

City Council Chamber, City Hall, Tuesday, August 14, 2012

A Regular Meeting of the Houston City Council was held at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, August 14, 2012, Mayor Annise Parker presiding and with Council Members Helena Brown, Jerry Davis, Ellen R. Cohen, Wanda Adams, Mike Sullivan, Al Hoang, Edward Gonzalez, Mike Laster, Larry V. Green, Stephen C. Costello, Andrew C. Burks, Jr., Melissa Noriega, and Jack Christie, D. C.; Mr. Harlan Heilman, Division Chief, Claims & Subrogation Division and Ms. Marta Crinejo, Agenda Director and Ms. Stella Ortega, Agenda Office present. Council Members Oliver Pennington, James G. Rodriguez and C. O. "Brad" Bradford absent on personal business.

At 1:42 p.m. Mayor Parker recognized Council Member Costello for the first presentation; and Council Member Costello invited those present for his presentation to the podium and stated that both firefighters Rolo and Lilly have children with Cystic Fibrosis and today he was honored to kick off the Cystic Fibrosis Climb along with the Houston Fire Department to be held Sunday, September 9, 2012, in Williams Tower in full gear in a symbolic nod to the brave firefighters at the World Trade Center attack of 9/11; that Cystic Fibrosis affected thousands and the stair climb would raise funds for Cystic Fibrosis treatment and urged all to climb. Council Members Sullivan, Hoang and Burks absent.

Chief Garrison stated that this was an opportunity for all to come together and support the community and family members; and Council Member Costello would be making the climb in full gear also; that the climb was a symbolic movement to the event which occurred 9/11 and more than that this was about children affected by the disease; and Ms. Smith with the cystic Fibrosis Foundation stated that they thanked all for the Proclamation which brought awareness to the disease. Council Members Sullivan Hoang and Burks absent.

Mayor Parker thanked all for raising awareness and funds for Cystic Fibrosis and presented a Proclamation and proclaimed September 9, 2012, as "Cystic Fibrosis Climb Day" in Houston, Texas. Council Members Sullivan and Burks absent.

Mayor Pro Tem Gonzalez, Council Members Adams and thanked all for raising awareness and participating in such a worthy cause. Council Members Sullivan and Burks absent.

Council Member Davis invited those present for his presentation to the podium and stated that Mr. James Lloyd on June 27, 2012, was awarded the congressional gold medal, one of the nation's highest honors and the highest award to a civilian received from the White House; that Mr. Lloyd was an 87 year old WWII veteran and one of many who intergraded the U. S. Marine Corps; that the Marine Corps was the last branch of the military to admit African Americans and the history making men were known as the Montford Point Marines and they were not able to train with Caucasians; and Council Member Noriega stated that as an Army wife she wanted to honor Mr. Lloyd and also had something to present to him; and thanked him for his service; and Mayor Parker stated that the city of Houston saluted Mr. Lloyd for his service to the U. S. of America, congratulated him for being awarded the congressional gold medal and presented a Proclamation to him and proclaimed today as "James Lloyd Day" in Houston, Texas. Council Members Hoang and Burks absent.

Mr. Lloyd thanked his family and friends present for the recognition and stated that this was a long journey for a short moment, that there was no African Americans in the Marine Corps until 1942 when President Roosevelt issued an executive order that the Marine Corps would integrate, but they did not want them with the others being trained and they built a little camp in North Carolina and called in Montford Point; that they were from 16 to 25 years of age and all volunteered for the Marine Corps and they made it; that his outfit was the first to see combat in June 1944 and they established themselves, they were with the frontline and that was when the

Marine Corps decided they were Marines; that 20,000 men went through Montford Point, they proved themselves and were then not just called Montford Point Marines, but United States Marines. Council Members Adams, Green and Burks absent.

At 2:10 p.m. Mayor Parker led all in the prayer and pledge. Council Members Adams, Sullivan and Green absent.

At 2:11 p.m. the Acting Clerk of the meeting called the roll. Council Members Pennington, Rodriguez and Bradford absent on personal business. Council Member Sullivan absent.

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

Council Member Hoang on a point of personal privilege recognized the delegation from the City of Nimbo and asked they stand to be recognized. Council Members Davis, Adams, Sullivan, Green and Burks absent.

Mayor Parker stated that they were always pleased to have visiting delegations and she hoped it was productive for them. Council Members Davis, Adams, Sullivan, Green and Burks absent.

At 2:13 p.m. the Clerk began calling the public speakers. Council Members Davis, Adams, Sullivan, Green and Burks absent.

Ms. Dena Yanowski, 2319 Bartlett, Houston, Texas 77098 (832-693-3630) appeared and stated that she was with Food Not Bombs and the city prevented many from being fed and now had power to keep thousands from voicing their opinions via the November ballot. Council Members Davis and Burks absent.

Mr. Matthew Trimble, 2101 Winbern, Houston, Texas 77004 (832-782-8763) appeared and stated that he was with Food Not Bombs and they helped to get over 30,000 signatures to place the item on the November ballot; and he hoped the city would honor those signatures and allow the item on the ballot. Council Members Davis and Burks absent.

Mr. Jay Hamburger, 1817 State, Houston, Texas 77007 (713-302-0101) had reserved time to speak but was not present when his name was called. Council Members Davis and Burks absent.

Ms. Margaret Torres, 409 Stratford, Houston, Texas 77006 (281-250-7187) appeared and stated that she was a proud citizen of the U. S. having come from Mexico; that she was present to thank the Mayor and Council for their cooperative employees; that she volunteered with parolees finding jobs for them and there were programs in Houston which helped. Council Members Davis and Burks absent.

Ms. Robin Holzer, 1306 Fairview, Houston, Texas 77006 (713-301-5716) appeared and stated that the Metro Board was in the process of deciding a ballot measure for November and it was important voters get the chance to decide how sales tax, etc., would be spent; that the right ballot measure could connect job centers, the medical center, etc., with high quality transit; and urged that the city make sure what was on the ballot was a strong option for Houston and transit expansion. Council Members Hoang and Burks absent.

Council Member Gonzalez stated that Metro took action on a proposal recently; and upon questions, Ms. Holzer stated that the Metro Board conducted an open and transparent process

for ballot proposals and it had fairness to it; that also the city of Houston would begin getting back a fairer share and it was good for transit and the region; that what concerned her was parties which had been getting more and would get less seemed to want to go to the back room, it sounded like a power grab by the county. Council Members Hoang and Burks absent.

Ms. Rebecca Tapick, 1705 Missouri, Houston, Texas 77006 (713-464-8064) appeared and stated that she was a board member of the Citizens Transportation Coalition, an all volunteer transportation advocacy organization which worked to engage the community and transportation planning and Houstonians wanted a walk able lifestyle anchored by reliable transit; that it sounded like Commissioner Raddick wanted the city to throw Metro's process out the window and they were concerned; and urged Council stand up for residents and ensure the referendum had a strong option for the city and the transit system. Council Members Hoang and Burks absent.

Mr. Jay Crossley, 3015 Richmond, Houston, Texas 77098 (713-244-4746) appeared and stated that Houston was building the best light rail system in the country in terms of rider ship per mile; that there would be a huge economic loss without it; and urged Council fight for the future of Houston's economy. Council Member Burks absent.

