

City Council Chamber, City Hall, Tuesday, March 8, 2016

The Houston City Council convened at 1:30 p.m., Tuesday, March 8, 2016; Mayor Sylvester Turner presiding, with Council Members Brenda Stardig, Jerry Davis, Ellen Cohen, Dwight Boykins, Dave Martin, Steve Le, Greg Travis, Karla Cisneros, Robert Gallegos, Mike Laster, Larry Green, Mike Knox, David Robinson, Michael Kubosh, Amanda Edwards and Jack Christie D.C.; Harlan Heilman, Division Chief, Claims & Subrogation Division; Ms. Marta Crinejo, Agenda Director and Ms. Stella Ortega Agenda Office present.

At 1:45 p.m. Mayor Turner called the meeting of City Council to order and stated that the first order of business was the presentation portion. Council Members Martin, Travis, Gallegos, Knox, Robinson and Kubosh absent.

Council Member Cohen invited Director Turner to the podium to receive a proclamation for the Houston Parks and Recreation Department; and stated that 100 years ago they started with 750 acres of park land in 1912 to include over 37,800 acres of green space now and 371 developed parks, this began in the early 1900s the City of Houston and its citizens had value and supported the creation of both private, public park land and green space, including acreage that would have become Sam Houston Park, Hermann Park, Woodland Park, Stude Park; in 1912 Arthur C. Comey reported to the Houston Park Commission and an outline for the development of a park system and the benefits it would provide to its citizens and on March 15, 1916, the Houston City Council created the Department of Public Parks in recognition of the need for a Department to implement Arthur C. Comey plans and to manage a growing park system and over the past century, private individuals, business and nonprofits through their philanthropic efforts and contributions have supported the acquisition and development of parkland throughout Houston and on March 15, 2016, the Houston Parks and Recreation Department would be celebrating their 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary and therefore Mayor Turner proclaimed March 15, 2016 as Houston Parks and Recreation Department Day in Houston Texas. Council Member Martin absent.

Council Member Travis invited the Members of the Manor House to the podium and stated that; the Manor House at the Houstonian had served as a Historical attraction for the Houstonians, dignitaries and visitors from all over the world, it was designs in 1955 by Architect John F. Staub and the home and surrounding land was sold in 1971 for the construction of the Houstonian Hotel, George H. W. Bush who actually lived in the Manor House and lived there when he was the Director of the C.I.A as well as Vice-President of the United States, the Manor House marks 2016 with a grand celebration of 30 years of extraordinary service as a premier dining venue and significant landmark for Houston; the Manor Houston at the Houstonian was a Historical home that was built in 1955 and transformed into a premier dining venue of the Houstonian Hotel Club and Spa where for three decades countless special occasion chronicled the lives and commemoration of the citizens in this great city and the Manor House and the Houstonian had served as a show piece and treasure for Houstonians including dignitaries and visitors from all over the world and the Manor House at the Houstonian by virtue of its renowned architect by John Staub takes its place alongside his other Houston Landmarks such as the Bayou Bend Mansion and River Oaks Country Club, granting Houstonians and all who visit a connection to Houston's Architectural Era and on March 8, 2016, the Manor House at the Houstonian would celebrate 30 years of extraordinary services as premier dining venue and significant landmark for Houston, and therefore Mayor Turner proclaimed March 8, 2016 as the Manor House at the Houstonian Day, 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in Houston Texas.

Council Member Stardig stated that it was her honor today to present a proclamation to an organization that does so much for so many women in Houston Texas and she believes that this organization needs to be continued to be supported; since 1998 Dress for Success Houston had been outfitting women with business suits, self-confidence and the communication skills necessary to obtain a job and to get back up on their feet, founders Nancy Levicki and Susie Cunningham have played an integral part in helping thousands of women in the Houston area gain employment and become successful, in 2015 Dress for Success Houston had served 2,652 women and that were proud to report that 51 percent of those women were now employed and in the past 17 years Dress for Success Houston had provided more than 75,000 units of service to 35,000 women in the Houston area, this goal could not be achieved without the support of financial contributions, in kind donation and volunteer efforts of individuals and companies around the world that were committed to help women take charge of their lives and more than 180 local member organizations and referral agencies have sent low income job ready clients to Dress for Success Houston for professional interviews and once clients had secured a job, they were invited to join the professional women's group, the agency's job retention and career development program that offers a range of professional tools to help build their careers and help continue on their path to self-sufficiency and therefore Mayor Turner proclaimed March 8, 2016 as Dress for Success Houston Day in Houston Texas.

Members of Chevron presented a check for \$35,000 to Dress for Success Houston.

Mayor Turner stated that he was honored to acknowledge Darius Clark Monroe and invited him to the podium; that he had a world premier of his featured length documentary, "Evolution of a Criminal" the movie had screened at over 100 international film festivals and winning numerous awards including the International Documentary Association Emerging Filmmaker Award and the film had been nominated for an Independent Spirit Award, in 2015 Evolution of a Criminal made its nationwide broadcast debut on Independent PBS and one of the reasons he wanted them to recognize Darius Monroe as he was a Houston Native and Graduated with honors with a BA from the University of Houston and had received many grants.

At 2:23 p.m. Mayor Turner recognized Council Member Knox for the invocation and he invited Pastor Greg Matte to the podium for the invocation and Council Member Knox led the Pledge of Allegiance and the Texas Pledge of Allegiance.

At 2:29 p.m. the roll was called. Council Member Knox absent.

Council Member Kubosh moved that the adoption previous minutes be delayed until March 22, 2016 and seconded by Council Member Stardig, all voting aye, nays none. Council Member Knox absent. **MOTION ADOPTED**

Council Member Davis moved to suspend that rules to add Mr. James Joseph and Mr. Terrance Hall to the speakers list and seconded by Council Member Kubosh, all voting aye, nays none. **MOTION 2016-0096 ADOPTED**

Mayor Turner requested the City Secretary to call the List of Speakers.

Mr. James Joseph, no address, no phone, appeared and stated that he was the President of the 5<sup>th</sup> Ward Bond, Blocks Organizing Neighborhood Defense and he was present because they have a huge problem, the 5<sup>th</sup> Ward community was a food desert and he had been the President for the past six years and one of the major complaints that he gets was, when were they going to get a grocery store for the senior citizen and parents in the community, they had talked to Kroger, HEB and at this time those stores were not coming into the

community, they need a grocery store and they need one now which he had kept his eye on District D and District D with the new grocery Pyburn's store that was out there and he thinks that was a great idea even if they have private owners to come in; they had developed community gardens as a way to help their senior citizens with good healthy food, they have a Fiesta down there and he has a six year old daughter that loves strawberries, he has to get her strawberries every two days but he cannot go to Fiesta because after 24 hours getting those strawberries from Fiesta, the strawberries were rotten and his daughter cannot eat rotten strawberries, senior citizen with health issues need healthy food in their community and they just had a community meeting last night and once again the question came up on when were they going to get a grocery store; 5<sup>th</sup> Ward has 27,000 people in the community within a 5 mile radius with no grocery store and the only one they have that were the mom and papa stores and if they walk into the store they would see gnats flying around and he does not shop in his own neighborhood and they need a grocery store in the 5<sup>th</sup> Ward, not tomorrow, not next year, they need it now, he represents the 5<sup>th</sup> Ward community and they have senior citizens that have diabetes and cancer, they need good food and they cannot get good food out of the Fiesta. Council Members Stardig, Cohen, Martin, Le and Christie absent.

Council Member Davis stated that he had been working on this for the past four years and that he had knocked on doors and talked to different constituents throughout District B and he knows that this was an issue and he appreciates him for coming down representing 5<sup>th</sup> Ward.

Mayor Turner stated that there was an Item that was on the Agenda for tomorrow that would help move into that direction of getting a store that relates to 5<sup>th</sup> Ward and they would be voting on that tomorrow and secondly what they had been talking about at least in this administration was about complete neighborhoods because they just cannot focus on the grocery store because what they were looking for were housing in the area, the green space, they were looking at complete streets, retail development and what they were doing was taking communities and providing all of the necessary services that would be needed to really make it attractive for a grocery store as well as others to come into the neighborhoods and they want to see the plan on how they intend to develop and utilizing the private sector and encouraging within these communities.

