

City Council Chamber, City Hall, Tuesday, April 11, 2006

A Regular Meeting of the Houston City Council was held at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 11, 2006, Mayor Bill White presiding and with Council Members Toni Lawrence, Jarvis Johnson, Anne Clutterbuck, Ada Edwards, Addie Wiseman, M. J. Khan, P. E., Pam Holm, Adrian Garcia, Carol Alvarado, Peter Brown, Sue Lovell, Shelley Sekula-Gibbs, M.D., and Michael Berry; Mr. Don Cheatham, Division Chief, General Counsel Division, Legal Department; Mr. Richard Cantu, Director Citizens Assistance Office; Ms. Marty Stein, Agenda Director; present. Council Member Ronald C. Green absent on city business.

At 2:05 p.m. Mayor White called the meeting to order and called on Council Member Wiseman to begin presentations. Council Member Wiseman stated that she was pleased to recognize a wonderful organization about to launch an annual event Fill the Boot Program; that the firefighters gave time and effort and of their heart to help with the Muscular Dystrophy Association's effort to promote awareness of the disease and the need for medical advances and financial support; and invited Ms. Heater Sasser, Regional Coordinator for the Muscular Dystrophy Association, Ms. Becky Bandy, Goodwill's Ambassador for MDA, Mr. Roland Chavez, president of Firefighter Local 341 and Chief Borski, HPD Fire Chief; that collection dates were April 15th and May 6th and 13th; and presented a Proclamation to Mr. Chavez as the Houston Professional Firefighter's Local 341 exemplified the most time honored ideals of sacrifice to protect citizens of our community from tragedy on the home front and whereas in the past 10 years they had raised more than \$3.3 million for Muscular Dystrophy through their campaign and 5 out of the last 6 years they raised more for MDA than any other Fire Department in the country; and proclaimed April 15 through May 13 as "Houston Professional Firefighters Local 341 Fill the Boot Days" in Houston, Texas. Council Members Johnson, Garcia and Sekula-Gibbs absent.

Becky thanked all for their support and she and a firefighter passed the boot around the Council table, Mr. Chavez thanked all for their support including the firefighters and recognized board members; and Acting Mayor Pro Tem Berry asked the firefighters present to stand to be recognized. Ms. Sasser stated they could not do what they did without support of the community and Houston firefighters and thanked all and stated that she had letters from Mr. Jerry Lewis and read the one to be presented to Mayor White Commending Firefighters Local 341 and saluting all friends and supporters in Houston; and presented a letter to Mr. Chavez and Chief Britt. Council Members Johnson, Garcia and Sekula-Gibbs absent.

Council Member Clutterbuck stated that it was her pleasure to join in recognizing St. Thomas Episcopal School in their nationally recognized Mock Trial Team; that they won the 10th consecutive Houston Regional Championship on January 28, 2006, and invited Colonel John Hilliard to the podium. Council Member Clutterbuck further stated that they won 3rd place in state championships; and presented a Proclamation to Colonel John Hilliard for their accomplishment and proclaimed April 11, 2006 as "St. Thomas Episcopal School Mock Trial Team Day" in Houston, Texas. Council Members Johnson, Garcia and Sekula-Gibbs absent.

Council Member Brown stated that today he was recognizing the noble profession of architecture which he was proud to be a part of; that they were declaring Architecture Month in Houston and invited Ms. Rhonda Wang, board member of the American Institute of Architecture Houston Chapter, Mr. Randle Walker, vice president and Mr. Larry Scardino, executive director of the Houston Chapter of American Architecture to the podium and stated that when people talked about Houston in a positive way the architecture was always mentioned; and presented a Proclamation to them for providing continued education under its program, and public service; and proclaimed the month of April, as "Architecture Month" in Houston, Texas. Mr. Walker stated that they appreciated being recognized for making a positive difference and influence and pledged to add to what Houston had in making it a wonderful city. Council Members Johnson and Sekula-Gibbs absent.

At 2:26 p.m. Council Member Clutterbuck invited Pastor William Vander Bloom with Houston's First Presbyterian Church to lead all in prayer and Council Member Clutterbuck led all in the pledge.

At 2:27 p.m. the City Secretary called the roll. Council Member Green absent on city business.

Council Members Khan and Alvarado moved that the minutes of the preceding meeting be adopted. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Green absent on city business. MOTION ADOPTED.

The City Secretary began calling the public speakers. Council Members Garcia, Brown and Berry absent.

Ms. Iva Johnson, 4620 Sumpter, Houston, Texas 77020 (713-672-8534) had reserved time to speak but was not present when her name was called. Council Member Sekula-Gibbs absent.

Mr. Art Harris, 9108 Hollow Lane, Porter, Texas 77365 (832-444-6177) had reserved time to speak but was not present when his name was called. Council Members Wiseman and Sekula-Gibbs 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 Clutterbuck, Wiseman, Sekula-Gibbs and Berry absent.

Ms. Mei Gong, 7900 S. Stadium Drive #66, Houston, Texas 77030 (713-686-3304) appeared, presented information and stated that she was president of HUMAN Institute and a researcher in the Houston Medical Center and present to express her deepest concern about Houston businesses which may be related to the terrible persecution to Falun Gong practitioners in China; that the Liaoning Province was coming for a business visit; and urged the Mayor and Council to do business with the right conscious. Council Members Johnson, Clutterbuck, Wiseman, Holm, Garcia, Sekula-Gibbs and Berry absent. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. Kuohsien Yang, 4042 Belle Park, Houston, Texas 77072 (832-687-7231) had reserved time to speak but was not present when his name was called. Council Members Johnson, Clutterbuck, Wiseman, Holm, Garcia, Sekula-Gibbs and Berry absent. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. Philip Aitsebaomo, 12401 South Post Oak, Houston, Texas 77045 (713-721-9000) appeared and stated that he was present on behalf of the African Coalition and they advocated for the immigrant African in Houston and Texas and the Planning Department March 17th laid off 9 people and 7 were immigrant African and only about 8 immigrant African people worked in the whole department and that sounded like someone went through and picked out the immigrant Africans one by one; that they were supposed to be out last week but received a one week reprieve and they had been with the city 10 to 17 years; that they were not asking to have the department head's action reversed but for them to be found other opportunities for work within the city. Council Members Johnson, Clutterbuck, Wiseman, Holm, Garcia and Berry absent.

