

City Council Chamber, City Hall, Wednesday, January 18, 2012

A Regular Meeting of the Houston City Council was held at 9:00 a.m., Wednesday, January 18, 2012, with Mayor Annise D. Parker presiding and with Council Members Helena Brown, Jerry Davis, Ellen R. Cohen, Wanda Adams, Mike Sullivan, Al Hoang, Oliver Pennington, Edward Gonzalez, James G. Rodriguez, Mike Laster, Stephen C. Costello, Andrew C. Burks, Jr., C. O. "Brad" Bradford and Jack Christie, D.C.; Mr. David Feldman, City Attorney; Ms. Marta Crinejo, Agenda Director, present. Council Member Larry V. Green out of the city on city business. Council Member Melissa Noriega absent on personal business.

At 8:25 a.m. the City Secretary read the descriptions or captions of items on the Agenda.

At 9:05 a.m. Mayor Parker called the meeting to order and called on Council Member Davis for the prayer and pledge of allegiance, Council Member Davis invited Reverend Charles Ingram, Antioch Missionary Baptist Church, Acres Homes, to lead them in prayer and Council Member Davis led all in the pledge. Council Members Adams, Hoang, Rodriguez and Burks absent.

At 9:06 a.m. the City Secretary called the roll. Council Member Green out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent on personal business.

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

MAYOR'S REPORT

CONSENT AGENDA NUMBERS 1 through 45

MISCELLANEOUS - NUMBER 3

3. RECOMMENDATION from Director Department of Public Works & Engineering for payment of \$977,296.00 for permit fees to the **HARRIS-GALVESTON SUBSIDENCE DISTRICT** for 2011 allocation amendment to groundwater withdrawal permit fees and 2012 groundwater withdrawal permit fees - Enterprise Fund – was presented, moved by Council Member Gonzalez, seconded by Council Member Bradford. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Green out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent on personal business. MOTION 2012-0029 ADOPTED.

ACCEPT WORK - NUMBERS 6 and 7

6. RECOMMENDATION from Director Department of Public Works & Engineering for approval of final contract amount of \$3,550,250.77 and acceptance of work on contract with **PM CONSTRUCTION & REHAB, L.P.** for Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation by Sliplining and Pipe Bursting Methods - 2.27% under the original contract amount (4257-93) - **DISTRICTS C - COHEN; D - ADAMS and F - HOANG** – was presented, moved by Council Member Gonzalez, seconded by Council Member Bradford. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Green out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent on personal business. MOTION 2012-0030 ADOPTED.
7. RECOMMENDATION from Director Department of Public Works & Engineering for approval of final contract amount of \$386,620.00 and acceptance of work on contract with **RELIANCE CONSTRUCTION SERVICES, L.P.** for Neighborhood Back Lot Wastewater Substitute Service Program W. Clay, W. Pierce and W. Bell - 3.1% under the original contract amount - **DISTRICT D - ADAMS** – was presented, moved by Council Member

Gonzalez, seconded by Council Member Bradford. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Green out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent on personal business. MOTION 2012-0031 ADOPTED.

PURCHASING AND TABULATION OF BIDS - NUMBER 10

10. **DOGGETT HEAVY MACHINERY SERVICES, LLC** - \$631,021.85, **HI-WAY EQUIPMENT COMPANY, LLC** - \$325,593.60, **KUBOTA TRACTOR CORPORATION** - \$82,662.89 **JOHN DEERE SHARED SERVICES, INC d/b/a JOHN DEERE CONSTRUCTION RETAIL SALES DIVISION** - \$65,832.00 for Earth Moving Equipment through the Interlocal Agreements for Cooperative Purchasing with Houston-Galveston Area Council and BuyBoard and for the Houston Airport System and the Department of Public Works & Engineering - \$1,105,110.34 - Enterprise and Stormwater Funds – was presented, moved by Council Member Gonzalez, seconded by Council Member Bradford. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Green out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent on personal business. MOTION 2012-0032 ADOPTED.

RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES - NUMBERS 15 through 42

15. ORDINANCE authorizing participation with other Entergy Service Area Cities in matters concerning Entergy Texas, Inc before the Public Utility Commission of Texas and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission during 2012 - **DISTRICT E - SULLIVAN** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Green out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2012-0033 ADOPTED.
16. ORDINANCE appropriating \$112,066.29 out of Fund 1025 (Houston Downtown Public Improvement Fund) for payment to the **HOUSTON DOWNTOWN MANAGEMENT DISTRICT** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Green out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2012-0034 ADOPTED.
20. ORDINANCE relating to the City of Houston’s Neighborhood Stabilization Program approving and authorizing first amendment to Loan Agreement between the City of Houston and **SOUTH UNION HOUSING DEVELOPMENT, LLC - DISTRICT D - ADAMS** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Green out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2012-0035 ADOPTED.
21. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing amendment to contract between the City of Houston and **TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS** for the administration of the Texas Homeless Housing and Services Program - \$330,584.15 - Grant Fund – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Green out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2012-0036 ADOPTED.
25. ORDINANCE establishing the north side of the 2200 block of Bartlett Street within the City of Houston as a special building line requirement area pursuant to Chapter 42 of the Code of Ordinances, Houston, Texas - **DISTRICT C - COHEN** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Green out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2012-0037 ADOPTED.
26. ORDINANCE establishing the south side of the 3700 block of Parkwood Avenue within the City of Houston as a special building line requirement area pursuant to Chapter 42 of the

Code of Ordinances, Houston, Texas - **DISTRICT D - ADAMS** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Green out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2012-0038 ADOPTED.

27. ORDINANCE establishing the south side of the 3700 block of Rio Vista Street within the City of Houston as a special minimum lot size requirement area pursuant to Chapter 42 of the Code of Ordinances, Houston, Texas - **DISTRICT D - ADAMS** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Green out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2012-0039 ADOPTED.
35. ORDINANCE appropriating \$3,337,334.00 out of Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund; awarding contract to **PM CONSTRUCTION & REHAB, LLC** for Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation by Sliplining and Pipe Bursting Methods; setting a deadline for the bidder's execution of the contract and delivery of all bonds, insurance, and other required contract documents to the City; holding the bidder in default if it fails to meet the deadlines; providing funding for engineering and testing, and contingencies relating to construction of facilities financed by the Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund (4257-125) – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Green out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2012-0040 ADOPTED.
36. ORDINANCE appropriating \$3,662,535.00 out of Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund; awarding contract to **REYNOLDS INLINER, LLC** for Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation by Cured-in-Place Pipe Method; setting a deadline for the bidder's execution of the contract and delivery of all bonds, insurance, and other required contract documents to the City; holding the bidder in default if it fails to meet the deadlines; providing funding for engineering and testing, and contingencies relating to construction of facilities financed by the Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund (4258-49) – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Green out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2012-0041 ADOPTED.
37. ORDINANCE appropriating \$541,260.00 out of Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund and approving and authorizing Professional Engineering Services Contract between the City of Houston and **AMANI ENGINEERING, INC** for Lift Station Abandonment and Flow Diversion; providing funding for CIP Cost Recovery relating to construction of facilities financed by the Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund - **DISTRICT B - DAVIS** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Green out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2012-0042 ADOPTED.
38. ORDINANCE appropriating \$1,738,200.00 out of Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund and approving and authorizing Professional Engineering Services Contract between the City of Houston and **ARCADIS U.S., INC** for Lift Station Renewal and Replacement; providing funding for CIP Cost Recovery relating to construction of facilities financed by the Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund - **DISTRICTS B - DAVIS; C - COHEN; G - PENNINGTON and H - GONZALEZ** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Green out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2012-0043 ADOPTED.
39. ORDINANCE granting to **UNIQUE SANITATION, INC., A Texas Corporation**, the right, privilege and franchise to collect, haul and transport solid waste and industrial waste from commercial properties located within the City of Houston, Texas, pursuant to Chapter 39,

Code of Ordinances, Houston, Texas; providing for related terms and conditions - **FIRST READING** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Green out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2012-0044 PASSED FIRST READING IN FULL.

