

City Council Chamber, City Hall, Tuesday, March 21, 2000

A Regular Meeting of the Houston City Council was held at 1:30 p. m. Tuesday, March 21, 2000, with Mayor Lee P. Brown presiding and with Council Members Bruce Tatro, Carol M. Galloway, Mark Goldberg, Rob Todd, Mark A. Ellis, Bert Keller, Gabriel Vasquez, John E. Castillo, Annise D. Parker, Gordon Quan, Orlando Sanchez and Chris Bell; Mr. Paul Bibler, Senior Counsel, City Attorney's Office, Mr. Jesse Cantu, Director, Citizens Assistance and Ms. Martha Stein, Agenda Director present. Council Member Jew Don Boney, Jr. absent due to being ill. Council Member Carroll G. Robinson out of city on city business.

At 2:02 p.m. Mayor Brown recognized Council Member Sanchez for a presentation.

Council Member Sanchez stated that they were joined by Mr. Jarek Garlinski and Ms. Catherine Donahue-Weill from the Awty International School which was celebrating a world celebration of the French Language and were preparing to celebrate the Awty International Festival which would take place April 18 – 20, 2000, that they had students present that would say a few words to Council and had left a gift on each Council Members Desk that he believed was worth less than \$50.00 and introduced the headmaster of the school Mr. Jarek Garlinski.

Mr. Jarek Garlinski thanked Mayor Brown and Council for granting them a few minutes of their valuable time and stated that he was from BRITAIN and of Polish and Irish extraction and headmaster of the Awty International School; that the Awty International School was Houston's only international school and just about every major U.S. City now had an international school and the presence of such schools was proof of two things, the large number of foreign professionals working in the United States and the growing realization by thoughtful Americans that good education must embrace wider horizons, that Awty indeed embraced such wider horizons and they had 976 students in grades pre kindergarten through twelfth and those students came from over 45 different countries, that their larger group were Americans who represented 40% of their enrollment, that their second largest group at 30% were French since Awty was also a French School, that the remaining 40 plus nationalities made up the other 30% of the school, that their French section students prepared for the French Baccalaureate which was the French High School graduation examination, that their International Section students prepared for the International Baccalaureate which was the most difficult high school program available currently in the United states, that the faculty of the school was made up of nationals from almost 20 different countries, that some semesters they taught as many as 10 languages, that the presence of Awty in Houston had encouraged major international corporations to locate significant North American Operations and even headquarters in the Houston area, that they believed that they were a powerful source for good and international understanding in Houston and hoped that they would support them and introduced the head of the French section Ms. Donahue-Weill, and invited the students present to address Council in each of the languages that they were fluent in.

At 2:15 p.m. Mayor Brown called to order the meeting of the City Council, and Council Member Galloway invited Reverend Edward Collins, Pastor of Sweet Home Baptist Church to offer the prayer and Council Member Galloway led everyone in the pledge of allegiance.

At 2:17 p.m. Mayor Brown requested the City Secretary to call the roll. Council Member Boney absent due to being ill. Council Member Carroll G. Robinson out of city on city business. Council Member Castillo absent.

Council Members Quan and Vasquez moved that the minutes of the preceding meeting be adopted. Council Member Boney absent due to being ill. Council Member Robinson out of city on city business. Council Member Castillo absent.

At 2:18 p.m. Mayor Brown requested the City Secretary to call the list of speakers.

Mr./Coach R. J. Bobby Taylor, 3107 Sumpter, Houston, Texas 77028 FA20234511 had reserved time to speak, but was not present when his name was called. Council Members Galloway, Castillo and Sanchez absent.

Mr. Steven Williams, no address, no phone had reserved time to speak, but was not present when his name was called. Council Members Galloway, Castillo and Sanchez absent.

Mr. Robert Gauss, 1324 Wakefield, Houston, Texas 77018 (713-228-1168) had reserved time to speak, but was not present when his name was called. Council Members Galloway, Castillo and Sanchez absent.

Mr. Rick Jordan, 113111 Sage Hill, Houston, Texas 77089 (281-381-0971) appeared and stated that he had been present about a month ago about the mobile units and the dumping of the water, that when he left the Council Meeting he felt that everybody in the Council sort of wanted to help, but he did not know because since that point he had talked to the Health Department and they told him that he would still have to dump every single day instead of letting them do it once a week or once a month, that they told him that there was a commissary that was close to his unit down by the new courthouse and they never had let him use it before, that they gave him a number which he called and asked how much would it cost to use it for a year and they told him it was \$100 per week and he stated he wanted it for a year and they said it was still \$100 per week so they had gone from \$200 per year to \$5,000 per year, that they were not the only ones he called, he called two or three and was told the same thing, so really they just gave them a license to steal, and he wondered if there was anything that could possibly be done, that the commissaries went from \$200 per year to \$5,000 per year, that when he talked to the Health Department they told him that whenever they did the ordinance that the commissaries and mobile unit operators were present and when he asked which ones he was told that the mobile units that the commissaries owned were present, that nobody else was notified at all.

Council Member Todd moved to suspend the rules to hear from Ms. Gloria Moreno at this time, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Boney absent due to being ill. Council Member Robinson out of city on city business. Council Members Galloway, Castillo and Sanchez absent. MOTION 2000-394 ADOPTED.

Ms. Gloria Moreno, Health and Human Services Department, stated that as they discussed the last time Mr. Jordan was present, this was a requirement that had always been in the food ordinance, that it was not anything new, that they had required mobile

food units to be moved regularly throughout, that what happened in the latest ordinance that was just enacted February 13, 2000 was that now the mobile units and commissaries had to track their actual visits, that it gave them an opportunity to make sure that when the mobile unit permit holders came back for renewal they could verify that in fact they were following the regulations that had always been there, that in the past they never had that documentation on vehicles available, that regarding the cost that the commissaries visits would require that was not really controlled by the Health Department at all, that they were basically private sector entities out there who ran commissaries and they had no response regarding that other than to say that commissaries were contacted during the process and the ordinance draft was available on the Internet and there were public meetings held to go through the proposed changes and the proposed changes were reviewed for a significant period of time prior to approval by the City Council so there was due notice made available, that the final position was that just as all the other mobile unit food permit holders Mr. Jordon would be required to move his units on a daily basis and maintain tracking of that, that was what they were requiring of everyone and they tried to work with Mr. Jordon to make an exception or a waiver to it, but unfortunately that was not possible given that the current operation was in front of a Home Depot which did not have a commissary there on site, that if he was at a place where there was a commissary on site they were willing to waive the daily requirement because he would be able to dispose of all of the waste there at that location, so unfortunately there was nothing to do to accommodate Mr. Jordon's concerns, that they reviewed it and looked at it in every which way they could, but just as all permit holders had to take their units each day Mr. Jordon would also as well. Council Members Galloway and Sanchez absent.

Mayor Brown stated he hoped that answered Mr. Jordon's question on the existing ordinance, that there was not much that could be done for him. Council Members Galloway and Sanchez absent.

Upon questions by Council Member Quan, Ms. Moreno stated that the way the units were set up the tanks were not separate compartments they were part of the unit itself and a lot of the times they had to unplug the contraption to dispose of the waste, that the other thing was that it was not just a gallon of water, that they were looking at gallons of water a day, that if somebody was operating it regularly the number of times they would wash their hands it was a significant amount of not just liquid but the grease and everything else that had to be disposed of, that the unit itself kept a record as well as the commissary, so they were able to track that in fact they had made the requisite visits to commissaries, that the commissaries were privately owned and they set their own rates, that it was not in the Health Departments purview at all to determine what their rates were, that in fact when they were reviewing it that was a question that came up but that again was not something that they had any control over, that as far as the public commissaries, after review, there were over 10 public ones available, but there were a lot more commissaries that were licensed as commissaries, that those were places like Sams, Fiesta's and a lot of stores where they had commissary capabilities as well as some companies that basically provided mobile units which were also approved so there were a lot of commissaries around but as far as open public kind of commissaries she would say about 10, that if Mr. Jordon went to Sam's or Fiesta he could get the certificate that he came in daily. Council Member Sanchez absent.

Council Member Castillo stated that the whole reason for this was the unsafe conditions of a lot of the mobile food units that were never thoroughly cleaned up day

after day, that there was a long history that led to the development of the food ordinance, that the Health Department bent over backwards to find the easiest way to take care of the situation, that most everybody that was serious about being in the business made arrangements to go to a commissary that was licenses and permitted and have had no trouble, that the others that did not want to make that investment simply got out of the business. Council Member Sanchez absent.

Mayor Brown stated that Mr. Jordon heard that there was nothing under the existing laws of the City to accommodate his concerns but thanked him for coming anyway. Council Member Sanchez absent.

Ms. Deborah Allen, 7809 Bellfort, No. 227, Houston, Texas 77071 (no phone) had reserved time to speak, but was not present when her name was called. Council Member Sanchez absent.

Ms. Rega Richardson-Waggett, 6038 Rose, Houston, Texas 77007 (713-863-9253) appeared and stated that she was a social worker and attorney by profession, that she was present as a mother of two children but appealed to them as a mother concerned for all the children of the City, that she worked with children in various places in Houston, juvenile centers, refugee centers and soup kitchens, that the common need for those children was nourishment, nourishment for their minds and bodies, that when that need was fulfilled they had well fed children to help create and sustain a well fed society, that history had shown that children who did not have access to libraries and other positive activities would turn to other measures such as drugs and crimes, that she needed their help and support to foster the empowerment of their children's minds, that Mayor Brown's and Houston Public Library Power Card Program was a great start toward realizing Mayor Brown's vision of putting a library card in the hand of every child, that the touchstone of the program was to stimulate the children's interest in using the public libraries, however parking was an underlying obstacle impeding the use of the Power Card, that the cost of parking to use the downtown library was astronomical, that many families did not use the facility even though it was the best library resource in the City simply because they could not afford to park there, that one women told her that she would drop her children off in front of the library and circle around until they came out, that another women from the center for disadvantaged children told how she parked at a meter while she went into the library with her children and upon returning she found her car towed because she was five minutes too late, that the fee for retrieving her car was \$150, that she proposed as a natural next step in cultivating the Power Card Program that they institute measures to provide free parking for the families with children when they use the downtown library, that to think of it as preventative care, that the opportunity for all the children to visit a public library was essential, that the alternative was grim, that economically they knew that it cost thousands of dollars to fight crime, incarcerate and to attempt to rehabilitate, that library parking fees would be a small fraction of those costs, that poor or rich all children should be allowed to use the libraries, that validating parking tickets for children who checked out books from the library was easy, building detention centers was not, that present in Council with her was Mr. Michael Goldberg, Deputy Director of the Read Commission and also families, parents, grandparents, concerned citizens, teachers, educators and children and asked for them to stand. Council Members Castillo and Sanchez absent.

Council Member Todd asked Ms. Richardson-Waggett if her proposal was that if a person had a minor child along that was when it would apply, not adult children but minor children, and Ms. Richardson-Waggett stated yes, that she realized that parking was a premium in the downtown area, but she would propose that they have a two hour limit, so that the parent would have to be with the child, go in with the child, and upon leaving they would have to show that they checked out books and then the parking ticket would be validated, that a two hour limit would be acceptable, then they would not have people that would abuse it, and Council Member Todd stated that it was a pretty intriguing idea and would like to recommend that they look into it and see what the fiscal impact would be and if it was feasible he would agree that it would be the next logical step for the program to be instituted. Council Members Castillo and Sanchez absent.

Upon questions by Council Members Bell and Keller, Ms. Richardson-Waggett stated that she had an opportunity to speak with a representative of the library, Mr. Patrick Jones, manager of Youth Services, that he was very interested in the issue as well and supported it, that as to financially they were not willing to make that sort of commitment to her, but wanted to work on it, that she had librarians say that they felt that the patronage to the library would increase by 25 – 30% if they had something like that, that all hours were critical to facilitate the need, that during the afternoon they had pre school children and also children during the day because of spring vacation or summer breaks, that all hours as long as it was a two hour cap which would be feasible, that maybe two different slots, to have a four hour stint in the morning to midmorning and then something in the afternoon to evening, that during the weekends the metered parking was free so she was just talking about during the week. Council Members Castillo and Sanchez absent.