Council Member Edwards stated that they were working toward that end; and upon questions, Mr. Aitsebaomo stated that most were citizens with advanced degrees and the department said they were hardworking people, it was an organization issue; that most were professional planners; and Council Member Edwards stated she thought this was being reviewed all the way around and she thanked him for the work he did; and further stated that

she would like the people to be put back at their same level of seniority. Council Members Johnson, Clutterbuck, Wiseman, Holm, Garcia, Sekula-Gibbs and Berry absent. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Council Member Alvarado stated that if they were relieved of duty because of reorganization then would other employees be observing their responsibilities; and Mr. Aitsebaomo stated his understanding was some would take the job he was doing, but he was not sure; and Mayor White stated that he felt the appropriate committee would be through Council Member Lawrence and he appreciated Mr. Aitsebaomo bringing this to their attention. Council Members Johnson, Clutterbuck, Wiseman, Holm, Garcia, Sekula-Gibbs and Berry absent. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Council Member Khan stated that from his experience this Mayor was committed to making sure everyone was treated fairly with diversity in all departments and there would always be reorganization; that when Mr. Dadoush reorganized it resulted in many positions being eliminated but people were relocated and reappointed, but he saw one of the letters given to these employees and the subject matter was outplacement opportunity and the body was that they were gone, terminated as of Friday and he thought if reorganization was needed it be done properly and it was still not understood why the positions or people were eliminated; and hoped Mayor White would look into it. Council Members Johnson, Clutterbuck, Wiseman, Holm, Garcia, Sekula-Gibbs and Berry absent. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Upon questions by Council Member Lovell, Mr. Aitsebaomo stated their average employment was 12 years with no bad reviews; and Council Member Lovell stated that she knew departments had to reorganize but maybe in reorganization good employees could be retrained for another position; and asked that possibility be explored; and Mayor White stated that there were certain procedures for reduction in forces and there had been three done by the City of Houston; that he supervised some in the federal government and seen them in the private sector and there was usually some transitional program and he was making notes. Council Members Johnson, Wiseman, Holm, Garcia, Sekula-Gibbs and Berry absent.

Council Member Brown stated that he would second what had been said and would compliment those of African origin who had come here; that those who were at Steven Kleinberg's lecture yesterday heard the most educated and most professional group in the City of Houston were Houstonians of African origin and they should be proud; and he found this unusual and unfortunate that 7 of 9 dismissed were all of African origin and did wish there was a recourse in shifting them and if he could do anything would help. Council Members Johnson, Wiseman, Holm, Garcia, Sekula-Gibbs and Berry absent.

Council Member Edwards stated that she was not sure how this was happenstance, but because it was Ms. Gafrick she did not believe she purposely picked them out, but she would like to know how it did happen; that her issue was in this city, as an immigrant population, Africans had become citizens and had advance degrees and yet many drove taxicabs with PHD's because of not finding employment and she did not want the City of Houston to become a part of misuse of brain power, but did want to know how it happened so it would not happen again. Council Members Johnson, Wiseman, Holm, Garcia, Sekula-Gibbs and Berry absent.

Mayor White stated that Mr. Aitsebaomo's advocacy was appropriate, fair, well reasoned and effective and they were working hard with various departments to try and accomplish his purpose; that he found it was not good for an employee to tell someone they had to put someone on the payroll, but there did need to be a place to appreciate the service of those employees and he wanted him to know there was a team working with individual directors to give each individual identified some security as to what would happen with them. Council Members Lawrence, Johnson, Wiseman, Holm, Garcia, Sekula-Gibbs and Berry absent. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. Larry Rocky Jordan, 230 Delmar, Houston, Texas 77011 (713-921-1650) appeared and stated that he was an ex-Marine and handicapped and wanted to know why he saw on television three foreign flags in protest in the streets in Houston, if they had permits they should not and he wanted to know what was being done about it. Council Members Lawrence, Johnson, Wiseman, Holm, Sekula-Gibbs and Berry absent.

Council Member Edwards stated that the issue of immigration was not Council's and he should take those complaints to his state representative; and Mr. Jordan stated that he did and was told to go to HPD as they could disband illegal protest; and Council Member Edwards stated that jobs went unanswered everyday in Houston and anyone wanting a list she could provide it to them. Council Members Lawrence, Johnson, Wiseman, Holm, Sekula-Gibbs and Berry absent.

Mr. Dula Abdu, 3310 West Fuqua, Houston, Texas 77045 (713-446-5222) appeared and stated that most of his issues were covered and he was pleased with the conversation, but two of the employees had been there in the department 19 years and one resume showed a masters degree in planning and bachelors degree in architecture; that he worked with the Texas Workforce and Council Member Edwards mentioned the problem African professionals faced and they had the issues of pigmentation and accent and the problem was perception and not reality; and Council needed to address the issue. Council Members Johnson, Wiseman, Holm, Alvarado and Sekula-Gibbs absent.

Mayor White thanked Mr. Abdu for appearing and stated that he did a great job articulating his concerns. Council Members Johnson, Wiseman, Holm, Alvarado and Sekula-Gibbs absent.

Council Member Edwards thanked Mr. Abdu for his support and activism. Council Members Johnson, Wiseman, Holm, Alvarado and Sekula-Gibbs absent.

Mr. Isiaka Owolabi, 7447 Neal Ridge, Missouri City, Texas 77489 (713-748-4305) appeared and stated that he came to make everyone aware he was going through prosecution; that he was a cab driver and came before Council last year to with his problem, but his license was lost and last week he went to court #8 before Judge Kirkland and he was to pay and went with \$100.00, but the Judge said he did not have all the money so it would stand on his record and he would be charged interest and it was to be \$250 but now was \$340 and he was given no day to come back to the courts but was told if it was not paid within one month there would be another 20% every month; and he took his daughter to Texas Children Hospital and they were given no medication and he took her back the next week and was told she had pneumonia and they did not keep her and he was told to not bring her back but take her to the family doctor and he needed Council's help. Council Members Johnson, Wiseman and Alvarado absent.

Mr. Keith Koski, 907 Woodcrest, Houston, Texas 77018 (832-433-3570) appeared and stated that he was present to speak on College Memorial Park Cemetery located at the 3500 block of West Dallas; that it was founded in 1896 and was one of the oldest African American graveyards with the oldest readable marker dating 1900; that some buried there were John Henry, Jack Yates and J. M. Terrill; that the burial ground suffered from neglect and vandalism and his wife tried finding out who was responsible and called Riverwood Homes to inform them their workers were parking on grave sites and sent E-mails to Council Members; that yellow tape was put up but the builder would take the tape down when needed to park trucks there and he had seen a port-a-can emptied also; that Texas statutes indicate once property was dedicated as a cemetery it could be used for no other purpose. Council Members Johnson, Wiseman and Alvarado absent.

Council Member Edwards thanked Mr. Koski for bringing the matter to Council's attention and stated that one thing she learned was the cemetery was owned by a church, but in speaking with the pastor he said he was the owner and not the church, it was his property, so inspectors were going out to check on code violations and they were working with Ms. Jewett

and Mr. Oats and Mr. Kramer to try and find out how they could assist, but she went out and several headstones were damaged and she needed someone to help her understand what could be done as it was private property. Council Members Johnson, Clutterbuck, Wiseman, Khan and Alvarado absent.

Mayor White thanked Mr. Koski for being eyes and ears for Council and stated some things had already started because of his and Council Member Edwards initiative and they wanted to make sure this was the beginning of the discussion and not the end regarding cemeteries in Houston. Council Members Johnson, Clutterbuck, Wiseman, Khan and Alvarado absent.

