

City Council Chamber, City Hall, Tuesday, September 10, 2013

A Regular Meeting of the Houston City Council was held at 2:00 p.m. Tuesday, September 10, 2013, Mayor Annise Parker presiding and with Council Members Helena Brown, Jerry Davis, Ellen R. Cohen, Wanda Adams, Dave Martin, Al Hoang, Oliver Pennington, 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, Legal Department, Division Chief, Claims & Subrogation Division; Ms. Marta Crinejo, Agenda Director, present. Council Member Edward Gonzalez out of city on city business.

At 1:38 p.m. Mayor Parker called the meeting to order and stated they would begin with the presentations and recognized Council Member Burks for the first presentation. Council Members Brown, Davis, Cohen, Adams, Martin, Hoang, Pennington, Rodriguez, Green and Costello absent. NO QUORUM PRESENT

Council Member Burks stated that the Greater Northside Chamber of Commerce was a new Houston organization promoting the success and bolstering the strength of Houston's economy and presented a proclamation to the Chamber of Commerce, and Mayor Parker stated therefore, she Annise D. Parker, Mayor of the City of Houston, hereby proclaimed today as Greater Northside Chamber of Commerce Day in Houston, Texas. Council Members Brown, Davis, Cohen, Adams, Martin, Rodriguez, Green and Costello absent. NO QUORUM PRESENT

Council Member Christi presented a proclamation to the Houston Center for Literacy, and Mayor Parker stated therefore, she Annise D. Parker, Mayor of the City of Houston, hereby proclaimed September 2013 as Literacy Awareness Month in Houston, Texas, and thanked them for what they did. Council Members Cohen, Martin, Rodriguez, Green and Costello absent.

Vice Mayor Pro Tem Bradford, Council Members Adams, Davis, Hoang and Burks, thanked the Houston Center for Literacy for all they did and for their service to the City of Houston. Council Members Cohen, Martin, Rodriguez, Green and Costello absent.

Council Member Noriega presented a proclamation to KHOU Channel 11 as they celebrated their 60th anniversary this year, and Mayor Parker stated therefore, she Annise D. Parker, Mayor of the City of Houston, hereby proclaimed today as KHOU Channel 11 Day in Houston, Texas, and thanked them for 60 years of broadcasting in Houston.

At 2:13 p.m. Mayor Parker recognized Council Member Hoang for the invocation and pledge of allegiance, and Council Member Hoang invited followers of the Coadi Temple to lead them in the innovation and Council Member Hoang led all in the pledge.

Mayor Parker stated that she would encourage the Council Members who had not had an opportunity to visit the temple to do so, it was a place of peace, but was a beautiful architectural achievement.

At 2:15 p.m. the City Secretary called the roll. Council Member Gonzalez out of the city on city business.

Council Members Bradford and Adams moved that the minutes of the preceding meeting be adopted. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Gonzalez out of the city on city business. MOTION ADOPTED.

The City Secretary began calling the list of public speakers.

Dr. Alkebu Motapa, 5022 Crosby, Houston, Texas 77021 (713-741-5150) had reserved time to speak, but was not present when his name was called. Council Member Hoang absent.

Mr. Jose Trevino, 2606 Everett, Houston, Texas 77009 (832-276-5942) appeared and stated that he was present on behalf of his neighborhood, consisting of 150 family homes, the neighborhood was from Main Street to Fulton Street, and Boundary to Booth Street, and asked that they open a very much needed intersection at Boundary and Everett Street, that Everett was the main artery to their neighborhood, it was the easiest route from I-45 to North Main Street, that it had always been the route the Houston Fire Department used and never could the residents do any type of speed bumps for the situation, that since the intersection was cut off they had one person die for slow emergency response and they had a neighbor who had many life threatening problems, more than once the ambulance had to park across on Boundary Street and gurney him across the rail, they also had an assault in progress where the police officers called the victim during the assault and asked for directions to the house, that many times the Fire Department had brought a fire truck to see if the rail would interfere with the response time and the answer was yes, that Metro had put some gravel ramps on either side of the rail, but it slowed down the process, as they knew in an emergency time was of the essence, that the City stated that traffic studies had to be done before an intersection would be considered, but Kroger's on Studemont and Walmart on Heights were both put in before the stores were put in to do any kind of studies, that the intersection at Everett and Boundary would be used 7 days a week, all day and all night, that he would ask the Mayor to listen to Metro about their plans to open the intersection as a pilot program for future rail systems working with neighborhoods in their growing City. Council Members Davis, Hoang and Noriega absent.

Mayor Parker stated that Council Member Gonzalez had kept her apprised of the issue, that as she recalled they were not land locked, they put in a right turn only lane and there had been discussion with Public Works to see if there were alternatives that did not currently existed in the City's Code book, they were willing to have an open mind and explore various solutions, but she would work through Council Member Gonzalez going forward, so he should continue to engage with him. Council Members Davis, Hoang, Rodriguez and Noriega absent.

Mr. Ray Field, 5910 Jackwood, Houston, Texas 77074 (713-297-1397) appeared presented information regarding a non City sponsored school backpack event on August 24, 2013 from 10 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., for which he was contacted by the Houston Police Department, and called to attention the treatment of volunteers at the event. Council Members Davis, Adams, Rodriguez and Noriega absent.

After discussion by Council Members Green and Bradford, Council Member Bradford asked Mr. Field what had gone wrong, and Mr. Field stated that it was a lack of proper communication. Council Members Davis, Adams, Rodriguez and Noriega absent.

Mr. Charlie Jones, 4307 South Acres Dr., Houston, Texas 77047 (832-474-1178) had reserved time to speak, but was not present when his name was called. Council Members Davis, Adams, Rodriguez and Noriega absent.

Ms. Linda Waters Scott, 8440 South Breeze Street, Houston, Texas 77071 (832-888-8857) appeared and stated that in 2006 she remodeled her property at 8824 Brandon Street, Houston, Texas 77053, a family medical emergencies made it hard to visit her property daily, that thief's vandalized and burglarized her property, she filed a police report at the Reed Road Police Station, the City later targeted her property for demolition and she had no idea of it, there was a court hearing that she was not notified about until last month when Mr. Larry Carol, Neighborhood Protection, investigated it, that the City demolished her property and she did not know prior to the demolition, the court papers for the hearing were sent to a dead man, Linebarger lumped the demolition cost to her property taxes and would not accept her property

taxes unless she paid a \$12,000 demolition City lien, that Linebarger had her property up for foreclosure unless she gave them an impossible amount of money, she had called everybody for help, including Council Member Adams and Commissioner Mae Walker's office, because the property was in that area and there was no help from anyone; that she was an unemployed certified English teacher and had bought a house in the same neighborhood where she taught, that she was disappointed that the thief's and the City wanted to take a house that was hers. Council Members Adams and Noriega absent.