Mayor Brown stated that Ms. Richardson-Waggett had mentioned that one of her friends had his or her car towed away because they were five minutes over at a meter, that it must have been some other sign of tow away zone because they did not tow cars away for just being five minutes over the meter, they usually received a citation; and secondly they had a library strategic master plan that also recognized the limitation of the parking and there was a recognition and desire to do something about it, that he would ask the librarian along with the Finance and Administration Director to take a look at it, not only in terms of available space, but what impact it would have on those who came to pay and check out their books, but also what fiscal impact it would have and they would get back to her on it. Council Members Castillo and Sanchez absent.

Ms. Leona M. Ledet, 243 Dipping Ln., Houston, Texas 77076 (713-692-9059) appeared and stated that she was present about her lot that the City cut when they needed to cut another lot, that it was at 1716 Granger and the neighbors next door had called in on 1718 Granger and they cut 1716 and she had pictures which were handed to Mayor Brown. Council Members Quan and Sanchez absent.

Mr. Brown asked if Ms. Ledet's concern was that they got the wrong location and Ms. Ledet stated yes, that they cut the wrong lot, and Mayor Brown stated that Mr. Simpson was present in Council Chambers and would meet with her to see what could be done to address her concerns and take care of the problem. Council Members Quan and Sanchez absent.

Mr. Charles Bingham, 2004 Baldwin, Houston, Texas 77002 (713-759-0929) appeared and presented information to members of Council and stated that he would like to extend his appreciation toward the lady who spoke about the library, that Mayor Brown's educational program was growing and he had a copy of a statement that was made in reference to it and was really very pleased as to how Mayor Brown was establishing himself, and the Council Members too, toward education because that was the key to a greater society and community growth. Council Member Sanchez absent.

Mayor Brown stated he appreciated Mr. Bingham being present and sharing his viewpoints and agreed with him; that from his handout his concern was for the missing person they did not have a record of a missing person report being filed, but Assistant Police Chief Richardson would meet with him and take all the necessary information to try to run it down and see what happened. Council Members Todd and Sanchez absent.

Mr. Paul Duplechain, 723 Main, Suite 916, Houston, Texas 77002 (713-228-4600) appeared and stated that he was the outside counsel for the Diocese of Galveston Houston and Incarnate Word Academy in this issue, that they had been informed that there was a club going in that had been approved by the City called Little Woodrow's, that the County Attorney had obtained a temporary restraining order and was moving to strike the license of that entity, that they were very surprised to find when they came back to the City to find out about it that Article 3-2 of the City Code basically said that within 300 feet of any public school, public hospital or church no one was allowed to sell liquor or obtain a license, that when they came back to the City they were informed in fact that they were required to do it by State statute and they were present today to request that the City Council make the ordinance right, that there were no grounds or rationale to allow a public school to be treated differently from any school, whether it was religious, charter or private, that Awty School had no protection, the Shlenker at Temple Beth Israel had no protection, the Presbyterian School had no protection, that all the private and religious schools of the City were left out of the loop and there was no reason for them to do so, that there was nothing in the statute of the State which required them to in effect discriminate against religious or private schools, that in fact Governor Bush ran into it with the City of Birney and a Catholic Church which they wanted to make historic in that town, that they passed in the last legislature a corrective law that said any time a government, including a city, passed a law which unduly burdened religion the city might take corrective actions with 60 days notice to correct it, that they would be coming to Council with more formal application and also under the charter of a 1983 claim to put them on notice to please correct it, that it was a very simple solution that Article 3-2 be revised to include any school whether public, private, charter or religious. Council Members Todd and Sanchez absent.

Mayor Brown stated it was his understanding that the local ordinance was superceded by State law on this, and Mr. Bibler stated that it was more than that, that the City did not issue alcoholic beverage licenses, the State did and ever since the end of prohibition the State laws had been very restrictive on what cities could and could not do, that the ordinance was an expressly authorized provision under Section 109.33 of the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Code, that he had explained that to the attorney for the diocese, that the State law protected, as Mr. Duplechain said, public school, public hospitals and churches, that it had always been that way and there was an Attorney General's opinion that public school included tax supported schools for those purposes but from what they understood that particular school was not tax supported, and

Mr. Duplechain stated that it was contained in 109.33E that said that any governmental entity may allow variance to regulation if the regulation did not serve its intended purpose, that the City said that the intended purpose was to have a special set of rules for public schools over religious schools then that was their intended purpose but obviously it gave rise to a 1983 claim against the City, that the law plus Governor Bush's law of last summer specifically stated that local municipalities could correct ordinances to override anything and that overrides special statutes as the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Code was, so the enabling legislation was before them and granted it was a new law from 1999 passed by the State Legislature that allowed them to do those sort of things. Council Members Todd and Sanchez absent.

Council Member Castillo stated that he could see where Mr. Duplechain would interpret the law in that way, because it did allow a solution, but the solution was as facile as it seemed and did not believe that the liquor lobby in the State would abandon what control it had over the regulation of alcoholic beverages, he wished that it were so because it would be as simple as asking the Legal Department to draft it, and really believed, as he expressed to the Bishop, that the only real remedy would be for the diocese to go to Federal Court and claim unequal protect for its parochial schools as well as the other privately supported schools, that the statute protected tax supported institutions but not others and that really was the crux of the issue, and asked Mr. Bibler to finish with his explanation. Council Members Tatro, Todd and Sanchez absent.

Mr. Bibler stated he concurred with everything he said, and had two recent telephone conversations with the staff counsel for the diocese and they did not discuss the State law and he was unfamiliar with it and would be glad to take a look at, that he was really disappointed that they would send someone else down to Council when they would not have brought it up to him in their private conversation with them where he was trying to work with them on the issue. Council Members Tatro, Todd and Sanchez absent.

Council Member Keller asked Mr. Duplechain if they had a meeting with the owners of the property or the managers or owners of the proposed establishment, Woodrow's, and Mr. Duplechain stated that the meeting that they had was short and informal at the Commissioners Court at which time they said they intended to do it and intended to get their license and would be happy to sue the County if the County stood in their way, and the County Commissioners Court did not take that particularly kindly and had moved to obtain a restraining order on the issuance of it. Council Member Sanchez absent.

Mr. R. S. Bill, 5518 Nightingale, Houston, Texas 77017 (713-645-3804) had reserved time to speak, but was not present when his name was called. Council Member Sanchez absent.

Ms. Susan Smith, 3223 Ashton Park, Houston, Texas 77082 (281-493-6650) appeared and stated that she was present to make suggestions for the improvement of the customer service of the utility department perceived by the citizens of Houston as it related to sewage backup that affected their homes, that most of the Council Members had received several e-mails from her regarding the incident at her home March 10 through 13, that on the morning of March 10 after they showered they noticed that there was sewage backing up into their sunken tub, that being a responsible home owner she called a plumber and met him at her house at 3:00 p.m. and he discovered that it was not her sewer line but that the City line was backed up in her backyard, that she had a

manhole in her backyard and they took the top of and the water and sewage was all the way up to the top, that she immediately called the City and notified them of the blockage hoping that she would get a response in a timely manner, that she went door to door and asked her neighbors if they had any problems and some of them also had sewage in their tubs and slow toilets and so forth, but she was probably most effected because she was nearest the blockage, that same day her backdoor neighbor had a plumber out who also said it was the City line that was backed up, that after a frustrating Friday night and frustrating weekend of trying to get some idea of when the utility department would come out and clear the blockage she resorted to multiple e-mails to most of the Council Members and many other people who worked for the City of Houston, that after that repeated phone calls started and she felt that she had to become a pest in order to get sewage cleaned out of her home and backyard, that her backyard was flooded with Houston's finest sewage, human feces and everything else they find down a sewer, it was also in her house, that she had a sunken tub that was about 12 inches full of sewage, that they could not live in their house for 3 nights, and she and her children had to leave the house and go to neighbors homes, then she was told she had to hang around and wait for the City to come so she had to hang around the stinky house which she could not live in and wait for the City, that it was not until Saturday night around 9:00 p.m. that an inspector even bothered to show up, that he showed up, looked at the mess, and said they would be out first thing Sunday morning to clean up and unblock the sewage, that she thought she was going to have relief, but little did she know that she still would not have any relief from it, that it became a full time job for her, that Sunday she waited in the stinky house and no one came, that she made multiple calls and kept calling the customer service center and got no response, that they could not tell her anything because they did not know anything and her house was slowing being ruined by stinking and ruining the tile in her tub and her backyard, that she felt she was alone in the battle against the City, that the only person at customer service that was of any help was Mr. Samuels because he was a little sympathetic about it, and she thought that the City needed to have a policy that no one should have sewage in their home for more than 24 hours, that there needed to be enough personnel in the utility department, that Al Haines office was very responsive to her and Mike Howard of Bert Keller's was on the phone calling people to get her some relief, and Gary Oradat had certainly taken it on as a project to try to solve why someone had to sit for 4 days with sewage in their home.

Council Member Keller moved to suspend the rules to hear from Mr. Gary Oradat at this time, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Boney absent due to being ill. Council Member Robinson out of city on city business. Council Member Sanchez absent. MOTION 2000-395 ADOPTED.

Mr. Gary Oradat, Public Works and Engineering Department stated that he received Ms. Smith's e-mails on Monday morning when he got to work and went out into the field with Mr. Millage, the Senior Assistant Director of Utility Maintenance and conducted a site investigation, that they were able to clear the blockage Monday morning and had already sodded most of her backyard that was impacted by the overflow and put down top soil and had a little more work to do hopefully this week, that as far as what happened simply put the dispatch office of utility maintenance dropped the ball, that there was no easy way to put it or no excuse they just flat did not perform, that what he was doing, he talked to the customer response center and starting today whenever there was sewage in the home they were to call him directly, they would make two phone calls one to the central operations section of utility maintenance and the other to him either by cell phone or his

home and he would take it from there as well, that the utilities position was that the two number one concerns were (1) sewage in a house and (2) home out of water and they were going to respond to those regardless of what day or what time of the day it was, that the person responsible for this would be accountable for their actions.

Upon further discussion, Council Member Ellis stated that there seemed to be in District G, F and H, constituents complaints of sewage problems backing up and asked if there was an unusually large amount of complaints at this time, and Mr. Oradat stated yes, that they had had more than the normal influx of phone calls on the sanitary sewer problems, the blockage of lines, that some of the older portions of Houston just had an old infrastructure that needed to be replaced, and Council Member Tatro stated that Mr. Oradat had stated that they dropped the ball, and Mr. Oradat said yes, that the customer response center took the call from Ms. Smith and did exactly what they were supposed to do, they contacted the central operations section of utility maintenance and once it got there the dispatcher did not send a crew out to her home as he should have, that there were crews available, and Council Member Tatro asked if in the services maintenance division of the public utilities department had the number of people on the ground doing repairs decreased over the last 3 to 4 years, and Mr. Oradat stated yes, that since 1996 they had a decrease in their utility worker I through IV classification to do the majority of work, that they had a decrease in that number of about 280 total, that the total force was close to 700 to begin with, and now it had dropped down to where all four quadrants they had 3 to 4 hundred, that there had been about 30 – 35% reduction in manpower, and Council Member Tatro asked Mayor Brown that they look at that area especially in the staffing side having reduced those direct front line people servicing the breaks, especially in the dry period that we were under, that he knew that they had shifted crews just handling water breaks and then moved them over just handling sewer breaks over the last year and that was a significant concern because someone was going to go without, and he asked that in the budget cycle they look at the staffing levels of the utility crews because he did not know there was going to be an end to the dry spell they were under.

