

City Council Chamber, City Hall, Wednesday, January 2, 2002

A Meeting of the Houston City Council was held, as provided by Article VII, Section 3, of the City Charter of the City of Houston at 11:30 a.m., Wednesday, January 2, 2002, with Mayor Lee P. Brown presiding and with Council Members Bruce Tatro, Carol M. Galloway, Mark Goldberg, Ada Edwards, Addie Wiseman, Mark A. Ellis, Bert Keller, Gabriel Vasquez, Carol Alvarado, Annise Parker, Gordon Quan, Shelly Sekula-Rodriguez, M.D., Michael Berry and Carroll Robinson; Mr. Al Haines, Chief Administrative Officer, Mayor's Office; Ms. Sylvia Garcia, Controller; Mr. Anthony Hall, City Attorney; Ms. Martha Stein, Agenda Director present.

At 11:48 a.m. Mayor Brown called to order the meeting of the City Council and led everyone in prayer and the pledge of allegiance. Council Member Galloway absent.

Mayor Brown requested the City Secretary to call the roll. Council Member Galloway absent.

MISCELLANEOUS

1. RECOMMENDATION from the Director Finance & Administration for approval of Individual Fidelity Bond Form for **LEE P. BROWN, MAYOR** in the penal sum of \$50,000.00 and **SYLVIA R. GARCIA, CITY CONTROLLER** in the penal sum of \$50,000.00 as required by the City Charter and the Code of Ordinances - \$130.00 Total Premium - General Fund – was presented, moved by Council Member Quan, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Galloway absent. MOTION 2002-0001 ADOPTED.
2. RECOMMENDATION from the Director Finance & Administration for approval of Individual Fidelity Bond Form for **RICHARD J. SOMERVILLE, II, DEPUTY TAX ASSESSOR/COLLECTOR** in the penal sum of \$25,000.00 as required by the City Charter and the Code of Ordinances - \$100.00 Total Premium - General Fund – was presented, moved by Council Member Quan, seconded by Council Member Parker. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Galloway absent. MOTION 2002-0002 ADOPTED.
3. CONFIRMATION by Council of Mayor Brown's nomination of Council Member Gordon Quan as Mayor Pro Tem – was presented, moved by Council Member Robinson, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. Council Member Galloway absent.

Council Member Vasquez stated that he just wanted to recognize the Mayor's selection and agree with the selection, that he thought that Council Member Quan was very well qualified and if he was correct Council Member Quan would be the first Asian American to be Mayor Pro Tem for the City of Houston. Council Member Galloway absent.

Council Member Ellis stated that he wanted to echo the sentiments of Council Member Vasquez. Council Member Galloway absent.

Council Member Alvarado stated that she wanted to congratulate her fellow Milby alumnae, that he was someone who grew up in the Eastend and attended Milby High School, that she was very proud to have Council Member Quan serve as their Mayor Pro Tem.

A vote was called on Item No. 3. All voting aye. Nays none. MOTION 2002-0003 ADOPTED.

Council Member Quan stated that he wanted to take the opportunity to say how honored

and humbled he was by the confidence shown to him by Mayor Brown and fellow Council Members, that he pledged to make the office of the Mayor Pro Tem a helpful and responsive partner to each Council office, that he personally promised to make himself available to each of them to discuss issues and ideas which they felt would make Houston a better City, that they would face many difficult challenges, but he sincerely believed if they were willing to work together as a team and put aside personal glory they would meet and overcome the challenges and make Houston a model for other cities, that he wanted to take the opportunity to thank his family, his staff, his law partners, his friends and the citizens of Houston for their help and support.

Mayor Brown stated that he wanted to recognize a former Member of the City Council and now a Member of the U.S. Congress, Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee, that they were happy to have her in the Council Chambers again.

Mayor Brown stated that as most of them who attended the inauguration ceremony heard they did have a lot of work cut out for them, that they had an opportunity to see their City move on to even greater prosperity and become, at least what his vision was, a premier world class City in both perception and reality, that he happened to think that Houston was that right now, but some people had not realized it yet so they would work hard to tell the Houston story throughout America, that he looked forward to working with all the Members of Council and thought that it would be a great year, that he was excited about the enthusiasm and particularly the commitment that the Council Members, both those that were returning and those who were new on Council, and the City Controller for all the great energy that they brought to the task, that he really looked forward to working with each one of them, that he wanted to introduce his wife Francis.

4. RECEIVE nominations for Vice Mayor Pro Tem – was before Council. Council Member Quan nominated Council Member Keller for Vice Mayor Pro Tem.

Council Member Robinson moved to close the nominations, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. MOTION 2002-0004 ADOPTED.

- 4a. APPOINTMENT from the nominees of a Vice Mayor Pro Tem - was before Council. All voting aye. Nays none. MOTION 2002-0005 ADOPTED.

Council Member Keller stated that he appreciated the spirit of cooperation and hoped that it would be value added to the agenda issues that would be forthcoming, to be able to communicate some of the issues to where they could work together to build a coalition.

Mayor Brown, the City Council Members and the City Controller, recognized family members, friends and staff members who were present in the audience and thanked them for being present and for their support.

Mayor Brown stated that he wanted to thank all of them for being present at their first of the year Council meeting and stated that he wanted to close, on behalf of all of the Council Members and the City Controller, by expressing their appreciation to all of the City employees, that they were the ones who went out everyday and made the City work and they did an outstanding job, that they thanked and appreciated them.

There being no further business before Council, the City Council adjourned at 12:26 p.m. upon MOTION by Council Member Quan, seconded by Council Member Ellis. All voting aye. Nays none.

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

MINUTES READ AND APPROVED

Anna Russell, City Secretary