Mr. Mario Castillo, 302 Cottage Street, Houston, Texas 77009 (713-632-4121) appeared, presented information, and stated that he was the regional organizing lead in Houston for Enroll America, they were a national non-profit, non-partisan 501C3 organization that was tasked with educating and informing Americans about the Affordable Health Care Act, they were going out into the City of Houston and running a grassroots campaign to educate and inform as many Houstonians and uninsured individuals on the ACA and the benefits that were entitled to them with respect to health insurance. Council Member Noriega absent.

Mayor Parker stated that the Affordable Health Care Act, which people either liked or not, was the law and it was coming and they had a responsibility to make sure their citizens were informed as to how best take advantage of it, the State of Texas had not made that necessarily easy, which meant it fell to them at the local level to fill in the gap, that the City of Houston Health Department looked forward to work with their organization and others. Council Member Noriega absent.

Upon questions and discussion by Council Members Christi, Green and Laster, Mr. Castillo stated that they could not afford to not do something about the issues that were plaguing their health care system. Council Members Costello and Noriega absent.

Mr. Stephen Krebs, 2240 Shakesphere, Houston, Texas 77030 (713-562-6877) appeared and stated that he was a member of Hens for Houston, an organization out to liberalize the laws regarding keeping chickens in the City, that under current law it was very difficult, if not impossible, for an ordinary citizen to own chickens in their backyard, they could only own chickens if they kept them 100 feet from the nearest residence; that under Section 6-36 of the Municipal Code it was illegal to compost their waste from their chickens, they were dealing with a statute that was over 65 years old, they had come up with a statute that would change and allow individuals to own chickens within their homes, that their organization would like to work with the City Council to get the BARC proposal into sub committee for further discussion so Houston could join a number of sister cities, Dallas and San Antonio, that allowed their individuals citizens to have chickens, and also other cities like New York, Los Angeles, Seattle and Chicago that permitted, under very flexible arrangements, for people to have chickens. Council Members Costello and Noriega absent.

Mayor Parker stated that she was in some sympathy with the request, but this was an issue that had not gained a lot of traction within the broader City of Houston or across City Council, and until they see that there was more general support it was not her intention, at this point, to bring it to the full Council for consideration. Council Members Costello and Noriega absent.

Council Members Christi asked if the request for an annual certificate or license bothered him, and Mr. Krebs stated that they had met with the folks at BARC and they believed that it was very necessary to have that, that the BARC proposal did require some permitting and they were in favor of moving that along. Council Members Costello and Noriega absent.

Council Member Laster stated that he was pretty sure that he was in the camp of Council Members who really thought that the 100 foot setback rule had served their City well for a number of generations; that he thought there was a long way to go on this and as far as his neighborhoods went, as he reached out to them, he did not have anybody asking them to have additional chickens or barnyard animals in their backyard. Council Members Hoang and Noriega absent.

Council Member Davis that in District B they had a hard time regulating the animals they had now, they were trying to get them out, like the bulls that were running down the street in Acres Homes, they did not want to allow more animals in the area. Council Members Hoang and Noriega absent.

Council Member Burks moved that the rules be suspended for the purpose of extending time for questions of Mr. Stephen Krebs, seconded by Council Member Bradford. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Gonzalez out of the city on city business. Council Members Hoang and Noriega absent. MOTION 2013-0618 ADOPTED.

Council Member Burks asked who inspected the hens, making sure that all they asked for was taken care of and followed, and Mr. Krebs stated that under the BARC proposals there would not be inspection of the birds, chickens really did not carry diseases, that BARC had very comprehensive rules around coops. Council Members Brown, Davis, Hoang, Pennington and Noriega absent.

Ms. Maydine Lewis, 914 Skyline Vista, Houston, Texas 77019 (832-830-8207) had reserved time to speak, but was not present when her name was called. Council Members Brown, Davis, Hoang, Pennington and Noriega absent.

Mr. Philip Linder, 1614 Trail Oaks Ct., Kingwood, Texas 77339 (281-804-5859) appeared and stated that he was a board member of Lakewood Cove in Kingwood, Texas, that in the past former Council Member Mike Sullivan tried to work on his case and talked to the City of Houston Public Works Department and was unsuccessful, there was a lake in the association called Brown Lake and it was disappearing because of the lack of rainfall and the lack of runoff that normally supplied water to the lake, this was due to the City of Houston Public Works Department, the Engineering Department permitted the approval and building of a subdivision to redirect the runoff water from the lake to a retention pond, which was always full of water, without any consideration to Brown Lake, and he passed around pictures of the lake, that the lake was nine feet and now more than half of the lake was gone, that the value of the homes and property would go down, the association would suffer from the dried out lake, that he wrote the City of Houston Public Works Department explaining the problem and had a meeting with them and they said they could not help him; that what he wanted the Public Works Department to take responsibility for the lack of consideration when approving the building plans, that the association would like to the City of Houston to redirect the runoff water back to the lake before going to the retention pond. Council Members Davis, Hoang and Noriega absent.

Mayor Parker stated that according to her notes on the situation both the detention facility and the pond were on private property and were created by the developers of the subdivision, they were not owned by the City of Houston and they were prohibited by State Law from using public funds to benefit private individuals, and Mr. Linder stated that yes, he was aware of that. Council Members Davis, Hoang and Noriega absent.

Council Member Martin stated that he had just found out about this today and did not have an opportunity to discuss it with former Council Member Sullivan, but he did pull some correspondence that he had sent in August 2012 and it said that the bodies of water, while they were important, were on private property and they could not use City funds, and asked if this

was being caused by the drought conditions or a lack of water movement due to some correction in drainage, in his opinion, and Mr. Linder stated that the drought was very important, but the most important part was the runoff water, that before it used to run into the lake and now it ran into the retention pond, and Council Member Martin stated that at this point and time he had to concur with what Public Works said, he would research it a little bit further and also would have an opportunity to talk with former Council Member Sullivan about it. Council Members Davis, Hoang and Noriega absent.

Mayor Parker stated that she would engage with Council Member Martin as well, the one issue that Mr. Linder raised that did not trick her, when the permits were granted to create the detention pond that moved water away from the original lake that was there, that they would do a little more research, and Mr. Linder stated that was all he would ask for. Council Members Davis, Hoang and Noriega absent.

