

City Council Chamber, City Hall, Tuesday, January 24, 2012

A Regular Meeting of the Houston City Council was held at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, January 24, 2012, 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, Larry V. Green, Stephen C. Costello, Andrew C. Burks, Jr., Melissa Noriega, C. O. "Brad" Bradford and Jack Christie D. C.; Mr. Harlan Heilman, Division Chief, Claims & Subrogation Division, Legal Department; Ms. Marta Crinejo, Agenda Director, and Ms. Stella Ortega, Agenda Office present.

At 1:44 p.m. Mayor Pro Tem Gonzalez called the meeting to order and stated that today Council Member Davis had a presentation and Council Member Davis invited those present with his presentation to the podium and stated that it was a privilege to recognize the work of Elves & More; that for over 10 years they were committed to the youth of Houston, it was a nonprofit agency dedicated to changing lives one bike at a time; that they collaborated closely with school administrators for children's achievement for a bike and they must attend school regularly, behave well, etc.; and Mayor Parker stated that a gift of a bicycle was an opportunity to explore the world and to some youth a way to and from a job and school; and presented a Proclamation to representatives of Elves & More and proclaimed today as "Elves & More Day" in Houston, Texas; and thanked all for their service. A Representative of Elves & More stated that they believed every child should be given a chance and they write contracts with children for academic improvement, meaning a child with an F may improve to a D, etc., that a bicycle was a way for a child to know accomplishment and they would continue to ensure it; and thanked all for the recognition. Council Members Davis, Sullivan, Pennington and Green absent. Mayor Pro Tem Gonzalez presiding.

Mayor Pro Tem Gonzalez thanked all for their efforts in the community, and stated they were worthwhile and great in making Houston great. Council Members Davis, Sullivan, Pennington and Green absent. Mayor Pro Tem Gonzalez presiding.

At 1:53 p.m. Mayor Pro Tem Gonzalez stated as Mayor Parker made her way to the Council Table he would call on Council Member Brown for prayer and pledge. Council Member Brown invited Father Waldemar Matusiak with Our Lady of Czestochowa Polish Catholic Church to lead all in the prayer and Council Member Brown led all in the pledge. Council Members Davis, Sullivan, Pennington and Rodriguez absent.

At 1:56 p.m. the City Secretary called the roll. Council Members Sullivan, Pennington and Rodriguez absent.

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

Mayor Parker stated that in sharing good news Houston was named the top city in US economy and among cities worldwide and today they had a shout out in Garden and Gun a magazine with a nice article on the city which she would share. Council Members Sullivan, Pennington and Rodriguez absent.

At 1:57 p.m. the City Secretary began calling the public. Council Members Sullivan, Pennington and Rodriguez absent.

Mr. Paul Kubosh, 1619 Lubbock, Houston, Texas 77007 (713-222-0880) appeared and stated that he was speaking on the settlement of the red light camera lawsuit; that they had filed a motion to intervene in the lawsuit and protect the vote; that the Charter Amendment was

thrown out by Judge Hughes and the Fifth Circuit ruled today the way the City had conducted the defense of the Proposition III caused them to conclude the interveners interest may be inadequately represented and they as valid organizers could come back into the lawsuit and defend the election; that they could give ATS any amount they wanted, but in 2006 he and Mr. Kallinen were here with a different Mayor and Council and spoke against cameras and what they voted on was a Charter Amendment and that could only be removed by another vote of the citizens, just because the cameras were removed did not protect them in 2020 when this Administration was gone against them coming back; that the only way they would leave from this was to have the City Charter amended and stop all future Mayors and Councils from putting cameras back up without a public vote; and urged they have Mr. Feldman stop fighting them. Council Members Adams, Sullivan, Pennington and Rodriguez absent.

Council Member Hoang stated that Mr. Kubosh and his associates were representing citizens zealously and thanked him for his service; and upon questions, Mr. Kubosh stated that as long as the Charter was not amended he was not happy with anything; that they were told they could intervene and the case would not be dismissed with a settlement as they were still interveners and they would still fight Proposition III for citizens; that the Fifth Circuit brought them back in and the Council had to deal with the fact the voters were back in the lawsuit and their goal was to have the Charter amended so no Administration could bring the cameras back without a vote of the people. Council Members Sullivan and Rodriguez absent.

Upon questions by Council Member Bradford, Mr. Kubosh stated that Judge Hughes said they could not show that the City did not adequately represent the citizens and they were not permitted as interveners in the action originally; that the action today of the Fifth Circuit made them a party to the action and ATS could sign off with the City but it would not resolve their claims; that the Charter amendment said the City should not issue notices or pursue claims on any notices of violation and it may be up to debate on how far back it went, but certainly if the Charter amendment was upheld they believed all tickets issued after the Mayor cut cameras back on could not be collected. Council Members Sullivan and Rodriguez absent.

Council Member Bradford moved the rules be suspended for the purpose of extending the time for questions of Mr. Paul Kubosh, seconded by Council Member Hoang. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Sullivan and Rodriguez absent. MOTION 2012-0040 ADOPTED.

Upon further questions of Council Member Bradford, Mr. Kubosh stated that it was his position the way it was drafted, collecting would be in violation of the Charter amendment; that he was not the attorney of record on the trial court, Mr. Furlow the next speaker was; and Council Member Bradford stated that he would retain questions for Mr. Furlow. Council Members Sullivan and Rodriguez absent.

Upon questions by Council Member Christie, Mayor Parker stated the cost of an election to reverse the City Charter depended on if it was a standalone election; and upon questions of the Mayor the City Secretary stated that it was probably a million and a half for a standalone election; and Mayor Parker stated that Mr. Kubosh litigated traffic tickets and she wanted to be clear he was not a party to a settlement with ATS; that Judge Hughes told the City to mediate the contract dispute and what Mr. Kubosh was trying to do, his appeal had to do with whether or not the Charter amendment was valid and Judge Hughes ruled it was not valid; that the City, however, decided to respect the will of the voters and dissolve the Red Light Camera Program whether or not the Charter amendment was valid; that he was litigating something completely separate from the item which would be before Council tomorrow. Council Members Adams, Sullivan and Rodriguez absent.

Upon questions by Council Member Gonzalez, Mr. Kubosh stated that the contract settlement with ATS and the Charter amendment were inescapably linked, however, because

he was so vocal he knew many Council Members did not know they had the interlocutory appeal and he had a duty to inform them they may settle, but it was not over as the intent was to amend the Charter. Council Members Adams, Sullivan, Hoang and Rodriguez absent.

Mr. David Furlow, 333 Clay, Houston, Texas 77005 (713-653-8653) appeared and stated that today a three judge panel of the United States Supreme Court led by Chief Justice Jones reversed and remanded Judge Hughes denial of the right of citizens who voted no to red light cameras in the Charter amendment election of November 2010; that at this point Kubosh representatives would be appearing in the case to represent all those who said no; that they were asking this Council to not give the city a blank check; that if they did not know of the appeal to the Fifth Circuit it was because the City Attorney intentionally kept them in the dark; that they were facing a request to pay millions to ATS and it did not deserve a dime; that they repeatedly made the argument that the City's contract with ATS was void because of the way ATS tried to renegotiate it in 2009 to get the better of the city and took the position it was an entirely different contract; that under the Texas Transportation Code Section 707003 they contend the contract was void and the City Attorney refused to make that argument because the Mayor wanted to revive the camera system, not to end it and the August 2011 resolution and ordinance Council passed enabled the city to prosecute or pursue collections against those getting tickets between July 24 and August 24, 2011, and everyone violated the Charter amendment vote and disregards the will of the voters; and urged all study the settlement agreement in detail and evaluate. Council Members Adams, Sullivan, Hoang and Rodriguez absent.

Mayor Parker stated that so many things were wrong with that statement she would not know where to begin. Council Members Adams, Sullivan, Hoang and Rodriguez absent.

Upon questions by Council Member Davis, Mr. Furlow stated that running a red light was illegal, but the red light camera system which operated increased rear-end accidents as opposed to side impacts; that a study showed the camera system made people less safe and the city did not put in more patrol cars and lengthen by one second the yellow light time was because they could not say no to the ten million received in revenue; that extending the yellow light by one second was easy and no cost and safer; and Council Member Davis stated that if the light was longer they would have more time to beat the light; and Mr. Furlow stated that he thought the same until he saw studies by the Virginia Department of Transportation and that was why they cancelled their camera system. Council Members Adams, Sullivan, Hoang and Rodriguez absent.

Upon questions by Council Member Green, Mr. Furlow stated that settlement with ATS being premature was one aspect of their position; that the people voting no now had a representative and they would like to argue the matters and if Judge Hughes disagreed he would take him to the Fifth Circuit again and to the U. S. Supreme Court if necessary to vindicate the right of the voters, that if part of it was settled and respected the Constitutional Charter amendment rights of the citizens of Houston under Article 15, Section 5 then they were happy to see the matter resolved, but ATS wanted a published decision by Judge Hughes saying citizens had no right to use the Charter Amendment Process to overturn ordinances more than 30 days old because it enabled them to tell citizens they had to shut up and pay up and they were asking Council to evaluate and not accept a blank check from the City Attorney. Council Members Adams, Sullivan and Rodriguez absent.

