

City Council Chamber, City Hall, Tuesday, April 20, 2010

A Regular Meeting of the Houston City Council was held at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 20, 2010, Mayor Annise D. Parker presiding and with Council Members Brenda Stardig, Jarvis Johnson, Anne Clutterbuck, Wanda Adams, Mike Sullivan, Al Hoang, Oliver Pennington, Edward Gonzalez, James G. Rodriguez, Stephen C. Costello, Sue Lovell, Melissa Noriega, C. O. "Brad" Bradford and Jolanda "Jo" Jones; Mr. Harlan Heilman, Division Chief, Claims & Subrogation Division, Legal Department; Mr. Nelson Espitia, Director Citizens Assistance; Ms. Marty Stein, Agenda Director; and Ms. Marta Crinejo, Assistant Agenda Director present.

At 1:44 p.m. Mayor Parker called the meeting to order and called on Council Member Clutterbuck who invited all for her presentation to the podium and stated that today she was honoring Life Gift Houston; that Life Gift was the national registry for organ donation and they were honored to have the headquarters nationwide in Houston; that organ donation was allowing someone to benefit from your body after you pass on and it could benefit over 100 people; that Life Gift was housed in Houston and they were number one in the country, but for registration they were dead last; that you could register on line or by filling out a form and urged all to be a donor and inform their family members; and presented a Proclamation to Mr. Sam Holtzman, president and CEO of Life Gift Houston proclaiming today as "Life Gift Houston's Donate Life Day" in Houston, Texas. Mayor Parker stated that this was an important issue and she directed her physician to donate her life organs; and urged all to be a part of donation; and Council Member Clutterbuck suggested a link on the City of Houston website to Life Gift Houston; and Mayor Parker stated that she would be happy to explore it with the webmaster. Council Members Sullivan, Hoang, Rodriguez, Bradford and Jones absent.

Mr. Holtzman stated that organ and tissue donation saved lives; that 9,000 Texans were waiting for transplants today and many would die because of the lack of organs; that over 100,000 people in the U. S. were waiting for transplants; and all could save lives. Council Members Sullivan, Hoang, Rodriguez, Bradford and Jones absent.

Council Members thanked Council Member Clutterbuck for bringing awareness of such an important issue and thanked those with Life Gift Houston for doing what they did. Council Members Stardig, Sullivan, Hoang, Rodriguez, Lovell and Jones absent.

Council Member Costello invited Mr. Doug Earle with Parks and Recreation to speak on the Mayor's Cup and significance of the program; and Mr. Earle stated that he was president of the City of Houston Employee Wellness Advisory Council and he was present to recognize champions today; that the Mayor's Cup was introduced in 2007 and this was an interdepartmental competition, fitness and wellness competition between departments and there were two divisions, one for the large departments and one for small departments; and invited Dr. Lawson, Director of the Library Department and her employee wellness leader Ms. Mitchell to the podium and presented the cup to Dr. Lawson for winning the small department competition; and invited Mr. Marcotte and his staff, who were present, in the Public Works Department to the podium and presented them the cup they were still holding, as they were previous winners, for winning the large department competition; and Mr. Earle stated that May 13th was the Employee Wellness Fair at the George R. Brown from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.. Council Members Stardig, Hoang, Rodriguez, Lovell and Jones absent.

Council Member Pennington invited Mr. George Bailey, a sophomore at St. John's School and District G Youth Council Member, to the podium and stated that the Youth Council met here on a regular basis and had 33 members and held town hall meetings in their schools; that he also volunteered on various activities, was in the youth choir and was an accomplished cellist; and presented him a Proclamation commending and congratulating him on his outstanding

achievements and proclaimed today as "George Bailey Day" in Houston, Texas. Council Members Stardig, Rodriguez and Lovell absent.

Mr. Bailey thanked the Mayor and Council for what they did for Houston as a city and stated that he was honored to represent youth in the Mayor's Youth Council; and Council Member Pennington stated that he would be working this summer at City Hall trying to improve the website. Council Member Stardig absent.

At 2:05 p.m. Mayor Parker called on Council Member Johnson who invited his Priest from Our Mother of Mercy and Our Lady Star of the Sea, Father Case, to lead all in prayer and he led all in the pledge of allegiance. Council Member Stardig absent.

At 2:09 p.m. Mayor Parker requested the City Secretary call the roll. Council Member Stardig absent.

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

At 2:10 p.m. the City Secretary began calling the public speakers. Council Members Stardig, Johnson, Clutterbuck, Hoang and Noriega absent.

Mr. Larry Davis, 5900 Wheeler, Houston, Texas 77023 (713-923-7600) appeared, presented information to Council Members and stated that he was owner of Heil Texas, a solid waste equipment dealer, who furnished bodies for two hybrid garbage trucks because their present supplier did not offer hybrid technology at the time; that their present supplier Mo Neilus was owned by Oshkosh and taking thousands of jobs from Houston, Sealy, etc., the final decision was made to stay with them stating his company was too costly to change brands, but Houston lost enough jobs to Oshkosh/Mo Neilus. Council Members Stardig, Johnson, Clutterbuck, Hoang and Noriega absent.

Council Member Rodriguez thanked Mr. Davis for coming and stated that he was concerned about the issue; that Solid Waste informed him they liked the product the local company Heil provided and he was disappointed the Director of Solid Waste could not find time to meet with him; that he asked for information on issues Solid Waste may have had with the company and was presented a box of information containing files (which he displayed); that in digging through he found a curious purchase order right under the \$50,000 mark and it was for two trucks to be retrofitted; and upon questions, Mr. Davis stated that his company did the back part of the truck, the purchase order was for the front part of the truck, it was ordered with right hand drive only and drivers flatly turned it down; that Houston traditionally only ordered left hand steer trucks and it was \$50,000.00 to change them back to left hand steer, so the city lost the \$50,000.00 plus additional paid for the right hand steer trucks; and Council Member Rodriguez stated that he was concerned with the judgment in that department and would like this looked at more carefully and he did advocate for local businesses and he would like the Administration's help in trying to resolve the issue; and Mayor Parker stated that she would point out both companies were out of town and Mr. Heil was local distributor for out of town manufactured vehicles and she was sorry Mr. Hayes did not meet with him. Council Members Stardig, Johnson, Clutterbuck, Hoang and Noriega absent.

Mr. David Beale, 316 W. 15th, Houston, Texas 77008 (713-863-0404) appeared with a charted poster board and stated that he was from the Houston Heights Historic District West and present to thank Mayor Parker for making the historic preservation ordinance stronger and thank Council Member Lovell who would chair the committee taking it forward and Council Member Gonzalez who would be vice chair and who was Council Member for their area; that the problem with the historic preservation ordinance was it was a 90 day ordinance; that his

board showed where developers wanted to build four large houses on two 50 foot lots and the application was denied by the Houston Archaeological and Historic Commission because they were out of sink with the neighborhood in mass, height, setback and architectural elements, but under the ordinance they could still build in 90 days, May 12th. Council Members Stardig, Johnson, Clutterbuck, Hoang and Noriega absent.

Council Member Gonzalez thanked Mr. Beale and his wife for coming and for their advocacy and commitment to historic preservation and stated that they had submitted a letter to the builder asking for them to reconsider design and make it more compatible; that at the present rate they would lose the character of the Heights in seven or eight years. Council Members Stardig, Johnson, Clutterbuck, Hoang and Noriega absent.

Mrs. Sharie Beale, 316 W. 15th, Houston, Texas 77008 (713-863-0404) appeared and stated that the project Mr. Beale showed was catty-cornered from her house; that she thanked Mayor Parker for her pro historic preservation position; and Council Member Lovell for helping get amendments through and Council Member Gonzalez for his active participation, but at the rate of demolition historic districts would be indistinguishable from any other area; that Houston had a preservation ordinance which allowed anyone at anytime to opt out, they only had to wait 90 days and they could do what they wanted; that Dallas and San Antonio did not allow demolitions for historic properties without permission from their historic commission; that San Antonio had protected 30,000 properties, Dallas had protected 10,000 and Houston had protected 79 properties; and urged support of a stronger preservation ordinance. Mayor Parker, Council Members Stardig and Costello absent. Mayor Pro Tem Clutterbuck presiding.

Council Member Lovell thanked Mr. and Mrs. Beale for coming and for their many years of work on the issue; that the Mayor appointed her to move forward with more protected districts and she agreed to serve on the committee and they would move quickly, but they had a process to face; that the best approach now was going to the builders and they had incredible victories this year; that the dilemma was building what people wanted as the old bungalows were not what people with children wanted and they had to balance preserving and yet have a product people wanted; and maybe one day they would be ahead of other cities; and Mrs. Beale stated that GBW had not met with the neighborhood, but instead sent them to their attorney; and Council Member Lovell stated that she hoped they could prevail and have them be more reasonable than they were at this point. Mayor Parker, Council Members Stardig and Pennington absent. Mayor Pro Tem Clutterbuck presiding.

Mr. Rickey King, 6210 Southbrook, Houston, Texas 77087 (713-498-7262) appeared, presented information and stated that he was present with the ministers against crime and they had a "Love Our Kids Mentor Program" where they would like to go into HISD schools and save the children and they were seeking as many mentors as they could get. Mayor Parker, Council Members Stardig and Pennington absent. Mayor Pro Tem Clutterbuck presiding.

Ms. Reagan Flowers, 3226 Alabama, Houston, Texas 77004 (713-443-4521) appeared, presented information and stated that she was present in September to announce what they were accomplishing in Pre-K-12 education in CSTEM and that they were creating a national CSTEM Competition and now that has happened and it would be held May 8, 2010, at the George R. Brown Convention Center with schools from Maryland and Mississippi joining them here; and invited the Mayor and Council Members to come and support and participate as judges and to the reception on May 7, 2010, at 7:00 p.m. at the House of Blues. Mayor Parker, Council Members Stardig and Pennington absent. Mayor Pro Tem Clutterbuck presiding.

Council Member Johnson thanked Ms. Flowers for coming and stated the CSTEM Competition was always exciting and he was excited what CSTEM had done for schools; that it gave children an opportunity to showcase their talents and he hoped all Council Members would

put this on their schedule when they recognized and saw the children and how excited they were just as he was last year; and upon questions, Ms. Flowers stated that there were 56 schools Pre-K through 12th grade and they partnered together in 6 divisions and solved problems in robotics, creative writing, etc., and in the competition they would compete for first place nationally. Council Members Stardig and Pennington absent.

Council Member Costello thanked Ms. Flowers for coming and stated that he was honored to be one of the guest judges; that CSTEM was Communication, Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics and it was common knowledge the United States was falling behind in world education especially in math and science and the engineering community had been working on math counts for years and he was advised you had to catch them at the military age and then keep them excited and this was a terrific program. Council Members Stardig and Pennington absent.

Mr. Steve Nolin, 4304 Sherwood Lane, Houston, Texas 77092 (832-626-5322) appeared and stated that during the 2007 Legislative Session law makers overwhelming passed HB2391 which allowed law enforcement officers to issue citations instead of arresting adults who possess less than four ounces of marijuana, while it still remained a crime to possess any amount of marijuana in Texas the new citation was a step in the right direction; that citizens were still subject to the same penalties as before, but officers had an option now to issue citations rather than taking them into custody and if used appropriately the new law could help alleviate jail overcrowding and free up valuable law enforcement resources and save taxpayers millions in fees associated with arresting, booking, jailing, transporting and prosecuting marijuana; that HPD had no statistics for marijuana offences, but Harris County over the last 24 hours had 43 arrests involving marijuana and over a year it would come up to 15,695 arrests and urged Council to get with HPD and have them issue citations and make marijuana possession their lowest police priority. Council Members Stardig and Pennington absent.

Ms. Fritz Guthrie, 1402 St. Joseph Parkway, Houston, 77002 (713-756-8236) had reserved time to speak but was not present when her name was called. Council Members Stardig and Pennington absent.

Ms. Lisa Marie Kull, 419 Meadow Creek, Round Rock, Texas 78664 (512-267-3787) had reserved time to speak but was not present when her name was called. Council Members Stardig and Pennington absent.

Mr. Dallas Foster, 8502 Easton Commons #602, Houston, Texas 77095 (713-822-3245) appeared and stated that he was a recipient and part of a donor family; that last year he celebrated his 10th year anniversary for heart transplant and two years before lost his mother and donated her organs as well; that April was Donate Life Month and he wanted it brought to everyone's attention. Council Members Pennington, Costello, Lovell and Jones absent.