Mr. Bill Crosier, 7445 Santa Fe Dr., 77061, (713)305-5346 appeared and stated he was present requesting that City Council to please continue the recycling program that they have already with the large green roll around bins in addition to the black garbage cans and he was proud when Houston got around to providing to all of the houses, even if the funds and market are down in selling recycled material had gone down was not the time to abandon or cut back on the use of recycling and it takes time to get people used to recycling and interruption could make it more difficult to restart later, if anything they should expand and to all apartments and business in Houston and for the City to require or at least encouraging them to do so and expanding the landfills was especially hard on low income minority neighborhoods which always seems where the landfills were and failure to recycle means not just more landfills but more pollution and resource depletion when items were manufactured, recycling saves not only resources but also saves energy and reduces air and water pollution as well, please help them look forward and not backwards on recycling. Council Members Stardig, Davis, Cohen, Boykins, Martin, Edwards and Christie absent.

Mayor Turner stated that he wanted to take this opportunity to say that there was a strong commitment to recycling and he supports recycling but he wanted everyone to understand the issues that they were facing, it was one thing if they had a competitive market out there but they do not, in the past with recycling the citizen were recycling that did not cost

anything and with the oil prices being low and with Waste Management for example was now wanting to charge the City, one million dollars for the rest of 2016 and another \$ 3.2 million for 2017 and even going out to later years and what they cannot do was to enter into a long term contract without knowing what the market was going to do because the market condition may change in a year or two years from now so they cannot enter into a bad deal and he had certainly requested Waste Management to work with the City of Houston on this deal and even go into a shorter contract rather than a longer contract but Waste Management had really raised the price for a short term contract which makes this a bad deal and that was Waste Management and that they control the market and he was in full support of recycling but asking people to accept a bad deal for now and in the future was not good business and he was not prepared for the City to be high jacked by Waste Management or any one company because they find the City in an uncomfortable position, so he does want a good deal but he does expect good corporate citizens and they recognized that the citizen of Houston want recycling including him but he would not be held up by any entity to force the City into a bad deal which they would look for other players and he believes that other players would come to this market because they were the fourth largest city and soon to be the third and just because people recognize that there was a strong demand for it but to take advantage of the economic times right now to try to force the City into a bad deal was not good business and he was not going to do it and they would look at every conceivable way to continue recycling for this City for now and in the long term but it has to be a good business arrangement for all Houstonians.

Members of Council discussed Mr. Crosier at length about recycling and the contract.

Ms. Stephanie Coates, 609 West 14<sup>th</sup> St., 77008, (803)606-8572 appeared and stated that she works at the University of Houston and as she was walking by a big belly recycling trash bin on her way here and it said that Houston recycles and she walked past the Mayor's Office of Sustainability down stairs that there was a plaque on the wall that says "as we build our city, let think that we are building forever", sustainability was a priority for Houston as a matter of public health and as a benefit for future generations and she believes that any lapse in recycling for the City was not a good idea and she applaud Members of Council for their commitment to balance the budget but she does not think cutting recycling was the best choice and she was willing to pay a garbage or recycling fee and she understands that was not the best choice for all of the residents of the City of Houston. Mayor Turner, Council Members Cohen, Martin, Laster, Edwards and Christie absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Davis presiding.

Ms. Lola Arthur, 5 Glenfield Ct., 77074, (832)897-2950 appeared and stated that she was an active member of the Texas Organizing Project known as TOP, people in the 5<sup>th</sup> Ward neighborhood did not hear about the Lyons Avenue grocery store project until the last minute and she urges Members of Council to develop a proactive community input plan for development deals in other areas, they had heard from the news of other projects like the Walmart for the old Fingers site and the so called Harrisburg living initiative on the East side and it seems there were some plans in the works but the City had not reached out to the residents in the area and residents need advance notice and clarity on the timeline for these projects and future projects; TOPS had been speaking with residents in the East end and District I and they were angry, they feel that they deserve something better than another Walmart and want a chance to have a say before a deal was made behind closed doors and they also do not want tax deals to go to luxury condos contributing to gentrification and repeating the mistake in the past and today they were requesting was the plan for community input for these projects. Mayor Turner, Council Members Cohen, Martin, Laster, Edwards and Christie absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Davis presiding.

Council Member Gallegos stated in regards the possibility of a Walmart going into the old Fingers, they did have community meetings, they did invite East End Management District, the EaDo Management District, and the President of the East Lawndale Super Neighborhood and the question was asked would it be ok to have a Walmart and the majority said their preference would be another grocery store but if another grocery store cannot come in then they were ok with the Walmart and the reason why was that property had been in bad shape for several years and there was a new student housing that was being built and the deals had not been set with Walmart yet but that was the only grocery store that had shown interest and he did have a meeting with HEB and they would talk to the developer and as far as he knows the developer had tried to reach out to HEB and HEB had not responded and that Kroger's was not interested and HEB was not interested and the only one that was interested was Walmart but yet again it had not been set yet but that was the only one that was talking to the developer.

Ms. Joetta Stevenson, no address, (713)502-7181 appeared and stated she was a resident of 5<sup>th</sup> Ward and she was also the Vice President of the 5<sup>th</sup> Ward Super Neighborhood and a member of TOP, she was a very active resident for not only 5<sup>th</sup> Ward but for Houston and she wanted to them first and foremost, she was present for the Agenda Item 20, that proposed project that was going to be located at Lyons and Lockwood and she does not what it was, do not know what language they need to say it in but when they ask and the plead and they beg, politicians and other stakeholders in developments in their community to please include them at the table and to please have some type of community input and it was falling on deaf ears, they had begged for the same level of respect that every other community that was in the room deserves and that was the respect of they would like to know what they were about to do in their community and they should not have to run behind it and ask questions and ask the same questions repeatedly because for the past week she had asked several individuals, politicians, some department heads at City Hall and no one can give her a definitive answer for what exactly was going on at that corner; now, her Super Neighborhood was probably one of the most active neighborhoods in the City of Houston and they just had a meeting last week, not one person from their Council District Office showed up to tell them what they were putting at that corner, she had heard everything from a Joe V's, to it might be a CVS, to no one can give them an answer, they deserve to know, that they cannot just mistreat people and expect them to accept anything that they just throw at them, just because they were them, that was wrong on every level. Mayor Turner, Council Members Cohen, Martin, Travis, Laster, Edwards and Christie absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Davis presiding.

Mr. Terrance Hall, no address, no phone, appeared and stated that one of his concerns was as a young man, they need a grocery store, his mother was single parent that had to go to other side of town to shop and what he wanted to support was Council Member Davis on a well done job on what he was doing for the community. Mayor Turner, Council Members Cohen, Martin, Travis, Laster, Edwards and Christie absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Davis presiding.

Mr. Craig Brown, 2424 Sakowitz, No.A311, 77020, (832)949-4311 appeared and stated that he was representing TOP but was also representing Fed Mental Health Court and let's talk about 5<sup>th</sup> Ward and this was a big problem and he lives by the Denver Harbor Transit area which was walking distance, he rides the buses every day and they have only one choice which was Fiesta which had community pricing and he does not know what the pricing was going to be any day of the week, he might pay \$2 for a head of lettuce where he could go to Kroger's and pay a dollar, that was a problem that fresh fruit was a problem, they do not want a Walmart, maybe, maybe not but the Heights got a good deal out of it, they got a lot of jobs out of it and if they come in with the right situation it could be good for all of them and of course they have low end paying jobs but they also have to find out if they hire felons; they have to take the overall

picture like they were talking about and bring in the experts to get it done, they need community input which was very important, TOP had done a great job and he was so happy that they let him speak today. Mayor Turner, Council Members Cohen, Martin, Travis, Laster, Knox, Edwards and Christie absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Davis presiding.

Council Member Gallegos stated that the possibility of the Walmart going into the Fingers property and again his preference would be a HEB, a Kroger but unfortunately Kroger feels like that they cannot sustain a Kroger Signature store but yet they were five minutes from Downtown Houston because they have all of these townhomes, they have the University of Houston on the Southside of the Gulf Freeway and he feels that HEB feels the same way as Kroger's does but yet that was the last large parcel of property from Downtown to the Beltway that was left and that was why Walmart was interested and they know they had been successful at the Walmart on Wayside and the Gulf Freeway and they were protecting that piece of property and that why they were going there and it was frustrating to know that HEB and Kroger feels like they cannot sustain a grocery store at that location and their preference again would be a HEB or Kroger but Walmart was the only one interested and with that anchor store, they can have restaurants and jobs for the East End.

Mr. John Fields, 4420 Lyons Ave., 77020, (713)865-0465 had reserved time to speak but was not present when his name was called. Mayor Turner, Council Members Cohen, Martin, Travis, Laster, Knox, Edwards and Christie absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Davis presiding.

