

City Council Chamber, City Hall, Tuesday, May 21, 2002.

A Regular Meeting of the Houston City Council was held at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 21, 2002, with Mayor Pro Tem Gordon Quan presiding and with Council Members Bruce Tatro, Carol M. Galloway, Mark Goldberg, Ada Edwards, Addie Wiseman, Mark Ellis, Bert Keller, Gabriel Vasquez, Carol Alvarado, Annise Parker, Shelly Sekula-Rodriguez, M.D., Michael Berry and Carroll Robinson; Mr. Paul Bibler, Senior Counsel, City Attorney's Office; Mr. Richard Cantu, Director, Mayor's Citizens Assistance Office; Ms. Martha Stein, Agenda Director present. Mayor Lee P. Brown out of the city on city business.

At 2:02 p.m. Mayor Pro Tem Quan stated they had a series of proclamations and would begin with Council Member Edwards. Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Ellis, Keller, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Sekula-Rodriguez, Berry and Robinson absent. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Council Member Edwards invited Dr. Gary Radford, his wife Denise and daughter Mia to join her at the podium and stated that as long as she had been in the City and working in the community Dr. Radford had always been a resource for their efforts, that whenever they had people who needed dental attention he had a facility that had about 100 people working there, that he had a lot of young people who learned state of the art dentistry and had the opportunity to learn as they grow and as they grow be promoted to different areas, that Dr. Radford was a real model for how small businesses could help develop and drive deep the economic stability that they were always talking about, that he was also that kind of unseen hand in the community that kept the community going forward without notice and notoriety, that Dr. Radford had been the recipient of numerous awards and honors including the American Society of Dentistry for Children Certificate of Merit and Alpha Omega Fraternity Award for excellence, that currently Dr. Radford served as a board member of the Health Philosity Group Limited and was also a member of the ADA specializing in pediatric dentistry, that Dr. Radford has worked with many governmental and private agencies to treat over 100,000 disadvantaged children in the Houston area and read a proclamation that proclaimed that Lee P. Brown, Mayor of the City of Houston, hereby proclaimed Tuesday, May 21, 2002 as Dr. Gary Hamilton Radford, Jr. Day in Houston, Texas. Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Ellis, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Sekula-Rodriguez, Berry and Robinson absent. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Dr. Radford stated that it was a pleasure to receive the award especially since it came from something he enjoyed doing so well, and Mayor Pro Tem Quan stated that he wanted to thank him for all of the work that he did for the City of Houston and for his generosity in helping other people. Council Members Galloway, Ellis, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Sekula-Rodriguez, Berry and Robinson absent. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Council Member Berry invited Ms. Cheryl Harris, President of the American Public Works Association, Ms. Naomi Hines, an officer, and Mr. Vanden Bosch, Director, Department of Public Works, to the podium and stated that it was National Public Works Week and read a proclamation that proclaimed that Lee P. Brown, Mayor of the City of Houston, hereby proclaimed the week of May 19 through 25, 2002 as National Public Works Week in Houston, Texas and urged all citizens and civic organizations to acquaint themselves with the issues involved in providing their Public Works. Council Members Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker and Robinson absent.

Mr. Vanden Bosch stated that he was accepting the proclamation for the people who were out filling the pot holes, putting down hot overlay, making sure their sewers work, cleaning stoppages, repairing water lines, making sure they had enough water when they turn the spigot on, out checking the contractors who were building new roads and new water plants and the like, that those were the people who deserved the award. Council Members Tatro, Vasquez,

Alvarado, Parker and Robinson absent.

Mayor Pro Tem Quan stated that he would ask Council Member Sekula-Rodriguez to assist him with the next proclamation which was honoring the EMS personnel and invited Dr. Persse and Chief Connealy to the podium. Council Members Tatro, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker and Robinson absent.

Council Member Sekula-Rodriguez stated that the Emergency Medical Services was a system of care for victims of sudden and serious illness and injury and the system depended on the availability and coordination of many elements ranging from an informed public capable of recognizing an emergency to a network of trauma centers capable of providing the highly specialized care that was required for the seriously ill and injured, and read a proclamation that proclaimed that Lee P. Brown, Mayor of the City of Houston, hereby proclaimed the week of May 19 through 25, 2002 as National EMS Emergency Medical Services Week. Council Members Tatro, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent.

Dr. Persse stated that it was a system of care and the system of care begins with public education, requiring people when to call 911 and when to go elsewhere for help and also how to take care of minor emergencies at home, it then went to the 911 center, the dispatchers, the call takers, the firefighters on the fire truck, the paramedics and the EMT's and the doctors and nurses in the emergency department, that it was all one continuous chain, no single length was expandable. Council Members Tatro, Vasquez, Alvarado and Robinson absent.

Chief Connealy stated that he wanted to echo Dr. Persse and to thank the firefighters who did a wonderful job and Dr. Persse and his staff and EMS administration, that it was a crown jewel of the City of Houston, that the Fire Department had the best recitation rate not only in the Country but the world and it was a testament to the professionalism of all those involved, that the City of Houston was well served and the Houston Fire Department EMS System was something they should all be proud of. Council Members Tatro, Vasquez and Robinson absent.

Mayor Pro Tem Quan stated that Chief Connealy told him that the Lone Star Achievement Award given by the Texas Fire Chief Association of the State of Texas had been given to the Houston EMS Department for their innovative of the paramedic unit program where suburbans were being used to go out to answer emergencies, that he wanted to congratulate Chief Connealy and Dr. Persse and everyone else for all the wonderful work they did to make it a safe City.

At 2:17 p.m. Mayor Pro Tem Quan called to order the meeting of the City Council and Council Member Sekula-Rodriguez led everyone in prayer and pledge of allegiance. Council Members Vasquez and Robinson absent.

Mayor Pro Tem Quan requested the City Secretary to call the roll. Mayor Brown out of the city on city business. Council Members Vasquez and Robinson absent.

Council Members Keller and Tatro moved that the minutes of the previous meeting be adopted. All voting aye. Nays none. Mayor Brown out of the city on city business. Council Members Vasquez and Robinson absent.

Council Member Keller moved to suspend the rules to hear Ms. Brenda Flores, Ms. Barbara McCormick and Ms. Heather Kanenberg out of order, seconded by Council Member Galloway. All voting aye. Nays none. Mayor Brown out of the city on city business. Council Members Vasquez and Robinson absent. MOTION 2002-0577 ADOPTED.

Mayor Pro Tem Quan requested the City Secretary to call the list of speakers.

Ms. Brenda Flores, 2041 Mernel, Houston, Texas 77055 (713-722-9258) appeared and stated that Friday she believed Council Members would be treated to the new system, SimDisc, that she was looking into the company because they had never before tried the software, that she could not speak to the software, but did look into the company, that the CEO and Chairman of the Board, Mr. Robert E. Knowling, that she took everything from the bio's on SimDisc.com, that his last gig, so to speak, was Chairman of the Board of Kovad, also president, that it was overwhelmingly decided that they would ask for his resignation after the company lost \$11.4 million in one three month period, that their stock went from \$66.66 per share to \$3.40 per share, that after that he went to Ariba Inc. and their stock went from \$366 a share to just a little above \$6 per share, that Milberg and Wise, the plaintiff's attorney that was carrying the Enron's creditors and employees had two outstanding lawsuits against both of these companies and Robert E. Knowling, Jr., that Ray C. Davis, the founder, the only company on his bio was Signet.com and the older Council Members would know one of the names on there, the Director, Daniel C. Lawson, that she thought they had a conflict with the Mayor, that Assid Kalil, Director, of the new company had the National Association for Security and Dealers Regulators fine him \$125,000 under his last gig at WMA Securities, Inc., that she had links on her website to every bit of the information, that it was on the internet and wanted them to please not give these people \$6 million they did not have a good track record, that if they had \$6 million keep the libraries open and vaccinate the kids with it, do not throw it after people with track records like this. Council Members Vasquez and Berry absent.

Upon questions by Council Members, Ms. Flores stated that she was relating the \$6 million to Mr. Danny Piper's request for the new Department of Technology, that she understood that SimDisc was going to incorporate themselves into half of the PC's in the City of Houston, about \$5.7 million or \$5.8 million, that SimDisc's Chairman and CEO, a director and founder had questionable track records, that she did not have anything to say against the program, that it was the company and the people that would be administering it and that they would be giving \$6 million to, that if they had \$6 million to give to someone who just blew \$11.4 million so please keep the libraries open, that eight hours were going to be cut from the Clayton Library evening hours, that there were plenty of children who used it, that the Boy Scouts had a badge for genealogy, that the Girl Scouts had a badge for ethnicity and for tracing their family roots, that she was at Clayton Library on Saturday and in the one hour she was there she saw six children there, that it was not just for adults using the library, although it did attract 72,000 people from outside the City and bring them into the City, it was a money maker and not where they should be cutting the hours.