Ms. Jennifer Lewis, 20222 Monkswood Drive, Katy, Texas 77450 (281-546-2543) had reserved time to speak but was not present when her name was called. Council Members Pennington, Costello, Lovell and Jones absent.

Ms. Florencia Quensel, 10106 Jundre Place, San Antonio, Texas 78213 (210-324-9405) appeared and stated that she was currently awaiting a liver transplant and a year ago would have never thought she would be in that position; that it had been very difficult for her and her family, she would not be able to continue her life like this, she just wanted to be a normal girl and go to college, unfortunately her illness was keeping her from doing so; and urged all help her and others continue their lives by making people aware. Council Members Johnson, Sullivan, Costello, Lovell and Jones absent.

Council Member Clutterbuck thanked Miss Quensel for her amazing courage at such a young age, to appear before Council and to go what she was going through; that they were praying for her and for her family's strength and for thousands just like her; that she was the face of organ donation need and she was certain her prayer would be answered; and appreciated her and Mr. Foster coming with Mr. Foster being an example of living past this and looked forward to her appearing with her new transplant. Council Members Johnson, Sullivan, Costello, Lovell and Jones absent.

Mr. Rex Maus, 3014 Five Oak Drive, Missouri City, Texas 77459 (713-409-0196) appeared and stated that he was CEO of a brand new organization Donate Life Houston, that Houston was the first city to have the "Donate Life" name given to them by Donate Life America; that three years ago he was waiting for a liver transplant and now he had done nothing but be an advocate for organ donation, but Texas ranked last in all states with registered donors having 700,000 donors for 24 million people and they needed Council's help in registering people through different avenues. Council Members Johnson, Sullivan, Costello and Lovell absent.

Council Member Adams thanked Mr. Maus for coming and for the message he and his wife continued to bring and for the encouragement they brought to others; and urged all get on board to save a life and register. Council Members Johnson, Sullivan, Hoang, Costello and Lovell absent.

Ms. Elvia Valdez, 6410 Creek Wind Circle, Houston, Texas 77084 (832-215-1897) appeared and stated that she was PR coordinator and Spanish speaking spokesperson for Life Gift and it was her duty to educate the multicultural community; that she did lend her voice to all who have been touched by organ donation and those waiting; that no one liked to wait, not even in line or at the light, but 107,000 people did wait nationally with over 9,000 Texans waiting and over 2,500 Houstonians waiting and more needed to be done; that Houston, the fourth largest city in the U. S. needed to be at the forefront of this movement on a national level and it appeared they were successful in delivering the message; that yesterday she received a call from Mr. Reed's office saying he agreed to allow the City of Houston to partner with Life Gift in a workplace partnership and she was extremely proud to be a part of this movement. Council Members Sullivan and Lovell absent.

Council Member Clutterbuck stated that it was a pleasure to see Elvia in the Chamber, for those who could not remember, Elvia used to work on the Council floor and had moved on to bigger things and it was excited that Omar Reed had agreed to let this be a part of the process with the Human Resources Department, but also her pledge to look into adding a link to the City of Houston website was appreciated. Council Members Sullivan and Lovell absent.

Council Member Costello thanked Ms. Valdez for coming to his office and turned over his completed form for donation; and Ms. Valdez thanked Council Member Costello and stated that she would like to also thank Council Members Johnson and Jones for signing up. Council Members Sullivan, Rodriguez and Lovell absent.

Council Member Jones stated that a friend of hers was a surgeon specializing in liver transplants and she was at the Medical Center and found out Senator Mario Gallegos was a recipient of organ donation and he spoke as well and they moved her to make a decision, she found you could donate and still have burial plans just as you wanted them and you needed to discuss this with your family members and hoped many would be motivated to do this. Council Members Sullivan, Rodriguez and Lovell absent.

Council Member Adams thanked Ms. Valdez for all she did and for information to use in their news letters; and urged all Council Members to cut and paste the link to their newsletters also. Council Members Pennington, Rodriguez and Lovell absent.

Ms. Traci Daniels, 10901 Ranchstone #503, Houston, Texas 77064 (281-755-7784) appeared and stated that her son was a chronically ill patient, at the time he was five he weighed 140 pounds and found out his kidneys had stopped and on this sixth birthday started dialysis, received a transplant a year later from his dad and it was rejected, he had been on dialysis again 7 years and 4 months; that she would give information out so all would realize how important it was to give your organs. Council Members Pennington, Rodriguez and Lovell absent.

Mr. Aaron Daniels, 10901 Ranchstone #503, Houston, Texas 77064 (281-841-1916) appeared and stated that sometimes it was not easy with the needles and dialysis and being drained; that he did not feel normal, it was not easy; that it was very important to donate organs so others with chronic illness could live healthy and normal lives. Council Members Pennington, Rodriguez and Lovell absent.

Council Member Noriega thanked Mr. Daniels for putting a face to this and stated that he was very brave. Council Members Pennington, Rodriguez and Lovell absent.

Mr. Samuel Holtzman, 1519 Azalea, Sugarland, Texas 77479 (713-523-4438) appeared and stated that he had said his piece during presentation, but he did appreciate everyone's time and patience. Council Members Pennington, Rodriguez and Lovell absent.

Mr. Roland Smith, 3356 Lakeway Lane, Pearland, Texas 77584 appeared and stated that some knew him as the Associate Provost at Rice University, but today was addressing all as chair of the Life Gift Board of Directors and on behalf of the board thanked all for listening to all speakers today and for taking action; that organ donation was very personal to the families donating and to the families receiving, but had national implications; that he became involved when his daughter was a recipient 10 years ago; and thanked all. Council Members Sullivan, Pennington, Rodriguez and Lovell absent.

Ms. Jannie McGee, 7130 Cheshire Park, Houston, Texas 77088 (832-228-0008) appeared and stated that she was also recipient due to undetected high blood pressure; that in the African American community they did suffer with high blood pressure and diabetes, it was in her family and she was checked but it had never been detected, then in 2001 she was diagnosed and in 1004 she received a transplant and was very grateful to the family who made the decision; that the hard part was waiting for someone to die for her to receive and it was hard when she received knowing they died; and urged awareness which brought results. Council Members Sullivan, Pennington, Rodriguez and Lovell absent.

Ms. Laura Franka, 7723 American Holly Court, Cypress, Texas 77433 appeared and stated that she was director of communications for Life Gift and present because awareness of organ and tissue donation was very important; that her family was touched by organ and tissue donation with her sister-in-law who had received a heart, but was now in kidney failure and on dialysis; that she did not want her nephew to be without a mom, it was that simple, he deserved to have his mom; that this job was much more important than going to work, it was helping someone she loved very much. Council Members Sullivan, Pennington, Rodriguez and Lovell absent.

Council Member Adams thanked all who came and stated that they needed to create a partnership; that Reverend Jefferson and Pastor Nash were present and they were predominate ministers in the community and she wanted them to make sure they received their phone

numbers and asked them to stand to be recognized; that connection was to the African American communities and they needed leadership of the churches as well; and urged that they help promote Life Gift to their church members. Council Members Sullivan, Pennington, Rodriguez and Lovell absent.

Council Member Jones stated that she rode with fire stations in historically Black communities and was most amazed the vast majority of calls were dialysis calls and she was shocked how prevalent it was in the African American community and African Americans should listen, they could be a better mom, sister, etc, if they had organs which functioned properly. Council Members Sullivan, Rodriguez and Lovell absent.

Mr. Dale York, 8833 Gulf Freeway, Houston, Texas 77017 (713-941-8000) had reserved time to speak but was not present when his name was called. Council Members Sullivan, Rodriguez and Lovell absent.

Mr. David Mears, 5107 Tidewater, Houston, Texas 77045 (713-433-0563) had reserved time to speak but was not present when his name was called. Council Members Sullivan, Rodriguez and Lovell absent.

Mr. Ricardo Peduzzi, 14614 Falling Creek Drive #105, Houston, Texas 77068 (281-781-8969) had reserved time to speak but was not present when his name was called. Council Members Sullivan, Rodriguez and Lovell absent.

Mr. William Beal, 5814 Overdale, Houston, Texas 77033 (713-738-3410) had reserved time to speak but was not present when his name was called. Council Members Sullivan, Rodriguez and Lovell absent.

Ms. Theresa Haynes, 3647 Villa Glen Drive, Houston, Texas 77088 (832-882-3704) had reserved time to speak but was not present when her name was called. Council Members Sullivan, Rodriguez and Lovell absent.

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

Mr. Theodore Johnson, 3318 Carnell, Houston, Texas 77022 (713-868-5801) had reserved time to speak but was not present when his name was called. Council Members Sullivan, Rodriguez, Lovell and Jones absent.

Ms. Lisa Squires, 1126 Kinley, Houston, Texas 77018 (832-851-6720) appeared, presented information and stated that she was present before and her website was [www.VoteTeamUSA.com](http://www.VoteTeamUSA.com); that she presented a folder on payday lending last time present and they were still making progress on that and their new project was Juvenile Justice, dismantling the cradle to prison pipeline had to do with the problem in the gulf Coast Area of sending children directly out of middle school and high school into juvenile justice and then prison; that the American Leadership Forum did the report last year and had solutions of various agencies in the city which could help stop the problem and they put together an event with each agency highlighted in the report along with guest speakers; that Brentwood Baptist Church was hosting the event for them and free to the public and a chance to make a difference; that they would need funds for a follow-up event; and urged all attend. Council Members Sullivan, Rodriguez, Lovell and Jones absent.

Council Member Gonzalez thanked Ms. Squires for coming and informing them of the event for a tremendous cause; that they did need to dismantle the cradle to prison pipeline; that

statistics showed if a child was not reading at third grade reading level they may likely end up in prison down the road; that much money was spent incarcerating them and they were not doing enough up front; that this was a community issue and very important to the long-term prosperity of the city. Council Members Sullivan, Rodriguez, Lovell and Jones absent.

Mr. Luis Herminio, 1120 Hammock, Houston, Texas 77009 (no phone) had reserved time to speak but was not present when his name was called. Council Members Sullivan, Rodriguez, Lovell and Jones absent.

Mr. Mark Hogue, 9307 Meadowglen Lane, Houston, Texas 77063 (832-277-6000) appeared and stated that he wanted to talk about Frank Wilson, he thought he needed to stay at METRO, he was the only president who ever listened to him about getting things done; that through him he got routes to help others get around; and he also wanted to know how much the water bill hike would be. Mayor Parker stated that the cost would be based on the amount of water used, the more used the higher the percentage went up as a conservation measure, but without his usage could not begin to answer his question. Council Members Sullivan, Gonzalez, Rodriguez, Lovell, Noriega and Jones absent.

Mr. Ramon Manning, 4340 S. MacGregor Way, Houston, Texas 77021 (713-859-1876) appeared and stated that he was present because of the drainage topic which had become a personal issue for him and his family; that he lived in a historic neighborhood called Riverside Terrace or Third Ward and drainage had been a problem there for years; that under a year ago on Roseneath Street, directly behind him, there was a flooding and drainage issue and infrastructure had to be replaced and the issue was resolved, but that type of piece milling was not the overall solution; that in his opinion Houston had the advantage no other Texas city could claim as they had a plentiful source of water and with proper care and maintenance they could supply the whole Metro area for the next 50 years, unfortunately, due to growing financial pressures the current rate structure did not make enough to maintain the treatment and distribution system and today brought potential solutions such as coming up with an aggressive and educational campaign explaining this and the ramifications if not done; taking a hard look at who they sold water to and evaluate the rates; and not try and balance the budget of the city using water and sewer fees. Council Members Sullivan, Rodriguez, Lovell and Noriega absent.

Mayor Parker stated that she agreed with all he said and they were working on it. Council Members Sullivan, Rodriguez, Lovell and Noriega absent.

Council Member Adams thanked Mr. Manning for coming and stated that Roseneath Street was found to have corrugated piping under the ground and she questioned Mr. Marcotte who said he would love to fix all piping if they had the money, but it was in the billions of dollars; and thanked Mayor Parker for trying to do something about this. Council Members Sullivan, Rodriguez, Lovell and Noriega absent.