Ms. Leticia Ablaza, 8022 Glendale, 77061, (713)320-4344 appeared and stated she was present to speak in favor of recycling and behalf of Airlines Houston, her community and most of her children which had taught her the importance of recycling and not to mention the area and the local schools in Houston that have numerous initiatives for kids to teach them how to keep this environment clean, she understands the challenges that were ahead of City Council as far as money was concerned but as a citizen of this City, she was wondering what was the cost to require more landfills to be able to dump more waste and not to mention the communities that would be affected which 99% of the time was minority communities and she was wondering what they were looking at longer term as far as cost were concerned to oppose what they have in front of them money wise; her daughter had been pacing the house on how recycling was possibly going away and at the same time Airline Houston would be putting on Earth Day next month on April 16<sup>th</sup> which was a festival that the City of Houston also participates in and they were trying to inform the community and teach the community about recycling and everything that was involved as far as green initiatives were concerns and it was very difficult to try to push these initiatives when it might come to a complete halt and again she understand the budget challenges that were in front of them and Waste Management playing games and requested to know what can they do, what message she can send back to her community to the various organizations that were very much worried about what might happen, can they plead with other entities that were out there, she was open and willing to put in her part and she knows there was talks about a charge which she was willing to do but she knows that many call it an aggressive tax because there were a lot of people that cannot pay their water bill so an extra \$3 or \$5 was a lot and they understand that but at the same time these were huge issues and she does not see how in moving forward as a City and the things that they were saying and doing was counter to what was actually happening. Mayor Turner, Council Members Cohen, Martin, Travis, Laster, Edwards and Christie absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Davis presiding.

Members of Council discussed with Ms. Ablaza at length about recycling.

Council Member Boykins requested that Mr. Travis McGee moved to the top of the three minute list non-agenda and Vice Mayor Pro Tem Davis advised that they did not have enough Members present to make a motion but if no one opposed this request it will be done.

Vice Mayor Pro Tem Davis requested to the City Secretary that Ms. Youlette McCullough to speak after Mr. Farhad Tahir.

Mr. Farhad Tahir, 16 Shadow Ln., 77080, (713)504-1442 appeared and stated he was a graduating Senior from the University of Houston and was present to give his opinion on recycling issue, he had spent a year working in the renewables here in Houston and many people were shock that when he graduates he would be going into the Oil and Gas Industry, he takes interests in energy and the environment, in itself and if they truly would like to be in the forefront in creating a sustainable, safe and healthy future, then ideas like recycling were things that they just lead by doing but they lead by example as while for the rest of the generations to come, looking back, if the City does cut back on recycling it was not an answer to those problems for a sustainable future, they cannot let the City fall behind in depths which other major cities had taken and if they truly want to become an international city which Houston should become which they need to prompt these kind of things in the future; in his own neighborhood which was District A takes pride in recycling and every Thursday they get the e-mail to remind them about taking their trash and recycling bins out and in going forward he believes that in the future it was difficult to analyze the financial implication that they were uncertain about and that the unknowns had never scared them before nor should it now and he believes that going forward with recycling he thinks they should stay on with even through there were major issues with Waste Management which he believes those things can be handled and if there was anything that he as a student could do to help prompt awareness for this and to get support for it then he was all ears. Mayor Turner, Council Members Cohen, Martin, Travis, Cisneros, Laster, Green, Edwards and Christie absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Davis presiding.

**NO QUORUM**

Ms. Youlette McCullough, 4720 Hershey Ct., 77020, (832)567-8655 appeared and stated she lives, works, and attend Church in the 5<sup>th</sup> Ward community, her family members had been long time 5<sup>th</sup> Ward business owners that still live there, never left and never want to leave; she was present to speak on Agenda Item 20 on the proposed project on Lyons Avenue and no matter what Council says they have not had a lot of outreach on these issue, the City and in collaboration with the 5<sup>th</sup> Ward CRC have moved development projects in the 5<sup>th</sup> Ward neighborhood without community engagement and input for many years and most recently the community was informed about Agenda 20 by the first time in the District B CIP Meeting on election night and they were shocked and even today information on the project was still not available, why was this project such a big secret, no one knows as usual, the players at the table were the 5<sup>th</sup> Ward CRC, City Council Representatives, paid consults and developers, the community engagement was not and would never be priorities of these parties, therefore Agenda Item 20 was not properly in vetted into the community and they were requesting them not to vote on Item 20 until community input was gathered, the issue was important to her because all they want and all they asked for many years was community engagement and transparency and they have constantly requested the 5<sup>th</sup> Ward CRC to be transparent as they redevelop the 5<sup>th</sup> Ward community and they constantly ignore their plea and 5<sup>th</sup> Ward was her community and her family had been there for over 80 years and she was sick and tired of feeling like she was treated like a slave; they were not against community development but they were just like them, would the jobs from this project support the community and all they want was to have a chance to have input and they deserve that and therefore they were requesting that Members of Council to delay Item 20 until the 5<sup>th</sup> Ward residents have had input on this

project and other projects in their community. Mayor Turner, Council Members Stardig, Cohen, Martin, Cisneros, Gallegos, Laster, Green, Edwards and Christie absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Davis presiding. **NO QUORUM**

Vice Mayor Pro Tem Davis stated that they care about the community as well as she does and they had also taken surveys which he would pass around to Members of Council of people that want affordable groceries in 5<sup>th</sup> Ward and they have spoken to some people about it being at Lockwood and Lyons and at this point in time there was a process inside the contract that the property would come back to the City if there was not grocery store that was built which he had informed her of and right now there was negotiation that was going on and when it was more concrete there would be many community meetings to have input on that and he does appreciate her for coming down.

Mr. Mike Reckles, 5417 Fairdale, 77056, (713)562-1080 had reserved time to speak but was not present when his name was called. Mayor Turner, Council Members Stardig, Cohen, Martin, Cisneros, Gallegos, Laster, Green, Edwards and Christie absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Davis presiding. **NO QUORUM**

Mr. Kenneth Richburg, 15715 Noblebriar Court, Missouri City, TX, 77489, (832)589-8660 had reserved time to speak but was not present when his name was called. Mayor Turner, Council Members Stardig, Cohen, Martin, Cisneros, Gallegos, Laster, Green, Edwards and Christie absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Davis presiding. **NO QUORUM**

Mr. Travis McGee, 4800 Pedersen, 77033, (832)488-7709 appeared and stated he was at Council today because he was concerned about what was going on in his neighborhood in Sunnyside and his neighborhood had turned into Hollywood because there were lights and cameras but no action and when the cameras do come out everyone was present but they need people to come out even when the cameras were not present, they need their community leaders to come out and get more involved, they need the community leaders to be identified and nobody can tell their story like them; there were 11 homicides in one subdivision, not in Houston, not in the 14D20B but one subdivision and in his opinion it still had not been taken seriously, the resources were not put in the right place and if they have 11 homicides and those resources need to be put in place for that particular subdivision and if they have a problem with burglary, then those particular resources need to be placed in that subdivision, he was not an actor and really does not like being on TV and this was serious to him, he was a business owner and he had investments in his community and he was not out there to hop on TV every chance he can get, he was not out there to be in marches and he was requesting someone from this panel take this serious and no one on this panel can name one subdivision that had 11 homicides and it was only getting worse, it was not the first time he had been here talk about this, about the crime in Sunnyside, so he was offended when some of his elected Officials come to his side, Sunnyside to speak to people about things going on in Sunnyside, that do not even live in Sunnyside, that do not work in Sunnyside, that do not even have property in Sunnyside and he has a big problem with that and if they were going to fix the problem they need to come and speak to the people that actually live in Sunnyside, he does not have to turn the news on to know what was going on in his neighborhood and this truly needs to be taken seriously, they were talking about homicides that means people were getting killed that was something not to make a political career out of and they need all the right resources to be place in the neighborhoods and until they identify the problem, they cannot fix the problem, they heed prevention measure for their children now, they need programs and stuff like back in the day now. Mayor Turner, Council Members Stardig, Davis, Martin, Travis, Cisneros, Laster, Green, Knox and Christie absent. Mayor Pro Tem Cohen presiding. **NO QUORUM**



Council Member Boykins stated that Mr. McGee was correct that they do have some issues, not just in Sunnyside area but throughout the City of Houston, with the 11 homicides, he was getting a record of not just the homicides but also the burglaries in the area as well and since he been on Council for two years, he had seen a lot of good, loving, caring people in the Sunnyside area that were trying to do some good and yes there was a lot of show boating going on out there and when the TIRZ was developed they were not identifying all of those show boats that were out there, the media does not know what was going on out there in the morning and it was these show boats and everyone wants to talk about the issues in Sunnyside but they do not realize the more they bring attention to an area, the world would think it was the worse area in town, when they go out they do have some issues but it was not as bad as people make seem and everyone calling the news media to come; they do have issues in the Sunnyside area which he had put \$100,000 of his Council money into overtime program and he tries to get people around him that were serious about these issues and they must get these kids from playing taking lives like it means nothing and the point he was coming to was that he was about to assemble all the people that were committed to the Sunnyside revitalization in one room and they were going to sit down and retreat on Saturday and he was going to see who shows up and talk about all the issue and how they can come together and there was something that was being taking place that he cannot speak about, about the gang issue with the police and others that would help eliminated some of the gang activities.

