

City Council Chamber, City Hall, Tuesday, February 11, 2003

A Regular Meeting of the Houston City Council was held at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, February 11, 2003, Mayor Lee P. Brown presiding and with Council Members Bruce Tatro, Carol M. Galloway, Mark Goldberg, Ada Edwards, Mark Ellis, Bert Keller, Gabriel Vasquez, Carol Alvarado, Annise Parker, Gordon Quan, Shelly Sekula-Gibbs, M.D. Michael Berry, Carroll Robinson; Mr. Don Cheatham, Division Chief, Legal Department; Mr. Richard Cantu, Director Mayor's Citizens Assistance Office; Ms. Martha Stein, Agenda Director present. Council Member Addie Wiseman absent due to being ill.

At 2:07 p.m. Mayor Brown stated that Council would begin their presentations. Council Member Galloway stated that she had a proclamation to present and invited Mr. C. C. Williams to the podium. Council Member Galloway stated that the Harris County Council of Organizations had become symbolic of strength among minority groups and was a leader in establishing equal representation in business and in the political community and Mr. Williams had been an active member since the early 1980s; and presented him a Proclamation honoring him for becoming president and proclaimed Tuesday, February 11, 2003, as "C. C. Williams Day" in Houston, Texas. Mr. Williams thanked Council for the honor and stated he hoped to live up to it. Council Members Goldberg, Sekula-Gibbs, Berry and Robinson absent.

At 2:11 p.m. Mayor Brown called the meeting to order and Council Member Galloway led everyone in prayer and in the pledge of allegiance. Council Members Goldberg, Keller, Sekula-Gibbs, Berry and Robinson absent.

At 2:12 p.m. the City Secretary called the roll. Council Member Wiseman absent due to being ill. Council Members Goldberg and Keller absent.

Council Members Quan and Robinson moved that the minutes of the preceding meeting be adopted. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Wiseman absent due to being ill. Council Members Goldberg and Keller absent. MOTION ADOPTED.

Mayor Brown requested the City Secretary to call the list of speakers. Council Members Goldberg and Keller absent.

Council Member Parker moved to suspend the rules to hear Mr. Donald Wasson, Ms. Katherine Theilen, Ms. Ramona Overstreet and Ms. Ericka Johnson out of order, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Wiseman absent due to being ill. Council Members Goldberg and Keller absent. MOTION 2002-0121 ADOPTED.

Ms. Carla Wyatt, 3015 Richmond #210, Houston, Texas 77098 (713-942-0587) appeared and stated that she was the coordinator of the Treescape Program, a collaborative effort with Scenic Houston and the Park People and she was present to express support for Agenda Item 21, thanked everyone for their help in bringing changes to the trees in various locations and urged support of its passage. Council Members Goldberg and Keller absent.

Mr. Donald Wasson, 5011 Autumn Forest, Houston, Texas 77091 (713-369-4036) appeared and stated that he lived in Candlelight Village and months ago they began hearing of an apartment complex that was to be built near them and they began inquiring; that they found out Sunrise Housing was considered an affordable apartment developer, they heard it was for low income and now heard middle income, but they wanted no complex; that within a mile radius there were 30 other complexes and they had trouble keeping tenants, if there were another 288 units built it would only cause the complexes already there more problems; that the area recently experienced flooding and more apartments would compound the problem, the city needed green space; that the Northwest Wastewater Treatment Plant also bordered their neighborhood and they had smelled obnoxious odors for many years and were told the plant was over capacity and more families would compound that problem; that they did not want that or any other complex to be built in their area, and asked for Council's help in stopping the complex. Council Members

Goldberg, Alvarado and Berry absent

Council Member Tatro stated that he had also been reviewing the complex which was much like one to be built in his district, the intention was to build it and sell it to a nonprofit organization which meant to take it off the tax rolls, the people who would reside there would be the owners and not have to pay taxes and in his area it would strain the school district; that they would also be able to charge lower rent and may siphon off business from other already struggling complexes and bring them down. Council Members Goldberg, Alvarado, Berry and Sekula-Gibbs absent

Council Member Parker stated that her office was trying to research the complex and it was a private development which had not tried to get any variances from the City of Houston and they would be required to meet all codes; that in an unzoned city there was no way to say they could not build there and they had not found that they would not be a good neighbor/developer; that a staff member of hers said she experienced odors from the wastewater plant regularly but she understood they were in the process of installing new odor handling equipment and was told they were not over capacity; and if he had any questions her office would endeavor to answer them. Council Members Goldberg, Alvarado, Berry, Sekula-Gibbs and Robinson absent.