Ms. Barbara McCormick, 12119 Boheme, Houston, Texas 77024 (713-464-8802) appeared and stated that she was President and CEO of Children at Risk, that Children at Risk was a local child advocacy organization and the community supported them to represent children, speak out on their issues and to act in their interest, that they help many children at times through changes in budget line items, public policies and in public laws, that studying the budget was the fate that Council Members and child advocates could not escape and they started looking at the budget in about 1995 and last year they saw the clear warning signs of a pattern of cuts to Health and Human Services Department, that they had seen the whittling down every year, essentially since 1995, and mainly since 1996, of the amounts of dollars that were going to the overall department, that last year during the budget session they heard about dollars and they heard the decline to fund the immunization registry that was requested as a priority, that the urgency and the impact of the growing cuts were serious for their children, that they disagreed with the Mayor that they were minimal and would have minimal impacts, the budget cuts, they thought they had very serious impacts in child and maternal health in the year 2002 and 2003, that if they looked at it a half a million here and a million there it added up to pretty big money

after a little while and they had looked at over \$6 million cuts to Health and Human Services and as they looked at the latest budget that they all received on Friday it was about \$2 million in cuts for child and maternal health care, that the consequences of these were clear, and they had a packet of information in front of them with a chart that said reduction in child and maternal health services, patient encounter was down, 42% less children seen, sessions down, waiting times up, that one clinic gave 6 months waiting time to get an appointment for a well child checkup, that this was cutting into the times that children could be seen and cutting into their health care, that certainly she thought that it was not for lack of need, it was lack of resources and those resources flowed through the City budget, that they thought that public health was a public safety item and they thought that the Council needed to reframe public health as a public safety item, that on September 11, 2001 and thereafter they did not hesitate to ask City Health Department to respond to the scare that was real, Anthrax, the threat of Small Pox, the threat of bio terrorism in general, and yet they had not hesitated to weaken their infrastructure to respond to such emergencies, that they were really asking them to consider these findings and asking them to ask serious questions about the impact of these cuts on the department's budget in the hearing on Thursday, June 30, 2002, that they were asking them to speed up the filling of the grant funded positions, that they needed to be filled, they were holding them up in immunization, they were holding them up in TB and holding them up in WIC and they asked them to look seriously to the internal cuts to Health and Human Services, were they being overly harmful to child and maternal services.

Mayor Pro Tem Quan stated that they had met and talked about some of her concerns and certainly they were very grave and very serious matters for them to consider as they went through the budget.

Upon questions by Council Members, Ms. McCormick stated that they all agree that they should not cut it all out this year but not go with the policy she thought they had adopted of children and women last, to look to the future for the kind of vision and the role that they needed to play and bring partners in and build a plan for children's public health services, that their focus was children, those well child examination, the tuberculosis screenings and follow ups for children, the sexually transmitted service for teens and immunizations and if they funded those immunization grant positions they could go a long way, that the priorities were immunization, well child and tuberculosis, that they were very interested in fairness in those budget cuts in Health and Human Services that the majority of them do not go to child and maternal health and would give the Council something specific in writing so they could give it some consideration and some thought, that she thought the next speaker had some comparison indicators on how they were doing with other cities and health, that she had communicated this to the administration and met with some members of the Mayor's staff and sent a long letter and several documents to the Mayor, that she would disagree with those who say that to close the clinics at night would not hurt the community, that in terms of the divisions funded within she thought that the overall personal and community health of which child and maternal health services were a part was the second largest, that support services was the first largest division, then the personal community health of which were child and maternal and if they compared the two budget pages from last year and this year they thought it was over a million dollar cut, that they had talked about across the board budget cuts in tough economic times and it was tough economic times and it looked to her that they were really concentrating on children, that she did not have an answer to whether they were less ready now after 9/11 for germ warfare than they were before, but they could just not keep weakening the infrastructure of the Health Department, they all knew who gave immunizations and all knew who could react to Anthrax and Small Pox.

Ms. Heather Kanenberg, 2600 Southwest Freeway, Houston, Texas 77098 (713-869-7740) appeared and stated that she was present to share some information that she had gained in her role as public policy analyst with Children At Risk, that they had been researching the impacts of

budget cuts to the Houston Department of Health and Human Services and further they had worked to determine the impact of those cuts on access to public health services for children in Houston, that she had the unique opportunity to conduct research and collect data which had left her with insight on the issues that affect children and the health of the community, that she wanted to begin with highlighting the health profile of Houston's children that they had in their folder, that second to last page, that as a city they had much to be proud of, they had significantly reduced their infant mortality rate to 5.5 deaths per 1,000 live births, down from a rate of 6.2 only three years ago, that this was exceeding their National Healthy People 2000 goal, they were a national leader, that the City and County had combined efforts and an incredibly successful partnership to decrease childhood tuberculosis rates, that the current childhood TB rate was 5.4 and caseloads were down by 42%, that Houston's women were obtaining prenatal care earlier in their pregnancies and they had seen an increase in the percentage of women obtaining early prenatal care for the past twelve years in a row, this aided in positive birth outcomes, that Houston's immunization rate had increased substantially since the early 1990's when their rate was 11%, that Houston in the latest CDC Survey had an immunization rate of 60%, this was a tremendous increase and that was 60% of children receiving all recommend vaccinations, that as Children At Risk had been meeting with them they had received several requests from Council Members to provide them a comparison of Houston to other cities in Texas so they could understand the big picture and gain some perspective on the status of their children's health so the last sheet in their packet was a comparison, that they compared Houston to Dallas, San Antonio, El Paso, they had included the State averages and just for fun she included New York City, that she would not highlight all of the indicators but they could see that while they had made great progress there was much work to be done, that Houston's immunization rate, despite the improvement and achievement she had just noted, was the lowest in the Nation of urban areas and was also the lowest in the State, that they knew they could be successful and had made progress in this area and others and knew how to accomplish their goals they simply had to set public health policy priorities, that a recently released study of Texas indicated that despite their efforts to enroll children in the CHIP (Children's Health Insurance Program) and Medicaid in Harris County they still had approximately 227,000 uninsured children, it was important as community leaders that they know that these families due to social and economic factors would not qualify for the programs, the hospital district, Medicaid or CHIP, they needed their public health services, that she said all of this to explain that there was a real need in their community for public health services, that if they as a City continued to reduce funding for needed child and maternal health and dental services they were jeopardizing the incredible progress they had made, it was not sound public policy to undermine their past efforts and accomplishments, that she asked them to simply become engaged in the budget review process and make sure they were doing all they could in these tough economic times to preserve the health of their children. Council Member Goldberg absent.

Upon questions by Council Members, Ms. Kanenberg stated that if they could not do anything in her personal opinion and from the research she had done, well child services were so important because at that well child checkup so much could be determined and assessed in that child and they could find some other issues, as well as immunizations many times were offered during that checkup so she thought that kind of got two birds with one stone, so well child services, she would think, would certainly be a priority, that as far as areas where there was a higher need, they did see health disparities among different ethnicities and populations and she would tell them that they knew their child population was exploding in the southwest, southeast and far north eastside, so they were seeing a population change and a demographic change and would pay a key part in where City clinics, what services were they providing and who was utilizing them, that as to indicators they knew of some risk factors, communicable disease and other illnesses that were particularly screened for at that time, Diabetes, it did an overall check for the child, that she could get them some more specifics, that regarding Medicaid and CHIP, she had the great opportunity to work on CHIP for three years before she came to work for

Children At Risk, the health insurance for low income families that did not qualify for Medicaid and could not afford it on their own or did not have it offered through a small business employer and what she really thought was happening was that they were hearing deficit on a State level and so as a community, and she would encourage the City and the County both to chime in with advocates to protect the program as it stood, the current eligibility criteria, the current funding streams and programmatic policies needed to maintain where they were, they made great strides in the past two years, if they could maintain where they were for now during the economic stability, that CHIP originally in February projected a \$2 million deficit and the Health and Human Services Commission just revised their caseload estimate and were looking at about \$40 million in a deficit in GR Funds, the beautiful thing was that the commission on a statewide level was doing all they could to find dollars internally, savings and a drug carve out and things of that nature to save the program, that they could adopt policies and a resolution that would support maintaining the program as it stood and not allowing any cuts to happen to program budgets and supporting the State going after any waivers and opportunities they had on a federal level to pull in more dollars, and Council Member Sekula-Rodriguez asked that she would like for Ms. Kanenberg to help her fashion such a resolution and bring it to Council, and Ms. Kanenberg stated that she would be more than happy to help her with that, and Mayor Pro Tem Quan stated that he wanted to mention to Council Members who did not attend the Neighborhood Protection Meeting yesterday, that Health and Human Service had commissioned a study and the results were released at that time as to ways to improve their immunization rate and they looked forward to try to implement those recommendations. Council Member Vasquez absent.

Council Member Ellis moved to suspend the rules to hear Mr. Guy McCord out of order, seconded by Council Member Tatro. All voting aye. Nays none. Mayor Brown out of the city on city business. Council Member Vasquez absent. MOTION 2002-0578 ADOPTED.

Mr. Guy McCord, 8010 Carvel, Houston, Texas 77036 (713-484-5080) appeared and stated that he represented the Texas Rugby Semi Finalists, Bayou City RFC, they were a Texas Rugby Union Division Three Men's Club and their request was simple, they would like to adopt and manage a City park by the name of Black Hawk Park at Fugua and Black Hawk and that was why he was present today. Council Member Vasquez absent.

Mayor Pro Tem Quan stated that he did not know the procedures but Mr. Brian Hill from the Parks Department was present and would meet with him to find out what the procedures were. Council Member Goldberg absent.

