

City Council Chamber, City Hall, Tuesday, February 25, 2014

A Regular Meeting of the Houston City Council was held at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, February 25, 2014, Mayor Annise Parker presiding, with Council Members Brenda Stardig, Jerry Davis, Ellen R. Cohen, Dwight Boykins, Dave Martin, Richard Nguyen, Oliver Pennington, Edward Gonzalez, Robert Gallegos, Mike Laster, Larry V. Green, Stephen C. Costello, David W. Robinson, Michael Kubosh, C. O. "Brad" Bradford 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.

At 1:46 p.m. Mayor Parker called the meeting to order and called on Council Member Gallegos for the first Council presentation. Council Members Stardig, Davis, Boykins, Cohen, Martin, Pennington, Gonzalez and Costello absent.

Council Member Gallegos invited members of the Houston Humane Society, SNAP, Barrio Dogs and BARC to the podium and stated that animal welfare and rescue groups around the world recognized February as Spay and Neuter Awareness Month and recognized Houston Humane Society, SNAP, Barrio Dogs and BARC for their tremendous work to improve the quality of life of their neighborhoods and City and presented them a proclamation, and Mayor Parker stated that she appreciated the organizations who were present, for the work they did, that they did not have a stray animal problem, they had an irresponsible pet ownership problem, and they had a culture that supported irresponsible pet ownership and she said everywhere she went that there was not a reason for any Houstonian to have a fertile dog or cat, unless they were breeding championship show dogs and got a commercial breeder license to do that, they had too many dogs on the street, it was not the dogs problem, it was not the stray cats fault, it was the fact that human being were irresponsible, they treated companion animals as disposable, and persisted in wanting to allow their animals to indiscriminately breed, they had one of the longest breeding seasons, so while they were in spay and neuter month, and were celebrating Spay and Neuter Day, unfortunately in Houston it went all year long and they were spending more money than they ever had in the history of Houston at BARC and on animal control and they were still not stemming the tide so it was going to need a lot better cooperation and coordination among Houstonians, and therefore, she, Annise Parker, Mayor of the City of Houston, hereby proclaimed February 25, 2014, as Spay and Neuter Day in Houston, Texas, and thanked all of the agencies for what they did. Council Members Cohen, Martin, Pennington, Gonzalez and Costello absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Davis presiding.

Representatives of Barrio Dogs, SNAP, Houston Humane Society and BARC thanked Mayor Parker, Council Member Gallegos and the City Council for the proclamation. Council Members Martin and Pennington absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Davis presiding.

Vice Mayor Pro Tem Davis stated that he wanted to thank Barrio Dogs, BARC, SNAP and the Houston Humane Society for all they did for the City of Houston. Council Members Martin and Pennington absent.

Mayor Pro Tem Gonzalez recognized Council Member Davis for the next presentation. Council Members Martin and Pennington absent.

Council Member Davis invited Mr. Slim Thug to the podium and stated that the City of Houston saluted and commended Slim Thug for his outstanding support as a community activist and his contributions as local artist and extended best wishes for continued success in all of his future endeavors, and Mayor Parker stated that a lot of folks were involved in entertainment, what they looked for were folks who remembered where they started, remembered the communities that birthed them and the needs that were still there, so they were present to acknowledge the work that the man known as Slim Thug had done in his

community, and therefore, she Annise D. Parker, Mayor of the City of Houston, hereby proclaimed today as Slim Thug Day in the City of Houston, Texas. Council Members Martin and Pennington absent.

Mr. Slim Thug stated that he wanted to thank Mayor Parker and the City Council for the proclamation and Council Member Davis for doing the hard work to make this happen, that he wanted to give a special shout out to 97.9 The Box for making it happen and getting the people to rally behind it, that he wanted to thank the City of Houston for recognizing him for the work he had done in the City, that he wanted to prove to the youth that dreams could be achieved through hard work and dedication. Council Members Martin and Pennington absent.

Council Members Christie, Green and Boykins and Mr. Ronald Green, City Controller, congratulated and thanked Mr. Slim Thug, whose real name was Mr. Dave Thomas, for all that he did for the City of Houston. Council Members Martin and Pennington absent.

At 2:17 p.m. Mayor Parker recognized Council Member Kubosh for the invocation and pledge of allegiance, and Council Member Kubosh invited Pastor James Nash, Saint Paul Missionary Baptist Church, for the invocation, and Council Member Kubosh led all in the pledge of allegiance. Council Members Davis and Green absent.

At 2:22 p.m. Ms. Barbara Guzman, City Secretary's Office, called the roll. Council Member Davis absent.

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

Mayor Parker stated that they had a number of folks who had signed up today and because of the volume of folks who had signed up they were invoking a long standing Rule of Council and would ask Ms. Guzman to read it. Council Member Davis absent.

Ms. Guzman stated "if the total of the times requested by speakers at any Council meeting was greater than 150 minutes, the Mayor shall so announce, and each speakers time shall be one minute, furthermore, the question time for City Council Members shall be limited to a cumulative total of one minute for each speaker. Council Member Davis absent.

Council Member Costello moved to suspend the rules to move Ms. Gracie Cavnar at the top of the three minute non-agenda list, seconded by Council Member Bradford. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Davis absent. MOTION 2014-0161 ADOPTED.

Council Member Green moved to suspend the rules to move Ms. Linda Scurlock, Ms. Vivian Harris, Mr. Ray Washington and Ms. Rita Foretich after Ms. Gracie Cavnar, seconded by Council Member Laster. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Davis absent. MOTION 2014-0162 ADOPTED.

Council Member Boykins moved to suspend the rules to hear from Mr. Roger Harris after Ms. Rita Foretich, seconded by Council Member Green. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Davis absent. MOTION 2014-0163 ADOPTED.

Council Member Stardig moved to suspend the rules to hear from Mr. Tony Jones after Mr. Roger Harris, seconded by Council Member Costello. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Davis absent. MOTION 2014-0164 ADOPTED.

Mayor Parker requested Ms. Guzman to call the first speaker. Council Members Davis

and Gallegos absent.

Ms. Tonya DeBose, 7625 Boggess, Houston, Texas 77016 – 281-924-5500 – appeared and stated that she was present representing the community of Independence Heights, that on the agenda there was a motion to support a historic district, the Starkweather Area, which was located in their neighborhood, that she was present to share the sentiments of the people in the community that this was very meaningful to them as a community, it was the first African American Community in the State of Texas and this was the one district that they had and were able to protect with all of the development and everything that was going on in their community, that it was important that they protect some of the architectural style and the cultural heritage of their neighborhood, and they as that they support the historic district for Starkweather. Council Member Davis absent.

After discussion, Council Members Robinson, Gonzalez and Pennington thanked Ms. DeBose for her leadership and hard work in the community. Council Member Davis absent.

Ms. Gracie Cavnar, Post Office Box 56405, Houston, Texas - 713-520-0443 – appeared and stated that Houstonians were not eating their vegetables, they needed the City Council help again this year, that together they had been accomplishing a lot to make it easier for Houstonians to live healthier lives, but they still had a lot more work to do because over 30% of their fellow citizens were critically overweight or obese, and suffering from an array of chronic diseases, that health experts tell them there was no better way to improve health than by eating more fresh fruits and veggies, that they should all be eating 9 veggies a day, so they wanted their help to take the Veg Out Challenge. Council Member Davis absent.

Council Members Costello and Cohen thanked Ms. Cavnar for all the work that she had been doing for the City of Houston. Council Member Davis absent.

Ms. Linda Scurlock, 4747 Knotty Oaks Trl., Houston, Texas 77045 – 713-433-5737 – appeared and stated that she was the President of the South Houston Concerned Citizens Coalition, that she was present to ask the City to vote to use eminent domain to extend Buffalo Speedway to Holmes Road, that the project had been on the CIP for at least 10 years. Council Member Davis absent.

Council Member Green stated that he wanted to thank the Mayor's office and Office of Economic Development, who had been working to get Holmes Road, as well as all of the infrastructure in place on Holmes Road, as well as HCAD, he thought there was a bridge separation that was also in the works, they had one landowner that was holding up, it was a person who would not deed the land over, it had been funded, they were asking all of the property owners to come on line, but they had yet to do it, it was in a MUD and they would be reimbursed for all dollars when the road was through, that he wanted to thank her for keeping on it. Council Member Davis absent.

Ms. Vivian Harris, 13906 Regg Dr., Houston, Texas 77045 – 713-433-4597 – appeared and stated that when her family moved to Hiram Clarke in 1971 they were told that Buffalo Speedway would be open in five years, it was open a few years ago and was deemed the street that led to nowhere, and in fact became a major dumping area until Council Member Green had it barricaded when he took office, that 43 years later Buffalo Speedway was still not open. Council Member Davis absent.

After discussion by Council Members Boykins and Green, Mayor Parker stated that it was funded, they would punch the street through while she and Council Member Green were in office. Council Members Davis, Martin and Kubosh absent.

Mr. Ray Washington, 14907 Bathurst, Houston, Texas 77053 – 713-826-6627 – appeared and stated that he was the Super Neighborhood President of the areas that were surrounded by Beltway 8 by the south and Holmes Road to Main Street on the North, Highway 288 on the east and on the West was Hillcroft, that he too wanted to echo the sentiments of Ms. Harris about the extension of Buffalo Speedway, and was asking the City Council to see if they could get it expedited. Council Members Davis, Martin, Gonzalez and Kubosh absent.

After discussion Council Members Robinson and Green thanked Mr. Washington for showing his support. Council Members Davis, Martin and Kubosh absent.

Ms. Rita Foretich, 12751 Cavalla, Houston, Texas 77085 – 713-729-9826 – appeared and stated that she was President of Super Neighborhood No. 39 and also of Fondren Civic Club and was present to ask their support for the project of opening up Buffalo Speedway, that she was also present to ask for their support, her neighborhood was in the middle of a traffic thoroughfare, they had Fondren Road, South Main Street, Hillcroft and Beltway 8, she was in need of a sidewalk coming from Carlsbad Street over to Zavala Street, that also they had a drainage ditch and was all muddy, that she would like for somebody to come out and take a look and see what kind of solution they could have. Council Members Davis, Martin and Kubosh absent.

After discussion, Council Member Green stated that they would work with her, and Mayor Parker stated that if Ms. Foretich would visit with Citizens Assistance, she did not know who owned that particular drainage ditch, that they would follow up. Council Members Davis, Martin and Kubosh absent.

Mr. Roger Harris, 2302 Fannin, Ste. 165, Houston, Texas 713-718-8970 – appeared, presented information, and stated that he was the Project Director of the Houston MBDA Business Center, that on September 1, 2013 the Houston Community College was awarded a grant from the Department of Commerce Minority Business Development Agency, that agency was the only federal agency that was designed to assist minority owned businesses with access to capital, access to procurement and markets, they helped with international business and they did one on one business consultant, that on Wednesday, March 5, 2014, at 5:30 p.m. at 3100 Main and Elgin they would be having a grand opening and reception, their Acting Director, Alejandro Castillo, would be in town to give a presentation and talk about how they worked with minority owned businesses. Council Members Davis, Martin, Green, Costello and Kubosh absent.