Ms. Sandra Chargois, 19214 Sears Dr., Humble, TX, 77338, (281)948-5971 appeared and stated she was coming here as a longtime resident of Humble Texas, located City in the City Limits located in District B, she had always paid her taxes and she had not asked for help except a few years back, she was a senior citizen and she was requesting for help concerning her home but the last two years she had been living with her daughter because of the condition of her home and almost four years after she found out that she was in the City and not in the County, she called Rebuilding Houston they had approved her, assessed her home for repairs and they sent her a letter and said that the roofer over estimated on the amount that they had said to make repairs but she would stay on the list until they would have more flexible funding to help her, she had exhausted all her means to get a roof and a couple of rooms to be fixed but she had more repairs on the interior rooms, the leaking and damages to her roof was direct result of Hurricane Ike which she tried to get help from FEMA and was denied; since that time she had seen and heard that the City had helped low income areas and her children had helped her in many ways but they have families and responsibilities of their own, she knows how other citizens fell in her same situation and she was desperate to know what can be done to help her and every day that goes by she was concerned that it would get worse and how can they as a City make this program work for all of the citizens who need this help and presented a letter from Rebuilding Houston that she would like to pass around to Members of Council and she understands they have a lot of people on the waiting list but she would still like to hear something from them or something where she was at or to just what was going on. Mayor Turner, Council Members Stardig, Boykins, Martin, Cisneros Gallegos, Green, Knox and Christie absent. Mayor Pro Tem Cohen presiding. **NO QUORUM**

Members of Council suggested ideas and information that may help her get her house fixed and to see where she was on the list.

Mr. Michael Hughes, 5606 Schevers, 77033, (832)372-3338 appeared and stated that he presented packets to Members of Council and he had heard that they had been talking about gang activity but do they know the difference between gang bangers who were pants hanging off their behinds and gang bangers in money suits and ties that were hanging around their neck, on December 26<sup>th</sup> he attended a meeting at the Hiram Clarke Multiservice Center and he had

no intentions of going there but he was going to pay his unit on broad gate and he saw that it was early voting so he stepped there to early vote and he saw a sign saying a community meeting and he was a community civil minded, so he goes to the meeting and sit down at the round table for the discussion which they go around and asked everyone which organization they were from and what they had to offer and when it came to his time to speak, he spoke and as he was speaking the lady cut him off which he thanked her and he made his point and when it got to Council Member Green and there was a lady that was co-hosting the thing named Ms. Vivian Harris. Mayor Turner, Council Members Stardig, Martin, Travis, Cisneros, Gallegos, Green, Knox and Christie. **NO QUORUM**

Members of Council questioned Mr. Hughes about the meeting and to explain exactly what happened.

Mr. Steve Bimage, 13738 Kensington Place, 77034, (281)217-3812 appeared and stated that he left his reading glass at home but his wife can speak for him; she stated that they were here because of the situation of a deed restriction for the Sycamore Valley Section 2 and on February 29, they had a 18 foot box truck that they tried to boot which they could not boot so then they had to tow it, they had given them three tickets on it and as of 2014 the City of Houston said that they could not have the box truck in the neighborhood but when they spoke to someone in the Mayor's Office and was told they had the rights to have the truck in the driveway as long as they were not blocking the sidewalk and now they ticketed them \$245.00 to tow it, \$352.00 for the boot and \$276.50 for the tickets when they have rights to park the truck in the driveway and she was told as long as they had pictures that the truck could be parked in the driveway without blocking the sidewalk which she brought pictures to show and they have rights to park it there the whole time, they been there since 2014 but when the City sent out this letter saying that they did not and to come and find out they did; the City of Houston letter stated that it was authorized by the Article XV Section 10511 this Office had been advised the property that they own in the Sycamore Valley has commercial vehicles on the property in violation of the Deed Restrictions and the Deed Restrictions prohibited among other things and this letter was to request that they take necessary action to comply to the Deed but three days ago they were told they had the right which that was already what they were doing and so then they would not have had these tickets that they were ticketed. Mayor Turner, Council Members Stardig, Davis, Martin, Cisneros, Gallegos, Green, Knox and Christie absent. Mayor Pro Tem Cohen presiding. **NO QUORUM**

Mayor Pro Tem Cohen advised Mrs. Bimage that Ms. Cunningham a Member of ARA was present and requested for them to speak to her.

Mr. William Beal, 4718 Boicewood St., 77016, (713)672-7571 had reserved time to speak but was not present when his name was called. Mayor Turner, Council Members Stardig, Davis, Martin, Cisneros, Gallegos, Green, Knox and Christie absent. Mayor Pro Tem Cohen presiding. **NO QUORUM**

Ms. Peggy Pierre, 131 Aldine Bender Rd. No. 3305, 77060, (409)499-6537 appeared and stated that her zip was 77060 and first of all she wanted to thank a couple of people that work with the City of Houston, Ms. Richards, Mr. Brown from Planning and Street Supervisor from Metro and Mr. Andrews who works as a Supervisor for Metro Lift and she would also like to thank Rhonda and Maria for giving her information to how to get to this building safely and she would challenge any of the Council Members to come to this building and try to get here as a handicap person, it was not easy; she wanted to thank any all for giving her information so she would be informed and not misinformed about things that apply to the Metro Bus System as well

as the Metro Lift System, life was about choices and they make choices according to their needs but regards to public safety and she would call her killer bender and some of the Council Members that were present had made some poor choices and some poor choices in that to cross killer bender, Aldine Bender for a handicap person, a senior citizens to cross 525 Highway it was horrible, they should try it and she wanted to thanked them for allowing her speak about her concerns about public safety in regards to Metro bus services and Metro Left service, several interesting patterns had shown themselves since the price hike for public fares that took affect February 1<sup>st</sup>. Mayor Turner, Council Members Stardig, Boykins, Martin, Travis, Gallegos and Christie absent. Mayor Pro Tem Cohen presiding.

Council Member Davis questioned Ms. Pierre about the public safety and advised that Metro had their own Metro Board.

Mayor Pro Tem Cohen advised her to speak with Mr. Norman and Ms. Lamb to address some of her questions.

Ms. Deborah Sterling, 8629 Dunlap, 77074, (713)539-2126 had reserved time to speak but was not present when her name was called. Mayor Turner, Council Members Stardig, Boykins, Martin, Travis, Gallegos and Christie absent. Mayor Pro Tem Cohen presiding.

Mr. Ray Field, 5910 Jack Wood St., 77074, (713)297-1397 appeared and stated he would like to show a certificate that Governor Greg Abbott presented to him as part of his presentation and also stated that he passed out information to Members of Council earlier and he would read quickly; since 1974 he had been teaching First Responder Courses and over 42 years of successfully teaching others how to save a life, his background comes from a father, who was a Fire Chief, a brother who was a Fire Chief and a brother in-law that still was a Fire Chief but he chose to join the U.S. Army, Military Police, U.S. Army Rangers, Combat Medic, most of his career training had been professional done and disasters were not unknown to them since he had been doing this since 1979, many elected Officials think that other municipal departments are ready to solve the world's crisis and the past few years he teaches a Southwest Emergency Response team part of Homeland Security, he was well respected from Harris County Office of Emergency Managements and Judge Ed Emmet and in the flood last year where it took 7 hours for the Houston Fire Department not to respond and the phone they received that they could not get to them which they can get overwhelmed but what he wanted the City to realize that there were inner resources like volunteers that were in their community, they do not have enough Firefighter and Police officers to do everything, therefore they have to have volunteers that can step up in the community that can lead within, he trains the communities for free and he has training every month, they train and train again, Council Member Green had been part of their ordeal over the years with the Houston Police Department by watching them provide free first aid services to many of the events that were offered, the City needs to realize that volunteers were key and he was requesting to Members of Council to make it work within the City that volunteers were respected, their resources were protected because he had unlimited resources and he thank them for their time today.

