

City Council Chamber, City Hall, Tuesday, November 27, 2001

A Regular Meeting of the Houston City Council was held at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, November 27, 2001, 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 Parker, Gordon Quan, Orlando Sanchez, Chris Bell and Carroll Robinson; Mr. Paul Bibler, City Attorney's Office; Mr. Richard Cantu, Director, Citizens Assistance Office; Ms. Martha Stein, Agenda Director present.

At 1:57 p.m. Mayor Brown stated they had several Council presentations with the first being Council Member Parker. Council Members Galloway, Goldberg, Boney, Todd, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Castillo, Quan, Bell, Sanchez and Robinson absent.

Council Member Parker stated that it was pleasure to be present to introduce the newest graduates of their Neighborhood Leadership Institute, that this was the third graduation ceremony that they held for graduates of the institute, that the Neighborhood Leadership Institute was an opportunity for citizens to get hands on training on how to access City services and bring them back into their neighborhoods, that it was designed for civic associations, activists or simply concerned citizens who had an interest in what was going on in their neighborhood and wanted to learn how to deliver services into those neighborhoods, that they had a very full class this time around and she would be joined by representatives of the Planning Department and with the Mayor would present a series of certificates on successful completion of the course, that each time she did this ceremony she reminded the graduates that probably half the members of Council had at one time or another served as civic club officers so it was a good training ground for what was called real politics, that the politics in civic associations could be pretty intense, that it was actually the closest thing to City government, that they worked on heavy trash pickup or the stop light down the street that needed to be repaired and things like that, that Mr. Litke, Director, Planning Department was ready and she called out the names of the graduates and Mayor Brown greeted them and Mr. Litke handed out the certificates. Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Boney, Todd, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Castillo, Bell, Sanchez and Robinson absent.

Council Member Ellis stated that he and Council Member Tatro were present to celebrate what Clear Channel worldwide had been doing over the last two months, that they had been able to raise \$19 million for the families of the victims in New York and today they were present and going to sign off on a billboard that would be sent to New York and would display greetings from Texas and asked that Mayor Brown and the Council Members sign off on the bill board, that they worked with the assistance of the Houston Rockets, KTRH Radio, which was part of Clear Channel stations to bring this banner to New York. Council Members Goldberg, Boney, Keller, Vasquez, Castillo, Bell, Sanchez and Robinson absent.

Council Member Goldberg invited Mr. Doug Beaton, President, Houston Highland Games Association to the podium and stated that this group was founded in 1979 to preserve and promote Scottish culture, tradition and heritage and for the past 5 years the Governor of Texas proclaimed November 30th as the Day of the Scots, that the group would bring a proclamation that the Governor issued and also present a brief musical piece. Council Members Boney, Todd, Vasquez and Castillo absent.

Mr. Beaton stated that he was the President of the Houston Highland Games Association and State Commissioner for Clan MacLeod Society, that every year for the past 6 years the Governor of Texas had recognized the contributions of Scottish Americans to Texas Culture and History by designating November 30th, Saint Andrews Day, the Patron Saint of Scotland, as the Day of the Scots in Texas, that on behalf of the Houston Highland Games and for all those many

Texans of Scottish decent and read a proclamation which stated that Rick Perry, Governor of Texas hereby proclaimed November 30, 2001, Day of the Scots in Texas and urged the appropriate recognition thereof. Council Members Boney, Keller, Vasquez, Castillo and Robinson absent.

Mr. Beaton stated that joining him today was his wife Mrs. Sia Beaton, spokeswoman for the Texas State Bluebonnet Tartan and Mr. Jimmy Mitchell, one of Houston's finest pipers. Council Members Boney, Keller, Vasquez, Castillo and Robinson absent.

Mrs. Beaton stated that the Texas Bluebonnet Tartan which she was wearing was commissioned by the late Ms. June McRoberts and adopted in 1989 by the Texas State Legislature as the official Tartan of the State of Texas, that it was her sincere pleasure to ad that Houston had been named the home of the Bluebonnet Tartan and it was also her pleasure to present to Mayor Brown a Bluebonnet Tartan tie and invited Mr. Jimmy Mitchell to present a bagpipe tune. Council Members Boney, Keller, Vasquez, Castillo and Robinson absent.

At 2:16 p.m. Mayor Brown called to order the meeting of the City Council, and Council Member Goldberg led everyone in prayer and the pledge of allegiance. Council Members Boney, Vasquez and Castillo absent.

Mayor Brown requested the City Secretary to call the roll. Council Members Boney, Vasquez and Castillo absent.

Council Members Keller and Robinson moved that the minutes of the previous meeting be adopted. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Boney, Vasquez and Castillo absent.

Mayor Brown requested the City Secretary to call the list of speakers.

Council Member Parker moved to suspend the rules to hear Mr. Mike Mitchell, Mr. Merle Taylor, Ms. Vonda Higgins, Mr. Hans Marticiuc, Ms. Dawn Jahnke, Ms. Renee Jahnke, Ms. Lillian Villarreal, Ms. Anne Thomas, Ms. Sandra Massie Hines, Mr. Melvin Lewis, Reverend Kenneth Scott, Ms. Ruby Mosley and Mr. Charles Gaby out of order, seconded by Council Member Robinson. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Boney, Keller, Vasquez and Castillo absent. MOTION 2001-1269 ADOPTED.

Mr. Mike Mitchell, 1602 State Street, Houston, Texas 77007 (713-237-0282) appeared and stated that he saw a lot of familiar faces and a lot of friends, that he had never had an opportunity to come and speak before them on a very personal level and what he was going to speak to them about applied to him as an individual and as to his family and as to his career as a Houston Police Officer and what happened subsequently from the line of duty accident, that in 1994 he joined the Houston Police Department and was hired by Mayor Brown, that Mayor Brown did not pin his badge on, his brother did, but he was on the stage with him back then, that he served at west side patrol and was transferred to special operations, where when he arrived there in 1985 Officer Selistine was working security in Council Chambers, that in 1988 he was fortunate enough to be transferred to the solo motorcycle detail as a very young police officer, that he was very proud of that achievement and was also at that time serving on the board of the Houston Police Officers Association, that in February 1991 he was trying to stop a violator on traffic and the violator swerved and missed a car sitting in the middle of the freeway, but unfortunately he was unable to avoid that vehicle, to make a long story short, he broke every bone in his body, his legs, back, crushed his pelvis, broke his neck in two places, crushed his wrist, broke his shoulder, broke four ribs, punctured a lung and lost 14 units of blood and got to ride in the red helicopter, that obviously it was a dark day in the Mitchell family, that he spent a long time in a wheel chair, such as his brother and sister, Vonda and Merle, and by the grace of God he stood

before them, that they may not have noticed the limp as walked up to the podium but he had enough pins, plates, wires and screws in his body to prove it, that his point for being present was to thank Mayor Brown and the Council, that his family had been given a livable wage, a livable pension, that he had been able to fulfill his journey, that he believed in Gods will, that he now worked with the Police Officer Union and was happy to say that he was the guy that went to the hospital when somebody was injured and could look them in the eye and tell them, brother, he knew how they felt, that he thought that most importantly the missing element was when he took a medical retirement from the police department he only received a 50% pension, had he died, and he was oh so close to dying, his family would have gotten 100%, that there was obviously something wrong, and through efforts of the Houston Police Officers Union, their legislative counsel, and the support of the Mayor in the City of Houston they were able to get the pension changed to 100%, that he enjoyed, that Merle enjoyed and that Vonda enjoyed, that he wanted to assure them that it was the difference between living paycheck to paycheck, being on food stamps or living comfortably, that he was incredibly blessed and had given his testimony to churches and had now given his testimony to the Council and he was just present to thank Mayor Brown, the City, the Council Members and the Council Members that went before them, for going the extra mile to take care of him and his family and his brother and sister. Council Members Boney, Keller, Vasquez, Castillo and Robinson absent.

Mayor Brown thanked him for being present. Council Members Boney, Keller, Vasquez, Castillo and Robinson absent.

Mr. Merle Taylor, 1602 State Street, Houston, Texas 77007 (713-237-0282) appeared and stated that he had joined the Houston Police Department when he was 19 years old, back in 1981, that he was hurt in the line of duty, he was a motorcycle officer also, in a traffic accident and subsequently suffered a spinal cord injury, that he served under Police Chief Lee Brown and was present to show his support of the Mayor, that apparently there were those who wanted to attack his public safety record and he for one was living proof that his public safety record, as Mike said, without him and his support he would be on 50% pension right now, that he was not present for himself, he spoke for his wife and kids, who were also thankful because they also benefited, that he was hurt while Mayor Lanier was in office and he passed the torch to Mayor Brown and Mayor Brown was involved in making sure that officers who were injured in the line of duty had that option of continuing to work if they wished or having the monies to be able to retire and still live at home if they wished to do that also, and that option was not available before, and for that he thanked Mayor Brown.

Mayor Brown thanked his for being present also. Council Members Boney, Keller, Vasquez and Robinson absent.

Ms. Vonda Higgins, 1602 State Street, Houston, Texas 77007 (713-237-0282) appeared and stated that she was proud to say she was a retired police officer with the Houston Police Department, that in 1984 she joined the Houston Police Department and did have the honor of Mayor Brown pinning her badge on her, that in the department they were taught about safety and the Mayor's biggest issue was public safety for all officers to follow, that she even attended college and his teachings were being taught at universities today, that the Mayor had been a great public servant and had been concerned about them for many years and still today, that in 1993 she joined the Houston Narcotics Division and on a not so perfect day in 1994, February 4th, she was conducting street level narcotics investigation and was shot in the line of duty, that many officers knew the outcome they faced and knew it when they joined, that the Mayor had been about public safety for them, that her family was assured and the Mayor was present at the hospital, that even after the cameras were gone the Mayor was still there, that his administration was there and she wanted to take this time to thank him and would continue to thank him for what he had done for her and many officers today.

Mayor Brown stated that he wanted to thank her for being present and appreciated her service.

Mr. Hans Marticiuc, 1602 State Street, Houston, Texas 77007 (713-237-0282) appeared and stated that as they could see public safety officers performed a very dangerous job, that he wanted to take a few minutes of their time to talk about a subject that obviously he was familiar with, with his 21 years in the department, President of the Police Union, being involved in two Meet and Confer Contracts, that he at the very least had unique insight into what was going on in public safety in Houston, that before he got started he wanted to preface any comments he made with the fact that it was always a tragedy anytime a public safety officer was killed in the line of duty, whether it was police or fire, that the grief felt by the families, specifically the Jahnke, Smith and Mayo families, was a difficult to witness, that their loss gave them the right to say what they wanted and express their thoughts and wishes, and he wished nothing but the best for themselves and their families, but they in the Houston Police Department also knew grief, that in his 21 years in the police department, they had laid down 26 Houston Police Officers killed in the line of duty, and that was way too many to name, however he would not stand by and allow the Houston Professional Firefighter Association to attack the Mayor who had done more for public safety than any Mayor in his tenure on the department, and that included both the police and fire, that four to a truck was a very easy monitor to hang their hat on, but it had never been the issue, the issue had always been about dollars, that HPFFA had set in place a complicated process that involved a combination of various ranks to perform certain functions, extra board, working out of grade, pay parody, etc. and much too complicated to discuss in the three minutes he had, but getting back to public safety he stated to Council Member Sanchez that he heard him speak about what he was going to do for public safety, but with all due respect to him what did he know about public safety, that he had attacked a Mayor with a successful history of strong public safety experience and he was sorry but based today on published documents regarding his public safety experience, he had no room for criticism. Council Members Boney, Keller, Vasquez and Robinson absent.

Mayor Brown thanked him for being present, and asked the City Secretary to remind the audience of the City Council rules on demonstrations. Council Members Boney, Keller, Vasquez and Robinson absent.

The City Secretary stated that under the rules of Council any outburst, applauding, booing and anything of that nature during the conduct of the public session or the business session was prohibited and Council would appreciate it they would observe those rules. Council Members Boney, Keller, Vasquez and Robinson absent.

Ms. Dawn Jahnke, 1907 Freedman, Houston, Texas 77009 (281-890-8394) appeared and stated that she was present because she wanted them to know that she had struggled with many things within the past weeks, and many people had asked many things of her, but yet she was a real simple person and had very simple needs and the thing that she really needed most was no longer in her reach, that while she stood there she even wondered why should she stand there before City Council, was it the right thing to do, but time and time again she had come to the conclusion that yes it was right, because she was not really standing there as a scathing widow, she was not standing there as a political voice either, that she was standing there as a representative of an average Houstonian, that she was just a proud citizen of their City and was just a hard working middle class person, that she was a teacher, a mother and a wife who knew the issue here was clear, that it was just a safety issue, that it had always been just a safety issue, that the problem was large and the solutions were just weak, that was all, so to the Honorable Mayor and the man who would become Mayor, she asked that they do one thing for the people of Houston and it was just a better plan, short term and long term, for the City's safety

and for those who would save the City, that until that day she would continue to make it her mission just to educate the public of facts that they were little aware of so that their voices they might also hear, and would read the following anonymous poem, "He has lived a beautiful life, and he has left a beautiful field, he has sacrificed the hour to give service for all time, he has entered the company of the great, and with them he will be remembered forever. Council Members Keller, Vasquez and Robinson absent.