Council Member Bradford stated that he believed the red light camera technology was good and could be used for safe enhancement strategies; and moved the rules be suspended for the purpose of extending the time for questions of Mr. David Furlow, seconded by Council Member Costello. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Adams, Sullivan and Rodriguez absent. MOTION 2012-0041 ADOPTED.

Upon questions of Council Member Bradford, Mr. Furlow stated that he was involved in the litigations since they vindicated the right of citizens to use authenticated evidence in 2006 in an earlier red light camera case; that after the predecessor Council canvassed the vote and made the Charter amendment ordinance putting into effect the Proposition III election in 2010 no more tickets would be issued and no more monies from those tickets could be collected after that date, you could collect money on tickets prior to November 15, but not after and that included those issued between the time the Mayor turned them back on July 24 and turned them off August 24, but it would not impair the right of ATS to collect monies due before November 2010; that the Houston Chronicle had a calculation of up to twelve and a half million and his concern was there was a guaranteed by the City which could only be guaranteed with general revenue funds and if the city defaulted conceivably ATS could come back and revive the camera system because of the intentional default by the city; and Council Member Bradford stated that the article concluded \$3.3 million and his math came up with \$12.5 million. Council Members Adams, Sullivan and Rodriguez absent.

Mr. Randall Kallinen, 511 Broadway, Houston, Texas 77012 (713-320-3785) appeared and stated that he would not make money whether cameras went up or stayed down, but had a long history in the ACLU and other civil rights organizations with concerns of the people and many were here; that it was established cameras were dangerous by the City's own study and 20 to 30 jurisdictions which voted on the camera all voted them out, people did not like them; that a majority of people voted cameras out and voted this Council in, would they respect the vote on the camera or just for their election; that ATS did think this was worth \$12.5 million; that the ruling by the Fifth Circuit told all what five higher judges thought of Judge Hughes ruling, it was wrong; that the Fifth Circuit believed the election was good and they should not give up the money when it was needed. Council Members Sullivan and Rodriguez absent.

Council Member Christie stated that he insinuated this Mayor and Council might make their decision on politics only and he strongly disagreed with that. Council Members Sullivan and Rodriguez absent.

Mayor Parker stated that for the record the city had repealed their ordinance, it was not possible today to issue red light camera tickets and under state law it would require a whole series of public meetings and disclosure if they decided to do it in the future; that some future Mayor and Council may decide to, but she publicly pledged it would not happen on her watch and she at some point did get tired of having them come and say she was not telling the truth. Council Members Sullivan, Rodriguez and Christie absent.

Ms. Caravella Stephens, 3830 Pickfair, Houston, Texas 77026 (713-671-4120) appeared and stated that she was a fourth grade teacher with Isaacs Elementary and was present to thank all who saw the need for the After School Achievement Program, it was definitely needed and was helping achieve the goal of well-rounded children balancing extra curricular activities and studies and all wanted to be a part of ASAP and it did drive classroom performance. Council Members Sullivan, Rodriguez, Noriega and Christie absent.

Council Member Davis thanked Ms. Stephens for coming and stated that Isaacs Elementary was in his district; and thanked the Mayor for continuing the program. Council Members Sullivan, Rodriguez, Noriega and Christie absent.

Council Member Adams thanked Ms. Stephens for all she did at Isaacs; and stated that she was an alumni of Isaacs; that she was glad to meet one of the teachers and was proud they were a recipient of the program. Council Members Sullivan, Noriega and Christie absent.

Council Member Burks moved the rules be suspended for the purpose of hearing Ms.

Cynthia Pharms at the top of the three minute Non-Agenda Speakers List, seconded by Council Member Bradford. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Sullivan, Noriega and Christie absent. MOTION 2012-0042 ADOPTED.

Ms. Cynthia Pharms, 47007 Wenda #236, Houston, Texas 77033 (no phone) appeared and stated that she was concerned with the flood January 9, 2012, the issue was improper drainage; that MLK and Griggs were extremely flooded and the newly built elementary school flooded and children were frightened; that she had a series of questions and was glad to see Council Member Adams speaking of the new library, but she hoped that did not flood and wondered what provisions were made, how did citizens get on the drainage committee, etc. Council Members Sullivan, Hoang, Rodriguez, Burks and Noriega absent.

Council Member Adams thanked Ms. Pharms for being an advocate for the community and thanked all who volunteered January 9th helping youth, etc., and discussed the assessment and preventative maintenance such as looking at and clearing inlets, culverts repaired, etc., and hoped the next rain would flow and if not she would have questions. Council Members Sullivan, Hoang, Rodriguez, Burks and Noriega absent.

Mayor Parker stated that Council Member Adams raised the issue last week and had a series of townhall meetings, this was a failure of a culvert running under a railroad section. Council Members Sullivan, Hoang, Rodriguez, Burks and Noriega absent.

Council Member Adams moved the rules be suspended for the purpose of extending the time for questions of Ms. Cynthia Pharms, seconded by Council Member Davis. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Sullivan, Hoang, Rodriguez, Burks and Noriega absent. MOTION 2012-0043 ADOPTED.

Council Member Pennington stated that this was a Flood Control ditch and the City of Houston citizens were impacted and they were all working together, that culvert was repaired and Flood Control was working to improve conditions in the ditch and the City was going back through and clean out inlets making sure there was capacity; that no drainage fee money was being spent on Hike and Bike Trails, but federal hike and bike dollars. Council Members Sullivan, Hoang, Rodriguez, Burks and Noriega absent.

Council Member Pennington stated that he was on the Oversight Drainage Committee and rules for prioritizing projects were in progress and he was sure if this was not cured Council Member Adams would make sure it was on the list. Mayor Parker, Council Members Sullivan, Hoang, Rodriguez, Burks and Noriega absent. Mayor Pro Tem Gonzalez presiding.

Mayor Pro Tem Gonzalez stated that if Ms. Pharms had any follow-up information needed by the city she could present it to Citizens Assistance and someone would follow-up with her. Mayor Parker, Council Members Sullivan, Hoang, Rodriguez, Burks and Noriega absent. Mayor Pro Tem Gonzalez presiding.

Mr. Roland Curry, 5911 Bent Bough, Houston, Texas 77088 (713-340-0332) had reserved time to speak but was not present when his name was called. Mayor Parker, Council Members Sullivan, Hoang, Rodriguez, Burks and Noriega absent. Mayor Pro Tem Gonzalez presiding.

Mr. William Beal, homeless (no phone) had reserved time to speak but was not present when his name was called. Mayor Parker, Council Members Brown, Sullivan, Hoang, Rodriguez, Burks and Noriega absent. Mayor Pro Tem Gonzalez presiding.

Mr. Kevin Norman, 1003 Valley Park, Houston, Texas 77078 (281-780-4415) appeared and stated that he was present regarding landfills in minority areas; that he lived in the northeast

northeast quadrant of Houston near Mesa/Tidwell area with three or four landfills and today he was present as there looked to be another landfill being constructed and it was unacceptable; odors were repulsive; that he called the City and was told they had nothing to do with deciding where landfills were built and the Harris County Pollution Control told him the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality decided or presided over permitting of landfills; that he was not sure whether this was to be a landfill, but he wondered how citizens, and how the city had no say. Mayor Parker, Council Members Brown, Sullivan, Hoang, Rodriguez, Burks and Noriega absent. Mayor Pro Tem Gonzalez presiding.

Upon questions by Council Member Davis, Mr. Norman stated that there should be studies to show tendencies such as Cancer, etc., near landfills; and Council Member Davis stated that he knew studies were done in District B and were still ongoing, from his understanding they did research and a landfill was not being started at Mesa, but they would continue to investigate and get information to him. Mayor Parker, Council Members Brown, Sullivan, Hoang, Rodriguez, Burks and Noriega absent. Mayor Pro Tem Gonzalez presiding.

Council Member Costello stated that there was a permitting process the State mandated through the TCEQ and it was public information so if indeed there was a site for a proposed landfill they had gone through the public hearing process and all environmental reports and if it was not on the TCEQ website then theoretically it was not a permitted landfill site. Mayor Parker, Council Members Brown, Sullivan, Hoang and Noriega absent. Mayor Pro Tem Gonzalez presiding.

Upon questions by Council Member Christie, Mayor Pro Tem Gonzales stated that this was the first they had heard about it, but Council Member Davis stated that his office, and perhaps anyone wanting to assist them, could look into it to make sure the proper review was being done; and Council Member Christie stated to Council Member Davis it seemed like a legitimate concern if he would follow up. Mayor Parker, Council Members Brown, Sullivan and Hoang absent. Mayor Pro Tem Gonzalez presiding.

Council Member Green stated that he too agreed the City should have say with regard where landfills came up, however, as Council Member Costello stated there was permitting and it needed to be posted and hearings conducted and if the process had not transpired that was where to begin; and finding out who the property owner was may be fruitful; that he asked a question as to whether the City had say to landfill placement and he would like the Legal Department to check. Mayor Parker, Council Members Brown, Adams, Sullivan, Rodriguez and Hoang absent. Mayor Pro Tem Gonzalez presiding.

Council Member Pennington moved the rules be suspended for the purpose of extending the time for questions of Mr. Kevin Norman, seconded by Council Member Bradford. All voting aye. Nays none. Mayor Parker, Council Members Brown, Adams, Sullivan, Rodriguez and Hoang absent. Mayor Pro Tem Gonzalez presiding. MOTION 2012-0044 ADOPTED.