Mayor Parker stated that they missed Mr. Harris at the City, but he was at a good place and doing good work to advance the City, that she thought everyone got a copy of his invitation, and asked if there was a website, and Mr. Harris stated that it was www.mbda.gov, with a link to their website that showed all of their services. Council Members Davis, Martin, Green, Costello and Kubosh absent.

Mr. Tony Jones, 1950 Spenwick Dr., No. 318, Houston, Texas 77055 – 832-236-6950 – appeared and stated that he wanted to talk about Mayor Parker's selection of Mr. Jay Stiteley as Director of MOPD, Mayor's Office of People with Disabilities, that she and Ms. Tipton did a really good job, that he knew Mr. Stiteley personally and he was really a good guy, he was the Field Director of Seeing Eye; that they still did not have an automatic door opener downstairs. Council Members Davis, Martin, Green, Costello and Kubosh absent.

Mayor Parker stated that she wanted to thank Mr. Jones for his compliments on Mr. Stiteley, she thought he was going to do an excellent job for the Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities. Council Members Davis, Martin, Green, Costello and Kubosh absent.

Council Member Stardig stated if they were not going to be able to do something with the doors then they needed to give some kind of formal response, that she would like to hear it herself, and Mayor Parker stated that she had not received a response back on the door opener, and Council Member Stardig stated that she thought Director Scott Minnix, General Services, was working on it. Council Members Davis, Martin, Green, Costello and Kubosh absent.

Dr. Alkebu Motapa, 5022 Cosby, Houston, Texas 77021 – 713-741-5150 – had reserved time to speak, but was not present when his name was called. Council Members Davis, Martin, Green, Costello and Kubosh absent.

Mr. Rafael Wakefield, 935 Byrne Creek, Houston, Texas 77009 – 646-206-8317 - had reserved time to speak, but was not present when his name was called. Council Members Davis, Martin, Green, Costello and Kubosh absent.

Ms. Ariel Bourque, 3030 Dogwood Knoff Trail., Rosenberg, Texas 77474 – 405-414-9566 – had reserved time to speak, but was not present when her name was called. Council Members Davis, Martin, Green, Costello and Kubosh absent.

Ms. Melanie Pang, 2300 Old Spanish Trail, Houston, Texas 77054 – 832-860-9416 appeared and stated that she was present to speak on behalf of First Person, a business consulting firm that worked with nonprofits and socially responsible organizations, that she appreciated that the City of Houston was exploring innovative ways in which to become a more environmentally responsible organization, through the One Bin Program, Houston had the opportunity to not only increase its waste diversionary and decrease the amount of trash sent to landfills, it also become an example for the rest of the Nation in recycling innovation and continue their great reputation in job creation. Council Members Davis, Martin, Green, Costello and Kubosh absent.

Mayor Parker stated that she wanted to thank Ms. Pang for the support of One Bin For All, they thought it was innovative and were looking forward to testing it. Council Members Davis, Martin, Green, Costello and Kubosh absent.

Council Member Boykins stated that Ms. Pang was in his district and he looked forward to sitting down and visiting with her, and Ms. Pang stated that she also worked for Can Do Houston. Council Members Stardig, Davis, Martin, Green and Costello absent.

After discussion Council Member Pennington moved to suspend the rules for the purpose of extending time for questions of Ms. Melanie Pang, seconded by Council Member Laster. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Stardig, Davis, Martin, Green and Costello absent. MOTION 2014-0165 ADOPTED.

Upon questions by Council Member Pennington, Ms. Pang stated that she understood there would be no incineration as a result of the collection of recyclables in One Bin, that she personally could not think of any reasons to oppose, but knew plenty of people who would speak on that issue and would leave it to them. Council Members Stardig, Davis, Martin, Green and Costello absent.

Ms. Elizabeth James, 3100 Richmond Ave., Houston, Texas 77098 – 507-213-4228 – had reserved time to speak, but was not present when her name was called. Council Members Stardig, Davis, Martin, Green and Costello absent.

Mr. Thomas Fitzgibbons, 3616 Richmond, Apt. 1705, Houston, Texas 77046 - had reserved time to speak, but was not present when his name was called. Council Members

Stardig, Davis, Martin, Green and Costello absent.

Ms. Grace Cagle, 4306 Canal, Houston, Texas - had reserved time to speak, but was not present when her name was called. Council Members Stardig, Davis, Martin, Green and Costello absent.

Ms. Liliana Aguirre, 203 N. Milby, Houston, Texas 77003 – 281-904-0602 appeared and stated through a translator that she was a community leader and lived in the Second Ward, that her community had a great problem regarding stray dogs, which represented a serious danger especially for their children and senior citizens. Council Members Stardig, Davis, Martin, Green and Costello absent.

Council Member Gonzalez stated that as Ms. Aguirre knew he did meet with her personally and some of her neighbors, as they knew it was a challenge that they did have in the City and they needed to make sure they continued to do more, that thanks to the leadership of Mayor Parker they had begun some aggressive initiatives, but they needed to continue to do more obviously, they talked about doing a community based event in their neighborhood. Council Members Stardig, Davis, Martin, Green and Costello absent.

Ms. Hazard Buck-Jacobs, 1517 N. Shepherd, Houston, Texas 77008 – 713-501-6367 appeared and stated that she was the mother of a transgender youth, Oliver was a 15 year old native of Houston and he was fully supported in his transition by his parents, siblings and grandparents, that he was an exceptional student and attended the High School for Visual and Performing Arts, and was active in the local volunteer communities, that his family was concerned that there were some who wanted to make it illegal for Oliver to use a men's restroom, that using a ladies restroom would be very embarrassing and uncomfortable for him and it could be potentially dangerous. Council Members Stardig, Davis, Martin, Gallegos, Laster and Costello absent.

Mayor Parker asked if her son was female to male transgender, and Ms. Buck-Jacobs stated that was correct, and Mayor Parker stated that as any youth was concerned about appearances and safety he would want to use the restroom appropriate to his gender and Ms. Buck-Jacobs stated yes. Council Members Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Gallegos, Laster and Costello absent.

Council Member Cohen stated that she was sure it had not been easy and knew what they were talking about now was going to be coming up in the next month or so, with great seriousness about what they wanted to do for the City and how respectful they wanted to be for everyone, that she would urge her to come down again as the issue came forward, and Mayor Parker stated that he was lucky to have a supportive family. Council Members Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Gallegos, Laster, Green and Costello absent.

Mr. Sura Kimo, 6525 Hillcroft, No. 509, Houston, Texas 77081 – 202-468-8359 - had reserved time to speak, but was not present when his name was called. Council Members Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Gallegos, Laster, Green and Costello absent.

Mr. David Williams, 12903 Brantrock Dr., Houston, Texas 77082 – 832-687-1609 - had reserved time to speak, but was not present when his name was called. Council Members Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Gallegos, Laster, Green and Costello absent.

Ms. Patricia Martin, 10802 Kingspoint, Houston, Texas 77075 - 832-276-6470 - had reserved time to speak, but was not present when her name was called. Council Members Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Gallegos, Laster, Green and Costello absent.

Mr. James Jackson, 5604 Los Angeles, Houston, Texas 77026 – 713-557-7841 - had reserved time to speak, but was not present when his name was called. Council Members Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Gallegos, Laster, Green and Costello absent.

Ms. Katy Rowe, 4710 Wedgewood, Bellaire, Texas 77401 – 214-808-8210 - had reserved time to speak, but was not present when her name was called. Council Members Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Gallegos, Laster, Green and Costello absent.

Mr. Daniel McCartt, 3100 Richmond Ave., No. 290, Houston, Texas 77098 – 972-533-6870 - had reserved time to speak, but was not present when his name was called. Council Members Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Gallegos, Laster, Green and Costello absent.

Ms. Melanie Scruggs, 1111 Post Oak Blvd., Houston, Texas 77056 – 713-822-2277 – appeared and stated that she was the Program Director for Texas Campaign for the Environment and lived in District G, they wanted to thank the Mayor for her plan to expand the current Single Stream Recycling Programs, the big green bins to every household in the City and wanted to impress on them that if they went forward with the One Bin For All it was tantamount to taking one step forward and two major big step back in the wrong direction, the reason they were talking about incineration, and that was a bad thing, was because the RFQ called for gasification and catalytic conversion, the EPA defined those technologies as incineration, so they would have to get a permit from the EPA as such. Council Members Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Gallegos, Laster, Green and Costello absent.

Council Member Robinson stated that he knew he and his colleagues on City Council had received a huge amount of mail from her organization, with some really impassioned comments of concern about the environment, and Ms. Scruggs stated that most of the letters called for the City to come up with a long term plan that would include extending the existing recycling program and creating measures to reduce waste. Council Members Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Gallegos, Laster, Green and Costello absent.

Ms. Monique Walker, 6013 Schroeder Rd., Houston, Texas 77021 – 832-462-4669 – appeared and stated that Texas ranked number one for their economic progress in which they were trailblazers in the Country, however their streets and waterways should be reflective of their financial progress, the strength and integrity of a City was measured on how they cleaned and took care of their communities, glass, trash and hazardous waste that they created in their negligence and arrogance toward their planet must come to an end, that China was investing \$333 billion to create clean waterways for their community, that Houston had the creativity, ingenuity and capital to set a standard for the world to show their international investors and leaders that they took care of home first. Council Members Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Gallegos, Laster, Green and Costello absent.

Mr. Art Browning, 12446 Texas Army Trail, Cypress Trail, Texas 77429 – appeared, presented a handout, and stated that he was the new Chair of the Houston Sierra Club, that their opposition was based on several items, one of them was incineration, lowering the quality of recyclables output stream, concern for workers safety and an unsuccessful record for similar projects. Council Members Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Gallegos, Laster, Green and Costello absent.

Upon questions by Council Member Pennington, Mr. Browning stated that the one bin that was full of recyclables they did not want to put garbage in with it, because if they put dinner onto a newspaper that newspaper could no longer be recycled. Council Members Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Gallegos, Laster, Green and Costello absent.

Mayor Parker stated that Mr. Don Pagel had distributed a brochure to Council Members with some of the facts, including the City's position on the issue of gasification, and it was not their intention to do that, unless it actually reduced greenhouse gases. Council Members Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Gallegos, Laster, Green and Costello absent.

Mr. Johnathan Parnham, 1511 Foro Dr., No. 185, Austin, Texas – 78741 – 713-882-5648 - had reserved time to speak, but was not present when his name was called. Council Members Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Gallegos, Laster, Green and Costello absent.

Ms. Caitlan Murphy, 4710 Wedgewood, Bellaire, Texas 77401 – 845-803-9061 – had reserved time to speak, but was not present when her name was called. Council Members Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Gallegos, Laster, Green and Costello absent.