Upon questions by Council Member Christie, Mr. Crossley stated that doubling the ridership of Dallas with less rail lines was derived from the official federal environmental impact statements for the light rail lines because the system was designed to be where people and jobs were. Council Member Burks absent.

Council Member Adams moved the rules be suspended for the purpose of adding Mr. Frank Malcolm James to the bottom of the three minute speakers list, seconded by Council Member Christie. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Pennington, Rodriguez and Bradford absent on personal business. Council Member Burks absent. MOTION 2012-0623 ADOPTED.

Council Member Christie moved the rules be suspended for the purpose of moving Mr. Peter Brown to the top of the three minute speakers list, seconded by Council Member Costello. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Pennington, Rodriguez and Bradford absent on personal business. Council Member Burks absent. MOTION 2012-0624 ADOPTED.

Council Member Brown moved the rules be suspended for the purpose of moving Mr. Randall Kallinen and Ms. Daphne Pattison after Mr. Peter Brown, seconded by Council Member Costello. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Pennington, Rodriguez and Bradford absent on personal business. Council Member Burks absent. MOTION 2012-0625 ADOPTED.

Mr. Peter H. Brown, 10 Waverly Court, Houston, Texas 77005 (713-528-0049) appeared and stated that he was present for a great rail transit system in Houston; that there was much community concern on what appeared to be a deal with the Harris County Commissioners on language in the Metro referendum; that taxpayers wanted a first class system; and urged renegotiation with the county. Council Member Burks absent.

Upon questions by Council Members Christie, Noriega and Gonzalez, Mr. Brown stated that they finished a report at Better Houston and the taxbase increase of \$1.1 Billion per \$100,000,000 of investment was the average, he was speaking of real estate development on the line; that it seemed odd county commissioners should determine city transportation policy. Council Member Burks absent.

Council Member Laster moved the rules be suspended for the purpose of extending the time for questions of Mr. Peter Brown, seconded by Council Member Costello. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Pennington, Rodriguez and Bradford absent on personal

business. Council Member Burks absent. MOTION 2012-0626 ADOPTED.

Council Member Sullivan stated that he represented suburban communities and there was another side to the argument; that he represented far-flung communities that relied on other Metro services and did not rely on rail so Metro had a large mission and rail was only one component and it should be looked at as a regional issue. Council Member Burks absent.

Mr. Randall Kalinen, 511 Broadway, Houston, Texas 77012 (713-320-3785) appeared and stated that 34,000 signatures were delivered yesterday to the city to place the food ordinance on the November ballot; that three fourths of the religious organizations had stopped sharing food; and the signatures needed to be counted and placed on the ballot. Council Members Davis, Burks and Noriega absent.

Council Member Hoang stated that he did not vote for the ordinance; and upon questions, Mr. Kalinen stated that it violated religions and ministries; and the signatures needed to be counted and the item put on the ballot. Council Members Davis, Green, Costello, Burks and Noriega absent.

Upon questions by Council Member Adams, Mayor Parker stated that Council Members had a copy of the City Attorney's memo; that there was a well established process and the City Secretary Office started processing the petitions today; that it took an estimated two weeks and required 72 hours for posting notice where all had to be voted on under state law and by Monday it would not be possible to do so. Council Members Davis, Green, Burks and Noriega absent.

Ms. Daphne Pattison, 616 Hawthorne, Houston, Texas 77006 (832-443-1433) appeared and stated that she was the point person for the National Lawyers Guild and speaking on their behalf on the feeding ordinance; that they were asking to avoid discrimination which led to hate, this ordinance fostered discrimination; that a lawsuit had been drafted and they were getting support from the ACLU, etc., the ordinance would not survive court proceedings; and urged it be repealed. Council Members Davis, Green, Burks and Noriega absent.

Mayor Parker stated that as an attorney she knew she would not want to misrepresent the truth and she would point out in the Oak Creek incident they could have fed anyone at their own temple grounds as any city church here could do; that she somewhat did represent the situation. Council Members Davis, Green, Burks and Noriega absent.

Council Member Brown stated that the law was passed but in opposition to many; and Ms. Pattison stated that some organizations could not comply and some did not want to; that in Dallas there was an injunction and the law was not being enforced and in Philadelphia the same. Mayor Parker, Council Members Davis, Adams, Green and Burks absent. Mayor Pro Tem Gonzalez presiding.

Ms. Gwendolyn Johnson, 333 Airtex Drive, Houston, Texas 77090 (832-266-4262) had reserved time to speak but was not present when her name was called. Mayor Parker, Council Members Davis, Adams, Green and Burks absent. Mayor Pro Tem Gonzalez presiding.

Mr. T. M. Sanders, 5609 Suez, Houston, Texas 77020 (832-264-6689) had reserved time to speak but was not present when his name was called. Mayor Parker, Council Members Davis, Adams, Green and Burks absent. Mayor Pro Tem Gonzalez presiding.

Mr. Dennis Woodward, 943 Thornton Road, Houston, Texas 77018 (713-290-8961) appeared and stated that he was speaking on parks reforestation; that in January 2012 he started growing trees in T. C. Jester Park and had it marked with signage; that he had to carry

water for the trees and now Parks had mowed down about 25 of them; and urged Council get the Parks Department to heed signage which said "reforestation area – do not mow"; that Solid Waste should also be instructed to assist by dumping grass clippings, etc. Mayor Parker, Council Members Davis, Adams, Hoang, Laster, Green and Burks absent. Mayor Pro Tem Gonzalez presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mayor Pro Tem Gonzalez stated that after Mr. Woodward's son spoke Ms. Lucy Correa with the Parks and Recreation Department was present to speak with them. Mayor Parker, Council Members Davis, Adams, Hoang, Laster, Green and Burks absent. Mayor Pro Tem Gonzalez presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. Miles Woodward, 943 Thornton Road, Houston, Texas 77018 (713-703-6532) appeared and stated that he believed all should dig trees from their flower beds and transplant them to city parks and Houston could become nature's super highway; that Council could make things happen and he hoped they could prevent seedling trees from being mowed. Mayor Parker, Council Members Davis, Adams, Hoang, Laster, Green and Burks absent. Mayor Pro Tem Gonzalez presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Council Members Noriega, Christie and Cohen stated that he did well and they appreciated him coming; that all trees should be protected, but good deeds and intentions needed to be balanced against requirements of the community; that the Mayor Pro Tem said they would be meeting with someone in Parks and he should also be in the meeting. Council Members Hoang, Laster, Green and Burks absent.

Mr. William Beal, 4718 Boicewood, Houston, Texas 77016 (no phone) had reserved time to speak but was not present when his name was called. Council Members Hoang, Laster, Green and Burks absent.

Ms. Yolanda Broussard, 11835 Murrway, Houston, Texas 77048 (713-731-9188) had reserved time to speak but was not present when her name was called. Council Members Hoang, Laster, Green and Burks absent.

Mr. Kent Houston, 7205 Wiley, Houston, Texas 77016 (832-238-1911) appeared, presented information and stated that he worked for the City of Houston Public Works and Engineering Department as an equipment operator and present regarding his pay scale; that there were only two fifty ton cranes in the city and he operated them both, he disassembled them, loaded them and operated them; that in March he would be with the city 19 years and he had 16 years operating the crane which picked up 100,000 pounds; that many don't want to do what he did, but he loved it; that he did not want to leave the city and he was not asking for something not there, his pay structure was approved in 2010 and he was at midpoint, he was only asking for what was approved. Council Members Cohen, Hoang, Laster, Green and Burks absent.