Mayor Brown thanked Ms. Jahnke for being present. Council Members Keller, Vasquez and Robinson absent.

Ms. Renee Jahnke, 1907 Freedman, Houston, Texas 77009 (281-890-8394) appeared and stated that she was a cousin to Captain Jay Jahnke, the firefighter who gave his life on October 13, 2001, that she appreciated the opportunity to speak on behalf of the firefighter families and friends, to help educate and motivate the citizens of Houston on public safety, that since 1975 the American Insurance Association, the NFPA, OSHA, NYOSH and the TriData Report had all recommended four or more firefighters on each apparatus, that Texas Senate Bill 382 mandated two in two out, that they had four firefighters today, but what would happen when the money ran out, that what was Mayor Brown, as the Executive Officer, Chief Administrator and official representative of the City of Houston and each of the Council Members going to do to maintain four firefighters on each apparatus, that they the family and friends of the Houston Fire Department would be present in force to educate the citizens of Houston, that they would no longer stand behind their firefighters but would stand beside them to ensure citizen and firefighter safety, that as one Houstonian who had no affiliation with the Houston Fire Department stated in her letter to each one of the Council Members, "it is unconscionable for a member of the fire department in this City to die for lack of help, it is inexcusable, that as a taxpayer I do not ask, I insist that the fire department be given what it says it needs, you have it in your power and it is your responsibility to insure that this never happens again", that she wanted to remind them again that Mayor Brown said he added 331 firefighters, but that was still 31 fewer than four years ago and 573 short to be adequately staffed, that back in November 2000 he released a statement through his press aide that Houston fire facilities were more than adequate, that on September 11, 2001 when Mayor Brown was asked if he was going to beef up the City to minimum manning his response was no, and she asked Mayor Brown, why did he wait until October 17, 2001, while they were burying one of their hero's to suddenly decide to become committed to public safety, that he said, and she quoted, "as I watched what occurred today at the funeral, the family and the firefighters grieving, I was committed to doing this and not waiting any longer", that she would leave Mayor Brown with a few of his own words, November 27, 2000, to the Red Ribbon Committee, which he chaired, and she quoted, "This committee was formed to address the challenges facing the fire department, public safety is my number one priority and I am committed to doing everything possible to insure that we have the resources and the workforce to serve the City well", that December 4, 2000, and she quoted, "As I have said throughout my administration public safety is my number one priority", that January 29, 2001 during the Mayoral speech, and she quoted, "Public safety is my number one priority", that on October 2001 to the Texas Taskforce One Members, and she quoted, "Public Safety is one of the fundamental necessities of this community that is why I've made it a priority in Houston. I am working diligently to insure that Houston is well prepared for any contingency", that she admonished the Mayor and City Council Members that they had it in their power and it was their responsibility to insure that the citizens of Houston and the Houston firefighters were protected and never face this kind of tragedy again. Council Members Boney, Keller, Vasquez and Robinson absent.

Mayor Brown thanked Ms. Jahnke for being present. Council Members Boney, Keller, Vasquez and Robinson absent.

Ms. Lillian Villarreal, 7602 Vista Verde, Houston, Texas 77087 (713-853-7092) appeared and stated that she was the daughter, sister, aunt and wife of former and current Houston firefighters, that for the safety of their loved ones and their community the families and friends of the Houston Fire Department could no longer remain silent, that as a result of tragedy and many years of neglect by this administration and former administrations they had organized to educate and motivate the citizens of Houston to demand public safety, that during this administration the City had grown dramatically in population and size, yet the fire department was still short by 573 firefighters, that in the next two to five years 48% of the firefighters were eligible to retire and yet in 1998 and 1999 four out of the six fire cadet training classes were canceled, that Mayor Brown, at his Red Ribbon Committee, he had again stated that public safety was his number one priority and he would do everything possible to ensure that resources were available to the City, that a year later they were no closer to permanently fixing the staffing problem, that he and the Council had built up the downtown area so nicely but had failed miserably to provide adequate fire and EMS protection for the citizens that live, work and frequent the downtown area, that they only provided two trucks and six firefighters daily as first responders for 225,000 people in the central business district, that she worked in one of the high rises and feared for the safety for herself and her co-workers because she knew just how few emergency staff were near by, that they must call in additional staff from outside the outskirts of downtown and lose precious minutes, which could mean the difference between life and death, that in District I where she lived they had two fire stations closed for mold damage and her community had to wait one year to get its emergency support back in the neighborhood, that their personnel were now 5 to 10 minutes further away from her community, that 5 to 10 minutes, as they all knew, could be the difference between life and death, that the Mayor should come to her neighborhood and tell her neighbors that his top priority was public safety, they needed to be reassured, that the Mayor and Council could demonstrate its safety priority by expediting the opening of those stations, that unfortunately sometimes their pet projects had blinded each of them from the top priority of public safety, that they should their top priority at the City should be no differently than they would at home, take care of the top priority first and then attend to other matters, that they knew the problem in the fire department did not occur overnight, but this group of officials had at least 3 years to do something constructive and had not, that what would they do when the overtime money runs out, that they had only placed a Band-Aid on a major hemorrhage in the fire department and the victims were the citizens whose safety lay in their hands, that they needed more permanent staffing, more ambulances, ongoing training and upgrading the equipment, that their organization will keep public safety at the forefront of their educational message to their community and would continue to address Council regardless of who sat in the chairs in the future, do the right thing and allocate the resources needed to keep their citizens safe, remember they could not call the police when their loved ones needed medical attention or their house or car was on fire, take care of their firefighters and citizens now, and if she were Mr. Marticiuc she would also be present thanking the Mayor for all that he had done for the Police Department, but their firefighters had been neglected by the current administration and former administrations, that they did not get the educational money, they did not get the uniform pay that the police officers did. Council Members Boney and Vasquez absent.

Mayor Brown thanked Ms. Villarreal for being present. Council Members Boney and Vasquez absent.

Ms. Anne Thomas, 1301 Travis, Ste. 1701, Houston, Texas 77002 (713-739-7514) appeared and stated that she was the Interim Director of the Coalition for the Homeless for Houston and Harris County, that it was her pleasure to represent a collaborative of the City, County and the Coalition, that on November 20, 2001 President Bush and Mel Martinez, Director of Housing and Urban Development Department, announced a record \$1 billion award to the continuum of care for homeless services, that of that \$1 billion, \$44 million came to Texas and of

that \$44 million, \$15 million comes to Houston, the second largest award in the 7 year history of their participation in the continuum of care, that a major effort by the collaborative, the City, County and the Coalition made it possible, that the grant was a model of what a collaborative could truly do, that within HUD partnership was very important and their collaborative was a model bringing in \$15 million, that Mayor Brown's personal letter of support and that representing the leaders and decision makers of Houston was very important to HUD and directly related to the award, that this support coupled with the City's direct support by Ms. Margie Bingham and Mr. Jay M. Allen, allowed the agencies of Houston and Harris County to give much needed human services to the invisible and needy population, food shelter, clothing and rehabilitative services, that this years grant was 1,587 pages and weighed 22 pounds and was a considerable effort made possible in part by the Council, that on a personal note the Council and the City supported the coalition and had supported it for more than two decades, that on behalf of the collaborative and in particular the coalition they thanked them for their support. Council Members Boney, Vasquez and Sanchez absent.

Mayor Brown thanked Ms. Thomas for being present. Council Members Boney, Vasquez and Sanchez absent.

Ms. Sandra Massie Hines, 4425 Alvin, Houston, Texas 77051 (713-731-9806) appeared and stated that her parents Hattie and Willie Massey were first to reside in Sunnyside at 4421 Alvin Street with ten kids, that her dad, Curly Bill, his father Willie Massey and his brothers built the house that still stood to this day, that she had lived in Houston all of her life, that she had worked with past Mayors Hofhienz, Whitmire, Lanier and now Mayor Brown, that she had worked with people from the White House to the crack house and she still was and she remembered Houston before Mayor Brown came, that she remembered when kids attending public schools in the 12th grade could not read and write, that she remembered a lady being killed by her kids because she asked them to do their homework, that she remembered two kids who wrote suicide notes to each other and laid themselves across the railroad track, that she remembered the outhouse of the back yards in older neighborhoods, the red lines around minority and poor neighborhoods, that she remembered the kids living in the cardboard boxes and under the bridge near the schools and in the weeds, that she remembered the graffiti, the guns the grief, that she remembered when parks had no swings and children were arrested for being in the park, that she remembered when children were afraid of gangs toting guns around schools, that she remembered when gang members killed kids in nearby parks so they could wear their names on their belts, that she remembered when gang members were going to retaliate and shoot back at police, that she remembered when citizens were more afraid of the police than they were of the criminals, that she remembered elderly citizens sleeping in tubs so that they would not get shot by a bullet, that she remembered two well ministers who had shootings take place in front of their church while they were in service and could not get police to respond, that she remembered before Mayor Brown came little kids being shot while sitting on their parents front porch for fun, that she remembered the shootings between Asian business owners and Black citizens, that she remembered when criminals were let out of jail early due to overcrowding, that she remembered when police were afraid criminals had bigger and better weapons, that she remembered when four families died within a week of one another due to a fire, the fire department response time was so slow the neighbors used chains and trucks to pull down burglar bars from one of the one frame wooden houses while the residents were burning and screaming for help, that citizens passed wet clothes in it and told the father to line the tub and place himself last, that she remembered the fire department when they arrived, that she remembered she saw it, the ladder truck had no ladder, the pumper truck leaked water from out of the bottom of the truck instead of the hose, that there was not enough pressure to shoot water on the fire and the firefighters could do little else but be spectators, that she was the first Black to complete the Houston Citizens Fire Academy under Jay Evans and Jay Jahnke who was also one of her instructors along with Captain Reed and Captain Mendel, that she was taught that

they worked in pairs, go in as twos, that the two that went in one was left to keep the hose straight, that never were they to leave a brother by himself, if one did not come out, two did not come out, that she remembered when Mayor Brown went to Austin to plead for four men on a truck and it was voted down, what happened, why were firemen standing around when the call came in and a firefighter kept asking for help, was there an investigation, that she remembered when there was no peace, too much crime and too many drugs and Houstonians cried out because they could not control the youth, they wanted someone who would be sensitive to all races of people, well people say they thought they needed new leadership because they thought they would do better than what they had now, that she simply believed they had what they needed, that hatred stirred up strife, envy not the oppressor and chose none of his ways, discretion shall preserve thee, understanding shall keep thee to deliver thee away from the evil men. Council Members Boney, Vasquez and Sanchez absent.

Mr. Melvin L. Lewis, 12707 Cullen, Houston, Texas 77047 (713-734-2117) appeared and stated that he did not have a long list of words to say but he just wanted to thank Mayor Brown for being his Mayor, that in the area of Sunnyside during Allison he was there, and he wanted to thank him for coming out to the residents and letting them know that they were safe, that he wanted to thank them for being on television showing them during the time of crisis that he was concerned about their City, that he wanted to thank him for being everybody's Mayor, that he had been fair and he wanted to thank him for that, that he had been faithful to the City and had been there and was reachable, that the lowest man in the City could shake his hand, that he wanted to thank him also for having the City function as well as it had, that the people talked about the potholes and all the roads, but in order to get a good street they had to tear it up, that the people who came out of the White House and lived in Houston now, when they got here they gave them brand new streets and there were still some messed up streets, that he liked the way Louisiana Street looked and liked the way the other streets were going to look and thanked him for helping the rail get to Houston, that they did not need to be behind Dallas they needed to lead Dallas in the 2000 season. Council Members Boney, Keller, Vasquez and Sanchez absent.

Mayor Brown thanked Mr. Lewis for being present and for his leadership. Council Members Boney, Keller, Vasquez and Sanchez absent.

Reverend Kenneth Scott, 3618 Stassen, Houston, Texas 77051 (713-734-0610) appeared and stated that it was truly a blessing to have a Mayor like him in the City, that he wanted to thank him for public safety and how he had resorted to over 60% of the fleet trucks since he had been in office, that he wanted to thank him for what he had done, that not only that but the manpower that he had put back on the trucks, which made a difference, when there was only two and now there was four, and he continued doing and supporting that, that he wanted to thank him for Mount Vernon Baptist Church for all he had done, that he wanted to tell them a story about a man that was sitting and writing in the sand, that there was a woman who the men wanted to convict for what they thought was justice and the man rose up from the sand and said, that he who was without sin be the first to cast out the stone, that he said that to say to Mayor Brown to keep doing what he was doing for the City, that he was doing great works, that someone would always have something to say about what he was doing, but as long as he was constantly going with the City and continue to do a great job. Council Members Tatro, Keller, Vasquez and Sanchez absent.

Mayor Brown thanked him for being present. Council Members Tatro, Keller, Vasquez and Sanchez absent.