Council Member Edwards stated that this went further with her, it was preservation of historical sites in the Fourth Ward area and she would encourage the owner of the property to work with the city if they could assist him, she did not want another historic area lost; and Mayor White stated that he did agree with her and something needed to be done, maybe a policy on historical cemeteries and maybe they could learn from other communities. Council Members Lawrence, Johnson, Clutterbuck, Wiseman, Khan and Alvarado absent.

Council Member Garcia stated that he had some of the same historical type cemeteries in his district and there was concern development had encroached on many; that there were good hearted efforts on behalf of the community where they were trying on their own to keep things preserved and maintained; and he wondered if it could be put on the City's legislative radar, it seemed it needed a huge regulation beyond local government; and Mayor White stated for Ms. Jewett who was watching this and those in Ms. Travis's shop he wanted to say they needed to look at what was being done in other cities and there was a fine company here which did burials of one in seven people in America and there was nothing like it in the world, it was a huge business; and he wondered why it was not appropriate to say in an industry some one thousandth or one hundredth of the revenues be in funds to protect something with historical significance, something that told a story of the community; that they needed an assignment of responsibility and a source of funding. Council Members Lawrence, Johnson, Clutterbuck, Wiseman and Alvarado absent.

Upon questions by Council Member Brown, Mayor White stated that the property was tax exempt as it was owned by the church; and Council Member Brown stated that he thought it was said the pastor owned the property; and Council Member Edwards stated that and said the records said it was owned by the church, but the pastor said he owned it so she did not know; and Mr. Koski stated that he had information to present; and Mr. Cantu collected the information. Council Members Lawrence, Johnson, Clutterbuck, Wiseman and Alvarado absent.

Council Member Lovell stated that the Juvenile Detention Center across the street used the cemetery as their public service site and was pretty well kept up; that the developer should be ashamed driving through any cemetery and she looked forward to this being the first of many discussions on preserving the city's history; and suggested Mr. Koski discuss with neighbors the importance of the cemetery and maybe they could join in. Council Members Johnson, Clutterbuck, Wiseman, Holm and Alvarado absent.

Mayor White stated that he was serious in trying to get something on the books which would deal with this situation and having those at the Weinburger Firm do an HCAD search to see how they could persuasively be with the owner. Council Members Johnson, Clutterbuck, Wiseman, Holm and Alvarado absent.

Mr. Mabry Cain, 4738 Larkspur, Houston, Texas 77033 (832-455-9504) had reserved time to speak but was not present when his name was called. Council Members Johnson, Clutterbuck, Wiseman, Holm and Alvarado absent.

Mr. James P. Galvan, 1611 Holman, Houston, Texas 77004 (713-528-2607) had reserved time to speak but was not present when his name was called. Council Members Johnson, Clutterbuck, Wiseman, Holm and Alvarado absent.

Rev. Timothy Crawford, Jr., 5117 Cherry, Houston, Texas 77026 (713-692-0079) appeared and stated that he had concerns with transportation issues being that he rode the bus and twice the bus driver turned off his signal and went the other direction and he needed to get where he was going on a timely basis and would like to know how to get what he needed done achieved. Council Members Johnson, Clutterbuck, Wiseman, Holm, Alvarado and Lovell absent.

Mayor White stated that if METRO was not adhering to schedules it was something which needed to be reported and METRO had public sessions also and encouraged he share his concerns there. Council Members Johnson, Clutterbuck, Wiseman, Holm, Alvarado and Lovell absent.

Mr. Steven Williams, no address (no phone) had reserved time to speak but was not present when his name was called. Council Members Johnson, Clutterbuck, Wiseman, Holm, Alvarado and Lovell absent.

Mr. Kuohsien Yang, 4042 Belle Park, Houston, Texas 77072 (832-687-7231) was recalled and appeared, presented information and stated that he was present to express concern over the Body Worlds Exhibit currently at the Houston Natural Science Museum which was disturbing to many Houstonians and an insult to all humanity; that he heard another such exhibit was on its way and urged it not be able to be shown in Houston; and the Falun Gong practitioners organs were removed while they were alive for transplant. Mayor White, Council Members Johnson, Clutterbuck, Wiseman, Holm, Garcia, Alvarado, Brown and Lovell absent. Acting Mayor Pro Tem Berry presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. Frederick Dean, 5822 Knollwood Trails, Spring, Texas 77373 (281-209-1092) appeared and stated that witnesses had stepped forward to reveal the shocking truth of the Communist party's plan for the final solution to the Falun Gong problem and concerned Houstonians want to know what issues the Mayor and Council would raise with the Liaoning Provincial Economic Delegation Friday; that they would like Council to be mindful that short sided business dealings may aid, abet and otherwise prolong the Communist party's most malevolent agenda to eradicate Falun Gong and they wondered if Council was aware of the two camps which emerged within the CCP; and requested Council make public the scheduled meeting to foster the spirit of aboveboard communication. Mayor White, Council Members Johnson, Clutterbuck, Wiseman, Holm, Garcia, Alvarado and Brown absent. Acting Mayor Pro Tem Berry presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Ms. Tao Peng, 6516 M. D. Anderson Blvd., Houston, Texas 77030 (713-500-4495) appeared, presented information and stated that she appeared two weeks ago about the Body Worlds show and thanked Council Member Edwards for researching her concerns; that she had more information and after the Sujiatun Death Camp was exposed a former veteran medical doctor in the Shenyang military zone said recent reports were true and Falun Gong practitioners were killed for organs and bodies cremated alive afterward. Mayor White, Council Members Johnson, Clutterbuck, Wiseman, Holm, Garcia, Alvarado and Brown absent. Acting Mayor Pro Tem Berry presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Ms. Sudaphon Kinney, 225 Aldine Bender #708, Houston, Texas 77060 (281-448-4190) appeared and stated that she was present before and talked about her apartment and she was told they would extend for her another month; that she needed help; and continued expressing her concerns until her time expired. Mayor White, Council Members Johnson, Clutterbuck, Wiseman, Holm, Garcia, Alvarado and Brown absent. Acting Mayor Pro Tem Berry presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Ms. Andria Hunt, 3230 South Gessner #309, Houston, Texas 77063 (281-250-7981) appeared and stated that her subject was about 911 and the breakdown in communication; that last week she had a crisis and called 911 four times at about 1:02 a.m. and it never came and she took a yellow cab to the medical center and once there she was asked to wait and they did not understand mental illness was just as important as someone bleeding internally; that she was very sick and police finally came because security called them and they transported her to the MHMRA Neuropsychiatry. Mayor White, Council Members Johnson, Clutterbuck, Wiseman, Holm, Garcia, Alvarado and Brown absent. Acting Mayor Pro Tem Berry presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Council Member Edwards stated that she agreed any challenge was a challenge whether it be mental or physical; and upon questions, Ms. Hunt stated that she lived in the Westchase District by Beltway 8 on Gessner and there was an increase in crime and that was what 911 told her and that they could not get to her; that she did not know Anthony Love; and Council Member Edwards stated that she wanted to introduce her because he may help her to consolidate the services; and Ms. Hunt stated that she was okay and had a supporting family but others were not as educated as her and did not know resources; and Council Member Edwards stated that was her point, Mr. Love needed to know her problems so he could understand what was needed; and someone from her office would call to set the meeting. Mayor White, Council Members Johnson, Clutterbuck, Wiseman, Holm, Garcia, Alvarado and Brown absent. Acting Mayor Pro Tem Berry presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Senator Robert Horton, 3714 Bain, Houston, Texas 77026 (713-260-6144) appeared and stated that all political leaders were guilty of genocide crimes; and continued expressing his personal opinions until his time expired. Mayor White, Council Members Johnson, Clutterbuck, Wiseman, Holm, Garcia, Alvarado and Brown absent. Acting Mayor Pro Tem Berry presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