Ms. Pamela Price, Post Office Box 38003, 77222, (832)921-6714 had reserved time to speak but was not present when her name was called. Mayor Turner, Council Members Stardig, Davis, Boykins, Martin, Travis, Gallegos and Christie absent. Mayor Pro Tem Cohen presiding.

Mr. Brian Mosley, 9802 Forum Park. No.3117, 77036, no phone, appeared and stated he was present to speak about the inability to conduct business throughout the City and he had been in the City since October 2015 and he had noticed that there was some type of hold or issue with him handling financial matters, he understands where the town he comes from had

some problems with leadership in the past, however he had greater wealth and that he was unable to access and requested to Council to review his unique situation so that he can access my greater wealth and conduct business in a normal manner throughout the City of Houston. Mayor Turner, Council Members Stardig, Davis, Boykins, Martin, Travis, Gallegos and Christie absent. Mayor Pro Tem Cohen presiding. **NO QUORUM**

Council Member Green questioned Mr. Mosley about his issues and what type of issues he was having.

Ms. Cheryl Hartley, 2686 Murworth No. 1508, 77054, (832)704-6290 appeared and stated she was present to speak about a club that was behind her house, about 50 feet behind her house and she had been calling the police for over a year and they were still not able to get the noise or have hem follow what the Ordinance was and she wants to know what can be done to get the noise situation under control with the club. Mayor Turner, Council Members Stardig, Davis, Boykins, Martin, Travis, Gallegos and Christie absent. Mayor Pro Tem Cohen presiding. **NO QUORUM**

Council Member Green stated that his office had been sending several officers there and they been ticketed on April 24, 2015 April 30, 2015, May 9, 2015, May 22, 2015, June 5, 2015, August 4, 2015, August 5, 2015, August 6, 2015, August 12, 2015 and August 20, 2015 and on August 20, 2015 they contacted the District Attorney, Joseph Sanchez that accepted the charges from the TABC violation of offensive noises on the premises, Officers Vick had turn the paper work over to the TABC for an abatement warrant for the club, so essentially they had to show that it was a nuisance and they did that by the tickets and they turned it into the DA Office which works with TABC to try to pull their liquor license or pull their permit and that process now was still up at TABC and they continue to monitor that and push that, they do know it was a challenge and they were not good neighbors to the residents and still trying to push TABC to come in and either pull their license if they do not deal with in the area.

Ms. Gwen Matthews, 2500 East T.C. Jester No. 3T, 77008, (713)283-4736 appeared and stated that they were with the Health and Human Service Academy and they were present to announce that today was National Women's Day and they showed Members of Council the steps to perform CPR. Mayor Turner, Council Members Stardig, Davis, Boykins, Martin, Travis, Gallegos, Knox, Edwards and Christie absent. Mayor Pro Tem Cohen presiding. **NO QUORUM**

Mr. Steven Williams, no address, no phone, had reserved time to speak but was not present when his name was called. Mayor Turner, Council Members Stardig, Davis, Boykins, Martin, Travis, Gallegos, Knox, Edwards and Christie absent. Mayor Pro Tem Cohen presiding. **NO QUORUM**

Mr. David Richmond, 2660 Marilee Ln. No.A40, 77057, (832)9004 had reserved time to speak but was not present when his name was called. Mayor Turner, Council Members Stardig, Davis, Boykins, Martin, Travis, Gallegos, Knox, Edwards and Christie absent. Mayor Pro Tem Cohen presiding. **NO QUORUM**

Ms. Latanya Richmond, 2660 Marilee Ln. No.A40, 77057, (832)9004 had reserved time to speak but was not present when her name was called. Mayor Turner, Council Members Stardig, Davis, Boykins, Martin, Travis, Gallegos, Knox, Edwards and Christie absent. Mayor Pro Tem Cohen presiding. **NO QUORUM**

Ms. Christine Winn, 3623 Lehall St., 77021, (713)416-9853 appeared and stated she had been having issues with getting in and out of her driveway, so she believes it normal for

someone that has at home to be able to get in and out of their driveway as they please, the first issue was there was parking in front of her house, the cars that park to the west and east side of her driveway from the house next door and across the street from the duplex where they have a housing facility, they party a lot, they have more than ten vehicles, the construction of the new duplex that sits next to her house, the contractors were blocking their driveway, the neighbors park in the lot across the street that she and her husband cleaned and maintain for the past years, they have contacted the Police Department, she talked to the PIP meeting, she spoke to the Mayor's Office and talked to City Council Member and everyone in 311 and they were not very helpful which they need to work on that in the City of Houston, there was excessive speeding and dangerous for the kids in the neighborhood and she would like for her and her husband to be able to go in and out of their driveway and she did present a photo to Members of Council, the police were called and took them an hour to get there and was told that they need to monitor by the door and make sure that nobody was there an hour before they had to leave and call the police and wait for them and then her husband asked the police office what if he loses his job and the Police Officer said they could take them to Civil Court, that there was nothing the Police can do because they can park there but she said no they cannot because they cannot get out of their driveway and she was requesting help. Mayor Turner, Council Members Stardig, Davis, Boykins, Martin, Travis, Gallegos, Knox, Edwards and Christie absent. Mayor Pro Tem Cohen presiding. **NO QUORUM**

Mayor Pro Tem Cohen stated that she was looking at something that Mr. Norman from Public Works presented that he and Mr. Hillard had spoken with her today and they logged in on the 311 service request a no parking zone investigation for this area and the due date for this service request was March 22, 2016 which means it has to take place by March 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Mr. Joshua Bullard, 3328 McGowen, 77004, (832)258-7511 had reserved time to speak but was not present when his name was called. Mayor Turner, Council Members Stardig, Davis, Boykins, Martin, Travis, Gallegos, Knox, Edwards and Christie absent. Mayor Pro Tem Cohen presiding. **NO QUORUM**

Mr. Perry Wiley, 3401 Fannin St., 77004, no phone, appeared and stated that just a few days ago on Saturday, he was chased down by a man with an assault rifle and instead of calling the Police and he had to run to the Police Station for help, when he did get to the Police Station there were four Police Officers stand around with their arms already crossed when he came in and they asked him what he needed and he told them that he needed to file a report that a man was trying to kill him and he was told by one of the Police Officer it does not seem that serious because they felt like he did not have enough evidence and the only thing he could tell the Police Officer that the man pulled a rifle out of a car and chased him down which this was the third attempt on his life and instead of helping him file a Police report they handcuffed him and took him to the Southeast Houston Substation and told him to walk back to town which he did and he said that he lives in Houston but cannot get any help from the Police Department. Mayor Turner, Council Members Stardig, Davis, Boykins, Martin, Travis, Gallegos, Knox, Edwards and Christie absent. Mayor Pro Tem Cohen presiding. **NO QUORUM**

Mayor Pro Tem Cohen stated that he should speak with the Mayor's Citizen Assistance Office and they can help him figure out specifically what he wanted to do with filing a complaint.

Ms. Cynthia Pharms, 4700 Wenda, 77033, (713)557-8100 had reserved time to speak but was not present when her name was called. Mayor Turner, Council Members Stardig, Davis, Boykins, Martin, Travis, Gallegos, Knox, Edwards and Christie absent. Mayor Pro Tem Cohen presiding. **NO QUORUM**

Mr. Alvin Castle, 2815 Southmore Blvd., 77004, (832)881-0202 appeared and stated the reason he was speaking today was because on August 13, 2016 at NRG they were doing the first Equity Crowd Fund Expo and essentially what Equity Crowd Funding they heard of Crowd Funding in the context of donations, kick started, go fund me and over the past six years that mechanism had raised collectively about \$7 billion dollars, Texas last years had passed its own Interest Rate Equity Crowd Funding law and the big difference there was that it means that any Texas citizens with a business plan can file a business plan at a licensed Texas portal and raise up to a million dollars at \$5,000 per legal Texas resident; what over lapsed that law was in a couple of months the Federal Law that actually started all of this in 2012 passed by the House of Representatives, passed by Congress and signed by the President, actually goes into effect with a much lower cap of \$2,000 per National Resident and not waiting for that law that was held up by the FCC the rules had been written for that, Texas has the greatest opportunity, indeed Houston has the greatest opportunity to take advantage of Equity Crowd Funding for the capitalization of any business better than any other place in the country, as the Mayor was saying that Houston would soon be the third largest city in the nation and with the State base Interest Crowd Funding Law that they have, that essentially make their critical mass population a very dense investor base and on October 13<sup>th</sup> they would be pulling together the Civil Leaders, Government Leaders, Private Interest, so they can get ahead on being able to guide what would be a rush of very interested entrepreneurs both in terms of investors and developers in the State of Texas. Mayor Turner, Council Members Stardig, Davis, Boykins, Martin, Travis, Gallegos, Knox, Edwards and Christie absent. Mayor Pro Tem Cohen presiding. **NO QUORUM**