Upon questions by Council Members, Mr. McCord stated that they were a voluntary club with the Texas Rugby Union and were a Division Three Men's Club which meant they were a more social and competitive club compared to some of the other Division One clubs that were in Houston and were in need of a field that they could call their home, so they had looked for the parks they had heard in the media of being an abandoned park, that Wayne Dolcefino's people from Channel 13 recommended that they look at Black Hawk park so they went by last week and found out that the park was not irrigated and not suitable to have any type of competitive sports played on it on a regular basis, so what they were prepared to do as a club and a voluntary organization was to adopt the park, that there was a source of water at the street, that this was a park that, according to the signage at the park, was acquired by the City of Houston in 1988 and what they would like to investigate was the possibility of their club adopting the park for maintenance, if not for mowing, which they believed the City could perform, but they would be prepared, providing the water source, to install at their cost the materials and labor to put a sprinkler system in and to also install the goal posts for a Rugby field, so when they brought people in from all over South Texas that they competed against, that they would come to their field and know that it was the Bayou City Pitch, pitch meaning what they called a field in Rugby

terminology, and that they would be able to properly represent Houston to the other cities, because quite frankly most of the other small little cities in Texas did a better job of supporting their local Rugby than what they had been able to do, which was primarily their own responsibility, but they thought they could show off Houston at the same time as do something good for the community, that it was a park that lay in a residential neighborhood and they would want to be able to better the park for the purposes of the enjoyment of all of the children in the neighborhood, that currently at Black Hawk Park there was open space on the bayou, that it was a City park, that there were no amenities and no improvements that they could see, that their organization had been in existence one year, that in return they would like some say so that they would be able to play their home games on the field, that they were trying to take a problem and create a solution to it. Council Member Goldberg absent.

Council Member Sekula-Rodriguez moved to suspend the rules and hear from Mr. Brian Hill, Parks and Recreation Department, seconded by Council Member Parker. All voting aye. Nays none. Mayor Brown out of the city on city business. Council Member Robinson absent. MOTION 2002-0579 ADOPTED.

Upon questions by Council Members, Mr. Hill stated that in the past what they had done was to permit fields for exclusive use of soccer leagues and baseball and softball leagues, he did not believe at this time that they had a field or a park that had been set aside for the exclusive use of any league, that they did have a Rugby field at Memorial Park that was permitted by Rugby teams, that their softball and little league teams permitted a field for a specific period of time for a specific length of time and the Parks Department marks and cuts the field and burn in the lines and then the league was asked to help the Field Operations Maintenance crews to maintain that field, not mow it, but to rake the cut outs, that the department would certainly be open to discuss what the Rugby League needs would be for that field. Council Member Berry absent.

Upon questions by Council Members, Mr. McCord stated that parking would be an issue, that he was there on Saturday and there were no parking signs along the street on Fugua, that the backside of the park was on the bayou, that their sporting events typically were on a Saturday and they would provide for, if not uniformed law enforcement, that there were two players on the club, one was with Harris County and the other one was with the Galveston County Sheriff's Department, so they tended to police themselves and there would be no alcohol at their events that would be tolerated by their club, that the Houston Athletic Rugby Club currently had an agreement with the YMCA on Fondren Road where they practiced, they had men's and women's Rugby teams in their club, that he thought they may entertain doing something with the City also, that they were not asking to do the mowing, it was already being done, but what they were wanting to do was to regulate and manage the irrigation and take care of the fertilization and take care of overseeing to get grass instead of just weeds, that they were not talking about taking the entire area of the park, that they would put a regulation size field with goal posts that they would go to the expense of fabricating and installing, they would also have a practice field to the side. Council Members Galloway, Vasquez, Berry and Robinson absent.

Mayor Pro Tem Quan stated that Mr. Hill and a representative from Council Member Weisman office were present to meet with him. Council Members Galloway, Vasquez, Berry and Robinson absent.

Ms. Gilda Black, 4219 Kelling, Houston, Texas 77045 (713-434-7602) had reserved time to speak, but was not present when her name was called. Council Members Galloway, Vasquez, Berry and Robinson absent.

Ms. Rita Foretich, 12751 Zavalla, Houston, Texas 77085 (713-729-9826) appeared and

stated that she was present because BFI was going to build their facility at Fondren Road and West Orem and the reason she was concerned was because West Orem starts at Fondren Road and went down to Hillcroft and they had Fondren Elementary which was located on Carlsbad Street which crossed West Orem, that she had passed out a handout to the Council Members which showed the projected BFI facility, the amount of trucks involved and the school and neighborhoods affected and continued to review the plan until her time expired. Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Vasquez, Alvarado, Berry and Robinson absent.

Upon questions by Council Member Edwards, Ms. Foretich stated that she was concerned with the trucks whether they were empty or full and she would like to have some signage put up where they could not use West Orem but just use Fondren Road, and Council Member Edwards stated that she would like to meet with her and talk further about the situation. Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Vasquez, Alvarado, Berry and Robinson absent.

Mr. Dale Thomas, 11711 Cape Hyannis, Houston, Texas 77048 (713-803-3042) appeared and stated that he was with the Public Works Department, Traffic Division and was present on two issues, that first of all he would like to talk about their safety shoes, the shape of the shoe they were allowed to have were the High Test Safety Shoes, that the High Test Safety Shoes were basically causing a lot of problems for a lot of employees, that they appreciated the finances they had made available for them to purchase the shoes, but they were asking to be allowed to spend the extra money to buy a comfortable and safe shoe at the same time, that they had a lot of problem with the High Test Shoe, when they go to purchase the shoe they tell them they could only get the High Test, that in the Traffic Division they put a lot of miles on their feet, that they were the Traffic Department and were responsible for the signal lights, the red lights, the stop signs, the crossing signs and things of that nature and they had to put a lot of miles on their feet and they would appreciate it if they were allowed to add to the funds that they had allocated to them for the safety shoes to get a comfortable and safe shoe for the; that the other issue was a pay raise, that he was in a division that should be considered as equal as the Fire, Police and EMS Departments, that his reason for saying that was that the Fire Department, EMS and the Police Department relied upon them, they were responsible for putting up all of the street name signs, all the stop signs and signal signs and those things were detrimental to all of them, that there was no one who could say that if they took down all the street name signs, every one way, every through traffic or every signal light that they could basically go where they needed to go, that they depended on those signs for directions and he was taking it that they were doing an extremely well job because there was not too much said about it, that most of the things that were said were about pot holes. Council Members Galloway, Edwards, Vasquez, Alvarado, Berry and Robinson absent.

Mayor Pro Tem Quan stated that they were certainly sympathetic to the pay issue and thought that many Council Members had expressed their support for an increase for civilian pay. Council Members Galloway, Edwards, Vasquez, Alvarado, Berry and Robinson absent.

Upon questions by Council Members, Mr. Thomas had stated that his shoes had worn out the heels of his feet, that some of the employees were having problems with the steel that was going across cutting their feet up, that most of the employees, even the managers, were having a problem with the High Test Shoes, that basically what they were asking was to put some more money with what they had already given them to get them a comfortable and safe shoe since they were going to have to put so many miles on their shoes, that they were allowed a certain percentage of finances to buy safety shoes and if they wanted a certain type they would have to add to it, but with the contract with High Test, High Test only wanted them to purchase their brand of shoe, and their brand of shoe was crippling the department. Council Members Galloway, Alvarado, Berry and Robinson absent.

After a further lengthy discussion, Mr. Thomas continued to voice his personal opinions regarding the Public Works Department, the civilian pay raises and the Fire Department. Council Members Galloway, Vasquez, Alvarado, Berry and Robinson absent.

Mr. Marcus Lair, 4601 Village Lane No. 1067, Houston, Texas 77521 (281-838-0544) appeared and stated that he had been working with the City through a temporary agency for 11 months and was then made permanent, that he had several deaths in his family and had to take time off, that his daughter was ill and he asked for 10 days off to be with his little girl and his supervisor stated that the only way he could get the 10 days off was to resign, that he did not want to resign, but he wanted to be there for his little girl, that he went ahead and resigned but he did not want that choice, that he was told that if he took the 10 days off he probably be fired so it was better for him to resign. Council Members Galloway, Vasquez, Alvarado, Sekula-Rodriguez and Robinson absent.

Mayor Pro Tem Quan stated that he did not know the procedures for appealing the decision or for reinstatement, but Mr. Norman, Public Works, was in the Council Chamber and asked that he meet with him to go over the procedures. Council Members Galloway, Vasquez, Alvarado, Sekula-Rodriguez and Robinson absent.

Dr. Mbotapa, 6425 Woodard, Houston, Texas 77021 (713-645-9598) had reserved time to speak, but was not present when his name was called. Council Members Galloway, Vasquez, Alvarado, Sekula-Rodriguez and Robinson absent.

Mr. Don Savoie, 15019 Torry Pones Road, Houston, Texas 77062 (281-488-5718) had reserved time to speak, but was not present when his name was called. Council Members Galloway, Vasquez, Alvarado, Sekula-Rodriguez and Robinson absent.