Mayor Brown asked Mr. Oradat if the department had made other steps to address the problem and asked him to explain what other steps they had taken, and Mr. Oradat stated that on or about March 8 they had a total backlog of about 1,500 water and sewer complaints and as of yesterday that number was down to about 820, that he had worked with the guys overtime on Saturday and Sunday and worked late hours all this week and would work overtime the coming up weekend and hoped to get the number down to a manageable number, they basically wanted to stay even at around 400 – 450 water and sewer calls, but they were being very aggressive, they found money to fund additional overtime and the men and women were responding very well working extra hours, and Mayor Brown asked if so far this year were they using contractors to do some of the work as well, and Mr. Oradat stated that so far this year and fiscal 2000 they had appropriated about \$42 million dollars in their Capital Improvement Program to utilize contractors in their efforts, that they were primarily targeted at doing the major capital improvements that were really beyond the scope of the in house force because of the depth, and Mayor Brown asked if the department had assigned regional and geographical responsibility to the top managers to make sure that they were on top of everything that went on, and Mr. Oradat stated yes, that he had spoken to Mr. King both on Friday and Monday, that the lack of rain had something to do with the large numbers they were having. Council Member Sanchez absent.

Upon further discussion Council Member Castillo stated that he had heard some of the answers that he was looking for but thought before they went into the formal workshops for the budget, if they could get some idea of the manpower distribution in each of the quadrants of the City for each of water and wastewater, and how many people were assigned to southeast, how many people did it take to make up a crew, how many crews did they have on duty at any one time, that he knew they worked in shifts, that he would also like to know what the plans were for line replacement in different areas of the City so they could see by when they could hopefully get ahead of the problem, and Mr. Oradat stated they had the manpower information available, that the utility maintenance people were watching the Council session and were in the process of formulating a response to his concern.

Upon a further lengthy discussion, Council Member Keller asked Mr. Oradat if he felt certain that the chain of communication was rectified, that the CRC knew how to catalog a problem and would call him and not three others, and Mr. Oradat stated that the line of communication was rectified, that they were going to call him and if he got a call at 1:00 a.m. a lot of people were going to get phone calls as 1:00 a.m., that they were going to get on top of the issue, and anyone who had sewage in the home, that issue would be addressed, that normally when they got a call they would send an investigator on site to determine if it was a City or private line problem and did not bring a crew with them, that once the information was determined they in turn reported that back to the individual quadrant who would then send a crew to out to address the problem, that the individual who showed up Saturday evening was an investigator and should have shown up Friday evening and the crew should have been out there shortly thereafter, that the utility failed to respond in an appropriate manner and that would be rectified, and Council Member Todd stated that they had gotten calls at their district too and it was a continuing issue, and would like to meet with him and talk about it further, that they had three or four items recently where there was more than a four day wait and would like to see what they could do to help improve performance too, and Council Member Vasquez stated that Mr. Oradat had been very responsive and very effective to their area and helped them solve a number of problems, and Council Member Bell asked if they had shifted people from working on water main breaks over to focusing on the sewer backup, and Mr. Oradat stated that what they had done in the past was to prioritize their backlog, that the philosophy at utility maintenance for a number of years was to try to use some sort of balance between manpower, costing and then managing the backlog that was created by reduction in staff, that they wanted to prioritize and hit the high priority items first, that the highest priorities items were a house out of water and sewage in the home, that they sent forces to deal with those and right now they did not have any homes without water, that they did have homes with sewer stoppages so some of the minor water leaks, the drippers in the mediums, were not costing property damage and did not really consider them a health or safety issue, that obviously sewage in the home they did and they were taking those forces to address the health and safety issues first, and once that number was down to zero for health and safety they will then go and start addressing the other items that were lower in priority, that they would still get done but they were just a lower priority, that the backlog on water mains was around 300 for all various items within the water category, that he could not give them a historical average to get them fixed, that he had met with the folks in utility maintenance and their goal was to have basically all of the category of the ones that were within the scope of the capabilities of utility maintenance forces have those fixed within four to five working days, that they also had some

contractor contracts that they had out sourced for the more major water main breaks and those were being managed by utility maintenance as well, and Council Member Bell stated that they had continued to get calls in their office from folks who waited up to eight weeks at times and he would like to meet with Mr. Oradat to talk to him personally about one particular instance, and Mr. Oradat stated that they had a higher than normal number of main breaks and they had expended their overtime money at an accelerated rate in the first six months of the fiscal year and had to transfer funds around to fund the effort right now, that he would have to talk to the Legal Department about using capital funds to do what would be construed as maintenance items, and if they could work around that he had no problem in utilizing the private sector to assist them, and Council Member Bell asked him to check on the smaller projects and give him a response. Council Member Castillo and Sanchez absent.

Mr. Keith Jamar, 4207 Chartes, Houston, Texas 77004 (no phone) had reserved time to speak, but was not present when his name was called.

Mr. Raphus Foley, 5111 Idaho, Houston, Texas 77021 (713-741-7314) appeared and stated that he was present as the ex president of the Southeast Precinct Judges and the civic club president for MacGregor Park and a 20 year Precinct Judge for 538, that he was talking about a street that they had been trying to get fixed for the past 18 years, that he had gone through 6 City Council Members working with that street, that he himself walked the street and collected names and personally brought that to City Council and got the street qualified, that the street was on a lower end and was so bad that he had to buy a pair of rubber boots to keep in his car all the time, because if it rained for 10 minutes he could not get out of his car onto the street, that it had been going on for the last 18 years, and he asked the people present with him to stand up, that they were very much concerned, that they had gotten promises after promises, that every time they got a promise and got their hopes up to get it fixed something happened and it changed, and he thought that the last ditch effort was to come to City Council and get a firm commitment, because he had not gotten one as a whole, that they had gotten a commitment in May 1998 and they were fine with that commitment and construction was supposed to start in June, and he talked with the technician about a week and a half ago and was told that it was supposed to go out to bid in June 2000 and would be done sometime in 2001, and that was not the issue, that it was supposed to be done this year, that they had waited patiently for 18 years and he did not know who changed it, but what he would like was to get a firm commitment from Council on when that street would be started and fixed, that it was in District D and saw that his Council Member was not present. Council Members Castillo, Sanchez and Bell absent.

Mayor Brown stated that for some reason that street was removed from the bid package and did not know why but would find out, that he contacted Mr. Jerry King of Public Works and it had been put back in the original bid package and the work would be done, and it was a firm commitment. Council Members Castillo, Sanchez and Bell absent.

Mr. Wes Johnson, Public Works and Engineering Department, stated that it was his understanding that the project had been moved back into the system and believed it would go out for bids in April and construction should start in June, that the project had been put back in because they could not find any reason why it had been moved out, and Mayor Brown stated that it would be this year that they would start construction on it and

if Mr. Foley found that for some reason it changed again to let him know, that he would make sure that they understood that they were to move forward with that project. Council Members Castillo, Sanchez and Bell absent.

Mrs. Kristi Riley, 112 Civil, League City, Texas 77573 (281-338-7825) appeared and stated that she was the owner of Totally Texas Limousines in League City, that she welcomed the opportunity to speak to them regarding an issue that affected her ability to do business in the City of Houston, that her subject was the public's right to choose the type of vehicle it might hire for special occasions or simple transportation and her right to provide the public with that vehicle, that her success in the transportation business depended on her ability to provide a vehicle whether they chose a standard limousine or a special interest limousine such as her truck limousine, that the public's right to choose was paramount to her as a business owner and was speaking here today because the licensing committee denied her application to license her 1999 Ford F350 customized limousine because it was a truck, that the truck represented an investment to her company of almost \$100,000 and was a vehicle that took approximately 5 months to customize, that she purchased and customized the vehicle based on two factors, one that there was a similar truck already licenses and operating in the City of Houston, and two that there was no such language in the current ordinance to exclude trucks, that her truck met all special intent category criteria, that for instance, it was of limited production and outstanding design, that her vehicle represented a substantial assessment to her company demonstrating her commitment to the City of Houston and that was to provide a vehicle to the public and visitors of which they could all be proud, that she took pride in the fact that her truck limousine was in the brochure for the Houston Olympics, that the truck really shouted out TEXAS and the Council should be exuberant to have it travel their streets so therefore she urged them to respond to her request by revising and clarifying the current ordinance to permit her vehicle to be licensed by the City of Houston. Council Members Castillo, Sanchez and Bell absent.

Mayor Brown asked Mr. Bibler to respond, and Mr. Bibler stated that the Finance and Administration Department consulted with him during the process and concurred with their determination, that the ordinance essentially required a sedan type luxury motor vehicle, that one of the exceptions was a special interest vehicle and that exception had been there for some years and thought it was meant in the context of car collects, not something that someone would go out and have fabricated, but some unusual or special motor vehicle, like a Corvair or something like it that was collectable even though it may not be antique, that was the interpretation that was placed on the ordinance, that it had been brought to his attention that Mr. Cruz-Aedo erroneously, and the current administration thought erroneously, did license one pickup truck and that was something that they needed to address. Council Members Castillo, Sanchez and Bell absent.

Council Member Todd asked Ms. Riley if there was a market for truck limousines, and she stated absolutely, and Council Member Todd asked Mr. Bibler what was the rationale for excluding trucks, and Mr. Bibler stated he thought people were thinking about New York City and places like that and what a limousine looked like, that he did not think that anybody ever would have dreamed at that time about a pickup truck being used as a limousine, that it was an old ordinance and a pickup truck was something used to bum around the ranch on, and Council Member Todd asked if there was any problem with adding trucks to it on a committee level, was there any core objection other than the fact that they did not have them in New York, and Mr. Bibler stated that it was purely a

legislative issue and all they were trying to do was to interpret the ordinance as it had been laid out by City Council, and Council Member Todd stated that he had the picture of the truck and would ask around Council, that his committee handled regulations and was unaware that they could not have a truck, and Mayor Brown asked Council Member Todd if his committee could take that up and look at the ordinance and address the issue, and Council Member Todd stated that his aid would get with Ms. Riley to get her name and address and would like to see a copy of whatever it was that she had filed with the City to get an idea of how the paper flow went. Council Members Sanchez and Bell absent.

Upon further discussion, Council Member Parker stated she was going to encourage Council Member Todd to take it up if they could not find an administrative remedy, and Council Member Tatro asked if Mr. Bibler if he had said that the ordinance specified or referenced sedan type body, and Mr. Bibler stated it authorized a sedan type luxury motor vehicle with a passenger capacity of no more than 6 persons and also authorized an extended body sedan type vehicle, a stretch type limousine, it also authorized a van with a capacity of no more than 15 persons, and finally it authorized a category called antique, classic or special interest, and defined those three terms, that the issue was that this truck was neither an antique, classic or special interest vehicle, that the concept of special interest vehicle in the ordinance was something special that was built by a factory that due to its limited production or something was collectable to car collectors and not something that somebody went out and built from a pickup truck. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Sanchez and Bell absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Castillo presiding.

Mr. John Gable, 12211 Fondren #305, Houston, Texas 77035 (713-729-5721) had reserved time to speak, but was not present when his name was called. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Sanchez and Bell absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Castillo presiding.

Ms. Brenda Flores, 2041 Marnel, Houston, Texas 77055 (713-722-9258) appeared and stated that six weeks ago on their web site, www.housnitch.com they reported that the security personnel for the Mayor had to give up their overtime pay while on the trip to Africa and last week thanks to the reporting of Matt Schwartz with the Houston Chronicle, they found out that they had been made to payback some of the money that they were given for expenses, that some of the expenses that were associated for the trip they took out of their own pockets, that to make them leave their families at Thanksgiving was bad enough, but to have them pay the expense of protecting Mayor Brown out of their own pockets was folly, that the Mayor's inaction on that matter spoke volumes of someone who once wore the same uniform that they did, and she believed that the man had forgotten how hard it was to live on a policeman's pay, that he raised more than \$3,000,000 last year for his campaign treasury, why had he not paid for those people's expenses, why did he take them away from their families at a time when all families wanted to be together, that it was her opinion that the Mayor stole from those people, that he stole their time from their families and by making them pay for their expenses on that trip he stole money out of their pockets, that as he sat and did nothing about the matter she was reminded of Dr. Martin Luther King's quote, silence is the same as betrayal, and she asked Mayor Brown to get off his throne, pick up the phone and call Jack Linville or Grover Jackson or Sue Walden or whoever was authorized to sign checks on his campaign account and pay his security team, including the overtime that was due them, that for once in that administration do something ethical, that he was supposed to be the

City's leader, he should lead and to do anything less made him a thief; that she presented Mayor Brown with a new ethics complaint against him. Council Members Galloway, Sanchez and Bell absent.