Ms. Ruby Mosley, 862 Victory, Houston, Texas 77088 (281-447-6095) appeared and stated that she was present to speak about several items on the agenda that had to do with housing repair, that they had hundreds of elderly and disabled people throughout the City of Houston

whose homes were in badly need of repair, that having worked voluntarily for several years she retired in 1994 and had not sat down yet and did not intend to, but those elderly people prayed for things that they were now enjoying and they were not their forgotten generation, that she was present to plead with them for the passage of those items, but she was also present to ask them that where they had a \$15,000 maximum repair that they would please find time in their heart and place in their mind and look out in the community and feel for those constituents that they represented today and increase that \$15,000 to \$20,000, that there was a \$5,000 repair that some of their contractors used and they had hundreds of homes that they could save before they got to a very bad deplorable situation and they were asking them to increase that amount from \$5,000 to \$10,000, that after the first of the year those of them who wanted to take a tour into those areas, and those of them who were Council Members At Large and especially district Council Members knew where those homes were in the community and if they did not they would be glad to carry them on a tour to show them to the Council Members, that please find it in their heart to vote for those items on the agenda that had to do with housing repair. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Vasquez and Sanchez absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding.

Council Member Galloway stated that she wanted to thank Ms. Mosley for being present and expressing her feelings as well as many in the community about the senior homes in need of repair, that they would be taking care of increasing it from \$15,000 to \$20,000 so they could do more for those in need, and Ms. Mosley stated that the Housing Relocation Program was taken out of the budget several years ago, but they had a plan to work with them to get that replaced where that money would not be lost, it would be revolving so that it would continue to be back into the budget. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Vasquez and Sanchez absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding.

Mayor Pro Tem Boney stated that he wanted to thank her for being present, that it was a common sense issue what with the increase in construction cost including the flood, that \$5,000 more for the seniors who were in economic straights was not magic but obvious, that it was in the budget so it would not have any negative impact on the budgeted funds that they had already done for the year. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Vasquez and Sanchez absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding.

Council Member Quan stated that as Chairman of the Housing Initiatives Committee he had met with Ms. Margie Bingham and Ms. Daisy Steiner with Housing and Community Development as well as Mr. Art Morales with Houston Housing Finance Corporation and talked with Mr. Bob Conglin with Houston Housing Initiatives, that they thought very highly of the program and certainly supported that program and a lot of good things had come from that, that normally they would have had that on their discussion for the housing committee meeting but because they thought it was such a good program they put it on the agenda ahead of time and thanked her for being present. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Vasquez and Sanchez absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding.

Mr. Charles Gaby, 9721 Cedardale, Houston, Texas 77055 (713-569-2814) appeared and stated that he was the director of case management for Interfaith for the Allison Recovery Initiative, that cash management was working on the flood recovery and he was present to say thank you for their support of those initiatives for housing in Houston, that Allison Recovery Initiative was over 100 different organizations working together on the Allison Recovery Initiative and they had been working the last number of months to try to work together with the City's housing programs, with the Urban League, Sheltering Arms and PSI and other contractors to try to find a way to work together on the big and difficult issues of flood recovery, that they certainly felt very strongly that the more support that was available the more quickly they could reach out to those in need, that as they probably already knew this was the second most expensive

disaster in FEMA's history and also involved the most number of homes ever effected in FEMA's history within the continental United States, to give them some idea as to how it compared to other disasters, they were working with some people who worked the disaster of Hurricane Floyd in North Carolina and two years later they were just now beginning to close down the disaster recovery operation there, their number of registrations from FEMA were around 80,000 and Houston's were around 118,000 and many of those were low income, elderly and disabled, so obviously the challenge they had before them was important to be addressed from all the angles that they could bring together, that they were working hand in hand in the case management with the City Housing Department and the contractors who were working with the City housing, they tried to coordinate efforts to make sure there was no duplication of benefit or effort and felt that Council's support of those contracts was very important to those efforts. Mayor Brown, Council Members Vasquez and Sanchez absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding.

Mayor Pro Tem Boney thanked Mr. Gaby for being present and for sharing the information about the scope of the disaster, that he would encourage him and all that were associated with the issue to talk to Council Members individually. Mayor Brown, Council Members Vasquez and Sanchez absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding.

Council Member Quan stated that he agreed with what Mayor Pro Tem Boney had just said because that disaster was certainly not over and they planned on putting that on their agenda for the Housing Initiatives Committee on their January meeting and knew that there was a lot of work to be done, that he had met with Ms. Jackie Martin of the United Way and knew that Allison Recovery had been really working hard, that as he knew that several volunteer organizations had agreed to come to Houston to work on rebuilding the houses and they had also worked with the Houston Apartment Association to provide housing for them while the crews came to Houston to work on these projects, that he would love to invite Mr. Gaby to come to their meeting in January to discuss this problem because it was going to be a long time before they cleared it out, that he knew FEMA had offered a settlement with them and they needed to determine how that money was distributed, what houses to be repaired and what houses to be torn down was still to be determined, and Mr. Gaby stated that it was a complicated issue and they with the Allison Recovery would be glad to meet with anyone at anytime if it was helpful with the information they had for the caseload that was within their system, and Council Member Quan stated that he would notify him of the meeting. Mayor Brown, Council Members Vasquez, Castillo, Sanchez and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding.

Council Member Galloway asked Mr. Gaby if they would be kicking off the initiative of Allison Recovery at the Kashmere Multi Purpose Center on Friday, and Mr. Gaby stated that was correct, that it was a special push that was only for those who were already in their system, that what they found was that the case management process was fairly slow and took some time to go through all of the details that they had to go through to make sure that the duplication of benefit did not happen and they were bringing together all of the resources that were most appropriate, that they had about 750 people who had been referred to them that had not yet been assigned to case management, so to address that backlog they were holding a two day intensive interviewing process and hoped to have most of those people come and participate and be interviewed and get the ball rolling on their cases, but it was not open for people who did not have appointments, that they would need to call them if they wanted to be a part of that and had needs and the number for referral was 713-621-2125. Mayor Brown, Council Members Vasquez, Castillo, Sanchez and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding.

Council Member Galloway moved to suspend the rules to hear Mr. Mike Herman after Mr. Felix Fraga, seconded by Council Member Tatro. All voting aye. Nays none. Mayor Brown, Council Members Vasquez, Castillo and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding. MOTION 2001-1270 ADOPTED.

Mr. Felix Fraga, 5501 Brady, Houston, Texas 77011 (713-699-5218) appeared and stated that he was glad to know that they had a housing committee, that probably the greatest need of low income people was trying to keep up their homes, particularly of the elderly, so he, along with the other speakers, was glad that it had gotten on the agenda and knew that most of the Council Members would vote in favor of it, so he just wanted to be present and thank them and encourage to make it unanimous, that it would be a great blessing for the low income people of the community. Mayor Brown, Council Members Ellis, Vasquez, Castillo, Sanchez and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding.

Mr. Mike Herman, 6814 Still Meadow, Spring, Texas 77389 (713-247-5055) appeared and stated that he wanted to make a few comments about public safety, that Mayor Brown had appointed one of the most qualified fire chiefs in the Country to run the department and apparently they all agreed because they unanimously agreed with that decision, that he was attempting to de-politicize the department and move it forward with greater expectation of customer service, bettering relationships with areas like Kingwood, Clear Lake, the African American Community, the Hispanic Community and the Asian Community but he had met with great adversities, that change was not always well received but the Mayor and the fire chief continued to press forward on public safety, that they all kept hearing about how bad it was, the fire department was in bad shape and everything was bad, but there were a lot of good things about the City and the department and they also needed to hear about those things, that they needed to be proud that the department was accredited, that was not an easy task, that the City had an ISO rating of two and they were attempting everyday to get it to one which meant more savings for the taxpayers and reduced insurance costs, that was huge and something good, that today EMS was 80% of what the fire department did and the fire department, as Chief Connealy says, was their middle name now and EMS was what they did, that today there were more EMS units on the streets thank to the Mayor and City Council, they had 15 squads, 11 basic units additional and 60% of the fleet had been replaced, that four years ago they had fire trucks that were ratty and running down the street and 60% had been replaced, that Station 90 would be open at the end of the year, another fire station, and the results were starting to come around and they were starting to see them, that the City was enjoying the best necessitation rates in the United States and that was phenomenal and was something good, that he saw the individuals present before him today and found it interesting that they were complaining after thousands of dollars were being put in their back pockets and they still had four firefighters now on the trucks, which was what they asked for, that he did not see those people in front of the Harris County Commissioners Court, where they lived, complaining about the volunteer trucks not having four, some of them had one and two firefighters, he did not see that on the news, but yet it was not about politics, they were promised that would not be the case, that yes there was an ongoing investigation about the incident that just happened in the City of Houston and much like the McDonald's fire, he believed, staffing would not be the issue here, but a blatant violation of policies and procedures within the department, and he just hoped that the members who were bashing the Mayor, the fire chief and the department would accept the truth and stand up and accept it and stop the lies after it was all over and done with, because after all it was not about politics, it was about public safety. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Ellis, Vasquez, Castillo, Sanchez and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding.

Mayor Pro Tem Boney stated that he wanted to thank Mr. Herman for his remarks because he did at least balance out some of the factual information regarding the fire department and what they had done. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Ellis, Vasquez, Castillo, Sanchez and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding.

Upon questions by Council Member Quan, Mr. Herman stated that he was one of the newest senior dispatchers that Council promoted in communications and worked on staff with

the Houston Fire Department with Chief Connealy, that he had been a member of the fire department since November 1982, that he had served as a paramedic, firefighter, an EO, a dispatcher, back as an EO and then promoted to senior captain recently, that he had seen different times with the fire department, that he thought they were heading in the right direction and as he had said before change was difficult and nobody liked change and change took time to develop and to go forward and he believed if people would sit back and take a deep breathe, they had some tragedies that had hit the City, that it was unbelievable what the City had faced, the storm that came through, the death of a firefighter, everything that was going on, to sit back, the City was going in a good direction, the streets and everything, the fire department and what the chief was doing, that they should sit back and let it take effect and move forward, but they could not keep moving forward if they were going to be continually bashed and brow beaded about everything that was bad, and Council Member Quan asked if he thought that Council had been inattentive to his concerns about the fire department, and Mr. Herman stated yes, that he believed they were hiring 350 firefighters and everyone knew that their attrition rates were high, that firefighters did not just grow on trees they had to recruit them like anybody else, that he did not believe there was a faster way to recruit, unless they wanted to skimp on quality, which the Council and Mayor had never done in the past and did not think they wanted to do it now, that in order to help move the department along, they should help de-politicize it. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Ellis, Vasquez, Castillo, Sanchez and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding.

Upon questions by Council Member Tatro, Mr. Herman stated that he had been in the fire department since 1982, a little over 19 years, that he was in dispatch and communications, that he was not stationed on an engine or a ladder out in the field, that he had been at one time, that he came down on staff on May 14, 2001, that up until May he was driving one of the brand new E1 fire trucks, that E1 meant engine operator; that he disagreed and did not believe it was a majority, that he thought they would find a lot of firefighters that would not agree with what certain people would say and he was not in agreement with that and that was why he was present, that it was just like with the Country, everybody was running around scarred and trying to hold back, but there was a lot of good going on and he thought they needed to embrace that and move forward because that was how they got over things, that he did not think it was productive for the fire department to operate without a labor contract for a year and a half, but it took two to tango and when they got up and walked away from the table what were they going to do. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Todd, Ellis, Vasquez, Castillo and Sanchez absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding.

Ms. Maria Zapata, 310 Shotwell, Houston, Texas 77020 (713-675-0841) appeared and stated that she was currently a member of the Parents Advisory Council at Eliot Elementary at Denver Harbor and was present on behalf of TMO and other parent like herself who were involved in HISD schools, that on November 20, 2001 a group of parents from different schools such as Eliot, Cage, Northline, Aferton, Braeburn, Gallegos, Port Houston and other schools came to City Hall to ask for their vote to fully fund the 103 After School Enrichment Programs and they were ignored and were very upset, that they were not taken seriously, that these programs would help 12,000 children and would provide a safe enriching place to go after school, that they needed Council's vote today, they did not get an answer last week, would they get a vote tomorrow, that they lived in low income neighborhoods but that was not a reason to deny programs or a safe place to learn, that they were ready for the programs and their children were ready, that the programs would benefit their children, the future Council Members, that they the parents wanted to improve student achievement and keeping their children safe, that their help and vote was needed, that Mayor Brown and Council Member Sanchez where did they stand on the After School Programs, that they knew Mayor Brown would be at their meeting tonight, and Council Member Sanchez, wherever he was, they still wanted to know where he stood, that he had declined to come to their meeting. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway,

Todd, Ellis, Castillo and Sanchez absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding.

Upon questions by Council Member Bell, Ms. Zapata stated they felt ignored because Council tagged the item last week two times, that they had several parents from different schools who took the time to come to Council and they had busy lives, just like the Council Members, and they were ignored, and Council Member Bell stated that he wanted to make it clear that they had not been ignored by probably the majority of Council who had supported after school programs regularly and consistently for several years and did not think it would be any different when they had the opportunity to vote on the proposal before them, and if they felt they had been slighted in any way he wanted to apologize to them because he did not think that was the message that Council was trying to put forth, that they supported them and would continue to support them and would stand with them tomorrow if they had an opportunity to vote. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Todd, Ellis, Castillo and Sanchez absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding.