Council Member Quan stated that he lived in the area at one time and drove out there recently; that he was familiar with Sunrise Builders and found them willing to work with the community and that they had a good product and Council Member Edwards lived in one of them; that he was willing to work with him, but would like him to meet with the builder. Council Members Goldberg, Alvarado, Berry, Sekula-Gibbs and Robinson absent.

Council Member Galloway stated that she also had concerns and moved to suspend the rules to question Ms. Suzy Hartgrove of Planning and Development, seconded by Council Member Ellis. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Wiseman absent due to being ill. Council Members Alvarado, Berry, Sekula-Gibbs and Robinson absent. MOTION 2003-0122 ADOPTED.

Upon questions by Council Member Galloway, Ms. Hargrove stated that once the plat was approved by the Planning Commission it was sent to Public Works and other agencies to review before they could actually begin building, but questions regarding capacity should be addressed to the Public Works Department. Council Members Alvarado, Berry, Sekula-Gibbs and Robinson absent.

Mayor Brown stated that he could answer the question; that Public Works had reviewed the impact on the proposed development and determined there was a sufficient capacity and that the developer had reserved the capacity for a number of years. Council Members Alvarado, Berry, Sekula-Gibbs and Robinson absent.

Upon further questions by Council Member Galloway, Ms. Hargrove stated that she could find out the name of the proposed complex for her and Mr. Wasson. Council Members Alvarado, Berry, Sekula-Gibbs and Robinson absent.

Council Member Edwards stated that she lived in one of their facilities and it was interesting because affordable housing was not what most people thought, it was city workers, police officers, postal workers, everyday working people who paid market rate rents of close to \$800.00 a month; that it was not subsidized housing and the person had to have a job; that it was a win/win situation because it helped from placing all low income people in one type of ghetto situation as people were interfused; and urged him to go view some of their properties. Council Members Alvarado, Berry, Sekula-Gibbs and Robinson absent.

Council Member Quan stated that the medium average income for Houston in 2002 was \$59,600 for a family of four and it was targeted for a market within that range. Council

Members Alvarado, Berry, Sekula-Gibbs and Robinson absent.

Mayor Brown stated that he would have Public Works look at the odor issue. Council Members Goldberg, Alvarado, Sekula-Gibbs and Robinson absent.

Ms. Katherine Theilen, 5047 Oak Shadows Dr., Houston, Texas 77091 (713-681-2644) appeared and stated that she was also present regarding the apartment complex; that if they had 20 plus apartments with vacancies why would they need another built; that it was also to be built on the last green space in the area and they recently experienced flooding; that she had lived in front of the sewer plant 15 years and could guarantee it was not working; that it may be supposedly of capacity but if it was it was not working. Council Members Goldberg, Ellis, Alvarado, Sekula-Gibbs and Robinson absent.

Council Member Galloway stated that when she went to the community she did smell the odor as well and she was going to ask Public Works for a thorough investigation and would get back with her on that. Council Members Goldberg, Edwards, Ellis, Alvarado, Sekula-Gibbs and Robinson absent.

Ms. Ramona Overstreet, 5034 Oak Shadows, Houston, Texas 77091 (713-681-9121) appeared and stated that she was a realtor in the area and had lived there for 30 years and since there was notice of the complex the home values had gone down and realtors were saying they should sell right a way; that there was a school nearby and traffic would be horrendous, there were many detrimental things going on with the complex and they could check and see how many calls were received within a day or within a week regarding the wastewater plant. Council Members Goldberg, Edwards, Vasquez, Alvarado, Sekula-Gibbs and Robinson absent.

Mr. Armando Armenta, 2600 SW Freeway #500, Houston, Texas 77098 (713-579-2800) had reserved time to speak but was not present when his name was called. Council Members Goldberg, Edwards, Vasquez, Alvarado, Sekula-Gibbs and Robinson absent.

Mr. Charles X. White, 4302 Reed Rd., Houston, Texas 77051 (713-734-3599) had reserved time to speak but was not present when his name was called. Council Members Edwards, Vasquez, Alvarado, Sekula-Gibbs and Robinson absent.