Mr. Jack Terence, 2808 Morrison, Houston, Texas 77009 (713-861-1991) had reserved time to speak, but was not present when his name was called. Council Members Galloway, Sanchez and Bell absent.

Ms. Carolyn Hardin, 11639 Hartley, Houston, Texas 77093 (281-987-2821) appeared and stated that she was present to follow-up a fax that she sent to Mayor Brown on Friday, that she was present as a victim of violent crime, that up until two years ago next month she knew nothing at all about Crime Victim's Rights Week, that when her son was murdered and her world turned upside down never to be the same again she learned a lot about things she normally did not think about, that she now belonged to two groups that she wished she did not have but thanked God for them or she would not be present today, that she would like the City to recognize National Crime Victim's Rights Week which was April 9 – 15, 2000 by lowering the flags on City buildings and letting them put black and red ribbons on the trees around the reflection pool in front of City Hall, that in remembrance of her son and all the other victims of violent crime she hoped each and everyone of them present never had to know the pain and anguish they felt, that they had a week full of activities and would like for anyone from the Council to join them, that they had a walk of awareness at Memorial Park on the 9th, a candlelight service that night at Hermann Park, fingerprinting at the zoo, and wanted to hold a blood drive but could not get the blood bank to call her back, so maybe next year, and closing ceremonies Sunday night at the water wall at Transco Towers, that they could understand that nobody ever wanted to think about crime victims if they did not have to, that they did not get news coverage last year and anything they could do for them they would gladly appreciate, that they also had a golf tournament on May 7, 2000 for the art work at the park, that the City so graciously gave them and they would love to see them there. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Sanchez and Bell absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Castillo presiding.

Mr. Benito Coronado, 7919 Masterson, Houston, Texas 77028 (713-674-1496) had reserved time to speak, but was not present when his name was called. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Sanchez and Bell absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Castillo presiding.

Mr. Richard Johnson, 8738 Fannette, Houston, Texas 77029 (281-850-5040) appeared and stated that he would begin with expressing his congratulatory remarks for them on their victories as well as their responses to leadership, that he and Pastor Gibbs were present to talk to them about an issue that was concerning their community that was not a very pleasant issue, that they were present to talk to them about an issue that affected millions of peoples lives on a daily basis across America, that they were present to talk to them because most of them looked at their birthdays and beginnings with happy and pleasure and not very many of them counted their days that they were not going to be there anymore, that not very of them sat down and planned out a day when they were going to reach their earthly demise, that up until the ravaging affects of HIV and AIDS, not just in African American Communities but across all ethnic lines, party lines, social and economic lines had they sat down and thought about a day when their ending date was going to be there, that now the African American Community was faced with that as a

tragedy and a prevailing epidemic in their community, that he wanted to say that he heard the Mayor and the Health Department declaration of state of emergency for Houston, that not just himself as a mental health care provider but also Pastor Gibbs and the Houston Baptist Ministers Association when they heard that call to action they wanted to come forward and share with the Mayor and City Council that they wanted to lend their support to the effort, that they had an opportunity to look at the issue indefinitely and talk to some people within the Health Department, that there were some concerns that all of them were faced with and that was did they have the adequate amount of resources to support a strategy that would help to slow down or stop the spread of HIV and AIDS, and if that answer was no then how did they acquire those resources, that how could they join together in a collaborative effort that would be most effective and impactful to reaching that end, that number two, the Center for Disease Control met not just annually but also met on different scheduled appointed times to talk about the funding, not only for Houston but all major cities across America, but of course they found themselves competing with Los Angeles, Chicago, New York, Philadelphia et cetera in terms of funding from the CDC to help them fight the battle, that they needed their help and support and needed to be strong equity partners in that effort. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Sanchez and Bell absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Castillo presiding.

Council Member Parker asked if they were aware that the Mayor declared a state of emergency in terms of HIV and AIDS in the African American Community, and Mr. Johnson stated that yes and that was why they came to salute him and let him know that they supported that, but also when he looked at the strategy, and it was a beautiful strategy, but one of the things that he had some questions about were the resources to make the strategy happen, where were they going to come up with the resources and how was that resource base going to be developed, and Council Member Parker stated she knew that the Mayor had identified certain funds that would be shifted over and reprioritized to deal with HIV and AIDS and he also appointed Council Member Boney as a point person so coordinate the City's efforts, but much of the Mayor's plan involved volunteer efforts in the private sector, in particular the ministerial community and was glad that Reverend Gibbs was present, and Mr. Johnson stated they were present to answer that call and wanted to hone in on the fact that they were present, himself and his colleagues in the African American treatment provider groups as well as the pastoral community here to lend their shoulders to the wheel, but they wanted to look at the fact that maybe there were some additional resources out there from a CDC standpoint as well as the local support that they should be able to get. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Todd, Keller, Sanchez and Bell absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Castillo presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. David Silverstone, 8715 Meadowcraft, Houston, Texas 77063 (713-784-1121) appeared and stated that he did not know where to start at, but was told that if he went public the City would shut him down, that in the City the wreckers, wrecker drivers and deregulation were history, that right know they had two policemen who were terrorizing the City, that they were trying to bring back regulation, that they were setting a dangerous precedent in Houston because anytime someone went to internal affairs they were arrested, that they were coming across complaints from wrecker drivers and storage lots where they had illegal tows coming into those lots that were directed at the police departments tow, that they were brought to his lot and he had tows that were brought there by everybody except Daffy Duck, that when he turned his records over to the City the City said they were going to investigate it and the investigation had been carried on

for twelve months, that he had cars that were on his property; that his competition evidently stole a truck, hired a driver with three wrecker drivers license, and brought it to his property, and when he brought it to the City's attention the City said okay they would take care of it, that he had gone to internal affairs and Finance and Administration and had gone everywhere and every time he made a complaint he went to jail, that the City was starting a wrecker situation that was going to be worse than the Los Angeles corruption ever thought it would be, that he had wreckers and was one of the small storage lots in the town, that he was only capable of storing 300 cars, that there were lots out there that were storing 2,000 cars and those were cars that policeman were getting payoffs to tow, there was not doubt about, that these cars that the police officers thought were untouchable, that he had gone to those officers and spoken to them face to face, that every time he went to internal affairs he got arrested, that last time they came out they wanted to borrow his Xerox machine and he said okay and they showed him the law that they had the right to go through his records, they Xeroxed the law and arrested him, that they came out last Saturday night and wanted him to have a cup of coffee with them, did they think he was stupid, they lost their chance, that he was still getting those tows and still getting those cars that never should have made it to a storage lot. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Keller, Vasquez, Sanchez and Bell absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Castillo presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Vice Mayor Pro Tem Castillo stated that Mr. Ellis Milam was present in Chambers would speak to him and take any further complaints that he may have. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Keller, Vasquez, Sanchez and Bell absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Castillo presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Ms. Gladys Yvonne Carter, 5034 Pershing, Houston, Texas 77033 (no phone) had reserved time to speak, but was not present when her name was called. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Keller, Vasquez, Sanchez and Bell absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Castillo presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. Hector Garcia, 11715 Morris Street, Houston, Texas 77009 (713-225-2701) had reserved time to speak, but was not present when his name was called. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Keller, Vasquez, Sanchez and Bell absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Castillo presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

President Joseph Charles, P.O. Box 53831, Houston, Texas 77052 (713-710-1715) appeared and stated that he was President Joseph Charles of Royalty and also a certified volunteer deputy registrar of Harris County and one of the only official presidential candidates for the coming presidential election that they had knowledge of, that his position of candidacy was official and his position was independent, that they were all conferring about crime victims and he was a crime victim and had been known to City Council Chambers that he was a crime victim and they did not have the power of authority to deny him emergency protection, that on the speakers list he was present again to state that he was the world leader, President Joseph Charles of Royalty who defended the U. S. Government and his Country versus the Global Mafia. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Keller, Vasquez, Sanchez and Bell absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Castillo presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. James Partsch-Galvan, 1611 Holman, Houston, Texas 77004 (713-528-2607) appeared and stated Tuesday, March 21, 2000, that his name was James Partsch-

Galvan, Mr. Partsch-Galvan, that his web site address was www.galvan.org, that he was a candidate for Texas Representative 147 and if the Libertarian Party did not put his name on the November ballot he was going to sue them, run as a write in and join the green party, that he was not satisfied on how his case #165503299X was being handled, that he requested that a Latin be assigned to the case because if it would have been a Black or Latin, James Honey would have been in jail by now, he would have been arrested by now, that HPD had a photo of that criminal who lived at 1607 Holman. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Keller, Vasquez, Sanchez and Bell absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Castillo presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

At 3:46 p.m. the City Council Meeting was recessed until 9:00 a.m. Wednesday, March 22, 2000. Council Member Boney absent due to being ill. Council Member Robinson out of city on city business. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Keller, Vasquez, Sanchez and Bell absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Castillo presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

City Council reconvened in the City Council Chamber at 9:00 a.m. Wednesday, March 22, 2000, with Mayor Lee P. Brown presiding and with Council Members Bruce Tatro, Carol M. Galloway, Mark Goldberg, Jew Don Boney, Jr., Rob Todd, Mark A. Ellis, Bert Keller, Gabriel Vasquez, John E. Castillo, Annise D. Parker, Gordon Quan, Orlando Sanchez and Chris Bell; Mr. Richard Lewis, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, Mayor's Office; Mr. Anthony Hall, City Attorney; Ms. Martha Stein, Agenda Director and Ms. Linda Layton, Agenda Office, present. Council Member Carroll G. Robinson out of the city on city business.

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

At 9:11 a.m. Mayor Brown called the meeting to order. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. Council Members Galloway, Boney, Todd, Ellis and Keller absent.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Council Member Castillo moved to take Item 41 out of order, and was seconded by Council Member Sanchez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. Council Members Galloway, Boney, Todd, Ellis and Keller absent. MOTION 2000-0396 ADOPTED.

41. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing a Tax Rebate Agreement between the City of Houston and the **HOUSTON CONVENTION CENTER HOTEL CORPORATION** related to the Development of the Convention Center Hotel - **DISTRICT I – CASTILLO** – was presented, and was tagged by Council Member Sanchez. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. Council Members Galloway, Boney, Ellis and Keller absent.

Council Member Tatro moved to suspend the rules to take Item 69 out of order, and was seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. Council Members Galloway and Boney absent. MOTION 2000-0397 ADOPTED.

69. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing an amended loan agreement between the City of Houston, as lender, and **INDEPENDENCE HALL MUTUAL HOUSING ASSOCIATION**, as borrower, which will replace the prior loan agreement passed and adopted by City Council on March 24, 1999 pursuant to Ordinance No. 99-268, to provide a \$1,900,000.00 second lien loan of Community Development Block Grant Funds to acquire an rehabilitate the Independence Hall Apartments located at 6 Burress, Houston, Texas, restricted for Rental to low-income and very low-income elderly, disabled and/or Handicapped Residents - **DISTRICT H – VASQUEZ** – **(This was Item 35 on Agenda of March 8, 2000, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ)** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. Council Members Galloway and Boney absent. ORDINANCE 2000-179 ADOPTED.