Council Member Tatro stated that he along with Council Member Ellis tagged the item last week and many times when an issue came to Council there may be several Council Members not present, and as a matter of fact he tagged the item out of respect for the Council Members who were not present and wanted to vote on the item, that the item should have been in front of Council in September when school started, that when Council was looked at as the reason or standing in the way some of those could be valid comments, but in this case the item should have been before Council in September and knew that a lot of organizations were in need of the funds. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Todd, Ellis, Castillo and Sanchez absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding.

Mayor Pro Tem Boney stated that part of the reason for the time lapse in bring the item before Council had to do with the disaster of Tropical Storm Allison, but a number of schools were severely damaged, and in fact the North Forest Independent School District was dissipated by the storm, so to give an opportunity for those schools and school districts to apply the application process was delayed for a while so they could recovered from the storm. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Todd, Ellis, Vasquez, Castillo and Sanchez absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding.

Council Member Goldberg stated that he had always voted for after school programs and intended to vote and support the item. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Todd, Ellis, Vasquez, Castillo and Sanchez absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding.

Council Member Quan stated that he was not present last week and planned on voting for the item tomorrow, and stated that he was curious that Ms. Zapata felt the administration was against the after school program, that as was mentioned it was the Mayor who prepared the agenda and if he did not put it on the agenda they would not get a chance to vote for it, that he did not put things on the agenda that he did not plan on supporting and asked if someone had told her that the Mayor did not support the item, and Ms. Zapata stated that she was sorry if they misunderstood, that she did not say the Mayor did not support it, that she was upset that Council Member Sanchez did not take the time out to listen, that he declined their meetings and interviews, and they were upset last week. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Todd, Ellis, Vasquez, Castillo and Sanchez absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Ms. Maressa Solis, 3400 Montrose, No. 907, Houston, Texas 77006 (713-807-1429) had reserved time to speak, but was not present when her name was called. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Todd, Ellis, Vasquez, Castillo and Sanchez absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. John Schaff, 1604 Sul Ross, Houston, Texas 77006 (713-522-6564) appeared and stated that he was present to speak about safety in terms of the children and the After School Program, that he was a teacher at Northline Elementary and wrote one of the grants for their initial pilot programs and had been working with them for four years, that he had also been a coordinator for the program, that he wanted to be present because he felt very strongly to voice his support for this and wanted to have the children speak for it and he realized there were certain restrictions about providing presentations at Council but he had prepared a disk with a computer program, a quick time movie of pictures and students commenting upon their experience with the After School Program and thought it was something where they had to see the children's faces and hear their voices and thought if they saw it they would see someone like Jose who was talking about how the program provided him with a safe place while his grandmother worked, that they would see Monica talking about her experience with Science experiments and a safe place to learn how to use computers, that all of these things were very important opportunities that the children had, that tonight he would present the disk, that they wanted to have some of the candidates who were going to be running for office as well as Mayor Brown and Council Member Sanchez at the open public forum where they could discuss the strengths and whatever weaknesses they saw in the program, that they were interested in knowing whether or not in the future, and not only this year, was it going to be voted on but were they going to be able to maintain funding at \$2.9 million and were they going to get the money by the 15th so they could actually do something with it, and in terms of general revenue, could they get money from the City and could they count on it, that he came from a school where he wrote a grant and was getting palm pilots coming in from the company, they were getting money from Austin and getting money from everywhere, and they were trying to draw from everywhere they could, but they could not do it without the support of the City, that they were relying on personal initiative so it was something that they felt very strongly about it because of what it did for the children, that they hoped for support not only tomorrow but in the future. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Todd, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Castillo, Sanchez, Bell and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. Jarvis Johnson, 2606 Gregg, Houston, Texas 77026 (713-225-2221) appeared and stated that he was present to talk about the After School Program as well, that there were some things that he had heard that were very disturbing to him, that he was the Executive Director of the Phoenix Outreach Youth Center which was an academic based program in which they were providing individual academic curriculum for their children to insure they were getting the necessary resources that they needed in order to succeed in school and therefore in life, that some of the quotes they had heard regarding the fact that this was a pay for play program or a daycare, and this was so far from the truth and he found it to be insulting, so he asked the City Council to make sure they were looking at programs and understanding the type of programs that were being funded, that Phoenix Outreach Youth Center served in excess of 100 children per day and right now they had 80% of their children making the honor roll and that was all because of the After School Program affording them the ability to have teachers in place, to fund those teachers to be able to be in their classrooms every single day, that some of the teachers were present today but had to leave to go to the After School Program just as he had to go the After School Program, that he heard everybody talk about the children being their most important resource and hoped they kept that in consideration at tomorrow's vote and make sure that they voted for the program, because they had been running the programs efficiently but they could run them more efficiently with the money from the After School Program. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Todd, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Castillo, Sanchez, Bell and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mayor Pro Tem Boney stated that not only was this not a pay for play or a childcare program, that it was actually an anti juvenile delinquency program and when it was established

the statistics pointed to the fact that youth crime had dropped dramatically in the City and the program was evaluated annually every year. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Todd, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Castillo, Sanchez, Bell and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. Ted Weisgal, 12014 Chimney Rock, Houston, Texas 77035 (713-546-6793) had reserved time to speak, but was not present when his name was called. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Todd, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Castillo, Sanchez, Bell and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Dr. Motapa, 6425 Woodard, Houston, Texas 77021 (713-645-9598) appeared and voiced his personal opinions until his time expired. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Todd, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Castillo, Quan, Sanchez, Bell and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mrs. Wessie Scyrus, 2901 Fulton, Houston, Texas 77009 (713-222-8718) appeared and stated that the only reason there was anything left of Allen Parkway Village in Freedman's Town had been the 20 year struggle of the residents of Allen Parkway Village, that they struggled under the malfeasance of the Housing Authority, the machination of the Housing Authority, inclusion with the business elite, politicians and from one regime to the other, that the City was now patting itself on the back about the beautiful edifices that were there without giving note that it was the painful struggle of the residents who accomplished that, that after two decades of attack of the City on poor people and the African community, HUD, who had also been part of that collusion, ended up giving them about \$80 million to establish the campus plan that was so innovative that they got off the plan to raise Freedman's Town, but to upgrade it, that the fact was now that the leadership, Mr. Lenwood Johnson, Ms. Mary Pruitt and herself now had faced a level of harassment that was really greater than they even experienced in the heat of the struggle to preserve Allen Parkway Village, that the Housing Authority had effected a coup and put in a number of people who had no real background or training in this, a malleable almost helpless body, that it appeared that they wanted to silence the leadership and go forward with the demolition plan, that the edifices that were getting totted at Allen Parkway Village only had 15 years of life, that it was falling down around the ears of the residents even now after only being there a couple of years, that it was outrageous, that they talked about the City moving forward and how innovative and great the City was when the fact was that it was on the same old end agenda of class and race suppression and capitalistic agenda, that she wanted to say that she believed and knew from her years of experience that she knew what was going on with her community, that right now the Allen Parkway Village had brought open green sweeps, children played and they had programs for their children, and given the fact that they were hardly indigent they did not have some of the problems in their community that their children were facing now, that children were ducking in and out of traffic and they did not have proper cul de sac streets any more, that the children had no programs, that they were clients of a multi million dollar agency and were being subjected to unbelievable and unconscionable harassment. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Todd, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Castillo, Quan, Sanchez, Bell and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Upon questions by Council Member Goldberg, Ms. Scyrus stated that short gap measures, shoddy workmanship and shoddy materials had begun to let water compromise the units, mildew had ruined the carpet, that it was within the complex at Allen Parkway Village, that the units had been standing less than two years, and to top it off rather than accept they were attacking the residents, that one of the residents who she knew had gone through this had tried to get help but rather than give her help they wanted to evict her and kick her out with her little children; that the campus plan would have provided educational opportunities for the parents and the children of Allen Parkway Village, provided services to the aging community, that people

would have been educated and lifted out of the need to ask for help, that what their plan was about, that they should have had computer learning centers and babysitting services, that the community building, which the community had full access to, now was locked against the community and they had to ask to use it and they could only have the programs that the Housing Authority allowed them to have and it was for the seniors, that the young people had no place to study, no organized activities, no tutorials, that they had more than that from the residents, when the City refused them those services they provided them themselves and sought them from around the City, that she had no idea how many residents there were at Allen Parkway Village because it was no longer a conventional public housing, that it appeared that they continued on their agenda of changing the characteristics including the African Community and the low income people and they had the rich poor, it was a new term and meant that they were richer than the people who deserved required subsidized housing, that they were people who lived far above the poverty level, and it was mixed so high that the people who had that kind of disposable income did not want to live with public housing residents so a significant amount of units continued to be empty. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Todd, Ellis, Keller, Castillo, Sanchez, Bell and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Upon questions by Mayor Pro Tem Boney, Ms. Scyrus stated that it was true that there were a number of units at Allen Parkway Village that were completely empty, that she regretted that she did not have those numbers, that she had been forbidden to go on the development, that she had gone on asking that their program be put back on track and voiced her concerns when the Housing Authority disavowed their legitimate residence council, that she had been out for the loop and had been threatened with arrest with even going onto Allen Parkway Village property, that she had not been on the property since 1996, that they were repatriated into some of the other housing developments, that she was subject to eviction because she continued to struggle, that there were 22 families that were supposed to get first choice to move back to Allen Parkway Village, and Mayor Pro Tem Boney stated that they would look into it. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Todd, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Castillo, Sanchez, Bell and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. Lenwood Johnson, 2901 Fulton, Houston, Texas 77009 (713-222-8718) appeared and stated that he wanted to tell them a couple of things about the Allen Parkway Community Campus Concept which was the plan developed by people in Freedman's Town and residents of Allen Parkway Village under the direction of the late Professor Neal McNeal, that when the Housing Authority submitted their plan for Hope 6 money they went right behind them with their plan and HUD rejected the Housing Authority and funded the Allen Parkway Community Campus, that the Housing Authority signed an agreement such as those 22 families would be the first back, they signed an agreement that there would be a telecommunications center that would offer training for children and adults, that they signed an agreement that there would be an adult health care center where there would be folks to provide services and training that would eventually lead to some additional higher level training, that those agreements were not fulfilled and they complained about and the minute they started complaining about it the next thing they knew a bunch of them had started being harassed and evicted, that he had been evicted and was fighting it on appeal, that Ms. Scyrus and Ms. Mary Pruitt, who was another person who had been involved with this for years, got evicted and was fighting it on appeal, that it was not just them who were being harassed with letters unnecessarily, that they refused to let them see their files, that they refused the Federal Grievance Administrative procedure to what they had done was illegal, but they could not get JP judges and State court to let that go on the record, but eventually they would get it to a court that was going to give the federal charges because it was federal subsidized public housing, that he served on the National Commission of Severely Distressed Public Housing, which developed the Hope 6 Program and thought that was why Houston got one of the largest awards in the Country because of his services, \$80 million all total

to develop the innovative plan to take residents and make them self sufficient by providing services so they could go to school and training for those who needed training in various areas, that they did have a computer room, or a cubby, in each apartment, that the Secretary of HUD signed an agreement that there would be computers there, but there were none there, just a little table, that the telecommunications center where they were to do training in all areas of communications, that center was never built on the property and the property was so designed with residential buildings that there was no place to put it unless they put it off site or torn down some buildings, that the community center was there but was not large enough to take care of all the things that were needed, first thing there was supposed to be a brand new community center plus the old community center, that the new community center was not there, that the old one had been renovated, that HUD made them spend \$300,000 renovating the office space, which they never could use because they got a federal court order and an old 1987 lawsuit, via motion, that got them kicked off of the property, that if they were successful in getting rid of that leadership it was going to send a chilling message to anybody else who wanted to mention anything about repairs or anything, that they thought there had been some harassment there because people had asked for repairs and in one case he had sent Mayor Pro Tem Boney a letter which stated that there was a women who it took six months to get a brand new apartment, that a leak was fixed that was due to an air condition drainage tube not connected and seals on pillars that lead up to the roof not property sealed that let water run into her apartment, that the manager came and called her an old woman and told her not to call the Housing Authority or anybody else for anything else, that it was the fire department that did the complaint that told the lady that if she turned on the electrical switch in her down stairs section of her unit, including her entry hallway to her kitchen and her living room, it would start a fire, that seemed to be the thing that triggered their tearing down the wall to see what the problem was and now she was being evicted on some false charges, that she filed for an administrative grievance hearing and they denied that, that she had already asked for some of her records and they claimed they did not have any of her records, that there was all kinds of nonsense going on there, that it had attempted to be done before but it was in the days of Mickey and Gonzales, and they did not have to tolerate that stuff. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Todd, Ellis, Keller, Castillo, Sanchez, Bell and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mayor Pro Tem Boney asked Mr. Johnson if he had any copies of any of the agreements that he stated the Housing Authority signed with regard to the campus plan, the telecommunications, the reinstatement of those 22 families, and Mr. Johnson stated that yes he had copies of those agreements and would get him copies, and Mayor Pro Tem Boney asked Mr. Johnson what was the reason given for his eviction, and Mr. Johnson stated office utilities, that he was using too much utilities, that they did not give it to him in writing as being a reason for the eviction, that he received the eviction notice in April 2001 and also Ms. Scyrus and Ms. Pruitt, that Ms. Scyrus was given a letter saying that her children were vandalizing property and throwing rocks at employees, but that had not been brought up in court at all, that her house did not meet inspection because her carpet was stained, and Ms. Pruitt had some holes in the new unit she moved into and she could not keep it warm in there and felt she should not pay those utilities, and Mayor Pro Tem Boney stated that they would look into it. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Todd, Ellis, Keller, Castillo, Sanchez, Bell and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Ms. Genevive Rousseve, 3317 Prospect, Houston, Texas 77004 (713-522-0398) appeared and stated that she was President of the Board of Directors of the Cultural Arts Council for the City of Houston and Harris County, that she had certainly enjoyed the experience today, that things that affected the community affected all of them and sometimes if they all made the effort the arts could be a great spirit lifting experience for all of them as they had many free things at the City of Houston that people could attend, that she first wanted to thank Mayor Pro Tem