Mr. Jerry Castro, 2109 Sauw Rd., Spring, Texas 77383 (832-598-1074) appeared and stated that he was from the local Houston Caribbean Community and he was present to thank the Mayor and City Council for being part of a very successful June celebration of Caribbean Heritage Month in Houston, that Council Members Green, Davis and Laster joined them at the Plaza Americas in June to welcome a soldier who had been deployed to Kuwait and on her return they gave her a big Houston welcome, that at Cool Runnings Jamaican Restaurant they hosted a small business forum for local Caribbean entrepreneurs who were in Houston and letting them know how to start and maintain their businesses, that they were preparing for Caribbean Heritage Month 2014 and would be sending out notices to each member of the City Council and the Mayor to join them next year. Council Members Davis, Martin, Hoang and Noriega absent.

Council Members Green, Laster and Burks thanked him for all of the work he did and for his service to the Caribbean Community. Council Members Davis, Martin, Hoang, Rodriguez and Noriega absent.

Ms. Kathy Swilley, 10903 Ensbrook, Houston, Texas 77099 (832-594-2025) appeared and stated that she was present before complaining that she had been wrongfully terminated after reporting discrimination in the Houston Police Department, that last week Officer Chris Zamora won his case against the Houston Police Department on retaliation, that Mr. Zamora's case proved retaliation existed against officers who reported discrimination in the Police Department, that since 1998 the City of Houston and the Police Department had been held liable in six cases of retaliation, that between May 2005 and May 2010 approximately 100 officers reported discrimination or retaliation, including 30 complaints of sexual harassment in the Houston Police Department, that in her case the IAD report and synopsis revealed indisputable evidence that the untruthfulness charges in her termination letter were false, that HPD never presented the complaint that they terminated her on, that her attorney and the Union attorney also stated that there was no documents in the files related to her termination; that she would ask Mayor Parker and the City Council, because of HPDs own records, to show that the charges against her were trumped up, and would open the investigation into her complaint. Council Members Davis, Hoang, Rodriguez and Noriega absent.

Mayor Parker stated that Ms. Swilley had been present before, her termination was initiated under Chief Hurtt, and she had appealed her termination, the City had been upheld at every level, up to and including the Court of Appeals, there was no further action that the City would take in her case. Council Members Davis, Hoang, Rodriguez and Noriega absent.

Mr. Randall Kallinen, 511 Broadway, Houston, Texas 77012 (713-320-3785) appeared and stated that he was present on a recent federal case, Zamora vs. City of Houston, that in that case it was alleged the Houston's IAD Department was used as a mechanism to quite their

officers down on things the City did not like, such as discrimination, that he represented citizens who had been injured by police, and also represented police officers when the City tried to discipline them as well, that he worked on both sides of the fence, that he would encourage the City Council and the Mayor to look into this case, they would see there were problems in HPD IAD, which needed to be changed and addressed. Council Members Davis, Hoang, Rodriguez, Green and Noriega absent.

After discussion Council Members Pennington asked if Mr. Kallinen had a solution and Council Member Bradford stated that each case gets reviewed and he would like to see him submit to the City Council something in writing that he thought the body should proffer in the way of suggestions to move forward from this point. Council Members Davis, Hoang, Rodriguez, Green and Noriega absent.

Mr. Augustin Pinedo, 7838 Battle Creek, Houston, Texas 77060 (832-883-2510) appeared and stated that he was District Director for Lulac District 18, he was present as support for the Houston Coalition for Justice, that Hispanics were the largest group and they were very concerned about police issues, misapplication of force and questions of retaliation within the department was most on their mind, they were very concerned because many times it was Hispanics and African Americans that were targeted, they wanted to make them aware that they had a problem, they needed specific changes made and the Greater Houston Coalition for Justice was advocating for a citizens review board that would be independent of the Police Department and City Council, to look at issues of abuse, that also they needed to have a more transparent Internal Affairs Division where citizens could feel confident that the right thing was being done and that officers were not intimidated or retaliated on because they were there to speak up. Council Members Davis, Hoang, Green and Noriega absent.

Upon questions by Council Member Bradford, Mr. Pinedo stated that although a great deal had been done, not enough had really been done to address the issue of discrimination for opportunities for Hispanic officers and promotions, that he himself did not deal with the police on a daily basis and would not know any officers specifically, and Council Member Bradford stated that there were many fine men and women in the organization today, at various levels, who worked very hard, many of them he knew personally, and they did not tolerate some of the things that he was hearing, and Mr. Pinedo stated that they would continue to work with the Houston Police Department. Council Members Davis, Hoang, Green, Noriega and Christie absent.

Mayor Parker stated that she would encourage Mr. Pinedo to look at the makeup of the Houston Police Department, they had a majority minority Police Department, which had taken a while to get to and the command staff really reflected well the diversity of the City of Houston, including a Latina Executive Chief, who was in charge whenever the Chief of Police was out of the City, there were officers at all levels of the Houston Police Department who represented all the citizens of Houston, but also the Hispanic Community. Council Members Davis, Cohen, Hoang, Green, Noriega and Christie absent.

Mr. Pinedo stated that since it was Hispanic Heritage Month he wanted to invite them to a free breakfast, every third Saturday of the month, at Doneraki at Gulfgate. Council Members Davis, Cohen, Hoang, Green, Noriega and Christie absent.

Mr. James Partsch-Galvan, 1611 Holman, Houston, Texas 77004 (713-528-2607) had reserved time to speak, but was not present when his name was called. Council Members Davis, Cohen, Hoang, Green, Noriega and Christie absent.

President Joseph Charles, Post Office Box 524373, Houston, Texas 77052-4373 (713-928-2871) appeared and stated that he was President Joseph Charles of the US, that he

was the commanding chief, and continued his personal opinions until his time expired. Council Members Davis, Hoang, Green, Noriega and Christie absent.

Ms. Ashley Wilkerson, Post Office Box 558, Houston 77001 (832-304-4293) had reserved time to speak, but was not present when her name was called. Council Members Davis, Hoang, Green, Noriega and Christie absent.

At 3:24 p.m. Mayor Parker stated the City Council was recessed until 9:00 a.m., Wednesday, September 11, 2013. Council Member Gonzalez out of the city on city business. Council Members Davis, Hoang, Green, Noriega and Christi absent.