Consent Agenda (Items 1 through 63) were considered as follows:

MISCELLANEOUS - NUMBERS 1 through 10

2. CONFIRMATION of the appointment of **MR. STEVE ROCHELLE** to Position 9 of **REINVESTMENT ZONE NUMBER ONE**, for term to expire December 31, 2001 – was presented, moved by Council Member Sanchez, and seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. Council Member Galloway absent. MOTION 2000-0398 ADOPTED.
3. CONFIRMATION of the appointment of **MR. LLOYD JARMON** to Position D of the Community Educational Outreach Panel of the **ANIMAL SHELTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE**, for a term to expire December 31, 2001 – was presented, moved by Council Member Sanchez, and seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. Council Member Galloway absent. MOTION 2000-0399 ADOPTED.
4. REQUEST from Mayor for confirmation of the appointment of **MR. PHILLIP A. GEBHART** to Position Eight of the **AUTOMOTIVE BOARD**, for a term to expire January 2, 2001 – was presented, moved by Council Member Sanchez, and seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. Council Member Galloway absent. MOTION 2000-0400 ADOPTED.
8. RECOMMENDATION from Director Parks & Recreation Department for approval of professional services for Design of Installation and Routing for additional Irrigation Construction to Enhance the existing System at Memorial Park Golf Course on contract with **FINGER DYE SPANN, INC** for Parks & Recreation Department - \$16,550.00 - Parks Special Fund - **DISTRICT G – KELLER** – was presented, moved by Council Member Sanchez, and seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. Council Member Galloway absent. MOTION 2000-0401 ADOPTED.
9. RECOMMENDATION from Chief of Police for approval of Law Enforcement Agreement between **HARRIS COUNTY** and **SHEPHERD PARK PLAZA CIVIC**

CLUB for Law Enforcement Services of Deputies from Harris County Constable Precinct 1 - **DISTRICT A – TATRO** – was presented, moved by Council Member Sanchez, and seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. Council Member Galloway absent. MOTION 2000-0402 ADOPTED.

10. RECOMMENDATION from Chief of Police for Extension of Leave of Absence without pay for Police Officer **HARLAN D. HARRIS**, Employee Number 102047 – was presented, moved by Council Member Sanchez, and seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. Council Member Galloway absent. MOTION 2000-0403 ADOPTED.

PROPERTY - NUMBERS 15 through 19

16. RECOMMENDATION from Director Department of Public Works & Engineering to purchase Parcel A87-371, located at 7436 Wheatley, owned by Florence L. Anderson, an undivided 2/3 interest; Rita Jean Anderson, an undivided 1/6 interest; and Lela Marie Anderson, an undivided 1/6 interest, for the **ELLA (WHEATLEY) BOULEVARD PAVING PROJECT from West Little York Road to West Gulf Bank Road**, CIP N-0533-33-1 - \$25,753.00 - Street & Bridge Consolidated Construction Fund - **DISTRICT B – GALLOWAY** – was presented, moved by Council Member Sanchez, and seconded by Council Member Quan. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. Council Member Galloway absent. MOTION 2000-0404 ADOPTED.
17. RECOMMENDATION from Director Department of Public Works & Engineering to purchase Parcel A95-81, located at 9230 South Kirkwood Road, owned by Southwestern Bell Telephone Company, a corporation, for the **KIRKWOOD ROAD PAVING PROJECT from Bissonnet Street to Alief-Clodine Road**, CIP N-0575-00-1 - \$49,446.00 - Street & Bridge Consolidated Construction Fund - **DISTRICT F – ELLIS** – was presented, moved by Council Member Sanchez, and seconded by Council Member Quan. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. Council Member Galloway absent. MOTION 2000-0405 ADOPTED.
19. RECOMMENDATION from Director Department of Public Works & Engineering to purchase Parcel A95-93, located at 4140 South Kirkwood Road, owned by Progressive Electronics, Inc., a Texas corporation, Vidmantas J. Kurelaitis, President, for the **KIRKWOOD ROAD PAVING PROJECT from Bissonnet Street to Alief-Clodine Road**, CIP N-0575-01-1 - \$79,012.00 Street & Bridge Consolidated Construction Fund - **DISTRICT F – ELLIS** – was presented, moved by Council Member Sanchez, and seconded by Council Member Quan. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. Council Member Galloway absent. MOTION 2000-0406 ADOPTED.

PURCHASING AND TABULATION OF BIDS - NUMBERS 20 through 35

LOW BIDS

21. **E. J. BROOKS COMPANY** for Water Meter Locking Devices Contract, Part II for Department of Public Works & Engineering - \$62,531.45 - Enterprise Fund – was presented, moved by Council Member Sanchez, and seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. Council Member Galloway absent. MOTION 2000-0407 ADOPTED.
23. **MAIL-WELL ENVELOPE** for Envelopes, Customer Service for Various Departments \$981,556.08 - General and Enterprise Funds – had been pulled from the Agenda by the Administration, and was not considered. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business.

OTHER

33. **ANIMAL SPECTRUM, INC** - \$89,145.00 and **MACI FEED SUPPLY** - \$22,932.00 for Feed, Prepared Animal Diet for Various Departments - General Fund – was presented, moved by Council Member Sanchez, and seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. Council Member Galloway absent. MOTION 2000-0408 ADOPTED.

RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES – NUMBERS 36 through 63

42. ORDINANCE appropriating \$8,507,859.00 out of Convention & Entertainment Series, \$2,059,741.00 out of the 95 Series Construction Fund Convention Center, and \$220,000.00 out of Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund and approving and authorizing second amendment to professional architectural services contract between the City of Houston and **HARRY A. GOLEMON, FAIA/MARIO BOLULLO, AIA**, a Partnership, for Phase II Expansion of the George R. Brown Convention Center, CIP B-0010-01-2; providing funding for contingencies relating to construction of facilities financed by the Convention & Entertainment Series A Fund, the 95 Series Construction Fund and the Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund - **DISTRICT I - CASTILLO** – had been pulled from the Agenda by the Administration, and was not considered. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business.
- 43a. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing an agreement between the City of Houston, Texas, Reinvestment Zone Number One, City of Houston, Texas and the **SAINT GEORGE PLACE REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY** for certain Public Infrastructure Improvements - **DISTRICT C – GOLDBERG** - had not been received, and the City Secretary announced it would be considered at the end of the Agenda if received during the meeting. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business.
44. ORDINANCE providing for a Performance Incentive Program allowing Performance Based Compensation payments to be paid to certain Houston Airport System Employees; containing findings and other provisions relating to the foregoing subject; providing for severability \$300,000.00 - Enterprise Fund – had been pulled from the Agenda by the Administration, and was not considered. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business.

48. ORDINANCE appropriating \$770,000.00 out of Airport System Commercial Paper Series A, C Fund and approving the purchase of approximately 29.11 acres of land, out of the A. R. Bodman Survey, Harris County, Texas, for the expansion of Bush Intercontinental Airport, CIP A-0421 and authorizing the Mayor to execute a purchase and sale agreement with **REAL PROPERTY ASSETS, INC** to acquire the land for a purchase price, including Title Insurance and Closing Costs, which does not exceed the sum hereby appropriated - **DISTRICT B – GALLOWAY** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. Council Member Galloway absent. ORDINANCE 2000-180 ADOPTED.
49. ORDINANCE appropriating \$37,000.00 out of Airport System Subordinate Lien Revenue Bond Fund and approving purchase of approximately 1.009 acre of land out of T. S. Roberts Survey, Abstract 659, Houston, Harris County, Texas, for the expansion of Bush Intercontinental Airport, CIP A-0024, and approving purchase and sale agreement with **JOHN C. COX** to acquire the land for a purchase price, including Title Insurance and Closing Costs, which does not exceed the sum hereby appropriated - **DISTRICT B – GALLOWAY** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. Council Member Galloway absent. ORDINANCE 2000-181 ADOPTED.
54. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing contract amendment between the City of Houston and **S & W WATER MAINTENANCE, INC** for Operation of the Forest Cove Sewer and Water System; providing a maximum contract amount - \$400,000.00 - Enterprise Fund - **DISTRICT E – TODD** - had not been received, and the City Secretary announced it would be considered at the end of the Agenda if received during the meeting. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business.
55. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing a Utility Functions and services allocations agreement between the City of Houston and **HARRIS COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 372 DISTRICT G – KELLER** - had not been received, and the City Secretary announced it would be considered at the end of the Agenda if received during the meeting. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business.
57. ORDINANCE appropriating \$144,400.00 out of Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund and approving and authorizing professional services contract between the City of Houston and **ROBERT REID CONSULTING ENGINEER, INC** for the Design of a 24-inch water line along Blalock from Old Katy Road to Westview Drive, CIP S-0900-49 (WA10620), providing funding for contingencies relating to construction of facilities financed by the Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund - **DISTRICT A – TATRO** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. Council Member Galloway absent. ORDINANCE 2000-182 ADOPTED.
63. ORDINANCE appropriating \$76,000.00 out of Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund, awarding construction contract to **CAAN**

CONSTRUCTION SERVICES, INC on low bid of \$64,208.00 and approving and authorizing professional services contract for engineering testing services with **PARADIGM CONSULTANTS, INC** in the amount of \$3,000.00 for construction of the Water Main Replacement on Hollister Road; GFS S-0521-BG-3 (10228); providing funding for contingencies relating to construction of facilities financed by the Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund - **DISTRICT A – TATRO** – had been pulled from the Agenda by the Administration, and was not considered. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business.

Items removed from the Consent Agenda were considered as follows:

MISCELLANEOUS

1. CONFIRMATION of the reappointment of the following to the **MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES PENSION SYSTEM BOARD OF DIRECTORS**, for two year terms to expire January 31, 2002:
 - Position 7 - **MR. ALBERT (AI) LUNA, III**
 - Position 8 - **MR. WALTER D. DAVIS, III**
 - Position 9 - **MR. ROBERT C. HU**- was presented, moved by Council Member Sanchez, and seconded by Council Member Tatro. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. Council Member Galloway absent. MOTION 2000-0409 ADOPTED.

5. REQUEST from Mayor for confirmation of the appointment and reappointment of the following to the **HOUSTON READ COMMISSION**:
 - Position 4 – **MS. GAIL SCHWINDEMAN**, reappointment, for a term to expire January 1, 2003
 - Position 7 – **MR. K. GREGORY ERWIN**, appointment, for a term to expire January 1, 2003
 - Position 8 – **MR. CHASE UNTERMAYER**, reappointment, for a term to expire January 1, 2001, correcting the expiration date
 - Position 10 – **MS. CLAUDIA WILLIAMSON**, reappointment, for a term to expire January 1, 2003
 - Position 13 – **MS. CAROLYN MELTON**, reappointment, for a term to expire January 1, 2003- was presented, moved by Council Member Boney, and seconded by Council Member Sanchez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. Council Member Galloway absent. MOTION 2000-0410 ADOPTED.

6. RECOMMENDATION from Director Building Services Department for approval of Computer Image for Dedication Plaque for Blue Ridge Branch Library located at 7007 West Fuqua Drive GFS E-0019-01-3 - **DISTRICT D – BONEY** - was presented, moved by Council Member Boney, and seconded by Council Member Sanchez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. Council Member Galloway absent. MOTION 2000-0411 ADOPTED.

7. RECOMMENDATION from City Controller and Finance & Administration Department for authority to remit interest earnings to the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development \$91,944.00 - General Fund - was presented, moved by Council Member Boney, and seconded by Council Member Sanchez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. Council Member Galloway absent. MOTION 2000-0412 ADOPTED.

ACCEPT WORK

11. RECOMMENDATION from Director Building Services Department for approval of final contract amount of \$720,987.24 and acceptance of work on contract with the Surety, **GULF INSURANCE COMPANY** for ADA Renovation at Moody and Acres Homes Branch Libraries, GFS E-0024-01-3 and E-0051-01-3 - 06.81% over the original contract amount - Public Library Consolidated Construction Fund - **DISTRICTS B - GALLOWAY and H - VASQUEZ** - was presented, moved by Council Member Boney, seconded by Council Member Sanchez, and was tagged by Council Member Keller. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. Council Member Galloway absent.

Council Member Keller stated that it was clear it was faulty work, the contractor did not conform with contract documents but yet they were putting it through for pay and in the backup it stated the cost was for previously approved change orders; and upon questions, Mr. Lewis stated that his read of the request said the contractor did not perform and the surety was obligated to perform under the contractor's obligations, but they would provide him a written response; that the increases were related to change orders and legitimate and not a part of the original contract, but Ms. McGilbra would provide a written response.

Upon questions by Council Member Sanchez, Mr. Lewis stated that the contractor was Ryco Industries and he was not sure whether they were still in business, but he seemed to recall they were one of the ones discussed months ago who had gone out of business.