Council Member Green stated that if there was no legislation, he served on the Legislative Committee and it would be something he would like to move forward. Mayor Parker, Council Members Brown, Adams, Sullivan, Rodriguez, Hoang and Noriega absent. Mayor Pro Tem Gonzalez presiding.

Council Member Pennington stated that all applications were subject to opportunity for hearing and there was a procedure so if a permit was under consideration he could get a group and show they had proper interests and if they were recognized they could have a hearing. Mayor Parker, Council Members Brown, Adams, Rodriguez, Hoang and Noriega absent. Mayor Pro Tem Gonzalez presiding.

Mayor Pro Tem Gonzalez stated that there was a hearing process and there was oversight by TCEQ at the State level and many times Council Members could offer a letter of support; and Council Member Davis was on it and would follow-up with him. Council Members Brown, Davis, Adams, Rodriguez, Hoang, Noriega and Christie absent.

Ms. Alessandra Okaitland, 8405 Canyon, Houston, Texas 77051 (281-989-2895) appeared and stated that she was present with two issues; that she purchased a home in Sunnyside in December 2009 with the HOPE Home Program and it was a true blessing; that the first year was great, however last January their problems began and since she and her neighbor had a combined four home break-ins and three car break-ins with her most recent being January 2012 four months to the date of her last break-in; that it took 1-1/2 hours for officers to respond and her family was there seven minutes following the alarm; that this caused psychological damage to her three and four year olds wanting to know when the bad guys will be back for their toys; that Captain Jones stated the time was a bit long as it was usually 30 minutes to an hour for an alarm call so she wondered why did she pay for an alarm and permit if they would not show; that anything could have happened to her family; that she did not think she should have to stay in the house three to four more years as a part of the contract with HOPE due to the fact crime was not handled as promised; that she was involved and HPD did not seem to care and her insurance company said they would not cover her any longer; that the victims suffered and she did not feel safe and did not want to be back saying someone was injured or killed to get something done. Council Members Brown, Davis, Rodriguez, Hoang, Noriega and Christie absent.

Council Member Adams stated that she did apologize for all she had gone through; that the value of families like hers becoming homeowners was priceless and she would not make excuses, but with her appearance today she hoped she would get action in finding out where they were; and she was now asking Sergeant Baltazar, who was present to see where they were with this as no one should be fearful in their home; that Mr. Eichenbaum with Housing was present to find out about the contract as that was with the bank and she would do whatever she could in getting answers and if her office did not respond she took full responsibility for that and they were watching and knew what that meant and she would be down to find out why the response was not there. Council Members Brown, Davis, Rodriguez, Hoang, Noriega and Christie absent.

Council Member Burks stated that he lived in her area and whatever his office could do they would; that getting a security survey of her home would be in order and she needed to be involved in the community; that if the apartment complex across from her was causing the problem then there were things they could do; that being afraid and leaving the area may have them follow and an end needed to be put to this; that she was a taxpayer and needed to put an end to this, she was a citizen and she should stand and not tolerate it; that senior citizens were there and not running and the police free of charge would get her the security survey. Council Members Brown, Adams, Rodriguez, Hoang and Christie absent.

Mr. John Dryden, 4118 Garrott, Houston, Texas 77006 (281-685-3003) appeared and stated that he was present asking Council to rescind the habitability ordinance; that he found out about it when receiving a letter stating he needed to send \$125.00 to inspect his four-plex which he bought in 1976 and historically speaking four units and under had been considered residential and the problem was the habitability ordinance was passed as a reaction to two young boys who died in a dilapidated abandoned apartment complex when the stairwell fell; that the inspector said he needed a occupancy permit and that would be \$425.00; that electrical, plumbing, etc., came out and one example was he had a closet under the stairwell and they want him to sheetrock it because it was a fire hazard and they were there 35 years and few fires started in the closet in the hallway. Council Members Brown, Adams and Hoang absent.

Mayor Parker stated that as he indicated the habitability ordinance was on the books a few years now and the cutoff was four units; and Mr. Dryden stated that it had been reduced to three units and above; and Mayor Parker stated that he clearly fell in the bounds of the ordinance and it was designed to make sure those who lived in multifamily residences were safe; that if he would like to visit with Mr. Norman with Public Works he could walk him through the process and make sure all was properly explained; and Mr. Dryden stated what about single homes and duplexes; and Mayor Parker stated that Council Member Adams was very interested in extending this to single family homes and she had indicated she would allow her to take it to committee if she wished; and Mr. Dryden stated that he was pointing out if one was not safe neither was the other, but he did not believe it should be extended to them. Council Members Brown, Adams and Hoang absent.

Council Member Gonzalez stated that he thought it wise for the committee to get more information, he talked with constituents and there was lack of knowledge in the community and there were slumlords which needed to be addressed, but also those with rental property as retirement income; that with a large amount of inspections they ran the risk of vacating tenants and then they had no place to live and they just created more hardships; and upon questions, Mr. Dryden stated that he did not understand what he meant by did he know to register his property; and Mayor Parker stated that a register was kept of all multifamily or multi-tenant properties. Council Members Brown and Hoang absent.

Ms. Marina Coryat, P. O. Box 386, Houston, Texas 77001 (713-585-6591) appeared and stated that she worked for the city 20 years in Solid Waste Management and as their spokesperson it was great talking "trash" with them; that they saw storms and saw the department evolve from just waste to greener practices, thinking outside the "bin" and looking for cost saving ways to make Houston a cleaner, greener place to live and work; that she would be leaving with a tremendous opportunity for growth and was now with Moroch, a private advertising and public relations company representing the Houston area McDonald' s franchise owners and her first job was at McDonald' s; that scholarships were offered with this year' s deadline being January 27th. Council Members Brown and Hoang absent.

Mayor Parker stated that she would be missed and she loved the phrase, "Thinking outside the bin" ; and thanked her for her service. Council Members Brown, Hoang Noriega and Christie absent.

Council Members Adams, Green, Burks and Gonzales congratulated Ms. Coryat on her new position and stated that she would be missed. Council Members Brown, Hoang, Rodriguez and Green absent.

Mr. Kevin Moore, 808 Dallas, Houston, Texas 77002 (713-655-8989) appeared and stated that he was a McDonald' s franchise owner and president of the McDonald' s Operators Association of Greater Houston and represented the other 52 operators; that the co-op decided how to spend their budget through advertising and community involvement and they returned an average of 45¢ for every \$1.00 they took in back to the Texas community; that about 100 stores fall in the Houston city limits and they contributed over \$2 million to sales tax revenue and about that much more in property tax revenue in addition to fees, permits, etc., that they would continue with their scholarships, etc., and he looked forward to addressing Council again in the future. Council Members Brown, Hoang, Rodriguez and Laster absent.

Council Member Bradford thanked Mr. Moore for many years of benevolent acts; he and his organization had been involved in many community service projects in addition to providing job opportunities to many youth and now healthier food. Council Members Brown, Hoang, Rodriguez and Laster absent.

Mr. Richard Noble, 812 Elm, Carson City, Nevada 89703 (760-992-4172) appeared and stated that he was from West Hollywood in Palm Springs, California, that he left in March with the Rainbow Pride Flag after hearing of Asher Brown's suicide in Cypress; that he was gay and all he knew who were gay were born that way; that he thanked Mayor Parker for her leadership and it was imperative to have Mayor's, members of Congress, the U. S. Senate and the President to stand up and tell school districts no more bullying. Council Members Brown, Cohen, Sullivan, Hoang, Rodriguez and Burks absent.

Mayor Parker stated that Mr. Noble was walking from the Golden Gate Bridge to Washington; and upon questions, Mr. Noble stated the specific purpose of his walk was to show courage; and Mayor Parker wished him a safe journey. Council Members Brown, Cohen, Sullivan, Hoang, Rodriguez, Pennington and Burks absent.

Ms. Nathaleen Reed, 2521 Dowling, Houston, Texas 77004 (713-595-6649) had reserved time to speak but was not present when her name was called. Council Members Brown, Cohen, Sullivan, Hoang, Pennington, Rodriguez and Burks absent.

Mr. John Johnson, 7102 Wendemere, Houston, Texas 77088 (832-453-1900) appeared and stated that he was before Council previously regarding a bogus arrest on a misdemeanor case with a \$50,000 bond which was now behind him; that police had come to his house and got property and now would not give it back so he was having to go to court again for his property; that when police came with a false arrest you had a black mark without an attorney standing for you. Council Members Brown, Cohen, Sullivan, Hoang, Rodriguez, Burks and Noriega absent.

Upon questions by Council Member Davis, Mr. Johnson stated that his property was at 7114 Windemere, a rental property of his, HPD took his gun from there when they came to arrest him on the bogus case; and Mayor Parker stated that when they knew what people were coming to talk about they tried to distribute background information and she did not know if he had it in front of him, but his pistol was taken from him when he was arrested and the department was awaiting a court order to release the pistol because of the nature of the charges against him; and Council Member Davis thanked Mr. Johnson for his time. Council Members Cohen, Sullivan, Hoang, Gonzalez, Rodriguez and Noriega absent.

Council Member Bradford thanked Mr. Johnson for coming and stated that the procedures HPD utilized to release the property were pretty tight and in his case there was a question from the District Attorney's Office whether it should be released to him and until it was resolved the District Attorney took the position he needed a court order before the firearm would be released because conditions of the first protective order must be adhered to so it was just not HPD refusing to give him a piece of property back and that was standard procedure with weapons involved. Council Members Sullivan, Hoang, Gonzalez, Rodriguez and Noriega absent.