Ms. Ericka Johnson, 6030 Schroeder #39, Houston, Texas 77021 (713-732-5000) appeared and stated that she worked in the Health Department and her concern was the proposed extended hours; that many were leaving the department and those left were required to work until 8:00 p.m. without any explanation or rational; that they understood the budget restraints and would do their part to help, but staying open late would not help; that she and others would like to retire from the city and be involved in immunizing children, etc; that they had suggestions for revenue with one being able to get ID for patients, a better screening process. Council Members Galloway, Edwards, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Sekula-Gibbs and Robinson absent. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Upon questions by Mayor Brown, Ms. Johnson stated that they had received letters stating they would have extended hours and they did not understand that rational, if the targeted population was for indigent and underserved patients it was concerning that they were unable to make it into the clinic into regular business hours; that she did not think they were serving the targeted people public health was planned to serve; that it was not proposed they work more than a 40 hour week, however, it was the scheduling. Council Members Galloway, Edwards, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Sekula-Gibbs and Robinson absent. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mayor Brown stated that Ms. Gloria Moreno with the Health Department was present and she would meet with her after Council Members questions and find answers to her questions. Council Members Galloway, Goldberg, Ellis, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Sekula-Gibbs and

Robinson absent. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Council Member Quan stated that Council was just beginning their budget review so her visit was timely; and upon questions, Ms. Johnson stated that different clinics were doing different things, but she worked at the Sunnyside Clinic and they were to work the 12 hours coming in from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., half a day. Council Member Quan stated that actually the city was reducing hours as opposed to extending hours at the clinic and they were sensitive to the fact that health care personnel was difficult to retain and an exception was made for that group; that regarding her suggestions on saving money he would be happy to meet with her Monday, 3:00 p.m. at the clinic. Council Members Galloway, Goldberg, Ellis, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Sekula-Gibbs and Robinson absent. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Upon questions by Council Member Edwards, Ms. Johnson stated that many patients came with fulltime jobs and HMOs or PPOs and there was a situation recently where a young lady was a pharmacist and she got her exam and birth control; that she told the screener she was not working, but many ladies came to save money and many patients made more than what she earned; that they felt the system was overburdened and there needed to be a better way of identifying who really needed it. Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Goldberg, Vasquez, Alvarado and Robinson absent.

Council Member Sekula-Gibbs stated that they were all aware some of the things offered through the clinics may have to be reduced, but in places where the city may not be able to continue the clinic such as the Riverside Clinic she had asked the Mayor to consider the opportunity to allow the South Central Community Health Center to expand into Riverside and pickup some slack; and upon questions, Ms. Johnson stated that she wanted to send someone to the South Central Center and they said if the patient was not working she must go to the Texas Workforce Commission and get a letter proving it, but then they still had to pay \$15.00 for the visit and pay for lab so it did not help the community. Council Member Sekula-Gibbs stated that it did help, they saw 8,000 patients a year, but they did not operate for "0" money as the city did. Council Members Tatro, Goldberg, Vasquez, Alvarado, Berry and Robinson absent.

Mr. Joe Garza, 6947 Fox Mesa Lane, Humble, Texas 77338 (832-527-5494) had reserved time to speak but was not present when his name was called. Council Members Tatro, Goldberg, Vasquez, Alvarado, Berry and Robinson absent.

Mrs. Vanessa Schillaci, Houston, Texas (713-789-7131) appeared and stated that she wanted to allow Ms. Karen Jacobs her time. Council Members Tatro, Goldberg, Vasquez, Alvarado, Berry and Robinson absent.

Council Member Ellis moved to hear Ms. Karen Jacobs out of order, seconded by Council Member Quan. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Wiseman absent due to being ill. Council Members Tatro, Goldberg, Vasquez, Alvarado, Berry and Robinson absent. MOTION 2003-0123 ADOPTED.

Mrs. Karen Jacobs, 14609 South Main, Houston, Texas 77035 (713-687-1411) appeared and stated that she was present again today asking for someone from the Mayor's Office to meet with the food vendors who were present in order that they may address the proposal sent to the Mayor and Council Members about January 28, 2003; that they called, faxed and E-mailed the Mayor and Council Members time and time again, however, still had not had the \$1,200.00 temporary food vendor fee amended or reduced; that Council had the power to act and enforce all ordinances and resolutions and had the power to alter the annual budget and if that was the case why could not the temporary food vendor permit be amended or an emergency escrow account set up with their \$1,200.00 fee until the matter could be addressed. Council Members Tatro, Vasquez, Alvarado and Robinson absent.

