNSON; D - ADAMS; G - HOLM; DISTRICT H and I - RODRIGUEZ – (This was Item 44 on Agenda of May 27, 2009, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON) – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Johnson absent. ORDINANCE 2009-0493 ADOPTED.

45. ORDINANCE appropriating $794,160.00 out of Street & Bridge Consolidated Construction Fund as an additional appropriation to Professional Engineering Services Contract between the City of Houston and JACOBS ENGINEERING GROUP, INC for Design of Airline Drive from North Main to the North Loop (IH-610) (Approved by Ordinance No. 2001-0999); providing funding for contingencies relating to the construction of facilities financed by the Street & Bridge Consolidated Construction Fund – DISTRICT H - (This was Item 45 on Agenda of May 27, 2009, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBER GREEN) – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Johnson absent. ORDINANCE 2009-0494 ADOPTED.

MATTERS TO BE PRESENTED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Council Member Rodriguez stated that he wanted to commend the eastside HPD Officers, that recently their efforts to catch DWI and aggressive drivers on the City's eastside resulted in almost 200 citations on Saturday, May 16 and Sunday May 17, that there were 70 DWI arrests and 131 citations written for aggressive drivers; that their inaugural East End Golf Classic was a great success and wanted to thank everyone who joined their effort, that they raised about $45,000 to restore the historic Gus Wortham Golf Course, that he wanted to thank their presenting sponsor, Texas Port Recycling and his colleagues who came out and sponsored the tournament, Council Members Johnson, Holm, Brown, Lovell and City Controller Anise Parker; that he wanted to extend their condolences to Ms. Velma Laws and her family on the passing of their eldest daughter yesterday. Council Members Johnson, Clutterbuck, Green and Jones absent.

Council Member Sullivan stated that on Saturday there would be a BOPA event in Kingwood at the Kingwood Municipal Services Building from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., that his office would be out there working to help and assist; that he wanted to thank the Mayor's Citizens Assistance office for setting up, that they would be getting rid of some batteries, oil, paint and antifreeze; that next Tuesday the Mayor's Youth Council was going to have an outing at the Astros Baseball Game. Council Members Clutterbuck, Green and Jones absent.

Council Member Lovell stated that on the City of Houston website they had a new portion, a graffiti website that was put up there for citizens and organizations that wanted to fight graffiti in their neighborhoods, that it provided information and resources for abating graffiti, that it also had information on government agencies and community groups that provided positive alternatives to graffiti, that she wanted to thank her staff member, Tim Brookover and Robert Noack with the City of Houston IT Department for their hard work on it; that she wanted to congratulate Jeff Anderson who Mayor White had named as the new Director of the Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities; that tonight on Channel 8 there would be a film called "Montrose the Transformation of a Neighborhood”, that Jim Bailey of Sunset Productions produced it, that she saw the premier and it was a great movie that talked about the history of Montrose, that she was pleased to be in the movie and talk about her neighborhood as many other people were, that it would be at 9:00 p.m.; that it was announced that Houston was the number one for manufacturing in 2009, that according to the guide Houston was home to 21,697 manufacturing employees, that they wanted to encourage more people to move to Houston; that the Texas Legislative Session was concluded and she wanted to congratulate Ann Travis and Darren Hall who did a fabulous job for them at the session; that from the
Houston area, Representative Christi Theobold was name the Freshman of the Year and she wanted to congratulate her and to Carol Alvarado, who had a fine freshman session; that Dr. Freeman with TSU, who had the wonderful debate team had been named one of the 2009 Leading Houstonians in Leadership and she wanted to congratulate him; that she wanted to say congratulations to all of the high school and college graduates this year and to middle school graduates, that Lanier Middle School graduated her son Robbie, who would now be moving to Lamar High School; that from her office, Summer Gill, the daughter her scheduler, Karen Gill, graduated from Wharton High School and would be attending the University of Houston Honors College. Council Members Sullivan, Rodriguez, Green and Jones absent.