Mayor Parker stated that she wanted Council Member Davis to look for that information during public sessions as they tried to get it out as early as possible so Council Members would have some background. Council Members Sullivan, Hoang, Gonzalez, Rodriguez and Noriega absent.

Mr. Paul O' Sullivan, 4703 Walker, Houston, Texas 77023 (713-514-0446) appeared and stated that he was present regarding a food desert which existed in the City of Houston, the Eastend, they were underserved with quality grocery stores and they were working to start a local organic food co-op; that all money invested and spent at a local co-op stayed in the community and they were asking support of Council to make this happen; and invited them to a presentation at the Eastwood Civic Association Meeting, February 6th at 6:30 p.m. at the Cape Center. Council Members Sullivan, Hoang, Gonzalez and Noriega absent.

Mayor Parker thanked Mr. Sullivan for coming and stated that Council Member Costello was chairing city efforts to address food deserts, they did recognize them as a problem and knew the Eastend did have particular concerns; and she would point out Council Member Rodriguez had been passionate about grocery stores in the Eastend. Council Members Sullivan, Hoang, Gonzalez and Noriega absent.

Council Member Rodriguez stated that it was good to see Mr. O' Sullivan and he appreciated his efforts in bettering the Eastend; that he looked forward to working with him though he was not real familiar with co-ops and any resource his office could provide they would be happy to do so. Council Members Sullivan, Hoang, Gonzalez and Noriega absent.

Council Member Adams thanked Council Member Costello as she would be his vice chair working on food deserts; that he worked hard on this and attended many meetings and thanked Mayor Parker for her vision; that she would like him to continue sharing ideas. Council Members Sullivan, Hoang, Gonzalez and Noriega absent.

Council Member Costello thanked Mr. O' Sullivan for coming and stated as his colleagues mentioned they were focusing primarily on grocery stores and they were reminded there were other alternatives and he looked forward to possibly attending the meeting and any meetings the Council Member thought they would be interested in helping they would be happy to help. Council Members Sullivan, Hoang and Noriega absent.

Mr. Samuel Smith, 16803 Imperial Valley Drive #86, Houston, Texas 77036 (281-447-3994) appeared and stated that he was a native Houstonian born and raised in the fifth Ward and when not there he was in the Texas Department of Corrections; that he did about 34 years and now had been out about 4 years and had many problems finding work; that he was present trying to find any resources to help ex-offenders and enable them to work; that he did not want to go back to prison and this was his third time coming with the same problem. Council Members Sullivan, Hoang, Noriega and Christie absent.

Council Member Gonzalez thanked Mr. Smith for coming and stated that this was a very serious public policy issue which needed to be worked on; that it did impact many communities and there was a very high recidivism rate for those coming out; that the community needed to find a path forward as he was right many did not want to hire or rent to ex-offenders; that he saw his information and could follow-up and he would defer to the next speaker. Council Members Sullivan, Hoang, Rodriguez, Costello, Noriega and Christie absent.

Council Member Green stated that he would get him information, there were a lot of companies in the community which hired ex-offenders, many times they did not advertise that they did, but they did; that they would put him in the system and start sending him on interviews. Council Members Sullivan, Hoang, Rodriguez, Costello, Noriega and Christie absent.

Mayor Parker stated that she would point out the City of Houston was an equal opportunity employer and did hire ex-offenders when there were openings. Council Members Sullivan, Hoang, Gonzalez, Rodriguez, Costello, Noriega and Christie absent.

Council Member Burks stated this was an ongoing problem which needed to be addressed and larger than what many think, after being released they almost had to do something bad to go back to where they were when accepted; and upon questions by Council Member Burks, Mr. Smith stated that he liked driving a tractor trailer, but now requirements had changed since 1985 and you needed so many years, so many endorsements, etc., he did not have resources and without the support of his family he would already be back in prison. Council Members Sullivan, Hoang, Gonzalez, Rodriguez, Costello, Noriega and Christie absent.

Upon questions by Council Member Burks, Mayor Parker stated that she would refer back to Council Member Green as he was more of an expert, but there were no programs she was aware of; and Council Member Green stated that they could assist him with a TWIT Card as well, with regarding to driving there may be restraints being an ex-offender, it may not be a good match, but there were training dollars and getting him in front of employers who hired ex-offenders they should be able to help and after this meeting would get him information. Council Members Sullivan, Hoang, Pennington, Gonzalez, Rodriguez, Noriega and Christie absent.

Council Member Adams thanked Mr. Smith for coming and sharing and stated that working with reentry for almost six years she knew his difficulties, but she was glad there were many resources today and he should not deny any resources; and a staff member would speak with him. Council Members Sullivan, Hoang, Pennington, Rodriguez, Noriega and Christie absent.

Pastor Kevin Thompson, 7414 Cook, Houston, Texas 77036 (318-709-7508) appeared and stated that he was with Gods Way Ministry and he was present regarding crime, slumlords, etc., there was one apartment complex, the Forum Apartments, which concerned him in District C with about 110 units vandalized and open with mold which was great for squatters, whoremongers drug activity, etc., that he spoke with officers and was told this issue had been going on and would continue and he should find another fight, but there were seniors and children and children played there and someone shot out five windows and in the past three weeks there were two murders in the complex; that crime was increasing with 10 in the last two months. Council Members Sullivan, Hoang, Pennington, Rodriguez, Noriega and Christie absent.

Council Member Laster stated that he believed the property to which he was speaking was in District J and he thanked him for coming; that many had been working hard and he spoke with Matt in his office who was present at this time and he would like them to meet; that they were very interested and resources were available; that he believed the property fell in the area of the Greater Sharpstown Management District and he would like to connect him with those folks. Council Members Sullivan, Hoang, Pennington, Rodriguez, Noriega and Christie absent.

Ms. Kathryn Vanderpol, 4610 North Shepherd, Houston, Texas 77018 (713-695-5071) appeared, presented information and stated that she was present inviting the Mayor and Council to a special event the Automotive Association was hosting this weekend, the Second Annual Race Day, with the theme of Start the new year with your foot on the throttle; that it would be at Purple Raceway Park and they would have street legal cars racing and all ASA members, etc., would be present. Council Members Sullivan, Hoang, Pennington, Rodriguez, Noriega and Christie absent.

Mayor Parker thanked Ms. Vanderpol for the invitations. Council Members Sullivan, Hoang, Pennington, Rodriguez, Noriega and Christie absent.

Mr./Coach R. J. (Bobby) Taylor, 3107 Sumpter, Houston, Texas 77026 had reserved time to speak but was not present when his name was called. Council Members Sullivan, Hoang, Pennington, Rodriguez, Laster, Noriega and Christie absent.

Ms. Linda Cohn, 4001 North Shepherd, Houston, Texas 77018 (713-898-7971) appeared, presented information and stated that she was with the League of Women Voters and they had a tradition of taking up issues of general interest for study to come to a consensus position and then advocate for them and today was present regarding clean air and to ask the Council to be mindful of the great success of the Clean Air Act and keep it a front burner issue for the City of Houston as it was for health and safety; and asked all to sign the Clean Air Promise presented.

Council Members Sullivan, Hoang, Pennington, Rodriguez, Laster Noriega and Christie absent.

Ms. Christie Nugent, 4629 Rusk, Houston, Texas 77023 (405-343-4333) appeared, presented information to Council Members and stated that she was present regarding a project building momentum in the Eastend, an organic food cooperative grocery store; that co-ops made local food available and the UN declared 2012 as the year of the cooperative; that supports for co-ops was immense and was asking for Council' s support and invited all to their presentation at the Eastwood Civic Association Meeting, February 6th, 6:30 p.m. at the Cape Center. Council Members Sullivan, Hoang, Rodriguez, Laster and Christie absent.

President Joseph Charles, P. O. Box 524373, Houston, Texas 77052-4373 (713-928-2871) appeared and stated that he was president of the United States; and continued expressing his personal opinions until his time expired. Council Members Sullivan, Hoang, Rodriguez, Laster and Christie absent.

Mr. Don Cook, 7954 Glenheath, Houston, Texas 77061 (713-705-5594) had reserved time to speak but was not present when his name was called. Council Members Sullivan, Hoang, Rodriguez, Laster and Christie absent.

At 3:58 p.m. Mayor Parker stated that City Council was recessed until 9:00 a.m., Wednesday, January 25, 2012. Council Member Pennington absent on city business. Council Members Sullivan, Hoang, Rodriguez, Laster and Christie absent.

City Council Chamber, City Hall, Wednesday, January 25, 2012

The Houston City Council reconvened at 9:00 a.m., Wednesday, January 25, 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, Larry V. Green, Stephen C. Costello, Andrew C. Burks, Jr., Melissa Noriega, C. O. "Brad" Bradford and Jack Christie, D.C.; Mr. David Feldman, City Attorney; Ms. Marta Crinejo, Agenda Director, present.

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

At 9:07 a.m. Mayor Parker called the meeting to order and recognized Council Member Gonzalez for a point of order. Council Members Brown, Pennington and Noriega absent.

Council Member Gonzalez moved to suspend the rules to consider Item Numbers 1 and 2 before the Mayor' s Report, seconded by Council Member Rodriguez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Brown, Pennington and Noriega absent. MOTION 2012-0046 ADOPTED.