The Houston City Council reconvened at 9:00 a.m., Wednesday, September 11, 2013, with Mayor Annise Parker presiding and with Council Members Helena Brown, Jerry Davis, Ellen R. Cohen, Wanda Adams, Al Hoang, Oliver Pennington, Mike Laster, Larry V. Green, Stephen C. Costello, Andrew C. Burks, Jr., C. O. "Brad" Bradford and Jack Christie, D. C.; Mr. David Feldman, City Attorney; and Ms. Marta Crinejo, Agenda Director and Ms. Stella Ortega, Agenda Office, present. Council Member Dave Martin absent on personal business. Council Members Edward Gonzalez and James G. Rodriguez out of city on city business. Council Member Melissa Noriega absent due to being ill.

At 8:29 a.m. the City Secretary read the descriptions or captions of items on the Agenda.

At 9:12 a.m. Mayor Parker called the meeting to order and stated that today was September 11 and believed it was appropriate to begin the meeting of the City Council with some moments of reflection on the incident 12 years ago, 8:46 a.m. Eastern Time, first plane hit, the next at 9:03 a.m., at the Pentagon at 9:37 a.m. and then the plane that crashed at Pennsylvania at 10:03 a.m., that it changed America forever and certainly changed their view of their place in the world and broke through what she thought had been a self imagine of invulnerability, but it also caused cities across America to reevaluate how they responded to disasters and what they needed to do to prepare, and asked for a few moments of silence as they remembered that day; that she wanted to remind them as well that they had a permanent memorial to the victims and survivors of 9/11 in Market Square Park, Laurens Garden, and if they had not seen it it was a lovely place to stop and remember.

Mayor Parker stated they would call the consent agenda and then take a pause and recognize some of the folks in the audience.

MAYOR'S REPORT

CONSENT AGENDA NUMBERS 1 through 27

MISCELLANEOUS - NUMBERS 1 through 5

1. REQUEST from Mayor for confirmation of the appointment or reappointment of the following individuals to the **REINVESTMENT ZONE NUMBER TWENTY-ONE, CITY OF HOUSTON, TEXAS (HARDY/NEAR NORTHSIDE) BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**
 - EDWARD (ED) REYES**, appointment, to serve as Chair, for a term ending December 31, 2013
 - Position Four - **SYLVIA CAVAZOS**, reappointment, for a term to expire December 31, 2014

- was presented, moved by Council Member Bradford, seconded by Council Member Laster. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Martin absent on personal business. Council Members Gonzalez and Rodriguez out of the city on city business. Council

Member Noriega absent due to being ill. Council Member Adams absent. MOTION 2013-0619 ADOPTED.

2. CONFIRMATION of the appointment of **THELTON BRANCH** for Position 3 on the **PORT OF HOUSTON AUTHORITY OF HARRIS COUNTY**, for a two year term - was presented, moved by Council Member Bradford, seconded by Council Member Laster. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Martin absent on personal business. Council Members Gonzalez and Rodriguez out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent due to being ill. Council Member Adams absent. MOTION 2013-0620 ADOPTED.
3. CONFIRMATION of the appointment of **KAMAL RASHEED** for Position 4 on the **WASTEWATER CAPACITY RESERVATION REVIEW BOARD**, for the remainder of the designated two year term - was presented, moved by Council Member Bradford, seconded by Council Member Laster. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Martin absent on personal business. Council Members Gonzalez and Rodriguez out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent due to being ill. Council Member Adams absent. MOTION 2013-0621 ADOPTED.
4. RECOMMENDATION from Fire Chief for Extension of Injury on Duty Leave for 90 days for **WES WHEELAND** - (03/01/2013 through 03/25/2013 and 05/29/2013 through 08/17/2013) - was presented, moved by Council Member Bradford, seconded by Council Member Laster. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Martin absent on personal business. Council Members Gonzalez and Rodriguez out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent due to being ill. Council Member Adams absent. MOTION 2013-0622 ADOPTED.
5. RECOMMENDATION from Director Department of Public Works & Engineering for approval of payment of FY 2013 Membership dues for the Water Research Foundation - \$256,027.54 Enterprise Fund - was presented, moved by Council Member Bradford, seconded by Council Member Laster. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Martin absent on personal business. Council Members Gonzalez and Rodriguez out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent due to being ill. Council Member Adams absent. MOTION 2013-0623 ADOPTED.

ACCEPT WORK - NUMBERS 6 through 8

6. RECOMMENDATION from Director Department of General Services for approval of Change Order No. 5 in the amount of \$191,901.00 and Change Order No. 7 in the amount of \$19,831.61, final contract amount of \$1,072,607.11 and acceptance of work on contract with **AIA GENERAL CONTRACTORS, INC** for Northeast Maintenance Facility Underground Storage Tank Modifications and Cleanup - 26.56% over the original contract amount - **DISTRICT H - GONZALEZ** - was presented, moved by Council Member Bradford, seconded by Council Member Laster. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Martin absent on personal business. Council Members Gonzalez and Rodriguez out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent due to being ill. Council Member Adams absent. MOTION 2013-0624 ADOPTED.
7. RECOMMENDATION from Director Department of Public Works & Engineering for approval of final contract amount of \$2,422,806.72 and acceptance of work on contract with **BLASTCO TEXAS, INC** for Rehabilitation of Water Storage Tanks - 3.11% over the original contract amount and under 5% contingency - **DISTRICTS B - DAVIS and E - MARTIN** - was presented, moved by Council Member Bradford, seconded by Council

Member Laster. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Martin absent on personal business. Council Members Gonzalez and Rodriguez out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent due to being ill. Council Member Adams absent. MOTION 2013-0625 ADOPTED.

8. RECOMMENDATION from Director Department of Public Works & Engineering for approval of final contract amount of \$2,123,703.67 and acceptance of work on contract with **BLASTCO TEXAS, INC** for Rehabilitation of Water Storage Tanks - 2.26% under the original contract amount - **DISTRICTS B - DAVIS; F - HOANG and G - PENNINGTON** - was presented, moved by Council Member Bradford, seconded by Council Member Laster. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Martin absent on personal business. Council Members Gonzalez and Rodriguez out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent due to being ill. Council Member Adams absent. MOTION 2013-0626 ADOPTED.

Mayor Parker stated that they had confirmed some folks to boards and commissions for the City of Houston, and recognized Ms. Sylvia Cavazos, who was serving on the Reinvestment Zone No. 21, Hardy Near Northside Board of Directors, that Tax Increment Reinvestment Zones were one of the ways that they focused resources in order to do new economic and the TIRZ had the potential if they worked together to see great growth in those areas, although they in and of themselves, did not create the changes, the quality of the board was important and she appreciated her willingness to serve.