Mayor Brown stated that it was up to each Council Member on whether or not they would

meet with her, but they had asked the Finance and Administration Office to look at the issue they brought to Council's attention and they had not yet received a response. Council Members Tatro, Vasquez and Robinson absent.

Council Member Quan stated that he was trying to find a committee that would be most appropriate, but then it would be up to the Council Members as to whether they wanted to attend the meeting. Council Members Tatro, Vasquez and Robinson absent.

Council Member Parker stated that the item could go to several Council committees, but she would be glad to take it up in Fiscal Affairs; that she did not know if she was interested in repealing the fee increase but maybe in placing a cap on the increase; that she did not need to keep coming back or meet with her as the Administration was reviewing it and it would be posted to her committee and as soon as the Administration finished reviewing the financial impact she would have a special meeting of committee; that if she would contact her office they would make sure she would be notified; that she did not know what would be done, but there would be some type of adjustment. Council Members Tatro, Vasquez and Robinson absent.

Upon questions by Council Member Ellis, Council Member Quan stated that Council should have an answer back this week. Council Member Ellis stated that he did not want to rescind what was done, but maybe a cap of ten days would be fair. Council Members Tatro, Vasquez and Robinson absent.

Council Member Parker stated that after further discussion with the Administration she understood the report would make a recommendation for a cap or a decreasing amount depending on the length of the temporary permit and it would be distributed to Council; that if Council could agree to that recommendation they would go with it and if not she would call the special committee meeting. Council Members Tatro, Vasquez and Robinson absent.

Mrs. Ruth Sills, 16906 Memorial Oaks, Spring, Texas 77379 (281-376-4506) appeared and stated that she was present on behalf of herself and the other vendors participating in the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo; that she would like them to consider the matter of the 300% increase by the Health Department, she was not opposed to an increase but to such a large increase; that she felt the proposal put forward last week by Ruth Terry was fair and wondered if Council Members had considered it; that she had not paid her fee and was waiting to see what could and would be done. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Edwards, Ellis, Vasquez and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding.

Mayor Pro Tem Quan stated that as she had heard earlier Council Members had heard the cries of the vendors and were working diligently to get a resolution done; that he knew other speakers were present on the same topic and they were more than welcome to speak, but he felt there would be a more constructive dialogue with the Administration putting a cap or decrease; that he knew they were under a deadline of February 18 and they wanted to be responsive and have a resolution for them on time. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Ellis, Vasquez and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding.

Upon questions by Council Member Sekula-Gibbs, Ms. Sills stated that she did not have figures on what she made at present. Council Member Sekula-Gibbs stated that she understood there was a waiting line a mile long wanting to get permits to vend at the Rodeo as it was very lucrative; that the City was having a shortage right now and a Health Department that could not provide service for vaccinations and was shutting down hours and vendors were asking to have that department cover them; that Council was trying to cover that gap and she would support reducing the cost as days went by as she understood that was less expensive to handle. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Ellis, Vasquez, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding.

Mr. Dominic Palmieri, 11634 South Warpaint Dr., Phoenix, Arizona 85044 (602-763-2363)

appeared and stated that he was owner of Odyssey Foods and was present representing 15 family owned businesses which operated on the Carnival Midway at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo; that their stands were like traveling restaurants with hot and cold running water, sewage holding tanks and refrigeration; that there were no other events in the states where they worked charging such an unfair amount as the City of Houston; that if their prices went up and their sales went down the taxes they would pay to the city would be down also; that if the Health Department would rethink the way they served the event they could significantly lower their cost; that the escalating cost came from daily inspections and no restaurant was inspected daily. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Ellis, Keller, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding.

Upon questions by Mayor Pro Tem Quan, Mr Palmieri stated that in Harris County there was a seasonal permit for \$120.00 and they were inspected once or twice; that at the Midway attendants paid cash at the stands, they did not need tickets. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Ellis, Keller, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding.