President Joseph Charles, Post Office Box 524373, Houston, Texas 77052-4373 (832-453-6376) appeared and stated that he was the official President of the United States and continued expressing his personal opinions until his time expired. Mayor White, Council Members Johnson, Clutterbuck, Wiseman, Holm, Garcia, Alvarado and Brown absent. Acting Mayor Pro Tem Berry presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

At 3:54 p.m. City Council recessed until 9:00 a.m., Wednesday, April 12, 2006. Council Member Green absent on city business. Mayor White, Council Members Johnson, Clutterbuck, Wiseman, Holm, Garcia, Alvarado and Brown absent. Acting Mayor Pro Tem Berry presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

City Council Chamber, City Hall, Wednesday, April 12, 2006

A Regular Meeting of the Houston City Council was held at 9:00 a.m. Wednesday, April 12, 2006, with Mayor Bill White presiding and with Council Members Toni Lawrence, Jarvis Johnson, Anne Clutterbuck, Ada Edwards, Addie Wiseman, M. J. Khan, P. E., Pam Holm, Adrian Garcia, Carol Alvarado, Peter Brown, Sue Lovell, Shelley Sekula-Gibbs, M.D., Ronald C. Green and Michael Berry; Mr. Arturo Michel, City Attorney; Mr. Anthony Hall, Chief Administrative Officer, Mayor's Office; Ms. Martha Stein, Agenda Director and Ms. Stella Ortega, Agenda Office, present.

At 8:26 a.m. the City Secretary read the descriptions or captions of items on the Agenda.

At 9:30 a.m. Mayor White called the meeting to order. Council Members Johnson, Clutterbuck, Wiseman, Garcia, Alvarado, Sekula-Gibbs and Green absent.

MAYOR'S REPORT

CONSENT AGENDA NUMBERS 1 through 33

MISCELLANEOUS - NUMBERS 1 through 4

The City Secretary announced that on Item No. 1, Position 5 had been pulled by the administration and was not being considered. Council Members Johnson, Clutterbuck, Wiseman, Garcia, Alvarado, Sekula-Gibbs and Green absent.

1. REQUEST from Mayor for confirmation of the reappointment of the following to the **HOUSTON LIBRARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS**, for terms to expire March 1, 2008:

Position One - **MS. ANN SHORT**
Position Three - **MS. PATRICIA J. LASHER**
~~Position Five - **MR. JACK S. BLANTON, JR.**~~
Position Seven - **MS. ZARINE M. BOYCE**
Position Nine - **MS. ANNETTE L. MULLINS**
Position Eleven - **MR. FRANKLIN D. R. JONES, JR.**
Position Fifteen - **MS. ALISON LELAND**
Position Nineteen - **MR. J. MICHAEL TREVIÑO**

- was presented, moved by Council Member Khan, seconded by Council Member Lovell. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Johnson, Clutterbuck, Garcia, Alvarado, Sekula-Gibbs and Green absent. MOTION 2006-0287 ADOPTED.

2. REQUEST from Mayor for confirmation of the reappointment of the following to the Board of the **METROPOLITAN TRANSIT AUTHORITY**, for two year terms:

Position 1 - **MR. DAVID WOLFF**
Position 2 - **MR. GEORGE A. DEMONTROND, III**
Position 3 - **MR. JAMES W. E. DIXON, II**
Position 4 - **MS. CARMEN ORTA**
Position 5 - **MR. GERALD B. SMITH**

- was presented, moved by Council Member Khan, seconded by Council Member Lovell. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Johnson, Clutterbuck, Garcia, Alvarado, Sekula-Gibbs and Green absent. MOTION 2006-0288 ADOPTED.

3. RECOMMENDATION from Director Building Services Department for approval of Computer Image for Dedication Plaque for Crestmont Park, GFS F-504A-10-3 - **DISTRICT D - EDWARDS** - was presented, moved by Council Member Khan, seconded by Council Member Lovell. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Johnson, Clutterbuck, Garcia, Alvarado, Sekula-Gibbs and Green absent. MOTION 2006-0289 ADOPTED.

4. RECOMMENDATION from Director Building Services Department for approval of Computer Image for Dedication Plaque for Garden Villas Park, GFS F-504A-20-3 - **DISTRICT I - ALVARADO** - was presented, moved by Council Member Khan, seconded by Council Member Lovell. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Johnson, Clutterbuck, Garcia, Alvarado, Sekula-Gibbs and Green absent. MOTION 2006-0290 ADOPTED.

Mayor White and Members of Council congratulated members of the Houston Library Board of Directors who were present in the Council Chamber and asked that they stand and be recognized.

Mayor White and Members of Council also congratulated the members of the Board of the Metropolitan Transit Authority and asked that they stand and be recognized and thanked them

for their service, and Council Member Sekula-Gibbs asked for Mr. Demontrand's support and assistance with the Smoking Ordinance at Metro rail and bus stops, and Council Member Garcia urged Metro to look at a more comprehensive approach to how they could manage the important and very good service, to folks who were confined to wheelchairs and needed the Metro Lift service, that he had feedback from customers about how hot and cold sometimes service was, that it was not a criticism but an observation.

ACCEPT WORK - NUMBER 5

5. RECOMMENDATION from Director Building Services Department for approval of final contract amount of \$904,827.64 and acceptance of work on contract with **TIMES CONSTRUCTION, INC** for Parks Master Plan - Squatty Lyons Park, GFS F-504B-00-3 - 04.73% over the original contract amount - **DISTRICT B - JOHNSON** - was presented, moved by Council Member Khan, seconded by Council Member Alvarado. All voting aye. Nays none. MOTION 2006-0291 ADOPTED.