Boney, Mayor Brown and all of the Council Members for their support of the arts and their commitment of continually raising the quality of life through the arts and for the partnership with them to support a strong, vibrant arts community, that their trust in the arts council allowed them to nurture, fund and promote the arts, that the arts in Houston were strong and thriving, all of the arts in Houston, even in light of challenging circumstances, the arts continued to thrive, that as they may know they partnered with the Texas Cultural Trust Foundation and the Museum of Fine Arts to bring Dr. Ray Perriman, an internationally known economist to speak to them at the museum about things that faced the arts and one of the most important things he said was that in Houston, Texas the total expenditures for the arts was more than \$4.6 billion and over 46,000 jobs it would provide, that the City of Houston investment in the arts provided more than 250 grants to over 160 non profit organizations and 40 artists, so that there grant policies could be the best it could be the board allocates review committee and had undertaken a review of the grants guidelines, the committee was composed of board members and community representatives, that because the arts were representative of Houston's diverse community their board held two meetings with their community constituents during the past year, in January and the second about two weeks, holding regular community members was a goal set by the board in the strategic process last year to better serve the community, CACHE also delivered ongoing education and training and effective non profit management to improve the arts organization command of business and organizational aspects of artistic production for the community, that the City's percent for arts supports the inclusion of art and art design elements in their urban infrastructure, that CACHE was pleased to work with the City in implementing this plan to enhance their environment for citizens and visitors, that in conclusion she would like to say that CACHE's board was committed to providing and supporting leadership for the arts in Houston and she thanked them for their continued support of the arts and for their help and the Council Members and their staffs for the help they had given them. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Todd, Ellis, Keller, Castillo, Sanchez, Bell and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mayor Pro Tem Boney stated that he wanted to thank Ms. Rousseve for her leadership and the sacrifice and service she had given the City, not only on the CACHE Board and other leadership capacities, but also on the Miller Outdoor Theater Board, and another other number of boards and commissions that she had voluntarily served upon, that it had been excellent service and they were a better City for it, and asked what was the methodology determining how much funds were allocated to Miller Outdoor Theater to a particular grant or project, and Ms. Rousseve stated that the process was that the grant proposal was sent to Miller and they had meetings, and they look at all the aspects of how many people attend, and would make everybody's spirit much greater, free and the diverse community was represented there, that they vote and it was about a three month process and they vote based on how many people attend, how much the community enjoyed the particular program, and they get feedback from things they pass out and that was how they determined, that CACHE had a much better process, that they did it by peer and had about 25 members of a peer panel for each thing they granted the money for at CACHE and the panel made recommendations to them, and Mayor Pro Tem Boney requested a copy of her remarks, because he thought that she had brought a wealth of information that Council and citizens needed to have awareness of. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Todd, Ellis, Keller, Castillo, Sanchez, Bell and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. Monty Hanson, 9102 Arvin, Houston, Texas 77080 (281-495-5579) had reserved time to speak, but was not present when his name was called. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Goldberg, Todd, Ellis, Keller, Castillo, Sanchez, Bell and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. Dave Dyer, 6046 Woodbrook, Houston, Texas 77008 (713-869-4445) appeared and

stated that he did not represent any particular group other than himself, that he appreciated the opportunity to say a few words about Memorial Park, that over the years there had been an amazing number of attempts to improve Memorial Park, that originally they wanted to put the Astrodome there, some people wanted to drill for oil there, and there was even a plan at one point to put a fish hatchery there, that the Houstonian a few years ago was going to put a fitness center there, that all of those plans failed and they failed for the same reason, that the civic leaders of Houston stood up and said no these plans all violated the deed restrictions that went with the land at Memorial Park, that when the Hogg Family sold the land to the City of Houston they put a clause in the deed and it said that the land could be used "for park purposes only", and those other ideas, like the fish hatchery, were not deemed to be for park purposes only and the civic leaders protected the park, well now the Council had the opportunity to protect Memorial Park, that the plan to bring the Shell Houston Open to Memorial Park was a clear violation of the deed restrictions and it was clearly commercial activity, that they were going to rope off the park, limit access and charge admission to a professional sporting event, that he would like to see them put a stop to this bad idea right away before it went to the point where all of the current users of Memorial Park, and he was certainly one of them, were upset, angry, filing lawsuits, signing petitions and creating a lot of bad feelings, that they did not need to do that, that they had been through this back in 1991 with the Houstonian, that in that case the City wanted to have the parks professionally managed and they put out a contract for bid and they had seven people bid and the Houstonian won and they were going to manage, not just the golf course, but everything in the park and they were going to have a commercial fitness center there and the contract was actually awarded to the Houstonian in 1991 and there was such an outcry from the people who used the park, especially over the commercial fitness center and not over the fact that there was going to be professional management of the facilities, that there was such an outcry, a lawsuit filed by a jogger who was a lawyer, and about four months later City Council had to back off and cancel the contract, so he would like to see them separate out the issue of professional management of the parks from the issue of bringing the Shell Houston Open here. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Goldberg, Todd, Ellis, Keller, Castillo, Sanchez, Bell and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mayor Pro Tem Boney stated that the proposed move of the Shell Houston Open was not finalized as of yet and there was a dialog between the City, the Memorial Park Conservancy as well as the Houston Parks Board and he would presume that as the dialog continued the issue of any legal matters regarding deed restrictions would be addressed, that there was going to be continuing input from park users prior to any final recommendation to Council for a decision. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Goldberg, Todd, Ellis, Keller, Castillo, Sanchez, Bell and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Upon questions by Council Member Tatro, Mr. Dyer stated that the only thing he wanted to add was that the Houston Golf Association would, under the proposal that was currently under discussion, manage the golf course for 10 years and Houston would receive \$200,000 per year revenue for that and they did not know if that was a good deal or not because it had not been put out to open bid, that this sort of arrangement might make sense and the best way to see if it was a good arrangement was to take bids from various people and get the best deal for the City, that he lived very near the park and had played tennis there for 20 years, that he had done some tournaments there, that to hold a tournament they had to have a sufficient number of courts and the removal of the proposed 10 courts would put a damper on future tennis tournaments being held there, that there were two other tennis centers in the City but they were not quite as nice as Memorial Park, the Southwest Tennis Center at South Gessner and Bissonnet, and Homer Ford at McGregor Park, that he played there once, and Council Member Tatro stated that what he did not see in the proposal was how the average taxpayer and park user would benefit, aside from the legal aspect of the deed restrictions, he thought that it needed to be a comprehensive benefit to the taxpayer and park user as opposed to a specific group and if they could come up with a

plan like that and present that he thought that the parks people and the users of the park would probably champion that. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Todd, Ellis, Keller, Castillo, Sanchez, Bell and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Council Member Parker stated that the issue of the Shell Houston Open was discussed at the Neighborhood Protection and Quality of Life Committee meeting last Monday and would come back to the committee, that they did not take any action they just had a briefing on the issue, that she would agree with him to the extent that there was nothing in the plan that was in any way designed to improve Memorial Park, the plan was designed to improve Memorial Park Golf Course, possibly at the expense of the rest of the park and those issues had to be addressed, that they were still in the discussion stages and the only thing that was actively driving it was that there was that the clock was ticking on doing any changes to the golf course to be able to have the greens grown in and so forth in time for next years tournament, so they would need some kind of resolution on this issue before the end of the year, that anyone who was interested in getting a notice of the next discussion on the Shell Houston Open could contact her office at 713-247-2014 to get put on the mailing list for notices of committee meetings. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Todd, Ellis, Castillo, Sanchez and Bell absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding.

Mayor Pro Tem Boney stated that there would be millions of dollars worth of improvement to the golf course, but if they were tennis players or joggers that would not excite them a lot, but also it would generate millions of dollars of revenue for the City by bringing a tourist attraction that was currently in another County into the City of Houston, and Council Member Parker stated that one of the issues was that there had been a great deal of discussion on whether it would bring a tax benefit to the City of Houston largely in HOT taxes, but none of that was quantified and they were simply told that it would and they asked for a lot more information and the issue of whether it might violate deed restrictions, she thought that everyone was committed that the tennis center, if it had to be moved, would be at least as good as they had or even better but the problem was if it was in the park then they would lose greenspace and then it might violate the deed restrictions because there would be a net loss of park space and that was an issue for the Parks Director. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Todd, Ellis, Vasquez, Castillo, Quan, Sanchez and Bell absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding.

Ms. Maria Hall, 3212 Jackson, Houston, Texas 77004 (281-835-6002) had reserved time to speak, but was not present when her name was called. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Todd, Ellis, Vasquez, Castillo, Quan, Sanchez and Bell absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding.

Mr. Jay Hall, 3212 Jackson, Houston, Texas 77004 (281-835-6002) had reserved time to speak, but was not present when his name was called. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Todd, Ellis, Vasquez, Castillo, Quan, Sanchez and Bell absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding.

Ms. Mary Pruitt, 2105 Blue Bonnet Play Circle, Houston, Texas 77004 (713-571-1890) had reserved time to speak, but was not present when her name was called. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Todd, Ellis, Vasquez, Castillo, Quan, Sanchez and Bell absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding.

Mr. Evans Williams, 1418 Preston, No. 310, Houston, Texas 77002 (713-224-1621) had reserved time to speak, but was not present when his name was called. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Todd, Ellis, Vasquez, Castillo, Quan, Sanchez and Bell absent. Mayor Pro

Tem Boney presiding.

Mr. Otis Jordan, 7663 South Glen Willow, Missouri City, Texas 77489 (281-438-4124) had reserved time to speak, but was not present when his name was called. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Todd, Ellis, Vasquez, Castillo, Quan, Sanchez and Bell absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding.

Ms. Mary Taylor, 1403 Fashion Hill Dr., Houston, Texas 77088 (281-445-0682) had reserved time to speak, but was not present when her name was called. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Todd, Ellis, Vasquez, Castillo, Quan, Sanchez and Bell absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding.

Mr. Julio Fajardo, 8217 Coward, Houston, Texas 77029 (713-674-9432) appeared and stated that he was present to talk about his community, that he had three issues, Parks and Recreation, Neighborhood Protection and the police department, that as he looked around his community there were too many bars and cantinas, too many drug houses, drug sales and gangs, that he did not know if the police department could introduce a program into the Port of Houston, that his Council Member did not listen to the Port of Houston, that in the Port of Houston there was more crime, prostitution in the streets and bars, that the City of Houston did not have any programs for the children, that they did not have a park in the Port of Houston, that the police department forgot about the Port of Houston, that the Neighborhood Protection only comes to his community to ticket the neighbors, but they do not do anything to the business that drop oil into the ditches, that there was a lot of trash and junk and it was a contamination for the families living in the Port of Houston, that they had too many problems. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Todd, Ellis, Keller, Castillo, Quan, Sanchez, Bell and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding.

Mayor Pro Tem Boney stated that Mr. Brian Hill, Parks and Recreation and Mr. Greg Simpson, Neighborhood were present and speak with him to see if they could address the issues that he had raised. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Todd, Ellis, Keller, Castillo, Quan, Sanchez, Bell and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding.

Ms. Deborah Elaine Allen, would not give address or phone number, had reserved time to speak, but was not present when her name was called. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Todd, Ellis, Keller, Castillo, Quan, Sanchez, Bell and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding.

Mr. Roland Curry, 5519 Caplin, Houston, Texas 77026 (713-633-3829 or 713-631-7208) had reserved time to speak, but was not present when his name was called. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Todd, Ellis, Keller, Castillo, Quan, Sanchez, Bell and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding.

Mr. Trent Winters, 7967 W. Airport Blvd., Houston, Texas 77071 (713-729-1153) had reserved time to speak, but was not present when his name was called. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Todd, Ellis, Keller, Castillo, Quan, Sanchez, Bell and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding.

Mr. William Beal, 4718 Boicewood Street, Houston, Texas 77016 (713-633-0126) appeared and voiced his personal opinions until his time expired. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Todd, Ellis, Keller, Castillo, Quan, Sanchez, Bell and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding.

Mr. Joseph Charles, 8034 Antoine, No. 107, Houston, Texas 77088 (713-878-2355)

appeared and voiced his personal opinions until his time expired. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Todd, Ellis, Keller, Castillo, Quan, Sanchez, Bell and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding.