Mayor Parker stated that she wanted to be clear, he was at midpoint for his particular function and could be given a pay increase in his classification; and Mr. Houston stated that was correct; and Mayor Parker stated that one issue on a regular basis was the city's pay for a comparable job could become so low in relationship to the private sector they had difficulty filling or keeping the positions filled; that there was a mechanism for his department to ask for a market salary review and they did adjust based on the market review and had done so in several departments recently, but he needed to request the market review through his department. Council Members Cohen, Hoang, Laster, Green and Burks absent.

Upon questions by Council Member Davis, Mr. Houston stated that his pay grade was 13; and Council Member Davis stated that his office would be in contact and then they could discuss the next steps with the Administration. Council Members Hoang, Laster, Green and

Burks absent.

Council Member Gonzalez stated that he appreciated his service and he made a compelling case; that Council Member Davis was taking the lead and he was also supportive. Council Members Hoang, Laster, Green and Burks absent.

Upon questions by Council Member Adams, Mr. Houston stated he would be with the city 19 years in March; that he was hired in as a laborer and stayed there 5 days and an iron worker liked the way he worked and wanted him so he started with Mr. White and he learned a lot; that his pay grade was probably at 4 when he started because he was at the bottom; and Council Member Adams stated that he also had her support; and some don't know, but Mr. Houston was the one who got the horse out when it fell into a manhole and she met him in the field; that she thanked Mayor Parker for offering the market study and Council Member Davis for taking lead. Council Members Hoang, Laster, Green and Burks absent.

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

Mr. Gary Wade, 3213 Fuqua, Houston, Texas 77045 (713-222-7891) had reserved time to speak but was not present when his name was called. Council Members Hoang, Laster, Green and Burks absent.

Ms. Ayan Nur, 707 Shive Drive, Houston, Texas 77078 (713-633-5100) had reserved time to speak but was not present when her name was called. Council Members Davis, Adams, Hoang, Laster, Green and Burks absent. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Ms. Delia Schwarz (did not wish to give address (832-641-7120) had reserved time to speak but was not present when her name was called. Council Members Davis, Adams, Hoang, Laster, Green and Burks absent. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. Dewey Stringer, 2450 Fondren #105, Houston, Texas 77063 (713-252-3840) appeared and stated that three major tracts of land were about to be developed on Fondren between Westheimer and Memorial which had potential to create a severe traffic problem for the entire area; that traffic backed up already at different times of day and he was asking the city to authorize Planning to conduct a comprehensive traffic study on Fondren and authorize road improvements necessary to handle the increase in traffic and until then no new building permits should be issued; that he was one of the owners of the office medical complex at 2450 Fondren and there it narrowed from four to two lanes and there was a severe turn where accidents occurred on a regular basis; that three new developments could gridlock the area; and discussed what could be deadly situations until his time expired. Council Members Hoang, Laster, Green and Burks absent.

Council Member Christie stated that he was familiar with the two lane stretch and encouraged the traffic study be done; and Mayor Parker stated that there would be a traffic impact analysis prior to construction, but generally they look at the one development, she would pass the information to Mr. Icken's office. Council Members Adams, Hoang, Laster, Green and Burks absent.

Mr. Mike Sample, 8800 Woodway, Houston, Texas 77063 (713-560-3194) appeared, presented information to Council and stated that he and Mr. Stringer were present on the same issue; that he was representing four homeowner associations and other individuals; that there were three substantial developments there in the planning stages and it would cause disastrous fire and safety issues; and requested the Council to direct the Planning Commission to have

traffic and fire safety studies done and prohibit issuance of any permits until completely reviewed and acted on. Council Members Sullivan, Hoang, Laster, Green, Burks and Noriega absent. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. Michael Kubosh, 1701 Lubbock, Houston, Texas 77001 (281-850-0172) appeared and stated that he was with Free To Give Houston and this was not just a mission; that when Council passed the no feeding ordinance they united many people who normally did not get together; and without being able to feed many would go hungry. Council Members Hoang, Laster, Green and Burks absent.

Mr. Paul Kubosh, 1619 Lubbock, Houston, Texas 77007 (281-850-0171) appeared and stated that they had 34,000 signatures which presented a problem for the Council body and whether they were on the ballot or not in November the signatures did not go away; that the majority of Council had the ability to place it on the ballot by themselves but would not do it; and encouraged Council Members to do what was needed. Council Members Hoang, Laster, Green and Burks absent.

Mr. Randy Kubosh, 1701 Lubbock, Houston, Texas 77001 (281-755-7004) appeared and stated that citizens wanted a voice, 34,000 were confirmed; that he would ask it be placed on the ballot and allow the citizens to vote for what they wanted. Council Members Sullivan, Hoang, Laster, Green, Burks and Noriega absent. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Ms. Shere Dore, 2601 Woodland Park Drive, Houston, Texas 77007 (832-282-4164) appeared and stated that Mayor Parker consistently said they were misinforming the public but never explained in what way; that they were voted into office and they did not listen to them and it was important to leave this decision on the feeding ordinance to the public. Council Members Sullivan, Hoang, Laster, Green, Burks and Noriega absent. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Council Member Davis stated that some Council Members did listen to their districts and voted the way the majority of them wanted them to vote; and he voted the way constituents in District B wanted. Council Members Sullivan, Hoang, Laster, Green and Burks absent.

Mr. Nicholas Cooper (did not wish to give address) (282-289-3569) appeared, presented information and stated that the Mayor and Council failed to do an impact study before passing law which drastically changed lives of thousands; that some who fed people dropped out being intimidated by the law and now the homeless had to turn to less healthy alternatives; that all know the ordinance was written to try and control the location of the homeless; that Council ignored the people and it should be voted on. Council Members Sullivan, Hoang, Laster, Green and Burks absent.

Ms. Melinda Anderson, 2425 Sage Road #18, Houston, Texas 77056 (832-524-3664) appeared and stated that she was with Food Not Bombs and in charge of processing the petitions for the November ballot and it was obvious voters had a clear opinion and they were asking the issue be on the November ballot. Council Members Sullivan, Hoang, Laster, Green and Burks absent.

Upon questions by Mayor Parker, Ms. Anderson stated that she supported having to get permission on private property. Council Members Sullivan, Hoang, Laster, Green and Burks absent.

Mr. Remington Alexssi, 4620 Clay #A, Houston, Texas 77023 (281-323-0535) appeared and stated that he was the current Green Party Harris County Sheriff candidate and present as he opposed the food ordinance; that he listened to many who normally did not come together and would say shame on all who did this. Council Members Sullivan, Hoang, Green and Burks

absent.