Council Member Costello thanked Mr. Manning for coming and stated that he brought up two issues, first was the water and sewer rates and how it needed to be changed to pay for the cost of the system and they would be voting on the item tomorrow and second which he advocated for was a dedicated funding source for other utilities such as drainage and street improvement. Council Members Sullivan, Rodriguez, Lovell and Noriega absent.

Council Member Jones stated that she also lived near there and they were not using this to balance budget and there was a leak by her house which stunk and Public Works could not seem to fix with standing water, etc., that they would have opportunity to vote tomorrow. Council Members Sullivan, Rodriguez, Lovell and Noriega absent.



Council Member Costello moved to suspend the rules for the purpose of extending the time for questions of Mr. Ramon Manning, seconded by Council Member Jones. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Sullivan, Rodriguez, Lovell and Noriega absent. MOTION 2010-0223 ADOPTED.

Council Member Jones stated that she wanted to make sure when this was done it was done equitably; that she was at the Breakfast Club and someone got on her and she had to explain the products and services and rates; that if for some chance this was tagged tomorrow to work out little details she did think it important to work out the little details to make things fair. Council Members Stardig, Sullivan, Rodriguez, Lovell and Noriega absent.

Council Member Bradford thanked Mr. Manning for coming and representing their neighborhood and street; that he could continue to hear him crusade against increase of fees, taxes and permit requirements, but he was out front on the drainage fee, it was needed and must be done. Council Members Stardig, Sullivan, Rodriguez, Lovell and Noriega absent.

Mr. Joey Rodriguez, 1617 Fountainview #141, Houston, Texas 77057 (832-582-8596) had reserved time to speak but was not present when his name was called. Council Members Stardig, Sullivan, Rodriguez, Lovell and Noriega absent.

Mr. Robert Jefferson, 13233 Cullen Blvd., Houston, Texas 77047 (713-447-3147) appeared, presented information and stated that they were on a crusade today to save schools in the city; that they had 12 unacceptable schools and 47 academically acceptable schools, but were not accepted by them, there were still problems and mentors were needed to come in and help; that they started the Love Our Kids Mentor Program just before Chief Bradford came and it placed ministers in schools to just talk to kids one to two hours a week and the change would surprise them; that once they had someone with a positive attitude to talk to them and help changes in their lives, but they were getting old and could not run halls like before and they wanted to recruit others who could spend one to two hours with children each week; that they had many success stories; and urged all sign up. Council Members Stardig, Sullivan, Rodriguez, Costello and Noriega absent.

Mayor Parker stated that Cameron Waldner was director of the city's volunteer initiatives program and he would like to sit with them and get information so if volunteers came he could funnel them through to their efforts. Council Members Stardig, Sullivan, Rodriguez, Gonzalez, Costello and Noriega absent.

Council Member Johnson thanked all pastors for coming and for being proactive; that Enough Is Enough was a program he tried to get mentors for; that churches were prevalent in the City of Houston and it was important to start to work collectively with the churches; that he worked as an after school director many years and recognized he may have done more damage than good as he became an enabler; that he gave them what they wanted and needed and at the end of the day it did not make them better, it just made them expect something from somebody and they needed to get away from that; and upon questions, Mr. Jefferson stated that in their brochure they explained what mentors could do and an important part was HISD required all adult mentors to have a complete background check; that they designed a program to touch a child's heart and they did not want personalized stuff; that in their neighborhood they had a problem where not only the child needed mentoring but the parent needed mentoring and they had programs to address that and they would change every mentor, they had been doing this 19 years. Council Members Sullivan, Rodriguez, Costello and Noriega absent.

Council Member Bradford moved that the rules be suspended for the purpose of extending the time for questions of Mr. Robert Jefferson, seconded by Council Member Jones. All voting

aye. Nays none. Council Members Sullivan, Rodriguez, Costello and Noriega absent. MOTION 2010-0224 ADOPTED.

Council Member Bradford thanked Mr. Jefferson and others for their work they did and stated that he felt comfortable saying they would get additional mentors from the Houston Police Department; that Chief McClelland would be a fine Police Chief in his view and was more proactive and community oriented and they would work together to get officers and help open the communication between children and officers. Council Members Sullivan, Rodriguez, Costello and Noriega absent.

Council Member Johnson stated that a speaker was not present at the time they were called and was now present; and moved that the rules be suspended for the purpose of hearing from Mr. Theodore Johnson after Mr. Michael Fornay, seconded by Council Member Clutterbuck. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Sullivan, Rodriguez, Costello and Noriega absent. MOTION 2010-0225 ADOPTED.

Reverend John Richardson, 13825 Regg Drive, Houston, Texas 77045 (832-896-4911) appeared and stated that he was present to discuss the festival they would be holding on May 1, 2010, the school bands and drill teams and choirs would be present and they would like the Mayor and Council Members present so the children could see they were loved; that the mentorship program was called Love Our Kids and if all signed up to help children at the beginning of the year and carried it out through the year to the end they would love life themselves; that coming out to the festival at the end of the school year would show them and help keep them in programs and in school and the festival would be held at Tom Bass Amphitheater and when they came it would show what they had done with their lives and that they could do it also by sticking with their education. Council Members Johnson, Sullivan, Rodriguez, Costello and Noriega absent.

Mr. Carl Matthews, 1709 Orr, Houston, Texas 77009 (713-807-0805) appeared and stated that he was present to highlight things for the mentorship and recruiting; that there had been an increase in crime and increase of dropouts in schools and they were asking for the Mayor and Council Members to use their newsletters to get the word out for recruiting; that there would be a criminal background check and training in place to prepare mentors; and they had 17 schools in HISD which had committed to working with them and their program. Council Members Johnson, Sullivan, Hoang, Rodriguez, Costello and Noriega absent.

Council Member Adams thanked Mr. Matthews for coming and stated that if they had an electronic message which could be sent to her she could cut and paste and send it electronically in their email newsletters and also she had been working with NFL players, one being Daryl Price; from the 49ers and they were working on a mentorship program with her office and a high school and instead of reinventing the wheel...; that they needed to go into the middle schools as well because of the targeted ninth graders, the ninth graders were dropping out of school because of the transition from middle school to high school, they were at the highest risk; and they had mentorship of young men at their churches because it started there so when they went off to school they would know how to act; and whatever they could do to partner they would be happy to do, but would like an electronic email to send out; and, Mr. Matthews thanked Council Member Adams. Council Members Johnson, Sullivan, Hoang, Rodriguez, Costello, Lovell and Noriega absent.

Pastor James Nash, 8418 Colonial Lane, Houston, Texas 77051 (713-725-1664) appeared and stated that it was very important for children to be mentored because so many young parents also needed mentoring; that most people ran for office of a platform of higher education, better education and preventing school dropouts, but once out of the race they forgot about the youth; that in their area he saw kids walking the streets daily with no direction

because parents themselves had no direction; that they should be in schools and it was up to parents to be mentors and for all watching mentors were needed; that today he heard testimonies on liver transplants and he wondered if all today understood how really blessed they were, to hear people with such testimonies it laid heavy on his heart, they fought about simple little things when these people were fighting for their lives; that they were healthy and felt good and still complained and when leaving Council today all needed to realize how really blessed they were. Council Members Sullivan, Rodriguez, Costello, Lovell and Noriega absent.

Council Member Jones stated that she would ditto what all her colleagues said on the issue; that she had family members murdered and there was extreme need for mentorship and if she was sent something electronic she would also send it out, but kids decided which road they would take in middle school and what you did in high school determined whether you would be able to go to college; that her office had a mentorship with someone in eighth grade working in her office; that level of education did determine your likelihood of going into the criminal justice system and she would do what she could. Council Members Sullivan, Rodriguez, Costello, Lovell and Noriega absent.

Mr. Michael Fornay, 4010 Almond Lake Drive, Houston, Texas 77047 (832-483-7012) had reserved time to speak but was not present when his name was called. Council Members Sullivan, Rodriguez, Costello, Lovell and Noriega absent.

Mr. Theodore Johnson, 3318 Carnell, Houston, Texas 77022 (713-868-5801) who was previously not present when his name was called appeared and stated that he wanted to say he could recognize 1955 landscape was different from 2010; that the \$100 million was still on his mind to invest in kids he talked about almost six months; that preachers come and talk about the same thing and Council was ready to respond, but when he said something about the kids they stayed silent and Jesus said they were hypocrites; and he was asking again if they were ready to put up the \$100 million for the kids. Council Members Stardig, Adams, Sullivan, Rodriguez and Costello absent.

Council Member Jones stated that she wanted to explain a couple of differences she saw; that they were in a tight fiscal climate here and the ministers did not ask for money, but instead for Council's time and zero dollars versus \$100 million was a huge difference. Council Members Stardig, Johnson, Adams, Sullivan, Rodriguez, Costello and Lovell absent. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. Gary Curtis, 809 Bluebonnet Circle, Houston, Texas 77019 (832-289-9108) appeared and stated that he had been with the city going on 26 years and he had health problems and he was present as he had to run from a supervisor to keep him from doing harm to him at Bush Airport Airfield and Grounds; that someone was going to get hurt there; that two women were fighting; that he was told no matter what the supervisor was doing to him he should have went in with him; that other supervisors could not believe they heard what he said, that no matter what when a supervisor said go with him even if they were hollering and shouting you were to do what they said and he had a problem with that; that he had never been treated like that before, but the superintendent would do nothing about what you told him, he could have stopped the women from fighting and hurting each other but instead they laughed; that something needed to be done at that airport; that the supervisor's name was Chad Carter and Terrance Young and they knew about this and did nothing; that something was going to happen, it was an unsafe workplace; and he was asking Council to do something. Council Members Johnson, Sullivan, Gonzalez, Rodriguez and Costello absent.

Mr. George Cerda, 2614 Shadow Briar, Houston, Texas 77073 (832-419-2870) appeared and stated that he was club president for the Aldine Soccer Club since 2000 and they worked with the city programs for boys and girls soccer; that today he was trying to get space in Keith

Weiss Park as he believed construction was completed; that he told Parks the club would paint the goal posts, etc., but they said it was still under construction; that in 2008 Harris County talked to them and said if the city could go half the county would go half on the money for the parking space, but they did not get a response; that they filed a 501c3 and could get grants through the United States Soccer Foundation and South Texas Soccer Association so they could try and get this done and it would help the city and the kids; that he had volunteered four years and his pay was to see youth graduate from college; and urged the city help with their soccer space. Council Members Johnson, Adams, Gonzalez, Rodriguez, Costello, Lovell, Noriega and Jones absent. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mayor Parker stated that they were very aware of the need for soccer fields in the City of Houston and that was why the Keith Weiss complex was on the CIP for 2010; that they were also looking for more opportunity to place soccer fields in other places and very interested in private sector fund raising and if he was aware of anyone interested in putting money into the field she was sure Mr. Turner would be happy to set up a meeting to discuss private sector funding; and Mr. Dan Pederson, who she believed had spoken with him, was present and would be happy to speak with him. Council Members Johnson, Adams, Gonzalez, Rodriguez, Costello, Lovell and Noriega absent.

Mr. Jacob David, 8611 Running Bird Lane, Missouri City, Texas 77489 (281-546-8433) appeared and stated that he was from the Ft. Bend District and his house was in Missouri City, but he paid taxes to Ft. Bend and Harris County and he was looking to start a new business; that New York Time Square had LED signs and he wanted a truck with LED signs on both sides and the senior sign inspector, Roy McCloud, said it was not possible in the City of Houston, but it was being done in the City of Austin and he would like to do the same here, he did not think safety was a factor as it could change just once in five minutes and it would not affect traffic, it was like any truck with a painted sign and he was appealing to the Council to relax the sign ordinance. Council Members Johnson, Adams, Gonzalez, Rodriguez, Costello, Lovell and Noriega absent.

Mayor Parker stated that she was not particularly interested in relaxing the sign ordinance, but she would encourage him to sit with Sign Administration and see what was legal; and Mr. David stated that he had talked with them and was told it was not legal, but other cities had it; and Mayor Parker stated that he should do his homework and she was certain some Council Members were willing to entertain his suggestion. Council Members Johnson, Gonzalez, Rodriguez, Lovell and Noriega absent.