Mr. James Partsch-Galvan, 1611 Holman, Houston, Texas 77004 (713-528-2607) appeared and stated that he wanted to bring to everybody's attention that this weekend, Friday and Saturday, would be a full moon in Gemini and Gemini was an air sign and Council Member Sanchez was an air sign, that he was a leader and a Libra and Gemini's were communicators of the air sign, so he thought it was going to be fantastic when Council Member Sanchez wins to become the first Hispanic Mayor of Houston and they were going to have a full moon and the City was going to party liked they had never partied before. Mr. Galvan continued to voice his political opinions until his time expired. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Todd, Ellis, Keller, Castillo, Quan, Sanchez, Bell and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding.

At 4:20 p.m. upon motion by Council Member Tatro and seconded by Council Member Vasquez, City Council recessed until 9:00 a.m., Wednesday, November 28, 2001. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Todd, Ellis, Keller, Castillo, Quan, Sanchez, Bell and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding.

City Council Chamber, City Hall, Wednesday, November 28, 2001

City Council reconvened in the City Council Chamber at 9:00 a.m. Wednesday, November 28, 2001, 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 Parker, Gordon Quan, Orlando Sanchez, Chris Bell and Carroll Robinson; Mr. Anthony Hall, City Attorney; Mr. Al Haines, Chief Administrative Officer, Mayor's Office; Ms. Martha Stein, Agenda Director present.

At 8:33 a.m. the City Secretary read the descriptions or captions of items on the Agenda.

At 9:13 Mayor Brown reconvened the meeting of the City Council. Council Members Galloway, Boney, Todd, Vasquez and Bell absent.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Council Member Robinson moved to suspend the rules to consider Item Numbers 9, 22, 24 and 28 out of order, seconded by Council Member Tatro. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Galloway, Boney, Todd, Vasquez and Bell absent. MOTION 2001-1271 ADOPTED.

9. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing lease agreement between **LAKWOOD CHURCH, INC.**, a Texas Non-Profit Corporation, as tenant, and the City of Houston, Texas, as landlord, for the Compaq Center - **DISTRICT C- GOLDBERG** – was presented and tagged by Council Members Robinson, Parker and Mayor Brown.

Council Member Robinson stated that he wanted to present the following amendment to Item No. 9.

“Amend item 9 to require that at least \$25 million dollars of the \$69 million dollar renovation commitment be spent within the first ten (10) years of the lease.

If all \$69 million dollars for renovations are not spent within the original thirty (30) year term of the lease, the lessee will pay the city \$20 million dollars to extend the lease an additional thirty (30) years.” Council Members Galloway, Vasquez and Bell absent.

Council Member Tatro stated that when this item first came to Council it was unanimously

approved to start negotiations and now that the negotiations had been finished it had been brought back to Council with the number, terms and values, but it had been brought back to Council and placed on the agenda immediately, it had not been brought back to the Fiscal Affairs Committee and had not been brought back to any Council committee, and Council had to tag it in order to even review it, that he believed the lease agreement had been given to them this week, that he was disappointed that such a large contract and extensive negotiation found its way to Council only via the agenda and therefore their requirement was to tag the item and only gave them literally a week to look at the item, that he thought it was a disservice to Council Members and taxpayers, that he planned to tag the item and also would tag Council Member Robinson's amendment and Council Member Robinson stated that he would tag his own amendment. Council Members Boney, Vasquez and Bell absent.

Mayor Brown stated that the amendment had been tagged by Council Members Robinson, Tatro and Keller. Council Members Boney, Vasquez and Bell absent.

Council Member Robinson stated that he was going to tag the main item, and Mayor Brown stated that the amendment and the main item both had been tagged. Council Members Boney, Vasquez and Bell absent.

Council Member Keller stated that he had worked with some of the parties yesterday on the amendment and had as much time as could be spent in one day on that and wanted to let everybody know that he shared the concerns that Council Member Tatro brought forward because he felt that when they had done this some time ago that it was going to be them a little more in the loop as far as the results, that what he would be doing during the week was try to analyze and evaluate, because their job with this was to get the best deal that the City could get, to get the best deal for the taxpayers that they could get for them, that he would be reading the appraisal and definitely approved of the company who did the appraisal and might take a meeting with them, that he would be reading every page of the lease, that his endorsement of the amendment, assuming that all of them pan out and were forthright and did not glare in any other way, then he would most likely be supporting the amendment that Council Member Robinson had presented, that what he would also like to be looked at was in the days they had outlined with the lease and with the other facility, not only the Compaq Center but the existing facility of the lessee, was that they try to define that those monies or those events would be organized for City charities to try and use that to raise money for the Library Department and the Parks Department, that Memorial Park was a good one to raise money for now, that he would like for that to be considered, that he also invited his other colleagues who were interested in this issue to read the appraisal, that they could not distribute it by copy for obvious reasons, but thought that Mr. Stephen Lewis or the Legal Department would make it available to go read in their Legal conference room or a staff member to bring it to them. Council Members Boney, Vasquez and Bell absent.

Council Member Goldberg stated that he remembered when the issue came up in July they had asked to refer it back to committee and at that time it was stated that when the lease came up it would definitely be referred to a committee, that it had not been referred to a committee and there were a lot of issues and a lot of amendments, that he did not think that Council Member Robinson's amendment was not going to be the only one and if this was something more appropriate for discussion at a committee where they could spend a couple of hours on it, that this was probably going to be one of the longest leases in the City of Houston's history and did not think it should be discussed for a short period. Council Members Boney, Todd, Vasquez and Bell absent.

Council Member Goldberg moved to refer Item No. 9 to the Fiscal Affairs Committee, seconded by Council Member Tatro, and Mayor Brown stated the item was tagged, and Council Member Goldberg stated that he would ask that the Council Members who tagged the item remove their tag so that it could be referred to a committee, and Council Members Tatro and Keller stated they would remove their tag and Mayor Brown stated that the item was tagged. Council Members Todd, Vasquez

and Bell absent.

Council Member Tatro asked for a point of order and asked whose tag was still on and Mayor Brown stated that Council Members Robinson and Parker, and stated that he also tagged the item and would not remove his tag. Council Members Todd, Vasquez and Bell absent.

22. ORDINANCE NO. 2001 - 1054, passed first reading November 20, 2001

ORDINANCE amending City Of Houston, Texas Ordinance No. 2000-678 relating to the grant of a Cable Television Franchise to **WESTERN INTEGRATED NETWORKS OF TEXAS OPERATING, L.P.**; containing provisions relating to the subject; making certain findings related thereto; and providing for severability - **SECOND READING** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Todd, Vasquez and Bell absent. ORDINANCE 2001-1054 ADOPTED SECOND READING IN FULL

24. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing the City of Houston to enter into contracts with each of six (6) Independent School Districts (**ALDINE ISD, ALIEF ISD, CLEAR CREEK ISD, HOUSTON ISD, NORTH FOREST ISD** and **SPRING BRANCH ISD**) and each of Nineteen (19) non-profit organizations (**BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF GREATER HOUSTON, INC, BREAD OF LIFE, INC, CHINESE COMMUNITY CENTER, CHRISTIAN BIBLE ACADEMY, INC, HOUSTON ALL-STARS CHILDREN'S DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM, THE IMANI SCHOOL, IMPACT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, JULIA C. HESTER HOUSE, INC, KIPP, INC, MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. COMMUNITY CENTER, MULTI-CULTURAL EDUCATION AND COUNSELING THROUGH THE ARTS, NEW MOUNT CALVARY MINISTRIES, INC, PHOENIX OUTREACH YOUTH CENTER MISSION, INC, SOUTHEAST HOUSTON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, THE SALVATION ARMY, THE VARNETT SCHOOLS, INC, VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA TEXAS, INC, WESLEY COMMUNITY CENTER, INC OF HOUSTON, TEXAS, and WONDERLAND EDUCATIONAL ESTATE ASSOCIATION**) to administer an After School Achievement Program ("ASAP") - \$2,919,645.00 - General, Grant and Housing Special Revenue – (**This was Item 20 on Agenda of November 20, 2001, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS ELLIS and TATRO**) – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Todd, Vasquez and Bell absent. ORDINANCE 2001-1063 ADOPTED

28. MOTION by Council Member Boney/Seconded by Council Member Sanchez to adopt recommendation from Finance & Administration Department to award to **POM, INC** for Electronic Parking Meters for Municipal Courts - \$501,101.70 - Equipment Acquisition Consolidated Fund – (**This was Item 31 on Agenda of November 20, 2001, POSTPONED BY MOTION #2001-1261**) – was presented, moved by Council Member Boney, seconded by Council Member Sanchez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Vasquez and Bell absent. MOTION 2001-1272 ADOPTED

Council Member Robinson stated that he wanted to thank the folks that came to visit with him from Municipal Court, that he thought it was a good first step and they were still working on the overall notion of trying to outsource parking meters and maintenance so he looked forward to that process coming to a conclusion and hopefully resulting in some reduced costs and increased revenues to the City. Council Members Vasquez and Bell absent.

CONSENT AGENDA NUMBERS 1 through 22

PURCHASING AND TABULATION OF BIDS - NUMBER 6

6. **AMEND MOTION #2000-0909, 7/12/00, TO INCREASE** spending authority by \$115,141.00 from \$272,250.00 to \$387,391.00 for Equipment Rental Contract for Various Departments, awarded to **GE ENERGY RENTALS** - Disaster Recovery Fund – was presented, moved by Council Member Boney, seconded by Council Member Sanchez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Vasquez and Bell absent. MOTION 2001-1273 ADOPTED

ORDINANCES - NUMBERS 11 through 20

11. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing amendment to sponsorship agreement between the City and **SAN SIMEON TOWNHOMES ASSOCIATION** for Garbage Collection Service for the respective subdivisions - **DISTRICT G - KELLER** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Vasquez and Bell absent. ORDINANCE 2001-1064 ADOPTED.
12. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing an Interlocal Agreement between the City of Houston and the **CITY OF BAYTOWN** relating to the Harris County Organized Crime and Narcotics Task Force Grant - \$415,459.00 - Grant and General Fund – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Vasquez and Bell absent. ORDINANCE 2001-1065 ADOPTED.
20. ORDINANCE appropriating \$233,160.00 out of Park Capital Fund, awarding construction contract to **TEJAS MECHANICAL, INC** and approving and authorizing professional services contract for engineering testing services with **PROFESSIONAL SERVICES INDUSTRIES, INC** for Houston Zoological Gardens - HVAC replacement, GFS F-0497-01-3; providing funding for contingences relating to construction of facilities financed by Park Capital Fund - **DISTRICT D - BONEY** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Vasquez and Bell absent. ORDINANCE 2001-1066 ADOPTED.

CONSIDERATION OF MATTERS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

MISCELLANEOUS

1. CONFIRMATION of the appointment or reappointment of the following to the **HOUSTON CLEAN CITY COMMISSION** for one year terms to expire February 1, 2002:
 - Position A - **MS. MAUREEN MULROONEY**, appointment
 - Position D - **MS. MARGARET JENKINS**, appointment
 - Position F - **MS. KAREN NORTH**, appointment
 - Position H - **MS. SHANNA BARNSTONE**, reappointment
 - Position I - **MR. GREG RINCON**, reappointment- was presented, moved by Council Member Boney, seconded by Council Member Sanchez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Vasquez and Bell absent. MOTION 2001-1274 ADOPTED

Mayor Brown recognized Council Member Goldberg for a point of personal privilege. Council Members Vasquez and Bell absent.

Council Member Goldberg stated that they were joined by Mr. Ryan Dolibois and his YES students and asked them to stand and be recognized, that YES College Preparatory School was the only State chartered public high school in Houston that provided inter city students with a rigorous college preparatory curriculum, that it was founded in 1998 and was an enrollment

charter school for students in grades 6th through 12, that 88% were Hispanic, 8% African American and 4% Asian and Anglo, that YES was not only a goal but a graduation requirement, that students spent 65% more time in school than public school students around the nation, that every student had been accepted to at least four colleges and universities and 85% of the class were the first of their family to attend college and get financial aid and packages from 70 schools and those packages and aid totaled over \$1.1 million and were to be congratulated, and Mayor Brown stated that he wanted to welcome them and wished them best wishes for their future. Council Members Vasquez and Bell absent.