Ms. Heather Hyslop (no address given nor phone number) - had reserved time to speak, but was not present when her name was called. Council Members Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Gallegos, Laster, Green and Costello absent.

Ms. Robin Schneider, 3100 Richmond Ave., Houston, Texas 77098 – 713-337-4192 appeared, presented information, and stated that she was the Executive Director of Texas Campaign for the Environment, that they really supported rolling out the One Bin recycling to all residents, that right now One Bin was the standard in Texas, they oppose going to the one bin system, that in California it was a mess, they laid out workers when the price of paper slipped, and they did not pick out the paper anymore, the card boarded soiled and they kept that separate from any separated out cardboard because it was worth so much less, they wanted the full value of their recyclables, not for them to be tarnished. Mayor Parker, Council Members Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Gallegos, Laster, Green and Costello absent. Mayor Pro Tem Gonzalez presiding.

Ms. Emily Freeborn, 6639 Goforth, Houston, Texas 77021 – 614-657-2812 appeared and stated that she was a resident of south central Houston and supported the standard big green bin recycling program and opposed the all in one bin recycling, she believed that they needed to set an example for generations to come and teaching them that they could just throw everything in one bin was a bad idea. Mayor Parker, Council Members Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Gallegos, Laster, Green and Costello absent. Mayor Pro Tem Gonzalez presiding.

Mr. Bryan Parras, 4820 Rusk, Houston, Texas 77023 – 713-303-5811 – appeared and stated that he lived in District I, he was present representing a group called TEJAS, Texas Environmental Justice Advocacy Services, that for over 10 years they had been looking at pollution on the east side, that he could tell them there were so many things in his neighborhood, from trucks and trains carrying toxic chemicals, to trucks being stuck on trains carrying toxic chemicals, to cement and car crushing facilities, the list went on and on, that one of the things that was beautiful about this district was that he had offered to him recycling, this was something that he really thought helped folks understand the process of disposal in a very beneficial way, and he would hate to see that go away. Council Members Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Laster, Green and Costello absent.

Council Member Boykins asked Mr. Parras what was his position on One Bin For All, and Mr. Parra stated that this was something that they could help the City implement in a good way, there were composting programs that generated good dirt, that they all needed, they needed community gardens. Council Members Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Laster, Green and Costello absent.

Mr. Chris Goetzman, 26000 Pine Shadow Dr., Hockley, Texas 77447 – 713-822-4288 appeared and stated that he was with Texas Campaign for the Environment, that he was

present to talk about why they opposed this, that according to the Royal Society of Chemistry, in 2003, these things recycled 10% to 30% of waste that they brought in, that was not a good number, when they looked at environmental justice issues, this was going to concentrate the City's waste in one area, when they looked at the issue of cost, this increased the tipping fees of the waste massively in the City, if this was about waste and energy, this was one of the most expensive ways to produce energy, these type of things, so there were lots of negatives. Council Members Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Pennington, Laster, Green and Costello absent.

Ms. Tonya (No last name given, no phone number given) appeared and stated that she was having an issue with military helicopters, it started on January 13, 2014, and they had gotten carried away, they pointed her vehicle out and had been following her around, and she continued to voice her personal opinions until her time expired. Council Members Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Pennington, Laster, Green and Costello absent.

Mr. Richard Tomlinson, Post Office Box 2006, Silsbee, Texas 77656 – 409-289-5109 appeared and stated that he volunteered with Houston Ghost Bike and was certain that by this time all Members of Council were familiar with the term Ghost Bike, they prepared for Council a somewhat incomplete list of statistics and thought it gave one an idea of how bad it really was, that he thought he emailed every one of them a copy last Thursday, that these statistics were for the Houston area but many of their constituents traveled outside of the City for many activities, just as many living outside of the City traveled inside the City daily, that he understood the Mayor's stance on focusing on off road paths, part of the focus should include safe corridors for cyclists to connect from one trail to another. Council Members Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Pennington, Laster, Green and Costello absent.

Mayor Parker stated that she recognized the need to have connecting corridors, and Mr. Tomlinson stated that there was not adequate parking for the paths. Council Members Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Pennington, Laster, Green and Costello absent.

Mr./Coach R. J. Bobby Taylor, 3107 Sumpter, Houston, Texas 77026 – FA34511 – had reserved time to speak, but was not present when his name was called. Council Members Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Pennington, Laster, Green and Costello absent.

Ms. Theresa Wells, 5703 Baywels, Humble, Texas 77396 – 713-697-9032 – had reserved time to speak, but was not present when her name was called. Council Members Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Pennington, Laster, Green and Costello absent.

Mr. William Paul Brown, 4640 Main St., No. 326, Houston, Texas 77002 - 281-785-8323 – appeared and stated that he was a Disabled American Vets Chapter 9 life member in Houston and fund raising chairman and coordinator with DAV Chapter 233 out of Fort Bend County, that right now they were having their Annual Disabled American Vet District Four meeting on April 12 and 13, 2014 and would ask Mayor Parker if she would like to be a speaker at that event, their fund raising efforts had involved solicitation directly with businesses as per the National DAV Executive Committee guidelines. Council Members Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Pennington, Gonzalez, Laster, Green and Costello absent.

Mayor Parker asked if he was present to make them aware of the Disabled American Vets meeting and solicit ads in program books and so forth, and Mr. Brown stated yes, that usually it was through the marketing of a hotel, and Mayor Parker stated that obviously the City of Houston could not be involved in the solicitation of funds, but for a recognized badge program, he had already met with Mr. Carl Salazar, Veteran Affairs Director, and would encourage him to continue his conversations with Mr. Salazar, that she would find out from Ms. Salazar what he was proposing in more detail. Council Members Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Pennington, Gonzalez, Laster, Green and Costello absent.

Ms. Rocky Jackson, 5604 Los Angeles, Houston, Texas 77026 – 281-513-0966 – had reserved time to speak, but was not present when her name was called. Council Members Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Pennington, Gonzalez, Laster, Green and Costello absent.

Mr. Kenneth Martin, 31103 Sherrie Ln., Magnolia, Texas 77354 – 281-687-5880 – had reserved time to speak, but was not present when his name was called. Council Members Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Pennington, Gonzalez, Laster, Green and Costello absent.

Ms. Lauren Barrash, 1160 W.26th Street, Houston, Texas 77008 – 713-863-9283 – had reserved time to speak, but was not present when her name was called. Council Members Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Pennington, Gonzalez, Laster, Green and Costello absent.

Mr. Bissong Bissong, 8002 Bellaire Blvd., No. 1149, Houston, Texas 77036 – 281-235-3448 - had reserved time to speak, but was not present when his name was called. Council Members Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Pennington, Gonzalez, Laster, Green and Costello absent.

Ms. Florence Meyers, 10111 Bissonnet, Houston, Texas 77036 – 832-249-3573 – had reserved time to speak, but was not present when her name was called. Council Members Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Pennington, Gonzalez, Laster, Green and Costello absent.

Ms. Nikki Frank, 2626 Holly Hall, No. 1202, Houston, Texas 77054 – 832-279-0677 – had reserved time to speak, but was not present when her name was called. Council Members Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Pennington, Gonzalez, Laster, Green and Costello absent.

Mr. Bob Cavnar, 1309 Rosedale, Houston, Texas 77004 – 832-474-4116 – appeared and stated that he knew there was an issue with changing the taxi cab rules in Houston to allow services like Uber to be allowed to do business in Houston, that he had no dog in the hunt except as a customer, he had used Uber in Chicago, Los Angeles, New York and Boston and found the service to be outstanding. Council Members Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Pennington, Laster and Costello absent.

Council Member Kubosh asked Mr. Cavnar how Uber affected how he traveled, and Mr. Cavnar stated it was about \$350 per day to keep a car so when people were in Houston doing meetings they had to keep a limousine all day long to have reliable transportation, with Uber they call the car, go and have their meeting, call the car, it was there in a few minutes and they went to the next meeting, the cars were clean and well managed and the drivers were very professional. Council Members Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Pennington, Laster and Costello absent.

Ms. Gayles Forward Perkins, 2424 Greens Rd., Ste. 4A, Houston, Texas 77032 – 281-923-1746 - appeared and stated that she was present regarding taxi cabs versus Uber and Lift, that they liked change and liked adversity and also liked companies that liked to do business, but do it as doing business as, they had taxi cab rules and regulations, if they wanted to drive a taxi and pick people up for hire, fine, that was what she did, if they wanted to bring their own car, fine, that was what she did, she had a taxi license, was with Yellow Cab and Lone Star Liberty and Taxi Houston, if they wanted an app, fine, there was a taxi app in Houston, all of the things that Uber and Pink Moustache were doing or saying they were going to do was the same thing that they as taxi drivers and owners and limousine drivers and owners already did. Council Members Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Pennington, Laster and Costello absent.

Mr. John Jones, 5135 N. Freeway, Houston, Texas 77097- 832-816-2650 – appeared and stated that he worked for Lone Star Cab and Uber taxi and all of the gypsy cab drivers who

serviced the County jail needed to stop, because people did not know who they were getting in the car with, if they wanted to be a cab driver, get a cab, do not bring Uber into Houston because they did not need them, they did not need gypsy cab drivers charging people \$70 to \$80 to go to Airline, they did not need Uber coming into Houston running the airport trips and charging \$200 to \$300 to go to the airport. Council Members Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Pennington, Laster and Costello absent.

Mayor Parker stated that she wanted to draw a distinction between the issue of gypsy cabs and Uber or Lift, their intention was to regulate the vehicles for hire, one way or another, a gypsy cab was completely unregulated, and if he was aware of those operating unregulated cabs to please let them know and Mr. Chris Newport, of that division of the City, was in the audience and would like to hear from him. Council Members Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Pennington, Laster and Costello absent.

Mr. Alexander Opeyemi, 13306 Robinglen, Houston, Texas 77083 – 832-527-8733 – had reserved time to speak, but was not present when his name was called. Council Members Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Pennington, Laster and Costello absent.

Mr. Cishahayo Cishahayo, 9803 Shive Dr., Houston, Texas 77078 – 832-785-6691 – appeared and stated that he was a cab driver and he needed a work schedule, that he had a wife and seven kids, that his kids went to school but he did not have a chance to help them with their homework because he did not show up on time, because he worked hard for his expenses, that he begged for them to make it easy for him by providing a medallion. Mayor Parker, Council Members Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Pennington, Laster and Costello absent. Mayor Pro Tem Gonzalez presiding.

Mr. Moctezuma Alvarez, 20181 Bobby Ln., Porter, Texas 77365 – 832-246-9538 – appeared and stated that so much had been said about these big companies, the cab industry, that he wanted to disagree, for instance monopolies, they already had about three or four, they wanted them to think about the single drivers, independent contractors, that he was one of them, that he wanted to disagree with the big monopoly coming in because they did not go through the regulations of the City of Houston. Mayor Parker, Council Members Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Pennington, Laster and Costello absent. Mayor Pro Tem Gonzalez presiding.