40. ORDINANCE granting to **CTJ VACUUM SERVICE, LLC, A Texas Limited Liability Corporation**, the right, privilege and franchise to collect, haul and transport solid waste and industrial waste from commercial properties located within the City of Houston, Texas, pursuant to Chapter 39, Code of Ordinances, Houston, Texas; providing for related terms and conditions **FIRST READING** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Green out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2012-0045 PASSED FIRST READING IN FULL.
41. ORDINANCE No. 2012-0026, passed first reading January 11, 2012
ORDINANCE granting to **JAT INTERESTS, LLC, A Texas Limited Liability Corporation d/b/a ABC VACUUM SERVICES**, the right, privilege and franchise to collect, haul and transport solid waste and industrial waste from commercial properties located within the City of Houston, Texas, pursuant to Chapter 39, Code of Ordinances, Houston, Texas; providing for related terms and conditions - **SECOND READING** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Green out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2012-0026 PASSED SECOND READING IN FULL.
42. ORDINANCE No. 2012-0027, passed first reading January 11, 2012
ORDINANCE granting to **CHING YI LO d/b/a A. URANU SERVICE, A Texas Sole Proprietorship**, the right, privilege and franchise to collect, haul and transport solid waste and industrial waste from commercial properties located within the City of Houston, Texas, pursuant to Chapter 39, Code of Ordinances, Houston, Texas; providing for related terms and conditions **SECOND READING** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Green out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2012-0027 PASSED SECOND READING IN FULL.

MATTERS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA WERE CONSIDERED AS FOLLOWS:

MISCELLANEOUS

1. RECOMMENDATION from Director Houston Airport System for approval of membership fees in the Airports Council International for the Calendar Year 2012 - \$137,022.00 - Enterprise Fund **DISTRICTS B - DAVIS; E - SULLIVAN and I - RODRIGUEZ** – was presented, moved by Council Member Gonzalez, seconded by Council Member Bradford. Council Member Brown voting no, balance voting aye. Council Member Green out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent on personal business. MOTION 2012-0033 ADOPTED.
2. RECOMMENDATION from Director Convention & Entertainment Facilities Department for approval of Houston First Corporation's calendar year 2012 budget – was presented, moved by Council Member Gonzalez, seconded by Council Member Bradford. Council Member Brown voting no, balance voting aye. Council Member Green out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent on personal business. MOTION 2012-0034 ADOPTED.

ACCEPT WORK

4. RECOMMENDATION from Director Houston Airport System for approval of final contract amount of \$23,468,276.61 and acceptance of work on contract with **WEBBER, LLC (Formerly W. W. WEBBER, LLC)** for Automated People Mover Phase 3, Package 2 - APM Guideway at George Bush Intercontinental Airport/Houston; Project No. 536J - 3.23% over the original contract amount **DISTRICT B – DAVIS** – was presented, moved by Council Member Bradford, seconded by Council Member Gonzalez.

Council Member Davis stated that the airport was doing a lot of great work for District B and was looking forward to meeting with the Director of the Airport to see all of the things that were going on in the district, and Mayor Parker stated that she would make sure that he would set up a meeting.

A vote was called on Item No. 4. Council Member Brown voting no, balance voting aye. Council Member Green out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent on personal business. MOTION 2012-0035 ADOPTED.

5. RECOMMENDATION from Director Houston Airport System for approval of final contract amount of \$10,769,223.08 and acceptance of work on contract with **WEBBER, LLC (Formerly W. W. WEBBER, LLC)** for Rehabilitation of Runway 4-22 and Taxiway "C" at William P. Hobby Airport; Project No. 462 - .94% over the original contract amount - **DISTRICT I - RODRIGUEZ** – was presented, moved by Council Member Gonzalez, seconded by Council Member Bradford. Council Member Brown voting no, balance voting aye. Council Member Green out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent on personal business. MOTION 2012-0036 ADOPTED.

PURCHASING AND TABULATION OF BIDS

8. **PROGRESSIVE EMERGENCY PRODUCTS, LLC** for Decontamination Shelters for the Houston Emergency Center - 3 Years with two one-year options - \$400,347.00 - Grant Fund – was presented, moved by Council Member Gonzalez, seconded by Council Member Bradford, and tagged by Council Member Brown.
9. **J. TYLER SERVICES, INC** - \$176,580.03 and **CONTRACT RESOURCE GROUP, LLC** - \$6,306.21 for Office Furniture from the State of Texas Procurement and Support Services Contract through the State of Texas Cooperative Purchasing Program for Various Departments General, Enterprise, Fleet Management and Other Funds – was presented, moved by Council Member Gonzalez, seconded by Council Member Bradford. Council Member Brown voting no, balance voting aye. Council Member Green out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent on personal business. MOTION 2012-0037 ADOPTED.

RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES

11. RESOLUTION designating certain property within the City of Houston as historic landmarks: James and Marguerite Shepherd House 2105 Brentwood Drive **DISTRICT G – PENNINGTON** – was presented. Council Member Sullivan voting no, balance voting aye. Council Member Green out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent on personal business. RESOLUTION 2012-0001 ADOPTED.
12. RESOLUTION designating certain property within the City of Houston as a historic landmark: Arthur and Diane Fennekohl House 3827 Inwood Drive **DISTRICT G – PENNINGTON** – was presented. Council Member Sullivan voting no, balance voting aye. Council Member Green out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent on personal business. RESOLUTION 2012-0002 ADOPTED.

13. ORDINANCE **AMENDING CHAPTER 2 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, HOUSTON, TEXAS**, relating to the Houston READ Commission – was presented, and tagged by Council Member Brown.

Council Member Brown stated that she would release her tag on Item No. 13 for the purposes of discussion.

Council Member Costello stated that he wanted to recognize Mr. William Griffin, incoming Chair of the new Houston Center for Literacy and Executive Director Sherri Forman, and thanked them for their service to the City of Houston, that he knew it was the former Read Commission.

Council Member Adams asked if they could periodically send them reports, she knew they were recently at Palm Center and they moved to another location, to give them an update on their current move did they have a permanent home now and if so to let them know their address, and to give them a status on whom they had served, what population did they continue to serve, that according to the ordinance they were supposed to give them reports and she just wanted to know what those reports were. Council Member Sullivan absent.