Council Member Sullivan moved to suspend the rules for the purpose of adding Mr. Don Sumners to the list of speakers, seconded by Council Member Jones. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Johnson, Gonzalez, Rodriguez, Lovell and Noriega absent. MOTION 2010-0226 ADOPTED.

Mr. James Partsch-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, Gonzalez, Rodriguez, Lovell and Noriega absent.

Ms. Angelita Diaz, 2709 Terry, Houston, Texas 77009 (832-267-6615) had reserved time to speak but was not present when her name was called. Council Members Johnson, Gonzalez, Rodriguez, Lovell and Noriega absent.

Mr. Don Sumners, who was added to the Speakers List, appeared and stated that he wanted to ask if the water rate increases would meet the requirements of Proposition I or Proposition II of the City Charter; that he would like the calculations made public so they could put the question to bed and move on to other questions regarding how much it would be and

who it would apply to; that he also appreciated Council Member Bradford's comment in the Houston Chronicle that they needed to look at whether or not expenses could be adjusted and not just increase revenue. Council Members Johnson, Gonzalez, Rodriguez, Lovell and Noriega absent.

Council Member Jones stated that she believed yesterday the question Council Member Bradford asked was just that, she did not recall if they received an answer or not; and Mr. Summers stated that he believed Council owed it to the public to release the calculations; and Council Member Jones stated that she hoped they were not violating anything either. Council Members Johnson, Gonzalez, Rodriguez, Lovell and Noriega absent.

Council Member Costello stated that they did discuss Propositions I and II, but the issue of expenses as it related to Public Works as they administered the water and sewer program, they had gone through an extensive study which was the McKinze Study and it illustrated they saved between \$7,000,000 and \$10,000,000 annually and their full time employees over time had decreased so he did believe they were doing what they could; that what happened was they had over \$100,000,000 in added expenses and debt services increased and that was why they were looking at changes. Council Members Johnson, Gonzalez, Rodriguez and Lovell absent.

Ms. Deborah Elaine Allen, P. O. Box 26352, Houston, Texas 77207-3552) had reserved time to speak but was not present when his name was called. Council Members Johnson, Gonzalez, Rodriguez and Lovell absent.

President Joseph Charles, P. O. Box 524373, Houston, Texas 77052-4373 appeared and stated that he needed more time so Council could receive knowledge of his national crime victim case; and continued expressing his personal opinions until his time expired. Council Members Johnson, Pennington, Rodriguez and Lovell absent.

Mr. Ralph Cooper, 17419 Jackson Pines Drive, Houston, Texas 77090 (617-504-2714) appeared and stated that he was present to speak for Cloud Break Houston LLC; they had a facility which housed veterans and their families and it was an affordable situation; that they had 286 units and last year they paid \$95,468 in water and sewer and if his calculations were correct they would have an increase of about 33% and that was about \$400. per unit and if the increase went in it would be an additional \$132 per unit. Council Members Johnson, Pennington and Rodriguez absent.

Council Member Jones stated that the development Mr. Cooper spoke of housed veterans and they received HUD funding through the City of Houston and this was yet another story on how it affected HUD assisted properties in the city; and Mr. Cooper stated that they did not charge for utilities, they were charged one set rate and this would affect their ability. Council Members Johnson, Pennington and Rodriguez absent.

Ms. Mary Taylor, 1403 Fashion Hill Drive, Houston, Texas 77088 (281-445-0682) appeared and stated that she was present again for her projects; the YMCA building, the Hike and Bike Project was lost, flooding in Willow Run and why; and urged utilities not be raised; and to Council Member Adams she wanted to partnership with NLL, it would probably help with their projects; and Council Member Adams stated that it would not be related to the YMCA, it was a totally different program, a mentoring program gentlemen in her office were heading up to help with the dropout rate in District D; that if she wanted to move over she could help them; and Ms. Taylor stated that she would do that. Council Members Johnson and Rodriguez absent.

Council Member Adams on a point of personal privilege stated that this morning the minister who led prayer spoke of their illustrious president Dr. Irene Height, the 10th national president for Delta Sigma Theta and she (Council Member Adams) shared in the national

associate commissioners for Delta Sigma Theta; that Dr. Height had served very well and during the "I Have A Dream Speech" she was the only female allowed on stage when Dr. Martin Luther King presented his speech so today was a day of mourning, but a day of joy as God had let her live 98 years. Council Members Johnson, Hoang and Rodriguez absent.

At 4:09 p.m. Mayor Parker stated that City Council was recessed until 9:00 a.m., Wednesday, April 21, 2010. Council Member Noriega absent on personal business. Council Members Johnson, Hoang and Rodriguez absent.

The Houston City Council reconvened at 9:00 a.m., Wednesday, April 21, 2010, with Mayor Annise D. Parker presiding and with Council Members Brenda Stardig, Jarvis Johnson, Anne Clutterbuck, Wanda Adams, Mike Sullivan, Al Hoang, Oliver Pennington, Edward Gonzalez, James G. Rodriguez, Stephen C. Costello, Sue Lovell, Melissa Noriega, C. O. "Brad" Bradford and Jolanda "Jo" Jones; Mr. Arturo Michel, City Attorney, Ms. Marty Stein, Agenda Director and Ms. Marta Crinejo., Assistant Agenda Director, present.

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

At 9:08 Mayor Parker called the meeting to order and stated that she wanted to thank the City Controller and the employees of the Controllers office for the active support of Financial Literacy Month and the City's participation with Money Week Houston, that she believed that they were joined today by some students from Worthing High School and asked that they stand and be recognized, that they were here because of Money Week Houston and the opportunity to take advantage of learning about how to master their finances before all of those credit card offers start coming at them, that they appreciated their working with the Controller's office and coming down for a tour of City Hall and a visit.

Council Member Clutterbuck moved to suspend the rules to consider Item Numbers 2 and 3 out of order, seconded by Council Member Lovell. All voting aye. Nays none. MOTION 2010-0227 ADOPTED.

2. REQUEST from Mayor for confirmation of the appointment of **MR. DAVID M. FELDMAN** as City Attorney – was presented, moved by Council Member Clutterbuck, seconded by Council Member Lovell. All voting aye. Nays none. MOTION 2010-0228 ADOPTED.
3. REQUEST from Mayor for confirmation of the appointment of **MR. JAMES D. NOTEWARE** as Director of the Housing & Community Development Department – was presented, moved by Council Member Clutterbuck, seconded by Council Member Lovell. All voting aye. Nays none. MOTION 2010-0229 ADOPTED.

Mayor Parker stated that they had just confirmed two new department directors and welcomed Mr. David Feldman on board as the new City Attorney and asked if he had anything he would like to say.

Mr. Feldman stated that he wanted to thank the Mayor and Members of Council for honoring him with this appointment, that he was privileged and humbled to take the office of City Attorney, that it was also his privilege to succeed in this office a good friend and outstanding lawyer, Mr. Arturo Michel, who had done such great service for the City, that it was also his privilege to introduce and thank his wife Danni, who was also his lawyer, his soul mate and best friend, his oldest son Chris, who was also a lawyer, his daughter Lara, who although not a lawyer argues as good as any lawyer, his daughter-in-law Leila and his grandson Max, his brother Azure could not be with them today but hoped they both grow up to have the good sense not to become lawyers, and his extended family, some of whom were lawyers and many who had traveled a great distance to be with them today; that when the Mayor first announced his appointment two weeks ago she stated that she was bringing in to the Legal Department to

open it up and shake it up, that he knew they could not find that expression in any law book, but he understood what she meant and he would follow her charge, that they had eight great opportunities before them and as she stated they had some excellent attorneys in the Legal Department, that now he viewed it as his responsibility to inspire all of the lawyers in the department to be the very best that they could be, that after 33 years in private practice he remained as passionate about the representation of his clients as he ever had and he promised them that he would bring that passion into City government, that adversaries of the City were on notice that the office of the City Attorney of Houston would be a legal force to be reckoned with, both in the protection and the advancement of this City's interests, and to the Mayor, Council and the rest of City government he pledged to them a Legal Department that would be responsive to their needs, that would always strive to get them where they wanted to be within the bounds of the law as expeditiously as possible and whose sole interest would always be, like theirs, the best interest of the people of Houston.

Mayor Parker and the Members of City Council congratulated Mr. Feldman on his appointment as City Attorney and thanked him for his willingness to serve the City of Houston, and they thanked Mr. Arturo Michel for his service to the City.

Mayor Parker stated that they had another key City position that they had chosen the director for this morning, that while the City Attorney would be working very closely with Council and helping guide City staff, as the Director of Housing, Mr. Jim Noteware would have an impact on neighborhoods all over the City of Houston and the quality of life for thousands of Houstonians, and Mayor Parker asked Mr. Noteware to come forward and stated that they would like to give him a moment to introduce himself again to the City of Houston and to thank him for agreeing to serve and welcome him onboard as the Director of the Housing and Community Development Department.

Mr. Noteware stated that he would like to both respect his point about a minute and also to echo his friend Mr. Feldman's comments about expressing the honor that it was to be here with them today with Members of City Council and to serve his new adopted City, that it was with great pleasure that he undertake their responsibilities in the Housing and Community Development Department, number one, to do everything that they could as quickly as they could to bring their projects and their processes into compliance with all of the standards and regulations and financial accountability that were required, that number two, to follow the Mayor's lead and philosophy of articulating the importance of community development in everything that they do, not just housing or structures, but really enhancing the social environment of their great City and in doing that he looked forward to working with other members of the other agencies of the City, the County and the State, that he was privileged yesterday to receive a welcoming call from Michael Gerber, his counterpart at the State and he takes that with great passion, and number three, what he wanted to do was to reciprocate the very warm welcome that each and every Member of Council had offered him personally and their efforts and he wanted to come back to every Member individually and collectively in City Council and pledge open communication, transparency in everything that they do and join in a partnership with effecting some much needed improvements in neighborhoods throughout the City; that he wished that his family was with him here today, that his wife of 34 years was overseas, she was visiting their son in Beirut, Lebanon, who worked there as an investment banker recycling petro dollars and also, her grandfather immigrated in 1900, and she was meeting other members of her extended family, so she had a big task, that their three daughters were all pursuing their highest priority which was finishing this semester in various schools across the Country, so he wished they were here but that just gave them another opportunity to meet again, that he wanted to thank them and they would hit the ground running tomorrow morning first thing.

Mayor Parker stated that they were glad to have him onboard and he had some very

critical responsibilities facing him in a department that Council cared very much about and as she said in the introduction would have a tremendous impact on the look and feel of the City for a long time to come, and Members of the City Council congratulated Mr. Noteware on his confirmation as Director of the Housing and Community Development Department and thanked him for agreeing to serve the City of Houston.

At 9:41 a.m. Mayor Parker stated that they would move to the public hearing. Council Members Sullivan and Rodriguez absent.

### **HEARING - 9:00 A.M.**

1. Pursuant to Section 370.002 of the Texas Local Government Code, City Council will conduct a public hearing regarding the Juvenile Curfew Ordinance (Ch. 28, Art. V, City of Houston Code of Ordinances) to determine whether the Curfew Ordinance should be continued. Copies of the Curfew Ordinance and data provided by the Houston Police Department are available for inspection in the Office of the City Secretary. To reserve time to appear and testify call the Office of the City Secretary (832) 393-1100 prior to the commencement of the public hearing. Alternatively, written comments may be submitted to the Office of the City Secretary – was called. Council Members Sullivan and Rodriguez absent.

The City Secretary stated that no one had signed up for the public hearing and that Captain Smith would make comments on the hearing. Council Members Rodriguez and Jones absent.

Captain Smith reviewed a PowerPoint slide presentation of the Juvenile Curfew Ordinance, a copy of which is on file in the City Secretary's office for review. Council Members Rodriguez and Jones absent.

Council Member Gonzalez moved to close the public hearing, seconded by Council Member Clutterbuck All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Rodriguez and Jones absent. MOTION 2010-0230 ADOPTED.

- 1a. ORDINANCE continuing the City's Juvenile Curfew Ordinance; containing findings and other provisions relating to the foregoing subject; providing for severability – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2010-0286 ADOPTED.

### **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Parker stated that she was going to be announcing another appointment today at the conclusion of Council, that at the press availability she would invite Council Members to join her in meeting her selection for Presiding Judge of the Municipal Courts and her resume had been distributed at the table for their information.