Council Member Todd stated that there was a similar situation at a park in Meadowcreek and there was a question as to whether the project had to be rebid; and upon questions, Mr. Lewis stated that they were now in the process of fine-tuning a disbarment ordinance which would provide for either a declaration of irresponsibility during a construction project or could involve a declaration as part of a bid award that would basically disqualify a bidder; that now they reached a settlement agreement with the surety and that went forward for the surety to perform the obligation; that he did not know the delay in getting this started up but that would be included in the response.

Council Member Boney stated that this may be a good time to bring up the Johnson Branch Library in Sunnyside; and upon questions, Mr. Lewis stated that about two weeks ago the architect and contractor provided a proposal to the City Attorney's Office to basically settle the matter and the Building Services and Legal Departments authorized them to proceed with that and hopefully within the next 30 to 60 days there would be a resolution; that he would characterize it as the design firm and contractor had accepted some responsibility; and he would advise his office when a more specific update was received. Council Member Goldberg absent.

12. RECOMMENDATION from Director Department of Public Works & Engineering for approval of final contract amount of \$2,261,266.10 and acceptance of work on contract with **MCLAT CONSTRUCTION, INC** for Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation in Sims Bayou, GFS R-1033-15-3 (4250-89) - 15.37% under the original contract amount - Enterprise Fund - **DISTRICTS E - TODD and I – CASTILLO** - was presented, moved by Council Member Boney, and seconded by Council Member Sanchez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. Council Member Goldberg absent. MOTION 2000-0413 ADOPTED.
13. RECOMMENDATION from Director Department of Public Works & Engineering for approval of final contract amount of \$859,021.99 and acceptance of work on contract with **INSITUFORM TEXARK, INC** for Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation in Southwest Area, GFS R-1036-11-3 (4260-06) 22.75% under the original contract amount - Enterprise Fund - **DISTRICT C – GOLDBERG** - was presented, moved by Council Member Boney, and seconded by Council Member Sanchez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. Council Member Goldberg absent. MOTION 2000-0414 ADOPTED.
14. RECOMMENDATION from Director Department of Public Works & Engineering for approval of final contract amount of \$1,075,120.25 and acceptance of work on contract with **WM. H. GRAY CONSTRUCTION CO., INC** for Construction of Laredo Diversion Sewer, GFS R-1228-22-3 (4463-7) - 02.32% under the original contract amount - Enterprise Fund - **DISTRICT H – ELLIS** - was presented, moved by Council Member Boney, and seconded by Council Member Sanchez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. Council Member Goldberg absent. MOTION 2000-0415 ADOPTED.

PROPERTY

15. RECOMMENDATION from Director Department of Public Works & Engineering, reviewed and approved by the Joint Referral Committee, on request from Mr. Norman D. Van Pelt, on behalf of Lisa Thuy Valentine (DBA Valentino Restaurant and Bar), for encroachment agreement for a ±2.5-inch building encroachment into Winbern Avenue and a ±.5-inch building encroachment into Fannin Street, adjacent to Lot 4, Block 4, MacGregor's South End Addition, Parcel ENYO-04 **DISTRICT I – CASTILLO** - was presented, moved by Council Member Boney, and seconded by Council Member Sanchez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. Council Member Goldberg absent. MOTION 2000-0416 ADOPTED.
18. RECOMMENDATION from Director Department of Public Works & Engineering to purchase Parcel A95-87, located at the southwest corner of South Kirkwood Road at 12001 Moonmist Drive, owned by First Baptist Church, Alief, Texas, a Religious corporation, for the **KIRKWOOD ROAD PAVING PROJECT from Bissonnet Street to Alief-Clodine Road**, CIP N-0575-00-1 \$26,276.00 - Street & Bridge Consolidated Construction Fund - **DISTRICT F – ELLIS** - was presented, moved by Council Member Boney, and seconded by Council Member Sanchez. All voting

aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business.
Council Member Goldberg absent. MOTION 2000-0417 ADOPTED.

PURCHASING AND TABULATION OF BIDS

LOW BIDS

20. **PHILPOTT MOTORS, LTD** - \$677,999.07, **CROWN DODGE** - \$137,619.00, **LAWRENCE MARSHALL CHRYSLER, L.P.** - \$402,634.00 and **LAWRENCE MARSHALL CHEVROLET, L.P.** \$183,392.00 for 81 Special Duty Vehicles for Police Department - Replacement - Equipment Acquisition Consolidated Fund - was presented, moved by Council Member Boney, seconded by Council Member Sanchez, and was tagged by Council Member Todd. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. Council Member Goldberg absent.
22. **SCL A-1 PLASTICS** for Plastic Recycling Bins for Solid Waste Management Department Replacement - \$49,980.00 - General Fund - was presented, moved by Council Member Boney, and seconded by Council Member Sanchez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. Council Member Goldberg absent. MOTION 2000-0418 ADOPTED.

OTHER

24. **AMEND MOTION #98-547, 3/25/98, TO EXTEND** expiration date for one year from March 24, 2000 to March 23, 2001, for Polymeric Runway Sealant for Aviation Department awarded to **CMC CONCRETE ACCESSORIES, INC dba SHEPLER'S** - was presented, and was tagged by Council Member Todd. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. Council Member Goldberg absent. **(Note: Council Member Todd released his tag later in the meeting.)**

Mayor Brown stated that a tag would render Item 24 moot. Council Member Todd stated that he would like to know why it was not put out for bid, there seemed to be more and more requests for amendments instead of going out for bids. Mr. Hall stated that as he understood this was to extend the expiration date on Items 24 and 25, but he would ask Ms. Stein to give the details. Ms. Stein stated that as she understood this product was included in a lot of construction contracts at the airport and so there was no need to use the contract, but they would like to now go back and use it as originally intended; that after doing a market survey the prices were below market so it was in the best interest of the city to just buy off this contract. Upon further questions by Council Member Todd, Mr. Hall stated that the only thing changed was the extending of the timeframe and it was still in the original amount of money appropriated and for the original quantities and amounts contemplated in the bid. Council Member Goldberg absent.

Council Member Todd moved to suspend the rules to hear Ms. Sally Bradford at this time, and was seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. Council Member Goldberg absent. MOTION 2000-0419 ADOPTED.

Upon questions by Council Member Todd, Ms. Bradford, representative of the Aviation Department, stated she was not sure the item was an emergency, but as she understood it would keep prices as they were now and would cause a delay in work; that if it were moved to the end of the Agenda she could get more information. Council Member Goldberg absent.

Mr. Hall stated that he should have explained that this contract would be moot because it was extending a contract which expired before the next meeting, so by next week there would be no contract to extend and it was not that there was an emergency at the airport; that the item was put in for the Agenda two weeks ago but there was no Council meeting last week. Council Member Todd stated that he was going to tag Item 25 for the same reason but he would release his tag on Item 24 and not postpone Item 25 though he would like more information provided as it seemed they were doing extension of contracts more often. Council Member Goldberg absent.

A vote was again called on Item 24. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. MOTION 2000-0420 ADOPTED.

25. **AMEND MOTION #99-55, 1/20/99, TO EXTEND** expiration date for 12 months from March 25, 2000 to March 24, 2001, for Specialized Ladders for Fire Department awarded to **CARBIS, INC** – was presented, moved by Council Member Sanchez, and seconded by Council Member Quan. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. MOTION 2000-0421 ADOPTED.
26. **LUCENT TECHNOLOGIES, INC** for Telecommunications Equipment and Software for Health & Human Services Department - \$23,312.58 - General Fund – was presented, moved by Council Member Boney, and seconded by Council Member Sanchez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. MOTION 2000-0422 ADOPTED.
27. **BERKSHIRE ADVISORS, INC** for Professional Consulting Services to conduct a staffing analysis of the Library's public service positions - \$132,180.00 - General Fund – was presented, moved by Council Member Boney, seconded by Council Member Sanchez, and tagged by Council Members Tatro, Vasquez, Keller, Ellis and Goldberg. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business.
28. **MOTOROLA, INC** - \$13,900,000.00 and **LITTON SYSTEMS, INC** - \$1,250,000.00 for Wireless Data Communications Terminal Devices for Police Department - Equipment Acquisition Consolidated Fund – was presented, moved by Council Member Sanchez, seconded by Council Member Tatro, and was tagged by Council Member Boney . Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. **(Note: Council Member Boney released his tag later in the meeting.)**
29. **R & W POLIZE, DBA CENTRAL POLICE SUPPLY** - \$15,002.00, **SUPER SEER CORPORATION** - \$56,580.00, **G. T. DISTRIBUTORS, INC** - \$32,488.70 and **TROOPER SUPPLY, INC** - \$418,950.00 for Apparel, Uniform Accessories and Supplies, Part II for Police Department - General Fund – was presented, moved by

Council Member Sanchez, seconded by Council Member Tatro, and was tagged by Council Member Quan. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business.

30. **THE POWELL GROUP, L.L.C.** for Stacking Chairs with Tablet Arms for Houston Police Department - New - \$30,419.80 - Police Special Services Fund – was presented, moved by Council Member Sanchez, and seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. MOTION 2000-0423 ADOPTED.
31. **WAUSAU FINANCIAL SYSTEMS, INC** for Hardware and Software Maintenance from the State of Texas General Services Commission's Contract through the State of Texas Cooperative Purchasing Program for Department of Public Works & Engineering - \$168,959.60 - Enterprise Fund – was presented, moved by Council Member Sanchez, and seconded by Council Member Tatro. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. MOTION 2000-0424 ADOPTED.
32. ORDINANCE appropriating \$1,301,844.00 out of Street & Bridge Construction Fund (405) for purchase of Remote Activated School Flasher System for Public Works & Engineering Department – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. ORDINANCE 2000-183 ADOPTED.
- 32a. **CONSOLIDATED TRAFFIC CONTROLS, INC (Bid No. 1)** - \$1,271,844.00 and **TRAFFIC ENGINEERING & CONTROLS** - \$30,000.00 for Remote Activated School Flasher System for Department of Public Works & Engineering – was presented, moved by Council Member Boney, and seconded by Council Member Sanchez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. MOTION 2000-0425 ADOPTED.
34. **AMEND MOTION #98-1271, 8/5/98, TO EXTEND** expiration date for 12 months from July 29, 2000 to July 28, 2001, for Automotive, Ford Trucks Heavy Duty Replacement Parts and Repair Contract for Various Departments awarded to **BAYOU CITY FORD TRUCK SALES, INC** – was presented, moved by Council Member Sanchez, seconded by Council Member Vasquez, and was tagged by Council Member Todd. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business.
35. **HUMPHREY'S TEXTILE PRODUCTS** - \$163,611.44, **INDUSTRIAL DISPOSAL SUPPLY COMPANY** - \$119,620.00 and **HILCO INDUSTRIES, INC** - \$33,587.58 for Tarps and Tarp Straps Contract for Various Departments - General and Enterprise Funds – was presented, moved by Council Member Boney, and seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. MOTION 2000-0426 ADOPTED.
36. RESOLUTION designating certain properties in the City of Houston as Historic Landmarks (Paramount Apartment Building, 3015 Chenevert - First National Bank Building, 201 Main Street & Philip M. Helfrich House, 1807 Decatur Street) - **DISTRICTS H - VASQUEZ and I – CASTILLO** – was presented. All voting aye.

Nays none. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business.
RESOLUTION 2000-9 ADOPTED.