Council Member Hoang recognized all of the members of the Read Commission and thanked them for their services to the City of Houston.

Mayor Parker stated that Council Member Brown had tagged Item No. 13.

14. ORDINANCE amending Ordinance No. 2011-547 to extend the date for presentation of the report of the Long Range Financial Management Task Force – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Green out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2012-0046 ADOPTED.
17. ORDINANCE appropriating \$100,000.00 out of Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone Affordable Housing Fund (Fund 2409) to Leland Woods Redevelopment Authority (\$70,754.00) and Leland Woods Redevelopment Authority II (\$29,246.00) for costs relating to the development of the Leland Woods Subdivision and the payment of certain loan interest obligations and other expenses relating thereto - **DISTRICT B – DAVIS** – was presented.

After discussion Council Member Adams stated that she would tag Item No. 17. (Note: Council Member Adams released her tag later in the meeting.)

18. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing Amendment No. 1 to Lease Agreement between the City of Houston and **KNICKERBOCKER CORPORATION** for certain premises at William P. Hobby Airport - Revenue - **DISTRICT I - RODRIGUEZ** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Green out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2012-0047 ADOPTED.
19. ORDINANCE appropriating \$200,000.00 out of Airports Improvement Fund for Professional Materials Engineering Laboratory Contract between the City of Houston and **QC LABORATORIES, INC** for Miscellaneous Projects for the Houston Airport System (Project No. 615F) - **DISTRICTS B - DAVIS; E - SULLIVAN and I - RODRIGUEZ** – was presented. Council Member Brown voting no, balance voting aye. Council Member Green out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2012-0048 ADOPTED.

22. ORDINANCE allocating \$975,000.00 as a Cash Match; approving and authorizing the submission of a grant application to the **U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT** for the Lead-Hazard Reduction Demonstration Grant Program; declaring the City's eligibility for such grant; authorizing the Director of the Health and Human Services Department to act as the City's representative in the application process; authorizing the Director of Health & Human Services Department to accept the grant and expend the grant funds, if awarded, and to apply for and accept all subsequent awards, if any, pertaining to the grant – was presented.

Council Member Sullivan stated that the Lead Base Paint Reduction Program seemed to go on and on and would tag Item No. 22 and would like to meet with someone from the appropriate department to discuss it further.

Mayor Parker stated that Item No. 22 had been tagged by Council Member Sullivan.

23. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing first amendments to contracts between the City of Houston and **SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY** and the **UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN** for Research Services pertaining to a National Institute of Justice Grant Award for a project titled Action Research to Enhance Investigations and Prosecutions of Sexual Assaults in Houston – was presented.

After discussion by Council Members, Council Member Bradford stated that he wanted to go on record saying that this was something that he believed must be done, that when he looked at the backup material and saw that the grant that they were allocated ends on March of 2013 and was concerned that it was a long time from today for the kits to be there and they were still determining how they were going to tackle the problem, and Mayor Parker stated that was noted, that obviously the goal was that the funds were expended and work was done much prior to that date.

After further discussion by Council Members, a vote was called on Item no. 23. Council Member Brown voting no, balance voting aye. Council Member Adams absent. Council Member Green out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2012-049 ADOPTED.

24. ORDINANCE appropriating \$98,800.00 out of Parks Special Fund; authorizing the purchase of the west half of Lot 9, Block 47, W.R. Baker Addition, South Side of Buffalo Bayou, Houston, Harris County, Texas (800 block of Ruthven) for the Parks & Recreation Department; approving a Purchase and Sale Agreement with the owner of the land (Carolyn J. Utigard Thomas) **DISTRICT I – RODRIGUEZ** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Adams absent. Council Member Green out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2012-050 ADOPTED.
28. ORDINANCE establishing the north and south sides of the 1900 block of West 14½ Street within the City of Houston as a special minimum lot size requirement area pursuant to Chapter 42 of the Code of Ordinances, Houston, Texas - **DISTRICT A – BROWN** – was presented, and tagged by Council Member Brown. Council Member Adams absent.
29. ORDINANCE to rename Jordyn Ridge Lane to Chamberlain Park Lane, Ranch Lane to Curvey Lane and Barry Court to Jenkins Park Court, three private streets in the South Acres Ranch Section 2 Subdivision - **DISTRICT D – ADAMS** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Adams absent. Council Member Green out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2012-051 ADOPTED.

30. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing contract between the City of Houston and **MORRIS AND MCDANIEL, INC** for Professional Assessment Testing Services for Sergeants for the Houston Police Department; providing a maximum contract amount - 3 Years with two one-year options \$605,970.00 - General Fund - was presented. Council Member Brown voting no, balance voting aye. Council Member Adams absent. Council Member Green out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2012-052 ADOPTED.
31. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing contract between the City of Houston and **MORRIS AND MCDANIEL, INC** for Professional Assessment Testing Services for Lieutenants for the Houston Police Department; providing a maximum contract amount - 3 Years with two one-year options \$316,064.00 - General Fund - was presented. Council Member Brown voting no, balance voting aye. Council Member Adams absent. Council Member Green out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2012-053 ADOPTED.
32. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing contract between the City of Houston and **MORRIS AND MCDANIEL, INC** for Professional Assessment Testing Services for Captains for the Houston Police Department; providing a maximum contract amount - 3 Years with two one-year options \$253,710.00 - General Fund – was presented. Council Member Adams absent.

Council Member Gonzalez stated that these were for the Police Department and were for promotional tested, that it had to be done in accordance with their Meet and Confer Agreement, and Mayor Parker stated that it was a contractual obligation but was also established through litigation.

A vote was called on Item No. 32. Council Member Brown voting no, balance voting aye. Council Member Green out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2012-054 ADOPTED.

33. ORDINANCE de-appropriating \$30,000.00 out of Reimbursement of Equipment/Projects Fund (Approved by Ordinance No. 2011-0021) for the Energy Savings Performance Contract for Energy Conservation Measures with **SIEMENS INDUSTRY, INC**; appropriating \$30,000.00 out of Reimbursement of Equipment/Projects Fund, \$35,000.00 out of Fire Consolidated Construction Fund, \$800,000.00 out of Parks Consolidated Construction Fund, \$160,000.00 out of Solid Waste Consolidated Construction Fund, \$350,000.00 out of Police Consolidated Construction Fund, \$350,000.00 out of Public Library Consolidated Construction Fund, \$250,000.00 out of General Improvement Consolidated Construction Fund, and \$490,000.00 out of Public Health Consolidated Construction Fund, for reimbursable project management costs for FY12 Capital Improvement Plan Projects for City Departments – was presented, and tagged by Council Member Brown.
34. ORDINANCE appropriating \$456,147.70 out of Parks & Recreation Dedication Fund, awarding construction contract to **JERDON ENTERPRISE, L.P.**, for Open Space Projects at Various Parks; setting a deadline for the bidder's execution of the contract and delivery of all bonds, insurance and other required contract documents to the City; holding the bidder in default if it fails to meet the deadlines; providing funding for engineering testing, and contingencies relating to construction of facilities financed by the Parks & Recreation Dedication Fund - **DISTRICTS C - COHEN; D - ADAMS; F - HOANG and H - GONZALEZ** – was presented, and tagged by Council Member Brown.

43. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing contract between the City of Houston and **CHILD CARE COUNCIL OF GREATER HOUSTON** providing up to \$1,987,424 (Emergency Solutions Grants Funds - \$1,327,628/Community Development Block Grant Funds - \$659,796) for the administration of an Emergency Solutions Grants Program – was presented, and tagged by Council Member Brown.
44. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing contract between the City of Houston and **CHILD CARE COUNCIL OF GREATER HOUSTON** providing up to \$478,155.00 in Community Development Block Grant Funds for the implementation, oversight and delivery of a Child Care Program – was presented, and tagged by Council Member Brown.
45. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing contract between the City of Houston and **CHILD CARE COUNCIL OF GREATER HOUSTON** providing up to \$498,762.00 in Community Development Block Grant Funds for the implementation, oversight and delivery of a Juvenile Delinquency Prevention Program – was presented, and tagged by Council Member Brown.

NON CONSENT AGENDA - NUMBER 46

MISCELLANEOUS

46. RECEIVE nominations for Positions One, Two and Two Alternate At-Large Positions of the **HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS**, for one year terms to expire December 31, 2012 – was presented.

Council Member Rodriguez nominated Council Member Davis for Alternate Position Two.

Council Member Hoang nominated Council Member Pennington for Position One.

Council Member Gonzalez nominated Mayor Parker for Position Two.

Council Member Pennington nominated Council Member Cohen for Alternate Position One.

Council Member Christie moved to close nominations for Positions One, Two and Two Alternate At-Large Positions to the Houston-Galveston Area Council Board of Directors, seconded by Council Member Bradford. All voting aye. Nays none. MOTION 2012-0038 ADOPTED.

Council Member Adams stated that she would release her tag on Item No. 17, that she wanted to thank Director Andy Icken for meeting with her and updating her on the actual plans that they had in place for future movement, that she understood who the builder was and how they would move forward and they were going to keep their eye on this particular project.

17. ORDINANCE appropriating \$100,000.00 out of Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone Affordable Housing Fund (Fund 2409) to Leland Woods Redevelopment Authority (\$70,754.00) and Leland Woods Redevelopment Authority II (\$29,246.00) for costs relating to the development of the Leland Woods Subdivision and the payment of certain loan interest obligations and other expenses relating thereto - **DISTRICT B – DAVIS** – was again before the City Council. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Green out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2012-055 ADOPTED.

MATTERS HELD - NUMBER 47

47. ORDINANCE appropriating \$7,117,000.00 out of Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund, awarding contract to **ALSAY INCORPORATED** for Rehabilitation of existing water wells; setting a deadline for the bidder's execution of the contract and delivery of all bonds, insurance, and other required contract documents to the City; holding the bidder in default if it fails to meet the deadlines; providing funding for engineering testing, CIP Cost Recovery, construction management and contingencies relating to construction of facilities financed by the Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund - **DISTRICT D – ADAMS – (This was Item 18 on Agenda of January 11, 2012, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBER BROWN)** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Green out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2012-056 ADOPTED.

At 9:29 a.m. Mayor Parker stated that they would move to the public session.

Mr. Ray Hill, Post Office Box 3624, Houston, Texas 77253 (713-523-6969) appeared and stated that his topic today was police behavior and professionalism, that he did not have any trouble talking to Chief McClelland, he had open access to his office regularly and they got along very well, that he did not have any difficulty getting along with the command staff, with the possible exception of former Chief Bradford's administration he thought they had as fine a command staff as they had ever had; the operation of keeping their law enforcement agencies professional was not a new topic, at one time a City Council decided to hire a Dr. Reed to look after the professionalism of Houston law enforcement officers, he did it in training, kept helpful notes of the patterns of behavior, looked for difficulties and he addressed them, the problem with that kind of program was that it quickly got integrated into the culture of the agency and began to diminish in its effectiveness; had anyone around the table done a count of how many people, unarmed citizens in the City were killed with police weapons every year, they had a very serious problem and it did not begin with the excessive use of police weapons, it began with an attitude of law enforcement officers toward the citizens they were designed to serve, that he tried to deal with this on a command level, he tried to deal with the captains, but when that communication stops he had no choice but to flow upstream.

Upon discussion and questions by Council Members, he would like for this matter to be referred to the Public Safety Committee and would like to meet with the Chair of that committee and have a broader discussion about legislative approaches to some of the problems that he perceived, and Council Member Gonzalez stated that he was the new Chair of the Public Safety Committee and looked forward to talking with him and get his ideas, that he would have someone meet with him and get his ideas and suggestions and see what they could do. Council Member Rodriguez absent.

After further discussion by Council Members, Council Member Davis stated that Mr. Hill had asked if they had taken the time to understand the data of the people who had died from the weapons of the police and he had not so if he had that data he would be willing to meet with him when he met with Council Member Gonzalez and go from there, and Mr. Hill stated that he followed these via news media reports and not all of these things made the news media, but could tell that last year in Houston more than 16 people, unarmed, were killed with police weapons in the City. Council Member Rodriguez absent.

Council Member Bradford moved to suspend the rules to extend time for questions of Mr. Ray Hill, seconded by Council Member Gonzalez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Sullivan and Rodriguez absent. Council Member Green out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent on personal business. MOTION 2012-0039 ADOPTED.

Upon further discussion and questions by Council Member Bradford, Mr. Hill stated that there were any number of topics that he would like to discuss with the City Attorney without crossing any ethical lines. Council Members Sullivan and Rodriguez absent.

Note: Motion Number 2012-0040 omitted in error.

Mr. Remington Alessi, 4620Clay St., Houston 77023 (281-323-0535) appeared and stated that he present to address the issue of bully cops, that he believed that the majority of police officers wake up every morning and wanted to do the right thing because they believed in justice, unfortunately there were a few bad apples here and there and how they addressed those bad apples was how they decided what ultimately would happen with police in the long term, that it was his belief also that the system cared for justice but sometimes was not very good at administering it, that he was reminded of the Stanford Prison Experiment by Dr. Philip Zimbardo, it was a simulated prison in the Psychology Department at Stanford University, that one individual was poorly behaved in the role of a guard and the majority of the other guards tended to look the other way because they did not want to stand up to someone who was being unjust, that he thought it was doubly so within Police Departments, because these men and women who went out and laid their lives on the line every single day had the added stress of if they told on someone who was being a bully they may ultimately have to depend upon that person backing them up in a fire fight and they could not afford that risk, to jeopardize that trust because they may run the risk of them coming home dead one day, that there was an added incentive for them to not address these issues, that the reason he brought it up was because he was part of the "Occupy Houston" protest at the Port of Houston, that there were issues relating to police officers covering their badges and names with duct tape, that he was told that this was addressed in some disciplinary form. Mayor Parker absent.