### **CONSENT AGENDA NUMBERS 2 through 34**

### **MISCELLANEOUS - NUMBER 4**

4. CONFIRMATION of the appointment of **DR. TAFFI S. TIPPIT** to Position One of the **ANIMAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**, for the remainder of a two year term that will end December 31, 2011 – was presented, moved by Council Member Lovell, seconded by Council Member Clutterbuck. All voting aye. Nays none. MOTION 2010-0231 ADOPTED.

### **PROPERTY - NUMBER 5**



5. 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 proceeding styled City of Houston v. Hong C. Hoang and Luyen T. Nguyen, et al., Cause No. 946,541; for acquisition of Parcel AY8-115; for the **HOMESTEAD ROAD GRADE SEPARATION PROJECT (Ley Road - Firnat Street) - DISTRICT B - JOHNSON** – was presented, moved by Council Member Lovell, seconded by Council Member Clutterbuck. All voting aye. Nays none. MOTION 2010-0232 ADOPTED.

#### **PURCHASING AND TABULATION OF BIDS** – NUMBER 8

8. **APPLIED INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGIES TX LP** for Magnetic Flowmeters from the State of Texas Procurement and Support Services Contract through the State of Texas Cooperative Purchasing Program for the Department of Public Works & Engineering - \$94,995.54 - Enterprise Fund – was presented, moved by Council Member Lovell, seconded by Council Member Noriega. All voting aye. Nays none. MOTION 2010-0233 ADOPTED.

#### **RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES** - NUMBERS 12 through 34

12. RESOLUTION designating certain properties within the City of Houston as historic landmarks:  
Shaw House 2912 Helena Street **DISTRICT D - ADAMS**  
William Fairchild House 2911 Ella Lee Lane **DISTRICT G - PENNINGTON**  
- was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. RESOLUTION 2010-0030 ADOPTED.
16. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing third amendment to Lease Agreement between the City of Houston, as landlord, and the **BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SYSTEM, as tenant**, concerning space at 2250 Holcombe Boulevard - **DISTRICT D - ADAMS** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2010-0287 ADOPTED.
17. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing second amendment to Lease, Development and Grant Agreement for the Hobby Center for the Performing Arts between the City of Houston, Texas, and **THE HOUSTON MUSIC HALL FOUNDATION - DISTRICT I - RODRIGUEZ** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2010-0288 ADOPTED.
- 17a. ORDINANCE appropriating \$2,950,475.00 out of Reimbursement of Equipment/Projects Fund and approving and authorizing Energy Savings Performance Contract between the City of Houston and **SCHNEIDER ELECTRIC BUILDINGS AMERICAS, INC f/k/a T.A.C. AMERICAS, INC** for Implementation of Energy Conservation Measures at the Hobby Center for the Performing Arts \$1,500,000.00 - ARRA Fund - **DISTRICT I - RODRIGUEZ** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2010-0289 ADOPTED.
19. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing agreement between the City of Houston and **GUIDING LIGHT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION** to provide a Loan of Federal Neighborhood Stabilization Program Funds in the amount not to exceed \$595,000.00 for eligible costs in connection with the acquisition, rehabilitation and resale to income-qualified households of up to seven foreclosed homes with proceeds from sales to be returned to the City of Houston NSP Program - **DISTRICT D – ADAMS** - had been pulled from the Agenda by the Administration, and was not considered.

21. ORDINANCE amending Ordinance No. 2009-0098 (Passed by City Council February 4, 2009) to increase the maximum contract amount for contract between the City of Houston and **DENTON, NAVARRO, ROCHA & BERNAL, P.C.** for Legal Services relating to Cause No. 4:08-CV-2404; Dwight Bazile et al. v. City of Houston; in the United States District Court, Southern District of Texas - \$350,000.00 - Property and Casualty Fund – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2010-0290 ADOPTED.
22. ORDINANCE amending Ordinance No. 2009-0624 (Passed on June 30, 2009) to increase the maximum contract for contract between the City of Houston and **HAYNES AND BOONE, L.L.P.** for Legal Services relating to Civil Action No. H-08-1366; Susan Carnaby, et al. v. City of Houston, et al.; in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas, Houston Division \$75,000.00 Property and Casualty Fund – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2010-0291 ADOPTED.
23. ORDINANCE awarding contract to **SHRINK STOPPERS, LLC dba ASAP SECURITY SERVICES** for Security System Maintenance Services for General Services Department; providing a maximum contract amount - 3 Years with two one-year options - \$1,469,865.00 General Fund – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2010-0292 ADOPTED.
24. ORDINANCE consenting to the addition of 27.195 acres of land to **HARRIS COUNTY WATER CONTROL AND IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 110**, for inclusion in its district – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2010-0293 ADOPTED.
25. MUNICIPAL Setting Designation ordinance prohibiting the use of designated groundwater beneath a tract of land containing 6.75635 acres commonly known as 16514 De Zavalla Road, Channelview, Texas; and supporting issuance of a Municipal Setting Designation by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2010-0294 ADOPTED.
26. MUNICIPAL Setting Designation ordinance prohibiting the use of designated groundwater beneath a tract of land containing 8.8511 acres commonly known as 1111 Lockwood Drive, Houston, Texas; and supporting issuance of a Municipal Setting Designation by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality - **DISTRICT H - GONZALEZ** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2010-0295 ADOPTED.
27. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing Advance Funding Agreement between the City of Houston and **TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION** for Traffic Signal Communications to Interconnect Signals throughout City of Houston to Houston Transtar - **DISTRICTS A - STARDIG; G - PENNINGTON and H - GONZALEZ** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2010-0296 ADOPTED.
28. ORDINANCE appropriating \$30,000.00 out of Street & Bridge Consolidated Construction Fund; approving and authorizing Advance Funding Agreement between the City of Houston and **TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION under the American Recovery And Reinvestment Act** for Jensen Road from IH 610 to Union Pacific Railroad and Gessner from Bellaire to US 59 **DISTRICTS F - HOANG and H - GONZALEZ** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2010-0297 ADOPTED.
29. ORDINANCE appropriating \$200,000.00 out of Drainage Improvement Commercial Paper Series F Fund; approving and authorizing Professional Environmental Consulting Services Contract between the City of Houston and **ALAN PLUMMER ASSOCIATES, INC** for Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System Permit Support – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2010-0298 ADOPTED.

30. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing Professional Engineering Services Contract between the City of Houston and **HDR ENGINEERING, INC** for Parking Lot Renovation/4400 San Jacinto Street - \$81,260.00 - Parking Management Operating Fund - **DISTRICT D - ADAMS** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2010-0299 ADOPTED.
- 31-1. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing contract between the City of Houston and **THE HAY GROUP, INC** for Electronic Job Evaluation and Job Description System for the Human Resources Department; providing a maximum contract amount - 3 Years with two one-year options \$177,240.00 - General Fund – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2010-0300 ADOPTED.
32. ORDINANCE awarding construction contract to **ARC ABATEMENT, INC** for Asbestos Abatement at 1200 Travis Parking Garage; 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 project management, construction oversight and air monitoring and contingencies relating to construction of facilities financed by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 - \$473,120.00 - ARRA Fund **DISTRICT I - RODRIGUEZ** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2010-0301 ADOPTED.
33. ORDINANCE appropriating \$184,463.00 out of Fire Consolidated Construction Fund; awarding construction contract to **AIA GENERAL CONTRACTORS, INC** for Underground Storage Tank System Improvements at Fire Department Administration and Fleet Maintenance Building; 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 project management and construction oversight, and contingencies relating to construction of facilities financed by the Fire Consolidated Construction Fund - **DISTRICT H - GONZALEZ** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2010-0302 ADOPTED.
34. ORDINANCE appropriating \$355,489.10 out of General Improvement Consolidated Construction Fund and \$55,176.38 out of Public Health Consolidated Construction Fund to Reimburse the General Fund for Equipment Replacement and Renovations at various city facilities during Fiscal Year 2010 – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2010-0303 ADOPTED.

**MATTERS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA WERE CONSIDERED AS FOLLOWS:**

**PROPERTY**

6. RECOMMENDATION from Director General Services Department to appoint Michael Welch and Bill Jackson independent appraisers and Samuel Jarrett alternate appraiser to determine the fair market value of Parcel SY9-080, known as the Heights Recycling Center, located at 3602 Center Street - **DISTRICT H - GONZALEZ** – was presented, and tagged by Council Member Gonzalez.

**PURCHASING AND TABULATION OF BIDS**

7. **LIBERTY AIRPORT SYSTEMS, INC** for Airfield Lighting for Houston Airport System \$300,000.00 - Enterprise Fund – was presented, moved by Council Member Lovell,

seconded by Council Member Rodriguez. All voting aye. Nays none. MOTION 2010-0234 ADOPTED.

9. ORDINANCE appropriating \$64,759.12 out of Fleet/Equipment Special Revenue Fund for Purchase of Utility Vehicles for the Houston Fire Department – was presented.

Council Member Sullivan stated that there had been a request from constituents and firefighters in his Council district for a utility vehicle for over two years now that he had continued to ask for quietly and now he was going to start making a little bit more public noise about it because firefighters told him that they had 75 miles of greenbelts in Kingwood, they had lost the lives of a couple of citizens back on the greenbelts because the victims of whatever problems they had could not be transported out, that the last example was a gurney being hand walked through some trails with firefighters carrying the gurney, the patient on it and a firefighter on top of the patient doing CPR and that citizen did not survive, that the cost was about \$12,000 for an ATV that would have a bed on it, that he had asked Mayor White for it, he had asked the Fire Department for it, he had asked for approval to go to the TIRZ board and all of those had been denied, that he would be working diligently going forward to try to get \$12,000 for that much needed and requested item, that the push back from the Fire Department and from the previous administration had been that they did not want to favor one area of Houston over another with equipment and that there was a particular utility vehicle downtown that could be used, but if a guy was having a heart attack on a greenbelt, thirty five miles from the center of Houston, then he did not think they could rely on a downtown utility vehicle, that he was going to tag this item this week, maybe they could not get it worked in 9 and 9a but he sure hoped they could do it soon.

Mayor Parker stated that she would certainly work with him on this, that they tried to be fair to all districts but they also recognized that some districts had unique circumstances on the ground, that she would be happy to work with him and see what they could do about it, that it was a quite reasonable request.

- 9a. **PHILPOTT MOTORS LTD. d/b/a PHILPOTT FORD** - \$56,996.00 and **BABY JACK II AUTOMOTIVE LTD. d/b/a CALDWELL COUNTRY CHEVROLET** - \$64,759.12 for Utility Vehicles through the Interlocal Agreement for Cooperative Purchasing with Houston-Galveston Area Council for Houston Police and Fire Departments - Supplemental Environmental Projects and Fleet/Equipment Special Revenue Funds – was presented, and tagged by Council Member Sullivan.
10. **ENERGY ADVISORY GROUP, INC** to increase the maximum amount of Purchase Order 4500112536 from \$50,000.00 to \$100,000.00 for Consulting Services for the Department of Public Works & Engineering - Enterprise Fund – was presented, moved by Council Member Sullivan, seconded by Council Member Lovell.

Council Member Clutterbuck stated that this item was to increase a purchase order amount for consulting services for the Department of Public Works and Engineering and the public would notice that this was to be paid for out of an Enterprise Fund, an Enterprise Fund that had received a lot of discussion in the last several weeks, the Combined Utility System, that as they were having discussions about whether or not to increase the water and sewer rates she thought it was important to point out the importance of this item and the effect that this item would have on their water and sewer rates, that this item represented consulting services to help them with implementing an unfunded mandate from the State and the backup, as they would see, referenced Senate Bill No. 361, passed in the most recent State Legislature, and this particular piece of legislation, an unfunded mandate from the State to the City of Houston only applied to Harris County and the City of Houston, that it, originally as filed, would have cost the City over \$120 million, that it was requiring that they have generators and backup energy plans at all of their water plants, that as she mentioned originally it was going to cost \$120

million and now it would cost about \$3.5 million and it was filed by a local State Senator who no doubt had very well intended meaning to this, it was an important thing, there was good intent behind it but it was an unfunded mandate from the State, and certainly as the State disapproves of unfunded mandates passed down to them from the Federal Government similarly this was the kind of thing that they were grappling with in the need to increase their water and sewer rates, they had a number of unfunded mandates passed on to them, whether it was from the Legislature or from regulatory bodies at the State, that it was important for the public to know about it, it was all part of what went into insuring that they had clean and safe water to drink, as well as sewage pumped away from their houses.