Mr. Pete Captain, 2900 Woodridge, Ste. 304, Houston, Texas 77087 (713-880-4411) appeared and stated that he was a telecommunications consultant and had been in the telecommunications field for about 31 years, that he was present to talk about the Voice Override project that the City was engaged in, that he was talking from the standpoint of what a consultant would look for and make sure the City was asking the right questions on the project, that it was like building a house one room at a time, if they did not do it right when it was done they would not know what they had, that the needs assessment for a project like this needed to be done, that they had to understand why they needed to do it, that had the City seen a detailed design of the project and what it was actually going to do for the City, what were the services or improvements for the City, that it was very important, was there a project plan that showed dates and times and who was going to do what and what vendors were going to support them and did they know who the vendors were, that things like traffic studies, did they know how much information was traveling over the network today, did they know what it would be like in five years, were there any projections, that they needed to make sure their network could support both the voice and the data, that it was very important, that cable certification, in the locations that they had today if they put in something new they had to replace the cable, if they had to replace the cabling it was going to cost them many millions of dollars to do that and that was something that certainly needed to be taken into consideration for a project this size, that another item that was typically sketchy was cost savings, he was sure that they brought up cost savings in the project and had there been some detail provided to the City Council on what the cost savings would be and detail of who was actually going to count the dollars and report back the cost savings, that was always something very interesting that he had been involved with for years, that people always said they were going to save a dollar or ten dollars and a year after the project was over no one could find where that cost savings was, it was just kind of technology project, so that was very important, that another item was equipment depreciation, that typically three to five years was what was recommended in the private sector today, and not what he had

heard, ten or eleven years, that another item in installing this type of network was did it require any more City employees to manage it and if it did had they considered it in the budgets, had they set up anything for performance bonds for their vendors, if they did not perform who paid, that was very important. Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Vasquez, Alvarado, Sekula-Rodriguez, Berry and Robinson absent. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mayor Pro Tem Quan stated that he knew those were all very important issues that they needed to be reviewing on making the decision on IP Telephony, that he knew he contacted several Council offices and offered to be of assistance, and thanked him for his comments. Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Vasquez, Alvarado, Sekula-Rodriguez, Berry and Robinson absent. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Ms. Mary Cochran, 7967 W. Airport, Houston, Texas 77071 (713-729-1153) appeared and stated that her son was Charles Dewayne Harris and the main reason for her being present was to ask for Sergeant Sherrouse's apology for scandalizing their name on television, that they set her son's bond at \$1,500,000, that she would appreciate it if they would bring the bond down to zero because it did not deserve to be that high, that Sergeant Sherrouse had made a statement to her that at the moment that it had all occurred her son would be up for a long time, so when they flashed his picture across the television it really hurt her heart, that her main reason was to ask for an apology, that it could be a written apology, that they cleared his name of some of the charges but she needed an apology from Sergeant Sherrouse. Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Vasquez, Alvarado, Sekula-Rodriguez, Berry and Robinson absent. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Upon questions by Mayor Pro Tem Quan, Ms. Cochran stated that she wanted the apology from Sergeant Sherrouse who had appeared on a television broadcast and made accusations concerning her son, that her son had been arrested and a \$1.5 million bond had been placed on him, and Mayor Pro Tem Quan stated that there were charges and the judge must have found some substantiation to place a bond that high. Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Vasquez, Alvarado, Sekula-Rodriguez, Berry and Robinson absent. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Council Member Edwards asked Ms. Cochran what she wanted the apology for and Ms. Cochran stated that when Sergeant Sherrouse was at her house and told her that her son was going up for a long time and then they flashed his name and picture across the television, that the things they were accusing him for, 18 rapes, had been cleared, that she wanted an apology for scandalizing their name on public television, that she wanted an apology for the remarks the sergeant had made to her at her home, that she did not know why they had set the bond so high, that they considered him a danger to the community, that the remarks were made at her home in person. Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Vasquez, Alvarado, Sekula-Rodriguez, Berry and Robinson absent. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. Ted L. Malloy, 10227 Metronome, Houston, Texas 77043 (713-461-9218) appeared and stated that he was a retired Army Lieutenant Colonel and also retired from corporate oil headquarters and a five year former deed restriction representative of the Spring Wood Civic Association, that most of the Houston area people were familiar and aware of flooding, that in his area of the civic association part of a major drainage control project was that of neighborhood street reconstruction and sidewalks, that because some of the residents may be four to six blocks of a major school complex, in which this case was a pre-school, elementary, middle and high school all in one complex, therefore the City plans for the project did include sidewalks, that as a fine example of cooperation the civic association, representatives of the engineering as well as others, especially Council Member Tatro and aides who did arrange and conduct a resident well attended comprehensive special meeting regarding the plans, that the end result of the meeting was that Council Member Tatro would soon conduct a paper ballot survey providing

home owners in the area the opportunity to vote yes or no, up or down, for sidewalks with the majority response as the prevailing decision, that response for Council Member Tatro's City engineering department was not only that the majority, 51% or over, but an affirmative yes of the total area of at least 70% affirmative, that as a method to re-enforce the clarity of the civic association area affirmative majority, an area lady homeowner, teacher of challenged learning children, mother of a young handicap, legally blind daughter, walked the street of the two units, twenty-two homes and gained a signed petition, a clear majority of 13, thus far she provided a copy and other relative information to Council Member Tatro office, that his personal opinion was that Council Member Tatro was to be commended for having provided such a coordinated group meeting for the area homeowners with information so important to them, that Council Member Tatro procedure with a little bit of tweaking would serve as an excellent role model for others that may have such information for their constituents, that they are thankful in the area for all of the sidewalks. Council Members Galloway, Alvarado, Sekula-Rodriguez, Berry and Robinson absent.

Council Member Tatro stated that they had an issue come up recently on the sidewalks and that vote and asked if Mr. Malloy was in favor of the sidewalks, and he stated yes, that there were twelve more like him out of the twenty-two, and Council Member Tatro stated that they tried to do a complete poll of the neighborhood and were successful. Council Members Galloway, Alvarado, Sekula-Rodriguez, Berry and Robinson absent.

Mr. James Partsch-Galvan, 1611 Holman, Houston, Texas 77004 (713-528-2607) appeared and stated that he was present for several reasons, that the first was that he wanted to voice his opposition to the new tax that they wanted to add to the water bill, the \$3 or \$4 per month, that he opposed it and thought that most Houstonians opposed it also, that the second reason he was present was that he wished that Council Member Sekula-Rodriguez, who was the only one of two whom he voted for, he voted for her and for Council Member Berry, that he wished she would have been present because he wanted to let her know that he wrote her a letter on April 30, 2002, letting them know about what the City of Houston did to him and his house, they came to his house in February and boarded up his home, his art house at 1611 Holman, but not only did they board it up, he did not have a big problem with that, that they removed a lot of his stuff from inside, art work, journals, all of his books, that they had no business removing all of his property, that was a violation of his rights, so he sent Council Member Sekula-Rodriguez a letter dated April 30, 2002, that he got a response back on May 7, 2002, on his voice mail by her aide Dan Patterson, but he wanted it in writing, because Mr. Patterson was telling him that Mr. Flannigan said that yes they told him they would come and board it up if he did not board it up, that was fine, but they had no right to take and steal his property inside his house, so he wanted it in writing, what did Mr. Flannigan say and he wanted his answers questioned on the email that he sent to Council Member Sekula-Rodriguez on April 30, 2002, so he was letting them know what he wanted, that he had already emailed plus he left a voice mail, so there were three he had done, it was what he wanted, because he was not satisfied with the answers that he had gotten from his office. Mr. Galvan continued to voice his personal opinions until his time expired. Council Members Galloway, Alvarado, Sekula-Rodriguez, Berry and Robinson absent.

Upon questions by Council Member Edwards, Mr. Galvan stated that his art house was in District I, but he wrote to Council Member Sekula-Rodriguez. Council Members Galloway, Alvarado, Sekula-Rodriguez, Berry and Robinson absent.

Mr. Louis Chatos, 2014 Washington, Houston, Texas 77007 appeared and voiced his personal opinions regarding the homeless issue, throwing away food and other reasonable items that were un-saleable but perfectly edible or usable rather than giving it away freely to the homeless, that food was a necessity not a privilege, until his time expired. Council Members

Tatro, Galloway, Wiseman, Ellis, Vasquez, Alvarado, Sekula-Rodriguez, Berry and Robinson absent. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mayor Pro Tem Quan thanked Mr. Chatos for sharing his ideas and thoughts and knew that the End Hunger Network did work with several restaurants regarding left over foods as well as wholesalers, and the City of Houston was committed to working with the coalition for the homeless as well. Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Wiseman, Ellis, Vasquez, Alvarado, Sekula-Rodriguez, Berry and Robinson absent. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. Mischa DuVide, 2014 Washington, Houston, Texas 77007 appeared and voiced his personal opinions regarding the homeless issue coming before Council, the proposed referendum regarding the poor and homeless, the time limits, dumpster diving, aggressive panhandling, until his time expired. Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Wiseman, Ellis, Vasquez, Alvarado, Sekula-Rodriguez, Berry and Robinson absent. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Council Member Parker stated that it was not a referendum but a vote on a proposed City ordinance that Council would be voting on, that not all the Council Members supported the ordinance, that she had spoken out against it and did intend to try and amend it when it came before Council, that she was particularly offended by outlawing dumpster diving. Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Wiseman, Ellis, Vasquez, Alvarado, Sekula-Rodriguez, Berry and Robinson absent. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. Steven Williams, no address, no phone, had reserved time to speak, but was not present when his name was called. Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Wiseman, Ellis, Vasquez, Alvarado, Sekula-Rodriguez, Berry and Robinson absent. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. Joseph Omo Omuari, 15 Charleston, No. 1107, Houston, Texas 77025 (713-665-1929) appeared and stated that as of the last meeting with the Mayor, HUD was present and they talked about the \$11 million that they still had in a fund, but the problem was that they had purchased the property but as of yet, since 1995, not one apartment had been built on the property, so he was of the idea that it was hard to have very much confidence in what HUD was saying. Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Wiseman, Ellis, Vasquez, Alvarado, Sekula-Rodriguez, Berry and Robinson absent. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr./Coach Bobby Taylor, 3107 Sumpter, Houston, Texas 77026 (202FA34511) had reserved time to speak, but was not present when his name was called. Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Wiseman, Ellis, Vasquez, Alvarado, Sekula-Rodriguez, Berry and Robinson absent. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