Council Member Edwards stated that Council was trying to make this work, but she found it uncomfortable and disheartening for them to make statements that this was on the backs of Council to make the event affordable; that the City did a strong partnership with the Rodeo with access to the stadium and security and the city made no money so they felt they were being responsible, but they would be working to make it affordable. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Ellis, Keller, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Council Member Sekula-Gibbs moved to hear Ms. Gwendolyn Crawford out of order, seconded by Council Member Parker. No vote was recorded as a quorum was not present. Council Member Wiseman absent due to being ill. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Ellis, Keller, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Ms. Gwendolyn Crawford, 3114 Gray, Houston, Texas 77004 (713-659-1309) appeared and stated that she was concerned over the Parks and Recreation and Libraries being closed on Saturdays; that for parents that was about the only day they had to do anything and children could be at the park or library and she would suggest the City making a scratch off ticket for the children's future and use the money for that and for AIDS or drug addictions; that she knew the city had no lottery but almost anyone could do a scratch off; that another solution would be to close them one day during the week and leave it open on Saturday. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Ellis, Keller, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Council Member Goldberg had the same thought that Saturday and Sunday would be the most logical days to leave the library open and he went to the library and spoke with Ms. Barbara Gubbin, the director, and was told that when librarians worked Saturday or Sunday they earned overtime so the cost was incredibly more and to close on the weekends they would save \$2.1 million, but if he could figure a way to have them work weekends for the same money that would be a greater plan. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Keller, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding.

Council Member Sekula-Gibbs stated that she was also interested in keeping those facilities open on the weekends and perhaps not every weekday; that given the possibility of furloughs and layoffs would it not be possible to pose to employees that in lieu of a furlough day they may be willing to work a weekend at regular pay. Council Member Goldberg stated that he did not know which other departments had that type of pay scale, but it would be something to look at. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Keller, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding.

Mr. Tony Fiori, 4950 West Southern, Laveen, Arizona 85339 ((602-763-2363) appeared and stated that he was the corporate marketing and media director and spokesman for the RCS Carnival, which was the carnival at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo and present to address the same thing as the other vendors, but would cut it short; that he did think Council Members were doing all they could, but would like them to consider educating operators to be better safe serve, health conscious and food friendly; that no education was required in this city, county or state for their industry, but in other states Safe Serve was one of the best programs in their industry and it was being used in prisons, hospitals, etc., it brought the bar of food safety up to another level and the operator paid that at his own expense; that one certified person had to be in the booth at all times and that would cut the cost down on the Health Department as they would not have to be there daily. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Keller, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding.

Mayor Pro Tem Quan stated that the city had a food manager permit for every retail establishment and if they did not have someone there with that license or permit they were not in compliance with the law; and Mr. Fiori stated that was a different program, the food handlers permit, and Serve Safe was a program which taught you how to handle, document and cool food; that it was every aspect of the health part of food and the food handlers card did not cover that. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Keller, Alvarado, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Council Member Edwards moved to hear Mr. Dave Kirk out of order, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. No vote was recorded as a quorum was not present. Council Member Wiseman absent due to being ill. Mayor Brown, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Keller, Alvarado, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. Dave Kirk, 808 Byrne, Houston, Texas 77009 (713-868-8030) appeared, presented information and stated that he had been a musician with the Houston Symphony Orchestra for 21 seasons, but they had been performing without a contract since October 2002 and they had begun their effort to secure a new agreement long before that; that throughout the process they negotiated in good faith offering a contract which included a wage freeze and concessions to save the symphony at least half a million dollars each year, but in response Symphony negotiators said they planned to drastically cut wages and reduce the number of musicians to a level below world-class standards; that 80% of their players were actively seeking employment with ensembles in other cities and even other career fields and they had recently lost some to Minnesota, San Francisco and Los Angeles; that what was happening to the symphony today was a cultural disaster and that was why he was urging a community-wide dialogue on the symphony's future and seeking Councils support, Houston deserved and could support a world-class symphony. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Edwards, Ellis, Keller, Alvarado, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Upon questions by Mayor Pro Tem Quan, Mr. Kirk stated that their contract had been expired for four months and they had been in negotiations for over a year; that two sides were meeting now and were expected to continue tomorrow; that the musicians offered a wage freeze and concessions which added up to over half a million savings; that they did not dispute the society was running in deficit and they had offered themselves for fundraising concerts and citywide campaign to raise funds but so far their efforts were rebuked; that they came to the city leadership as they were in position to advocate and keep a world-class symphony. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Keller, Alvarado, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding.