Ms. Joann Meyer, 5324 Patrick Henry, Bellaire, Texas 77401 – 661-303-7376 – appeared and stated that she was also a user of Uber when she was not in the City of Houston, there was a question about what made it different and how did it allow her to do her business differently, she thought the biggest thing for her was transparency, and it gave her options, she hits the app button and she immediately saw how long it was going to take before a cab was going to be there. Mayor Parker, Council Members Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Pennington, Laster and Costello absent. Mayor Pro Tem Gonzalez presiding.

Mr. Antonio Restrepo, 4103 Fitzwater Dr., Spring, Texas 77373 – 832-347-0447 – appeared and stated that he was a taxi cab and limousine driver, that his principal point was that they release the medallions to the taxi cab drivers, because there were many companies that had medallions like a monopoly, that he represented a group of Hispanic drivers and they had a handout for the Council Members. Mayor Parker, Council Members Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Pennington, Laster and Costello absent. Mayor Pro Tem Gonzalez presiding.

Ms. Dolly Li, 4096 Piedmont, Oakland, California 94611 – 718-419-4164 – appeared and stated that she wanted to offer an alternative view to the car sharing service, what was it like to use a cab on weekends in Houston, imagine, her as a young woman, standing alone on the street it was dark, often waiting for up to an hour for a cab, when she used the alternate car sharing service she got to see on a map where the car was, she got to wait in a safe place and

waited under 10 minutes, she saw the face of the driver, what his car looked like and saw what kind of license plate he had and got to go home for a lower price than what she would have to spend on a cab. Mayor Parker, Council Members Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Pennington, Laster and Costello absent. Mayor Pro Tem Gonzalez presiding.

Upon questions by Council Member Boykins, Ms. Li stated that she was not present on behalf of anyone, she had used both the car sharing services and taxis. Mayor Parker, Council Members Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Pennington, Laster and Costello absent. Mayor Pro Tem Gonzalez presiding.

Mr. Ebrahim Ulu, 5750 Gulfton Dr., Houston, Texas 77081 – 713-367-8303 – appeared and stated that he was the President for the Taxi Cab Association in the City of Houston, they were established in 2011 and were asking that the City change the ordinance that governed the taxi industry, to change the ordinance that helped the workforce, they were waiting for their response. Council Members Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Pennington, Laster and Costello absent.

Council Member Gonzalez stated that he had a quick question on the medallion question, because he knew that was something they raised before, they heard today about value added on the medallion, and some that did not have a dispatch system could charge real expensive rates for a medallion and did not give any value to the driver, they just ended paying more rates for that medallion from a company and was Mr. Ulu suggesting that they give those medallions directly to independent drivers, but then how would they supervise them, and Mr. Ulu stated that was a good question and regularly asked question, that he was advocating for one driver and one car could be maintained, all organized and under one umbrella, one color, one company, that would help the City in terms of revenue and would help the drivers to be in the safe side. Council Members Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Laster and Costello absent.

Council Member Bradford moved that the rules be suspended for the purpose of extending time for questions of Mr. Ebrahim Ulu, seconded by Council Member Christi. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Davis, Boykins, Martin, Nguyen, Laster and Costello absent. MOTION 2014-0166 ADOPTED.

Council Member Bradford asked Mr. Ulu if Dr. Munday's study and what was discussed this morning did not address his issue or concerns and Mr. Ulu stated that it did not address them at all, but the data was valuable, his recommendations did not address how the drivers suffered and their rights or their protection, it addressed only how the companies became more of a monopoly, they advocated only for the companies and not the drivers, that he had sent an email to the Council Members and a memo about their suffering. Council Members Davis, Boykins, Martin, Nguyen, Laster and Costello absent.

Council Member Stardig moved to suspend the rules for the purpose of hearing from Mr. Harvey Yaw out of order, seconded by Council Member Gonzalez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Davis, Boykins, Martin, Nguyen, Laster and Costello absent. MOTION 2014-0167 ADOPTED.

Mr. Harvey Yaw, 871 Sararose, Houston, Texas 77018 – 713-882-0124 – appeared and asked the firefighters present in the audience to stand and be recognized, that firefighter benefit days had been unfunded since 1986, it was not a Fire Department problem, but a problem with the City of Houston mismanagement, the Mayor and City Council got automatic raises based on District Judges salaries, that Mayor Parker was the fourth highest paid Mayor in the United States, while the Fire Department was around 169th on the major fire department pay list, that cutting Mayor Parker's salary and the salary of the staff, who just got big raises, to the same 169th pay scale that HFD received would help the City of Houston pay for the core services that the citizens depended on, the City of Houston had mismanaged getting the benefit days

properly funded since 1986 so why would he want the City of Houston to manage his pension fund. Council Members Davis, Boykins, Martin, Nguyen, Laster and Costello absent.

After discussion by Council Members Stardig, Pennington, Bradford and Kubosh, and passage of Motions 2014-0168 thru 2014-0171, Mayor Parker stated that they were in active contract negotiations with the firefighters right now, there was a negotiation session this afternoon. Council Members Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Laster and Costello absent.

Council Member Stardig moved that the rules be suspended for the purpose of extending time for questions of Mr. Harvey Yaw, seconded by Council Member Gonzalez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Laster and Costello absent. MOTION 2014-0168 ADOPTED.

Council Member Green moved that the rules be suspended for the purpose of extending time for questions of Mr. Harvey Yaw, seconded by Council Member Gonzalez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Laster and Costello absent. MOTION 2014-0169 ADOPTED.

Council Member Bradford moved that the rules be suspended for the purpose of extending time for questions of Mr. Harvey Yaw, seconded by Council Member Gonzalez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Laster and Costello absent. MOTION 2014-0170 ADOPTED.

Council Member Kubosh moved that the rules be suspended for the purpose of extending time for questions of Mr. Harvey Yaw, seconded by Council Member Pennington. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Laster and Costello absent. MOTION 2014-0171 ADOPTED.

Mr. J. W. Masseh, Post Office Box 742713, Houston, Texas 77274 – 713-545-4744 – had reserved time to speak, but was not present when his name was called. Council Members Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Laster and Costello absent.

Mr. Erik Ibarra, 2907 Shady Park, Houston, Texas 77017 – 713-314-0034 – had reserved time to speak, but was not present when his name was called. Council Members Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Laster and Costello absent.

Mr. Roland Reyna, 5925 Grape, Houston, Texas 77074 – 832-661-8702 – had reserved time to speak, but was not present when his name was called. Council Members Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Laster and Costello absent.

Mr. Peter Carrizales, 7922 Glen Vista, Houston, Texas 77061 – 713-857-3399 – had reserved time to speak, but was not present when his name was called. Council Members Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Laster and Costello absent.

Ms. Renee Jackson, 12707 Scott, Houston, Texas 77047 – 832-573-7371 – appeared and stated that for the past 20 years she had resided in five different zip code areas, 77004, 77033, 77021, 77048 and now 77047, that it offended her that there were not enough organizational resources available to provide needed assistance to the poor, low income families or disabled, that she had not needed any help in quite some time until her unemployment benefits ended last year in July and she had not worked since 2012, and yet she was struggling to take care of two children and a disabled sister in her home, that now that she needed assistance taking care of her family most organizations for the zip codes she had mentioned already were out of funds or she did not qualify, that her disabled sister had special needs and United Way referred her to the Mayor's Disability Office, that her hope turned quickly into disappointment when she

discovered that the disability service under the supervision of Mr. Todd Curry, gave the same form of information of 2-1-1 and United Way, that she felt that this office should be closed and whatever funds paying for it should be directed at and for the Fire Department for better use in order for them to continue rescuing people while putting their own lives in danger, that if taxpayers money would only be used to open an office that mimicked another she wished they would put her on the payroll because she could use a job. Council Members Stardig, Davis, Boykins, Martin, Nguyen, Laster and Costello absent.

Ms. Bridgett Alexander McDaniel, No Address, No Phone, appeared and stated that on July 23, 2008 her 1991, license plate 183SCV, her corvette was illegally towed on City property, near the Metro tow lot, and continued to voice her personal opinions until her time expired. Council Members Stardig, Davis, Boykins, Martin, Nguyen, Laster and Costello absent.

Mr. Joseph Matasso, 13814 Woodthorpe Ln., Houston, Texas 77079 – 832-472-1026 appeared and requested that his son be given two minutes to speak. Council Members Stardig, Davis, Boykins, Martin, Nguyen, Laster and Costello absent.

Council Member Bradford moved that the rules be suspended for the purpose of allowing Mr. Paul Matasso to speak for two minutes, seconded by Council Member Gonzalez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Stardig, Davis, Boykins, Martin, Nguyen, Laster and Costello absent. MOTION 2014-0171-A ADOPTED. (Note only 10 Council Members present at the Council table)

Mr. Paul Matasso, 13814 Woodthorpe Ln., Houston, Texas 77079 – 832-472-1026 appeared and stated that life in his neighborhood, until now, had been very peaceful, he used to be able to ride his bike or walk home from school, that all had changed since the Twin Peaks Sports Bar had been under construction and would open soon, that Mayor Parker and the City made an agreement that took away his right to speak out against the type of bar opening so close to his school, three other schools and his house, that he was present to represent his classmates, they would all suffer because of their decision to allow a bar like this to open so close to their schools and neighborhood. Council Members Stardig, Davis, Boykins, Martin, Nguyen, Laster and Costello absent.

After discussion by Council Members Gonzalez and Pennington, Mayor Parker stated that she wanted to make it clear that they did not decide that they liked it or did not like it, it was that they were required to follow the law, as it existed, when the permits were submitted, they did not get to change their mind in mid-stream. Council Members Stardig, Davis, Boykins, Martin, Nguyen, Laster and Costello absent.

Ms. Valerie Davila, 1413 Alber, Houston, Texas 77009 – 832-512-9096 – appeared, asked the firefighters present to stand and be recognized, and stated that she was very grateful for the firefighters, the City of Houston was blessed to have them, that for the sacrifices they made they loved and honored them, that on Sunday, February 23, 2014, her granddaughter began to choke, she took a bite of a plastic spoon, her face and lips began to turn blue, that Fire Station No. 12 was not very far from her house so they ran and took her to the paramedics, there was a button to push and immediately the firemen came out to assist them, that began to check her lungs and airway, by this time she was breathing and crying, but they knew she was in trouble, there was an ambulance at Fire Station 12, unfortunately because of the cut backs they were not able to transport her granddaughter, who was 14 months old, if they had to wait another 15 minutes for them to reroute another ambulance to come and transport her to another hospital in 15 minutes what would happen if she could not breathe, they would be at her funeral right now, that she thought the City was too large and too big for them not to respect and equip their firemen and paramedics with everything they needed. Council Members Stardig, Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Laster, Costello and Christie absent.

After discussion by Council Member Gonzalez, Mayor Parker stated that they were glad her granddaughter recovered, they had not made any cuts at this point in first responders, only in transport, and the critical factor for her granddaughter, and for anybody in the City, was to have those first responders on the scene, which she did, and Ms. Davila asked Mayor Parker if they could please bring the ambulances back, because that 15 minutes could mean life or death for any of them. Council Members Stardig, Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Laster, Green, Costello and Christie absent.