President Joseph Charles, 8034 Antoine, No. 107, Houston, Texas 77088 (713-878-2355) had reserved time to speak, but was not present when his name was called. Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Wiseman, Ellis, Vasquez, Alvarado, Sekula-Rodriguez, Berry and Robinson absent. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. Lee Mercer, 4928 Winnetka, Houston, Texas 77021 (713-741-9656) appeared and distributed information to Council and voiced his personal opinions regarding AIDS until his time expired. Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Wiseman, Ellis, Vasquez, Alvarado, Sekula-Rodriguez, Berry and Robinson absent. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. Robert Horton, P. O. Box 21635, Houston, Texas 77226 (713-697-0958) had reserved time to speak, but was not present when his name was called. Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Wiseman, Ellis, Vasquez, Alvarado, Sekula-Rodriguez, Berry and Robinson absent. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. Trent Winters, 7967 Airport Blvd., Houston, Texas 77071 (713-729-1153) had reserved time to speak, but was not present when his name was called. Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Wiseman, Ellis, Vasquez, Alvarado, Sekula-Rodriguez, Berry and Robinson absent. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

At 4:09 p.m. upon motion by Council Member Goldberg and seconded by Council Member Keller, City Council recessed until 9:00 a.m., Wednesday, May 22, 2002. Mayor Brown out of the city on city business. Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Wiseman, Ellis, Vasquez, Alvarado, Sekula-Rodriguez, Berry and Robinson absent. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

City Council Chamber, City Hall, Wednesday, May 22, 2002

City Council reconvened in the City Council Chamber at 9:00 a.m. Wednesday, May 22, 2002, with Mayor Pro Tem Gordon Quan presiding and with Council Members Bruce Tatro, Carol M. Galloway, Mark Goldberg, Ada Edwards, Mark Ellis, Bert Keller, Gabriel Vasquez, Carol Alvarado, Annise Parker, Shelly Sekula-Rodriguez, M.D., Michael Berry and Carroll Robinson; Mr. Al Haines, Chief Administrative Officer, Mayor's Office; Mr. Anthony Hall, City Attorney; Ms. Martha Stein, Agenda Director present. Mayor Brown out of the city on city business. Council Member Addie Wiseman absent on city business.

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

At 9:13 Mayor Pro Tem Quan reconvened the meeting of the City Council.

Mayor Pro Tem Quan stated that he wanted to recognize students from Texas Southern University Internship Program handled by Senator Rodney Ellis and asked that they stand and be recognized. Council Members Edwards, Keller, Alvarado, Berry and Robinson absent.

MAYOR'S REPORT

CONSENT AGENDA NUMBERS 1 through 28

MISCELLANEOUS - NUMBERS 2 through 3

2. RECOMMENDATION from Chief of Police for approval of Law Enforcement Agreement between **HARRIS COUNTY** and the **GLENSHIRE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, INC, MIDTOWN MANAGEMENT DISTRICT** and **MORNINGSIDE PLACE SECTION 1 HOMEOWNER'S ASSOCIATION** for Law Enforcement Services of 1 Deputy from Harris County Constable Precinct 5 and 3 Deputies from Harris County Constable Precinct 7 - **DISTRICTS C- GOLDBERG; D - EDWARDS and I - ALVARADO** – was presented, moved by Council Member Vasquez, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. Mayor Brown out of the city on city business. Council Member Weisman absent on city business. Council Members Edwards, Keller, Alvarado, Berry and Robinson absent. MOTION 2002-0580 ADOPTED.
3. RECOMMENDATION from Chief of Police for Extension of Injured on Duty Status for Police Officer **DAVID G. JOHNSON** – was presented, moved by Council Member Vasquez, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. Mayor Brown out of the city on city business. Council Member Weisman absent on city business. Council Members Edwards, Keller, Alvarado, Berry and Robinson absent. MOTION 2002-0581 ADOPTED.

PROPERTY - NUMBERS 5 and 6

5. RECOMMENDATION from Director Department of Public Works & Engineering for condemnation of Parcel A99-106, located at 6226 Wheatley Street, owned by Billye Lou Ledbetter, Sherrye Colleen Remkes Graves and Judyth Ann Remkes Henry, for the **ELLA BOULEVARD PAVING PROJECT from Pinemont to West Little York**, CIP N-0546-01-1 - **DISTRICT B- GALLOWAY** – was presented, moved by Council Member Vasquez, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. Mayor Brown out of the city on city business. Council Member Weisman absent on city business. Council Members Edwards, Keller, Alvarado, Berry and Robinson absent. MOTION 2002-0582 ADOPTED.
6. RECOMMENDATION from Director Department of Public Works & Engineering for condemnation of Parcel KY1-117, located at 11432 FM 529 (Spencer Road), owned by Larry W. Krueger and Sue B. Krueger DBA Saxon Company, for the **SPENCER ROAD WATERLINE PROJECT from Brittmoore to Jersey Village Pump Station**, CIP S-0900-71-2 – was presented, moved by Council Member Vasquez, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. Mayor Brown out of the city on city business. Council Member Weisman absent on city business. Council Members Edwards, Keller, Alvarado, Berry and Robinson absent. MOTION 2002-0583 ADOPTED.

PURCHASING AND TABULATION OF BIDS - NUMBER 7

7. **LANSDOWNE MOODY CO., INC** - \$368,943.00, **BROOKSIDE EQUIPMENT SALES, INC** \$33,896.00, **AMC INDUSTRIES** - \$89,547.00 and **ALVIN EQUIPMENT COMPANY** - \$83,816.00 for Tractors and Attachments for Various Departments - \$576,202.00 - Enterprise, Equipment Acquisition Consolidated and Disaster Recovery Funds – was presented, moved by Council Member Vasquez, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. Mayor Brown out of the city on city business. Council Member Weisman absent on city business. Council Members Edwards, Keller, Alvarado, Berry and Robinson absent. MOTION 2002-0584 ADOPTED.

ORDINANCES - NUMBERS 8 and 26

8. ORDINANCE consenting to the addition of 180.7648 acres of land to **BRIDGESTONE MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT**, for inclusion in its district – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Mayor Brown out of the city on city business. Council Member Weisman absent on city business. Council Members Edwards, Keller, Alvarado, Berry and Robinson absent. ORDINANCE 2002-0420 ADOPTED.
9. ORDINANCE establishing the north and south sides of the 800 block of Merrill Street within the City of Houston as a special building line requirement area pursuant to Chapter 42 of the Code of Ordinances, Houston, Texas - **DISTRICT I – ALVARADO** had been pulled from the Agenda by the Administration and was not considered. Council Members Edwards, Keller, Alvarado, Berry and Robinson absent.
13. Omitted
26. ORDINANCE appropriating \$116,500.00 out of Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund as an additional appropriation under professional engineering services contract with **DANNEBAUM ENGINEERING CORPORATION** (approved by Ordinance

97-0998), CIP R-0267-03-2 (4275); providing funding for contingencies relating to construction of facilities financed by the Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund - **DISTRICT I- ALVARADO** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Mayor Brown out of the city on city business. Council Member Weisman absent on city business. Council Members Edwards, Keller, Alvarado, Berry and Robinson absent. ORDINANCE 2002-0421 ADOPTED.

MATTERS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA WERE CONSIDERED AS FOLLOWS:

MISCELLANEOUS

1. RECOMMENDATION from Director Building Services Department for approval of Change Order No. 2 in the amount of \$27,216.73 on contract with **CARRERA CONSTRUCTION, INC** for Parks to Standard Program - Phase II Bid Package No. 43 - Law Park, GFS F-0363-43-3 - \$26,966.73 CDBG Fund **DISTRICT - E WISEMAN** – was presented, moved by Council Member Galloway, seconded by Council Member Sekula-Rodriguez. All voting aye. Nays none. Mayor Brown out of the city on city business. Council Member Weisman absent on city business. Council Members Edwards, Keller, Alvarado, Berry and Robinson absent. MOTION 2002-0585 ADOPTED.

ACCEPT WORK

4. RECOMMENDATION from Director Department of Public Works & Engineering for approval of final contract amount of \$4,150,089.90 and acceptance of work on contract with **CAJUN CONTRACTORS, INC** for Southwest Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements, GFS R-0097-01-3 (4703-1) - 01.70% under the original contract amount - Enterprise Fund - **DISTRICT C - GOLDBERG** – was presented, moved by Council Member Galloway, seconded by Council Member Ellis. All voting aye. Nays none. Mayor Brown out of the city on city business. Council Member Weisman absent on city business. Council Members Edwards, Alvarado, Berry and Robinson absent. MOTION 2002-0586 ADOPTED.