Council Member Bradford asked Mr. Alessi what would be his response if he were to tell him that more than 70% of the complaints filed against Houston police officers were generated by other personnel within the Houston Police Department, and Mr. Alessi stated that it would not surprise him to much, and Council Member Bradford stated that Mr. Alessi indicated that the officers tended to not report misconduct on each other and he would say that was an objective record supporting the fact that more than 70% of the complaints that were filed were by other officers reporting allegations of misconduct so there was some self policing going on, Mayor Parker absent.

Mr. Edwin Johnston, 3407 Graustark, Houston, Texas 77006 (713-523-0119) appeared and stated that he was totally appalled at the treatment Ray Hill received at the hands of the police during his recent "false arrest", that if they wanted a story of police bullying in his life they could go to "Johnson versus the City of Houston", which was a civil rights case filed in 1991 and settled in 1996; that one time he was driving through "Freedman's Town" the Fourth Ward and came out onto West Gray and was pulled over for a minor traffic infraction and the woman police officer demanded to search his car and he politely and steadfastly declined and it got her really angry and he did not see why expressing his rights should make a police office angry, that she kept trying to intimate him into allowing her to search his car and he continued to decline, that she eventually put him in the back of the police car with a friend of his and she looked around the outside of his car and when she let them out of the back of the car she was cursing at him and telling him not to come out to the Fourth Ward anymore, that was the type of bullying that probably went on on a regular everyday basis. Mr. Johnson continued expressing his opinion until his time expired.

Ms. Bernadette Skinner, Post Office Box 34353, Houston, Texas 77234 (713-202-9152) appeared and stated that across the United States in a lot of the cities, from Florida to California, they were planting fruit trees in parks, hiking trails and along mediums with great success, that she thought it would be real good for Houston if they gave it some thought about

putting fruit trees down, any tree would give them shade but fruit trees give a little more, that it would help a lot of people including the homeless people, that there were a lot of trees being replanted because of the drought, that she would like some feedback and comment as to the possibility of having fruit trees planted in Houston. Council Member Sullivan absent.

Mayor Parker stated that was an excellent suggestion and they were encouraging people to plant fruit trees that were adapted for this area, in fact across the street they had fruit trees planted in Tranquility Park and they were encouraging the planning of fruit trees through their community gardens, that she had not had the opportunity to ask the Parks Director about planting in other areas but it was a good suggestion and she would follow up. Council Member Sullivan absent.

Ms. Marie Lee, 110 Bellaire Blvd, Houston, Texas 77072 (832-448-0530) had signed up to speak but was not present when her name was called. Council Member Sullivan absent.

Mr. William Beal, homeless, no phone, had reserved time to speak but was not present when his name was called. Council Member Sullivan absent.

Ms. Christine Nugent, 4629 Rusk St., Houston, Texas 77023 (405-343-4333) appeared and stated that she lived in Eastwood and had just moved there about two and a half months ago from Illinois, that she was present to talk about the enormous problem that Houston had with stray dogs and also chained and mistreated dogs, that she got several calls yesterday in response to the email that she sent to Council Member Rodriguez about her concerns with the dogs, that she appreciated all of the prompt responses and the willingness to take what she had to say seriously and respond in like, that after the phone calls yesterday she was happy to report that animal control would be doing a sweep of the areas in their neighborhood that were the worst, including the schools, that she was really excited to see that the City had taken the issue of stray dogs around and on the school campuses so seriously, that she wanted to talk today because even though she was happy that there would be action taken to help remediate the problem she knew that it would be a long process that would require more than just a sweep of the neighborhood and understood that it had been a decades old problem that had not been dealt with properly in all that time, that she understood that Houston's budget for animal control was weak at best, that it needed to be a priority it was a public health issue, that her opinion of what should be done right now to deal with the problem was to first do a sweep of the area on a daily basis for at least one to three months, second, in conjunction with this go door to door and make sure that everyone who owned a dog within a mile of any school had that dog registered with the State and properly vaccinated and kept either in a properly fenced yard or inside, no chains please, third, crack down on those who chained up their dogs, that it had been proven over and over again that chaining up a dog made it more aggressive and they could eventually break free from the chain and become incredibly dangerous, that she thought they should offer four times a year free spay and neuter days to anyone who brought their pet to a participating vet. Council Member Sullivan absent.

Mayor Parker stated that she agreed but it was a matter of setting budget priorities for the City and knew that her Council Member was equally concerned about the issue. Council Member Sullivan absent.

Council Member Rodriguez stated that her neighbors had similar concern about the dogs, that they were able to respond and were going to get animal control officers out there, that she brought up a lot of good points and would like to work with her in the future, that Mr. Christopher Newport was present and Eva Lozano from his staff and they could visit with her for any additional information she may need. Council Member Sullivan absent.

Council Member Christie stated that he thought it was a compliment to individuals who

spoke at Council, that Ms. Nugent got an immediate response and oversight of the situation; that he thought Mr. Ray Hill had gotten tremendous response; and planting fruit tree seeds, he thought it was really neat that the City and departments had good immediate responses to questions and he appreciated the administration for that. Council Member Sullivan absent.

Mayor Parker stated that Ms. Nugent had moved to Houston and was passionate about animals, that there were some significant cultural challenges in Texas with the attitude of spaying and neutering pets, so it was always good to have someone who would help spread the message of how important that was. Council Member Sullivan absent.

Council Member Gonzalez stated that last year the Mayor helped establish the Houston BARC Foundation, a group of citizens who were also assisting in these efforts to try to increase funding and the efforts were really working out well, that there was a lot of opportunities for perhaps Ms. Nugent getting involved and volunteering in those efforts as well, that he thought she brought a good perspective to the table. Council Members Sullivan and Rodriguez absent.

Mr. Kevin Norman, 1003 Valley Park, Houston, Texas 77078 (281-780-4415) had reserved time to speak, but was not present when his name was called. Council Members Sullivan and Rodriguez absent.

Mr. Bob Schoellkopf, 7320 Shady Grove Lane, Houston, Texas 77040 (832-754-6187) appeared and stated that he wanted to commend Mayor Parker for the great speech she made at Discovery Green addressing the international group of the marathon in their world class City, they needed persons of this caliber to move to Houston; that they remember the speech of JFK, a quote, "We are not going to the moon because it is easy but because it is hard", that he was personally a Council Member candidate in 2009 and 2011 for City Council and it was not easy. Council Members Sullivan and Rodriguez absent.

Council Member Brown asked Mr. Schoelkopf to finish his speech, and Mr. Schoelkopf stated that the majority of the population did not run for elected offices, they were much in the minority, that he personally wanted to thank Council Member Brown for her input as to what she was going to bring to the Council table, the contribution that she would make; that corporate welfare had got to go, the Walmart's and Kroger's could well afford to pay for their own infrastructure. Council Members Pennington and Rodriguez absent.

President Joseph Charles, P.O. Box 524373, Houston, Texas 77052-4373 (713-928-2871) appeared and stated that he needed more time, that he was the President of the U.S. and also a Harris County volunteer deputy; and continued expressing his personal opinions until his time expired. Council Members Pennington and Rodriguez absent.