Mr. William Beal, (did not wish to give address and phone number) had reserved time to speak, but was not present when his name was called. Council Members Stardig, Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Laster, Green, Costello and Christie absent.

Mr. James Partsch-Galvan, 1611 Holman, Houston, Texas 77004 – 713-528-2607 – appeared and stated that he pleaded not guilty to the two citations given to him in 2010 for permitting the accumulation of weeds or brush at 1611 Holman, that as instructed by the letter that he received on Friday he went to the website, www.houstontx.gov/courts and printed out the required forms and pleaded not guilty, that the total was up to \$2,111.20, that he mailed his forms to the courts and would handle the case the best that he could with what he had, as with AIDS, he would turn a negative into a positive. Council Members Stardig, Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Laster, Green, Costello and Christie absent.

Mr. Robin Goldstein, 4096 Piedmont Ave., Oakland, California 94611 – 718-419-4164 – appeared and stated that he wanted to offer a perspective of one more every day citizen and taxi rider on the Lift and Uber car sharing issue, that he was not affiliated with anyone involved, that for him it was a safety issue, late and night, especially on weekends, people came out of bars and it was hard to get a taxi in Houston late at night, there were not a lot of good options available, and thought this was contributing to drunk driving, that he believed that the car sharing services like Lift and Uber, by making more cars available at the time of greatest need was like having a designated driver and he thought that was a huge benefit. Council Members Stardig, Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Gonzalez, Laster, Green, Costello and Christie absent.

Council Member Boykins stated that he wanted to get more information about the car sharing, but was concerned about the safety aspect of it. Council Members Stardig, Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Gonzalez, Laster, Green, Costello and Christie absent.

Mr. Dan Morgan, 1614 Prairie View, Houston, Texas 77077 – 979-248-2886 – appeared and stated that he wanted to follow up, they talked about the transition to get from the trails to the roads, that there had to be some sort of transition to where complete streets happen, every City that had put on street cycling infrastructure in place had seen safety benefits for all road users, and it had been repeated across the Nation. Council Members Stardig, Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Gonzalez, Laster, Green, Costello and Christie absent.

Council Member Robinson stated that there were a lot of capital improvement meetings going on throughout the City and they were hearing detailed proposals for infrastructure investment across the City and Council Members were aware of some of the tools that were in the toolbox, that he wanted to thank him for his ongoing vigilance on the issue. Council Members Stardig, Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Gonzalez, Laster, Green, Costello and Christie absent.

Council Member Pennington stated that he agreed with him on the safety issues and travel, that the problem was that they did not have any dedicated bikeways right now. Council Members Stardig, Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Gonzalez, Laster, Green, Costello and Christie absent.

President Joseph Charles, Post Office Box 524373, Houston, Texas 77052-4373 (713-928-2871) appeared and stated that he was requesting more time, and continued to express his personal opinions until his time expired. Council Members Stardig, Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Gonzalez, Laster, Green, Costello and Christie absent.

At 4:02 p.m. Mayor Parker stated that the City Council was recessed until 9:00 a.m., Wednesday, February 26, 2014. Council Members Stardig, Davis, Martin, Nguyen, Gonzalez, Laster, Green, Costello and Christie absent.

The Houston City Council reconvened at 9:00 a.m., Wednesday, February 26, 2014, Mayor Annise Parker presiding, with Council Members Brenda Stardig, Jerry Davis, Ellen R. Cohen, Dwight Boykins, Dave Martin, Richard Nguyen, Oliver Pennington, Edward Gonzalez, Robert Gallegos, Mike Laster, Larry V. Green, David Robinson, Michael Kubosh, C. O. "Brad" Bradford and Jack Christie, D.C.; Mr. Dave Feldman, City Attorney; and Ms. Marta Crinejo, Agenda Director, present. Council Member Stephen C. Costello, absent on personal business.

At 8:28 a.m. The City Secretary read the descriptions or captions of items on the Agenda.

At 9:01 a.m. Mayor Parker called the meeting to order and stated that she would start with an announcement and an invitation, she hoped Council offices had received an invitation to an event tonight at the Julia Ideson, that she knew Council Members were aware that their relationship with China was extremely robust and beneficial to the City of Houston, that China was Houston's largest trading partner, over the last few years they had entertained, on average, ten inbound trade delegations a month, three of those would be from China, they had a lot of very beneficial bilateral leadership and education exchanges, the new non-stop flight from Houston to Beijing last year, which had already expanded routes, had opened even more of the Houston China market, and tonight they were rolling out another step in that relationship, which they believed would continue to boost Houston's economy, that they were announcing the formation of the US/China Partnership, it was a 501c4 organization, which would operate as a platform for sustained and substantive exchange between Houston and China, that this non-profit organization, which began as conversations that her administration began having with leaders in the broader business community, they had an already robust relationship, how could they expand this relationship, it was designed to not do business with China, but to facilitate business with China and the person who had really midwived this relationship was Mr. Charles Foster, who was present in the audience, that she had a letter from former President George Bush, in which agreed to be the Honorary Chairman of US/China Partnership and to serve in an advisory capacity, inasmuch as he was an Ambassador to China and had tremendous contacts there, which could serve the City of Houston, in addition to President George H. W. Bush, Yeo Ming and US Congressman Ted Poe were among the board members of this organization, that she was going to ask Council Members if they would like to join them this evening at the Julia Ideson they would be more than welcome and more importantly if they folks who were interested in this new initiative she hoped that they would bring them forward, that if there were any questions she would be happy to answer them, otherwise they were very excited about this announcement. Council Members Davis and Boykins absent.

Mayor Parker stated that they would proceed with the consent agenda. Council Members Davis and Boykins absent.

MAYOR'S REPORT

CONSENT AGENDA NUMBERS 1 through 47

MISCELLANEOUS - NUMBERS 4 through 6

4. RECOMMENDATION from Director Department of Public Works & Engineering to provide final approval of Speed Cushions and Traffic Calming Devices in the Central City Subdivision **DISTRICT D – BOYKINS** - was presented, moved by Council Member Gonzalez, seconded by Council Member Pennington. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Costello absent on personal business. Council Members Davis and Boykins absent. MOTION 2014-0172 ADOPTED
5. RECOMMENDATION from Director Department of Public Works & Engineering to provide final approval of Speed Cushions and Traffic Calming Devices in the Village West Subdivision **DISTRICT G - PENNINGTON** - was presented, moved by Council Member Gonzalez, seconded by Council Member Pennington. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Costello absent on personal business. Council Members Davis and Boykins absent. MOTION 2014-0173 ADOPTED
6. RECOMMENDATION from Director Department of Public Works & Engineering to provide final approval of Speed Cushions and Traffic Calming Devices in the Westwick Subdivision **DISTRICT A - STARDIG** - was presented, moved by Council Member Gonzalez, seconded by Council Member Pennington. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Costello absent on personal business. Council Members Davis and Boykins absent. MOTION 2014-0174 ADOPTED

ACCEPT WORK - NUMBERS 7 and 9

7. RECOMMENDATION from Director Department of Public Works & Engineering for approval of final contract amount of \$1,299,196.19 and acceptance of work on contract with **T CONSTRUCTION, LLC** for FY2011 Local Drainage Project Negotiated Construction Work Orders - 0.06% under the original contract amount - **DISTRICTS A - STARDIG; C - COHEN; E - MARTIN; G - PENNINGTON and H - GONZALEZ** - was presented, moved by Council Member Gonzalez, seconded by Council Member Bradford. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Costello absent on personal business. Council Member Boykins absent. MOTION 2014-0175 ADOPTED.
9. RECOMMENDATION from Director Department of Public Works & Engineering for approval of final contract amount of \$2,438,014.86 and acceptance of work on contract with **D. L. ELLIOTT ENTERPRISES, INC** for Water Line Replacement in Crane-Englewood Area - 2.08% under the original contract amount - **DISTRICT B - DAVIS** - was presented, moved by Council Member Gonzalez, seconded by Council Member Bradford. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Costello absent on personal business. Council Member Boykins absent. MOTION 2014-0176 ADOPTED.

PURCHASING AND TABULATION OF BIDS - NUMBERS 10 through 15

10. **DACO FIRE EQUIPMENT, INC** for Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting Vehicles through the Interlocal Agreement for Cooperative Purchasing with the Houston-Galveston Area Council for the Houston Airport System - \$1,719,850.00 - Enterprise Fund - was presented, moved by Council Member Bradford, seconded by Council Member Gonzalez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Costello absent on personal business. MOTION 2014-0177 ADOPTED.
11. **TEXAS BUS SALES, INC** for Mobile Health Clinic Body through the Interlocal Agreement for Cooperative Purchasing with the Houston-Galveston Area Council for the Health &

Human Services Department - \$150,387.69 - General Fund - was presented, moved by Council Member Bradford, seconded by Council Member Gonzalez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Costello absent on personal business. MOTION 2014-0178 ADOPTED.

12. **HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY** for Hardware through the Texas Department of Information Resources for the Houston Information Technology Services Department - was presented, moved by Council Member Bradford, seconded by Council Member Gonzalez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Costello absent on personal business. MOTION 2014-0179 ADOPTED.
13. **SAP PUBLIC SERVICES, INC** for payment for the Renewal of Annual Maintenance and Support for Various SAP Software Modules and Licenses for the Houston Information Technology Services - \$400,026.44 - Central Service Chargeback Fund - was presented, moved by Council Member Bradford, seconded by Council Member Gonzalez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Costello absent on personal business. MOTION 2014-0180 ADOPTED.
14. ORDINANCE appropriating \$1,107,000.00 out of Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund to purchase Automated Metering System Products and Services for the Department of Public Works and Engineering - 30 months - \$14,209,000.00 - Enterprise Fund - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Costello absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2014-0146 ADOPTED.
- 14a. APPROVE spending authority in an amount not to exceed \$15,316,000.00 to **UNICOM GOVERNMENT, INC** for Automated Meter Reading Products and Services through the Master Intergovernmental Cooperative Purchasing Agreement for the Department of Public Works & Engineering - was presented, moved by Council Member Bradford, seconded by Council Member Gonzalez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Costello absent on personal business. MOTION 2014-0181 ADOPTED.
15. ORDINANCE appropriating \$11,995,692.45 out of Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund for the 69th Street Wastewater Treatment Plant Pump Station, Digester and Thickener Blower Switchgears, Substation and Starter Replacement Project for the Public Works & Engineering Department - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Costello absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2014-0147 ADOPTED.
- 15a. **C. F. MCDONALD ELECTRIC, INC** for the 69th Street Wastewater Treatment Plant Pump Station, Digester and Thickener Blower Switchgears, Substation and Starter Replacement Project for the Department of Public Works & Engineering - \$11,424,469.00 and contingencies for a total amount not to exceed \$11,995,692.45 - **DISTRICT I - GALLEGOS** - was presented, moved by Council Member Bradford, seconded by Council Member Gonzalez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Costello absent on personal business. Council Members Davis and Boykins absent. MOTION 2014-0182 ADOPTED.

RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES - NUMBERS 18 through 47

18. RESOLUTION authorizing the Municipal Courts Department to submit an application for a Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Grant from the Criminal Justice Division of the Office of the Governor of Texas for the Juvenile Case Manager Program Delinquency Prevention Initiative; to accept the funds, if awarded - was presented. All voting aye.

Nays none. Council Member Costello absent on personal business. RESOLUTION 2014-0003 ADOPTED.

19. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing first amendment to contract between the City of Houston and **CHILD CARE COUNCIL OF GREATER HOUSTON**, providing up to \$2,167,908 (Emergency Solutions Grants Funds - \$1,617,908; Community Development Block Grant Funds - \$550,000) in additional funds for the continuing administration and operation of an Emergency Solutions Grants Program - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Costello absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2014-0148 ADOPTED.
20. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing contract between the City of Houston and **HOUSTON HELP, INC**, providing up to \$324,416.00 in Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS Funds for the administration and operation of a community residence along with the provision of other supportive services - **DISTRICT D - BOYKINS** - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Costello absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2014-0149 ADOPTED.
21. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing contract between the City of Houston and **SEARCH HOMELESS SERVICES, INC**, to provide \$209,963.00 in Community Development Block Grant Funds to assist in the administration and operation of the Resource Center and Mobile Outreach Program - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Costello absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2014-0150 ADOPTED.
23. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing Compromise and Settlement Agreement between the City of Houston and **ENRIQUE GUZMAN, JEFFREY T. ROEBUCK, and HARRIS COUNTY, TEXAS** to settle a lawsuit - \$199,000.00 - Property and Casualty Fund - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Costello absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2014-0151 ADOPTED.
25. ORDINANCE appropriating \$288,779.00 from the Police Consolidated Construction Fund for Public Safety Radio System Tower Replacement Project for Houston Information Technology Services Department - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Costello absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2014-0152 ADOPTED.
26. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing Interlocal Agreement between the City of Houston and the **CITY OF WEBSTER** for the FY2013 Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force Program \$79,980.00 - Grant Fund - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Costello absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2014-0153 ADOPTED.
27. ORDINANCE awarding contract to **WACHS VALVE AND HYDRANT SERVICES, LLC** for Valve Assessment and Testing On-Call Program and Services for Public Works & Engineering Department; providing a maximum contract amount - 1 Year with two one-year options \$1,345,225.00 - Enterprise Fund - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Costello absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2014-0154 ADOPTED.
28. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing Lease Agreement between **COLE REGENTS PARK, LTD.**, as landlord, and the City of Houston, Texas, as tenant, at 1335 Regents Park Drive, Houston, Texas, for use by the Houston Permitting Center - 2 years with renewal options \$37,159.49 - Building Inspection Fund - **DISTRICT E - MARTIN** - was

presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Costello absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2014-0155 ADOPTED.

30. ORDINANCE appropriating \$115,442.00 out of Parks Consolidated Construction Fund; awarding construction contract to **PROGRESSIVE COMMERCIAL AQUATICS, INC** for Pool Plaster - Cloverland, Eastwood, and Mason Parks; setting a deadline for the bidder's execution of the contract and delivery of all bonds, insurance, and other required contract documents to the City; holding the bidder in default if it fails to meet the deadlines; providing funding for contingencies relating to construction of facilities financed by Parks Consolidated Construction Fund **DISTRICTS D - BOYKINS; H - GONZALEZ and I - GALLEGOS** - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Costello absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2014-0156 ADOPTED.
32. ORDINANCE appropriating \$910,000.00 out of Equipment Acquisition Consolidated Fund and awarding contract between the City of Houston and **GILBANE BUILDING COMPANY** for DHHS - Holcombe Laboratory Emergency Generators Infrastructure Addition; providing funding for contingencies relating to construction of facilities financed by the Equipment Acquisition Consolidated Fund - **DISTRICT D - BOYKINS** - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Costello absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2014-0157 ADOPTED.
34. ORDINANCE consenting to the addition of 13.5210 acres of land to **DOWDELL PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT**, for inclusion in its district - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Costello absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2014-0158 ADOPTED.
35. MUNICIPAL Setting Designation Ordinance prohibiting the use of designated groundwater beneath a tract of land containing 10.1987 acres commonly known as North 45 Plaza at 10922 North Freeway, Houston, Harris County, Texas; and supporting issuance of a Municipal Setting Designation by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality - **DISTRICT B - DAVIS** - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Costello absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2014-0159 ADOPTED.
39. ORDINANCE appropriating \$1,100,000.00 out of Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund as an additional appropriation; approving and authorizing second amendment to Professional Engineering Services Contract between the City of Houston and **CAROLLO ENGINEERS, INC** for Project Advisor/Technical Consultant for the City's future expansion of the Northeast Water Purification Plant (Approved by Ordinance No. 2012-0121); providing funding for CIP Cost Recovery relating to construction of facilities financed by the Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund - **DISTRICT E - MARTIN** - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Costello absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2014-0160 ADOPTED.
40. ORDINANCE appropriating \$3,038,860.00 out of Metro Projects Construction DDSRF, awarding contract to **TRAFFIC SYSTEMS CONSTRUCTION, INC** for Citywide Traffic Signal Rebuild Package #5; 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, and contingencies relating to construction of facilities financed by Metro Projects Construction DDSRF **DISTRICTS A - STARDIG; B - DAVIS; C - COHEN and H - GONZALEZ** - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Costello absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2014-0161 ADOPTED.

45. ORDINANCE appropriating \$2,644,200.00 out of Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund, awarding contract to **DCE CONSTRUCTION, INC** for Water Line Replacement in Braeburn Terrace Area; setting a deadline for the bidder's execution of the contract and delivery of all bonds, insurance, and other require 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, and contingencies relating to construction of facilities financed by the Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund - **DISTRICT C - COHEN** - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Costello absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2014-0162 ADOPTED.
47. ORDINANCE appropriating \$2,238,951.35 out of Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund; awarding contract to **REYTEC CONSTRUCTION RESOURCES, INC** for Large Diameter Waterline Valve Replacement Project; 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 (11162) - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Costello absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2014-0163 ADOPTED.

MATTERS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA WERE CONSIDERED AS FOLLOWS:

MISCELLANEOUS

1. RECOMMENDATION from Director Houston Airport System for approval of membership fees in the U. S. Travel Association for the Calendar Year 2014 - \$60,000.00 - Enterprise Fund - was presented, moved by Council Member Gonzalez, seconded by Council Member Bradford.

Council Member Kubosh asked Mayor Parker if she could explain the benefits of having these travel association memberships, and Mayor Parker stated that they gave a fairly lengthy explanation in the RCA, that was distributed to Council, but this was a trade association, it was paid for by fees generated into the Airport System, so they were Enterprise Funds and could not be spent on anything else, and they were designed to help them build their Airport System, keeping current on the latest techniques so that many functional aspects of Airport management, advocacy on Legislative issues on Airport governance, exchanging information among airports facing similar situations, etc., and she believed it was a formula based fee based on the size of the airport, since they had one of the largest airports in the United States, they pay a little more than the smaller airports, that one was a national and the other was an international airport entity.

A vote was called on Item No. 1. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Costello absent on personal business. MOTION 2014-0183 ADOPTED.

2. RECOMMENDATION from Director Houston Airport System for approval of membership fees in the Airports Council International for the Calendar Year 2014 - \$145,464.00 - Enterprise Fund – was presented moved by Council Member Gonzalez, seconded by Council Member Bradford. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Costello absent on personal business. MOTION 2014-0184 ADOPTED.

3. RECOMMENDATION from Fire Chief to approve the sale of Decommissioned Firefighting Bunker Gear to the Sister City of Guayaquil, Ecuador – was presented moved by Council Member Gonzalez, seconded by Council Member Bradford. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Costello absent on personal business. MOTION 2014-0185 ADOPTED.

Mayor Parker stated that this was a very beneficial program, and she was glad that they were able to do it.

ACCEPT WORK

8. RECOMMENDATION from Director Department of Public Works & Engineering for approval of final contract amount of \$897,330.35 and acceptance of work on contract with **RESICOM, INC** for Safe Sidewalk Project - 39.74% under the original contract amount - **DISTRICTS D - BOYKINS; H - GONZALEZ and I - GALLEGOS** – was presented moved by Council Member Gonzalez, seconded by Council Member Bradford.

After discussion, Council Member Robinson asked if they were saving that kind of money what happens to the money, did it go back into the Safe Sidewalk Program, and Mayor Parker stated that these were Metro Construction Funds so they stayed in the appropriate category within those construction projects, that it was not fungible, it stayed for specified projects, they hoped it would relate to more sidewalks, but it was available for any appropriate Metro projects under that category, that their intention was to keep it in sidewalks, but as they knew they were also trying to roll out a Safe Sidewalk Program.

A vote was called on Item No. 8. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Costello absent on personal business. MOTION 2014-0186 ADOPTED.

PURCHASING AND TABULATION OF BIDS

16. **HOUSTON FREIGHTLINER, INC** - \$70,339.00; **CHASTANG ENTERPRISES, INC d/b/a CHASTANG'S BAYOU CITY FORD** - \$718,560.00; **MCNEILUS FINANCIAL, INC d/b/a MCNEILUS TRUCK AND MANUFACTURING CO.** - \$513,785.00 and **TEXAN WASTE EQUIPMENT, INC d/b/a HEIL OF TEXAS** - \$106,216.00 for Refuse Trucks through the Interlocal Agreements for Cooperative Purchasing with Houston-Galveston Area Council and Texas Local Government Purchasing Cooperative (BuyBoard) for the Solid Waste Management Department \$1,408,900.00 - General Fund – was presented, moved by Council Member Gonzalez, seconded by Council Member Pennington.

Council Member Christi stated that as usual he would be voting no on this item, because they were diesel and not natural gas, to help solve the dilemma of transferring to a natural gas truck fleet he had planned, on March 27, 2014, a conference tying in the major municipalities to see how the infrastructure could be put in to get at least the large trucks on natural gas, that would include HISD, the Port of Houston, the County, City, Airport and Metro, that they were just starting to look at the infrastructure, and he was inviting public/private partnerships that would talk about the infrastructure that the City would not have to advance, that was the most delaying of the challenges of going to natural gas.

Mayor Parker stated that they appreciated Council Member Christi's interest in this issue, that as he was very well aware, it was the upfront infrastructure costs that were the challenge and as they rightly knew the best way to deal with that was to have the local public entities as a commitment market for the private sector to come in and actually build the infrastructure.