Mayor Parker stated that she thought it was important to note that it was not that they did not have a plan to deal with this, it was that they did not want the requirement to have a generator at every pumping station and every lift station and every facility, that instead that they have a plan where they could strategically stage generators where they were needed, depending on the circumstances, rather than putting a generator in place that might never be used, that she wanted to thank Council Member Clutterbuck for her comments.

A vote was called on Item No. 10. All voting aye. Nays none. MOTION 2010-0235 ADOPTED.

11. ORDINANCE appropriating \$4,023,982.36 out of Equipment Acquisition Consolidated Fund and \$781,450.65 out of Reimbursement of Equipment/Projects Fund and \$511,908.00 out of Solid Waste Consolidated Construction Fund for Purchase of Cabs and Chassis and Refuse Bodies for Solid Waste Management Department - was presented, and tagged by Council Member Rodriguez.
- 11a. **HOUSTON FREIGHTLINER/STERLING** - \$1,605,258.00, **EAST TEXAS MACK SALES, LLC d/b/a B & C BODY COMPANY** - \$154,328.00, **CHASTANG BAYOU CITY FORD** - \$990,333.00, **RUSH TRUCK CENTERS OF TEXAS, L.P.** - \$1,365,264.00 and **MCNEILUS TRUCK & MANUFACTURING** - \$1,739,096.01 for Cabs & Chassis and Refuse Bodies through the Interlocal Agreements for Cooperative Purchasing with BuyBoards and Houston-Galveston Area Council for the Solid Waste Management Department - \$536,938.00 - National Clean Diesel Accelerated Fleet Replace Program Fund - was presented, moved by Council Member Sullivan, seconded by Council Member Lovell, and tagged by Council Member Rodriguez.

## **RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES**

13. ORDINANCE **AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, HOUSTON, TEXAS**, relating to the transfer of Parking Management duties from the General Services Department to the Department of Administration and Regulatory Affairs; containing findings and other provisions relating to the foregoing subject; providing and effective date; providing for severability – was presented.

After discussion Council Member Johnson stated that this was the fifth time that Parking Management has moved in the last five years from department to department and he was a little concerned about that, that he had often made the argument, when the previous administration was here, as to why did they not have all of the parking in the City of Houston under the management of the expert, that they had a Parking Management Director who was specifically brought in by the previous administration to get a handle on parking, bring their revenues up to a certain par and then certainly give parking a different face, why do they constantly move it around as opposed to simply giving it it's own department; that he was not going to tag the item but was asking the Mayor for some information, some guidance and understanding of why they constantly moved this particular division from department to department while it continues to make money year in and year out.

Mayor Parker stated that she thought that Ms. Rambo did an excellent job with the parking management function in the City of Houston, that whatever department it was housed in had no impact on her ability to do her job and she had done an excellent job with that, that the roles of parking management in the Enterprise areas, particularly in the airport, were very distinct from that at downtown surface and street parking and she believed that those functions should be kept separately, as well as operating a very efficient street parking operation was different from operating a parking garage operation, that she was quite confident of Ms. Rambo's abilities to do the job but for the taking over the C&E Enterprise downtown she did not believe it was a broken system and she did not believe they had to have a fix for it, the move had to do with the fact that in addition to all of the other department directors that were being replaced Mr. Dadoush was leaving them and he was very clear in her exit meeting with him that Parking Management had never really been a core service of the General Services Department and that there probably was a better fix for that, but Ms. Rambo's ability to do her job really did not depend on what department it was housed in.

Council Member Sullivan asked if this went to the discussion of whether or not parking should be in charge of the facilities at the airport he hoped that would come before TIA and given a lot of consideration, and Mayor Parker stated that it was not her intention to do so.

After further discussion Council Member Johnson stated that he did not want to make any assertion that their system was broken through C&E or at the Houston Airport System, he simply wanted to make the notion that could they do more, could they do a better job if all of those functions were in one department.

A vote was called on Item No. 13. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2010-0304 ADOPTED.

14. ORDINANCE relating to charges and terms of service for Water & Wastewater Service; **AMENDING CHAPTER 47 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, HOUSTON, TEXAS**, and containing findings and other provisions relating to the foregoing subject; authorizing development of a Water Conservation or other Development Incentive Program; providing a repealing clause; containing a savings clause; providing for severability – was presented.

Council Member Gonzalez stated that he was offering an amendment to this item, that he thought they had plenty of discussion on it recently and thought that just to jump on something that Council Member Jones mentioned he thought it was important that they take this system and make it a more equitable system where everyone would go to 100% of cost of service, that he thought it was really critical for the long term sustainability of their water system and thought it was one of the core issues that the City should be providing, not only now but also for their children and grandchildren, they had an outdated debt model that has placed a tremendous burden on the system and also on the operations and maintenance and they needed to make sure they were being more proactive to adequately address the needs of the system, that it was not cheap to produce quality water and perhaps it was something that they took for granted, that it did cost money, not only an additional cost in terms of chemicals and electricity but also, as they had heard, unfunded mandates as well that were out of their control and that they needed to account for, that he thought this was very critical and in order for the system to be able to maintain itself and for them not to consistently have to be adding additional debt service he thought it was imperative that they move it to 100% of cost, that his amendment would achieve this incrementally over the next couple of years, he thought it was a reasonable approach and he would ask for the administrations consideration as well as his colleagues on this body.

Council Member Gonzalez presented the following written motion to amend Item No. 14:

"I present a motion to amend item #14 on the April 21, 2010 Council agenda to establish single family residential rates that will generate revenue equivalent to customer class cost of service over a four-year period.

This amendment will set single family residential rates as originally proposed, effective June 1, 2010, and will set single family residential rates for the subsequent three years to achieve cost of service. Rates will be increased by the following increments, in addition to any Producer Price Index adjustment:"

Fiscal Year	Effective Date	Projected Increased Revenue	Average Percentage Increase
FY11 to FY12	April 1, 2011	\$14,800,000	6.0%
FY12 to FY13	April 1, 2012	\$14,800,000	5.6%
FY13 to FY14	April 1, 2013	\$14,800,000	5.3%

Mayor Parker stated that it did not require a second because it was in writing.

After discussion by Council Members. Council Member Sullivan stated that he wanted to know the administrations position on the amendment, and Mayor Parker stated that she totally supported the amendment, and Council Member Sullivan stated that when he votes no not to be offended, that he was not voting no because she said she totally supports it, and Mayor Parker stated that she understood that.

After further discussion and questions by Council Members, Mayor Parker stated that the outcome of this amendment would be that all of the rate payer categories would go to 100% cost of service, that the one for single family would be over time, a period of three years, that for all other commercial entities and multi family entities it would take place immediately, that was what was in the original ordinance; that the original ordinance was from the administration and she would say that in this instance the committee process worked well, Council Members had individual briefings, they had two committee briefings and she believed that her original proposal had been improved upon by Council, that at the request of certain Council Members the increase for multi family was reduced and now the increase for single family would phase into 100% cost of service so that they could clearly state to all of their constituents that everyone would be paying their full freight and that included those entities outside the City of Houston to whom they sell water, that no one was subsidizing anybody else, but there was a phase in period and the response was that they lowered the increase for multi family but this allowed their single family home owners a little bit more time to catch up; that as she had indicated there was an amendment on the table to phase in, they could offer a competing amendment if they chose, that as she had said the administration supports this amendment and she thought they had improved upon her original proposal, that through all of the discussion at Council there had been a number of changes to the original and she thought it would be beneficial.

After further discussion a vote was called on Council Member Gonzalez motion to amend Item No. 14. Council Members Bradford, Sullivan, Pennington and Hoang voting no, balance voting aye. MOTION 2010-0236 ADOPTED.

After discussion by Council Members relative to the affect of Propositions I and II, Mr. Michel stated that as this stage of the year they just had last year's data, and someone correct him if he was wrong, but he thought the CPI was very small, like point 3, and he believed the population was about 1.2, that the Consumer Price Index was the gauge for inflation that was used, this Charter provision referenced another Charter provision that puts the inflation as a CPI, that the number for the designated index of the inflation last year was about 1.5, roughly,

that he thought the population was about 1.2, and about point 3 for the CPI, that if they were going to increase the water fee it would, and at some point, it may exceed 1.3 or 1.5 at some point and the degree to which they could have more was going to depend on the other part of the Charter that talked about basically complying with the contract because they issue bonds for that, but that process was one in which it would not be the City alone making that decision because there was a bond approval process that the State had that would come into play, that from a legal perspective, he thought, when they looked at the Charter language it was those two figures but there was also the exclusion to comply with the contract and both the U.S. and Texas Constitutions had provisions concerning impairment of contracts, protecting a contract, and the other point that he would like to reiterate was that it would not be the City making that decision alone because there was a very specific approval process for bonds, that he believed that the Charter was very clear that there were two parts relating to this and they had to look at both parts and they could not look at one in isolation, and the entire revenue cap had been very litigious to date and they still had their original lawsuits going on so he was not sure that they could avoid lawsuits in this arena; that the other thing that he would like to say was that everyone preferred to have certainty and no specific numbers but when they had a system where they were looking in the future and they were looking at variables like population growth and then the price of inflation he was not sure that they could have the certainty that they were requesting.

After further discussion by Council Members, Council Member Jones stated that she had requested the original Charter language as it referred to the bonds and covenants and had yet to receive that, that she read the opinion issued April 15, 2010 from the first District Court of Appeals to try to figure out what was going on, that she would like the opportunity to receive information, that she had heard that the \$14 million that they had set aside (for rebate for water conservation in apartment complexes) may be insufficient, that she would tag this for a variety of reasons, because she just wanted to receive information.

Mayor Parker stated that she would respectfully request that she not tag the item and while there was no damage to the motion if she did tag the item she would ask that what improvements could be made to the ordinance coming before them that would be helped by a weeks delay, all of the conversations were in place and the plan for how they allocate those monies were going to be coming back to Council Member Jones committee and thought that a delay would be "kicking the can down the road", that she could tag it, but she was requesting that she does not.

After further discussion by Council Members, Council Member Jones stated that as they knew her fight was for HUD related issues, specifically low and moderate income housing but it had been brought to her attention that after her visit with the Director of Houston HUD and the respective department director that they may revisit those issues to the extent this ordinance that they were passing today did not adequately address those low and moderate income issues.

Mayor Parker stated that federally restricted rent properties under various HUD categories was all going to come back to Council to nail those details down, that she did not know what the cost of that would be but they were going to be respectful of their needs and if they did not need \$14 million they would not spend \$14 million, that if they needed more than \$14 million Council would have the opportunity to debate that.

After further discussion by Council Members, Council Member Jones stated that it had been brought to her attention that the administration intended to file a preemptive lawsuit to get an AG opinion on whether what they were proposing complied with Prop I and asked Mayor Parker if that was accurate.



Mr. Michel stated that the lawsuit she was talking about was a Rate Validation Lawsuit and was one of the processes that could be used to approve bonds, that sometimes they go to the AG and sometimes they go to court, that it was often a function of how quickly they wanted to get the process finished with but that was what the lawsuit would be, a Rate Validation Lawsuit, that he was not sure when they would be filing that, that he would check with their outside counsel, they had been debating the time of that and how to do it and in part it would be helpful if they had their rate increase passed by Council because that would give some certainty, that in other words they wanted to be able to say with certainty what they were doing when they went before the State to get approval.

Mayor Parker stated that Mr. Michel was giving them a legal answer, that she would try a layman's answer, they had their own legal opinion and were quite confident of their ability to move forward by doing their own preemptive request to the judge to bless it, they could move forward with any bond transactions without worrying about any uncertainty as to whether someone may or may not sue them (the City), people always had the opportunity to sue them, and that they could simply take care of the legal issues quickly and move on to their necessary bond transactions to move the CIP forward.

After further discussion Council Member Jones stated that she would not tag the item and allow them to vote on it one way or the other with the understandings that they had.