DAMAGES

2. RECOMMENDATION from City Attorney for settlement of lawsuit styled **TERRY RAY WILSON v. VANEL MERRITT** and the City of Houston; in the 157th Judicial District Court of Harris County, Texas; Cause No. 99-39759 - \$38,500.00 - Property and Casualty Fund – was presented, moved by Council Member Boney, seconded by Council Member Sanchez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Vasquez and Bell absent. MOTION 2001-1275 ADOPTED

ACCEPT WORK

3. RECOMMENDATION from Director Department of Aviation for approval of final contract amount of \$1,889,502.26 and acceptance of work on contract with **DIXON SERVICES, INC d/b/a CONSTRUCTION LTD** for Terminal C. Baggage Claim Expansion at George Bush Intercontinental Airport/Houston (IAH); Project No. 517; CIP A-0157 - 09.85% over the original contract amount - Enterprise Fund - **DISTRICT B - GALLOWAY** – was presented, moved by Council Member Boney, seconded by Council Member Sanchez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Vasquez and Bell absent. MOTION 2001-1276 ADOPTED
4. RECOMMENDATION from Director Building Services Department for approval of final contract amount of \$2,056,199. and acceptance of work on contract with **PRIME CONTRACTORS, INC** for Parks to Standard Program - Cherryhust, Forum, Nieto, West Little York and Hartman Parks, GFS F-0363-09-3 - 03.12% over the original contract amount - Parks Consolidated Construction Fund - **DISTRICTS A - TATRO; D - BONEY; F- ELLIS; I - CASTILLO and H - VASQUEZ** – was presented, moved by Council Member Boney, seconded by Council Member Sanchez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Vasquez and Bell absent. MOTION 2001-1277 ADOPTED
5. RECOMMENDATION from Director Department of Public Works & Engineering for approval of final contract amount of \$1,734,740.03 and acceptance of work on contract with **RWL CONSTRUCTION, INC** for Construction of Water Main Extension and Briar Hills Area Connections, GFS S-0700-04-3 (10549) - 00.57% under the original contract amount - Enterprise Fund - **DISTRICTS G - KELLER and E - TODD** – was presented, moved by Council Member Boney, seconded by Council Member Sanchez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Vasquez and Bell absent. MOTION 2001-1278 ADOPTED

PURCHASING AND TABULATION OF BIDS

7. **PROJECT DEVELOPMENT GROUP, INC** for Emergency Purchase of Asbestos Abatement and Demolition Services for Department of Public Works & Engineering - \$97,188.00 - Dangerous Building Consolidated Fund - **DISTRICTS H - VASQUEZ and I - CASTILLO** – was presented, moved by Council Member Boney, seconded by Council Member Sanchez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Vasquez and Bell absent.

MOTION 2001-1279 ADOPTED

8. **PEPPER LAWSON CONSTRUCTION, L.P.** for Emergency Repair to 69th Street Wastewater Treatment Plant for Department of Public Works & Engineering - \$988,665.23 - Enterprise Fund **DISTRICT I - CASTILLO** – was presented, moved by Council Member Boney, seconded by Council Member Sanchez.

Council Member Castillo stated that this item was certainly something they needed to take care of today, but he would like to know some more details about the incident and did they know what the cause was and whether it was refundable from their insurance, and Mayor Brown stated that it was caused by a huge fire there and they had applied for the insurance, and they would give him a report on it. Council Members Vasquez and Bell absent.

A vote was called on Item No. 8. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Members Vasquez and Bell absent. MOTION 2001-1280 ADOPTED

ORDINANCES

10. ORDINANCE with respect to the issuance of special facilities revenue bonds to finance cargo facilities and improvements for **AERO HOUSTON CENTRAL, LP AND AERO HOUSTON EAST, LP** to be undertaken at George Bush Intercontinental Airport/Houston; authorizing a public hearing - **DISTRICT B - GALLOWAY** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Vasquez absent. ORDINANCE 2001-1067 ADOPTED.
13. ORDINANCE appropriating \$50,000.00 out of Housing Special Revenue Fund and approving and authorizing a third contract amendment between the City of Houston and **HOUSTON HOUSING FINANCE CORPORATION**, to extend the contract term and provide an additional \$1,670,980.00 of Community Development Block Grant Funds and \$50,000.00 hereby appropriated for the continuation of an Emergency Home Repair Program – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Vasquez absent. ORDINANCE 2001-1068 ADOPTED.
14. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing a fifth contract amendment between the City of Houston and the **SHELTERING ARMS**, Houston, Texas to extend the contract term and to provide an additional \$1,592,850.00 of Community Development Block Grant Funds for the continuation of an Emergency Home Repair Program – was presented, and tagged by Council Member Goldberg. Council Member Vasquez absent.
15. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing a fifth contract amendment between the City of Houston and the **HOUSTON AREA URBAN LEAGUE** to extend the contract term and to provide an additional \$1,488,300.00 of Community Development Block Grant Funds for the continuation of an Emergency Home Repair Program – was presented and tagged by Council Member Tatro. Council Member Vasquez absent.
16. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing a fifth contract amendment between the City of Houston and the **NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MINORITY CONTRACTORS - HOUSTON CHAPTER** to extend the contract term and to provide an additional \$964,060.00 of Community Development Block Grant Funds for the continuation of an Emergency Home Repair Program – was presented, and tagged by Council Member Keller. Council Member Vasquez absent.

- 16-1. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing seventh contract amendment between the City of Houston and **GANO, INC** (Gulfton Area Neighborhood Organization, Inc), to provide for an extension of such contract and additional funding in the amount of \$100,000.00 to cover costs associated with the operation of the Day Labor Site Program located at 6025 Chimney Rock Grant Fund - **DISTRICT F - ELLIS** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Vasquez absent. ORDINANCE 2001-1069 ADOPTED.
17. ORDINANCE appropriating \$6,481,000.00 out of Water and Sewer Consolidated Construction Fund and approving and authorizing contract amendment to an Interlocal Agreement between the City of Houston and **TRINITY RIVER AUTHORITY** of Texas for construction of Lake Livingston Dam Improvements CIP S-0019-03 – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Vasquez absent. ORDINANCE 2001-1070 ADOPTED.
18. ORDINANCE appropriating \$2,926,000.00 out of Disaster Recovery Fund to contract between the City of Houston and **GILBANE BUILDING COMPANY** for continued restoration of Jones Hall **DISTRICT I – CASTILLO** – was presented and tagged by Council Member Tatro.

Council Member Tatro stated that this item involved again the Disaster Recovery Fund, that a couple of weeks ago he had asked for a list of those contracts that were in the initial go round, the emergency contracts that they had let and he believed that some of those emergency contracts were still not paid, that they had people who went in and did some of the initial work on Tropical Storm Allison repair for the City of Houston and had only been paid partial amounts for the work they had done, that he saw that they continued to move monies back and forth and were actually now moving money over to the Convention Center area from the Water and Sewer, that they continued to shift money around yet they were leaving people unpaid for the work they had done, that they should pay the people who had done the work before they started allocating new contracts and new resources for other contracts for Tropical Storm Allison, that he would like a copy of the list that he requested, and stated that he would tag the item, and Mayor Brown stated that they would make sure he got the information. Council Member Vasquez absent.

Council Member Keller stated that he realized this item was not on their last ad hoc committee meeting and had a couple of questions for Council Member Quan, and asked if they sent notices to other Council Members as far as the ad hoc committee meetings, and Council Member Quan stated they had been sending notices to everyone giving them an opportunity to appear at the meetings, that he knew there were still several lingering issues and were hoping that they would have finalized all of the work of the ad hoc committee, but he had spoken to Mr. Haines and they still had a number of FEMA issues that were still persisting, that they could have another meeting to discuss this item and other items that were necessary, that he had talked to Mr. Haines yesterday about how their FEMA allocations would go and about what houses would be rebuilt and what houses were scheduled to be demolished and thought that was something they should be bringing to the committee so that everybody would have a chance to know what was going on, that he thought they had a good chance to get reimbursement on this amount of money, it was not anticipated and was not discussed at the last ad hoc meeting, it came up later on because there was more damage than they had initially anticipated, that he knew those were valid concerns that Council Member Tatro had brought out, and they had been a little slower in getting their FEMA reimbursement and insurance monies than they had anticipated so he understood why there were still outstanding bills. Council Member Vasquez absent.

Mayor Brown asked Mr. Tollett if he had anything to add to this, and Mr. Tollett stated that they did take this item and the need to add to it to the committee and talked about it last time, that

it was important work to be done to Jones Hall, that they could wait a week, but there were materials that needed to be ordered, and Council Member Quan stated that they were more than willing to discuss it, that his staff did come and speak with him after the meeting and gave him a briefing on it, but unfortunately the rest of the committee was not available to get the briefing. Council Members Boney and Vasquez absent.

Council Member Tatro asked Mr. Tollett if this contract with Gilbane for actual construction restoration work or just for management, and Mr. Tollett stated it was for actual work yet to be done. Council Member Vasquez absent.

Council Member Robinson stated that when Council Member Tatro stated they were waiting to be paid was it an issue of they had the cash and it was going through the process slowly or did they not have the money, and Council Member Tatro stated they were being told the funds were not available. Council Member Vasquez absent.

Mayor Brown asked Mr. Haines if the people were being paid, and Mr. Haines stated that as far as they knew those invoices were being process and being paid and would get a report to the Council Members by the close of business today. Council Member Vasquez absent.

19. ORDINANCE appropriating \$825,715.00 out of Park Consolidated Construction Fund, awarding construction contract to **TIMES CONSTRUCTION, INC** and approving and authorizing professional services contract for engineering testing services with **TOLUNAY-WONG ENGINEERS, INC** for construction of Parks to Standard Program-Phase II - Ingrando Park, GFS F-0363-17-3; providing funding for construction management, professional architectural services and contingencies relating to construction of facilities financed by the Park Consolidated Construction Fund - \$412,015.00 - Community Development Block Grant Fund - **DISTRICT I- CASTILLO** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Vasquez absent. ORDINANCE 2001-1071 ADOPTED.
21. ORDINANCE appropriating \$10,000.00 out of Fire Consolidated Construction Fund, CIP G-NA-00-1; \$10,000.00 out of Police Consolidated Construction Fund, CIP G-NA-00-1; and \$20,000.00 out of Convention and Entertainment Construction Fund, CIP B-0069-25-1; for payment of appraisal costs and Title Expenses, for and in connection with projects within the City of Houston's Capital Improvement Plan – was presented and tagged by Council Member Goldberg. Council Member Vasquez absent.

Council Member Goldberg stated that he wanted to get a list of the projects to be funded out of this fund. Council Member Vasquez absent.

MATTERS HELD - NUMBERS 23 through 29

23. MOTION by Council Member Boney/Seconded by Council Member Vasquez to adopt recommendation for **BOWLING BICYCLES, INC** for Mountain Bikes for Police Department \$432,250.00 - General Fund – (**This was Item 15 on Agenda of November 20, 2001, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBER KELLER**) – was presented. . All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Vasquez absent. MOTION 2001-1281 ADOPTED
25. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing contract between the City of Houston and **JEFFERSON ASSOCIATES, INC** for Information System Support Consulting Services for the Planning and Development Department; providing a maximum contract amount - \$2,500,000.00 - General and Building Inspections Fund – (**This was Item 21 on Agenda of November 20, 2001, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS GOLDBERG, TATRO and**

KELLER) – was presented.

Council Member Keller stated that he had tagged the item last week and appreciated the time that Brian and Nick gave him the past week, that he was pleased it was only for one year because he wanted to let them know that he would be monitoring what they hoped to accomplish with this over the next year, that he would like to point out to some of the different department heads because it seemed like they had a lot of projects going on within different departments without their being absolutely certain that at the end of the projects, with their long term goal, that they were going to all be coordinated and worked together, that he would hope that they would have better coordination between the departments to make sure that the long term programming or the software and technological systems they were doing were all going to be able to be tied in together. Council Member Vasquez absent.

A vote was called on Item No. 25. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Vasquez absent. ORDINANCE 2001-1072 ADOPTED.

26. ORDINANCE appropriating \$826,400.00 out of Convention & Entertainment Construction Fund, awarding construction contract to **PRIMIS CORPORATION** and approving and authorizing professional services contract for engineering testing services with **HBC ENGINEERING, INC** for Roof Replacement and other improvements for Houston Center for the Arts, GFS B-0049-01-3; providing funding for contingencies relating to construction of facilities financed by the Convention & Entertainment Construction Fund - **DISTRICT D – BONEY – (This was Item 27 on Agenda of November 20, 2001, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBER GOLDBERG)** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Vasquez absent. ORDINANCE 2001-1073 ADOPTED.
27. RECEIVE nominations for Positions B, C, E and G of the **HOUSTON CLEAN CITY COMMISSION**, the one year terms to expire February 1, 2002 – **(This was Item 29 on Agenda of November 20, 2001, POSTPONED BY MOTION #2001-1260)** – was presented.

Council Member Galloway stated that she wanted to nominate Mr. R. C. Jones, Sr. for re-appointment as the District B Representative to the Houston Clean City Commission and had distributed his resume.

Council Member Goldberg stated that he wanted to nominate Mrs. Ruth Hurst for appointment as the District C Representative to the Houston Clean City Commission and had distributed her resume.

Council Member Todd stated that he wanted to re-nominate Mr. Glen Grantham for appointment as the District E Representative to the Houston Clean City Commission and had distributed his resume.

Council Member Keller stated that he wanted to nominate Ms. Agnes Perkins for appointment as the District G Representative to the Houston Clean City Commission and had distributed her resume. Council Member Ellis absent.

Note: After each nomination a second was made and a vote called, however, no motion was recorded as MOTION NO. 2001-1282 was adopted to close all nominations. Council Member Ellis absent.

Council Member Boney moved to close nominations, seconded by Council Member Tatro.

All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Ellis absent. MOTION 2001-1282 ADOPTED

29. ORDINANCE issuing a permit to **BPP-1, L.P.**, for building, constructing, using, operating, maintaining and repairing a building retention system within portions of Preston Avenue, Crawford Street and Prairie Avenue abutting Block 50, 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 - **DISTRICT I – CASTILLO – (This was Item 54 on Agenda of November 14, 2001, POSTPONED BY MOTION #2001-1244)** – was presented.