1. REQUEST from Mayor for confirmation of the appointment of **MR. KENNETH HOGLUND, P.E.** as Director of the **FLEET MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT** – was presented, moved by Council Member Gonzalez, seconded by Council Member Rodriguez. Council Members Brown, Pennington and Noriega absent.

Council Member Sullivan stated that he knew Mayor Parker had the power and authority to nominate directors and City Council had a vote in confirming and he would certainly vote for both the Fleet and IT Directors, but wanted to ring notice to his colleagues and the public that these were once again two people from outside of Houston and it was disconcerting to him that they continued to hire directors from outside the City, that he was sure that Mayor Parker had good reasons for doing that, but if they promoted themselves as an international City, Hire Houston First, Energy Capital of American, things like that, then he would hope they give every

consideration to Houstonians first. Council Members Pennington and Noriega absent.

Mayor Parker stated that she intended to always hire the best and brightest to do the work of the City of Houston and absolutely believed that she had in this case. Council Members Pennington and Noriega absent.

A vote was called on Item No. 1. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Pennington and Noriega absent. MOTION 2012-0047 ADOPTED.

2. REQUEST from Mayor for confirmation of the appointment of **MR. CHARLES THOMPSON** as Director of the **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT** – was presented, moved by Council Member Gonzalez, seconded by Council Member Costello. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Pennington and Noriega absent. MOTION 2012-0048 ADOPTED.

Mayor Parker stated that they had just confirmed a new Fleet Director, Mr. Kenneth Hogle and the new Information Technology Director, Mr. Charles Thompson and invited them to the podium. Council Members Pennington and Noriega absent.

Mr. Hogle stated that he wanted to thank Mayor Parker and Council Members, that it was a great opportunity to move to Houston, that he and his family were looking forward to becoming part of the Houston Community, that he had an opportunity to meet with the Fleet Management Department, they were a very skilled group and he thought they could take their experiences and implement the best practices across the City and he was really looking forward to this great opportunity to help Houston become a world class fleet operation. Council Members Pennington and Noriega absent.

Mr. Thompson stated that he was also looking forward to joining the Houston Community and was excited about the challenges they had from an IT perspective, that he wanted to thank the Mayor's staff for a very rigorous and strong interview process and recruitment process, that they had a lot of work to do.

Council Members Christie, Gonzalez, Adams and Burks congratulated Mr. Hogle and Mr. Thomas on their appointment as directors and looked forward to their service to the City of Houston.

Mayor Parker stated to Mr. Hogle that as he knew Fleet was a brand new department and had a caretaker in Mr. Scott Minnix but this was an opportunity to create a first class Fleet Department, first time ever in the City of Houston from scratch, that she knew he was really relishing that opportunity; that Mr. Thompson had a slightly different challenge and there was an agenda item that they were going to be dealing with later today, that this was a department that had problems, that IT was not where it should be for a City the size and statute of Houston, that there was a reason that she did a national search for a new IT Director, that there was a reason why one of the transition teams she put in place two years ago was directed at the IT Department because they realized what problems they had, that she did want to salute Mr. Gary Morris who would be on his team who stepped forward as the Interim Director and declined to apply for the full time position, that he did an outstanding job of turning over every rock that was there and showing some of the problems, that to the later agenda item some of those issues came forward because Mr. Morris was willing to dig in and knew Mr. Thompson would as well, that this was not just about correcting problems, this was about moving the City into the modern era in terms of their IT applications, that there were millions of dollars in potential efficiencies, they may have to spend a little money to get there, but in the long run it would be great to the City, and welcome aboard. Council Members Adams and Pennington absent.

Council Member Hoang moved to suspend the rules to consider Item Numbers 3, 4 and 5 out of order at this time, seconded by Council Member Gonzalez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Adams and Pennington absent. MOTION 2012-0049 ADOPTED.

3. CONFIRMATION of the appointment of the following to the **HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS**, for one year terms to expire December 31, 2012:

Position One - Council Member Oliver Pennington
Position Two - Mayor Annise D. Parker
Alternate At-Large Position No. 1 - Council Member Ellen R. Cohen
Alternate At-Large Position No. 2 - Council Member Jerry Davis

- was presented, moved by Council Member Gonzalez, seconded by Council Member Hoang. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Adams and Pennington absent. MOTION 2012-0050 ADOPTED.

Mayor Parker stated that they had confirmed the Houston-Galveston Area Council Board of Directors appointees.

4. REQUEST from Mayor for confirmation of the appointment or reappointment of the following individuals to the **REINVESTMENT ZONE NUMBER TWO (also known as the MIDTOWN ZONE) BOARD OF DIRECTORS**:

Position Three - **MR. ROBERT D. SELLINGSLOH**, reappointment, to serve as Chair, for a Term to expire 12/31/2012
Position Four - **MS. PAMELA NGO TRANPARK**, appointment, for a term to expire 12/31/2012
Position Five - **MR. DERRICK M. MITCHELL**, reappointment, for a term to expire 12/31/2012
Position Six - **MR. ABE S. GOREN**, reappointment, for a term to expire 12/31/2013
Position Seven - **MR. BILLY J. BRISCOE**, appointment, for a term to expire 12/31/2013

- was presented, moved by Council Member Hoang, seconded by Council Member Gonzalez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Adams and Pennington absent. MOTION 2012-0051 ADOPTED.

5. REQUEST from Mayor for confirmation of the appointment or reappointment of the following individuals to the **INTERNATIONAL MANAGEMENT DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS**, for terms to expire June 1, 2015:

Position Seven - **MS. LEESHAN CHUANG BIRNEY**, reappointment
Position Eight - **MR. STEPHEN H. LE**, reappointment
Position Nine - **MR. RICHARD A. VAUGHAN**, appointment
Position Ten - **MR. VICAN TAN SUN**, reappointment
Position Eleven - **MR. WEA LEE**, reappointment

- was presented, moved by Council Member Gonzalez, seconded by Council Member Hoang. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Pennington absent. MOTION 2012-0052 ADOPTED.

Council Members Hoang and Laster congratulated all appointees to the International Management District Board of Directors, as well as Reinvestment Zone Number Two and thanked them for agreeing to serve. Council Member Pennington absent.

Mayor Parker stated that as always they appreciated those who were willing to step forward and serve on the many boards and commissions across the City of Houston. Council

Member Pennington absent.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Parker stated that they had distributed two items and reviewed both a three page document titled DARLEP Abbreviated Chronology, that DARLEP was the acronym for their Red Light Camera Enforcement Program, and one page statement Summary of Terms of the Proposed Settlement with ATS, a copy of both are in the City Secretary' s office for review.

At 10:49 a.m., after a lengthy discussion by the City Council, Council Member Gonzalez moved to take a 10 minute recess, seconded by Council Member Adams. All voting aye. Nays none. MOTION ADOPTED.

At 11:07 a.m. Mayor Parker asked the Council Members to return to the Chamber and called the City Council meeting back into session, and recognized Council Member Burks for a procedural motion. Council Member Adams absent.

Council Member Burks moved to suspend the rules to consider Item No. 39 out of order at this time, and to postpone Item No. 39 for two weeks, seconded by Council Member Gonzalez. Council Member Adams absent.

39. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing Compromise and Settlement Agreement for Civil Action No. 4:10CV4545, styled City of Houston v. **AMERICAN TRAFFIC SOLUTIONS, INC.** and the amendment and restatement of Contract No. C62248 with American Traffic Solutions, Inc. to provide support services relating to collection of fines and penalties associated with delinquent citations ("DARLEP Collections"); authorizing the Mayor to enter into agreements with third parties for related services, all of such agreements to be paid for out of DARLEP Collections; appropriating \$2,720,000 out of General Fund Fund Balance as contingent stand-by funding in the event that DARLEP Collections are not sufficient – was presented.

After further discussion by the City Council a vote was called on the motion to postpone Item No. 39 for two weeks. Council Members Costello and Rodriguez voting no, balance voting aye. MOTION 2012-0053 ADOPTED.

CONSENT AGENDA NUMBERS 1 through 29

PURCHASING AND TABULATION OF BIDS - NUMBER 9

9. **AMEND MOTION #2011-774, 10/12/11, TO INCREASE** spending authority to Address Emergency Repair of Water Line Breaks for the Department of Public Works & Engineering, awarded to **TIKON GROUP, INC** from \$209,872.64 to \$270,433.62 and **BOND RESTORATION, INC** from \$71,510.00 to \$121,443.98 - \$110,494.96 - Enterprise Fund – was presented, moved by Council Member Gonzalez, seconded by Council Member Bradford. All voting aye. Nays none. MOTION 2012-0054 ADOPTED.

ORDINANCES - NUMBERS 15 through 27

15. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing contract between the City of Houston and **SEARCH HOMELESS SERVICES**, to provide up to \$110,194.72 in Texas Homeless Housing and Services Program ("THHSP") Funds for the administration, implementation, oversight and delivery of a THHSP - **DISTRICT I - RODRIGUEZ** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2012-0057 ADOPTED.

20. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing first amendment to Contract No. C70271/4600007607 between the City of Houston and **PROPERTY ROOM .COM, INC** to extend the contract term from February 7, 2012 to June 8, 2012 for sale and disposal of abandoned personal property for the Houston Police Department – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2012-0058 ADOPTED.
23. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing contract between the City and **SWA GROUP** for Professional Landscape Architectural Services for Fannin/Main Esplanades at Hermann Park \$487,577.94 - Grant Fund - **DISTRICT D - ADAMS** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2012-0059 ADOPTED.
25. ORDINANCE appropriating \$7,424,300.00 out of Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund, awarding contract to **HUFF & MITCHELL, INC** for proposed 42-inch Waterline along Hillcroft, Dublin, Dunlap, Easements, Haviland, Minetta, Canemont and Sandpiper from Coachcreek to West Airport; 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 K - GREEN** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2012-0060 ADOPTED.
26. ORDINANCE No. 2012-0044, passed first reading January 18, 2012
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 - **SECOND READING** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2012-0044 PASSED SECOND READING IN FULL.
27. ORDINANCE No. 2012-0045, passed first reading January 18, 2012
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 **SECOND READING** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2012-0045 PASSED SECOND READING IN FULL.

MATTERS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA WERE CONSIDERED AS FOLLOWS:

ACCEPT WORK

6. RECOMMENDATION from Director Department of Public Works & Engineering for approval of final contract amount of \$6,723,997.09 and acceptance of work on contract with **JFT CONSTRUCTION, INC** for Academy Street (Aberdeen to Gramercy) Storm Sewer Project Segment 2 - 2.73% over the original contract amount - **DISTRICT D - ADAMS** – was presented, moved by Council Member Gonzalez, seconded by Council Member Adams. Council Member Brown voting no, balance voting aye. MOTION 2012-0055 ADOPTED.
7. RECOMMENDATION from Director Department of Public Works & Engineering for approval of final contract amount of \$7,772,960.77 and acceptance of work on contract with **TEXAS STERLING CONSTRUCTION L.P.** for Monroe Paving from Fuqua to Almeda

Genoa 4.84% over the original contract amount - **DISTRICT D - ADAMS** – was presented, moved by Council Member Gonzalez, seconded by Council Member Bradford. Council Member Brown voting no, balance voting aye. MOTION 2012-0056 ADOPTED.

PURCHASING AND TABULATION OF BIDS

8. **GILBREATH COMMUNICATIONS, INC** for Community/Disaster Preparedness Education/ Outreach Programs and Companion Marketing through the Interlocal Agreement for Cooperative Purchasing with Houston-Galveston Area Council - \$1,228,441.00 - Grant Fund – was presented, moved by Council Member Gonzalez, seconded by Council Member Bradford. Council Member Brown voting no, balance voting aye. MOTION 2012-0057 ADOPTED.
10. ORDINANCE appropriating \$540,469.85 out of Equipment Acquisition Consolidated Fund for purchase of Automated Refuse Containers and additional equipment for the Solid Waste Management Department – was presented. Council Member Brown voting no, balance voting aye. ORDINANCE 2012-0061 ADOPTED.
- 10a. **TOTER, INCORPORATED** for Automated Refuse Containers through the Interlocal Agreement for Cooperative Purchasing with the City of Tucson, Arizona for Solid Waste Management Department \$499,409.60 - Equipment Acquisition Consolidated Fund – was presented, moved by Council Member Gonzalez, seconded by Council Member Green. Council Member Brown voting no, balance voting aye. MOTION 2012-0057 ADOPTED.

ORDINANCES

11. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing submission of an application for grant assistance to the **FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY**, for the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Award Program; declaring the City's eligibility for such grant; authorizing the Chief of the Houston Fire Department to act as the City's representative in the application process, to accept such grant funds, if awarded, and to apply for and accept all subsequent awards, if any, pertaining to the program - \$268,000.00 - Grant and Private Funds – was presented.

After discussion by Council Members Adams, Gonzalez, Brown and Cohen, Council Member Cohen stated that she had a hearing disability, it was hereditary, so she knew what her family members had gone through and there was nothing more frightening, she could imagine, than not being able to hear an alarm, particularly if they lived alone, and for this program, which did not require any City monies, but was a public private partnership, she thought was spectacular, that as she understood the alarm themselves would have greater strobe lighting so that they could see it better and that the sound was so dramatic that they could not even test it in front of most people because it would make many of them hard of hearing just to hear the sound of how loud it would be, that it was a terrific tool, that she thought it was a wonderful program.

Mayor Parker stated that they did appreciate the federal dollars that were substantially paying for the item.

A vote was called on Item No. 11. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2012-0062 ADOPTED.

12. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing grant application and contract with the **TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES** for the FY2012 Prevention and Control of HIV/STD and Viral Hepatitis Grant; declaring the City's eligibility for such grant;

authorizing the Director of the Houston Health and Human Services Department or his designees to act as the City's representative in the application process, with the authority to approve, accept, reject, alter or terminate such grant funds, if awarded, to expend the grant funds and to apply for and accept all subsequent awards, if any pertaining to the program - \$1,644,701.00 - Grant Fund – was presented. Council Member Brown voting no, balance voting aye. ORDINANCE 2012-0063 ADOPTED.

13. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing contract between the City of Houston and **CATHEDRAL HEALTH AND OUTREACH MINISTRIES**, to provide up to \$110,194.72 in Texas Homeless Housing and Services Program ("THHSP") Funds for the administration, implementation, oversight and delivery of a THHSP - **DISTRICTS D - ADAMS and I – RODRIGUEZ** - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2012-0064 ADOPTED.
14. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing contract between the City of Houston and **BREAD OF LIFE, INC**, to provide up to \$110,194.72 in Texas Homeless Housing and Services Program ("THHSP") Funds for the administration, implementation, oversight and delivery of a THHSP **DISTRICT I - RODRIGUEZ** - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2012-0065 ADOPTED.
16. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing contract between the City of Houston and **DIGITAL PAYMENT TECHNOLOGIES, INC** for Multi-Space, Solar Pay Station Warranties, Spare Parts and Pay Station Purchase Price Option for the Administration and Regulatory Affairs Department Parking Management Division; providing a maximum contract amount - \$7,279,501.00 - Parking Management Operating Fund – was presented, and tagged by Council Members Green and Sullivan.
17. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing an Economic Development Agreement between the City of Houston, Texas, and **CH2M HILL, INC** for the establishment and operation of a Global Energy Group - **DISTRICT G – PENNINGTON** – was presented. Council Member Brown voting no, balance voting aye. ORDINANCE 2012-0066 ADOPTED.
18. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing third amendment to contract between the City and **JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, N.A.** to provide Web-based Processing Services specific to the Municipal Courts Department – Revenue – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2012-0067 ADOPTED.
19. ORDINANCE appropriating \$1,036,793.00 out of Equipment Acquisition Consolidated Fund and approving and authorizing agreement between the City of Houston and **DELL FINANCIAL SERVICES, LLP** for Microsoft Software and License Maintenance Services for the fleet of City desktops; providing a maximum agreement amount – was presented.

After discussion by Council Members Burks and Gonzalez, Mayor Parker stated that this was money that they would have had to pay had they paid their licenses timely, it was good that they were able to work out an arrangement, but they should not have been put into that position.

A vote was called on Item No. 19. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2012-0068 ADOPTED.

21. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing the City of Houston to enter into contracts with **HOUSTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT** and **YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION OF THE GREATER HOUSTON AREA**, to administer an After School Achievement Program - \$270,000.00 - Grant Fund - **DISTRICTS B - DAVIS; C - COHEN;**

D - ADAMS; G - PENNINGTON and I - RODRIGUEZ – was presented. Council Member Brown voting no, balance voting aye. ORDINANCE 2012-0069 ADOPTED.

22. ORDINANCE amending Ordinance No. 2008-0260 (Passed March 26, 2008) to increase the maximum contract amount under the Professional Services Contract for Weatherization Consulting for the Residential Energy Efficiency Program with **ESPA CORPORATION** – was presented. Council Members Brown and Sullivan voting no, balance voting aye. ORDINANCE 2012-0070 ADOPTED.
24. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing Professional Services Agreement between the City of Houston and **KIMLEY-HORN AND ASSOCIATES, INC** for a Drainage Impact Fee Study \$679,500.00 - Stormwater Fund – was presented, and tagged by Council Member Brown.
28. ORDINANCE No. 2012-0026, passed second reading January 18, 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 - **THIRD AND FINAL READING** – was presented. Council Member Brown voting no, balance voting aye. ORDINANCE 2012-0026 ADOPTED THIRD AND FINAL READING IN FULL.
29. ORDINANCE No. 2012-0027, passed second reading January 18, 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 **THIRD AND FINAL READING** – was presented. Council Member Brown voting no, balance voting aye. ORDINANCE 2012-0027 ADOPTED THIRD AND FINAL READING IN FULL.

MATTERS HELD - NUMBERS 30 through 38

30. MOTION by Council Member Gonzalez/Seconded by Council Member Bradford to award to **PROGRESSIVE EMERGENCY PRODUCTS, LLC** for Decontamination Shelters for the Houston Emergency Center - 3 Years with two one-year options - \$400,347.00 - Grant Fund – (**This was Item 8 on Agenda of January 18, 2012, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBER BROWN**) – was presented. Council Member Brown voting no, balance voting aye. MOTION 2012-0059 ADOPTED.
31. ORDINANCE **AMENDING CHAPTER 2 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, HOUSTON, TEXAS**, relating to the Houston READ Commission – (**This was Item 13 on Agenda of January 18, 2012, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBER BROWN**) – was presented.