A roll call vote was called on Item No. 14.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Mayor Parker voting aye	Council Member Gonzalez voting yes
Council Member Stardig voting aye	Council Member Rodriguez voting aye
Council Member Johnson voting aye	Council Member Costello voting aye
Council Member Clutterbuck voting aye	Council Member Lovell voting aye
Council Member Adams voting aye	Council Member Noriega voting aye
Council Member Sullivan voting no	Council Member Bradford voting no
Council Member Hoang voting aye	Council Member Jones voting aye
Council Member Pennington voting no	ORDINANCE 2010-0305 ADOPTED.

15. ORDINANCE amending Exhibit "A" of City of Houston Ordinance No. 2009-820 to amend the Master Police Personnel Ordinance by creating and changing certain pay provisions of the Police Chief Classification; making conforming amendments to ordinances as needed; providing for severability – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2010-0306 ADOPTED.
18. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing contract between the City of Houston and **MARJO HOUSE INCORPORATED**, providing up to \$399,459.00 in Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS Funds, which amount includes a limitation on additional funding in the amount of \$199,729.50, for the operation and administration of a community residence located at 1706 Gellhorn Drive, Houston, Texas, along with the provision of supportive services - **DISTRICT B – JOHNSON** – was presented, and tagged by Council Members Johnson and Jones.
20. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing agreement between the City of Houston and **TEJANO CENTER FOR COMMUNITY CONCERNS** to provide a Loan of Federal Neighborhood Stabilization Program Funds in the amount not to exceed \$595,000.00 for eligible costs in connection with the acquisition, rehabilitation and resale to income-qualified households of up to seven foreclosed homes with proceeds from sales to be returned to the City of Houston NSP Program - **DISTRICT B - JOHNSON** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2010-0307 ADOPTED.

31. ORDINANCE appropriating \$364,600.00 out of Reimbursement of Equipment/Projects Fund and approving and authorizing Professional Architectural Services Contract between the City of Houston and **SMITH & COMPANY ARCHITECTS** for Fifth Ward Deluxe Theatre Renovation; providing funding for the Civic Art Program - \$285,000.00 - CDBG Fund - **DISTRICT B – JOHNSON** – was presented, and tagged by Council Member Clutterbuck.

**MATTERS HELD** - NUMBER 35

35. ORDINANCE awarding construction contract to **MILLIS DEVELOPMENT AND CONSTRUCTION, INC** for Fifth Ward Multi Service Center New Parking Lot; 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 materials testing and contingencies relating to construction of facilities financed by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act - \$276,400.00 - ARRA Fund **DISTRICT B - JOHNSON** – **(This was Item 25 on Agenda of April 14, 2010, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON)** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2010-0308 ADOPTED.

**MATTERS TO BE PRESENTED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Council Member Adams stated that she had a wonderful time at the International Festival this weekend on Saturday, that the IFest Committee did a wonderful job; that last night they had a meeting with the First Montrose Commons Committee, that they came before City Council and urging that they fix their sewer issues that they had been having, that she wanted to thank Mr. Melendez for his leadership at the meeting last night, that she wanted to thank David Ginsberg of First Montrose Commons for making sure that their office stayed on top of it, that knowing that they had an issue with sewers and they were dealing with budgets there were some tough decisions that must be made, that she wanted to thank the Mayor and her administration for their support because they will get their lines relocated to the front to help eliminate their sewer issues and they would begin that process at the end of this calendar year; that tomorrow night they would be having their fifth townhall meeting and she wanted to thank the District D Community for coming out to all of the various townhall information meetings and sharing their concerns, that she wanted to thank all of the departments for coming out, that the meeting would be in the South Park Community from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Miracle Land Church at 7427 M.L.K. in the 77033 area; that they would have their sixth and final townhall meeting next Thursday in the Near Town Montrose area; that for those who were not receiving their monthly newsletters to feel free to contact their office at 832-393-3001 and give them their email address to add to their email list; that she wanted to thank Council Member Sullivan for her presentation yesterday on Life Gift to make sure that they save a life for someone by giving a gift, that if they had issues or concerns they could register by computer or call their office or call Life Gift. Council Members Clutterbuck, Pennington, Rodriguez and Jones absent.

Council Member Gonzalez stated that they would be losing Tonya McConney Rivera, his Chief of Staff, who was moving on to a new challenge in her life, that she had done a terrific job, not only during his tenure here, but also with former Council Member Adrian Garcia's office as well, especially a yeoman's job during the time that there was a vacancy in the office when there was no Council Member, that she held the fort honorably and did a tremendous job and allowed for him to be able to step in and have a smooth transition and hit the ground running because a lot of the work had already been done and many things had already been handled and had not been stacked up, that she would be very difficult to replace; that he wanted to congratulate the new Walgreens at 747 E. Crosstimbers, that it was a very nice facility and a new Walgreens that they opened in the community adding new jobs in the northern part of District H, that he was

able to attend their grand opening; that the Clayton Lee Plaza dedication took place this week at the 1000 block of Heights Boulevard, that Mr. Clayton Lee left a strong legacy of service in the greater Heights area, that many people still remembered him as Mr. Heights; that this evening Council Member Lovell would be hosting an Off Street Parking Ordinance meeting scheduled for input from the community, that it would be at 5:30 p.m. at the United Way of Greater Houston, 50 Waugh Drive; that Independence Heights would be having a Strategy Day seeking community improvements on Saturday, April 24, 2010, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at Booker T. Washington, 119 E. 39th; that the Chair of the Flooding and Drainage Committee, Council Member Costello, would be taking the Flooding and Drainage Committee on the road, they were going out to the neighborhood on Tuesday, April 27, 2010, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the West End Multi Service Center at 170 Heights Boulevard; that this past Saturday he had the opportunity to volunteer to revitalize a home in need for Mr. Ernesto at 215 Golden Rod, that it was a collaborative between Rebuilding Together Houston and AMAC Paragon, who renovated the home; that this afternoon the CONAHEC 13th North American Higher Education Conference would be taking place at Rice University, approximately 220 delegates from Mexico, Canada and the U.S. would attend the conference, that it was a multi national consortium of universities that focused on bringing the three nations closer together; that the IFest Houston was truly an international community and he wanted to commend the Mayor for her work as well as they push that bar even higher, that he knew they were doing a lot of international initiatives and he thought that Houston should claim it's place as the international gateway for the rest of the world. Council Members Rodriguez, Bradford and Jones absent.

Council Member Hoang stated that he wanted to congratulate Mayor Parker and her staff for making a tough decision and also for having chosen many good leaders for their City in the last couple of weeks, that because of her vision and leadership they had good people for their City; that they had just made a tough decision so he wanted to congratulate them all and the administration; that she wanted to thank Chief Flannagan and Brenda Jo who came by his office and they discussed and resolved issues in the community; that he wanted to congratulate the 2020 for their organization for the 20th anniversary, that this weekend they would have a lot of discussion and meetings; that he wanted to thank the Vietnamese Community of Houston for inviting him, the Council Members and the Mayor to attend the 35th commemoration of the Black April, the fall of Saigon, that Council Member Adams had reply that she would be there, and Governor Rick Perry and former Mayor Bill White. Council Members Gonzalez, Rodriguez, Bradford and Jones absent.

Council Member Stardig stated that the Mayor's Office for Cultural Affairs coordinates artwork to be displayed periodically in the City Hall Annex lobby and she would like to highlight the most recent artist, Dr. Valentin Gertsman, who was a resident of the Spring Branch area, that he is a world renown photographer who immigrated from Moscow to Houston in the 1970s and inspired by the architecture in Houston began to passionately photograph downtown, that she would like to thank Dr. Gertsman for his passion about Houston and for displaying his works in the City Hall Annex, that he has a studio located at 1155 Bingle Road and she encourages everyone to see his work; that the District A team and their pets were looking forward to attending the T.C. Jester Dog Park Grand Opening celebration on Saturday, April 24, 2010, from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.; that on April 25, 2010, from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., Memorial Assistance Ministries would be hosting the First Annual Taste of Spring Branch event, that many of the unique restaurants of Spring Branch would be offering samples of food and beverages; that on Sunday, 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., was the Garden Oaks Home and Garden Tour, which would showcase six homes and four gardens; that the District A office would host a Crime Prevention Townhall meeting on Wednesday, May 19, 2010, at 7:00 p.m. at the Spring Branch VFW located at 1560 Foley. Council Members Johnson, Hoang, Gonzalez, Rodriguez, Noriega and Bradford absent.

Council Member Pennington stated that he wanted to thank Director Marcotte and Public

Works and Susan Bandy for being responsive to his request for information on the Water and Sewer Ordinance, that they were going to continue to talk and he wanted to thank him for their attention; that today was San Jacinto Day when the battle of San Jacinto was won on April 21, 1936, that he thought a lot of their get up and go, like they had all showed today, was a result of their kind of revolutionary spirit that they had inherited through the actions taken that day and through their leaders, such as General Sam Houston and William B. Travis, that they could be proud to use these examples to their children and friends, that it was a great day in Texas; that he attended the Royal Oaks Home Owners Association meeting in west Houston, that it was a gated community and they were taking care of a lot of their own problems, but he was happy to say that they were very interested in being good neighbors and they spent a lot of time talking about how they could interact with others around them; that his staff participated in the Mayor's volunteer initiative program's software training in an effort to help coordinate volunteers in District G to participate in the district and citywide volunteer opportunities, which was one of his highest priorities; that they were very pleased with the new My City GIS System and appreciated the hard work and dedication of Dr. Lee Graham and Planning and Development, that when they saw a way that the 3-1-1 System could be improved Dr. Graham immediately added a functionality to 3-1-1 that now allowed them to rapidly determine whose district a caller was in and in addition Dr. Graham graciously volunteered her time last Monday to attend the Mid West Super Neighborhood meeting; that the International Festival would continue this weekend and hopefully they would have some good weather for it. Council Members Johnson, Sullivan, Hoang, Gonzalez, Rodriguez and Bradford absent.

Council Member Jones stated that she went to the International Festival last weekend and would be there this weekend, that she would invite them to come because there were a lot of things to do; that last Friday she went to the Sportman's Channel Hunt, Feed and Fish initiative at the Star of Hope, that they served people who lived at the Star of Hope; that their first ever International Business Initiatives Committee meeting would be tomorrow, Thursday, April 22, 2010 at 2:00 p.m. at 901 Bagby in the City Hall Chamber, that it was an initiative of the Mayor that they bring more international business to the City because they were committed to making the City the business capital of the world; that she wanted to thank Council Member Sullivan, who would be taking on an issue in his committee, because he was the Chair of the Ethics Committee, on a Revolving Door Policy to make sure that government was not for sale; that he was looking forward to the water rate issue, but unfortunately she believed that this was the second or third of very hard votes that they were going to have for a number of years to come, that they were not going to be easy votes and they had to try to balance the equities, that although it was not absolutely the way she would want it she understood that a good decision was where everyone was brought to the table and no one gets all of what they wanted and no one does not get anything, and when everyone feels a bit uneasy then they probably reached the best decision, that she was hopeful that the courts would tell them one way or another and she was of the mind that anyone who believed that if they pass a rate increase that does not cover the cost to deliver the service at a minimum and to maintain the integrity of their system there was no way they could provide dirty water so she was looking forward to that, she was looking forward to a status update on the discussions with HUD which was very important; that on April 16, 2010 she went to the APRI State Convention, that there were a lot of tough issues for them to deal with as well. Council Members Stardig, Johnson, Adams, Hoang, Gonzalez, Rodriguez, Lovell and Bradford absent. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mayor Parker stated that she wanted to thank them for the compliments on the department directors, she was seeking to find the very best person available at every opportunity. Council Members Stardig, Johnson, Adams, Hoang, Gonzalez, Rodriguez, Lovell and Bradford absent. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Council Member Costello stated that as a follow up on the historic San Jacinto Day, he had the opportunity several years ago to be a design team working for Texas Parks and Wildlife

to do some improvements at the San Jacinto Monument and was able to do a lot of research on the significance of the battleground, that there was one fact that most people did not know, the monument was 575 feet tall, the Washington Monument was only 555 feet tall; that they learned some savings from each one of them and Council Member Stardig stated last week that she was going to do a shout out to her aunt and he wanted to do a shout out to a young woman, a co-worker of his, Desi Stefins, that she had been diagnosed with MS, that she was a young mother and they rode for her this past weekend. Council Members Stardig, Johnson, Adams, Hoang, Gonzalez, Rodriguez, Lovell and Bradford absent. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Council Member Sullivan stated that he wanted to thank Mayor Parker publicly, that she came down to Johnson Space Center last week and participated in a kind of behind the doors, boots on the ground meeting with people who knew what was going on at Johnson Space Center, that Kay Bailey Hutchinson was there as well as Congressmen Olson, Culbertson and Gene Green, Commissioner Sylvia Garcia, that he thought it sent a strong message of unity and that it was an issue that they were still continuing to fight on a daily basis to make sure that they protect Johnson Space Center and their friends and constituents who lived in the area; that he would like to thank Mayor Parker for coming to Kingwood this week for the Kingwood Library Grand Opening, that he wanted to thank Issa Dadoush for putting together such an extraordinary team and delivering the project on time and under cost and working with constraints of multiple agencies, the Harris County Library Department, the City's Library System and the City itself, that it was a great project; that he wanted to thank State Representative Carol Alvarado for co-hosting a townhall meeting last night with him in the south belt area at Garfield Elementary to go over hurricane preparedness issues, that he wanted to single out a City of Houston employee, Mr. Terry Moore from OEM, who was one of the most enthusiastic and knowledgeable emergency professionals that he had heard in person, that he really had a grasp for the issues and looked forward to having him at meetings in the future. Council Members Stardig, Johnson, Adams, Hoang, Gonzalez, Rodriguez and Bradford absent.