PURCHASING AND TABULATION OF BIDS - NUMBERS 6 through 10

6. **CREATIVE COMPUTER APPLICATIONS, INC** for Preventative Maintenance Agreement for the Laboratory Information System for Health & Human Services Department - \$48,324.00 - General Fund - was presented, moved by Council Member Khan, seconded by Council Member Alvarado. All voting aye. Nays none. MOTION 2006-0292 ADOPTED.
7. ORDINANCE appropriating \$26,901.00 out of Police Consolidated Construction Fund for Asbestos Abatement Services at the Police Department's South Central Substation, located at 2202 St. Emanuel, for the Building Services Department, CIP G-0058 - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. MOTION 2006-0322 ADOPTED.
- 7a. **ARROW SERVICES, INC** for Asbestos Abatement Services for Building Services Department \$25,620.00 and contingencies for a total amount not to exceed \$26,901.00 - was presented, moved by Council Member Khan, seconded by Council Member Alvarado. All voting aye. Nays none. MOTION 2006-0293 ADOPTED.

RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES - NUMBERS 10-1 through 28

13. ORDINANCE consenting to the addition of 130.0 acres of land to **HARRIS COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 374**, for inclusion in its district - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2006-0323 ADOPTED.
14. ORDINANCE consenting to the addition of 2.64 acres of land to **HARRIS COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 419**, for inclusion in its district - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2006-0324 ADOPTED.
15. ORDINANCE consenting to the addition of 60.205 acres of land to **SPRING CREEK UTILITY DISTRICT**, for inclusion in its district - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2006-0325 ADOPTED.
16. ORDINANCE consenting to the addition of 286.388 acres of land to **VALLEY RANCH MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 1**, for inclusion in its district - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2006-0326 ADOPTED.
17. ORDINANCE establishing the north and south sides of the 2100 through the 2200 blocks of Bartlett Street, the north side of the 2300 through the 2400 blocks of Bartlett Street, and the north side of the 2100 through the 2300 blocks of South Boulevard 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 C - CLUTTERBUCK** - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2006-0327 ADOPTED.

18. ORDINANCE establishing the south side of the 1600 block of Vassar Street 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 C - CLUTTERBUCK** - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2006-0328 ADOPTED.
25. ORDINANCE appropriating \$223,137.00 out of Parks Consolidated Construction Fund and approving and authorizing first amendment to Professional Architectural Services Contract between the City of Houston and **3D/INTERNATIONAL, INC** for Design of Mounted Patrol Facility - Relocation and Forestry Complex - Relocation (approved by Ordinance No. 05-0924), GFS G-0117-01-2 and F-504A-17-2 - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2006-0329 ADOPTED.
28. ORDINANCE appropriating \$1,499,676.00 out of Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund, awarding contract to **CHIEF SOLUTIONS, INC** for Sanitary Sewer Cleaning and Television Inspection in Support of Rehabilitation, GFS R-0266-F3-3 (WW4277-28); 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, construction management, and contingencies relating to construction of facilities financed by the Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2006-0330 ADOPTED.

MATTERS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA WERE CONSIDERED AS FOLLOWS:

PURCHASING AND TABULATION OF BIDS

8. **PHILPOTT MOTORS, LTD.**, for Special Duty Vehicles through the Interlocal Agreement for Cooperative Purchasing with Houston-Galveston Area Council for Police Department \$241,116.00 - Grant and Asset Forfeiture Funds - was presented, moved by Council Member Khan, seconded by Council Member Alvarado. All voting aye. Nays none. MOTION 2006-0294 ADOPTED.
9. **PHILPOTT MOTORS, LTD. d.b.a. PHILPOTT FORD** - \$1,304,298.00, **BABY JACK FORD AUTOMOTIVE, LTD.** - \$855,632.00 and **TOMMIE VAUGHN MOTORS, INC** - \$31,172.00 for Automobiles, Vans, Utility Vehicles and Light-Duty Trucks over 8,500-lbs. Gross Vehicle Weight Rating for Various Departments - Equipment Acquisition Consolidated and Other Funds – was presented, moved by Council Member Khan, seconded by Council Member Alvarado, and tagged by Council Member Wiseman.
10. **PHILPOTT MOTORS, LTD. d.b.a. PHILPOTT FORD** - \$660,543.00 and **BABY JACK II AUTOMOTIVE, LTD.** - \$297,877.00 for Automobiles, Vans, Utility Vehicles and Pickup Trucks under 8,500-lbs. Gross Vehicle Weight Rating for Various Departments - Equipment Acquisition Consolidated and Other Funds – was presented, moved by Council Member Khan, seconded by Council Member Alvarado, and tagged by Council Member Wiseman.

RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES

- 10-1. RESOLUTION authorizing the City Attorney to take appropriate legal action against **VALERO REFINING - TEXAS L.P.** and any other responsible persons to enforce the provisions of environmental laws and regulations – was presented, and tagged by Council Members Wiseman, Johnson, Edwards, Alvarado, Sekula-Gibbs and Khan.

After a lengthy discussion by Council Members, Mayor White stated that Item No. 10-1 had been tagged.

11. ORDINANCE consenting to the addition of 24.621 acres of land to **FALLBROOK UTILITY DISTRICT**, for inclusion in its district - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2006-0331 ADOPTED.
12. ORDINANCE consenting to the addition of 211.238 acres of land to **HARRIS COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 105**, for inclusion in its district – was presented.

After discussion by Council Member Brown, a vote was called on Item No. 12. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Holm absent. ORDINANCE 2006-0332 ADOPTED.

19. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing the **IMPAIRED DRIVING MOBILIZATION SELECTIVE TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM (IDM STEP)** Amendment No. 1 extending the grant period and increasing the maximum amount of overtime eligible for reimbursement; declaring the City's eligibility for such grant; authorizing the Mayor to act as the City's Representative in the application process; authorizing the Chief or the Acting Chief of the Houston Police Department to accept such grant funds, if awarded, and to apply for and accept all subsequent awards, if any, pertaining to the program - \$87,578.00 - Grant Fund – was presented. Council Member Holm absent.

The City Secretary stated that it would be noted that the amount of application had been reduced from \$87,578.00 to \$82,578.00. Council Member Holm absent.

Council Member Wiseman stated that given that they just received the RCA and the backup on the item, to have an opportunity to review the item she would tag Item No. 19.

20. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing first amendment to Contract No. 51583 between the City of Houston and **REPUBLIC WASTE SERVICES OF TEXAS, LTD** – was presented.

Council Member Garcia stated that he wanted to make sure that vendors understood that when they were doing business with the taxpayers money it was serious business and offered the following written motion to amend Item No. 20:

“Motion by Council Member Adrian Garcia to Amend Item 20 on the City Council Agenda of April 12, 2006:

The City of Houston will provide official forms that will be used to determine billing amounts to be paid by the city and these forms will include a notice line as follows:

This form is considered an official government document and any false information submitted will be considered a criminal offense and punishable by law.”

Council Member Wiseman stated that she would tag Item No. 20 and Council Member Garcia's written motion to amend Item No. 20.

Upon questions by Council Members, Mayor White stated that Item No. 20 was the same amendment to the agreement that was before them a few months ago, that they had already entered into an agreement with Republic and they had paid the City \$2 million dollars to settle, that the item before them was to extend the contract for the final year of a seven year contract.