Ms. Cavazos stated that she wanted to thank the Mayor and City Council, they were doing great things for the Hardy TIRZ area, and Mayor Parker stated that their Council Member was not present, but he wanted to say a special thanks as well.

Mayor Parker stated that they had confirmed the appointment of Mr. Kamal Rasheed to a position on the Wastewater Capacity Reservation Review Board, that she was teasing Mr. Rasheed earlier that the Wastewater Capacity Reservation Review Board was one of those boards when people asked her about exiting boards and commissions on which to serve and she says there was the Wastewater Capacity Reservation Review Board, did they have the skill set necessary and she did it to make a joke because there were some boards and commissions that everybody was familiar with, but there were other boards and commissions that were equally important and they may be under the radar, she appreciated Mr. Rasheed's willingness to serve.

Council Members Green, Costello and Pennington congratulated Mr. Rasheed on his appointment and thanked him for his willingness to serve the City of Houston.

Mayor Parker stated that they had confirmed the appointment of Mr. Theldon Branch as a Port Commissioner for the Port of Houston Authority of Harris County and recognized Mr. Branch and stated that they had known each for a long time, he had been committed to the City of Houston for many years and knew that there were times when he sought to serve the City in public office, but continued to serve the City throughout and now he had the opportunity to serve the City in another appointed office, that she wanted to thank him for the work he did on Rebuild Houston because 20 years from now the City would be transformed because of the work they had done to invest in the streets and drainage capacity for Houston, that his guiding hand at the beginning helped move that forward and established it.

Mr. Branch thanked Mayor Parker and the Members of Council for their vote to appoint him to Position 3 on the Port of Houston Authority Commission, and stated that he wanted each of them to know that he took their concerns and suggestions very seriously and planned to work with his fellow commissioners to incorporate them in a long range plan for the Port, that this

would not be possible if not for the support of his family and asked that they stand and be acknowledged, his two girls, Valerie and Tatiana, and his wife and business partners, Esther, that she was truly the wing beneath his wings; that he wanted to acknowledge Chair Janice Longoria, and looked forward to working with all of the members of the Port to move forward and would like to thank Commissioner Kase Lawal for making the transition very seamless and for his advise and counsel.

Council Members Costello, Pennington, Bradford, Burks, Hoang, Green, Cohen and Adams congratulated Mr. Branch on his appointment and thanked him for his service to the City of Houston.

Mayor Parker stated that she wanted to acknowledge the presence State Representative Boris Miles who was present in the Chamber. Council Members Hoang and Pennington absent.

Mayor Parker recognized Mr. Kase Lawal and stated that he had given 14 years of dedicated service to the City of Houston, that he was actually appointed when she was a Council Member, that he had given many years of dedicated service and she wanted to give him an opportunity to address the Council as well.

Mr. Lawal thanked Mayor Parker for her distinguished leadership, and stated that two years ago when he stood before them he stated that he appreciated their continued support over the years, their trust and for giving him the opportunity to serve the great City of theirs, and said to them that he would not be available to be considered for the appointment and what a great choice and a great candidate that they had approved to be their next commissioner for Position 3 of the Port of Houston, that this distinguished body continued to put qualified and distinguished leaders in their community in positions of responsibility. Council Member Hoang absent.

Council Members Bradford, Adams Green and Pennington thanked Mr. Lawal for his service to the City of Houston.

Mayor Parker thanked Dr. Lawal, Mr. Branch and Chairman Longoria for all their service to the City of Houston.

Mayor Parker stated they would proceed with the consent agenda.

PURCHASING AND TABULATION OF BIDS - NUMBERS 10 through 13

10. ORDINANCE appropriating \$180,820.34 out of Parks & Recreation Dedication Fund for the purchase of Playground Equipment for the General Services Department on behalf of the Parks & Recreation Department - **DISTRICTS D - ADAMS and K - GREEN** - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Martin absent on personal business. Council Members Gonzalez and Rodriguez out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent due to being ill. ORDINANCE 2013-0792 ADOPTED.
- 10a. **LONE STAR RECREATION, INC** for Purchase and Installation of Playground Equipment through the Interlocal Agreement for Cooperative Purchasing with BuyBoard for the General Services Department on behalf of the Parks & Recreation Department - \$172,209.85 and contingencies for a total amount not to exceed \$180,820.34 - Parks & Recreation Dedication Fund - **DISTRICTS D - ADAMS and K - GREEN** - was presented, moved by Council Member Bradford, seconded by Council Member Burks. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Martin absent on personal business. Council Members Gonzalez and Rodriguez out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent due to being ill. MOTION 2013-0627 ADOPTED.

12. ORDINANCE appropriating \$288,075.00 out of Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund to Remove, Furnish and Install a New Bar Screen, Conveyor/Compactor System and Associated Equipment for the Public Works & Engineering Department - **DISTRICT H - GONZALEZ** - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Martin absent on personal business. Council Members Gonzalez and Rodriguez out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent due to being ill. ORDINANCE 2013-0793 ADOPTED.
- 12a. **LEM CONSTRUCTION CO., INC** to Remove, Furnish and Install a New Bar Screen, Conveyor/Compactor System and Associated Equipment for the Public Works & Engineering Department - \$250,500.00 and contingencies for a total amount not to exceed \$288,075.00 Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund - **DISTRICT H - GONZALEZ** - was presented, moved by Council Member Bradford, seconded by Council Member Burks. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Martin absent on personal business. Council Members Gonzalez and Rodriguez out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent due to being ill. MOTION 2013-0628 ADOPTED.
13. **AMEND MOTION #2009-0890, 12/09/09, TO INCREASE** spending authority from \$1,346,873.89 to \$1,683,592.36 for Chemical, Aqua Ammonia for Department of Public Works & Engineering awarded to **SOUTHERN IONICS, INC** - \$336,718.47 - Enterprise Fund - was presented, moved by Council Member Bradford, seconded by Council Member Burks. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Martin absent on personal business. Council Members Gonzalez and Rodriguez out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent due to being ill. MOTION 2013-0629 ADOPTED.