ORDINANCES

10. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing an Oil, Gas and Mineral Lease Agreement between **WILCOX OIL & GAS, INC**, as lessee, and the City of Houston, as lessor, for a 154.4 acre tract of land located at 13900 Beaumont Highway, Talcott Patching Survey, A-619 – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Mayor Brown out of the city on city business. Council Member Weisman absent on city business. Council Members Edwards, Alvarado, Berry and Robinson absent. ORDINANCE 2002-0422 ADOPTED.
11. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing the second amendment to the Public Improvement Development Agreement between the City of Houston, Texas, **REINVESTMENT ZONE NUMBER TEN, CITY OF HOUSTON, TEXAS (LAKE HOUSTON ZONE)**, and **FRIENDSWOOD DEVELOPMENT COMPANY, LTD.** for the design, construction and acquisition of certain public improvements and for certain other project costs in the Lake Houston Zone - **DISTRICT E - WISEMAN** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Mayor Brown out of the city on city business. Council Member Weisman absent on city business. Council Members Edwards, Alvarado and Robinson absent. ORDINANCE 2002-0423 ADOPTED.

- 11a. ORDINANCE appropriating \$6,277,863.57 out of Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund (Fund 755) for payment to **FRIENDSWOOD DEVELOPMENT COMPANY, LTD.** for reimbursement of costs associated with Public Improvements in Reinvestment Zone Number Ten, City of Houston, Texas, pursuant to Ordinance No. 1999-407, as amended – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Mayor Brown out of the city on city business. Council Member Weisman absent on city business. Council Members Edwards, Alvarado and Robinson absent. ORDINANCE 2002-0424 ADOPTED.
12. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing contract between the City and **NIGHTINGALE ADULT DAY CENTER** for Interpreter Services for the Deaf and Hearing-Impaired for the Houston Police Department; providing a maximum contract amount - 3 Years with two one-year extensions \$275,000.00 - General Fund – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Mayor Brown out of the city on city business. Council Member Weisman absent on city business. Council Members Edwards, Alvarado and Robinson absent. ORDINANCE 2002-0425 ADOPTED.
14. ORDINANCE appropriating \$25,000.00 out of Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund and approving and authorizing Developer Participation Contract between the City of Houston and **INTERLAND, INC** for Construction of Water and Sanitary Sewer Lines in Park Harbor Oaks Subdivision, CIP S-0800-61-03 and R-0800-61-03 - **DISTRICT A - TATRO** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Mayor Brown out of the city on city business. Council Member Weisman absent on city business. Council Members Edwards, Alvarado and Robinson absent. ORDINANCE 2002-0426 ADOPTED.
15. ORDINANCE appropriating \$207,264.35 out of Water & Sewer System Consolidated Fund and \$226,782.64 out of Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone Affordable Housing Fund and approving and authorizing Developer Participation Contract between the City of Houston and **KB HOME LONE STAR, L.P.** for Construction of Water, Sanitary Sewer and Storm Sewer Lines in Victoria Park Section 1, CIP S-0800-62-03 and R-0800-62-03 - **DISTRICT E - WISEMAN** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Mayor Brown out of the city on city business. Council Member Weisman absent on city business. Council Members Edwards, Alvarado and Robinson absent. ORDINANCE 2002-0427 ADOPTED.
16. ORDINANCE appropriating \$93,207.55 out of Water & Sewer System Consolidated Fund and \$101,157.84 out of Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone Affordable Housing Fund, approving and authorizing Developer Participation Contract between the City of Houston and **KB HOME LONE STAR, L.P.** for Construction of Water, Sanitary Sewer and Storm Sewer Lines in the Victoria Park Section 2, CIP S-0800-63-03 and R-0800-63-03 - **DISTRICT E - WISEMAN** - was presented.

Council Member Sekula-Rodriguez asked if they knew who the principals involved were in the KB Homes Lone Star L.P. and asked if it was the same KB Home that advertised on I-45, that she had seen billboards, was it affordable housing they were advertising, and Mr. Haines stated that KB was a major home builder in the Houston area and these particular recommendations dealt with affordable housing, that they did a full range of projects throughout the Houston area, that they had been in the area a long time, and Mayor Pro Tem Quan stated that they were featured in the Houston Chronicle last Sunday as among the top 100 businesses in Houston, and Mr. Haines stated that he would get the principles for Council Member Sekula-Rodriguez. Council Members Edwards, Alvarado and Robinson absent.

A vote was called on Item No. 16. All voting aye. Nays none. Mayor Brown out of the city on city business. Council Member Weisman absent on city business. Council Members

Edwards, Alvarado and Robinson absent. ORDINANCE 2002-0428 ADOPTED.

17. ORDINANCE appropriating \$111,075.36 out of Water & Sewer System Consolidated Fund and \$174,000.00 out of Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone Affordable Housing Fund and approving and authorizing Developer Participation Contract between the City of Houston and **KB HOME LONE STAR, L.P.** for Construction of Water, Sanitary Sewer and Storm Sewer Lines in Victoria Park Section 3, CIP S-0800-64-03 and R-0800-64-03 - **DISTRICT E - WISEMAN** - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Mayor Brown out of the city on city business. Council Member Weisman absent on city business. Council Members Edwards, Alvarado and Robinson absent. ORDINANCE 2002-0429 ADOPTED.
18. ORDINANCE appropriating \$211,779.59 out of Water & Sewer System Consolidated Fund and \$240,000.00 out of Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone Affordable Housing Fund and approving and authorizing Developer Participation Contract between the City of Houston and **W & W ASSET MANAGEMENT, INC** for Construction of Water, Sanitary Sewer and Storm Sewer Lines in the Villages of Glenshire Subdivision, CIP S-0800-46-03 and R-0800-52-03 - **DISTRICT C - GOLDBERG** - was presented, and tagged by Council Members Goldberg and Keller. Council Members Edwards, Alvarado and Robinson absent.
19. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing acceptance of grant agreement No. 3-48-0110-23-02 in the amount of \$780,190.00 by and between the City of Houston, Texas and the Federal Aviation Administration for partial compensation of additional security and other expenses incurred at William P. Hobby Airport as a result of the events of September 11, 2001 - **DISTRICT I - ALVARADO** - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Mayor Brown out of the city on city business. Council Member Weisman absent on city business. Council Members Edwards and Alvarado absent. ORDINANCE 2002-0430 ADOPTED.
20. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing acceptance of grant agreement No. 3-48-0111-42-02 in the amount of \$2,930,774.00 by and between the City of Houston, Texas and the Federal Aviation Administration for partial compensation of additional security and other expenses incurred at George Bush Intercontinental Airport/Houston as a result of the events of September 11, 2001 - **DISTRICT B - GALLOWAY** - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Mayor Brown out of the city on city business. Council Member Weisman absent on city business. Council Members Edwards and Alvarado absent. ORDINANCE 2002-0431 ADOPTED.
21. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing first amendment to professional architectural services contract between the City of Houston and **PEARSON ENGLISH ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN, INC** for Renovation of the 3300 Main Building (approved by Ordinance No. 00-725), GFS D-0074-04-2 - **DISTRICT D - EDWARDS** - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Mayor Brown out of the city on city business. Council Member Weisman absent on city business. Council Members Edwards and Alvarado absent. ORDINANCE 2002-0432 ADOPTED.
22. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing contract between the City and **A & S ENGINEERS, INC** for Professional Engineering Services related to Storm Drainage System - (SM5026) \$385,000.00 - Street & Drainage Maintenance Fund - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Mayor Brown out of the city on city business. Council Member Weisman absent on city business. Council Members Edwards, and Alvarado absent. ORDINANCE 2002-0433 ADOPTED.
23. ORDINANCE appropriating additional sum of \$1,500,000.00 out of Water & Sewer System

Consolidated Construction Fund as an additional appropriation for Neighborhood Sewer System Improvements under an engineering services contract with **MWH AMERICAS, INC** (approved by Ordinance No. 99-855), CIP R-0544-01-02 (R-0544-04), Project No. 4751 - was presented, and tagged by Council Member Goldberg. Council Member Edwards absent.

24. ORDINANCE appropriating \$220,000.00 out of Street & Bridge Consolidated Construction Fund as an additional appropriation under professional engineering services contract between the City of Houston and **SADEGHPOUR & ASSOCIATES, INC dba SCIENTECH** (approved by Ordinance No. 2000-0077), CIP N-0445N-20-2 (SB9005); providing funding for contingencies relating to construction of facilities financed by the Street & Bridge Consolidated Construction Fund - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Mayor Brown out of the city on city business. Council Member Weisman absent on city business. Council Member Edwards absent. ORDINANCE 2002-0434 ADOPTED.
25. ORDINANCE appropriating \$110,000.00 out of Street & Bridge Consolidated Construction Fund as an additional appropriation for Design of the Safe Sidewalk Program under professional engineering services contract with **ESOR CONSULTING ENGINEERS, INC** (approved by Ordinance No. 01-0038), CIP N-0610A-S7-2 (SB9048); providing funding for contingencies relating to construction of facilities financed by the Street & Bridge Consolidated Construction Fund - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Mayor Brown out of the city on city business. Council Member Weisman absent on city business. Council Member Edwards absent. ORDINANCE 2002-0435 ADOPTED.
27. ORDINANCE appropriating \$232,042.00 out of Convention and Entertainment Construction Fund; determining that the formal taking of competitive bids is not required for the work described herein; approving and authorizing contract between the City of Houston and **PROJECT DEVELOPMENT GROUP, INC** for Asbestos/Lead and Mold Remediation in the "Y" Tunnel, CIP B-0070-01-5 and approving and authorizing additional funds for professional services contract No. 50398 with **HONESTY ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, INC** (authorized by Ordinance No. 99-507); providing funding for construction management and contingencies relating to construction of facilities financed by the Convention and Entertainment Construction Fund - **DISTRICT I - ALVARADO** - was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Mayor Brown out of the city on city business. Council Member Weisman absent on city business. Council Member Edwards absent. ORDINANCE 2002-0436 ADOPTED.
28. ORDINANCE consenting to the transfer to **SHAW COMMUNICATIONS, INC** of control of the Cable Television Franchise currently held by Kingwood Cablevision, Inc, granted pursuant to City of Houston Ordinance No. 98-15 and prescribing certain supplemental conditions to such assignment - **FIRST READING** - was presented, and tagged by Council Member Keller. Council Member Edwards absent.