21. ORDINANCE amending Ordinance No. 2005-1141 to increase the maximum contract amount to a contract between the City of Houston and **HARRIS COUNTY** relating to Joint

Elections held on November 8, 2005 and subsequent Run-Off Election; allocating funds to such contract \$244,901.16 - General Fund – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Lovell absent. ORDINANCE 2006-0333 ADOPTED.

22. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing contract between the City of Houston and **GIBBS & BRUNS, LLP**, for Legal Services in connection with the collection of Hotel Occupancy Taxes from Internet-Based Hotel Room Resellers – was presented, and tagged by Council Members Wiseman, Sekula-Gibbs and Holm. Council Member Lovell absent.

After a lengthy discussion by Council Members, Mayor White stated that their objective was to make the most money they could for the City of Houston under law and to save the most money for the taxpayers and to provide the most services for the amount of money they collect and that would be the decision of how to proceed in that regard in cooperation with other entities and would be a matter that they would need expert counsel, and Mr. Michel stated that as to how much money was at risk on an annual basis, there was no clear estimate because the information was not publicly available for the most part, that he had seen estimates that would range from a total collection for the City of Houston of approximately \$10 million to several million going back several years, seven or eight years, so there was a wide range right now and if they proceeded discovery would give them a much better handle. Council Members Edwards, Alvarado and Sekula-Gibbs absent.

23. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing Amendment No. 2 to engagement letter between the City of Houston and **ZUCKERT, SCOUTT & RASENBERGER, L.L.P.** for the Provision of Specialized Legal Services for the Houston Airport System; providing a maximum contract amount - 3 years and nine months - \$1,800,000.00 - **DISTRICTS B - JOHNSON; E - WISEMAN and I – ALVARADO** – was presented, and tagged by Council Member Wiseman. Council Members Edwards and Sekula-Gibbs absent.

24. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing agreement for Professional Engineering Services between the City of Houston and **TRAFFIC ENGINEERS, INC** for Development and Implementation of a Traffic Management Program at George Bush Intercontinental Airport/Houston - 5 Years - \$450,000.00 - Enterprise Fund – was presented, and tagged by Council Member Wiseman. Council Members Edwards and Sekula-Gibbs absent.

26. ORDINANCE appropriating \$205,700.00 out of Street & Bridge Consolidated Construction Fund as an additional appropriation for Professional Engineering Services Contract between the City of Houston and **CARTER & BURGESS, INC** for Design of Water Lines and Street Reconstruction in the Freedmen’s Town Area (approved by Ordinance No. 96-0594), GFS S-0455-01-2 and N-1315-01-2 (SB10378); providing funding for contingencies relating to construction of facilities financed by the Street & Bridge Consolidated Construction Fund - **DISTRICT I - ALVARADO** - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Edwards absent. ORDINANCE 2006-0334 ADOPTED.

27. ORDINANCE appropriating \$300,000.00 out of Street & Bridge Consolidated Construction Fund as an additional appropriation and approving and authorizing first amendment to the Professional Engineering Services Contract with **PIERCE GOODWIN ALEXANDER & LINVILLE, INC** for Northline Paving from Parker to Canino (approved by Ordinance No. 2005-0430), GFS N-0696-01-2 (SB9234); providing funding for contingencies relating to construction of facilities financed by the Street & Bridge Consolidated Construction Fund - **DISTRICTS B - JOHNSON and H - GARCIA** - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2006-0335 ADOPTED.

29. ORDINANCE appropriating \$1,580,900.00 out of Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund, awarding contract to **COLT UTILITIES, INC** for Delafield Street and Lidstone Street Sewer Relocation, GFS R-2011-40-3 (WW4808-02); 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 Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund - **DISTRICT I - ALVARADO** - was presented, and tagged by Council Member Alvarado.

30. ORDINANCE appropriating \$2,042,800.00 out of Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund; awarding contract to **RWL CONSTRUCTION INC** for Water Line Replacement in the Junction City Area, GFS S-0035-C5-3 (WA10787); 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, construction management, project management and contingencies relating to construction of facilities financed by the Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund - **DISTRICT H – GARCIA** – was presented.

Council Member Garcia stated that he wanted to applaud the administration for getting the item on the agenda, the North Lindale Community had been looking for many improvements in their area and this was one step in the right direction.

A vote was called on Item No. 30. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2006-0336 ADOPTED.

MATTERS RELATED TO CITY GOLF COURSE GREEN FEES

31. RECOMMENDATION from Director Parks and Recreation Department for approval of amendments to the Schedule of Park User Fees relating to golf green fees - **DISTRICTS B - JOHNSON; F - KHAN; G - HOLM and I – ALVARADO** - was presented, moved by Council Member Khan, seconded by Council Member Alvarado.

Council Member Lawrence stated that she had been looking into the item and it was her understanding that Dallas on their Municipal Courses as a whole were \$9.78 more than what Houston charges and she thought they really needed to look at each golf course, that she would tag the item. Council Members Wiseman and Brown absent.

Council Member Khan stated that he would tag the item also and needed to know what was the process to inform the community that the fees were increased. Council Members Edwards, Wiseman and Brown absent.

Council Member Holm stated that the Quality of Life Committee had taken it up and they repeatedly worked on it and there was an evaluation process, they wanted to make sure that they serviced their citizens and offered amenities to them and at the same time become profitable and use their parks system to the best advantage of all of them and define that land usage to the best of all of them. Council Members Edwards and Wiseman absent.

Mayor White stated that Item No. 30 had been tagged. Council Members Edwards and Wiseman absent.

32. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing first amendment to the amended and restated Glenbrook Park Golf Course Concession Contract with **LOPEZ MANAGEMENT GROUP, INC** (approved by Ordinance No. 2003-1129) - **DISTRICT I – ALVARADO** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Edwards and Wiseman absent. ORDINANCE 2006-0337 ADOPTED.
33. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing a fourth amendment to the Hermann Park Golf Concession Contract with **BSL CORP** (approved by Ordinance No. 89-293) - **DISTRICT D -**

EDWARDS – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Edwards and Wiseman absent. ORDINANCE 2006-0338 ADOPTED.