Council Member Goldberg stated he had attended many symphonies and was at the one for the Space Shuttle Columbia, it was a very fine symphony; and upon questions, Mr. Kirk stated that there was no pay cut in place as yet, but the musicians auditioning to other cities

were responding to a lack of vision presented at the bargaining table and it was their contention that any organization which aspired to excellence must have a plan further than beyond the moment and they were asking for a future. Council Member Goldberg stated that the City gave the Symphony about a million dollars a year reduction in rent, \$450,000 a year came from CATCH and this year the Houston Convention and Entertainment paid for the new music library at Jones Hall; that it was tough all the way around and city employees were going to have cut salaries or lay offs. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Edwards, Keller, Alvarado, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Council Member Sekula-Gibbs stated that she understood the musicians were concerned but Houston would bounce back beautifully and she believed the Symphony would re-expand to its full capacity, but it was belt-tightening time; and urged them all to be patient. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Keller, Alvarado, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding.

Upon questions by Council Member Tatro, Mr. Kirk stated that the musicians offered to keep certain vacancies unfilled and what they were suggesting would altogether be about half a million in savings; that a contract was not required and the previous agreement had lasted four and a half years, right now they were looking for a commitment from the Society for an agreement to bring them to a medium level of salary and benefits of the top ten orchestras in the United States, it was more of a philosophy than a dollar figure. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Edwards, Keller, Vasquez, Alvarado, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Council Member Parker stated that she was surprised he was present today with negotiations going on at this time, it was unusual to have someone negotiating in the media when there were good faith negotiations at the bargaining table as he spoke; and Mr. Kirk stated that they represented the Society was not bargaining in good faith. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Edwards, Keller, Vasquez, Alvarado, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Council Member Goldberg moved to hear Ms. Linda Clark out of order, was seconded by Council Member Tatro. No vote was recorded as a quorum was not present. Council Member Wiseman absent due to being ill. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Edwards, Keller, Alvarado, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Ms. Linda Clark, 1415 Louisiana #3250, Houston, Texas 77002 (713-658-1881) appeared, presented information and stated that she was Executive Director of The Houston A+ Challenge, formerly The Houston Annenberg Challenge, and she was present to let Council know of their new partnership with the Houston Independent School District as they were in a process of redesigning 24 comprehensive high schools with a \$12,000,000 grant and that represented about 50,000 high school students; that wages for the high school worker had gone down at least 70% in the last 20 years and parents needed to understand the relationship between what their students took in high school and what happened to that student after high school and to do that they were hosting four town hall meetings around the city, the first was at Milby High School with 300 parents attending, one would be this evening at Waltrip High School from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and it would be in English and Spanish and parents and students were engaged, you did not just sit and listen; that they were deciding what needed to be done for those high schools and over the course of the next two months would be having meetings at Yates and Sharpstown High Schools; that they would continue to raise money so they could continue to not just redesign high schools but create new small high schools and middle and early colleges with small classes where students were known by their teachers. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Edwards, Keller, Alvarado, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Council Member Vasquez thanked Ms. Clark for coming and stated that he knew it was a labor of love for her but it was something that needed to be done; that he appreciated her work and her supporters and was willing to do what he could. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Edwards, Keller, Alvarado, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mrs. Judith Piche, 7940 W. Silverleaf Lane, Dunnellon, Florida (352-212-6655) appeared and stated that she wanted to allow Ms. Ruth Terry her time. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Edwards, Keller, Alvarado, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Council Member Tatro moved to hear Ms. Ruth Terry out of order, seconded by Council Member Ellis. No vote was recorded as a quorum was not present. Council Member Wiseman absent due to being ill. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Keller, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Ms. Ruth Terry, 5908 Buffalo Speedway, Houston, Texas 77005 (713-665-6690) appeared and stated that Ms. Jacobs gross sales were \$11,000, after all expenses she cleared about \$5,000 and she and her husband worked 240 hours which was about \$10.00 an hour so they were not getting rich, they were trying to supplement income, pay for children's education, etc., and she was health certified and felt it would benefit the city to educate others so they would be aware of the pitfalls and dangers faced in temporary situations; that she thanked Council for stating they would be coming to their aid and wondered when and in what manner. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Keller, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mayor Pro Tem Quan stated that as was said earlier the Administration was making the recommendation this week and Council Member Parker would bring it before Council or it would go through the Fiscal Affairs Committee and they were trying to get it done by February 18 as they needed. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Keller, Avarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Upon questions by Council Member Edwards, Mr. Cheatham stated that if food poisoning was traced back to a specific vendor he would assume the vendor would be responsible, they were required to comply with laws and one assumed if they were followed you would not have that problem. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Keller, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Ms. Terry stated that they were required to have a million dollar liability policy for insurance and that was another fee they paid. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Keller, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Council Member Vasquez stated that he wondered if the City could give a permit to the Rodeo and have them operate as a master permiter; and Mr. Cheatham stated that was not at all how the structure was set up because they were holding the food vendor to standards and compliance of the Health Code and it was not a function that could be delegated. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Keller, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. Rene Piche, 7940 W. Silverleaf Lane, Dunnellon, Florida (352-212-6655) had reserved time to speak but was not present when his name was called. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Keller, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. Clarence Gatterson, 14614 Garber Street, Houston, Texas 77015 (713-451-4579)