Council Member Brown stated that she had a question regarding page 2, line 5, of the ordinance change, the crossing out of the volunteer and religious organization participation, did they know why that was and these individuals, she believed, were closest to the community that was served.

Mayor Parker stated that this was Item No. 31, the Read Commission, it was taking the specificity away from those positions, as she understood it, where it says “the Mayor shall consider civic, religious and other similar organizations, that she already had the power to do that in this appointments, that it was not intended in any way to keep them from serving.

A vote was called on Item No. 31. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2012-0071 ADOPTED.

32. 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 – **(This was Item 22 on Agenda of January 18, 2012, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBER SULLIVAN)** – was presented. Council Member Brown voting no, balance voting aye. ORDINANCE 2012-0072 ADOPTED.
33. 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 – (This was Item 28 on Agenda of January 18, 2012, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBER BROWN)** - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2012-0073 ADOPTED.
34. 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 – **(This was Item 33 on Agenda of January 18, 2012, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBER BROWN)** – was presented. Council Member Sullivan voting no, balance voting aye. ORDINANCE 2012-0074 ADOPTED
35. 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 – (This was Item 34 on Agenda of January 18, 2012, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBER BROWN)** – was presented.

After discussion by Council Members Brown and Adams, a vote was called on Item No. 35. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Sullivan absent. ORDINANCE 2012-0075 ADOPTED.

36. 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 – **(This was Item 43 on Agenda of January 18, 2012, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBER BROWN)** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Sullivan absent. ORDINANCE 2012-0076 ADOPTED.

37. 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 – **(This was Item 44 on Agenda of January 18, 2012, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBER BROWN)** – was presented. Council Member Brown voting no, balance voting aye. Council Member Sullivan absent. ORDINANCE 2012-0077 ADOPTED.
38. 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 – **(This was Item 45 on Agenda of January 18, 2012, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBER BROWN)** - – was presented. Council Member Brown voting no, balance voting aye. ORDINANCE 2012-0078 ADOPTED.

MATTERS TO BE PRESENTED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Council Member Rodriguez stated that he wanted to respectfully ask Mr. Crane, new owner of the Astros, if he would officially take the name change of the Houston Astros off for consideration, that he had heard from several of his constituents and being the District Council Member they would like to keep their legendary Houston Astros intact, and would ask Mayor Parker if she had conversations with Mr. Crane to be sure and mention that. Council Member Sullivan absent.

Mayor Parker stated that her first reaction was extremely negative, there was some resonance if they were going to go to the other league that they might want to change their name, but no the Astros were a proud name so she would agree with Council Member Rodriguez. Council Member Sullivan absent.

Council Member Gonzalez stated that no one was talking about the Astros a week ago and now everybody was talking about them; that as inclement weather was upon them emergency preparedness became more important, to please drive carefully on the roads today; that SNAP would be providing free spay and neuter services for their cats and dogs in the Lindale Park area next Tuesday, January 31, 2012 at Saint Patricks Catholic Church at 1300 Moody, services would commence at 6:30 a.m.; that he wanted to acknowledge and thank the Houston Parks and Recreation Department and the countless volunteers who participated in the City' s Arbor Day Tree Planting events, that over 23,000 trees were planted and 5,800 hours of volunteer labor donated, that Council Members Cohen and Christi teamed up in the field and he thought it was a fantastic effort to revive their greenspace. Council Members Davis, Sullivan and Rodriguez absent.

Council Member Noriega stated that she wanted to talk about Item No. 17, a 380 Agreement with CH2M, a major employee owned engineering firm with 2,300 employees in 116 cities in the United States, that they had the opportunity to receive \$2.4 million of Enterprise Funds through the Governor' s Energy and Enterprise Funding, that they needed local participation to receive that and were also talking about moving their headquarters to Houston, that this was exactly the kind of conversation that they should be having about 380s, it was an international company talking about bringing value to the community, getting synergy from the money where they were going to get other matching funds or something like that, that they

intended to make a \$3 million to \$4 million investment in buildings, \$1.9 million in personal property and 330 jobs and possibly as many whatever their headquarters would be in the future, that she was not sure that she thought every 380 agreement was appropriate and she did not want to bring that up later in the moment and not have sort of planted her stake out there that she thought they needed to look at this, that 380 agreements were for the benefit of the citizens and not the developers, that what she would like to see was some discussions of standards, that it harked back to the issue of grocery stores and food deserts, did they have a citywide plan to giving incentives to get grocery stores where they thought they needed them and not where they wanted to build them, that she thought they needed a discussion that was a broader and larger discussion, they needed to have a plan for the plan, that she wanted to put that out there so when she brought it up the next time it would not be a surprise; that as to the ATS settlement she wanted to remind them that they had given \$15 million to the State that they were supposed to send back, Trauma Center money, to them and they had not sent it all, so whatever else happens with ATS they had \$7.2 million that was still being held by the State of Texas; that she wanted to commend the Police Chief, Joe Finnenger who dealt with their finances and Waynette Chan of the Mayor' s staff, the fact that they had money set aside to handle the settlement if they went ahead and did it was part of their foresight in tucking that away with an understanding that they were going to have to deal with it at some point, so there was a great deal of foresight. Council Members Davis, Sullivan and Rodriguez absent.

Council Member Adams stated that last week was the flooding and she wanted to thank the City of Houston for coming out yesterday to reinforce the inlet cleanings for the flooding on the Martin Luther King, KIPP, PEC Corridor, that she wanted to thank Public Works, Union Pacific for expediting and cleaning the culvert area so the water could flow through and Metro for going the extra mile, that she wanted to thank the administration for their letter and hopefully the governor would sign the declaration because there was still some needed assistance, that she wanted to thank Representative Boris Miles for always being available and sent a letter to the governor about the declaration as well, that they were going to go out there if it rained, that she wanted to thank Mayor Parker for always being so proactive in the midst of disasters and working with their office, as well as any other Council Member' s office; that she was the guest speaker at the Gulf Meadows Civic Association last night at the Covenant of Faith United Methodist Church, it was one of the new additions to District D and she wanted to thank them for inviting her and her staff; that on Friday she would be meeting with the a POW Tuskegee Airman Pilot, Alex Jefferson, they would be talking about the movie Red Tails; on Friday they would celebrate the retirement from the City of Houston Officer Gary Blankenship and who would be going to the U.S. Marshall' s Office; that they would count the homeless population tonight and the last count would be on January 31, 2012 beginning at 5:00 p.m., to get an accurate count so they would continue to receive federal dollars in the City of Houston. Council Members Brown, Davis, Sullivan and Rodriguez absent.

Mayor Parker stated that she was going to be out monitoring rain spots and knew that Council Members had her on speed dial, to let her know where they were if they saw any problems, that she would like to be there; that she had the opportunity to meet Cuba Gooding, Jr. and Terrance Howard about two weeks ago and had her picture taken with them. Council Members Brown, Davis, Sullivan and Rodriguez absent.

Council Member Hoang stated that he wanted to thank the officers and Captain of Westside Police Division for helping him patrol the area for crime prevention in preparation for the Lunar New Year; that this week was New Year for the Asians as a whole, it was the Year of the Dragon, a symbol of sublime courage and also prosperity, that they would see various events. Council Members Brown, Davis, Sullivan, Gonzalez and Rodriguez absent.

Mayor Parker asked if there were any Dragons on Council, and Council Member Hoang stated that the Year of the Dragon was this year, 1952, 1964, 1976 and 1988, etc. Council

Members Brown, Davis, Sullivan, Gonzalez and Rodriguez absent.

Council Member Pennington stated that he looked forward to attending an event on Saturday morning, that he had attended before and it was really a great show; that on Thursday night he attended the Greater Houston Partnership Annual meeting and they had a new President, Tony Chase, a local businessman; that last Thursday he attended the Tanglewood Homeowners Association annual meeting at Saint Martins Church, that the chairman of their security committee, Betty Hopson, was developing a demographic information about the occurrence of crime, that he was looking forward to see what they were doing and maybe they could replicate it in other subdivisions, but they had agreed to work with them on their street reconstruction and drainage issues; that on Friday night he attended the Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership's 20th Annual Quesar Award Banquet, Senator Cornyn was there and received the Quesar Award and promised to help return manned space craft activities or to enhance the manned space craft activities at NASA and hoped he was successful at that, that he knew the Mayor and others in the City were working hard on that; that on Monday he attended an event sponsored by the Natural Gas Association at the Museum, the King Tut Exhibit; that last night he, the Mayor and a number of others attended the reception for Public Officials sponsored by the Houston Arts Alliance, that he was impressed by the Mayor's speech and talking about the arts and things that were going on. Council Members Brown, Davis, Adams, Sullivan, Hoang and Rodriguez absent.