MATTERS HELD - NUMBERS 34 through 40

34. ORDINANCE consenting to the creation of **HARRIS COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 424** – **(This was Item 21 on Agenda of April 5, 2006, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON)** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Edwards and Wiseman absent. ORDINANCE 2006-0339 ADOPTED.
35. ORDINANCE consenting to the creation of **HARRIS COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 425** – **(This was Item 22 on Agenda of April 5, 2006, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON)** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Edwards and Wiseman absent. ORDINANCE 2006-0340 ADOPTED.
36. ORDINANCE consenting to the creation of **HARRIS COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 426** – **(This was Item 23 on Agenda of April 5, 2006, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON)** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Edwards and Wiseman absent. ORDINANCE 2006-0341 ADOPTED.
37. ORDINANCE consenting to the creation of **HARRIS COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 427** – **(This was Item 24 on Agenda of April 5, 2006, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON)** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Edwards and Wiseman absent. ORDINANCE 2006-0342 ADOPTED.
38. ORDINANCE consenting to the creation of **HARRIS COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 428** – **(This was Item 25 on Agenda of April 5, 2006, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON)** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Edwards and Wiseman absent. ORDINANCE 2006-0343 ADOPTED.
39. ORDINANCE consenting to the creation of **HARRIS COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 429** – **(This was Item 26 on Agenda of April 5, 2006, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON)** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Edwards and Wiseman absent. ORDINANCE 2006-0344 ADOPTED.
40. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing engagement letter between the City of Houston and **RICHARD K. SIMON, ESQ.** for Legal Services regarding Aircraft Noise Impacts at the City's Airports; providing a maximum contract amount - \$600,000.00 - Enterprise Fund - **DISTRICTS B - JOHNSON; E - WISEMAN and I – ALVARADO** – **(This was Item 32 on Agenda of April 5, 2006, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS KHAN and WISEMAN)** – was presented. Council Member Wiseman voting no, balance voting aye. Council Member Edwards absent. ORDINANCE 2006-0345 ADOPTED.

MATTERS TO BE PRESENTED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Council Member Garcia stated that he missed getting his tag on Item No. 24, that he had been talking to Mr. Mancuso about the matter and since there was a week tag on the item he would like for the Public Works Department to explain why they did not have the capacity to do some of the work, that it seemed pretty basic, that he could not understand why they were saying on Item No. 24 that they did not have expertise in house, that he would like for them to provide that information. Council Member Wiseman absent.

Council Member Garcia stated that tomorrow at 6:30 p.m. at the Harris County Department of Education at North Lindale they would be hosting a Property Tax Workshop so that folks could understand the process for protesting their taxes if need be and understand what other opportunities there may be in terms of managing that situation. Council Member

Wiseman, Khan and Alvarado absent.

Council Member Garcia stated that he ran into Dr. Jay Grady at the unveiling of the real nice tile mural Susan Sellers did for Fire Station No. 27, that he wanted to congratulate the fire station and the Civic Art Commission and Pam Ingersoll and everyone involved in that project for brining it into the Denver Harbor Community; that Dr. Grady asked him to give Mayor White a book titled "Where the Hell is Podunk Texas", that Denver Harbor was originally known as Podunk and Dr. Brady was on a mission to see that it was put on the map officially so that people could remember some of the history of that community. Council Member Johnson, Wiseman and Alvarado absent.

Council Member Holm stated that last night was a special night and knew Mayor White and Council Members Lawrence and Lovell were at the dedication and permanent home of Southern Pacific Engine 982, that there were a lot of people in the City that were involved, that Ms. Marta Crinejo in Council Member Clutterbuck's office had been deeply involved in it, that the person who headed the Special Events Department, Ms. Susan Christian always did a superb job, that she wanted to compliment her on the work that she does. Council Member Wiseman absent.

Council Member Holm stated that Ms. Nancy Brewer, her Chief of Staff, had been taking some chemo and radiation treatments, that her strength and leadership throughout had been amazing and they were going to ring the bell today as she takes her last treatment. Council Member Wiseman absent.

Council Member Holm stated that there were three juniors from Rice University that were majoring in Computational and Applied Mathematics that participated in the Mathematical contest in modeling at the annual competition, Mr. Sam Fing, Mr. Toby Issac and Ms. Nan Chow, that they chose to create a model that would improve wheelchair access in airports, that over 700 teams from 9 counties competed and the Rice University team was one of five teams worldwide to receive the meritorious award, their team performed under the direction of Professor Mark Embry, that she wanted them to celebrate with Rice University. Council Members Wiseman and Sekula-Gibbs absent.

Council Member Holm stated that on Monday, April 17, 2006, the District G meeting with Metro would be held at the Marriott Hotel at 3131 West Loop South. Council Members Wiseman and Sekula-Gibbs absent.

Council Member Holm stated that there was an issue with process that she thought they needed to address, there was a street called West Briar, in the heart of the Galleria area, and they were constructing a great project, a high rise apartment and condominium project but in order to build it they had asked the City to close a private street for a period of two years, that because they had no policies or processes they had agreed to close a pretty severe artery without any discussion with neighbors, of which it had dramatically impacted their ability to conduct business, that basically they were using the public street for storage, that she thought they needed to review the process, that she was hopeful that they would reevaluate the process, and also the fee schedule, all they had to do was apply for it and for \$16 per day they closed the artery, that it happened all over the City. Council Members Johnson, Wiseman and Sekula-Gibbs absent.

Mayor White stated that he thought they needed to evaluate it pretty seriously. Council Members Johnson, Wiseman and Sekula-Gibbs absent.

Council Member Alvarado stated that this week they had several thousands of people march related to immigration issues and she wanted to give praise and thanks to the Police Department who she thought did a fine job in keeping peace and order, that she knew it was maybe difficult at times because there were so many people, that she was proud of the police

officers and their performance, that they handled everything with such professionalism and she also wanted to thank Susan Christian and her office as well. Council Members Johnson and Wiseman absent.

Council Member Sekula-Gibbs stated that she had already mentioned her concern about the smoking that was going on at the Metro stops but hoped that Mayor White would pay note to that and understand that there was only one inspector that was hired or was dedicated to enforcing the Smoking Ordinance and she thought that was a very pale reflection on what really needed to happen if they were going to actually enforce the Smoking Ordinance in the City, so if they had an opportunity to direct some more resources to that she thought they should. Council Members Johnson and Wiseman absent.

Council Member Sekula-Gibbs stated that the North Central Civic Association had an Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday but they had a little issue related to being able to access the soccer field where they were going to have the hunt, the gate was locked and they could not get in to hide the Easter Eggs and fortunately her able bodied assistant, Jose Pulido came and was able to contract the people at Parks and Recreation and they were able to come and open the gate and they were able to hide the eggs so the North Central Civic Association could entertain the 80 plus young people, that she wanted to thank the people from the Parks Department, as well as the people from BARC who came and assisted in rounding up four or five stray dogs. Council Members Johnson and Wiseman absent.

Council Member Khan stated that people who lived in Southwest Houston off of Bellaire would be facing some traffic delays for the next 10 months because of the improvements that were going on at the intersection of Bellaire and Fondren, that he wanted everybody to know and be patient with the traffic conditions which they will face. Council Members Johnson and Wiseman absent.

Council Member Khan stated that they were going to have the Gulfton Festival, the Weed and Seed and the Gulfton Youth Development and everybody was invited to participate, that it was sponsored by Kroger and would be at Fondren Bayland Park at 6200 Chimney Rock at Gulfton, on May 20, 2006. Council Members Johnson, Wiseman and Garcia absent.

Council Member Khan stated that the issue of internet taxes, he was glad that Council Member Alvarado was president of TML, that they were looking forward to her leadership. Council Members Johnson, Wiseman and Garcia absent.