NON CONSENT AGENDA - NUMBERS 29 and 30

MISCELLANEOUS

29. MOTION to set a date not less than seven (7) days from May 22, 2002 to receive nominations for Positions A through I of the **HOUSTON CLEAN CITY COMMISSION**, for terms to expire February 1, 2003 - was presented.

Council Member Tatro moved to set May 29, 2002 as the date to receive nomination for

Positions A through I of the Houston Clean City Commission, seconded by Council Member Galloway. All voting aye. Nays none. Mayor Brown out of the city on city business. Council Member Weisman absent on city business. Council Member Edwards absent. MOTION 2002-0587 ADOPTED.

30. MOTION to set a date not less than seven (7) days from May 22, 2002 to receive nominations for Positions 18 and 21 of the **HOUSTON READ COMMISSION**, for terms to expire January 1, 2005 - was presented.

Council Member Sekula-Rodriguez moved to set May 29, 2002 as the date to receive nomination for Positions 18 and 21 of the Houston Read Commission, seconded by Council Member Parker. All voting aye. Nays none. Mayor Brown out of the city on city business. Council Member Weisman absent on city business. Council Member Edwards absent. MOTION 2002-0588 ADOPTED.

MATTERS HELD - NUMBERS 31 and 32

31. MOTION by Council Member Quan/Seconded by Council Member Alvarado to adopt recommendation from Director Department of Aviation for approval of final contract amount of \$6,209,508.74 and acceptance of work on contract with **CHAMPAGNE WEBBER TEXAS, INC** for Hardy Toll Road Connector at George Bush Intercontinental Airport/Houston (IAH), Project 497A; CIP A-0261 - 04.77% over the original contract amount - **DISTRICT B - GALLOWAY – (This was Item 6 on Agenda of May 15, 2002, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBER GOLDBERG)** - was presented.

Council Member Goldberg stated that he had tagged the item last time and he was concerned because this was a contract that was entered into by the City of Houston, even though it came out of Airport funds and the Airport had no say so in the agreement that was made and it disturbed him because the Airport had to pay \$6.2 million to fund part of the tollway where it got none of the revenue, that all of the revenue went to the Toll Road Authority and did not know why it was done, that he wondered if there was a way to revisit the contract and re-negotiate it, that he did not have any problem if it was a County road but if they were receiving revenue for something that the Airport paid for then he thought there should be some sharing of the cost.

Mayor Pro Tem Quan stated that he believed it was an accept work and was the final payment and Mr. Hall stated that as he understood it the work was done, that they could obviously have some people from the Aviation Department visit with Council Member Goldberg but thought they were participating because they wanted the connector as much as anybody else, and Mayor Pro Tem Quan stated that it was his understanding that it was negotiated in the Lanier administration and was something the City wanted and they negotiated to have it done because it provided more access to the airport, and Council Member Goldberg stated that he understood that but it was not being paid for by the County, that the users were paying for it.

Council Member Sekula-Rodriguez moved to suspend the rules to hear Ms. Sally Bradford, Aviation Department, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. Mayor Brown out of the city on city business. Council Member Weisman absent on city business. Council Member Edwards absent. MOTION 2002-0589 ADOPTED.

Mr. Haines stated that several years ago the City entered into an agreement with the Harris County Toll Road Authority, that the Airport System and the City wanted the connector done and were willing to pay for the connector, that the maintenance and operation of the connector was the responsibility of the Toll Road Authority, there was a toll that was collected on the connector

and the toll was to pay for the maintenance and operation of the connector road and that agreement was entered into several years ago under prior administration and prior County Commission, that this item was simply the final payment of a contract and accept work. Council Member Edwards absent.

Ms. Bradford stated that the contract before them was the contract that actually built the connector and all they were asking for was to accept the work, this was a completely separate issue from the agreement that was approved years ago between the County and the City for the connector, that one thing that was important was that the connector was very important to the airport, that if they remembered years ago when they came over the beltway onto JFK they had a tremendous backup and with this it brought them another entrance into the airport and alleviated the backup, that it was the beltway over to JFK and what this did was come into the beltway directly into the feeder of JFK, that she did not know if the airport was involved in the negotiations but it had certainly been very beneficial to the airport. Council Member Edwards absent.

Mr. Hall stated that they agreed to the arrangement but did not administer the contract, that was why they were having to do it this way, but it would be an error to say they did not agree to the arrangement. Council Member Edwards absent.

Upon questions by Council Member Sekula-Rodriguez, Mr. Hall stated that this had a history that probably went back 15 years, that when the Hardy Toll Road was initially planned and undertaken one of the shortcomings was that it did not allow people access to the airport via the toll road, that at the time the City did not have the resources to pay for it and the Toll Road Authority was not willing to do it because he did not think that at the time the segment would have paid for itself under a reasonable toll, that issue continued to be discussed and debated, and frankly he recalled the airport, in discussion they had with him, became increasingly concerned that it was a problem to not have an access directly into the airport and that was when the discussion began about how to get it done, that they did not manage or have approval over their projects, that in the discussions that took place they were unwilling to include this segment in the initial toll road plan, they did not have the resources at the time to pay for it themselves, they continued to have discussions about how to get it done and this arrangement was the product of those discussions, that the arrangement that was finally worked out was that the toll that was collected was to maintain it. Council Member Berry absent.

After further discussion by Council Members, Council Member Galloway moved to call the question, seconded by Council Member Robinson. All voting aye. Nays none. Mayor Brown out of the city on city business. Council Member Wiseman absent on city business. Council Member Berry absent. MOTION 2002-0590 ADOPTED.

A vote was called on Item No. 31. Council Members Goldberg and Sekula-Rodriguez voting no, balance voting aye. Mayor Brown out of the city on city business. Council Member Wiseman absent on city business. Council Member Berry absent. MOTION 2002-0591 ADOPTED.

32. ORDINANCE authorizing acceptance of a grant from the Texas General Land Office and approving and authorizing grant agreement between the City of Houston and the **TEXAS GENERAL LAND OFFICE** relating to the Buffalo Bayou East Sector Redevelopment Plan; declaring the City's eligibility for such grant; authorizing the Director of the Houston Parks and Recreation Department to act as the City's representative and to accept such grant funds and all subsequent awards, if any pertaining to the project - **DISTRICT H – VASQUEZ – (This was Item 52 on Agenda of May 15, 2002, POSTPONED BY MOTION #2002-575)** - was presented.

Council Member Vasquez moved to postpone Item No. 32 for one week, seconded by Council Member Tatro. All voting aye. Nays none. Mayor Brown out of the city on city business. Council Member Weisman absent on city business. Council Member Berry absent. MOTION 2002-0587 ADOPTED.

MATTERS TO BE PRESENTED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Council Member Galloway stated that she was on a tour of her area with the Director of Neighborhood Protection about two months ago and all of the properties that they inspected which were a nuisance or a health hazard had been inspected and tagged and many of the weeded lots had been cleaned and she just wanted to compliment the Neighborhood Protection Department for expediting many of the eyesores around her district, the work they had done in getting it done as well as the Mayor's staff who took the tour with her, that she wanted her Council colleagues to know that she had taken the tour with Rachel of the Houston Chronicle because she wanted to see some of the sights that were still in existence, that she knew they had put more monies in the budget for Public Works Department and maybe when Rachel completes her story and they actually would see some of the blighted areas in her district they would be very supportive of an increase in their budget because Neighborhood Protection was also recommended to be in that department as well, that she was sure that was where a lot of the money was going to go, that they needed the funds in that department so they could continue to eradicate District B of all of the eyesores, that she wanted to compliment the Mayor for allocated that many funds into Public Works because she knew that was going to help the City as a whole. Council Member Goldberg absent.

Mayor Pro Tem Quan stated that he and Council Member Galloway were out in District B and the citizens were skeptical as to whether things were going to get better, but in the consolidated plan there was more money for tearing down the abandoned houses as well. Council Member Goldberg absent.

Council Member Robinson stated that Saturday, May 25, 2002 was National Missing Children's Day and Congressman Nick Lampson, who had taken a special interest in the issue and had formed the Congressional Missing Children's Caucus would be holding a program at the Challenger Memorial Park located at 2301 West Nasa Blvd. in Webster, that a couple of months ago he had requested some information from Chief Bradford on missing children and adults in the community and at the end of calendar year 2001 there were 5,123 children that had been reported as missing and they had 164 active cases in the City, that there were 1, 293 missing adults and those were ongoing cases, that for a couple of years on and off he had printed the pictures of missing children that went out of his office and that was one of the suggestions that the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children had recommended, the more visibility that the pictures get, the more likely the chances of finding them. Council Member Goldberg absent.