Council Member Quan stated that he had asked that this item be delayed for two weeks and was pleased to have had an opportunity to meet with Mr. Matt Cory with Trammel Crow and thought that his staff had gone around the floor showing a rendering of what this building would look like, that there had been discussion as to how much economic development had been generated by Enron Field and this was certainly a major project and mixed use project, that they would have retail, office as well as upscale housing, that he thought it was a pioneer project that Trammel Crow was taking a chance on, that he was concerned about the blocking of the view by people attending Enron Field of the downtown vista, which he thought that it was certainly something that they very much valued, but the location of the building seemed that it would not in fact block the view, but he was concerned that in the future the Ben Milam Hotel building, if something was built of that nature on that site, would block the view, so while he had no problem with this item he would hope that they could something in some way to mitigate any damage that may be caused by a future developer with the property next door. Council Member Ellis absent.

A vote was called on Item No. 29. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Ellis absent. ORDINANCE 2001-1074 ADOPTED.

MATTERS TO BE PRESENTED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Council Member Vasquez stated that he wanted to bring to the Council's attention that this weekend they would be having the Holiday in the Heights Home Tour on Friday November 30th and Saturday, December 1st from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on November 30th and 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on December 1st, that Metro was providing free parking with the shuttle bus and the boarding was at Saint Andrews House at 1811 Heights Boulevard, that the tickets for the tour were \$13 in advance and \$15 on the day of the event. Council Member Ellis absent.

Council Member Vasquez stated that he wanted to bring to their attention that in today's newspaper there was a front page article on the sale of the Hardy Rail Yard area, approximately 50 to 60 acres just north of downtown and was a significant piece to the redevelopment of the northside, that Mayor Brown had helped them sponsor some of that redevelopment with some HUD money and other planning dollars as well and that was a significant part of the planning exercise that they were about to come to completion on, that they would be having a meeting in a couple of weeks, which he would announce, about the neighborhood revitalization plan for the northside, so things were moving in the northside and a lot of the civic club members were very happy and very thankful for the Mayor's support of them and for their effort so they looked forward to the results of the plan and how it was going to change the northside, and again hopefully that rail would come to the northside on its way to Intercontinental. Council Members Ellis and Castillo absent.

Council Member Goldberg stated that he wanted to talk about an apartment complex in District C and was called Woodland Forest, that he went out there on Thanksgiving and helped move some people to a different complex with a donated help and boxes and services from various moving companies, that A1 Apartment Movers was one of them, that the condition of the apartment complex was absolutely appalling, there were buildings that were destroyed with roofs caved in, every pool

there was infected with bacteria, that it was like a third world country and hard to believe that this was in Houston and in District C, that he was glad to find out that there was going to be a hearing and the City of Houston was going to be involved, that he was wondering why Neighborhood Protection was not involved in this much sooner and why things were not done about this because it had been going on for at least a year or a few years and he knew they had not had hot water for three months. Council Member Goldberg stated that he was displaying a video tape to show some of the deplorable conditions at the apartment complex which was located at Bissonnett near Renwick, that the tape was shot yesterday, so it existed today, that there were buildings that had fallen down, staircases that people did use were not properly secured and were about to fall down, and Mayor Pro Tem Boney asked Council Member Goldberg if he had reported it to Neighborhood Protection, and Council Member Goldberg stated several times, that the property was owned by Mr. Al Antonini, that at this point and time the City had come out but all they had done was issue citations, but people were allowed to live there and the complex was allowed to go on, that most of the residents were moved to Saint Charles Apartments and he wanted to thank Saint Charles Apartments for taking them in on an emergency basis at a reduced rate, that he did not know why they had a situation where all that was done was that citations were issued and nothing was done. Mayor Brown, Council Members Castillo and Sanchez absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding.

Mayor Pro Tem Boney asked Mr. Hall if the City had the legal authority to go beyond the issuance of citations and was there a next step to go to, and Mr. Hall stated that it was a project that required that the City file a lawsuit and in this instance he understood that had been done, and Council Member Goldberg's Chief of Staff stated that the problem was that there was no one to serve, and Council Member Goldberg asked if a situations like this was it not possible for them to just shut down the apartment complex when they had conditions like those, and Mayor Pro Tem Boney stated that they did not have the legal authority to just shut it down, and asked Mr. Hall if the Legal Department and Fire Department could put their heads together and maybe contact some of their State legislators and maybe they could allow them to serve Mr. Antonini in prison, that they would ask the departments to get together and see if they could not find a creative approach. Mayor Brown, Council Members Castillo and Sanchez absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding.

Council Member Robinson stated that he wanted to remind them that the Texas Municipal League was in town for the next couple of days at the George R. Brown, so hopefully they would get a chance to all participate in their activities. Mayor Brown, Council Members Castillo and Sanchez absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding.

Council Member Robinson stated that in regard to his amendment on Item 9, that he would be out of town the next week, but he had structured the amendment, the back half, that \$20 million dollars was a \$3 million dollar increase and the reason he had added the \$3.5 million dollars was to try to pick up the value of property taxes or some reasonable recovery on their property taxes built into that back twenty. Mayor Brown, Council Members Castillo and Sanchez absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding.

Council Member Robinson stated that he wanted to read into the record an interesting editorial and he hoped they would call on their federal lobby team to get involved in this, that it was an article by Mr. David Gergen talking about the ongoing discussions in Washington over the federal stimulus package and aid to local municipalities, that the title of the article was "Making Main Street Safe" and was an argument in favor of the federal government increasing funding to local municipalities for purposes of homeland defense in the war on terrorism, "A homeland in need. After the flush years of the 1990s, when cities became more livable and young couples started to nest there again, municipalities today are caught between the cruel blades of a scissors. Costs are slicing upward while revenues, driven by a weakening economy, are slicing down. It's time for Washington to recognize that the front line in this war may start in Afghanistan, but it extends all the way to Main Street. Our military is doing a splendid job overseas, but our troops here at home need more help—a lot of it, and

fast. When trouble hits, as we saw at the World Trade Center, the men and women who will be fighting at the scene won't be from the Pentagon. They will wear city uniforms and come from streets nearby. This is a war against all of America, not against an individual city like New York or Boston or Tulsa. Defending the homeland should therefore be something we all pay for together. Just as the national budget fully provides for defense overseas, it should provide for protection of the homeland. It is simply wrong to force city and state governments to skimp on their security and public-health needs—or to force them to choose between paying the police and educating their children. Politicians in Washington. Add up the true costs of emergency security measures, and send the money to the leaders on the front lines. To ensure that cities get their fair share, pass a block grant earmarked just for them. Train fire, police, and health officials at the local level so they are ready for whatever comes. Bring the local police and the FBI into a partnership so they can jointly hunt down suspects. After all, the FBI has only 11,500 special agents; local police departments have 625,000 cops who are savvy and street smart and want to win this war, too. Last week brought welcome news on the battle front overseas. But who knows when a terror cell will once again wreak havoc on Main Street? And who wants to penny-pinch protection at home we should certainly be willing to bail out our cities.”, that the bottom line was that the federal government had the responsibility to help fund homeland security at the local level, and stated to Mr. Hall that he hoped they would call on their federal lobby team to make sure that all efforts in this area that they were at the front of the line pushing to make sure they recovered their cost and the nature of the Cops Program for police funding from the federal government and also the same thing that was being talked about for enhancing additional support in the area of firefighter staffing from the federal government. Mayor Brown, Council Members Castillo and Sanchez absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding.

Council Member Robinson stated that he knew Council Member Quan had mentioned he would be talking about his apartment renters rights and he would like to work with him in an ad hoc committee on that item. Mayor Brown, Council Members Castillo and Sanchez absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding.

Council Member Quan stated that he wanted to thank Council Member Goldberg for bringing a video and thought that unfortunately this was not an isolated incident but there were several places around the City in which these conditions occur, that as Council Member Robinson mentioned, he had actually been working a Tenant Bill of Rights which they planned to bring to the Housing Initiatives Committee to institute to inform tenants of their rights when these things occur and they had been looking at the Housing Committee as far as what they could do to stop the slum lords, that he wanted to invite all of the Council Members to the next meeting of the Housing Initiatives Committee meeting which was tomorrow morning in Council Chambers at 10:00 a.m., that Items 14, 15 and 16 were tagged today and they would certainly liked to have concerns expressed as to what issues led to the tags, that he thought there was some good work being done by Sheltering Arms, the Urban League and the National Association of Minority Contractors to help elderly with home repairs, but if they had concerns to please bring them on and they would try to answer those questions. Mayor Brown, Council Members Castillo and Sanchez absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding.

Council Member Quan stated that he wanted to thank Council for approving the grant to Gano regarding the day labor site, and wanted to let them know that over 100 workers a day came to that site and over 60% did get jobs, that English was being taught to the workers to help improve their skills, that they were working closely with Gano so that in the future they could reduce the amount of subsidy the City of Houston had been able to provide and actually work on developing other sites around town where needs also existed. Mayor Brown, Council Members Castillo and Sanchez absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding.

Council Member Quan stated that with the holiday season approaching he knew that a lot of people were reaching out to different groups and as they knew seniors had been of great concern to him, that this Friday they would be having a party for seniors at the Chinese Community Center and

would like to invite each Council Member to attend and on December 11, 2001 they would be having their senior gala at the George R. Brown and right now over 1,600 seniors from around the City would be attending the gala and they were going to ask Council to contribute door prizes and were more than welcome to attend and to share the holiday season with them. Mayor Brown, Council Members Castillo and Sanchez absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding.

Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding stated that he wanted to thank Council Member Quan for bring up the matter regarding the Housing Initiatives Committee meeting tomorrow and any questions that people had on the senior citizen and elderly home repair program, that he would hope that the same sensitivity that was being requested on the multi family dwelling was granted to the seniors and elders who were living in the same or worse substandard conditions. Mayor Brown, Council Members Castillo and Sanchez absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding.

Council Member Tatro stated that he wanted to talk about two flood related matters, that one, he wanted to thank Mr. Tom Rolen and Mr. Showri Nandigiri for meeting with him yesterday to discuss a mitigation problem on a development that occurred in his area at T. C. Jester and the bayou, that it had been a bit slow in Public Works putting together the information, they had set out to get to the nut of the matter and try to provide documentation, that in his research he found significant discrepancy in the development plans versus the mitigation that was provided on the site, the cut and fill that was provided on the site and he hoped they would be able to rectify and clarify those numbers because right now those numbers were not matching up for the proper mitigation that was required for that development, that what needed to be provided to answer the problem of the proper cut and fill, that what was sufficient data were engineering reports about the cut that was provided at the cut location and the engineering reports about specifically the fill that was provided at the fill location, that what was also important to have were the agreements between the parties, that what was needed was either the contractual agreement or the correspondence between the two parties that provided for the cut to take place, for the engineering to take place, because the developer of the property that was brought up, as far as they could tell, did not have permission or had not communicated with the people who were supposedly providing the cut, that this was a significant issue in light of Tropical Storm Allison, in light of the Timbergrove residents that were not back in their homes to this day. Mayor Brown, Council Members Castillo and Sanchez absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding.

Council Member Tatro stated that his second issue was about the FEMA applications, that he knew that he and Mr. Haines were going to get together but he would just like to propose that FEMA and the State had already given the Harris County Flood Control money for the Fast Track Buyout Program in the unincorporated areas of Harris County, that Harris County Flood Control had already begun the buyout process for many of those homes, that the City made two applications, one for 147 homes and then one for approximately 1,200 homes, that while they did not know the specific locations of the 1,200 homes money they got back, it was estimated at 314 of those 1,200, they did know that the 147 homes application had been accepted in total from the State and that money given to Harris County Flood Control, that what they needed to do was get out of the way on the 147 homes application today and let Harris County handle the 147 homes, if the State had approved those homes for the buyout they did not need to do anything else, that there was no planning to be done on behalf of the City, they needed to have Harris County run the program, contact the residents and let them proceed, that he had 15 homes in his district as part of those 147 homes that they knew, that he did not see a City planning function if those were the homes that had been approved, that he thought the Harris County Flood Control was obligated to approach them and ask them if they still wanted to participate in the buyout program and start that process. Mayor Brown, Council Members Castillo and Sanchez absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding.

Mayor Pro Tem Boney asked Mr. Hall approximately how much were they paying their Washington lobby firm, and Mr. Hall stated they paid them approximately \$220,000 per year, and Mayor Pro Tem Boney stated that he wanted to formally request the lobby firm's assistance in a City

matter, that his office received 40 calls yesterday and among them were people who voted in the November 6, 2001 election and were not on the voter verification rolls to vote in the early vote for the runoff, that this was an ongoing problem and they had asked the Justice Department already to send in monitors and he had not heard an affirmation that they were going to send them in, that he would like their lobby firm to contract the Justice Department Voting Rights Division and seek to assist them in getting some people from Justice on site for Saturday, December 1, 2001 election, to try to assure that they at least had as many officials in place to review the process before it was over.

There being no further business before Council, the City Council adjourned at 10:02 a.m. upon MOTION by Council Member Robinson, seconded by Council Member Quan. All voting aye. Nays none. Mayor Brown, Council Members Castillo and Sanchez absent. Mayor Pro Tem Boney presiding.

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

MINUTES READ AND APPROVED

Anna Russell, City Secretary