Mayor Parker stated that the new Kingwood Library was beautiful, the first joint City Country Library was in Clear Lake and the most recent City County Library was in Kingwood and that collaborative work with the County where they all saved money was great and she was happy that it was happening out in his district. Council Members Stardig, Johnson, Adams, Hoang, Gonzalez, Rodriguez, Bradford and Jones absent. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Council Member Lovell stated that she wanted to recognize the employees at the Houston Airport System and the Houston Protocol Alliance Office and Communications in International Affairs for helping passengers whose flights were disrupted as a result of the Icelandic Volcano, that as they knew some of the international flights were canceled, leaving passengers no choice but to spend several days in Houston, that as of tonight 25 people were provided cots in Terminal D and were spending the night at the airport, they had been updated continually on the status of when they could go home, that she hoped they had a good time while they were here and she wanted to say to the people at the Airport System and the International Protocol Office thank you for stepping up and taking care of the stranded passengers, they helped them with special needs and provided food and hotel, the Protocol Office worked with various and mostly European Consulate offices to alert them of their citizens who were stranded and the Consul General's of France and the Netherlands were there today assisting as best they could, that in communications she understood that Janice Evans brought this to their attention, they had been working with Marlene to make sure they were updated on a continual basis as to when they could go home. Council Members Stardig, Johnson, Adams, Sullivan, Hoang, Gonzalez, Rodriguez, Bradford and Jones absent. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Council Member Clutterbuck stated that she wanted to say happy San Jacinto Day to everybody and for those were interested in trivia they could look up online how it was that they found General Santa Anna after his army was defeated; that they had some amazing leaders in

the City of Houston and one of them was in the Chamber, Issa Dadoush, that she wanted to take the opportunity to say that Issa was outstanding and had served many years at the City of Houston and was currently the head of the General Services Division, that his title did not explain it all, that he was basically the catch all, if a really tough problem needed to be resolved at the City of Houston they would give it to Issa to handle and it would be done promptly and effectively and with nothing but gratitude on his part for the opportunity to serve the City, that he was also a double black belt martial artist and instructor and the region would continue to benefit from his services, he would be working for HISD; that yesterday was their Houston Galveston Area Council meeting, they took care of a number of routine matters, including things that had to do with their environmental cleanliness, clean air and clean water in the 13 County region, as well as discussing the distribution of funds for some of the stimulus dollars, that one of the matters that they dealt with yesterday had to do with the distribution of Federal and State dollars for summer jobs programs in the City of Houston and elsewhere in the 13 County region, that HGAC was responsible for distributing those dollars and they were for summer youth, that for youth who were interested in applying, and if they were accepted for this they would probably be working in the public sector and would be earning \$7.50 per hour for a maximum of about \$230 per week, that those postings for those particular jobs should be online at the HGAC or the Texas Workforce Commission in about two weeks, they would announce them when they were ready, but she would bring this up now for the City of Houston employees and department directors who were listening because if they were interested in having some summer youth workers in their Parks Department, Public Works or the Mayor's office or any number of areas the HGAC was looking for employers to help with this and the funding dollars did not come from tax dollars, they did not come from the taxpayer to hire the youth, it was an opportunity to spend some of these grant dollars and they looked forward to providing some great jobs in the City of Houston for summer youth; that she decided that leading up the budget process she would try to make a suggestion, once a week ideas that she hears from the community about money saving opportunities, ways to help reduce the budget and one of them that she had heard repeatedly over and over was the call to look at the Public Works Department and find ways to be able to save dollars, specifically looking at their contracts with their employees and evaluating at the micro level exactly how many personnel they needed on a truck to do a specific job, that it often confuses and perplexes the public when they see four people on a truck, two trucks, and people standing around working on a job, that certainly they could do better with either their information delivery system or with reducing the cost to the citizens. Council Members Stardig, Johnson, Adams, Sullivan, Hoang, Rodriguez, Bradford and Jones absent. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mayor Parker stated that work demands analysis, that sounds like what she was talking about and absolutely that was what they needed to do. Council Members Stardig, Johnson, Adams, Sullivan, Hoang, Rodriguez, Bradford and Jones absent. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Council Member Noriega stated that in honor for his service to the Houston Community for over 27 years Officer Rick Salter had been nominated for America's Most Wanted 2009 AMW All Star Award, that they would like the audience to show support for his nomination by voting for Officer Rick Salter on the America's Most Wanted Website, that they were going to have voting for 13 days, that they would love for everyone to go to [www.amw.com](http://www.amw.com) and vote for Officer Salter; that in that same corner of the universe one of the things that she worked very hard on over the last few years was trying to increase the transparency of the budgets of their public safety departments, that there was an article in the paper that talked about \$51 million of overtime for the police and as their old Texas friend, Ross Perot, used to say "the devil is always in the details", that she wanted to mention some of what the rest of the story was, that out of that \$51 million less than half, \$25 million, was taxpayer funded, the rest was special funds from grants and this year's allocation for that same space in the budget was \$13.9 million and next year's projected budget was \$11.5 million, so they were already going down with that, but she would also like to mention that out of that \$5 million or so was used for Municipal Courts

and was used every year, that was something they were looking at and were working on to try to reduce that but so far that had been a difficult amount to reduce and another \$3 million was typically used for parades and festivals, so that left about \$3.5 million for next year's budget that was discretionary over time and that was very different from \$51 million, that they were all honest numbers and were perfectly reasonable, that she just wanted to mention that because again, "the devil is in the details"; that in an effort to reduce costly apartment complex fires the Houston Fire Department had created a video of safety programs, this information was available to be downloaded from the Houston Fire Department Webpage at [www.houstontx.gov/fire](http://www.houstontx.gov/fire), that if they looked there it was Public Ed Apartment Safety, that they could get a compact disc with this information in English and in Spanish for apartment managers, owners and other non profit safety organizations, they could email the Houston Fire Department Community Outreach Office at [Paul.Box@cityofhouston.net](mailto:Paul.Box@cityofhouston.net) or call 713-495-7916; that Transition Houston and the Houston Peace and Justice Center were hosting their first Bi-Local Independent Business Alliance Conference on May 1, 2010, that local business people would gather to learn about Independent Business Alliance efforts for the Houston areas, they would try to work on developing a brand Houston Building Trust and Credibility for local independent businesses, that either of these groups, Transition Houston or the Houston Peace and Justice Center could get them more information on how that was going to be presented; that she had been getting phone calls and emails about compostable bags, that people were still struggling to find them, several of the emails that she had gotten had mentioned more than one store as they wondered around trying to find them and some people do not go into Home Depots, that several people mentioned that they looked at drug stores but she did not know whether they were at drug stores so that was an issue, that they had mentioned again that they were shocked at how much they cost and they were concerned that they were not big enough and they thought that they had neighbors that were dumping their leaves in the very bottom of their garbage cans rather than try to work their way through the compostable bags, that she just wanted to mention if there were things that they could do about that, that she thought it was important and she wanted to mention to the audience that it really mattered that they had found a way to reduce what they were putting into landfills, and using a bag that decomposes made a lot of sense to her, but she understood that they were still struggling a little bit, that if they would just keep working with them rather than putting them at the bottom of their trash can it would be helpful, so keep looking for them, that she thought it was important that they address this and continue to mention how to go about finding them. Council Members Stardig, Johnson, Adams, Sullivan, Hoang, Rodriguez, Bradford and Jones absent. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mayor Parker stated that they had this discussion at the directors meeting last Thursday and one of the issues was that finally the lawn service folks had woken up to the issue and what had been happening was that they were going in and emptying the shelves and she asked the director to try to proactively contact some of the larger services to make sure that they could provide a bulk availability without them disseminating grocery shelves and a more quick restock, that they were aware of that problem and were trying to attack it, that she had been asked a lot to about the size of the bags, that what people had to remember was that it was a human being that picked up the bag and if they had to strain to pull their bag to the curb think what they does to the Solid Waste worker who had to pick it up and chunk it in, that they could manufacture bigger bags but they were trying to actually be respectful in that direction as well, and Council Member Noriega stated that the issue here, she thought, for people was the expense, so they felt like they had to pay more and get less and she thought as they worked their way through some of that it was certainly reasonable and she thought they needed to talk about it. Council Members Stardig, Johnson, Adams, Sullivan, Hoang, Rodriguez, Bradford and Jones absent. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Council Member Lovell stated that she wanted to say farewell to Issa and what a pleasure it had been working with him, that she was happy that he was going to stay in the City and be at HISD, they would have a good ally over there and they were very lucky to get him; that she

wanted to say to Council Member Clutterbuck thank you for her leadership on the water rate issue, it was a difficult issue, there was not anybody at this table that wanted to make difficult votes like that but it was part of being a leader and the core responsibility that they had in the City, one of the most important responsibilities, was to make sure that when people turned on their faucets that they provide them with safe drinking water and then when they flush their commodes that the wastewater goes away, and for a long time they had been neglecting their responsibilities there and today they took care of responsibilities and some times it was not easy, that she wanted to thank Council Member Clutterbuck for the all the meetings that she had and all of the information that was there and made available to all of them and to the Mayor and her staff who took time to make available to everyone the information that they needed to make a decision and she wanted to say congratulations to them, that they decided to step up, do it now, not delay it and not have to come back and explain to their citizens once again why they were not taking care of their responsibilities and across the board it was everybody's responsibility to pay for this water because it was something that they use, and she thought they could scrub the budget, but if they do it was not to pay for water, she thought that everybody who uses the water should pay for it and they should not be subsidizing anybody any more, which they decided today they were not going to, but when they do scrub the budget, and she knew they would save some money there, there were some other things that they needed to do that they did not want to cut such as their being able to continue to have their police on the streets or keep their libraries open, that with the money that they find she would much rather do that and she thought everybody in the City would understand when they get their bills that it was not hundreds of dollars that they were raising their rates, they would see it was very fair and equitable and across the board; that the Off Street Parking meeting, which was this evening, she wanted to explain once again because it seemed there were some people having a difficult time grasping these meetings, these meetings were for information gathering, they were not townhall meetings to discuss solutions, they would have those later on after they gather all of the information that they needed to move forward with the amendment to the Off Street Parking Ordinance, so they encourage all of them to come, she knew there were some people out there that wished they had townhall meetings and open discussion, they had determined that was not the most effective way to gather information, but probably right now the best way to do this was for people to be able to give them what they thought were the problems, they would be back later on with townhall meetings settings to have this discussion as they moved forward with this, that there seemed to be some sort of confusion about it, that she was going to take one last stab in trying to clear it up, they welcomed them all to the meeting tonight at the United Way at 5:30 p.m. Council Members Stardig, Johnson, Adams, Sullivan, Hoang, Rodriguez, Noriega, Bradford and Jones absent. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)



There being no further business before Council, the City Council adjourned at 11:41 a.m. Council Members Stardig, Johnson, Adams, Sullivan, Hoang, Rodriguez, Noriega, Bradford and Jones absent. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

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

MINUTES READ AND APPROVED

/S/Anna Russell

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Anna Russell, City Secretary