Council Member Robinson stated that in Sunday's Houston Chronicle Texas Magazine they had the winners of their annual fiction writing from young writers and they had a number of kids of Houston who were winners of the contest, and he wanted to commend all of the kids who participated and acknowledge all of the winners for their good work. Council Member Goldberg absent.

Council Member Robinson stated that this past City he had the opportunity to visit with over 100 civilian City employees and discuss with them their interest and concerns relative to the City's health care plan and pay raise option and the consensus of those individuals who were in attendance at the meeting was that they would like to leave their health insurance plan as it was and the co-payment as it was and have them hold the line for the next two years and go out and

investigate alternative possibilities and they were cognizant of the fact that at the close of that period they would see an increase but they would like to see a better plan in terms of access to services for that increase and they were also interested in an equal dollar value pay increase as to an across the board percentage. Council Member Goldberg absent.

Council Member Robinson stated that he wanted to read an editorial letter regarding an editorial on May 19, 2002 on Mayor Brown's "Less For More", that he was infuriated by the accusation that "some firefighters were unhappy now that the City was training new firefighters to swell the ranks, diminishing overtime pay", that the Chronicle should be ashamed of itself for printing that garbage, that as a 25 year veteran of HFD he could assure them that members of the department had been complaining for years about the lack of hiring new firefighters, but never had he heard one person complain that the hiring of new cadets was going to hinder their chance of earning maximum overtime, that they were being forced to work overtime and he did not like, that they were so short of manpower that each person in the department had accrued years of holiday time on the books that cannot be used because of shortage of personnel, that they had been working 46.7 hours per week to make less money than a police officer makes in a 40 hour week, that they only get paid overtime after 46.7 hours although every other City employee gets paid overtime after 40 hours, and continued to read the letter and stated that he wanted to read the letter because he did not know where the Chronicle got that little piece of information because he had never heard any firefighter say they wanted to work overtime and opposed to hiring new cadets. Council Members Goldberg, Keller and Parker absent.

Mayor Pro Tem Quan stated that he had read that letter this morning and agreed and appreciated his sharing it. Council Members Goldberg, Keller and Parker absent.

Council Member Edwards stated that she had the opportunity to speak at the graduation class at Connelly Elementary, that she wanted to congratulate all of the students who were graduating and kids who went to school in the community, that she wanted to invite the Council Members to a meeting they were holding on Friday morning with the principals of the schools in District D, that they had a commitment of about three fourths of the principals to be there to talk about education and how they as City Council Members could assist them in what they were trying to do, that it would be on Friday morning at TSU College of Education Auditorium, that she thought it was important that they know and recognize that they could be partners with the schools and HISD and the community.

Council Member Tatro stated that Ms. Nancy Brewer Flores was back after maternity leave and wanted to thank Bud Taylor for his help.

Council Member Vasquez stated that he wanted to request a briefing from the Parks and Recreation Department on the Summer Program for youth, that he would like to know what the status was.

Council Member Vasquez stated that he wanted to wish everybody a safe Memorial Day.

Mayor Pro Tem Quan stated that Mr. Hill, Parks and Recreation, would give a briefing to Council Member Vasquez on the Summer Program.

Council Member Keller stated that he had a series of articles regarding the City budget, that he thought it was time to do some bold measures in answer to all the articles, that they were talking about doing 70 fees when he thought they could do three actions and get more than 10 times the amount of money, that he had been working with the Law Department on property tax collections, that they had been delinquent property taxes, speeding tickets and parking tickets, \$224,900,000 outstanding, that he had looked at some of the delinquent property taxes and \$78

million of them were listed, that \$15 million were unrecoverable, that they had never requested the Law Department to give them a clean report, which would be to take out the folks who had exempt property, that he had a document with the top 100 delinquent property taxes, that he would read a lot of them out but they may be exempt, that there were a lot of rich people in the document and a lot of people he knew and if their name was in the newspaper they would be embarrassed, and why did they not get these people to help dig them out of the hole that Council Member Robinson so eloquently said in the newspaper this morning, that they were the one's who got us in this mess, lets go get them, that they should put in the newspaper the names of every person who had delinquent property taxes, that with the right wording and disclaimer it could be done easily, it was public information, that out of the \$78 million, \$15 million was unrecoverable and \$60 million was recoverable, and of that \$60 million it was a \$100 million valuable with penalties and interest, that they could put in a full page add every week, that they should at least show the taxpayers that they were trying everything because then they would be a lot more agreeable to pay the \$3 fee, he would vote for the \$3 fee if they tried it and could not do it, that it was an efficiency problem, a collection problem, not an amount of revenue, that they were not making money down here they were collecting taxes and collecting fees, that it was not a revenue stream, it was their money and they should collect what was out there and quit thinking about all the different ways to get more fees that they were not going to be able to collect, that they should give an amnesty period of two months for all of the folks with warrants on speeding tickets, parking tickets, etc., and say no harm no foul, until September they could just pay a check to the City like they did not have a warrant, no additional court costs, fines, fees, etc., no embarrassment, just pay the check, that on September 1 they would do operation roundup, that it was something they could enact right away.

Council Member Sekula-Rodriguez stated that the Health Department was being strapped and yesterday at the Convention and Entertainment they did find some opportunities to take money from C&E, where they had an excess, and reallocate it into the General Fund and thereby if the administration sees fit, push it into the Health Department. Council Members Tatro and Robinson absent.

Council Member Sekula-Rodriguez stated that she wanted to recognize two members in the audience who were present and brought to their attention a very pressing need and that was lead levels, that the toxic lead levels that occur in children was something that often went unrecognized and it showed up in very subtle ways and asked Ms. Silvia Castillo, Executive Director and Ms. Sara Haus, Program Director of a group called De Madres a Madres, From Mother to Mother to stand and be recognized. Council Member Galloway absent.

Council Member Parker stated that she wanted to applaud Council Member Keller for bringing the issue up, of course the City was responsible for collecting on its traffic scofflaws and they had been dealing with it over and over again and knew it was a continuing issue, that perhaps as part of the Mayor's presentation before Council they could invite the tax collector, who was the tax collector for the County, that perhaps he could come in talk about what their collection rates were and what the process was, that Mr. Paul Bettencourt was responsible for that and she would sure like to hear from him exactly about what Council Member Keller raised. Council Members Galloway, Vasquez and Robinson absent.

Council Member Alvarado stated that she would like to get an update on what was going on with the Land Assemblage Program, that she knew the County passed it recently and believed they modified, that she would like some clarification on whether or not they had to go back and revisit it, did they have to do anything at all, and Mayor Pro Tem Quan stated that he was in touch with Ms. Bingham, Housing and Community Development and were setting up appointments to meet with other jurisdictions who were part of that assemblage program and hoped to have a report by the next Housing Committee meeting on June 6, 2002. Council Members Galloway,

Vasquez and Robinson absent.

Council Member Alvarado stated that she wanted to thank the Council Members who came out for Bike to Work Day in the rain, that she and Council Members Parker, Berry and Goldberg rode their bikes together in the rain. Council Members Galloway, Vasquez and Robinson absent.

Council Member Alvarado stated that Council Member Robinson had a press conference last week to introduce the detectors that picked up on radar detectors in 18 wheelers and the big trucks, that the question was asked if those detectors were confiscated once they pulled over an 18 wheeler and they were not, and she and Council Member Robinson were discussing perhaps including that in their legislative priorities to go to the State and have it changed. Council Members Galloway, Vasquez and Robinson absent.

Council Member Alvarado stated that she wanted to wish everyone a happy and safe Memorial Day. Council Members Galloway, Vasquez and Robinson absent.

Council Member Berry stated that he was not willing to support cuts in departments that were necessary or to support revenue increases, that those were the two things he heard from constituents, that they had to look inward to increase their property tax collections, which was what Council Member Keller was talking about, but also to look at how they collect their ambulance services and traffic tickets. Council Members Galloway and Robinson absent.

Council Member Berry stated that on Public Works Department he knew that they had some shakeups and did not know if those were public or not and would only ask because they had made some calls to Public Works and sensed a degree of uncertainty. Council Members Galloway and Robinson absent.

Council Member Goldberg stated that last night he went to a dinner in honor of a police officer, Captain Charles A. Bullock, who was retiring after 43 years. Council Members Galloway and Robinson absent.

Council Member Goldberg stated that he wanted to recognize Ms. Ruth Hurst who was in the audience and was his nominee for the Houston City Clean Commission. Council Members Galloway and Robinson absent.

Mayor Pro Tem Quan stated that the SimDesk demonstration was set up in the north conference room in the City Hall Annex for those who wanted to check out SimDesk to see whether it worked to their satisfaction or not. Council Members Galloway and Robinson absent.

Mayor Pro Tem Quan stated that there would not be a City Council Meeting next Tuesday instead they would have a consolidated meeting on Wednesday. Council Members Galloway and Robinson absent.

Mayor Pro Tem Quan stated that Neighborhood USA Convention was in Houston and they had about 2,000 delegates from around the Country visiting Houston and hoped that some of the Council Members could make some of the events to welcome them to the City. Council Members Galloway and Robinson absent.

There being no further business before Council, the City Council adjourned at 10:21 a.m. upon MOTION by Council Member Keller, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. Mayor Brown out of the city on city business. Council Member Weisman absent on city business. Council Members Galloway and Robinson absent.

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

MINUTES READ AND APPROVED

Anna Russell, City Secretary