Ms. Andrea P. Baldwin-Benjamin, 12410 Copperfield Drive, Houston, Texas 77031 (281-498-6120) appeared and stated that it seemed ridiculous not to feed the homeless; that the hungry would steal, etc., to eat, but today she was present for clarification of the towing ordinance; and described a situation which happened to her which included a wrecker driver paying half her money to an officer who was present. Council Members Brown, Adams, Sullivan, Hoang, Burks, Noriega and Christie absent. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Upon questions by Mayor Parker, Ms. Benjamin stated that she was on a service road on South Main; and Mayor Parker stated that if on a freeway she had no choice but to be towed and upon further questions, Ms. Benjamin stated that she saw the exchange of money and had filed a complaint. Council Members Brown, Adams, Sullivan, Hoang, Burks, Noriega and Christie absent. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Council Member Gonzalez stated that he had concerns about the money, but they had to hear all sides; and as Mayor Parker stated Sergeant Baker was present to speak with her; and Mayor Parker stated that for the record if she was on a freeway and had to be towed, the SafeClear tow was a flat \$50.00. Council Members Brown, Sullivan, Hoang, Burks, Noriega and Christie absent. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Ms. Marilyn Pickaree-Champaigne (no address) (no phone) appeared and stated that she was present to relay the serious nature of Christopher John Williams who was released from the Ben Taub Psychiatric Center; that certain medications impaired reasoning and no one should drive on them; and continued to express her personal opinions of him being a public safety risk until her time expired. Council Members Brown, Sullivan, Hoang, Burks, Noriega and Christie absent. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Ms. Emily Nghiem, 1620 Robbin, Houston, Texas 77019 (713-820-5130) appeared and stated that she was a volunteer in the national historic district of Freedmen's Town and she was appealing the city save taxpayer money and history by saving the last ten row houses on Victor Street for vets; that she was submitting plans for a sustainable campus to Council Member Cohen which showed how money could be made to do this; and it tied in with other speakers as churches were looking for a way to serve the homeless and the three lots could be developed with enough services for groups such as healthcare, etc., to work and not cause any nuisance. Council Members Sullivan, Hoang, Burks, Noriega and Christie absent.

Council Member Cohen thanked Ms. Nghiem for the information presented and stated that they would study it; and Mayor Parker stated that they were working hard for a plan to save the houses. Council Members Sullivan, Hoang, Burks, Noriega and Christie absent.

Mr. Frank Malcolm James, who was previously added to the speakers list, was not present when his name was called. Council Members Sullivan, Hoang, Burks, Noriega and Christie absent.

President Joseph Charles, P. O. Box 524373, Houston, Texas 77052-4373 (713-928-2800) had reserved time to speak but was not present when his name was called. Council Members Sullivan, Hoang, Burks, Noriega and Christie absent.

Ms. Bridget Alexander McDaniel, P. O. Box 53993, Houston, Texas (713-987-3854) appeared and stated that she was issued an incident number on an assault case of Mr. Terrance D. Shaw; that this involved the Metro police and she was present before about the situation; and continued discussing the incident until her time expired. Council Members Sullivan, Hoang, Burks, Noriega and Christie absent.

Mr. Derrick Broze, 1215 W. Gray, Houston, Texas 77019 (713-909-0382) appeared and stated that he was with Houston Free Thinkers, they raised money for Food Not Bombs and helped contribute signatures on the food sharing petition; and urged the item be placed on the November ballot. Council Members Sullivan, Hoang, Burks, Noriega and Christie absent.

Mr. Micah Jackson, 1937 Dryden, Houston, Texas 77003 (713-937-8024) appeared and stated that many arguments were heard on feeding the homeless and he took offense to them not being allowed to share; and urged it be placed on the November ballot as the three main reasons for the legislation such as littering, etc., were already laws. Council Members Sullivan, Hoang, Burks, Noriega and Christie absent.

At 3:56 p. m. Mayor Parker stated that City Council was recessed until 9:00 a.m., Wednesday, August 15, 2012. Council Members Pennington, Rodriguez and Bradford absent on personal business. Council Members Sullivan, Hoang, Burks, Noriega and Christie absent.

The Houston City Council reconvened at 9:00 a.m., Wednesday, August 15, 2012, with Mayor Annise D. Parker presiding and Council Members Helena Brown, Jerry Davis, Ellen R. Cohen, Wanda Adams, Mike Sullivan, Oliver Pennington, Edward Gonzalez, 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 and Stella Ortega, Agenda Office, present. Council Members Al Hoang and James G. Rodriguez absent on personal business.

At 8:27 a.m. the City Secretary read the descriptions or captions of items on the Agenda.

At 9:06 a.m. Mayor Parker called the meeting to order and stated that the first item on the agenda was a public hearing and invited Director Joe Turner to the podium. Council Members Davis, Adams, Pennington, Costello and Burks absent.

HEARINGS

1. **PUBLIC HEARING** on the re-adoption with changes of Article XII Chapter 32, Code of Ordinances, City of Houston, regarding Standards of Care for the Houston Parks and Recreation Department Youth Recreation Programs – was called. Council Members Davis, Adams, Pennington, Costello and Burks absent.

Mr. Turner, Director, Parks and Recreation Department was present and stated that they came every year with the process to do this, that present was Ms. Tiffany Evans, Legal Department, who worked with them on the program, that they did make a few changes in what they worked with, that the purpose of the hearing was to comply with Texas Human Resources Code 42.041B14, that their Standards of Care intended to establish the minimum that H.P.A.R.D. would use to alpha rate their After School Program, that was the program that was in their community centers, that they offered a wide range of activities, that the Houston Recreation Program Standard of Care was codified in Article XII Chapter 32, City of Houston, Code of Ordinances, that the Texas Human Resource Code provided an exemption from Child Care Licensing for recreation programs serving elementary age children, ages 5 to 13, with the following criteria, the municipality operated a program that the governing body adopted a Standard of Care by an ordinance after a public hearing of such programs, that was what they did this year and every year about this same time, that this program provided the Standards of Care to the parents for each person in the program, that it gave the different ratios and also informed the parents that this was not a State licensed program and that the program was not a Child Care Program, that they were doing three changes to the Code of Ordinances, one, they were updating some titles to reflect the departments current organizational structure, that the

main one was one that they used to have a Deputy Director over the program and they now had an Assistant Director, that second, the child care ration was 1 to 35 and they were reducing that to 1 to 25, and third, they actually had that they used contact by pagers, and they had put telephones into the ordinance, and that concluded what he had. Council Member Burks absent.

Mayor Parker stated that if she had heard Mr. Turner correctly they had lowered the ratio of children to adult supervision, and Mr. Turner stated yes, that was inside the program itself and in the ordinance it also stated that if they did any trips then that ratio was 10 to 1, and Mayor Parker stated that she thought that was a good thing, that 25 kids was still a lot to keep track of on a daily basis in the program, but there was a cost, and Mr. Turner stated that very seldom was it 1 to 25 because in most cases they always had 2 to 3 people there, it was just a ratio.

Mayor Parker stated that no one from the public had signed up to speak on the issue and asked if there was anyone in the public who wished to address the issue, and seeing none asked for a motion to close the public hearing.

Council Member Gonzalez moved to close the public hearing, seconded by Council Member Bradford. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Hoang and Rodriguez absent on personal business. MOTION 2012-0627 ADOPTED.

MAYOR'S REPORT

CONSENT AGENDA NUMBERS 2 through 24

MISCELLANEOUS - NUMBERS 2 through 6

2. REQUEST from Mayor for confirmation of the appointment or reappointment of the following individuals to the **ANIMAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**, for terms to expire December 31, 2013

Position Five - **MS. MICHELLE MANTOR**, appointment

Position Six - **MS. DEBORAH A. GEBHARDT**, reappointment

- was presented, moved by Council Member Gonzalez, seconded by Council Member Bradford. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Hoang and Rodriguez absent on personal business. MOTION 2012-0628 ADOPTED.