Council Member Davis asked what were the steps to moving forward, or acquiring or attracting private sector dollars for this, and Mayor Parker stated that this was something they were working on internally and Council Member Christi's gathering was his own, but they were all moving in the same direction, and as she laid it out, that was the challenge, it was a significant up front cost that the City did not want to bear, but if there were enough public fleets that would be interested in either providing a guaranteed market or combining investment in the infrastructure they might be able to make it happen, it did not hurt to have conversations on all fronts, anything that the administration did, they would of course bring through the TTI Committee and they would work with Council Member Christi as he got progress as well.

After further discussion, Council Member Pennington asked if Mayor Parker could ask somebody on her staff to make a report of where they were on that to know just what needed to be done to get where he thought everybody wanted to go, which was the greater use of natural gas.

Mayor Parker stated that she was happy to ask Mr. Andy Icken to present to the appropriate Council Committee, as Council Members knew they worked with Apache to build the present natural gas infrastructure for the City's fleet at the Airport, they were interested in moving in that direction and would love to have the private sector step up and build the infrastructure rather than the City having to invest in it.

A vote was called on Item No. 16. Council Member Christi voting no, balance voting aye. Council Member Costello absent on personal business. MOTION 2014-0187 ADOPTED.

RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES

17. RESOLUTION designating the **STARKWEATHER AREA** of the City of Houston as a historic district - **DISTRICT H - GONZALEZ** - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Costello absent on personal business. RESOLUTION 2014-0004 ADOPTED.
22. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing contract between the City of Houston and **TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS** to accept the amount of \$1,387,651.00 for use in connection with the Texas Homeless Housing and Services Program - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Costello absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2014-0164 ADOPTED.
24. ORDINANCE authorizing Interlocal Agreement between the City and **HOUSTON FORENSIC SCIENCE LGC, INC**; adopting by reference certain findings in the said agreement; authorizing certain transfers - Not to exceed \$21,377,794.00 - General Fund – was presented.

After discussion by Council Member Christi a vote was called on Item No. 24. Council Member Christi voting no, balance voting aye. Council Member Costello absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2014-0163 ADOPTED.

29. ORDINANCE appropriating \$8,422,000.00 out of CO 2013 Q Bond Project Fund, and authorizing contract between the City of Houston and **SCHNEIDER ELECTRIC BUILDINGS AMERICAS, INC f/k/a T.A.C. AMERICAS, INC** for Phase III Implementation of Energy Conservation Measures **DISTRICTS A - STARDIG; B - DAVIS; C - COHEN; D**

- BOYKINS; F - NGUYEN; H - GONZALEZ; I - GALLEGOS; J - LASTER and K – GREEN – was presented.

Council Member Christi stated that the efficiency audit was definitely needed, Fortune Magazine had Houston ranked behind Massachusetts, California, Washington and New York on energy use, there was some software called Energy Points and it took the BTU Kilowatt hours and converts it to an energy point, and hoped that the company they were giving the contract to use this software so they would not fall behind energy use.

Mayor Parker stated that there was more than one way to go exactly where Council Member Christi wanted to go and that was what they were trying to do, they had done energy efficiency audits, they had piloted in this building and 611 Walker and rather than doing that same intense work in every City facility among the things they were doing was taking what they had learned from the first buildings they had done and going ahead and making those adjustments, they thought they could make big gains and then come back with more refined, but there was more than one program that moved them in that direction, that she would be happy to ask the appropriate City Departments to update him on their progress.

A vote was called on Item No. 29. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Costello absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2014-0166 ADOPTED.

31. ORDINANCE appropriating \$67,000.00 out of Police Consolidated Construction Fund and awarding Construction Manager At Risk Contract to **MANHATTAN CONSTRUCTION COMPANY** for Southwest Police Station - **DISTRICT K - GREEN** All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Costello absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2014-0167 ADOPTED.
33. ORDINANCE finding and determining public convenience and necessity for the acquisition of real property interests in connection with the public improvement project known as the Sharpstown II Area Waterline Easement Replacement Project from Beechnut Street on the north, Bissonnet and Nairn Streets on the south, Fondren Road on the east, and Brae Acres Road on the west; authorizing the acquisition of fee simple title interest in or easement to 16 parcels of land required for the project and situated in the J.R. Black Survey, Abstract No. 134; in Harris County, Texas, by gift, dedication, purchase or the use of eminent domain and further authorizing payment of the costs of such purchases and/or eminent domain proceedings and associated costs for Relocation Assistance, Appraisal Fees, Title Policies/Services, Recording Fees, Court Costs, and expert witness fees in connection with the acquisition of Fee Simple Title interest in or easement to the 5 parcels of land required for the project - **DISTRICT J – LASTER** - was presented, and tagged by Council Member Laster.
36. ORDINANCE appropriating \$200,000.00 out of Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund; approving and authorizing Professional General Environmental, Asbestos and Lead Related Consulting Services Contract between the City of Houston and **ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS & MANAGEMENT SERVICES, INC** for Environmental Consulting Services – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Costello absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2014-0168 ADOPTED.
37. ORDINANCE appropriating \$1,000,000.00 out of Metro Projects Construction DDSRF as an additional appropriation; approving and authorizing first amendment to Professional Engineering Services Contract between the City of Houston and **PIERCE GOODWIN ALEXANDER & LINVILLE, INC** for Pre-Engineering of Street and Paving Improvements (Approved by Ordinance No. 2012-0246) – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none.

Council Member Costello absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2014-0169 ADOPTED.

38. ORDINANCE appropriating \$637,950.00 out of Metro Projects Construction DDSRF as an additional appropriation to Professional Engineering Services Contract between the City of Houston and **MIDTOWN ENGINEERS, LLC** for Silber Paving and Drainage IH-10 to Hartland (Approved by Ordinance No. 2013-0134); providing funding for CIP Cost Recovery relating to construction of facilities financed by the Metro Projects Construction DDSRF - **DISTRICT A - STARDIG** - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Costello absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2014-0170 ADOPTED.
41. ORDINANCE appropriating \$3,359,500.00 out of Metro Construction - Other, awarding contract to **TIKON GROUP, INC** for Safe Sidewalk Program; 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 services, CIP Cost Recovery, and contingencies relating to construction of facilities financed by Metro Construction - Other - **DISTRICTS D - BOYKINS and E - MARTIN** - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Costello absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2014-0171 ADOPTED.
42. ORDINANCE appropriating \$2,600,164.00 out of Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund; awarding contract to **PM CONSTRUCTION & REHAB, LLC** for Wastewater Collection System Rehabilitation and Renewal; 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 (4235-70) – was presented.

Council Member Davis stated that he wanted to acknowledge Item Numbers 36, 37, 38, 41 and 42, that he knew in the past he had been looking at the women minorities and small business and they hit it, the contractors had hit the goal, and on Number 41 they went beyond, that he spoke on it when they were not hitting the goal, and would thank the contractors for going out with a good faith estimate when they did hit their goal and thank OBO for monitoring.

A vote was called on Item No. 42. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Costello absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2014-0172 ADOPTED.

43. ORDINANCE appropriating \$3,209,282.00 out of Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund; awarding contract to **PM CONSTRUCTION & REHAB, LLC** for Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation by Sliplining and Pipe Bursting Methods; setting a deadline for the bidder's execution of the contract and delivery of all bonds, insurance, and other required contract documents to the City; holding the bidder in default if it fails to meet the deadlines; providing funding for engineering and testing, and contingencies relating to construction of facilities financed by the Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund (4257-141) - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Costello absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2014-0173 ADOPTED.
44. ORDINANCE appropriating \$2,521,397.00 out of Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund; awarding contract to **REPIPE CONSTRUCTION, LLC dba 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 (4258-59) - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Costello absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2014-0174 ADOPTED.

46. ORDINANCE appropriating \$2,951,700.00 out of Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund, awarding contract to **DCE CONSTRUCTION, INC** for Water Line Replacement in Sharpstown Area; setting a deadline for the bidder's execution of the contract and delivery of all bonds, insurance, and other require 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, and contingencies relating to construction of facilities financed by the Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund - **DISTRICT J – LASTER** - was presented, and tagged by Council Member Laster.

NON CONSENT AGENDA – NUMBER 48

PURCHASING AND TABULATION OF BIDS

48. RECOMMENDATION from Purchasing Agent to make the following awards for Telephone Equipment and Accessories for the Houston Information Technology Services - \$546,030.43 Central Service Revolving Fund:
GRAYBAR - \$377,725.88
STARTECHTEL.COM - \$60,295.00
SYNERGY TELCOM, INC - \$95,934.55

COUNCIL DRAW LOTS

GROUP II, ITEM NOS. 21 and 34; Group VIII, Item NOS. 124, 128 and 165 due to receiving identical bids from **STARTECHTEL.COM** and **SYNERGY TELCOM, INC** in the amount of \$12,075.00 – was presented.

Mayor Parker stated that this was the first time they had done this with the new Council, that they had to offer things on a low bid basis and had to sort that out and rather than doing that at the administrative level, they did it in front of everybody and whoever was to Ms. Russell's right got to make somebody mad.

Council Member Laster drew Synergy Telcom, Inc. for Group II.

Council Member Laster drew Startechtel.Com for Group VIII.

Council Member Gonzalez moved to adopt the recommendation, including the awards drawn, seconded by Council Member Bradford. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Costello absent on personal business. MOTION 2014-0188 ADOPTED. _

MATTERS HELD - NUMBERS 49 and 49A

49. ORDINANCE appropriating \$4,666,140.16 out of Equipment Acquisition Consolidated Fund and \$1,191,724.89 out of Reimbursement Equipment/Projects Fund for the purchase of Firefighting Trucks for the Houston Fire Department – **(This was Item 17 on Agenda of February 20, 2014, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBER COSTELLO)** - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Costello absent on personal business. ORDINANCE 2014-0175 ADOPTED.

49a. MOTION by Council Member Gonzalez/Seconded by Council Member Bradford to award to **METRO FIRE APPARATUS SPECIALISTS, INC** - \$3,012,365.05 and **TYLER MOTOR COMPANY, INC d/b/a HALL VOLVO GMC** - \$2,845,500.00 for Firefighting Trucks through the Interlocal Agreement for Cooperative Purchasing with Houston-Galveston Area Council for the Houston Fire Department – **(This was Item 17A on Agenda of February 20, 2014, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBER COSTELLO)** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Costello absent on personal business. MOTION 2014-0189 ADOPTED.

MATTERS TO BE PRESENTED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Council Member Bradford stated that public safety had to be the number one priority in their City, whether they needed 1,000 more police officers, or 500 more firefighters, or both, these personnel performed mission critical duties, just as they were pondering the issue of adequate funding for the Houston Fire Department today, tomorrow what would be the next funding crisis, with a \$5 billion operating budget, with Texas and Houston public officials inviting citizens and businesses to relocate to Houston, how could they find it acceptable for their Fire Chief to make a public declaration that houses and buildings were going to burn longer in their City and that was the message that was heard across America.