37. ORDINANCE amending the **CODE OF ORDINANCES, HOUSTON, TEXAS**, relating to Freeway Ramp Closure Agreements; containing other provisions relating to the foregoing subject; providing for severability – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. ORDINANCE 2000-184 ADOPTED.
38. ORDINANCE finding and determining that public convenience and necessity no longer require the continued use of a 4-foot wide sanitary sewer easement containing 493 square feet (0.113 acre) of land, being located in the John Reinerman Survey, A-642, Harris County, Texas; vacating and abandoning said tract of land to Bentley Investments, LLC, the abutting owner, in consideration of owner's payment of \$4,560.00 and other consideration to the City - Revenue **DISTRICT H – VASQUEZ** – was. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. ORDINANCE 2000-185 ADOPTED.
39. ORDINANCE issuing a permit to **AEW/MCCORD, #2, L.P.** for maintaining, using, occupying, operating and repairing a basement, including parking garage, basement strip footings and retaining walls, structural columns and all appurtenances, within portions of Main Street, McKinney Avenue, Fannin Street, and Lamar Avenue, abutting Lots 1 through 12, Block 136, S.S.B.B. and the south 4.55' x 252.50' excess, Block 136 S.S.B.B.; being within public street rights-of-way of the City of Houston, Texas; containing findings and prescribing the conditions and provisions under which said permit is issued - Revenue - **DISTRICT I – CASTILLO** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. ORDINANCE 2000-186 ADOPTED.
40. ORDINANCE issuing a permit to **AEW/MCCORD, #2, L.P.** for maintaining, using, occupying, operating and repairing a basement, within portions of Fannin Street, Lamar Avenue and San Jacinto Street, abutting Block 254, S.S.B.B.; being within public street rights-of-way of the City of Houston, Texas; containing findings and prescribing the conditions and provisions under which said permit is issued - Revenue - **DISTRICT I – CASTILLO** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. ORDINANCE 2000-187 ADOPTED.
43. ORDINANCE relating to the issuance and sale of City of Houston, Texas, Tax and Revenue Certificates of Obligation, Series 2000A; including authorizing the Finance Working Group to proceed with the sale of such certificates, approving and authorizing distribution of the Limited Offering Memorandum related to such certificates, approving matters incidental to the issuance and sale and making provisions related thereto – was presented. Council Member Keller voting no. Balance voting aye. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. ORDINANCE 2000-188 ADOPTED.

45. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing amendments to Maintenance Facility Agreements between the City and **THE HERTZ CORPORATION; AVIS RENT-A-CAR SYSTEM, INC** and **NATIONAL CAR RENTAL SYSTEM, INC** at George Bush Intercontinental Airport/Houston Revenue - **DISTRICT B - GALLOWAY** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. ORDINANCE 2000-189 ADOPTED.
46. ORDINANCE appropriating \$2,000,000.00 out of Airport System Commercial Paper Series A, C Fund and approving the purchase of approximately 47.706 acres of land, out of Amos Barber Survey, Harris County, Texas, for the expansion of Bush Intercontinental Airport, CIP A-0024 and authorizing the Mayor to execute a purchase and sale agreement with **HASSAN JAHANGIRI** to acquire the land for a purchase price, including Title Insurance and Closing Costs, which does not exceed the sum hereby appropriated - **DISTRICT B – GALLOWAY** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. ORDINANCE 2000-190 ADOPTED.
47. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing amendment No. 2 to contract for professional consulting services in connection with Traffic and Earnings Study and other general Advisory Services on Houston Airport System matters by and between the City of Houston and **ROGER H. BATES** \$250,000.00 - Enterprise Fund - **DISTRICTS B - GALLOWAY and E – TODD** – was presented, and was tagged by Council Member Keller. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business.
50. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing contract between the City and **TEXAS A & M UNIVERSITY** for Marine Firefighting Training for Shorebased Firefighters for the Fire Department; providing a maximum contract - \$48,859.60 - Industrial Fire Training Fund – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. ORDINANCE 2000-191 ADOPTED.
51. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing an application for grant assistance to the **TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES** for the City's 2000 Summer Food Service Program; declaring the City's eligibility for such grants; authorizing the Director of the Parks and Recreation Department to accept and expend such grant funds, and to accept and expend subsequent awards, if any - \$2,904,620.00 - Grant Fund – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. ORDINANCE 2000-192 ADOPTED.
52. ORDINANCE amending Ordinance No. 96-39 to increase the maximum contract amount of contract between the City and **BAKER & TAYLOR BOOKS, INC** for Materials Acquisition, Cataloging, and Processing for the Library Department - \$13,500,000.00 - General Fund – was presented, and was tagged by Council Members Quan and Keller. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business.
53. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing compromise and settlement agreement between the City of Houston and **WEST CAPITAL FINANCIAL SERVICES CORPORATION, A California Corporation**, to settle a lawsuit - \$131,075.00 -

General Fund **GALLOWAY** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. ORDINANCE 2000-193 ADOPTED.

56. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing contract between the City and **IMAGEMAX, INC** for Document Scanning and Retrieval Services for the Controller's Office; providing a maximum contract amount - 1 Year with four option years - \$1,625,000.00 - General Fund – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. ORDINANCE 2000-194 ADOPTED.
58. ORDINANCE appropriating \$14,740,000.00 out of Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund and approving and authorizing professional engineering services contract between the City of Houston and **LOCKWOOD, ANDREWS & NEWNAM, INC** for Accelerated Surface Water Transmission Program, CIP S-0900-AS; providing funding for contingencies relating to construction of facilities financed by the Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund – was presented, and was tagged by Council Members Tatro and Parker. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business.
59. ORDINANCE appropriating \$5,437,400.00 out of Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund and approving and authorizing professional engineering services contract between the City of Houston and **THOMPSON PROFESSIONAL GROUP, INC** for the Design of Plant Reliability Improvements and increase of the firm capacity to 350 MGD at the East Water Purification Plant Complex (EWPP), CIP S-0056-29-2 (WA10594); providing funding for contingencies relating to construction of facilities financed by the Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund – was presented, and was tagged by Council Member Tatro. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business.
60. ORDINANCE appropriating \$238,000.00 out of Public Health Consolidated Construction Fund and approving and authorizing professional architectural services contract between the City of Houston and **LEVY ASSOCIATES ARCHITECTS, INC** for the Design of Lyons Health Center Renovation, CIP H-0049-01-2; providing funding for contingencies relating to construction of facilities financed by the Public Health Consolidated Construction Fund – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. ORDINANCE 2000-195 ADOPTED.
61. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing second contract amendment between the City of Houston and **ERM-SOUTHWEST, INC** for Professional Environmental Consulting Services, CIP D-0046-03-2 – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. ORDINANCE 2000-196 ADOPTED.
62. ORDINANCE appropriating \$200,600.00 out of General Improvements Consolidated Construction Fund, the sum of \$449,000.00 out of Airport Improvements Fund and the sum of \$16,400.00 out of Solid Waste Consolidated Construction Fund and approving and authorizing professional environmental consulting services contract for various facilities between the City of Houston and

MALCOLM PIRNIE, INC; providing funding for contingencies relating to construction of facilities financed by the General Improvements Consolidated Construction Fund and the Solid Waste Consolidated Construction Fund – was presented, and was tagged by Council Member Keller. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business.

MATTERS HELD - NUMBERS 64 through 76

64. MOTION by Council Member Boney/Seconded by Council Member Vasquez to adopt recommendation from Finance & Administration Department to award to **ANSELL HEALTHCARE PRODUCTS, INC** - \$15,000.00, **APOTHECUS PHARMACEUTICAL CORP.** \$459,000.00, **THE FEMALE HEALTH COMPANY** - \$33,816.00, **LONDON INTERNATIONAL GROUP, INC** \$124,200.00, **ORTHO-MCNEIL PHARMACEUTICAL, INC** - \$628,905.00 and **UNITED MEDICAL SUPPLY, INC** - \$92,044.80 for Medical, Family Planning Supplies Contract Part I for Health & Human Services Department - General and Grant Funds – **(This was Item 23 on Agenda of March 8, 2000, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBER TODD)** - was presented. Council Member Todd voting no. Balance voting aye. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. MOTION 2000-0427 ADOPTED.
65. MOTION by Council Member Boney/Seconded by Council Member Sanchez to adopt recommendation from Finance & Administration Department to **AMEND MOTION #98-1988, 12/15/98, TO INCREASE** spending authority on award to **CSB ASPHALT, INC** by \$22,145.00 from \$88,580.25 to \$110,725.25 for Sand and Washed Gravel for Various Departments Enterprise Fund - **(This was Item 26 on Agenda of March 8, 2000, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS TODD and TATRO)** - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. MOTION 2000-0428 ADOPTED.
66. MOTION by Council Member Boney/Seconded by Council Member Robinson to adopt recommendation from Finance & Administration Department to **AMEND MOTION #99-1180, 6/30/99, TO INCREASE** spending authority on award to **D/A MID-SOUTH, INC** by \$50,464.38 from \$201,857.50 for a total of \$252,321.88 for Communications Security Equipment and Components for Various Departments - **(This was Item 27 on Agenda of March 8, 2000, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ)** - was presented. Council Member Sanchez voting no. Balance voting aye. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. MOTION 2000-0429 ADOPTED.
67. MOTION by Council Member Boney/Seconded by Council Member Sanchez to adopt recommendation from Finance & Administration Department to award to **ACTION HANDLING SYSTEMS, LLC** - \$41,481.00 and **MUSTANG INDUSTRIAL EQUIPMENT COMPANY** \$52,191.00 for Four Forklifts for Various Departments - New - Equipment Acquisition Consolidated Fund - **(This was Item 28 on Agenda of March 8, 2000, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBER TODD)** – was presented.

Council Member Quan offered a motion to amend Item 67 for the purpose of deleting the award to Action Handling Systems, and was seconded by Council

Member Parker; and stated that it was found they could get a low emissions vehicle at a lower price.

Upon questions by Council Member Todd, Mayor Brown stated that Public Works did take a look at it, it was reviewed by the Administration and they supported it; that the item was in the pipeline prior to the city's executive order and now they were going back and correcting it as a part of the overall effort for the city to provide leadership in addressing the clean air issues; and this would be applied as precedent for all heavy equipment purchases.

A vote was called on Council Member Quan's motion to amend Item 67. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. MOTION TO AMEND ADOPTED.

A vote was called on Item 67 as amended. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. MOTION 2000-0430 ADOPTED.

68. RESOLUTION approving the creation of the **CITY PARK REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**; approving the Articles of Incorporation and the Bylaws thereof; confirming the appointment of the Initial Directors and Chairperson - **DISTRICT A – TATRO – (This was Item 32 on Agenda of March 8, 2000, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS SANCHEZ and PARKER)** - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. RESOLUTION 2000-10 ADOPTED.
70. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing agreement between the City of Houston and the **HARRIS COUNTY - HOUSTON SPORTS AUTHORITY** for the Improvement of Street Lighting in the area surrounding Enron Field - **DISTRICT I – CASTILLO – (This was Item 36 on Agenda of March 8, 2000, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ)** - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. ORDINANCE 2000-197 ADOPTED.
71. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing contract between the City and **STARCREST CONSULTING GROUP, LLC** for Air Quality Consulting Services in support of City Clean Air Team Activities; providing a maximum contract amount - \$75,000.00 - General Fund – **(This was Item 38 on Agenda of March 8, 2000, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS TATRO and BELL)** - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. ORDINANCE 2000-198 ADOPTED.
72. ORDINANCE amending Ordinance No. 96-506 to increase the maximum contract amount for purchase of the Liquid Polymer Flocculent Services under contract with **STOCKHAUSEN, INC** (Approved by Ordinance No. 96-506) - \$2,500,000.00 - Enterprise Fund – **(This was Item 39 on Agenda of March 8, 2000, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBER ELLIS)** - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. ORDINANCE 2000-199 ADOPTED.

73. ORDINANCE appropriating \$104,500.00 out of General Improvements Consolidated Construction Fund and approving and authorizing first amendment professional services contract between the City of Houston and **BOVAY ENGINEERS, INC** for services relating to the Upgrade of Four Elevators in City Hall and Renovation of Office Space in the 611 Walker Annex and Tower, CIP D-9999-03-2; providing funding for contingencies relating to construction of facilities financed by the General Improvements Consolidated Construction Fund - **DISTRICTS H - VASQUEZ and I - CASTILLO – (This was Item 42 on Agenda of March 8, 2000, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS BONEY and GOLDBERG)** – was presented.

Council Member Goldberg stated that he had visited with Bovay Engineers and the \$104,500 was only for a study for the City Hall elevators and had nothing whatsoever to do with renovation of office space at 611 Walker and the tower and they said the approximate cost would be around \$800,000 to \$900,000 for the work itself on the five elevators.

