

**AGENDA - SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING - MONDAY - OCTOBER 9, 2000 - 9:30 A. M.**  
**COUNCIL CHAMBER - PUBLIC LEVEL - CITY HALL ANNEX**  
**900 BAGBY - HOUSTON, TEXAS**  
with notes of action taken

**MOTIONS 2000-1224 to 2000-1245**  
**ORDINANCE 2000-0888**  
**RESOLUTIONS - None**

**2000-1223-1**

**NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING**  
**OF THE**  
**CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HOUSTON**

**NOTICE** is hereby given that a Special Meeting of the City Council of the City of Houston will be held **MONDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2000, at 9:30 a.m.** in the Council Chamber, Second Floor, City Hall, 901 Bagby, Houston, Texas, for the purpose of considering the attached Fiscal Reform and Accountability Proposal offered by Council Members Parker, Quan, and Vasquez. In connection therewith, the City Council may consider one or more motions, resolutions, or ordinances as required to effectuate the proposal, including but not limited to the assessment, levying and collection of ad valorem taxes for the year 2000, amendments to the City of Houston FY 2001 Budget, and other matters related to the fiscal affairs of the City.

**WITNESS** my official signature this the 4th day of October, 2000.

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/s/ Anna Russell  
City Secretary

To reserve time to appear before City Council at the Special Meeting noticed above, call 713-247-1840 or come to the City Secretary's Office, which is located on the Public Level, City Hall Annex, 900 Bagby, Houston, Texas 77002, at least 30 minutes prior to the commencement time of the meeting. The names and subject matters of persons who had registered to speak at the time of posting of this agenda, if any, are attached; the names and subject matters of person who subsequently request to speak may be obtained in the City Secretary's Office.

**C I T Y O F H O U S T O N**

**INTER OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE**

**TO:** Mayor Brown

Council Member Tatro  
Council Member Galloway  
Council Member Goldberg  
Council Member Boney  
Council Member Todd  
Council Member Ellis  
Council Member Keller  
Council Member Vasquez  
Council Member Castillo  
Council Member Parker  
Council Member Quan  
Council Member Sanchez  
Council Member Bell  
Council Member Robinson

**FROM:** Anna Russell  
City Secretary

**DATE:** October 4, 2000

**SUBJECT:** Special Council Meeting

At the request of the attached letter you are hereby officially notified of a SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING to be held in the City Council Chamber, Second Floor, City Hall at 9:30 a.m. Monday, October 9, 2000, for the purpose of considering matters contained in the attached notice of the meeting.

Anna Russell  
City Secretary

AR/pj  
cc: Ms. Marty Stein

**Fiscal Reform and Accountability Proposal**

**Motion 2000-1239 - "FAILED"**

***Reduce Departmental Budgets While Maintaining Services:*** The Mayor will implement a reduction of not less than 1% in the Fiscal Year 2001 General Fund budget across all city departments by November 10. If the reduction would significantly affect services of a single department, then said department may be exempted. The Mayor will further provide a detailed written account of all reductions and the impact.

**Motion 2000-1236 - Amend Paragraph 1 to include Police, Fire and Solid Waste**

**Motion 2000-1238 - Amend Paragraph 1 - "FAILED"**

**Motion 2000-1243 - Adopt**

***Set Tax Rate and Prioritize Savings:*** The Mayor and council will set the tax rate at \$.6550. For purposes of the 2001 budget, available funds over and above the 5% mandated fund balance shall be considered surplus. Mayor and Council shall prioritize any surplus generated in the 2001 budget during the last quarter of the fiscal year as follows:

- Health Benefits
- Meet and Confer
- Performance Incentive Pay (PIP)
- Debt service
- Fire and EMS improvements
- Replenishment of the fund balance to 7.5% (in the absence of a cash rainy day fund)

**Tagged by Council Members Tatro and Todd**

***Increase Revenues:*** The Mayor will identify and implement initiatives to increase revenues including but not limited to the following areas:

- Outsourcing collections of ambulance fees, parking and traffic citations.
- Cable television franchise fees.
- Electrical franchise fees.
- Implementation of revenue enhancing initiatives from the continuous management improvement effort.
- A solution to improve efficiency in the municipal court system.
- Fee study.

**Proposed amendment tagged by Council Member Vasquez**

***Increase Fiscal Accountability:*** Establish the Finance and Administration Department as the administrative oversight over departmental budget units with responsibility for establishing standards of accountability pertaining to the budget. Further, the Finance and Administrative Department will adopt and implement a Zero-based or Performance-based or a combination thereof budget process by the 2003 budget. - Tagged by Council Members Vasquez and Galloway

**Motion 2000-1240 - Adopt**

***Rainy Day Fund:*** Mayor and Council shall establish a "rainy day" fund of not less than \$5 million. The fund shall be a cash account with the balance established over a two (2) year budget cycle beginning with the 2001-2002 budget or as compatible with financial conditions not to exceed three budget years henceforth. Further, in the event that a true rainy day fund is established, the General Fund Reserve will revert to the 5% legal limit.

**Proposed amendment tagged by Council Member Galloway**

***Fast-Track Fiscal Management Policies:*** The Mayor will fast-track efforts for the cash management, debt management, and debt refinancing policy initiatives as passed in the Fiscal Year 2001 budget. - Tagged by Council Member Bell

**Tagged by Council Member Galloway**

***Targeted Tax Relief for Seniors:*** The Mayor and Council will increase the homestead exemption rate for senior citizens to the maximum level over a three-year period. Said increase shall begin after the transfer of Metro dollars is complete or as compatible with financial conditions not to exceed five calendar years henceforth.

**Tagged by Galloway**

***Tax Dividend Program:*** A Tax Dividend Program proposal shall accompany the 2001-2002 proposed budget.

**Motion 2000-1224 - Procedural motion**

**Motion 2000-1225 - Procedural motion**

**Motion 2000-1226 - Procedural motion**

**Motion 2000-1227 - Procedural motion**

**Motion 2000-1228 - Procedural motion**

**Motion 2000-1229 - Procedural motion**

**Motion 2000-1230 - Procedural motion**

**Motion 2000-1231 - Procedural motion**

**Motion 2000-1232 - Procedural motion**

**Motion 2000-1233 - Procedural motion**

**Motion 2000-1234 - Procedural motion**

**Motion 2000-1235 - Procedural motion**

**Motion 2000-1237 - Procedural motion**

**Motion 2000-1241 - Procedural motion**

**Motion 2000-1242 - Procedural motion**

**Motion 2000-1244 - Procedural motion**

**Motion 2000-1245 - Procedural motion**

**Ordinance 2000-888**

ORDINANCE providing for the Assessment, Levying and Collection of Ad Valorem Taxes for the City of Houston, Texas for the Year 2000; making various findings and provisions relating to the subject; providing for severability; and declaring an emergency.

**10/9/00 - All Present**