Mr. Don Cook, 7954 Glenheath, Houston, Texas 77061 (713-705-5594) appeared and stated that he wanted to congratulate the City of Houston for the relative economic prosperity at this time and thought that most of them saw the editorial in the Chronicle last Sunday and had heard on NPR that they were among the top 200 largest cities in the world, they were 19th and the most prosperous in the United States, that he still predicted an extremely gradual growth through 2012 economically, but they still must be aware that Europe was not in good shape and since then Standard and Poor's had downgraded them to AA, that a recession was predicted. Council Members Sullivan, Pennington and Rodriguez absent.

Mr. Joseph B. Roche, 400 Rusk St., Houston, Texas 77002 (281-928-5999) appeared and stated that he wanted to welcome the new Council Members, that he wanted to speak on the

\$23 million going to the big airport for an automated people mover, that he was a little bit concerned that the \$23 million was going to a Spanish company that may or may not be against the Buy America Act, which was the one from the early 1980' s, so be advised about that, that he wanted to especially welcome Council Member Davis, that he probably would become intimately familiar with the big airport over the next two years, that he wanted to share with them a little factoid about the big airport, coming shortly if they got that non stop to Lagos, Nigeria and Auckland they would be one of the few airports around with non stop service to all six continents from Houston. Council Members Pennington and Rodriguez absent.

Mayor Parker stated that in reference to the contract, that was actually an accept work, meaning that the contract was issued in 2008 and they were finishing the work and it was a final payment, but thanked him for raising the issue, that she had no idea if it went to a Spanish company, it was many years ago that it was awarded, it was not a new contract, it was Webber, LLC. Council Member Rodriguez absent.

Mayor Parker stated that their prayers were with Council Member Noriega who was out this morning, that her father-in-law continued to wrestle with serious health issues as he had over the course of the last year; that she wanted to note the passing of Ms. Yuki Rogers, that many of them knew Ms. Rogers from the Asian Chambers, that she was tragically murdered last week, that she was a force for good in the community but also a tremendous asset through her work in business development; that she wanted to note two great marathons over the weekend, the half marathon and the Olympic time trials went beautifully, that if anyone saw them on television it showcased the City, the weather was absolutely perfect, clear skies, the City was green and beautiful and the Olympic trials went extremely well, that the Chevron Houston Marathon and the Aramco Half Marathon and the El Paso 5 K, they had to get the sponsors in there because they could not do it without the sponsors, that it was a safe and well run race and she saluted everybody who was involved in those efforts and for those who ran, that for those of them who were on the Financial Management Review Committee or Task Force, who would be meeting perhaps later in the day, Mr. Mike Nichols ran and completed the half marathon, so they should salute him for that. Council Members Adams and Rodriguez absent.

MATTERS TO BE PRESENTED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Council Member Sullivan stated that he appreciated Mayor Parker mentioning the passing of Ms. Yuki Rodgers, that he wanted to especially thank her for her charity work with the Asian American Family Services, that the work she had done had to be remembered for a long time; that he wanted to thank the C Club for hosting the elected officials reception last night, that it was an annual event that the C Club puts on and they did a lot of work with the City, that a number of business leaders and former elected officials were members of the C Club and their new president this year was former Council Member Bert Keller, who also served on the Rebuild Houston Task Force; that he attended an important meeting last week regarding the Clear Lake Flood Study, that it effected not only the City in the southern portion, but also large areas both upstream and downstream that were in the City, that unfortunately he did not see any City representatives there, he thought the City may have been absent, that it was probably a decades long project in the building and would take a decade or more to complete, that he thought it was something they were paying attention to but would like to make sure that they were and if Public Works would like to meet with him he had handouts and fact sheets from the study and he thought it would be good for them to make sure they were all on the same page on it; that he wanted to thank Mayor Parker for agreeing to a compromise agreement with co-participants from the Southeast Water Purification Plant, they had the cities of Pasadena, Webster and Friendswood, the Clear Lake City Water Authority and Bay Brook MUD, as well as some others, that had reached an impasse on cost sharing for the first three years of operation of the plant and charge backs, that he thought it was a good compromise and one that benefited both parties, that it did happen with the Mayor' s approval and he appreciated that and helped

them with their sister or neighboring cities in the Clear Lake area and it benefited them all, that he wanted to recognize the hard work that June Chang, Yvonne Flores, Susan Bandy and Mark Lathan had put into that as well. Council Members Adams, Hoang and Rodriguez absent.

Council Member Gonzalez stated that recently there was an article in the Houston Chronicle talking about some of the challenges with their electric grid in the State, that he thought it was of importance because they recently voted on an electricity type contract in terms of giving the Mayor the authority to negotiate the best rates and going to the market sooner rather than later, that he wanted to highlight some of the points of the article, potential rolling blackouts that may return, projection that their reserves would fall below desired minimums over the next year placing a larger strain on their grid, new environmental regulations would require plants that wanted to be in compliance to decrease productivity in order to cut emissions and the EPA may also waive regulations during extreme measures, so it was important for the City and the residents to prepare for the potential blackouts to be careful with energy use; that he thought Item No. 21 was a good item, they provided authorization for the Housing and Community Development Department to accept additional funding from the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs, the City would receive \$330,000 additional funds for the Housing Homeless Services Program from TDHCA, other Texas cities did not spend their funds so this money was coming to the Houston market, that this money would be going to Bread of Life, SEARCH and the Cathedral Homeless Outreach Ministries; that Houston ranked as North America's fastest growing metro area, Houston had topped all other large metro areas in the eastern hemisphere according to a report released by the Brookings Institution on Wednesday, that Houston ranked number 19 on the Global Metro Monitor Report, that other markets that beat Houston were mainly China, Saudi Arabia and Turkey, they were truly a global and successful City; that he wanted to encourage all of them to participate in the second Book Drive to Save Lives hosted by Wooki Books, Pet Paradise and SNAP, drop off used books in good condition between Monday, January 23, 2012 and Saturday, January 28, 2012 at Pet Paradise and SNAP locations, the sale of all books will benefit the SNAP Spay and Neuter Program, for more information go to www.SNAPUS.org or contact 713-862-3863; that the Houston Texans completed a fantastic season this past weekend and while it was not the ending that any of them were looking for he was very proud of their hometown team and looked forward to an incredibly successful season next year and was happy to be a Texan supporter and wanted to thank all of the City employees that took part in Go Texan Day last Friday. Council Members Hoang and Rodriguez absent.

Council Member Adams stated that this past weekend many of them celebrated Martin Luther King Day with the parade and Frontier Breakfast and she wanted to thank them for inviting them to attend the breakfast; that last night they had a community meeting to focus on the flooding that occurred last Monday in the MacGregor Trails Community, that she wanted to thank all who participated, Public Works and Engineering Department, Harris County Flood Control, District Metro Office, the Office of Emergency Management, the Red Cross and Pricilla Graham with the Houston Texan Y.M.C.A. for allowing them to host the meeting there last night and all communities who participated; that there would be a grand opening on Friday of the new PEC Elementary School at 10:00 a.m.; that there would be a meeting next Tuesday at Gulf Meadows Civic Club at 6:30 p.m. at United Methodist Church, 7900 Fuqua; that many of them knew that in District D within the last three weeks they had several fires, that when they went back and talked to the families they said that the smoke detectors saved their lives, that she wanted to thank the Smoke Detector Team from Fire Station 46 for installing over 100 smoke detectors to seniors in the community, that they wanted to encourage families to please not take the batteries out of their smoke detectors. Council Members Sullivan, Hoang, Gonzalez, Rodriguez, Costello and Bradford absent.