Council Member Boykins announced events he attended or would be attending; and stated that he wanted to ask the City of Houston to be in prayer for a good friend of theirs, who suffered a stroke, Mr. Hank Neal, Minister of Music at Wheeler Avenue Baptist Church; that he wanted to congratulate Reverend Bill Lawson and Ms. Audrey Lawson for being married 60 years; that he wanted them to continue to keep their good friend, Mr. Tony Morrison, in their prayers as he continued to battle his illness.

Council Member Martin announced events he attended or would be attending.

Mayor Parker stated that Go Texan Day would be on Friday, and knew that Council Member Boykins was going to be on the trail ride.

Council Member Laster announced events he attended or would be attending.

Council Member Gonzalez stated that he wanted to recognize Mr. Mark Reed, who was being referred by many as the new guy at the Parking Enforcement Division, that after a number of red flags were raised after his health screening he shed 95 pounds, that he wanted to congratulate him on his success and thanked him for being a role model; announced events he attended or would be attending; and he wanted to give his condolences to the family of former member of the Houston Police Department, Mr. Dana Tweedie, who passed away this past weekend in a motorcycle accident in Galveston, unfortunately, it was possible that alcohol was involved on the part of the driver, that his wife, Linda Tweedie, was also with him and was in critical condition, that Linda is a member of the Houston Police Department.

Council Member Cohen announced events he attended or would be attending. Council Member Gonzalez absent.

Council Member Pennington announced events he attended or would be attending; that he thought there was a difference of interest between the pension trustees and the people who were actually doing the work, if they looked at the graphs the more the cost of the pensions went up the less money that was available to pay the current employees, and he certainly agreed with Council Member Bradford that public safety was their number one duty, and they spent about two thirds of the General Fund Budget for that, and he thought everybody was

happy to do that and felt it was a worthwhile thing to do, they had a problem that needed to be resolved and he did not think, unless the firemen came to the table, that they were going to be able to resolve that, the other two unions had done that or were trying to do what they could to help resolve it, that bankruptcy was not an answer to the pension problem because the bankruptcy judge had tentatively allocated only a 30% recovery to the holders of pension in Detroit, cutting the bond holders to about the same percentage, that the only way out of this thing for the pension trustees was to come to the table and to agree to a sustainable payout, something that the City could pay out over time, he did not think they had any legal remedies that were available to them that would bring them a larger return, and it would also make more money available to the current employees and current firemen who were working, and providing their public safety and first responder protection.

Council Member Green announced events he attended or would be attending; and stated that he wanted to wish Council Member Kubosh a Happy Birthday.

Council Member Davis announced events he attended or would be attending. Council Member Gonzalez absent.

Council Member Gallegos announced events he attended or would be attending; and stated that they would like to congratulate El Centro de Corazon, who was celebrating 20 years of service in the East End, they provided a comprehensive range of healthcare services for children, adults and families, they were founded in June 1994 by Ms. Mary Jo May, as a community based social service organization. Council Members Boykins and Gonzalez absent.

Council Member Stardig announced events she attended or would be attending; and stated that she wanted to send her condolences to Mr. Dana Tweedie's family and the HPD family, that she took a moment to ride to Galveston and check on Ms. Linda Tweedie, that she was in intensive care, that their prayers went out to the Tweedie Family and Linda Tweedie.

Council Member Kubosh stated that he wanted to thank Council Member Green for the Happy Birthday wish, that he tells his Mom every year that it was her birthing day; that he really enjoyed being a City Council Member for about the last 50 days and nights, that it had been a very enjoyable time, but also a very stressful time, in lieu of the recent developments about the firemen and reducing their fire staff, that he had been to CIP meetings and just about everyone had been in favor of the vote they made, the citizens, but yet somehow or another he still struggled with this for public safety sake, and would ask the Mayor to make sure their City was safe and do whatever she had to to make sure that the response times were not too long, and that public safety, he was sure, was at the front of her mind, as it was his.

Mayor Parker stated that she appreciated his raising the issue, this was a hard issue but a little bit disingenuous to talk about the \$5 billion budget because only about \$2 billion was available to run the City, \$3 billion, as Council Members knew, was in Enterprise Funds, the Airport, the Water Sewer System and Convention, not available to do anything else with, so it was \$2 billion, and of that \$2 billion, two thirds of it went to public safety, there was no question about the City of Houston's commitment to public safety, that one third by itself went to the Police Department when they added Municipal Courts and 9-1-1, and the Fire Department was the other third, that HFDs budget was not cut, not a single firefighter had been laid off, in fact Council last year increased the Fire Department Budget, year over year, what they did was took their increased budget and blew through it by \$10.5 million, some of that was unexpected emergency situations, so they said okay, they would take from other departments, libraries and parks came from the same pot, and they would cover those unexpected emergencies, because they all shared that as a City, that was \$2 million of the \$10.5 million and the remaining \$8.5 million was massive overtime that they did not budget for and did not predict, so there was a command staff shakeup and a reduction in the size of the command staff, desk firefighters

were put back in the field, some of them very unhappy about that, that Police and Fire and their own finance offices and finance directors, Mr. Kelley Dowe, Finance Department, and his team stepped in and took over, there were demotions and a shakeup in the finance part, so they could get better control of the finances, again no firefighters were laid off and today nothing had been changed expect that, that seven transport units, not first responders, were taken out of service, they had only been in service since July and there was no impact from any of those steps on emergency first response, because they actually had more firefighters available because of the shakeups that they had done, that the Chief also stopped guaranteed holiday leave under his emergency powers, again, none of that impacted their ability to respond, that going forward they were going to have to see what happens, there was no guarantee that they were going to have to implement any of this, depending on whether firefighters work to protect public safety but helping them smooth vacations out over time, that was all they were asking for, to be able to predict, the other thing they were doing was cracking down on no shows, if they were going to call in sick, they wanted to tell them why they were not showing up, they had minimum staffing, but no cap on the people who could take off, they were between a rock and a hard place, so nothing that had been done so far, or anything, would impact first response for public safety, that going forward they hoped to continue to work with the department to adjust to these issues, that she hoped to keep Council informed each time they took another step.

Council Member Nguyen announced events he attended or would be attending; and stated that he and Council Member Laster and their staffs worked over the weekend to hand out flyers and engage neighbors in neighborhoods around the Bellaire construction project to help make them more aware of the danger of crossing the street illegally, they met with HPD and Public Works this week to discuss the project and they had been working to make the reconstruction project safer for the community, that HPD had stepped up enforcement in the area and both Public Works and HPD had added speed devices and other signage to assist pedestrians, that he wanted to thank HPD and Public Works for working with them to help protect their community and would remind the community to be extra cautious driving around the construction zones and to please use the designated crosswalks; and he wanted to say Happy Birthday to Fats Domino and Johnny Cash.

Council Member Christi announced events he attended or would be attending.

Council Member Robinson announced events he attended or would be attending, and stated that on the issues of street and drainage, it had been very encouraging and thought with regard to the Mayor's executive order and the Complete Streets Initiative they were hearing great things as well, that Mr. Gary Norman, Public Works, was working very nicely with his office in terms of providing information that helped them understand where compliance with the Complete Streets Initiative was going forward.

Mayor Parker stated that she wanted to thank Council Member Robinson for mentioning Complete Streets, that because it was a new initiative it was a culture change within Public Works and in their contracting community, that she hoped he would stay on top of it because they did not want to backslide, they only implement Complete Streets as they redid streets and moved into the future, so it was not going to have a transformative effect overnight, but they had to start the ball rolling and keep it rolling.

Council Member Bradford stated that the Houston Fire Department Ceremony, that honors their HFD Members who had passed away in the line of duty, as well as members who had passed away off duty and retirees, it would be held on Saturday, March 1, 2014 at 4:00 p.m. at the Houston Firefighters Memorial Garden, 4224 Innerwood North Parkway, off of JFK Boulevard; that the City of Houston had a \$5 billion operating budget, that sure some of the money went into Enterprise and General Funds, but were all public dollars, that he did not care what kind of label they put on them, Enterprise or Operating Funds, and knew there were laws

that regulated how those funds had to be spent, but at the end of the day the City of Houston had a \$5 billion operating budget and those were public funds.

Mayor Parker stated that she wanted to thank Council Member Bradford for referencing the Firefighters Memorial, she knew that they both attended every year, and she unfortunately, would be out of town this weekend, but would encourage all Council Members to attend if they were in town.

Council Member Boykins stated that it was always good to see Ms. Chris Lindsey in the audience; and wanted to publicly thank Ms. Carolyn Lacey for taking four of his staffers to lunch and spend some time with them and mentor them; that he wanted to encourage them to come out to the Rodeo, that for all those who needed training to ride a horse, he had a couple of horses that they could practice with; that he wanted to congratulate Mr. Joe Kelley, who was now President of Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, that as a member of HLSR Foundation Board he had an opportunity for many years to pass out scholarships around the State to deserving kids . Council Member Davis absent.

Mayor Parker stated that there was a carriage for those Council Members who did not want to be on a horse. Council Member Davis absent.

Council Member Gonzalez stated that he wanted to recognize Lone Star College students who were present in the audience, and asked that they stand and be recognized. Council Members Davis and Martin absent.

Council Member Stardig stated that her colleague to her left made a comment that all he heard was that the resolution was the right thing, that it was all about money, the bottom line, that she did not hear that, she heard concerns about public safety, concerns about their community safety, that she had questions based on the Mayor's comments this morning, how many more FTEs had gone into service based on the shakeup, what was the response time, she still did not have that answer, they had Chief Garrison at Budget and Fiscal Affairs Committee, what was the actual impact, and he said he could not give them impact unless they had specific routes, there was technology out there that she thought they needed to be looking into, if they had not already, that would give them that information, that she thought they should act as professionals and state the facts and was asking both sides to state the facts, and not stir up emotions any more than they already were, if she could continue to get more information as they got it, she would appreciate that. Council Members Davis, Martin and Boykins.

Mayor Parker stated that the issue of response time, obviously they were going to track responsive time very closely and would repeat again that they had not done anything that they believed would affect response time to date, in fact they thought they shored up response time, but as they went, yes, they monitored response time on a regular basis and did not know that she would be able to give them a daily report, but as they tracked it they would report back regularly to Council, that was a commitment. Council Members Davis, Martin and Boykins

Council Member Stardig stated that she recognized that they had the memorial service, and it had been a tough year for everyone, that this was going to be a very hard service on Saturday and encouraged all of her colleagues to be there to show support for the families and the Fire Department in general. Council Members Davis, Martin and Boykins absent.

Council Member Nguyen stated that Mr. Chris Hines, a bright and ambitious young man, was present in the audience, and chose to shadow a freshman Council Member and so he was gloating. Council Members Davis and Martin absent.

There being no further business before Council, the City Council adjourned at 10:25 a.m. Council Member Costello absent on personal business. Council Members Davis and Martin absent.

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

MINUTES READ AND APPROVED

/S/Anna Russell

Anna Russell, City Secretary