Council Member Sullivan stated that Solid Waste had a great facility on South Post Oak and many of them attended that, that it was fun to visit it and see how architecturally it was designed for drive through drop off; that on Friday she had asked for a map of all the streams in District A where possibly work would need to be done on them and they only put the City steam on it, that she got the map and wanted to put it on foam cardboard, that one of her staffers went down and got a bid of $114 to have it put on the board, that she got the map and wanted to put it on foam cardboard, that she had a $10 coupon so it cost her $19 for her office instead of $114, that she had a great meeting with IT in Marty’s office and regretfully Alfred was out of town, on their AT&T bill, that each Council got a late bill and they varied between $800 and $5,000 for each office, that it was a major problem, that she wanted a breakdown of her blackberry’s and come to find out she had been charged for another office, that she could not blame it on AT&T she blamed it on the contract they were getting and who was doing that contract, that it took ARA over 9 hours to get a breakdown for her bill, for three blackberry’s, that was when they found out they had been charging her for another office, that the billing system was very messed up, that they were not getting free text, that there were a lot of things like that, that she hoped when the RFP goes out everyone on Council would weigh in on what the City would get with over 2,000 phones; that due to personal business she would not be present next Tuesday and Wednesday and had two amendments, one would cut each Council budget by $7,000 based on 2009 Budget; that the other amendment was that they needed 10 more inspectors with their neighborhoods, that Council Members Holm and Lovell would present the amendments for her. Council Members Sullivan, Green and Jones absent.

Mayor White stated that he would say to Ms. Stein and Mr. Moore that on the print shop he would like for individuals to review the contract and see what the price schedule was, that if they were violating then terminate the contract; that second on telecom services, there were people who were specialists on telecom procurement and they ought to be assisting them, that the customer needed to dictate the billing format, if they had not dictated the billing format then it was their fault, that if they had and they were not complying then the contract ought to be enforced. Council Members Sullivan, Green and Jones absent.

Council Member Johnson stated that he wanted to thank Council Member Lovell for mentioning Dr. Freeman in receiving his honor on the weekend; that he wanted to congratulate Crawford Elementary, who was named this year's winner of Devon Energy's Science Giant Award, that it was an award that was given to one school each year in preparing for their future in college in science, that they received a $25,000 prize last week to recognize them as the winner; that it was the same school where Ms. Gloria Gorman was the principal, that she was a great lady who recently passed away from a tragic accident so he thought it was a tremendous honor bestowed on the school on the wake of the loss of their great principal; that summer was
here and they wanted to say to everyone to have a very blessed summer and be very careful, that if they were looking for things to do they could call his office, they had a list of activities that individuals could do or get involved in, that they could call his office at 713-393-3009; that he wanted to say congratulations to the C Stem and Dr. Reagan Flowers, there was a competition at the George R. Brown Convention Center that he was happy to host a couple of weeks ago, that it was a robotics competition, creative writing, artists and communication competition, that he was proud of all of the students, that it was a wonderful opportunity to give many of the children in HISD, North Forest, Fort Bend and Aldine, to be a part of robotics competition, that all of the students did a fabulous job, that North Forest received the Geographical Information Systems Award, that for the Top Student Ambassador Award he wanted to say congratulations to Ms. Kimberley Sanchez from Lakewood Elementary and Mr. Jarvis Dillard from Kirby Middle School; that this weekend there would be a community cleanup June 6, 2009 from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. starting at the Kashmere High School, that they were asking everybody to come out and be a part of this community cleanup; that he had an opportunity to talk with Chief Hurtt about Neighborhood Protection and what they were trying to do to keep their neighborhoods clean, that he still had not gotten his arms wrapped around the idea of abandoned properties in their neighborhood, that he knew that Legal continued to look at it but he was trying to figure out what did they need to do, call after call for abandoned houses in neighborhoods that had been there for ten to fifteen years that they seemingly could not get taken down was certainly to him unacceptable, that he needed help understanding what they needed to do.  Council Members Sullivan, Noriega, Green and Jones absent.

Mayor White stated that he would suggest that about August or so when Captain Curran had been in the saddle for a few months and they see how these changes work, that they have a hearing and take a sample of properties that had been in these categories and had been reported and go step by step, that it would be great to have a Council hearing, and see what the problem was, that he hoped they had the problem cured and take some of the properties and go through them.  Council Members Sullivan, Noriega, Green and Jones absent.