Council Member Green stated that last week they received in error a budget workshop draft schedule, that they would be getting the new schedule at the beginning of next week, the Mayor Pro Tem and City Council Budgets would have a workshop, he knew there was a question on that, that some of the workshops would be one hour and the rest would be thirty minutes, they would spend more on Police, Fire, Housing and Community Development and maybe one more. Council Members Johnson, Wiseman and Garcia absent.

Council Member Green stated that the Houston International Festival would be coming up on April 21, 2006 and if they needed more information they could contact them at www.ifest.org. Council Members Johnson, Wiseman and Garcia absent.

Council Member Green stated that he wanted to congratulate all of the victors in last night's runoff election, especially Mr. Boris Miles, who was the favorite to win in the District 146 race in November 2006. Council Members Johnson, Wiseman and Garcia absent.

Council Member Brown stated that this month was Architect's Month in the City of Houston and he wanted to thank Mayor White for proclaiming that yesterday and they had a wonderful reception yesterday evening involving the Houston Chapter of American Institute of Architects, the Municipal Arts Commission and the Art League, at that event he was pleased to announce

the First Annual Hamilton Brown Community Beautiful Award, which was an award that would be given each year by his office to very special projects that happened in the City of Houston, that the award was named after Hamilton Brown, who was his dad and had a civic vision. Council Members Johnson, Wiseman, Khan, Garcia and Sekula-Gibbs absent.

Council Member Clutterbuck stated they would be having several community meetings, two related to Metro and encouraging everybody in the community to come tonight at 6:30 p.m. at Pilgrim Elementary School, at 3315 Berrington at Richmond next to the Larchmont Subdivision, that the second meeting for District C residents would be at 6:30 p.m. on April 18, 2006 at the Central Presbyterian Church, located at 3788 Richmond, that all of the locations, dates and times were on her website and on the Metro website, that she wanted to reiterate her thanks to the people at Metro who had worked so hard at putting the meetings together and all of the community members who had shown up and expressed their opinions and concerns about the proposed lines. Council Members Johnson, Wiseman, Khan, Garcia and Sekula-Gibbs absent.

Council Member Clutterbuck stated that on Saturday at 8:00 a.m. at Linkwood Park at 3699 Norris Street they were going to be having their District C cleanup. Council Members Johnson, Wiseman, Khan, Garcia and Sekula-Gibbs absent.

Council Member Clutterbuck stated that she wanted to thank Council Members Lawrence and Wiseman for assisting and coordinating a meeting that the three of them were hosting on Saturday, May 13, 2006, it would be from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the George R. Brown Convention Center and was a neighborhood and City wide meeting where they were having breakout groups to talk about neighborhood protection issues, how to protect their neighborhood and how to preserve their deed restrictions, that there would be legal advice as well as practical advice. Council Members Johnson, Wiseman, Khan, Garcia and Sekula-Gibbs absent.

Council Member Lovell stated that Ms. Linda Clarke informed her that their efforts in securing money for workforce training for the new citizens had been successful through the Houston Galveston Area Council and the Katrina Fund, they had some seed money of over half a million dollars that they were going to be able to go out and do workforce training, that she wanted to thank Ms. Clarke, Mr. Rodney Bradshaw and Mr. Michael Temple, Houston Galveston Area Council, for understanding the importance of the issues, to Dr. Bruce Leslie and Dr. Zack Hodges at Houston Community College who she had worked with before on workforce training, that they were going to go out to apartment units and places where they could reach out to people and they were going to recruit and train and they were going to assist with transportation and were also now working with the Greater Houston Partnership and other organizations that were reaching out and identifying jobs that would be available, that she thought it was great news for the City and the new citizens of Houston, that it would be an ongoing program. Council Members Johnson, Clutterbuck, Wiseman, Khan, Garcia and Sekula-Gibbs absent.

Council Member Edwards stated that hurricane season was on the way and they should buy their flood insurance if they did not already have it. Council Members Johnson, Clutterbuck, Wiseman, Khan, Garcia and Sekula-Gibbs absent.

Council Member Edwards stated that she wanted to thank Mr. Michel Moore, that they had some problems with decal parking on Taft and Lovett and they had a business that was very upset as to how he felt it was handled and Mr. Moore went out during the weekend to observe and they were going to be following through with some meetings with Ms. Gafrick and the constituents to see how they could calm the madness. Council Members Johnson, Clutterbuck, Wiseman, Khan, Garcia and Sekula-Gibbs absent.

Council Member Edwards stated that she wanted to thank Mr. Doherty and Mr. Michaels

from the Legal Department who met with her and some constituents this week and got a deed restriction issue clarified and the constituent felt they were given some solutions to what could be continuing to be problematic if they did not change their deed restrictions, that she wanted to applaud Council Members Holm, Clutterbuck and Lawrence for putting together the workshop on deed restrictions. Council Members Johnson, Clutterbuck, Wiseman, Khan, Garcia and Sekula-Gibbs absent.

Council Member Edwards stated that they passed Item No. 26 and she thought it was good, her concerns were restoration and the maintaining of the bricks from the street in the Freedman Town area, how they would be maintained and who would maintain them while the project was going on and the process of putting them back in the same way that they happened, that she wanted to thank Mr. Norman for getting her some preliminary information on that and would make sure the constituents knew the process of what was going to be happening, that they had to develop a process of how it was done and maintain their historical artifacts and positions and institutions in the community, that she would like for the Public Works Department to keep them advised as they moved through the project, that she would like to see the plans that Carter Burgess had for restoration of the bricks and if whoever was in charge could do that she would appreciate it. Council Members Johnson, Clutterbuck, Wiseman, Khan, Garcia and Sekula-Gibbs absent.

Council Member Lawrence stated that she too would like to invite all of the constituents in District A, C and D, that she and Council Members Wiseman and Clutterbuck were putting together a seminar on Saturday at 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on May 13, 2006, that they all had people in their neighborhoods who had problems with their deed restrictions. Council Members Johnson, Clutterbuck, Wiseman, Khan, Garcia, Sekula-Gibbs and Green absent.

Council Member Lawrence stated that she wanted to thank Mike Berger and Victor Alvarez, two people on the District A Graffiti Task Force, they were out there working very hard catching people who were doing graffiti, they caught five people in the act and had two police officers come and let those five men go and not ask any questions, that problem had been corrected and would not happen again, they had to stay on top of various things like that and be sure that they were all working together as a team. Council Members Johnson, Clutterbuck, Wiseman, Khan, Garcia, Sekula-Gibbs and Green absent.

Council Member Lawrence stated that for those who had not seen Engine 982 it was part of Houston's history and it was a great event last night, that she thought that everybody should go and see it and thought the Jaycee's had done a fabulous job and would continue to maintain that engine. Council Members Johnson, Clutterbuck, Wiseman, Khan, Garcia, Sekula-Gibbs and Green absent.

There being no further business before Council, the City Council adjourned at 11:22 a.m. Council Members Johnson, Clutterbuck, Wiseman, Khan, Garcia, Sekula-Gibbs and Green absent.

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

MINUTES READ AND APPROVED

Anna Russell, City Secretary