Council Member Pennington stated that he was pleased to hear the economic development report that Mayor Pro Tem Gonzalez gave, that he would be interested in city limit

information, as well as the Metro information, harking back to the Smith report of a couple of years ago where he stated that 65% of the jobs and 80% of the population went outside of the City, that he would be interested to see if they were holding their own and doing better than that; that last Thursday he attended the dinner for the Academy of Medicine, Engineering and Science of Texas honoring the recipients of the Edith and Peter O' Donnell Awards, it was kind of a junior Nobel ceremony, held at the Omni Riverway. Council Members Sullivan, Hoang, Gonzalez, Rodriguez and Costello absent.

Mayor Parker stated that she was present to offer them welcome remarks when they started their conference, that she was glad somebody was there for that. Council Members Sullivan, Hoang, Gonzalez, Rodriguez and Costello absent.

Council Member Davis stated that he wanted to thank everyone in District B, Habitat for Humanity, Fifth Ward CRC and Air Liquide for sponsoring the MLK Day of Service in conjunction with District B, they had over 1,300 volunteers and started on 2 homes and cleaned up over 16 blocks in the Fifth Ward Community, that he wanted to thanked all individuals who assisted in making this effort possible; that he wanted to congratulate Lawrence Vickers, No. 47, starting fullback for the Houston Texans, he was a product of District B, and Andre Johnson, who was a good friend of his, that he wanted to thank the Texans for a great season; that he had commissioned a District B Neighborhood Advisory Council, a coalition of civic leaders in the district and they would have a monthly dialog with him, that it was his hope that this would increase and promote an access to City officials and get them on the right track so they could do some things collectively, their first meeting would be on February 13, 2012 at 9:00 a.m., more details would follow; that he was glad that the Council revisited Item No. 17 and wanted to thank the Mayor and her staff for supporting this effort and TIRZ 22, that he was looking forward to working with the builder, and looking forward to viewing the plans for the new homes. Council Members Sullivan, Hoang, Rodriguez and Costello absent.

Council Member Brown stated that on Item No. 2 her "no" vote was her concern that they were approving a budget that was a net loss to the City of \$28 million, that on Item Numbers 4 and 5 combined under bid of about \$1.5 million for Webber LLC, that hopefully they would not be seeing underbidding of a million dollars on the every agenda every week, that on Item No. 10, she voted yes, for heavy machinery, that there were companies that offered zero percent financing for 24 months and did not know if the City could take advantage of that, but it was something to look at when they were talking about \$1 million on the item, that on historic landmarks, Item Numbers 11 and 12, she voted yes, but there were two properties that were going to be tax exempt in the City for \$44,000 every year in tax revenues, that Item No. 24 they had other projects of higher priority than a parking lot, especially when they had flooding issues in the City, that Item Numbers 30 through 32, she needed to see if there were ways they could get this money sent to protecting the Houston Police Department Pension Plans and hiring more officers, they were talking about \$1.3 million on those three items; that to her district she wanted to thank the participants of the MLK Float, the Carverdale Community; that a special thank you to the Spring Branch East Super Neighborhood, they had a very spirited meeting on last Thursday; that the Community of Wrenwood and the surrounding area supported the creation of a park on the City's five acres adjacent to the McGinnis property and across from Sherwood Elementary, that she had spoken to County Commissioners on this matter and they were open to the possibility of leasing out the City's five acres for \$1 per year to take over the maintenance of the property, the five acres, and perhaps begin the process of a park creation, that she looked forward to working with the Mayor's office in the possibility of moving forward on this vision that the community had. Council Member Brown announced the following events: Wrenwood Civic Club meeting tomorrow at 7:30 p.m. at the Sherwood Elementary Cafeteria, Langwood One Civic Club meeting tonight at 6:00 p.m. at the Collier Branch Library, a meeting for Spring Branch North on Monday at 6:30 p.m. at the Spring Shadows Civic Association on Center Park, the Spring Branch Management District State of the District at the Sheraton

Brookhollow Hotel on January 25, 2012, 11:30 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.; that a widow who had been a Spring Branch resident for 50 years lost her home on Sunday to an electrical fire and little was left, that they were asking for donations of any kind, to please contact her district office for more information 832-393-3010. Council Members Sullivan, Hoang, Rodriguez, Costello, Burks and Bradford absent.

Council Member Cohen stated that over the last three weeks in office she had gotten a lot of calls from people concerned about the trees they were losing in Memorial Park, that she wanted to point out that the Memorial Park Conservancy, Center Point Energy and the Houston Marathon Foundation would plant 40 trees in honor of the 40th Anniversary of the Houston Marathon, that it would be held January 21, 2012; that the Houston Heights Women's Club was celebrating its 100th Anniversary of the Club House this weekend, that the property was donated by Mrs. Helen Cooley for the construction of a club house in 1912, that she would be attending their Marker Dedication Ceremony on January 21, 2012 at 2:00 p.m., their open house was on January 22, 2012 from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Council Members Sullivan, Hoang, Rodriguez, Costello and Bradford absent.

Council Member Christi stated that the last meeting they passed authorization for the Mayor to budget over half a billion dollars for energy and to lock in the best possible rates, that over half a billion dollars was a lot of money and then they look at some of the articles in the paper that they were the Saudi Arabia of natural gas, what did it cost for the City to build mini compressed natural gas plants to cover their electricity for the decades in the future, not just to get through this year, that the rates for natural gas in the future should be low for at least a decade, the energy experts tell him, and he just recalled a hospital system 10 years ago realizing that energy costs were going to be one of the biggest cost items in their system and they built an underground gas line into their plant and ran the whole system on their power plant, their own gas, so maybe think about research the next time they authorized that much money, maybe they could produce their own and then add to the grid, that it may be a profit item down the road, keep that in mind; that Council Member Adams illustration of what she did at MacGregor Way last night he truly felt that any challenges they had in the City, if they could bring that many groups together to sit down at the table and solve it, that was a perfect example of how they could solve any problem that came to the City, that they had a challenge with the devastating floods but the way she brought all those people together deserved a big compliment; that if they had a chance to go to the New Year's Eve celebration of the City it was phenomenal, there were scores of thousands of citizens happy, everything planned to the tee, that Ms. Susan Christian and her staff needed kudos; then the Houston Marathon and the Olympic Trials were a sight to behold and made them proud to be in the City of Houston, so he would compliment Susan and her staff for doing a great job on all three of those things. Council Members Sullivan, Hoang, Rodriguez and Costello absent.

Mayor Parker stated that absolutely Susan did a great job with very few staff members and not a lot of budget, that the New Year's Eve Live was also coordinated through Houston First, which was no longer a direct part of the City's budget, but everybody did a phenomenal job that night and she agreed with him. Council Members Sullivan, Hoang, Rodriguez and Costello absent.