3. REQUEST from Mayor for confirmation of the appointment or reappointment of the following individuals to the **HARRIS COUNTY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 4 (ENERGY CORRIDOR MANAGEMENT DISTRICT) BOARD OF DIRECTORS**, for terms to expire June 1, 2015

Position Six - **MR. CHUCK B. CERVAS**, reappointment

Position Seven - **MR. ROBERT B. HALICK**, reappointment

Position Eight - **MR. STEVE L. WEST**, reappointment

Position Nine - **MS. DEBBIE FUJIMOTO**, appointment

- was presented, moved by Council Member Gonzalez, seconded by Council Member Bradford. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Hoang and Rodriguez absent on personal business. MOTION 2012-0629 ADOPTED.

4. REQUEST from Mayor for confirmation of the appointment of **MS. RACHEL M. SMITH** to Position Two on the **MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES' CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION** and the

FIRE FIGHTERS' CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION, for the remainder of a three year term to expire on June 14, 2015 - was presented, moved by Council Member Gonzalez, seconded by Council Member Bradford. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Hoang and Rodriguez absent on personal business. MOTION 2012-0630 ADOPTED.

5. REQUEST from Mayor for confirmation of the appointment of the following individuals to the **PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**:

- Position One - **MS. JESSICA CASTILLO-HULSEY**, for a term to expire 7/1/2013
- Position Two - **MS. JENIFER RENE' POOL**, for a term to expire 7/1/2014
- Position Three - **MR. FRANKLIN J. "JAY" HARBERG, JR.**, for a term to expire 7/1/2015
- Position Four - **MS. MARY L. RAMOS**, for a term to expire 7/1/2013
- Position Five - **MS. SHONDRA E. WYGAL**, for a term to expire 7/1/2014
- Position Six - **MR. VERNUS C. SWISHER**, for a term to expire 7/1/2015, and to serve as Chair

- was presented, moved by Council Member Gonzalez, seconded by Council Member Bradford. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Hoang and Rodriguez absent on personal business. MOTION 2012-0631 ADOPTED.

6. CONFIRMATION of the appointments from each Council Member for the **PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**, for staggered terms from the date of appointment:

- District A - **MR. ROSS DOS SANTOS**
- District B - **MS. RAMONA TOLIVER**
- District C - **MS. PAT NICHOLLS**
- District D - **PASTOR MANSON JOHNSON**
- District E - **MR. NICK A. CRNKOVIC, SR.**
- District F - **MS. SANDY REYES**
- District G - **MR. FRANK JONES**
- District H - **MR. BLAKE MASTERS**
- District I - **MR. JOHNNY SESSUMS**
- District J - **MR. SAMUEL BURTON**
- District K - **MS. LOVELLA HAYES DICKSON**
- Position 1 - **MS. TERI LAROSA**
- Position 2 - **MS. VIVIAN KING**
- Position 3 - **MS. BEVERLY JO CAGE**
- Position 4 - **MR. ROBERT Z. CRANE**
- Position 5 - **MR. ART PRONIN**

- was presented, moved by Council Member Gonzalez, seconded by Council Member Bradford. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Hoang and Rodriguez absent on personal business. MOTION 2012-0632 ADOPTED.

Mayor Parker stated that they just affirmed a number of volunteers, that first was Ms. Rachel Smith, the Municipal Employees Civil Service Commission, and asked that she come forward to be recognized and thanked her for her willingness to service on the commission, that it was an important commission both the for the administration and for their employees.

Mayor Parker stated that they also affirmed a number of Members to the Public Safety Advisory Committee, both Mayoral and Council appointees and asked that they all come forward and be recognized.

Mayor Parker and Members of Council congratulated the new appointees and thanked them for their service to the City of Houston. Council Members Adams, Burks and Noriega absent.

Mayor Parker recognized Council Member Costello for a point of personal privilege. Council Members Adams and Burks absent.

Council Member Costello stated that he wanted to introduce them to a group of young men who were with the Webelos Troop 866, that they were from the Cy Fair area and were present to observe how government worked in process, and asked that they stand and be recognized. Council Members Davis, Cohen, Adams, Pennington, Burks and Noriega absent.

Mayor Parker stated that she hoped they would enjoy their experience today and to make sure they spend some time looking around City Hall and go to the basement and see where they kept the former Mayors. Council Members Davis, Cohen, Adams, Pennington, Burks and Noriega absent.

ACCEPT WORK - NUMBER 8

8. RECOMMENDATION from Director Department of Public Works & Engineering for approval of final contract amount of \$406,416.77 and acceptance of work on contract with **JERDON ENTERPRISES, L.P.** for Reconfiguration of Avenida de Las Americas from Rusk to Texas 10.37% under the original contract amount - **DISTRICT I - RODRIGUEZ** - was presented, moved by Council Member Gonzalez, seconded by Council Member Bradford. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Hoang and Rodriguez absent on personal business. Council Members Davis, Cohen, Adams, Burks and Noriega absent. MOTION 2012-0633 ADOPTED.

PROPERTY - NUMBERS 9 through 11

9. RECOMMENDATION from Director Department of Public Works & Engineering, reviewed and approved by the Joint Referral Committee, on request from Joshua Wohlstein, on behalf of Rosalind Ng, for abandonment and sale of a ±15-foot-wide alley, from Durham Street west ±135 feet, between Center Street and Nett Street, in exchange for conveyance to the City of a 20-foot-wide alley, located within Block 61, Brunner Addition, out of the John Austin Survey, A-1, Parcels SY12-106 and AY12-176 - **DISTRICT C - COHEN** - was presented, moved by Council Member Gonzalez, seconded by Council Member Bradford. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Hoang and Rodriguez absent on personal business. Council Members Davis, Cohen, Adams, Burks and Noriega absent. MOTION 2012-0634 ADOPTED.
10. RECOMMENDATION from Director Department of Public Works & Engineering for approval of relocation assistance payments related to the purchase of Parcel AY8-309, located at 6319 North Freeway, for the **YALE STREET IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT (from Tidwell to Parker)** \$18,527.00 - **DISTRICT H - GONZALEZ** - was presented, moved by Council Member Gonzalez, seconded by Council Member Bradford. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Hoang and Rodriguez absent on personal business. Council Members Davis, Cohen, Adams, Burks and Noriega absent. MOTION 2012-0635 ADOPTED.
11. RECOMMENDATION from Director Department of Public Works & Engineering for approval of additional relocation assistance payments related to the purchase of Parcel AY8-311, located at 6445 North Freeway, for the **YALE STREET IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT (from Tidwell to Parker)** - \$18,996.00 - **DISTRICT H - GONZALEZ** - was

presented, moved by Council Member Gonzalez, seconded by Council Member Bradford. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Hoang and Rodriguez absent on personal business. Council Members Davis, Cohen, Adams, Burks and Noriega absent. MOTION 2012-0636 ADOPTED.

RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES - NUMBERS 19 through 24

19. ORDINANCE consenting to the creation of **HARRIS COUNTY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 15** and the inclusion of certain land within the district; consenting to the addition of 160.9285 acres of land for inclusion within the district - **DISTRICTS E - SULLIVAN and ETJ** - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Hoang and Rodriguez absent on personal business. Council Members Davis, Burks and Noriega absent. ORDINANCE 2012-0704 ADOPTED.
20. ORDINANCE appropriating \$176,000.00 out of Parks Special Fund as an additional appropriation for Kingwood Community Center; approving and authorizing first amendment to construction contract between the City of Houston and **HASSELL CONSTRUCTION, INC** (Approved by Ordinance No. 2011-405) - **DISTRICT E - SULLIVAN** - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Hoang and Rodriguez absent on personal business. Council Members Davis, Burks and Noriega absent. ORDINANCE 2012-0705 ADOPTED.
21. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing eighteen Professional Materials Engineering and Testing Services Laboratory Contracts between the City of Houston and 1) **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE INDUSTRIES, INC**, 2) **FUGRO CONSULTANTS, INC** 3) **HTS, INC. CONSULTANTS**, 4) **ALLIANCE LABORATORIES, INC** 5) **RABA-KISTNER CONSULTANTS, INC**, 6) **QC LABORATORIES, INC**, 7) **PARADIGM CONSULTANTS, INC**, 8) **TOLUNAY-WONG ENGINEERS, INC**, 9) **TERRACON CONSULTANTS, INC**, 10) **ASSOCIATED TESTING LABORATORIES, INC**, 11) **HVJ ASSOCIATES, INC**, 12) **GEOTEST ENGINEERING, INC**, 13) **KENALL INC**, 14) **ATSER, LP**, 15) **AVILES ENGINEERING CORPORATION**, 16) **DAE & ASSOCIATES, LTD., d/b/a GEOTECH ENGINEERING AND TESTING**, 17) **AUSTIN-REED ENGINEERS, LLC**, and 18) **ALL-TERRA ENGINEERING, INC** to support the construction of Capital Improvement Plan Projects managed by the General Services Department - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Hoang and Rodriguez absent on personal business. Council Members Davis, Burks and Noriega absent. ORDINANCE 2012-0706 ADOPTED.
22. ORDINANCE appropriating \$220,000.00 out of Metro Projects Construction DDSRF as an additional appropriation to Professional Engineering Services Contract between the City of Houston and **CIVIL DESIGN ASSOCIATES (Previously PERSPECTIVA CIVIC DESIGN)** and a Local Match to Texas Department of Transportation for Houston's Heritage Corridor, Bayou Trails west from San Jacinto Street to Stude Park (Approved by Ordinance No. 2002-0073, as amended); providing funding for CIP Cost Recovery relating to construction of facilities financed by the Metro Projects Construction DDSRF - **DISTRICT H - GONZALEZ** - had been pulled from the Agenda by the Administration, and was not considered. Council Members Davis, Burks and Noriega absent.
23. ORDINANCE awarding contract to **GLM CONTRACTING, INC** for Concrete and Asphalt Restoration 2; 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 services; providing a maximum contract amount for GLM Contracting, Inc, and engineering testing - \$1,650,418.00 Enterprise Fund - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none.

Council Members Hoang and Rodriguez absent on personal business. Council Members Davis, Burks and Noriega absent. ORDINANCE 2012-0707 ADOPTED.

24. ORDINANCE appropriating \$2,518,000.00 out of Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund, awarding contract to **SCOHIL CONSTRUCTION SERVICES, LLC** for Water Line Replacement in Memorial Plaza Area; 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 G - PENNINGTON** - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Hoang and Rodriguez absent on personal business. Council Members Davis, Burks and Noriega absent. ORDINANCE 2012-0708 ADOPTED.

MATTERS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA WERE CONSIDERED AS FOLLOWS:

MISCELLANEOUS

7. REQUEST from Mayor for confirmation of the appointment or reappointment of the following individuals to the **BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF REINVESTMENT ZONE NUMBER TWENTY-ONE, CITY OF HOUSTON, TEXAS (HARDY/NEAR NORTHSIDE)**:
- Position One - **MR. FERNANDO ZAMARRIPA**, appointment, for a term to expire 12/31/2013
 - Position Two - **MS. MARY M. LAWLER**, reappointment, for a term to expire 12/31/2012 and to serve as Chair, for a term ending 12/31/2012
 - Position Three- **MR. EDWARD (ED) REYES**, reappointment, for a term to expire 12/31/2013
 - Position Four - **MS. SYLVIA CAVAZOS**, reappointment, for a term to expire 12/31/2012
 - Position Five - **MR. LLOYD BURKE**, reappointment, for a term to expire 12/31/2013
 - Position Seven- **MR. RICHARD CANTÚ**, reappointment, for a term to expire 12/31/2013

- was presented, moved by Council Member Gonzalez, seconded by Council Member Adams. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Hoang and Rodriguez absent on personal business. MOTION 2012-0637 ADOPTED.

Mayor Parker stated that they just affirmed the appointment of the Board of Directors of Reinvestment Zone Number Twenty-One, the Hardy Near/Northside, and asked that Mr. Richard Cantu and Mr. Fernando Zamarripa come forward. Council Members Davis, Burks and Noriega absent.

Mayor Parker and Council Members Gonzalez and Adams congratulated Mr. Cantu and Mr. Zamarripa on their new appointments and thanked them for their willingness to serve the City of Houston. Council Members Davis, Burks and Noriega absent.

RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES - NUMBERS 12 through 24

12. RESOLUTION supporting the request of a Waiver of the Local Match Requirements in the Federal Off-System Bridge Program - **DISTRICTS C - COHEN; H - GONZALEZ and K - GREEN** - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Hoang and

Rodriguez absent on personal business. Council Member Burks absent. RESOLUTION 2012-0012 ADOPTED.

13. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing an Economic Development Agreement between the City of Houston, Texas, and **FINGER DEVELOPMENT COMPANY** for the development and operation of a Multi-Family Residential Project located in the 1500 block of Prairie Avenue, Houston, Texas 77027 - **DISTRICT I - RODRIGUEZ** - was presented. Council Member Sullivan voting no, balance voting aye. Council Members Hoang and Rodriguez absent on personal business. Council Member Burks absent. ORDINANCE 2012-0709 ADOPTED.
14. ORDINANCE establishing an Economic Development Program pursuant to Chapter 380 of the Texas Local Government Code to provide incentives for development of certain qualifying Multi-Family Residential Projects in the Eastern Area of the Central Business District generally bounded by Runnels Street on the north, Chartres Street on the east, Pierce Street on the south and Fannin Street on the west, to be known as the Downtown Living Initiative; authorizing and approving an agreement between the City of Houston and the **HOUSTON DOWNTOWN MANAGEMENT DISTRICT** for administration of the program - **DISTRICT I – RODRIGUEZ** – was presented, and tagged by Council Member Costello. Council Member Burks absent.
15. ORDINANCE approving the Second Amended Project Plan and Reinvestment Zone Financing Plan for **REINVESTMENT ZONE NUMBER TWENTY-ONE, CITY OF HOUSTON, TEXAS (HARDY/NEAR NORTHSIDE ZONE)**; authorizing the City Secretary to distribute such plans; extending the duration of the Zone to December 31, 2040 - **DISTRICT H - GONZALEZ** - was presented. Council Member Brown voting no, balance voting aye. Council Members Hoang and Rodriguez absent on personal business. Council Member Burks absent. ORDINANCE 2012-0710 ADOPTED.
16. ORDINANCE amending City of Houston Ordinance No. 2011-1170 relating to the rescheduling or postponement of certain City Council meetings – was presented. Council Member Burks absent.