Council Member Green stated that last week he attended the U.S. Conference of Mayor's in Washington, D.C. and accepted the First Annual Childhood Obesity Prevention Program Award on behalf of the Mayor and the City of Houston and Department of Health and Human Services, the momentous award was accompanied by a \$25,000 check for outstanding achievement as a second place award winner in the Childhood Obesity Prevention Program, that the grant program was a result of a partnership between the U.S. Conference of Mayors and the American Beverage Association with the goal of supporting and/or enhancing Mayors ongoing Childhood Obesity Prevention Program; that last night they hosted the South Braeswood Communities in a Strategic Planning meeting and it was well attended; that today from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Hiram Clarke Multi Service Center they would offer free flu shots for everyone from ages 7 and up; Bethel's Place, African American Chambers of Commerce would host a First Annual Business Convention and Expo starting from January 26, 2012 through January 28, 2012; that on Monday he was the guest speaker at the North Field Homeowners Association, One and Two, and there was a great turnout, that flooding concerns came up so their staff was working with Public Works on those issues; that on Thursday, January 26 2012, the Houston Citizens Chamber of Commerce would host the Power Center Open House for the newly renovated Power Center at 12401 South Post Oak Road; that on Saturday, January 28, 2012, there would be a Women's Summit at the Houston Community College Southwest Campus, 5601 West Loop South; that they had several hiring events and could contact his office for more specific information for time and location at 832-393-3016, that at the Astrodome location Barton Security would be hiring security officers, Home Depot was hiring cashiers, Driving Momentum was hiring truck drivers, Aramark was hiring Post Event Workers; that at the Workforce Solutions East End location Homeland Staffing would be hiring structural welders, Fred Loya was hiring customer reps, Staff Mark was hiring rodeo workers; at the Hobby location, Driving Momentum was hiring truck drivers, Scott Security Service would be hiring security officers, Dish Network was hiring call center operators; at Northline Location Driving Momentum and Stevens Transport was hiring truck drivers. Council Members Brown, Davis, Adams, Sullivan, Hoang, Rodriguez and Bradford absent.

Mayor Parker stated that she appreciated Council Member Green picking up the award for the City, that he was up there for Workforce discussions and she came to the U.S. Conference of Mayors a little later, and she was glad that he was there. Council Members Brown, Davis, Sullivan, Hoang, Rodriguez and Bradford absent.

Council Member Cohen stated that she wanted to commend the GLSEN, a Galveston Organization, Gay Lesbian Straight Education Network, they strived to assure that each member of each school community was valued and respected regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity or expression, that a young man she knew well, Tommy Surought, was the youth ambassador and national spokesperson for the Network, that the network would be holding their meeting in Houston this weekend, and would be hosting an event at Blancos on Saturday, January 28, 2012 to commemorate the close of the "No Name Calling Week"; that she wanted to recognize the Harris County Mayor' s and Council Members Association which hosted a dinner last Thursday evening, which she attended, at Heritage Hall in Jacinto City, it was extremely informative and an opportunity to meet other Mayor' s and Council Members from neighboring cities, that she would encourage her colleagues to try to attend, that she would urge the Mayor that perhaps the City of Houston would host one of these meetings and her office would be happy to help in any way possible; that she wanted to thank Council Member Christi for helping her plant a tree in Memorial Park, that they planted the first tree at the stretching area. Council Members Brown, Davis, Sullivan, Hoang, Rodriguez and Bradford absent.

Mayor Parker stated that it was an excellent idea about the Mayors and Council Members from the region, she had attended those meetings in the past and it had been her experience that not a lot of Houston Council Members regularly participated, that she would be happy to work with Council Member Cohen to host one and would ask her staff to get with her staff. Council Members Brown, Davis, Sullivan, Hoang, Rodriguez and Bradford absent.

Council Member Burks stated that last week there were new statistics showing that Houston was leading the Country in economic activity, that there were more people employed in the Houston area now than ever before, that even though fostering their economic growth was important they had to remember those who were less fortunate, that every night about 10,000 homeless people, Houstonians, were out under a bridge or somewhere else sleeping, that last night the Coalition for the Homeless kicked off their homeless count and would continue until next Tuesday at 5:30 p.m.; that he wanted to wish everybody a Happy Lunar New Year. Council Members Brown, Davis, Sullivan, Hoang, Rodriguez, Bradford and Christi absent.

Council Member Laster stated that he wanted to thank the Council, they passed Item No. 21, those items involved the funding of 22 After School Programs for the Mayors After School Achievement Program, that he believed that these type of programs went a long way in helping their community to fight gangs and drugs and all other things they were trying to raise their children up to avoid; that he wanted to join Council Member Hoang in wishing all of the constituents of the City of Houston a Happy Asian Lunar New Year; that a couple of weeks ago the Houston Chronicle did two stories on Sharpstown High School and he wanted to give special recognition to both Principle Rob Gasparello and the Campus Improvement Coordinator Brandi Brevard, together they were working hard to make Sharpstown High School an environment of learning, achievement and academic success, that Ms. Brevard had created a data room and it included floor to ceiling data charts that allowed her and other teachers to monitor students progress, that Sharpstown High School, he was told, was already beginning to see signs of that work as an improvement in their test scores, that Principle Gasparello had been working to keep his students at school, in the class room and more importantly ready to learn, that he had done something unique, he provided meal assistance at school and at home through a food bank, that Ms. Gasparello hoped to help feed students bodies and minds, that it was an important step in improving enrollment turnover and encouraged students to continue their attendance at Sharpstown High School even if their families moved to other parts of town, that he was providing an incentive for those children to make a point to go all the way across town to be in school, that he wanted to thank both of these individuals who were working hard to transform the lives of these young people in Southwest Houston and therefore transform District

J in Southwest Houston. Council Members Brown, Davis, Sullivan, Hoang, Rodriguez, Bradford and Christi absent.

Mayor Parker stated that they were experiencing some extreme weather at the moment and anybody who might be watching this or listening to it she would just encourage them to stay home. Council Members Brown, Davis, Sullivan, Hoang, Rodriguez, Bradford and Christi absent.

Council Member Costello stated that as the engineer on Council he had the pleasure of telling everyone about the award that the Public Works and Engineering Department just received from the Society of American Military Engineers, that they had an agency that employed over 4,000 people and they were really the behind the scenes people that made sure that they had water coming out of their faucets, they could flush their toilets, drive on the streets and could avoid getting water into their houses, that was both in terms of the engineering and construction side, as well as the maintenance side, that he wanted to thank Director Krueger and his staff for the great job they were doing right now and the simple fact that they had been recognized by a national organization, that they also received this recognition in the years 2001 and 2008, it was predicable that over an eleven year period to be named the 2011 Public Agency of the Year; that he wanted to thank Council Member Adams for getting him involved in the homeless, he and his staff would be participating in the homeless count and would be doing it next Tuesday night; that he wanted to remind his colleagues of the Core Assessment meetings, they had three already and been through six agencies, their next meeting would be Thursday at 1:00 p.m., that he wanted to thank all of the directors for the work they were doing and information they were providing to the Council Members, that he urged his colleagues to look at the information they were providing and input what services they believed were essential and what services they believed could be reduced or avoided; that he concurred with Council Member Noriega's opinion of the 380 agreements and believed they had to have a little bit more of a global overview of the 380 agreements, but in terms of the food desert issue, they had reached out to some grocers but with a map that showed the areas they liked to have them working in and thought that was a good thing to do, they coordinated that mapping activity with the Housing Department and were trying to make sure that what other agencies were doing that they do the same thing; that he wanted to thank City Attorney Dave Feldman, he appreciated all of the work he did on the Red Light Camera Issue. Council Members Brown, Davis, Sullivan, Hoang, Rodriguez, Bradford and Christi absent.

Council Member Gonzalez stated that he wanted to congratulate Lieutenant Harry Zamora who was retiring from the Houston Police Department after 32 years of service, that they wished him well in his retirement. Council Members Brown, Davis, Sullivan, Hoang, Rodriguez, Bradford and Christi absent.

Council Member Adams stated she wanted to say happy retirement to Officer Ronnie Robinson at the Southeast Patrol for all of the many years of service she provided to the Houston Police Department; that she wanted to thank Council Member Green for reaching out and communicating with the Mayor on things that could be done in the Hiram Clarke area and Council Member Costello for things he was doing for the food desert issue; that yesterday they had a speaker come and talk about a burglary at her home, that she sympathized with her about the burglary and her children, that she wanted to get accurate information and she wanted to thank Sergeant Baltazar, who was present at Council, and after meeting with him and the young lady outside, and her staff, Karen and Shavonda, she did communicate with HPD and her staff about her issue and they did a site visit to the apartment complex that she mentioned to get the description of the officer, that after a thorough follow through yesterday there were some things done on behalf of HPD on moving forward, the burglars had not been caught and that was an issue, that it was a crime area with some of the apartment complexes and she knew they were looking into and wanted to thank HPD for so diligently going out there and other areas in the

South Park and Sunnyside communities; that Peck Elementary was doing things to prepare for today's weather, that she wanted to thank the INCERT team because all morning they had been driving the area, since 7:00 a.m., every two hours and were giving updates that in the MacGregor South Park area, even though it was raining, as of right now it was clear but the rain was coming down pretty hard. Council Members Brown, Davis, Cohen, Sullivan, Hoang, Rodriguez, Green, Bradford and Christi absent. NO QUORUM PRESENT

Council Member Costello stated that their meeting tomorrow on core assessments would just be with ARA. Council Members Brown, Davis, Cohen, Sullivan, Hoang, Rodriguez, Green, Bradford and Christi absent. NO QUORUM PRESENT

There being no further business before Council, the City Council adjourned at 12:09 p.m. Council Members Brown, Davis, Cohen, Sullivan, Hoang, Rodriguez, Green, Bradford and Christi 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