ORDINANCES - NUMBERS 14 through 27

14. ORDINANCE **AMENDING SECTION 1-11 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCE, HOUSTON, TEXAS**, relating to a declaration to be filed with an application for permit, license or certificate, acknowledging responsibility to comply with laws, regulations and ordinances in connection with the requested permit, license, or certificate - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Martin absent on personal business. Council Members Gonzalez and Rodriguez out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent due to being ill. ORDINANCE 2013-0794 ADOPTED.
19. ORDINANCE authorizing the Mayor to accept funding in an amount not exceeding \$30,751.23 by executing an Other Transaction Agreement by and between the City of Houston and the Transportation Security Administration for an Explosive Storage Magazine at William P. Hobby Airport - **DISTRICT I - RODRIGUEZ** - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Martin absent on personal business. Council Members Gonzalez and Rodriguez out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent due to being ill. ORDINANCE 2013-0795 ADOPTED.
20. ORDINANCE enlarging the boundaries of **REINVESTMENT ZONE NUMBER SEVEN, CITY OF HOUSTON, TEXAS (OLD SPANISH TRAIL/ALMEDA CORRIDORS ZONE)** - **DISTRICT D - ADAMS** - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Martin absent on personal business. Council Members Gonzalez and Rodriguez out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent due to being ill. ORDINANCE 2013-0796 ADOPTED.
- 20a. ORDINANCE approving the fifth amended **PROJECT PLAN AND REINVESTMENT ZONE FINANCING PLAN FOR REINVESTMENT ZONE NUMBER SEVEN, CITY OF HOUSTON, TEXAS (OLD SPANISH TRAIL/ALMEDA CORRIDORS ZONE)**; authorizing

the City Secretary to distribute such plans - **DISTRICT D - ADAMS** - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Martin absent on personal business. Council Members Gonzalez and Rodriguez out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent due to being ill. ORDINANCE 2013-0797 ADOPTED.

25. ORDINANCE appropriating \$404,000.00 out of Equipment Acquisition Consolidated Fund for Professional Services/Products supporting the Enterprise Data Warehousing Project for the City of Houston Finance Department and Houston Information Technology Services Department - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Martin absent on personal business. Council Members Gonzalez and Rodriguez out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent due to being ill. ORDINANCE 2013-0798 ADOPTED.
26. ORDINANCE appropriating \$1,050,000.00 out of Equipment Acquisition Consolidated Fund for the Data Center Consolidation Project (Approved by Ordinance No. 2013-364) - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Martin absent on personal business. Council Members Gonzalez and Rodriguez out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent due to being ill. ORDINANCE 2013-0799 ADOPTED.
27. ORDINANCE appropriating \$3,754,485.00 out of Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund; awarding contract to **IPR SOUTH CENTRAL, LLC** for Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation by Cured-In-Place Pipe Method; setting a deadline for the bidder's execution of the contract and delivery of all bonds, insurance, and other required contract documents to the City; holding the bidder in default if it fails to meet the deadlines; providing funding for engineering and testing, and contingencies relating to construction of facilities financed by the Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund (WW4258-56) - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Martin absent on personal business. Council Members Gonzalez and Rodriguez out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent due to being ill. ORDINANCE 2013-0800 ADOPTED.

MATTERS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA WERE CONSIDERED AS FOLLOWS:

PROPERTY

9. RECOMMENDATION from Director Department of Public Works & Engineering, reviewed and approved by the Joint Referral Committee, on request from Daniel Massiatte, Century Engineering, Inc., on behalf of BWS Humble Center, L.P. (BWS-GP, Inc., [Pierre Bejjani, Director], General Partner), for abandonment and sale of (1) a 14-foot-wide utility easement located within Lots 14 through 26, Block 4; (2) a 14-foot-wide utility easement located within Lots 1 through 13, Block 5; (3) a 14-foot-wide utility easement located within Lots 14 through 26, Block 5; (4) a 14-foot-wide utility easement located within Lots 1 through 13, Block 6; and (5) a 14-foot-wide utility easement located within Lots 25 through 48, Block 6, all located within the Rosslyn Subdivision, out of the Joseph Bays Survey, A-127, Parcels SY13-087A through SY13-087E **DISTRICT A- BROWN** - was presented, moved by Council Member Bradford, seconded by Council Member Burks. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Martin absent on personal business. Council Members Gonzalez and Rodriguez out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent due to being ill. MOTION 2013-0630 ADOPTED.

PURCHASING AND TABULATION OF BIDS - NUMBERS 10 through 13

11. ORDINANCE appropriating \$62,092.02 out of Parks Consolidated Construction Fund for the purchase of Playground Equipment for the General Services Department on behalf of the Parks & Recreation Department - **DISTRICT B - DAVIS** - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Martin absent on personal business. Council Members Gonzalez and Rodriguez out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent due to being ill. ORDINANCE 2013-0801 ADOPTED.
- 11a. **THE PLAYWELL GROUP, INC** for Purchase and Installation of Playground Equipment through the Interlocal Agreement for Cooperative Purchasing with BuyBoard for the General Services Department on behalf of the Parks & Recreation Department - \$59,135.26 and contingencies for a total amount not to exceed \$62,092.02 - Parks Consolidated Construction Fund - **DISTRICT B - DAVIS** - was presented, moved by Council Member Laster, seconded by Council Member Bradford. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Martin absent on personal business. Council Members Gonzalez and Rodriguez out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent due to being ill. MOTION 2013-0631 ADOPTED.

ORDINANCES

15. ORDINANCE amending Exhibit "A" of City of Houston Ordinance No. 2013-722 by adding one Deputy Chief position; adding three District Chief positions; adding four Senior Captain positions; adding one Assistant Arson Investigator position; and deleting four Captain positions; substituting the amended Exhibit as part of the current Fire Station Classified Personnel Ordinance – was presented, and tagged by Council Member Hoang.
16. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing Loan Agreement between the City of Houston and **COTTAGES AT SOUTH ACRES, LTD.** to provide \$2,160,000.00 of Federal "HOME" Funds to assist with construction of a 144 unit mixed-income housing community, to be located in the vicinity of 11300 Scott Street, Houston, Texas - **DISTRICT D - ADAMS** - was presented. Council Member Brown voting no, balance voting aye. Council Member Martin absent on personal business. Council Members Gonzalez and Rodriguez out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent due to being ill. ORDINANCE 2013-0802 ADOPTED.
17. ORDINANCE appropriating \$283,500.00 out of Homeless & Housing Consolidated Bond Fund; approving and authorizing a grant agreement between the City of Houston and Rockwell Community 26 LP to provide the appropriated funds to assist with accessibility improvements to Jadestone Apartments, a 226 Unit Multifamily Housing Community, located at 7520 Cook Road in Houston, Texas, that provides affordable housing to low income families; approving and authorizing a second amendment and modification agreement pertaining to loan agreement, restrictive covenants and other loan documents to increase the number of affordable units at Jadestone Apartments - **DISTRICT F - HOANG** - was presented. Council Member Brown voting no, balance voting aye. Council Member Martin absent on personal business. Council Members Gonzalez and Rodriguez out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent due to being ill. ORDINANCE 2013-0803 ADOPTED.

18. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing a First Amendment to Grant Agreement between the City of Houston and Houston Area Community Development Corporation to provide an additional \$1,352,464.00 in Homeless Housing and Services Program Funds for the Development of 160-Unit Single Residence Occupancy Facility Located at 7020 Stuebner Airline Road, Houston, Texas to House Low-Income and Very Low-Income Households - **DISTRICT H - GONZALEZ** - was presented. Council Member Brown voting no, balance voting aye. Council Member Martin absent on personal business. Council Members Gonzalez and Rodriguez out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent due to being ill. Council Member Davis absent. ORDINANCE 2013-0804 ADOPTED.
21. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing third amendment to the Hermann Park Pedal Boat and Other Concessions Agreement between the City of Houston and **HERMANN PARK CONSERVANCY - DISTRICT D - ADAMS** – was presented, and tagged by Council Member Adams. Council Member Davis absent. (Note: Council Member Adams released her tag later in the meeting)
22. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing second amendment to the Hermann Park Development Agreement between the City of Houston and **HERMANN PARK CONSERVANCY - DISTRICT D - ADAMS** – was presented, and tagged by Council Member Adams. Council Member Davis absent. (Note: Council Member Adams released her tag later in the meeting)
23. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing contract between the City of Houston and **HOUSTON CLEAN CITY COMMISSION INC dba KEEP HOUSTON BEAUTIFUL** for Maintenance on Equipment and Tools for use in the cleaning and clearing of lots for the Department of Neighborhoods; providing a maximum contract amount - \$810,000.00 - 5 years - General Fund – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Martin absent on personal business. Council Members Gonzalez and Rodriguez out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent due to being ill. Council Member Davis absent. ORDINANCE 2013-0805 ADOPTED.
24. ORDINANCE determining that the formal taking of competitive bids is not required for the work described herein; and awarding contract to **TIBH INDUSTRIES, INC** for Litter Removal Services for the Public Works & Engineering Department - \$7,919,936.64 - 3 years with two one-year options - Stormwater Fund – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Martin absent on personal business. Council Members Gonzalez and Rodriguez out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent due to being ill. Council Member Davis absent. ORDINANCE 2013-0806 ADOPTED.

MATTERS HELD - NUMBER 28

28. REVIEW on the record and make determination relative to the appeal from the decision of the General Appeals Board, filed by Richard L. Rothfelder, Attorney at Law, on behalf of Bright Light Sign Service, Inc. regarding sign located at 10410 Westheimer – (**This was Item 31 on Agenda of September 4, 2013, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBER PENNINGTON**) – was presented. Council Member Davis absent.

Council Member Laster moved to uphold the decision of the General Appeals Board, seconded by Council Member Costello. Council Member Davis absent.

After discussion by Council Members Pennington, Brown and Cohen, Mayor Parker stated that the only vote was to uphold or overturn and clearly there was a desire to look at the Sign Codes, that she would be happy to bring a review of their Sign Ordinance to the appropriate Council Committee and they could have further discussion. Council Member Adams absent.

Council Member Bradford asked Mr. Feldman if they were to vote to overturn the recommendation before them what did that mean from a practical standpoint, and Mr. Feldman stated that it was the duty of Council to apply the law to the facts on the record and the Sign Code had a very specific provision, whether they agreed with it or not, that permit only one changeable sign per business location, if the Council were to vote to not uphold, but rather to reverse it would be effectively granting a variance, which was prohibited under the Sign Code, so there was very limited opportunity to do anything except to base their decision on the record and apply the code as it was to the facts, that as everyone had pointed out the issue of whether or not the code should be changed was something that could be addressed at a later point, and Council Member Bradford stated to get more clarity on the record, if they were to vote to override the recommendation before the body it would technically be granting a variance to one company and the impact of granting a variance to one company was what.

Mr. Feldman stated that it could be huge, this was one service station in a City of 640 square miles, he was sure there were many service stations and other type of businesses that would like to have more than one changeable sign at their location, it would create a precedence and also put the City in a difficult legal position because of the fact that the Sign Code itself said there could not be any variances.

Mayor Parker stated if they were to change, revisit the ordinance, and make revisions to it, could the applicant in this case come back under any new ordinance with a request for signs, and Mr. Feldman stated they could reapply.

After further discussion by Council Members Burks, Brown, Davis, Laster and Pennington, Mayor Parker stated that she did not know if it would be possible to completely revisit the ordinance in the next 30 days, but thought she was clear in making the commitment that they would move it as fast as practically possible; that to recap the question was did the board make a decision that was consistent with the ordinance, did they fail to recognize something in the ordinance, an issue that the petitioner had raised, that whether they liked the ordinance or not, if they believed they upheld the ordinance as it was written their duty was to vote "yes", whatever the outcome of this she certainly would make the commitment to bring a review of the Sign Code to the appropriate Council committee so they could have discussion on what was a very rapidly changing area of technology.

A roll call vote was called on the motion to uphold the decision of the General Appeals Board.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Mayor Parker voting aye	Council Member Rodriguez out of the city on city business
Council Member Brown voting no	Council Member Laster voting aye
Council Member Davis voting aye	Council Member Green voting aye
Council Member Cohen voting no	Council Member Costello voting aye
Council Member Adams voting aye	Council Member Burks voting aye
Council Member Martin absent on personal business.	Council Member Noriega absent due to being ill
Council Member Hoang voting aye	Council Member Bradford voting aye
Council Member Pennington voting no	Council Member Christi voting aye
Council Member Gonzalez out of the city on city business.	MOTION 2013-0632 ADOPTED.

Council Member Adams stated she would release her tag on Item Numbers 21 and 22.

21. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing third amendment to the Hermann Park Pedal Boat and Other Concessions Agreement between the City of Houston and **HERMANN PARK CONSERVANCY - DISTRICT D – ADAMS** – was again before the City Council. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Martin absent on personal business. Council Members Gonzalez and Rodriguez out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent due to being ill. ORDINANCE 2013-0807 ADOPTED.
22. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing second amendment to the Hermann Park Development Agreement between the City of Houston and **HERMANN PARK CONSERVANCY - DISTRICT D - ADAMS** – was again before the City Council. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Martin absent on personal business. Council Members Gonzalez and Rodriguez out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent due to being ill. ORDINANCE 2013-0808 ADOPTED.