appeared and stated that he wanted the Mayor to hear what he said and since he was not present he would speak next week. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Keller, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. Don Cook, 7954 Glenhealth, Houston, Texas 77061 (713-649-4258) appeared and stated that he was present with others to encourage Council Members to pass a resolution against the pending invasion of Iraq; that they thanked all of them, especially Council Member Parker and Mayor Pro Tem Quan for developing wording for the resolution; that as far as he knew 72 cities and counties in two states had passed a resolution opposing the invasion. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Keller, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mayor Pro Tem Quan stated that the resolution worked on had been passed to Council Members and it was supporting the inspectors in Iraq to give them opportunities to do their duties. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Keller, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. George Reitter, 7260 Santa Fe Dr., Houston, Texas 77061 (713-641-2815) appeared and stated that according to the UN 5,000 Iraqis would lose their lives if attacked and half of those would be children; and urged Council Members to take up issue and join with other Councils in deciding this was not the time to go to war. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Keller, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Sister Jane Abell, 6501 Almeda, Houston, Texas 77021 (713-747-3310) appeared and stated that she was a member of the Dominican Sisters of Houston and present in support of a resolution opposing the preempted war on Iraq; that all children were equally precious and she had seen them dying of diseases, but in our own country now cash strapped states were cutting social services and Texas made its first cuts warning of more cuts to come which would affect our city and our children. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Keller, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Sister Mariana Wood, 6501 Almeda, Houston, Texas 77021 (713-747-3310) appeared and stated that as a Dominican Sister she had family in Iraq, Dominican family; that she visited Iraq and saw the devastation of a culture and its people, especially children stunted in their growth due to malnutrition and dying at alarming rates with cancer, diarrhea and simple childhood diseases; that if the war happened it would further destroy a people already crushed and the birthplace of civilization and it would come back and seriously affect the quality of life here in Houston by further stressing points already made today; and urged Council Members to pass the resolution opposing war in Iraq. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Keller, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Council Member Edwards thanked Sister Wood for coming and stated that she was in favor of the resolution Mayor Pro Tem Quan put together; that she had to leave for another meeting but wanted everyone to know where she stood. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Keller, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mrs. Lois Baker, 10723 Inwood Dr., Houston, Texas 77042 (713-781-4805) appeared and stated that she was of the World War II generation and had seven brother in laws and three brothers who served and she was also a veteran having served in the Army; that she knew what war was about and was present speaking against the proposed war; that the United States had never responded to anything but attack on their people and to make a preempted strike was against all tradition and history and it was to lose a part of their soul; and urged Council