After discussion by Council Member Brown, a vote was called on Item No. 16. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Hoang and Rodriguez absent on personal business. Council Member Burks absent. ORDINANCE 2012-0711 ADOPTED.

17. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing grant agreement between the City of Houston and **THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION** for the STEP Comprehensive Commercial Motor Vehicle Grant; declaring the City's eligibility for such grant; authorizing the Chief of the Houston Police 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 – was presented. Council Member Burks absent.

After discussion by Council Members a vote was called on item No. 17. Council Member Brown voting no, balance voting aye. Council Members Hoang and Rodriguez absent on personal business. Council Member Adams absent. ORDINANCE 2012-0712 ADOPTED.

18. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing grant agreement between the City of Houston and **THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION** for the STEP Comprehensive Motor Vehicle Grant; declaring the City's eligibility for such grant; authorizing the Chief of the Houston Police 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 – was presented.

After discussion by Council Member Sullivan a vote was called on item No. 18. Council Member Brown voting no, balance voting aye. Council Members Hoang and Rodriguez absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2012-0713 ADOPTED.

MATTERS HELD - NUMBERS 25 and 26

25. ORDINANCE ordering an election to be held on November 6, 2012, for the purpose of submitting to the qualified voters of the City of Houston, Texas, certain propositions for the issuance of Public Improvement Bonds for various purposes; designating the location of each polling place and the hours that the polls shall be open – **(This was Item 11 on Agenda of August 8, 2012, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS GREEN and SULLIVAN)** – was presented.

After discussion by Council Members, Mayor Parker stated that she wanted to make sure they understood that this was not borrowing, it was going to the voters and asking, it was sort of a prequalification from the voters, it was not the actual borrowing, that Council Members would have to vote individually on the borrowing, that there would be no CIP absent this authorization; that for the record, Mayor Parker stated that all of their debt was A or AA rated and they had had no trouble selling their bonds; that there was a reference made earlier to the secret facilities assessment, but that had been made available to the Council Members, that she hoped that all Council Members took advantage of the opportunity to read it in detail, that she thought it was important to remind Council Members that when the item was presented a month ago she indicated that the \$410 million was the starting point because they looked at what their debt capacity was and worked back from there, that it did not address the majority of the capital needs across the City of Houston, it was what was affordable to the City of Houston, that they also indicated at that time that it would support the existing CIP, much of which was unfunded, that it would go to the critical facilities assessment needs, which had been made available to all Council Members, and then the rest of the money was undefined pending the normal CIP process so that every Council Member would have an opportunity to go through the public hearings and that they would not add project in an ad hoc manner, but that they would work through the existing process, that she wanted to remind everybody of those comments made at the previous meeting; that there would be a public information campaign, because this was a ballot item so they needed a campaign with it, in addition she, and a number of Council Members who were concerned about passage of the CIP, would go on the road and talk about what the projects were, those projects were the existing CIP, as she said, and those projects that were identified in the facilities assessment as the critical needs, those were absolutely identified projects and they could talk to the public about those and they deserved the right to know, that the additional funds that were available for the CIP were things where the projects were yet to be identified, not because they did not want to identify them, but they thought that knowing that they had more needs than they had money they were going to have to prioritize and that was what the CIP process was, that there was a reference to the Alief Library, that previously she had meetings with Council Member Hoang and he had already indicated his desire to move his CIP money around to accommodate that library and they were going to work with him closely, but there would be, in addition to what they do out in the community, three public hearings on the bond; that yes it was true that the much needed police complex was not in the bond election and the much needed replacement and/or solution to the jail was not in the bond election, that there was only so much money and as she stated they worked from what could they afford backwards; that she appreciated Council Member Pennington acknowledging that she shared with Council the exact debt payment schedule so that everybody could see, prior to today, what the future looked like.

After further discussion by Council Members, a vote was called on Item No. 25. Council Members Pennington, Brown and Sullivan voting no, balance voting aye. Council Members Hoang and Rodriguez absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2012-0714 ADOPTED.

26. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing agreement between the City of Houston, Texas, and **THE GREATER HOUSTON CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU** for Professional Protocol Services; providing a maximum contract amount - \$685,000.00 - General Fund – **(This was Item 14 on Agenda of August 8, 2012, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBER SULLIVAN)** - was presented.

After discussion by Council Members, a vote was called on Item No. 26. Council Member Sullivan voting no, balance voting aye. Council Members Hoang and Rodriguez absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2012-0715 ADOPTED.

MATTERS TO BE PRESENTED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Council Member Cohen stated that she wanted to acknowledge Council Member Adams for her invitation to her television show, that she was thrilled to be able to join Council Member Noriega, that the program was Community Connection; that she wanted to congratulate the Weekly Y Sharks, part of the Y.M.C.A. of Greater Houston and their swim team league, they sent 20 swimmers to the recent Y.M.C.A. Lone Star State Swimming Championship, which was held in Frisco, that the children were between the ages of 6 and 14 and finished fourth in their division, that their coaches included William Lew, Head Coach, and Tony Gilroy, who was leading the weekly aquatics program; that she wanted to comment on the vigil that was held for the Sikh Community several days ago, that it was an amazing heart rendering and touching ceremony, that what she found significant were the prayers and sentiments by the various faith communities that they had in Houston. Mayor Parker and Council Members Brown, Sullivan and Pennington absent. Mayor Pro Tem Gonzalez presiding.

Council Member Christi stated that while everybody was at the Reliant Center Back to School stuff he was at Council Member Adams Back to School Program; that he also wanted to comment on the candle light ceremony on Thursday and put that with the Ramadan Dinner on Saturday night, that he thought the Mayor's words were very heartfelt and opening to all of the communities; that he wanted to compliment the administration for meeting with the Commissioners Court and working out things with meetings, that it had not been done to much in the past like that and he thought it was very successful. Council Members Brown, Sullivan, Pennington and Burks absent.

Council Member Burks stated that on Friday he met with the Vice President of Ghana, who was now the President of Ghana, that the next day he met with the Governor of Imo, Nigeria who had a gift for Mayor Parker and he presented Mayor Parker with a portrait. Council Members Brown, Sullivan and Pennington absent.

Mayor Parker stated that she wanted to thank Council Member Burks for bring the gift to her. Council Members Brown, Sullivan and Pennington absent.

Council Member Laster stated that he wanted to join his colleagues in thanking Mayor Parker and those responsible for not only putting on the community prayer service last week for the Sikh Community at City Hall, that it was a moving event for all of them; that on Sunday evening he was able to join the larger community in southwest Houston at India House to participate in a prayer and vigil service for the Sikh Community; that this morning a number of them were invited to be with the Consulate General of India to celebrate India's Independence Day; that District J, two weeks from now, would be hosting a "Securing their Families Back to

School Conference”, that it would be on Wednesday, August 29, 2012. Council Members Brown, Davis, Sullivan, Pennington and Burks absent.

Mayor Parker stated that she wanted to thank all of the Council Members who attended the memorial vigil on the steps of City Hall last Friday night for the Sikh Community and to those Council Members who joined her at the George R. Brown Convention Center for the Iftar, that a lot of folks mistake, Sikh's were not Muslim's, that the Iftar was a coming together of the Muslim Community to break the fast for Ramadan, that there was a strong outpouring of support from the Muslim Community to the Sikh Community as well. Council Members Brown, Davis, Sullivan, Pennington and Burks absent.