Mr. Roosevelt Gilmore, 2718 Arbor St., 77004, (832)498-5598 appeared and stated this past week he and his family was threatened by guy in their neighborhood and during the process they called the Police out, he filled out a report and if there was any other incidents to call the Police back which they did because there were other incidents, the problem that they were having was not the guy that threaten them, the problem was with the continuity transporting information from the Police Department, they were told to contact the DA Office which they did and was told that was wrong, they were told to contact Family Court and Civil Court which they did, they were also told to go down to the 1200 Travis Station, which they did and now they were in fear and intimidation, when they walk out the door from their house the guy was threatening them, he was a retired Firefighter and he never feared anything but now his was constantly in fear every day when he walks out of his door, this guy was living in his truck at his sister place that she rents, the landlord was a slumlord, he has contacted Council Member Boykins Office and had spoken to everyone that he could and what he was trying to get was what step does he take with the Police Department, what was the procedure because everyone had given a different scenario and what step can he get to protect his family and what step they need to take after they file several reports; he filled out the report at 1200 Travis and the person told him that they could not take it and also told him that the DA was not going to take it and he had received so much misinformation and he was requesting what does he do, what was his next step. Mayor Turner, Council Members Stardig, Davis, Boykins, Martin, Travis, Gallegos, Knox, Edwards and Christie absent. Mayor Pro Tem Cohen presiding. **NO QUORUM**

Mayor Pro Tem Cohen thanked him for his service as a Firefighter and she suggested that he should speak with the Mayor's Citizen Assistance Office.

Dr. Alkebu Motapa, 5022 Cosby, 77021, (713)741-5150 had reserved time to speak but was not present when his name was called. Mayor Turner, Council Members Stardig, Davis, Boykins, Martin, Travis, Gallegos, Knox, Edwards and Christie absent. Mayor Pro Tem Cohen presiding. **NO QUORUM**

Mr. John Noflin, 12903 Brent Rock Dr., 77082, (832)208-1498 had reserved time to speak but was not present when his name was called. Mayor Turner, Council Members Stardig, Davis, Boykins, Martin, Travis, Gallegos, Knox, Edwards and Christie absent. Mayor Pro Tem Cohen presiding. **NO QUORUM**

Mr. James Partsch- Galvan, 2705 Terry St., 77009, (713)528-2607 had reserved time to speak but was not present when his name was called. Mayor Turner, Council Members Stardig, Davis, Boykins, Martin, Travis, Gallegos, Knox, Edwards and Christie absent. Mayor Pro Tem Cohen presiding. **NO QUORUM**

Mr. R.J. Bobby Taylor, Post Office Box 202021, 77220, (832)870-7673 had reserved time to speak but was not present when his name was called. Mayor Turner, Council Members Stardig, Davis, Boykins, Martin, Travis, Gallegos, Knox, Edwards and Christie absent. Mayor Pro Tem Cohen presiding. **NO QUORUM**

President Joseph Charles, Post Office Box 524373, 77052-4373, Houston, TX, appeared and requested more time and stated his subject was absolute Marshal Law, Salaries, Revoked, H/City, Texas/State, and Government Systems and continued to voice his personal experiences until his time expired. Mayor Turner, Council Members Stardig, Davis, Boykins, Martin, Travis, Gallegos, Green, Knox, Edwards and Christie absent. Mayor Pro Tem Cohen presiding. **NO QUORUM**

Mr. Joseph Omo Omuari, 3939 North Freeway, No.210, 77022, (832)815-7006 appeared and stated the one million dollars that the Mayor mentioned for the City of Houston; they must fight the power of corruption no matter what the color of skin, religion, political party, they must speak the truth to power and they must turn backs on them when they place their feet in the path of destruction and at this rate with the policies there was a good chance the revolution would be televised. Mayor Turner, Council Members Stardig, Davis, Boykins, Martin, Travis, Gallegos, Green, Knox, Edwards and Christie absent. Mayor Pro Tem Cohen presiding. **NO QUORUM**

**Note:** During the public session motions were offered to extend time for questions of various speakers, and votes taken, which were not prepared in written form and may be viewed on HTV Houston or on disc.

At 5:02 p.m. The City Council was recessed until 9:00 a.m., Wednesday, March 8, 2016, Mayor Turner, Council Members Stardig, Davis, Boykins, Martin, Travis, Gallegos, Green, Knox, Edwards and Christie absent. Mayor Pro Tem Cohen presiding. **NO QUORUM**

At 8:30 a.m. Ms. Anna Russell, City Secretary, read the description or captions of the items on the Agenda.

The Houston City Council reconvened at 9:00 a.m., Wednesday, March 9, 2016, Mayor Sylvester Turner presiding, with Council Members Brenda Stardig, Jerry Davis, Ellen Cohen, Dwight Boykins, Dave Martin, Steve Le, Greg Travis, Karla Cisneros, Robert Gallegos, Mike Laster, Larry Green, Mike Knox, David Robinson, Michael Kubosh, Amanda Edwards and Jack Christie D.C.; Ms. Donna Edmundson, City Attorney and Ms. Marta Crinejo, Agenda Director present.

At 9:10 a.m. Mayor Turner called the meeting order and stated he would start with a the Mayor's Report. Council Members Stardig, Davis, Gallegos, Laster, Green, Knox and Edwards absent.

## **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Turner stated he wanted to speak on the issue with recycling and as he indicated yesterday he was a supporter of recycling, he wants to continue to do recycling, he was committed to recycling and the issue came up couple of weeks ago, when the Item was on the Agenda, the 4 year contract with Waste Management with 2 one year extensions which would be costing the City a little more than \$18,000,000.00 and there were concerns raised was that the best that the City could do financially considering the financial constraints that they were facing because the contract that was before them was going to have them, the City would be paying close to over a million dollars 2016 and 3.2 million in 2017 and they were trying minimize any impact on employee layoffs and City service itself; he had a conversation with the CEO of Waste Management David P. Steiner and in that conversation he indicated to him that the City was not in the position to assume the additional cost and the proposal that he put forth to Mr. Steiner was for the City to assume roughly half of the cost and that he would try to find ways to find it, that the City would assume \$1.7 million and requesting Waste Management the other half, so they could move forward with recycling, he did not agree to it and as they continue to work through things between the two week extension which he did agree and since that time they have had conversation with Waste Management which he proposed then, instead of doing a 6 year contract to looking at shorting the contract to a one year contract with a one year renewal and the reason why he said that to Mr. Steiner because of low oil prices which eliminated a market for commodities but no one would know where the market was going to be a year from now, so it did not make sense that the City enter into a long term agreement when no one could say where the market would be in a year in half from now and the reason he was taking the time to do this was because they had some advocates for recycling that came yesterday and the week before which they wanted to continue with recycling but Waste Management was being difficult; one of the advocates wrote an e-mail to Mr. Steiner yesterday, saying they wished that Waste Management would work with the City and to a one year extension with a one year renewal and David Steiner sent an e-mail back to that advocate which he did not know that advocate would send it to him, which he replied, " We would love to continue to recycling in Houston and have been working with the City for over a year to reach an agreement that meets the City's needs and our needs, the truth was that they had been losing over a million dollars per year on the contract and they told the City that they could not continue to lose that amount of money and the they completely ignored our request for a year and two weeks ago the Mayor called me and he said that he realized that we were not in the business of losing money but could we just continue to lose money for another 18 months, so he would not look bad as a politician and we agreed to extend the contract for two weeks, if they could have constructive conversation to find a solution and I had offered him 3 or 4 alternatives and for 2 weeks they ignored us and did not try to reach a solution and came out and call us the bad guys, we want to continue to recycle in Houston and I hope you would let our Mayor know that you would like to have constructive discussion to find a solution and we stand ready and willing to talk." Mayor Turner stated that he wanted to be very clear, that he had been in Office since January 4, 2016 and over the last two months, they have had many conservations with Waste Management to try to get this issue resolved and to write that they have had no conversation at all until he called him was just blatantly untrue and then to indicate that he asked them to continue to lose money for 18 months, so that he would not look bad as a politician was just blatantly untrue and in his conversation with Mr. Steiner, Mr. Hayes and his Chief of Staff was in the room with him and what I indicated to them was that because of the City's financial conditions, he was uncomfortable in entering an agreement that would work against the City best interest and he asked them to assume half of the additional cost they were requesting and he would find ways to find the other half which he denied that and within the last two weeks, he said that there had been no conversations with his Administration and with him which was blatantly false which he came back on March 4, 2016 asked for the one year contract and one year renewal