Council Member Holm stated that there was a waterline and construction on Westheimer and their office and the Public Works Department had heard particularly from one individual of the disruption because they were doing the project during the nighttime hours, that there was a report on it on Channel 11 last night and she thought it was really important for three things, that one, it had to do with the lack of recognition for the Noise Ordinance because the whole project, because of the traffic situation, had been decided that they would do it during the night time hours, that primarily it was in a commercial area but it did affect some residential homes, that she thought it was really important for the City to be consistent with their policies and if they were going to not adhere to their policies that they ought to go through some of the same steps; that she also thought that the communication factor could make all of the difference in the world, that once people had the information and were aware of what was going to happen a lot of times they were much more exceptive of the project; that the third thing was to continually look for those ways that they could actually improve their processes, that Uptown set a model this weekend, they had to reconstruct a major intersection, Post Oak Boulevard and San Felipe, that they closed the whole street for five days and worked twenty four hours a day, that the most important thing was that they used every tool they could so that people knew weeks in advance that they were going to be inconvenienced for five days; that she wanted to recognize and thank Mayor White because she knew he had been very engaged in the Huntley Project over the last five years and thought that they had finally come to a positive outcome and were moving forward, that Huntley was a stub street that had been overgrown for twenty one years and there was a contract that was going to be let and they were going to clean that property and rid it of the rodents and nuisances around it; that she was concerned about calls they had gotten from Briargrove neighborhood, the parking inspectors were coming through and writing tickets, for example the landscaper came and had a long truck and parked for a few minutes in front of a house the wrong direction while he unloaded his equipment and was cited, that another was the
gentlemen left, came back to his house, got out of his car, left it running, went into the house and while he was in the house got a ticket for parking the wrong way, that she was concerned that maybe they were getting a little anxious and eager in using their tools and skill sets in inappropriate ways in these particular instances, that she was going to talk to Lilliana and promised the neighborhood that she would mention it. Council Members Johnson, Sullivan, Rodriguez, Noriega, Green and Jones absent.

Council Member Khan stated that he looked forward to next week’s public hearing on the budget; that they would also be holding a meeting with their community leaders at the Sharpstown Community Center on Monday at 6:00 p.m.; that he wanted to thank the Houston Shanai Sister City Organization, they sent a container full of books to children schools in Shanai, Indian, that he wanted to thank everyone who was involved in the effort; that he wanted his colleagues help, that he had tremendous respect for each and every one of them, that it was regarding the public session, that he always believed that the public session was the most important part of their job, that it gave them the opportunity to listen to the public, but many times, and he had been part of it and was not pointing fingers at anybody, they had overrun the time allotted for Council as a whole, that he thought it was not fair to people who were waiting, that he was going to request the Mayor’s indulgence and would be the one to raise points of order if the time runs over the allotted time of five minutes, that if the Council wanted to extend time they could always pass a proposal and make a motion and get it approved to extend time, that it had no reflection on his colleagues or any of the public speakers or what he supported or not supported, that every one was equally important but he thought they needed to respect the people who waited for hours to get their turn when they allow more time to any particular speaker, more than what was allotted. Council Members Johnson, Sullivan, Rodriguez, Noriega, Green and Jones absent.

Council Member Brown stated that he wanted to second what Council Member Lawrence stated about the green led building, that it was a great place to do their recycling, that they also took hazardous waste; that he wanted to recognize that Sunday was D-Day, that if they had not gone to the museum every human being had to do it, it was an amazing thing, that they recognized the sacrifice that the soldiers made on that fateful day on those Normandy beaches; that the urban clash on Washington Avenue was getting worse, that the community out there was very discouraged by what was happening in terms of a lot of uncivil behavior, particularly on weekends and noise and land uses that did not fit at all, that what was the status of the Planning Department’s investigation into the parking problem, that they wanted an answer, could they get some extra help from the Houston Police Department on weekend evenings when the urban clash was really bad; that he wanted to talk about gaming parlors, that he visited a gaming parlor and found out that they needed to have a membership card or they would not let them in because they did not want anybody snooping around the gaming parlors, that he met with two undercover police officers and they were going to try to remove a gaming parlor that was in a residential next to a school, that there were approximately 500 gaming parlors operating in the City of Houston and another 500 that had the machines in convenience stores, that was over 1,000 operations, that they charge gaming parlors a sixty dollar permit fee and they do not check whether they had a Certificate of Occupancy, although the ordinance says if they do not then they shut them down, that each one of those machines generates a revenue from $500 to $1,000 a day, that was annual revenues of $4.5 billion and they were making 80% profit, that the gaming operators were making more profit than the entire annual City of Houston budget, it was about $3.8 billion, that he thought they needed to have a permit requirement for each machine, at least as much as each machine generated in revenues per day, that it would discourage the operation. Council Members Johnson, Sullivan, Rodriguez, Noriega, Green and Jones absent.