Council Member Laster further stated that it was amazing that at both of those events representatives from all of those communities were there, particularly at the Ramadan Service, that he thought a number of them may be attending an event at the Rainbow Turkish House this week. Council Members Brown, Davis, Sullivan, Pennington and Burks absent.

Council Member Gonzalez stated that once more a senseless shooting was in the news, that his thoughts, prayers and condolences went out to all of those affected by the College Station shooting, that he wanted to once more refer citizens to www.ReadyHoustonTX.gov to view a timely view about how to handle an active shooter situation or at least to gain some greater insight, that Run. Hide. Fight. was produced through a Department of Homeland Security Grant by the Mayor's Office of Homeland Security, that it was a tool for their citizens to be prepared for the worst and had garnered national attention during these tough times; that he wanted to thank Neighborhood Centers, Inc. and Northline Commons for hosting another wonderful Annual Back to School and Community Health Fair this past Saturday; that on Saturday Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, in the East End, would celebrate 100 years, that he wanted to congratulate Father Edward Kilianski, parish staff, the congregation and the families of the church for their continued commitment to their community and faith; that he wanted to say how much he missed the Olympics, that he got hooked on it for a while and wanted to congratulate their American teams, that it was a great showing of both individual performances and team work, that the American teams really made them proud, that they had the Junior Olympics locally so they had an opportunity to witness some of the future stars. Council Members Brown, Davis, Sullivan, Pennington and Burks absent.

Council Member Noriega stated that coming off of a conversation about how to prepare for an active shooter and whether or not she needed to go home and watch it with her 15 year old it seemed appropriate that she wanted to mention a group that had been meeting with her in her office and thought they had also met with some of the Mayor's staff, that it was a group called Compassionate Houston and they were endeavoring to get Houston included in something called Compassionate Cities, that the Reverend Betty Adams, Christ Church Cathedral, where she attended church, had been visiting with Kattie Tipton and Cameron Walter of the Mayor's Staff, they had a four step model and a National Compassionate Action Network, that it began in Seattle in 2008 and Raji, who helped organize the Sikh Memorial Service last week, had been involved up to know trying to help them figure out how to navigate the system, that she mentioned it only because she would like the Mayor to be aware that they were involved in helping with it, that she thought there was a place for this in an appropriate sort of inter denominational inter faith multi cultural perspective, that she thought they needed more compassion and a lot less violence and knowing how to address that in a reasonable way was difficult but thought that anything that might help would be a good thing. Council Members Brown, Cohen, Sullivan, Pennington, Gonzalez and Burks absent.

Council Member Adams stated that she wanted to congratulate Channel 13 Reporter Maya Shay and Gene Wu for their nuptials this past weekend; that she wanted to thank all of their supporters and all who helped during their Annual Health Fair at the Sunnyside Community

Service Center, back to school supply giveaway; that she wanted to thank Mayor Parker because she knew that the City of Houston and HISD back to school drive was on Saturday; that on Saturday the Brothers of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity would be hosting their Annual Health Fair and School Supply Give Away at the Sunnyside Multi Purpose Center; that she wanted to thank Council Members Christi and Burks for helping at the fair and she wanted to thank them for all of their support; that she wanted to remind veterans that they were still accepting applications for the Veterans Home Repair Program, that their Service Day would be on September 6, 2012, that for more information they could call her office at 832-393-3001; that she knew Mayor Parker, each week, was sponsoring Pet of the Week, that BARC was competing across 49 other shelters across the United States for \$100,000 in the ASPCA Rachel Ray Challenge, that to win BARC had to meet a goal of 2,100 adoptions from August 1 to August 31, 2012. Council Members Brown, Cohen, Sullivan, Pennington and Burks absent.

Mayor Parker stated that she wanted to thank Council Member Adams for referencing the Back to School Fest and to Council Member Green for hosting it in his District and joining him out there, that she wanted to give a big shout out to Nelson Espitia and Citizens Assistance, they were up very early and stayed very late and dealt with 25,000 to 30,000 people coming through the Reliant Center. Council Members Brown, Cohen, Sullivan, Pennington and Burks absent.

Council Member Green stated that he enjoyed attending that event with Mayor Parker, it was a great event, 25,000 plus kids came through to get backpacks and school supplies, that he wanted to thank the City for hosting that along with their corporate partners; that yesterday he accompanied the Mayor to the opening of the Universoul Circus and the Mayor presented a proclamation making August 14, 2012, Universoul Circus Day; that this past Saturday he co-facilitated an informational meeting, along with Public Works staff, before the Southwest Crossing Homeowners Association to address the upcoming 42" Waterline Replacement Project; that on Saturday he attended the Mayor's Iftar Dinner at the George R. Brown Convention Center; that on Monday evening he attended the Chadberry Place HOA meeting; that he attended the Hiram Clarke PIP meeting also on Monday; that on Thursday, August 16, 2012, the Raindrop Turkish House would host their Annual Friendship and Engagement Dinner at 9301 West Bellfort; that on Saturday, August 18, 2012, their office would be hosting a Fun in the Park event at Marion Park in conjunction with Riceville Baptist Church, the Indian House, the Turquoise Center, Braes Oaks Management District and Southwest 2000, that Marion Park was located at 11001 South Gessner; that for job information they could contact his office and they would provide the information to them; that the Braeswood Super Neighborhood Council Formation Meeting would be held on Tuesday, August 21, 2012 at the Linkwood Park Community Center. Council Members Brown, Sullivan, Pennington and Burks absent.

Council Member Davis stated that this past week was the Home Going Service for Felix Cook, Jr. who was known throughout the State for education; that on Friday District B was in the Acres Home area removing a dead tree from a ditch; that they had a Back to School Event at the Julia C. Hester House last week, also at the Grace Cathedral Church, which was coupled with a right to vote rally, as well as Tabernacle of Praise off of Tidwell and Mesa Drive; that today he would be at the grand opening of a business in District B, New Tex Lighting Company; that on Friday he wanted to invite the residents of District B to the East Houston Civic Club First Annual Back to School Blast, that it was a free event in the community; that on Friday the Kashmere Stage Band, Thundersoul Orchestra, would perform at Jones Plaza on Friday; that on Saturday he wanted to invite everyone to the Legacy Community Health Services Back to School Bash at 5602 Lyons Avenue at Lockwood; that he wanted to thank El Franco Lee for allowing them to use his buses to take their seniors out on a Golden Citizens Day at the movies at Greenspoint Mall in District B; that he met with Brother Robert Muhammed last week, who stopped by to give him some information, that he and about 94 other Muslim Brothers from the Nation of Islam were out knocking on doors and trying to get some sense of unity within the

community, that he appreciated their going out and actually taking a step in the right direction to bring people together, that he did not care what faith, it was all about working together for the common good . Council Members Brown, Sullivan, Pennington and Burks absent.

There being no further business before Council, the City Council adjourned at 10:58 a.m. Council Members Hoang and Rodriguez absent on personal business. Council Members Brown, Sullivan, Pennington and Burks absent.

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

MINUTES READ AND APPROVED

/S/Anna Russell

Anna Russell, City Secretary