and Don Smith, the representative for Waste Management denied that request and on March 5, 2016 Don Smith came back and said to him and his Administration, if they want simply a one year contract and one year renewal, then the City does not need a contract, they would be paying the gate rate and the question that he proposed to them what was the prevailing gate rate was and they came back and then said on March 7, 2016, Mr. Smith wanted to offer them a 2 year deal with a one year renewal and they want 100% of the volume which was what Waste Management had said from the beginning that they want all of the stuff which would put the City in anticompetitive position if someone comes along with a better deal and if they look at what they were proposing, it would cost \$7,257,600 for 2 years and if they add another year extension it would be over \$10 million on a 3 year contract, they knew that this was not going to work, so Waste Management took the position, if they would not do the 6 year long term package and they really want something short term, they would make the City pay for it, so either they accept the 6 years or nothing in essence was what they were saying; so Mayor Turner just wanted to say this, his position for the 6 year deal \$18 million contract to maintain recycling in the City for the City to pay half of the additional cost that they were requesting because he believes that there was a strong commitment in recycling but he would not allow the City to be bullied into bad deal and there was no company that was so big, that they can take the position where they cannot fail; Dallas was no longer doing business with them and requested Members Council to check why Dallas was not doing business with Waste Management, Harris County had sued Waste Management in the past and now Waste Management was taking this position, so Item 35 that was on the Agenda, he was going to request Mayor Pro Tem Cohen to send that Item back to the Administration and he would make every attempt to find additional players that they can work with in cost efficient basis to continue recycling in the City of Houston and on Monday he would make an announcement on ways he believes they can move forward on recycling and he wants to tell the citizens in Houston that he supports recycling and he wants to continue recycling.

At 9:46 a.m. After a lengthy discussion Mayor Turner requested the City Secretary to call the Consent Agenda.

### **CONSENT AGENDA NUMBERS 3 through 34**

#### **PURCHASING AND TABULATION OF BIDS** - NUMBERS 3 through 5

3. **AMEND MOTION #2013-300, 5/8/13, TO EXTEND** the expiration date from May 13, 2016 to May 13, 2018, for Bell 412 Series Twin Engine Helicopter Component Overhaul/Exchange and Repair Services for the Houston Police Department, awarded to **RSG AVIATION, INC-** was presented, moved by Council Member Cohen and seconded by Council Member Green, all voting aye, nays none. Council Member Davis absent. **MOTION 2016-0097 ADOPTED**
4. Omitted
5. **IDEXX DISTRIBUTION, INC** for Purchase of E. Coli Water Test Kits and Supplies for Various Departments - 3 Years with two one-year options - \$1,067,609.00 - Enterprise and Laboratory- was presented, moved by Council Member Cohen and seconded by Council Member Green, all voting aye, nays none. Council Member Davis absent. **MOTION 2016-0098 ADOPTED**

**ORDINANCES** - NUMBERS 9 through 34

9. **ORDINANCE** amending City of Houston Ordinance Nos. 2010-372 passed May 12, 2010, as amended; 2012-353 passed April 25, 2012, as amended; 2013-353 passed April 24, 2013, as amended; 2014-337 passed April 23, 2014, as amended; and 2015-338 passed April 15, 2015, which authorized the submission of the 2010 Consolidated Action Plan and the 2010, 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015 Annual Action Plans, to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, including the applications for the Community Development Block Grant Program, among others- was presented, all voting aye, nays none. Council Member Davis absent. **ORDINANCE 2016-0161 ADOPTED**
  
10. **ORDINANCE** approving and authorizing contract between the City of Houston and **CARING SAFE PLACE, INC**, to provide up to \$728,374 in Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS Funds for the administration and operation of a SRO Community Residence and a Transitional Housing Facility, along with the provision of Supportive Services- was presented, all voting aye, nays none. Council Member Davis absent. **ORDINANCE 2016-0162 ADOPTED**
  
12. **ORDINANCE** approving and authorizing contract between the City of Houston and **THE SALVATION ARMY** to provide up to \$140,000 (\$70,000 - Community Development Block Grant Funds; \$70,000 - Homeless Housing and Services Program Funds) for the provision of supportive services in a Day Shelter Program- was presented, all voting aye, nays none. Council Member Davis absent. **ORDINANCE 2016-0163 ADOPTED**
  
13. **ORDINANCE** approving and authorizing contract between the City of Houston and **THE MEN'S CENTER, INCORPORATED dba RECENTER**, to provide up to \$100,000 in Community Development Block Grant Funds for the provision of Case Management Services to current emergency and transitional housing residents recovering from alcohol and/or substance abuse- was presented, all voting aye, nays none. Council Member Davis absent. **ORDINANCE 2016-0164 ADOPTED**
  
14. **ORDINANCE** approving and authorizing contract between the City of Houston and the **VILLAGE LEARNING CENTER, INC**, to provide \$150,000.00 in Community Development Block Grant Funds for a Vocational/Educational Training Program Serving a Special Needs Population- was presented, all voting aye, nays none. Council Member Davis absent. **ORDINANCE 2016-0165 ADOPTED**
  
15. **ORDINANCE** approving and authorizing contract between the City of Houston and **THE WOMEN'S HOME** to provide up to \$100,000 in Community Development Block Grant Funds for the operation of a Homeless Services Program- was presented, all voting aye, nays none. Council Member Davis absent. **ORDINANCE 2016-0166 ADOPTED**
  
16. **ORDINANCE** approving and authorizing contract between the City of Houston and the **TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES** for the STD-HIV Prevention Services

(DSHS Contract No. 2016- 001348-00) - \$1,825,349.00 - Grant Fund- was presented, all voting aye, nays none. Council Member Davis absent. **ORDINANCE 2016-0167 ADOPTED**

- 23. ORDINANCE** approving first amendment to the Real Estate Listing Agreement between the City of Houston, Texas, and **TRANSWESTERN PROPERTY COMPANY SW GP, L.L.C. d/b/a TRANSWESTERN - DISTRICT I – GALLEGOS-** was presented, all voting aye, nays none. Council Member Davis absent. **ORDINANCE 2016-0168 ADOPTED**
- 24. ORDINANCE** appropriating \$178,080.00 out of Equipment Acquisition Consolidated to contract between the City of Houston and **KOETTER FIRE PROTECTION OF HOUSTON LLC** (Approved by Ordinance No. 2012-0691) for Fire Alarm Replacement Projects at various City of Houston facilities - **DISTRICTS B - DAVIS; C - COHEN; E - MARTIN; F - LE and H – CISNEROS-** was presented, all voting aye, nays none. Council Member Davis absent. **ORDINANCE 2016-0169 ADOPTED**
- 27. ORDINANCE** appropriating \$1,669,520.00 out of Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund and approving and authorizing Construction Reimbursement Agreement between the City of Houston and the **DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY** for the improvements of the existing water lines and sewer lines as part of the Shopping District Streetscape Project; providing a maximum contract amount - **DISTRICT I – GALLEGOS-** was presented, all voting aye, nays none. Council Member Davis absent. **ORDINANCE 2016-0170 ADOPTED**
- 30. ORDINANCE** approving and authorizing first amendment to the contract between the City of Houston and **CSI CONSOLIDATED, LLC dba CLEANSERVE, LLC** for the FY2016 Storm Sewer Inspection and Cleaning Work Order #1 (Approved by Ordinance No. 2015-0715) - \$800,000.00 - Stormwater Fund- was presented, all voting aye, nays none. Council Member Davis absent. **ORDINANCE 2016-0171 ADOPTED**
- 31. Omitted**
- 32. ORDINANCE** appropriating \$1,023,702.50 out of Street & Traffic Control and Storm Drainage DDSRF; awarding contract to **ISI CONTRACTING, INC** for On-Call Neighborhood Traffic Management Program Construction Contract; 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 and testing services relating to construction of facilities financed by the Street & Traffic Control and Storm Drainage DDSRF- was presented, all voting aye, nays none. Council Member Davis absent. **ORDINANCE 2016-0172 ADOPTED**
- 33. ORDINANCE** appropriating \$830,793.00 out of Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund; awarding contract to **SPECIALIZED MAINTENANCE SERVICES, INC** for Sanitary Sewer Cleaning and Television Inspection in support of Rehabilitation; 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 contingencies relating to construction of facilities financed by the Water &

Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund (WW4277-90)- was presented, all voting aye, nays none. Council Member Davis absent. **ORDINANCE 2016-0173 ADOPTED**

- 34. ORDINANCE** approving and authorizing Restated Agreement for Recycling Services between the City of Houston, Texas and **WASTE MANAGEMENT OF TEXAS, INC**, for the Solid Waste Management Department for Recycling Services; providing a maximum contract amount - 1 Year with one option year - \$7,400,000.00 - General Fund- the City secretary advised that Item 34 had been pulled by the administration and would not be considered.