Mayor White stated that to Mr. Michel if they could do a quick review of what the limits were on their capacity and what authority to increase the fees in light of some of the comments
made by Council Member Brown and known by others that these places could become magnets of crime. Council Members Johnson, Sullivan, Rodriguez, Noriega, Green and Jones absent.

Council Member Lawrence stated that it was in the State Legislation right now and needed the Governor to sign it, that before they had to take the whole machine and now it had passed that just the mother board, that she was going to work to get the Governor to sign the bill because that would make a big difference in collection, that the only thing that they could probably strengthen was if they had more than two machines they were in a convenience store they were a gaming room, so they either had to take down their convenience store sign and say they were a gaming room or come down to one machine, that was something that Legal had to weigh in. Council Members Johnson, Sullivan, Rodriguez, Noriega, Green and Jones absent.

Mayor White stated that they were pursuing the issue quickly, whether it was September 1 or at the end of the session on confiscating the mother boards, that he wanted Mr. Michel to help him, if something was confiscated why did they have to retain stuff, and Mr. Michel stated that he thought what the only real limitation was what the prosecutors required and would get with the District Attorney to make sure they had the most efficient process, that he would do that in the next week. Council Members Johnson, Sullivan, Rodriguez, Noriega, Green and Jones absent.

Council Member Clutterbuck stated that she wanted to follow up on Council Member Khan’s comments and fully agreed with him and thought that it had become an unfortunate circumstance if they speak up and asked for an enforcement of the rules so that people who had signed up to address Council did not have to be treated unfairly, that it had been her observation that sometimes people who had a point of order called on them took it personally and those were the same individuals who would leave and then the rest of them were sitting through waiting for the rest of the public session, that she looked forward to calling points of order and it would not be personal; that on Sunday in the New York Times there was an article on Washington Avenue and it came on the heels of a terrific article in the Wall Street Journal talking about their Weatherizing Program and put Issah Dadoush, Director, General Services Department, who was quoted as saying that a typical homeowners use dropped by as much as 20% in the steamy summer months, helping to safe tremendous amounts of money in their Weatherization Program, that she wanted to thank Mr. Dadoush for his hard work on behalf of their City and any part that the Mayor’s office played in the outstanding media and press that the City of Houston continued to get; that the Greater Houston Partnership identified them as the top manufacturing town, that she had asked her staff to accumulate all of the various references to the City of Houston over the past year and would post them on their website; that she participated as their representative on the Houston Galveston Area Council Board and they met most recently on May 19, 2009, that they passed a number of items and one had to do with Clean Cities and Clean Vehicles Program Agreements; updating the 9-1-1 services in places other than the City of Houston and Harris County in their 13 County area so that they were more interoperable, that they also received an update on Hurricane Ike CDBG Funds coming to the region as well as establishing a committee to evaluate process and evaluate the distribution so that it did not become politicized, that she was the Chair of the Audit Committee at the HGAC and they audited HGACs finances as well as received a review of their retirement plan, that they were a defined contribution plan, whereas the City of Houston and all of the municipalities, the Counties, school districts, etc. that participated in HGAC were defined benefit plans, that there was discussion around the table at the Audit Committee about the burden that placed on their tax payers and it would require a change at the Legislature and she would offer that she would be happy to play her part at HGAC and perhaps they could use this next year and a half to work with the State Legislature explaining the needs to more towards a defined contribution plan that was not going to bankrupt cities, municipalities, counties, school districts, etc. and go to something that was a little bit more flexible and respectful of both the employees as well as the taxpayers, that as they knew they were hit with a tremendous added cost coming out of the
General Budget in their contribution to the Fire Department’s pension plan that really they were at their discretion and their board could pass a certain requirement and they had to pay it and find the funds to pay it and the benefits do not change, they were already set regardless of what their contribution happened to be, as long as it was within the recommended contributions, but the boards could pass something more than what was required and recommended by the people who were familiar with projecting out what funds were required to pay certain benefits, so it was an issue that she hoped the media would continue to focus on in the next eighteen months because it was probably one of the biggest crisis that they faced as a City or the County or the school district. Council Members Johnson, Sullivan, Khan, Rodriguez, Noriega, Green and Jones absent. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mayor White stated that it had been his very strong view based on what was good public policy for both the beneficiaries and the tax payers that employees at a time of the inception of employment be given the ability to elect and participate in a defined contribution plan, their benefits would be more portable and would have to be actuarially determined and may not be based on the assumptions, as they would call, generous as a defined benefit plan over forty years but there was a lot of uncertainty, that not all but many younger employees prefer the defined contribution, it had more transparency, than defined benefit plans where he found that even extremely bright individuals were not familiar with all the actuarial assumptions and in various ways the liabilities and assets could be not correctly stated, and it was not all in one direction, that he thought it was much simpler and the defined contribution plans were becoming more than norm for employers, employees were more familiar with those kind of plans and that which would be good public policy, but as she said for reasons that there would be a lot of people who would want to protect their turf, who would resist change and this kind of change in particular, that he would challenge anybody to argue with him if they passed something where they were willing to contribute and an employee elected to participate in it then why would they not let somebody to participate, that the only reason would be that they needed their money to pay their current benefits or something like that, but they could adjust the formulas to make it actuarially neutral. Council Members Johnson, Sullivan, Khan, Rodriguez, Noriega, Green and Jones absent. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Council Member Adams stated that she wanted to congratulate all of the high schools in District D who graduated this week, that she was proud to be a platform guest at Jones High School this past weekend, that about a third of the students graduating would be attending Texas Southern University, that the Houston Can Academy would be graduating this Saturday and she would be serving as their commencement speaker; that they had been receiving several phone calls about drainage improvements in the South Park Community, by Iwo Jima, Okinawa, St. Lo and Crestmont, that they had been complaining about drainage for many years and were one of the underserved communities because they did not have a drainage system at all, that streets were bad and was an area that had been stricken by flooding every time it rained, that they wanted to know that even though the stimulus money would be coming to help with flooding and drainage some of the information that had been flooding around was that the money would be going to areas that only had management districts, that she needed to get clarity on that to see how they would be administering money to those communities who were being effected by rain, and there was no type of drainage, and Mayor White stated that first, he wanted every neighborhood in the City to be able to be improved, that he was made aware that the high priority uses of the stimulus funds were pedestrian improvements and three management districts, that he had said that it was absolutely not true that individual Council Members were lobby for particular management districts because that would be violating the trust that they had imposed on them, that there were places that they had talked about the Council about the need to have pedestrian and streetscape improvements for their transit lines and that was a potential source of funding but those contracts had to be let by March 1, 2010 and only one of the lines, Harrisburg, would be on that kind of schedule, that they would look at that on the management districts, that the second issue, South Park, flooding and drainage,
please participate in a hearing, and he had been there a number of times and it looked like the whole place was so under designed, that they could not even get water out of the streets because the pipes and inlets were so small, that they would try to figure out what they could do, that she could help him figure out what were the specific type of improvements that could be done there and maybe that was worth a special hearing in the Flooding and Drainage Committee, that they would keep an eye on that. Council Members Johnson, Clutterbuck, Sullivan, Khan, Rodriguez, Brown, Noriega, Green and Jones absent. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Council Member Adams stated that she wrote a note why Council Member Holm was speaking about Parking Management, that she wanted to say thank you to Ms. Hughes and everyone out there for the wonderful job they did and knew when they went out there it was complaint driven so evidently someone had to call in on those cars, that they were going to go through the whole community to see who was violating; that she wanted to say congratulations to Ms. Lisa Campbell who was the first African American female to head up recruitment for the Houston Fire Department. Council Members Johnson, Clutterbuck, Sullivan, Khan, Holm, Rodriguez, Brown, Noriega, Green and Jones absent. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

There being no further business before Council, the City Council adjourned at 12:34 p.m. Council Members Johnson, Clutterbuck, Sullivan, Khan, Holm, Rodriguez, Brown, Noriega, Green and Jones absent. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

DETAILED INFORMATION ON FILE IN THE OFFICE OF THE CITY SECRETARY.

MINUTES READ AND APPROVED

/S/Anna Russell

Anna Russell, City Secretary