MATTERS TO BE PRESENTED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Council Member Burks stated that as they remembered the loss of life in the World Trade Center, the Pentagon and Pennsylvania, the first responders and the citizens who stood close by they honored them today and every day and would never be forgotten, that America was strong and set the standards for the world to live by, that their great City of Houston, Texas also set the standards for cities to follow, they paused today to reflect on their blessings and remember those who sacrificed and lost their lives protecting their freedoms, that let the citizens of Houston all band their thoughts and energies collectively making their City, Houston, Texas, the safest, friendly and coolest City to live, work and play; that their children must understand that what they saw on television was not real, but everything they did was real and had consequences, teach them to be good leaders and good followers, that he was proud of the City, it's people and Council and was proud that he was a citizen of the greatest County on earth, the United States of America. Council Members Adams and Hoang absent.

Mayor Parker stated that to correct the record, the vote, previously called on the appeal, Item No. 28, was 10 to 3, with four Council Members absent. Council Members Adams and Hoang absent.

Council Member Bradford stated that with the tragedy at Spring High School and other incidents on school campuses across the Houston Harris County area he would reemphasize to all of them who were in positions of leadership, whether private or public, that they had to catch their boys and girls at a young age and provide the proper guiding, coaching and counseling, they can and must do more, that he would continue to push for all of them to elevate how they communicated with their boys and girls via After School Programs, they needed a paradigm shift, that After School Programs were an effective crime prevention strategies, they needed to move programs under the public safety umbrella across America, they had to reach boys and girls at a young age and very differently than they had been doing in the past, they could continue to lock up thousands and thousands of young boys and girls across Houston Harris County and across America, that was not going to fix it, it was going to insure that they become hardened criminals and become more misguided than many of them were. Council Members Hoang and Pennington absent.

Council Member Adams stated that as they all remembered 9/11 her continued prayers went out to the families that still had to remember this day and some of the past hurts; that as Council Members and leaders they needed to continue to remind their constituents that the Texas Voter ID Law had passed, Senate Bill No. 14, which would prohibit voters to cast their ballot without a valid voter ID, that the law was written to prevent fraud, that the law was currently being contested by the US Department of Justice and Texas Democrats, but were

urging and arguing that the law would be targeting minority voters; and announced events she attended or would be attending. Council Members Hoang and Pennington absent.

Council Member Green stated that last budget cycle, as they debated the issue of After School Programs and summer jobs they talked about what it was that they as a City could do to make sure their communities would foster youth that could go on to be productive citizens in the City and while he agreed that governments role was not wholeheartedly to raise youth, because that was the job of the parent, he did think that government did have a role to provide opportunity; that with regard to a piece that was in the Chronicle with regard to inequity and how they as a City dealt with the issue and while the City made up over 60% to 70% of the County, but when they looked at the funding that was spent inside the City it was under 40% so essentially when it came to federal funding and transportation funding and things of that nature they were using the City's population yet the dollars were being spent outside of the City, the question was where they getting the short end of the stick and what was their plan as a City to deal with the inequities; and announced events he attended or would be attending. Council Members Hoang and Pennington absent.

Council Member Davis stated that he was excited about Item No. 23, which they passed today, a Keep Houston Beautiful Contract, they were looking forward to seeing the communities Weed Lot Program being established; and announced events he attended or would be attending. Council Members Hoang and Pennington absent.

Council Member Brown announced events she attended or would be attending. Council Members Hoang and Pennington absent.

Council Member Cohen announced events she attended or would be attending; and stated that this Friday would begin the most serious and holiest days in her Faith, Yom Kipper, that if they had done all they were supposed to do, by the end of the day on Saturday, they would have made peace with others and the Spirit that they believed in, to all of her co-religionists she wished them an easy fast. Council Members Hoang and Pennington absent.

Council Member Christi announced events he attended or would be attending; and stated that he wanted to support Council Members Bradford, Green and Davis efforts, in his years in public education beside a quality teacher in the classroom, early childhood development and After School Programs were paramount in a quality education, so he would support anything they brought to help the children in the City; that he hoped they could help the EMS service, most of the calls were EMS and most of those calls were unnecessary, when they needed a ride to their allergist appointment they should say no, when they needed to be picked up off of the floor because the elderly care place refused to because they were afraid of being sued and they call the Fire Department, they had one individual who in one month had over 50 calls to pick him up off the floor, they had to stop that. Council Members Brown, Adams, Hoang and Pennington absent.

Mayor Parker stated that Council Member Christi raised an excellent point about their EMS service, they did not have a Fire Department anymore, they had an ambulance service that also fought fires, 80% of the calls they ran were ambulance calls, they did a great job of fighting fires, but thanks to new building techniques and changes in technology they had fewer and fewer fires to fight, thank God, but ambulance runs were the biggest piece, 80%, and there were a lot of frivolous runs, they did have the Telehelp Program and those on the ambulance did make the call with Dr. Persee as to whether a transport was needed, they had every right and responsibility to refuse to transport someone to a routine doctor's appointment and would hope that those firefighters who were on the ambulance were making that appropriate call, and Council Member Christi stated that he thought they needed to give them legal backup because they would be sued for not picking that gentleman up from the floor because he weighed 300

pounds, and Mayor Parker stated that they were not going to give the nursing home legal backup, if he was asking if they could give the firefighters legal backup, absolutely. Council Members Brown, Adams, Hoang and Pennington absent.

Council Member Adams stated that the Sunnyside Police Storefront gave her a surprise on Saturday and honored her with a large Official Police Badge and thanked them for giving her an Honorary Officer Badge in appreciation for her dedicated service to the southeast community. Council Members Brown, Adams, Hoang and Pennington absent.

Council Member Green announced events he attended or would be attending; and wished all of his Jewish constituents and friends a celebratory Yom Kipper. Mayor Parker, Council Members Brown, Adams, Hoang, Pennington and Costello absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Bradford presiding. NO QUORUM PRESENT

Council Member Burks announced events he attended or would be attending. Mayor Parker, Council Members Brown, Adams, Hoang, Pennington and Costello absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Bradford presiding. NO QUORUM PRESENT

There being no further business before Council, the City Council adjourned at 10:38 a.m. Council Member Martin absent on personal business. Council Members Gonzalez and Rodriguez out of the city on city business. Council Member Noriega absent due to being ill. Mayor Parker, Council Members Brown, Adams, Hoang, Pennington and Costello absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Bradford presiding. 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