### **END OF CONSENT AGENDA**

### **CONSIDERATION OF MATTERS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA**

1. **RECOMMENDATION** from City Attorney to deposit the amount of the Award of Special Commissioners into the Registry of the Court and pay the costs of court in connection with eminent domain proceedings styled City of Houston v. Houston Westlake Village, LLC, Cause No. 1063840; for acquisition of Parcels KY14-079, KY14-079A, KY14-080, KY14-080A, KY14-084, KY14-085 & KY14-086; for the **SHARPSTOWN II AREA WATERLINE EASEMENT REPLACEMENT PROJECT - DISTRICT J – LASTER**- was presented, moved by Council Member Green and seconded by Council Member Laster, all voting aye, nays none. Council Member Davis absent. **MOTION 2016-0099 ADOPTED**
2. **LION FIRST RESPONDER PPE, INC** for Personal Protective Gear for the Houston Fire Department - 3 Years with two one-year options - \$8,000,000.00 - Equipment Acquisition Consolidated Fund- was presented, moved by Council Member Green and seconded by Council Member Cohen, all voting aye, nays none. Council Member Davis absent. **MOTION 2015-0100 ADOPTED**
6. **APPROVE** spending authority in an amount not to exceed \$15,000,000.00 to address an Emergency for Reclaimed Asphalt Pavement Materials for the Department of Public Works & Engineering on award to **CENTURY ASPHALT, LTD.**- was presented, moved by Council Member Green and seconded by Council Member Cohen, all voting aye, nays none. **MOTION 2016-0101 ADOPTED**
7. **RESOLUTION** approving the issuance and sale by Houston Housing Finance Corporation of Multifamily Housing Revenue Bonds (New Hope Housing at Harrisburg) Series 2016 - **DISTRICT H – CISNEROS**- was presented, all voting aye, nays none. **RESOLUTION 2016-0009 ADOPTED**
8. **ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 25 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, HOUSTON, TEXAS**, relating to nationally competitively bid events; containing findings and other provisions relating to the foregoing subject; providing for severability- was presented, all voting aye, nays none. **ORDINANCE 2016-0174 ADOPTED**
11. **ORDINANCE** approving and authorizing contract between the City of Houston and **HOUSTON VOLUNTEER LAWYERS PROGRAM, INC**, to provide up to \$150,000.00 in Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS Funds for Legal Supportive Services- was presented, all voting aye, nays none. **ORDINANCE 2016-0175 ADOPTED**

17. **ORDINANCE** approving and authorizing agreement between the City of Houston, Texas and **HARRIS COUNTY, TEXAS** for the Houston Health Department for patient rides for the Emergency Tele-Health and Navigation Program; providing a maximum contract amount \$92,726.26 - Contractor Responsibility Fund- was presented and tagged by Council Member Boykins.
18. **ORDINANCE** approving and authorizing first amendment to Interlocal Agreement between the City and **HARRIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION** for CASE for Kids City Connections Program; amending Ordinance No. 2015-0768 to increase the maximum contract amount thereof \$200,000.00 - General Fund- was presented, all voting aye, nays none. **ORDINANCE 2016-0176 ADOPTED**
19. **ORDINANCE** approving and authorizing Interlocal Agreement between the City of Houston and the **HARRIS CENTER for MENTAL HEALTH and INTELLECTUAL and DEVELOPMENT DISABILITIES (The Harris Center)** for the creation and operation of a 911 Crisis Call Diversion Program - \$250,000.00 - Grant Fund- was presented, all voting aye, nays none. **ORDINANCE 2016-0177 ADOPTED**
20. **ORDINANCE** approving and authorizing Purchase and Sale Agreement between the City of Houston, Texas, Seller, and **SAGE INTERESTS, INC**, Buyer, for the sale of surplus property located at the corner of Lockwood Street and Lyons Avenue and within the Fifth Ward Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone No. 18 - **DISTRICT B – DAVIS**- was presented, after a lengthy discussion a vote was called, all voting aye, nays none. **ORDINANCE 2016-0178 ADOPTED**
21. **ORDINANCE** relating to the **SAINT GEORGE PLACE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT**; consenting to its creation - **DISTRICT J – LASTER**- was presented and tagged by Council Member Travis.
22. **ORDINANCE** approving agreement for Professional Services between the City of Houston and **HERRERA & BOYLE, PLCC** for Legal Services in connection with complaint of Extenet Network Systems, Inc against the City of Houston for Imposition of fees for use of public right-of-way (Public Utility Commission Docket No. 45280); providing a maximum contract amount \$250,000.00 – Property & Casualty Fund- was presented, all voting aye, nays none. **ORDINANCE 2016-0179 ADOPTED**
25. **ORDINANCE** approving the creation of a “Contributed Capital Project Fund” with zero beginning fund balance to receive cash funds from any fund sources for the purpose of funding Capital Projects; establishing the sources and uses of the funds therein for the construction, operation, maintenance and support of Capital Projects; authorizing the appropriation and transfer of any and all funds received into the fund for the purposes set out herein and authorizing expenditure consistent with the purpose thereof- was presented, all voting aye, nays none. **ORDINANCE 2016-0180 ADOPTED**
26. **ORDINANCE** awarding contract to **HOYT ENTERPRISES, INC dba HOYT BREATHING AIR PRODUCTS** for Inspection, Maintenance, Repairs & Testing on Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus for Various Departments: providing a maximum contract amount - 3 Years with two

one-year options - \$793,774.00 - General, Enterprise and Storm Water Funds- was presented, all voting aye, nays none. Council Member Davis absent. **ORDINANCE 2016-0181 ADOPTED**

**28. ORDINANCE** approving and authorizing **HARRIS COUNTY** to improve portions of five streets in the City of Houston, Texas - **DISTRICT D - BOYKINS and K – GREEN**- was presented, all voting aye, nays none. Council Member Davis absent. **ORDINANCE 2016-0182 ADOPTED**

**29. ORDINANCE** awarding contract to **YES AMERICA NOW, INC dba YES AMERICA ENTERPRISES** for Street Sweeping Services for the Department of Public Works & Engineering; providing a maximum contract amount - 3 Years with two one-year options - \$4,535,907.00 Stormwater Fund - **DISTRICTS A - STARDIG; B - DAVIS, C - COHEN; E - MARTIN; F - LE; G - TRAVIS; H - CISNEROS and I – GALLEGOS**- was presented, all voting aye, nays none. Council Member Davis absent. **ORDINANCE 2016-0183 ADOPTED**

**MATTERS HELD** - NUMBER 35

**35. ORDINANCE** approving and authorizing Restated Agreement for Recycling Services between the City of Houston, Texas and **WASTE MANAGEMENT OF TEXAS, INC**, for the Solid Waste Management Department for Recycling Services; providing a maximum contract amount - 4 Years with two optional one-year renewals - \$18,314,000.00 - General Fund  
**TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBER BOYKINS**

This was Item 22 on Agenda of March 2, 2016- was presented, Council Member Cohen moved that Item 35 be referred back to the Administration and seconded by Council Member Laster, all voting aye, nays none. **MOTION 2016-0102 ADOPTED**

**MATTERS TO BE PRESENTED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS** - Council Member Green first

Members of Council announced events and discussed matters of interest.

Mayor Turner advised that next week was a break week and the next meeting would be on March 22, 2016.

There being no further business before Council; the City Council adjourned at 10:50 a.m. Council Members Davis, Boykins, Martin, Le, Travis and Green absent.

**DETAILED INFORMATION ON FILE ON THE OFFICE OF THE CITY SECRETARY**

**MINUTES READ AND APPROVED**

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Anna Russell, City Secretary