Council Member Castillo stated that he had asked the similar question before and he was told the contract as amended did include work done at 611 Walker.

Mayor Brown asked that someone from Building Services come up for questions; and asked for an explanation on what the item did. Ms. Ollie Schiller stated that the scope of the contract did address the elevators as Council Member Goldberg stated, it was to do a study and determine what actions needed to be taken to rework or replace elevators; that the other was for architectural services for the City Hall Annex as well as the Bob Lanier Building and those services had to do with re-stacking plans at Walker as they were consolidating workers and working to occupy the 16th and 18th floors.

Council Member Boney stated that he would ask that Bovay address the issue of fire exits which were not addressed in the renovation and then he would like a meeting for Council Members explaining the rationale and benefits of moving in terms of enhanced office space.

Council Member Goldberg stated that he met with the president and CEO of Bovay and it was explained that the \$104,500 simply went to decide how to rework computer wiring in elevators and the money related to no other building. Ms. Schiler stated that the increase in funds, the \$104,500, was for the elevator portion and there was no increase in funds for the architectural services, the work was a part of the original contract and the change order for modification to the contract was to change the scope of work so the contract stayed clear as to what services were being provided and there was no change in dollar amount.

Council Member Boney stated that he felt it could be better clarified if he and Mr. Lewis visited with Council Member Goldberg independently and let Bovay address his prior concern, but he and Mr. Lewis could clarify what was done and why.

Council Member Parker stated that she was glad all this was being done so the contract would be very clear because the caption was not; that when the City Hall building was renovated did no one think the elevators might need to be redone as well; and Mr. Lewis stated that there was rehabilitation done during the construction, but it

was clear the service levels were not adequate for the building so they recommended that Bovay take a look at it along with the work appropriated in the City Hall, City Hall Annex and Lanier buildings.

Council Member Sanchez moved to postpone Item 73 for one week, and was seconded by Council Member Tatro. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. MOTION 2000-0431 ADOPTED.

74. RECEIVE nominations for Position H to the Community Educational Outreach Panel of the **ANIMAL SHELTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE**, for terms to expire December 31, 2001 – **(This was Item 55 on Agenda of March 1, 2000, POSTPONED BY MOTION #2000-348)** – was before Council, Council Member Vasquez nominated Mr. Joseph Ramirez, and was seconded by Council Member Sanchez.

Council Member Sanchez moved to close nominations, and was seconded by Council Member Tatro. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. MOTION 2000-0432 ADOPTED.

75. RECEIVE nominations for Position I to the Community Educational Outreach Panel of the **ANIMAL SHELTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE**, for term to expire December 31, 2001 – **(This was Item 55 on Agenda of March 1, 2000, POSTPONED BY MOTION #2000-349)** – was before Council. Council Member Castillo nominated Mr. Leon Adams Garcia, Jr., and was seconded by Council Member Sanchez.

Council Member Sanchez moved to close nominations, and was seconded by Council Member Tatro. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. MOTION 2000-0433 ADOPTED.

76. RECEIVE nominations for Position 14 of the **CITY HALL PRESERVATION COMMITTEE**, for term to expire December 31, 2001 – **(This was Item 57 on Agenda of March 1, 2000, POSTPONED BY MOTION #2000-351)** – was before Council. Council Member Parker moved to nominate Mr. James Thomas, and was seconded by Council Member Sanchez.

Council Member Sanchez moved to close nominations, and was seconded by Council Member Tatro. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. MOTION 2000-0434 ADOPTED.

Council Member Boney stated that he would remove his tag on Item 28.

28. **MOTOROLA, INC** - \$13,900,000.00 and **LITTON SYSTEMS, INC** - \$1,250,000.00 for Wireless Data Communications Terminal Devices for Police Department - Equipment Acquisition Consolidated Fund – was presented, moved by Council Member Sanchez, seconded by Council Member Tatro, and was again before Council. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. MOTION 2000-0435 ADOPTED.

Items received during the meeting were considered as follows:

54. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing contract amendment between the City of Houston and **S & W WATER MAINTENANCE, INC** for Operation of the Forest Cove Sewer and Water System; providing a maximum contract amount - \$400,000.00 - Enterprise Fund - **DISTRICT E – TODD** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. ORDINANCE 2000-200 ADOPTED.
55. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing a Utility Functions and services allocations agreement between the City of Houston and **HARRIS COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 372 DISTRICT G – KELLER** – was presented, and was tagged by Council Members Galloway and Vasquez. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business.

Council Member Keller stated that he had looked into Item 55 and unlike a lot of developments he was surprised they had not formed a TIRZ; that he wanted to commend Royal Oaks for doing their development with their own financing strength; that it would be over \$400,000,000 in gross revenue to the city's tax base once the development was done and this simply allowed them to get the infrastructure needed at their expense for development and then they would transfer it to the city. Mayor Brown stated that they would be producing a significant amount of tax revenue to the city.

RESOLUTION 2000-11, a resolution endorsing implementation of the recommendations made by Women Empowered so that noble history of people of color would embrace the walls of the White House, was signed by the Mayor and Council Members

MATTERS TO BE PRESENTED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Council Member Boney stated that most citizens had now received their Census questionnaires and he would urge them to fill them out and send them in promptly so that the city may receive moneys due from federal tax dollars and be able to enhance services to all citizens; and Mayor Brown stated that he would also encourage all citizens to fill out their Census; that it translated into money for programs needed within the city.

Council Member Sanchez stated that the Australian Council was back and he believed their Ambassador would be in on Monday; that Houston lost them a couple of years ago and he was glad to have them back and thanked the Mayor's Protocol Office for working to get them.

Council Member Parker stated that periodically she had raised questions regarding the Municipal Channel and it was frustrating that after more than two years on Council she still had exactly the same questions, for instance in January the Mayor had a Hate Crimes Summit and this morning she had received an edit of that, it had taken two months to get it out so to her earlier concerns regarding the caliber and quality of equipment and the quality of programming on the Municipal Channel she had now added questions on staffing; that it all seemed to relate to management and she would suggest the Administration consider a performance audit of the Municipal Channel or during the budget process she might be inclined to suggest to their privatization or to

switch some of their money to Houston Access; and Mayor Brown stated that they were now in the process of an Administrative performance audit of the Municipal Channel.

Council Member Castillo stated that every summer the city had been a recipient of grant money to provide summer jobs for youth and this would be the first year it was under total control of the Houston Galveston Area Council so the city did not have much control except as participating members of HGAC; that in 1999 the program had 10,000 slots for youth in the Houston area, but this year there would be 6,000 for a 13 county area and Houston would get about 2,300 to 2,500 jobs; that in the past before turning over control of the summer programs they had the private sector participate and filling in and he hoped something could be done before the program began as it would be a tragedy to have over 8,000 youth without jobs; and Mayor Brown stated that he shared his concern and it was an important program and he would see what could be done.

Council Member Bell stated that he was very excited to announce a new initiative his office had been working on for several months and one his colleagues may want to take advantage of in the future; that working in conjunction with America On Line they would be hosting the first ever Electronic Town Hall Meeting, Monday, March 27, 9:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.; that they were setting up a program called Digital City Houston and through that they would work with them in setting up the Town Hall Meeting and between 100 and 200 people could participate, speak and have questions answered; that he did not see this as a replacement for in person meetings though it was a valuable alternative for persons with very busy schedules or small children; and if any Council Members wanted to take advantage of this as a way of communicating with constituents they could contact his office and for those wanting to participate if they were members of AOL they only had to go to Houston Chat and click onto Houston Town Meeting Live; that if they were not a member of AOL they could go to www.home.digitalcity.com/houston/webchat and then click on Town Meeting with Councilman Bell and his office could be contacted at 713-247-2006.

Council Member Goldberg stated that he had a town hall meeting last night with Braeswood Place, a subdivision which had petitioned for 109 streets to be reconstructed and one question was why was the system petition or complaint driven instead of a master plan; and he would ask that the Mayor's Office prepare a master plan; and Mayor Brown stated that the CIP Plan, a five year plan, was updated annually and he would encourage them to go to his CIP meeting to make sure the streets were placed on there.

Council Member Todd stated that he would like the Mayor to ask when a status report would be out from HFD regarding the McDonald's fire; that it was a noteworthy situation and he was sure all would want to see it; that it had been 30 days now and when it came out he would appreciate a copy; and Mayor Brown stated certainly.

Council Member Galloway stated that last night there was an explosion in the Willow Run subdivision from a water tank; that they did not have water now and it was a privately owned company; that for years the subdivision had been trying to get city water as they were in the City of Houston; that they were worried if the water was shut on it may be contagious and she would like to get with the Mayor or someone in the Administration and have them check on that community.

Council Member Galloway stated that she visited with the Hawthorne Civic Club and they would be having a cleanup on April 29 at 8:30 a.m. at De Chaumes Elementary, it was a massive cleanup that they did yearly so citizens were taking the lead in cleaning and they wanted to thank Ms. Bea Link and would also like the Municipal Channel to come out.

Council Member Galloway stated that he met with the East Houston Civic Club and they wanted relief with trash and she did not think there were enough people to take care of the trash and would like some kind of master plan. Council Member Castillo absent.

Council Member Galloway stated that tomorrow night a star would be born; that she and other colleagues would be performing at the Ensemble Theatre in the Houston Area Urban League's Fifth Annual Apollo Night, she had Council Members Parker and Quan and Vasquez would be.....Council Member Vasquez stated that Council Members Tatro and Keller volunteered and she had a pick; that he was not interested in being a star. Council Member Galloway stated that it was for a worthy cause and the theater was located at 3550 Main and she hoped colleagues would come out.

Mayor Brown stated that on the water issue the TNRCC issued the license for water and supplied the water, but someone would brief her. Council Member Castillo absent.

Council Member Quan stated that he wanted to second Council Member Boney's encouragement for filling out the Census forms; that actually this week was National Asian Census Week and in honor of that they would be holding a rally at City Hall, Saturday from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. and there would also be an open house and he would encourage all to come and have a tour; that there would be people to speak with on contracting with the city, housing opportunities, small business, etc., Council Member Castillo absent.

Council Member Quan stated that there had been great concern with race relations in the city and on Monday a group called Leadership Education for Asian Pacifics (LEAP) would be having a press conference in the City Hall Annex and he would encourage all Council Members to attend, they would be giving a report on transforming race relations and it would be helpful to the city. Council Member Castillo absent.

Council Member Quan stated that he received an invitation to participate in a cleanup around Enron Field and he would encourage all interested to come to the George R. Brown, Saturday around 8:00 a.m. and help spruce up for the opening game. Council Member Castillo absent.

Council Member Vasquez stated that he wanted to invite everyone to the Trash Bash this weekend at Moody Park, Saturday in conjunction with Keep Houston Clean; and it was a major event for the Northside.

Council Member Vasquez stated that as a part of the Census this weekend in District H they would be doing a block walk to promote Census completion and he would invite anyone to join.

Council Member Vasquez stated that he knew of the Mayor's support for the Power Card and he would ask him to encourage the Library Director to give a briefing to Council Members on the strategic master plan; that he was able to get a copy, but in light of Agenda items there needed to be additional discussion and he hoped as soon as possible; and Mayor Brown stated that he would do that.

Council Member Parker stated that a briefing was scheduled for the Neighborhood Protection Quality of Life Committee two weeks from last Monday.

Council Member Keller stated that in yesterday's public session Ms. Susan Smith spoke about a serious problem, sewage backup, the problem was now being addressed and he wanted to thank Mr. Gary Oradat for what he implemented which would take care of this problem and to keep it from happening in the future; that it was a good time to address the infrastructure needs which was streets, sewer and water systems.

There being no further business before Council, the City Council adjourned at 10:08 a.m. upon MOTION by Council Member Boney, seconded by Council Member Tatro. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Robinson out of the city on city business. MOTION ADOPTED. COUNCIL ADJOURNED.

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

MINUTES READ AND APPROVED

Anna Russell, City Secretary