Council Member Burks stated that the Texans were just good; that as a newly elected Council Member he would like to thank Mr. Alfred Moran, Director, ARA, for making his transition to Council as smooth as possible, that he was very appreciative also to the professionalism and dedication of the City administration staff, thereby, Ms. Vernita Jones, in making sure they had working phones and computers and to teach him the ropes of running an effective office at City Hall; that last Monday, Martin Luther King Day, he was proud to join fellow Houstonians in remembering Dr. King and honoring his legacy, that he and his wife were in the Black Heritage Society Parade; that he wanted to send his condolences to the family of

Reverend James Nash who lost his grandson Bryon over the weekend; that on January 21, 2012 Houston would celebrate Arbor Day and had launched an initiative called Replant Houston and throughout the month many great organizers would be promoting the replanting of trees, that last year's drought caused them to lose a large number of trees, in fact Texas lost 500 million trees to the drought, that he had volunteered to participate in events to promote Replant Houston and encouraged all Houstonians to get involved in Replant Houston events; that tomorrow the Greater Houston Partnership would be holding its annual meeting and Mr. Anthony Chase would be sworn in as the Partnership's new Chairman, that the meeting would be from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. tomorrow at the Hilton Americas; that this evening he would be joining Missouri City Council Member David Nguyen to attend a Lunar New Year Reception hosted by the Consular General of Viet Nam in Houston. Council Members Sullivan, Hoang, Rodriguez and Costello absent.

Mayor Parker stated that she wanted to thank Council Member Burks for mentioning Arbor Day, both he and Council Member Cohen, that MacGregor, Mason and Hermann Parks, from 8:00 a.m. to noon they would be planting lots and lots of trees, those were their big forested parks and they certainly needed volunteers but also individuals could also replant in their own yards, like fruit trees. Council Members Sullivan, Hoang, Rodriguez and Costello absent.

Council Member Laster stated that he wanted to add his and his staff's condolences on the passing of Ms. Rodgers, that they were very saddened to learn about that and their thoughts and prayers were with her family; that last Thursday evening, for those who watch the news, they learned about a potential tragedy that turned out to be not such a tragedy at all, apparently on Thursday evening, at the corner of Gessner and West Bellfort a car was carjacked, unfortunately it was in District J, and inside the car was a young 18 month old child by the name of Evan Montgomery, that once they all learned they began the prayer cycle, he was sure, because most of them were worried about it, and for about 17 hours, in 30 degree weather young Mr. Montgomery was alone, but an angel came by about 8:00 a.m. the next morning in the person of Mr. Terran Henry, who was the owner of Cool Runnings, a Jamaican Restaurant in southwest Houston, he happened to be out in an alley and noticed a Jeep Cherokee, that was not usually there, and he began to investigate and saw young Evan sitting in the front seat and he immediately called 9-1-1 and got permission to open the door and take care of the child, that he just wanted to hold him and keep him warm, that he called attention to than because Mr. Henry, like so many citizens in southwest Houston, went outside of his scope of security or the usual thing that he would normally do and his curiosity, care and concern for something out of place made him look, and if he did not save the child he certainly rescued the child so that story ended up being a happy ending because of the work of Mr. Henry, that he did not know Mr. Henry but wanted to thank him publicly, that Mr. Henry was an example of the kind of citizens that were transforming not only District J but southwest Houston and he hoped they agreed that he was the type of citizen that they wanted to hold up. Council Members Sullivan, Hoang, Rodriguez and Costello absent.

Mayor Parker stated that she wanted to thank Council Member Laster, that it was very well said. Council Members Sullivan, Hoang, Rodriguez and Costello absent.

Mayor Parker stated that Council Member Adams may raise the issue of smoke detectors and it was very timely, she wanted to let her know that coming to the agenda next week was a Federal Grant for the purchase of smoke detectors for the hearing impaired, they had the strobes and extremely loud high decibel alarm, that they continued to support the distribution of smoke detectors for those who could not otherwise afford it. Council Members Brown, Sullivan, Hoang, Rodriguez and Costello absent.

Council Member Adams stated that she wanted to thank Mr. Preston Rowe and Ms. Lillian Parker of Super Neighborhood 68 for organizing the smoke detector canvassing yesterday, that

they all remembered the flood of January 9, 2012 and they could not let the day go by without thanking the men and women of the Houston Fire Department who helped in that rescue, that she knew that members of the Houston Police Department and members of previous policing agencies, that when she turned on the news those were the men and women she saw on television who had kids on their backs and walking them through waters, that she wanted to thank the crews of Ambulances 18, 25, 26, 35 and 36, Engine Numbers 11, 18, 23, 33 and 35 and Chief Chavez of 5600 Mykawa at Griggs for his coordinated efforts of last Monday and making sure that everything ran smoothly in the midst of the disaster, they wanted to thank the firefighters for stepping forward; that when somebody calls in on a company about noise complaints and things like that it was very rare that they get a note from the company saying that yes there was a lot of noise and the police did respond, that she wanted to thank Allied Power and Coating who was a business in her district and who had been approached by the Police Department to investigate a complaint about too much noise coming from the facility, but he ended his letter by saying, "yes there was some noise and they were going to do things to buffer the noise", that the officers left without incident which meant they came to some type of resolution, and he stated that it was their desire to be a good neighbor as well as a good employer, that he wanted to thank Officers Chriswell and Robinson for their diplomacy and professionalism and she also wanted to thank those officers, that she wanted to thank Mr. Larry Dean of Power Allied for sending her a note; that she wanted to offer condolences to Pastor Nash for the loss of his grandson, Pastor Mutton; Ms. Helen Jones, the mother of V Michael McCay; and to keep Ms. Olivia Randall and Pastor Anderson in their prayers as they continue to recover; and one of the ministers said Saturday that he did not understand "death", because when someone dies the church was packed with people to visit, but when they celebrate someone who lives it was hard to get anyone to be in attendance. Council Members Brown, Davis, Sullivan, Hoang, Pennington, Rodriguez, Laster, Costello and Bradford absent. NO QUORUM PRESENT

Council Member Burks stated that he wanted to compliment and thank Mayor Parker for last Monday night's call for help in the Martin Luther King area, that he wanted to also thank the Houston Police Department, Southeast Command Station, and all police officers who participated in that, that he understood it was over 10,000 people in that area of Martin Luther King and Highway 610 to Van Fleet, that there was a fight and a shooting, they also found out that the majority of people who were there were not even from that side of town. Council Members Brown, Davis, Sullivan, Hoang, Pennington, Rodriguez, Laster, Costello and Bradford absent. NO QUORUM PRESENT

Mayor Parker stated that she was glad that Council Member Burks called her and they were going to make sure that all Council Members had the appropriate contact information for police liaisons. Council Members Brown, Davis, Sullivan, Hoang, Pennington, Rodriguez, Laster, Costello and Bradford absent. NO QUORUM PRESENT

There being no further business before Council, the City Council adjourned at 10:55 a.m. Council Member Green out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent on personal business. Council Members Brown, Davis, Sullivan, Hoang, Pennington, Rodriguez, Laster, Costello and Bradford absent. NO QUORUM PRESENT

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

MINUTES READ AND APPROVED

/S/Anna Russell

Anna Russell, City Secretary