Members to support a statement which said "No War On Iraq". Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Edwards, Keller, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mayor Pro Tem Quan stated that the draft would be submitted to the Administration and hopefully it would be on the Agenda next week; and he thanked them for their efforts and support in finding a peaceful solution in Iraq. Mayor Brown, Council Members Galloway, Edwards, Keller, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Mayor Pro Tem Quan presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. Brian Schaffer, 3920 FM 1960 #100, Houston, Texas 77068 (281-444-7585) appeared, presented information and stated that he was Executive Director of Urban Link, an institute for urban leaders, and he had good news to share; that the city was facing challenges and they had 10,000 volunteers available to help with projects taking place on Thursday, July 24, and Friday, July 25, they would be high school students and their sponsors and they were willing to do whatever was needed; and asked if Council Members would consider collaborating with them and allowing them to help make a difference and do something big for Houston. Mayor Brown, Mayor Pro Tem Quan, Council Members Galloway, Edwards, Keller, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Ellis presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Council Member Sekula-Gibbs thanked Mr. Schaffer for coming; and upon questions, Mr. Schaffer stated that the volunteers for coming for a five day conference and would be available to help Thursday and Friday, July 24 and 25, and they could send out groups of 25 to 100; that he was working with several organizations. Council Member Sekula-Gibbs stated that if her office could help she would be happy to do so and one project that came to mind was beautifying Broadway from I-45 to the airport as they wanted to enhance it for the Super Bowl. Mayor Brown, Mayor Pro Tem Quan, Council Members Galloway, Edwards, Keller, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Ellis presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

The City Secretary stated that Mr. Rene Piche had not heard his name previously and he would be the next speaker. Mayor Brown, Mayor Pro Tem Quan, Council Members Galloway, Edwards, Keller, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Ellis presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. Rene Piche, 7940 W. Silverleaf Lane, Dunnellon, Florida (352-212-6655) appeared and stated that he was in the food industry and had been everywhere; that when they were invited to come to the Rodeo they were overwhelmed with the invitation, but after seeing the Health Department prices he was not so sure he was glad to be invited; that he had never seen such a charge, it was \$60.00 a day and most of his shows were \$60.00 a show; that he wanted to make a point and that was when he called Health the gentleman said what was he worried about he would make plenty of money and he found that very disturbing, he came from Florida and that man did not know he lost an engine on the way and that gas was going up \$0.20 a gallon, but he should look at his statements, plus he had called them many times and maybe he could have been doing something else. Mayor Brown, Mayor Pro Tem Quan, Council Members Galloway, Edwards, Keller, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Ellis presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Upon questions by Vice Mayor Pro Tem Ellis, Mr. Piche stated that he could not think of the gentleman's name at this time; and Vice Mayor Pro Tem Ellis stated that if he would provide it he would appreciate it. Mayor Brown, Mayor Pro Tem Quan, Council Members Galloway, Edwards, Keller, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Ellis presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. Steven Williams, no address, no phone had reserved time to speak but was not present when his name was called. Mayor Brown, Mayor Pro Tem Quan, Council

Members Galloway, Edwards, Keller, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Ellis presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. Aston Griffiths, 13335 Utica, Houston, Texas 77015 (713-453-5497) had reserved time to speak but was not present when his name was called. Mayor Brown, Mayor Pro Tem Quan, Council Members Galloway, Edwards, Keller, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Ellis presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Ms. Cindy Cornelison, 1911 Summerfield Place, Houston, Texas 77478 (713-467-6100) had reserved time to speak but was not present when her name was called. Mayor Brown, Mayor Pro Tem Quan, Council Members Galloway, Edwards, Keller, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Ellis presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. William Ennols Beal, 4748 Boicewood, Houston, Texas 77016 (713-633-0126) had reserved time to speak but was not present when his name was called. Mayor Brown, Mayor Pro Tem Quan, Council Members Galloway, Edwards, Keller, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Ellis presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. Tom Brown, 5439 Redstart, Houston, Texas 77096 (713-729-8648) had reserved time to speak but was not present when his name was called. Mayor Brown, Mayor Pro Tem Quan, Council Members Galloway, Edwards, Keller, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Ellis presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

President Joseph Charles, P. O. Box 524373, Houston, Texas 77052-4373 appeared and stated that that he was the real US President and was seeking reelection; that he was opposing the Iraqi war; and was paying tribute to Black History Month. Mayor Brown, Mayor Pro Tem Quan, Council Members Galloway, Edwards, Keller, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Ellis presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. Nebeil Al-Oboudi, 10603 Wilcrest #50, Houston, Texas 77099 (832-496-2350) appeared and stated that he had appeared three weeks ago; that he had spent one half his life in Baghdad, Iraq and the other half in Houston, Texas; and urged Council Members to pass a resolution opposing the war. Mayor Brown, Mayor Pro Tem Quan, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Edwards, Keller, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Ellis presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. Rob Calvin, P. O. Box 30603, Houston, Texas 77249-0603 (713-518-4506) appeared and stated that the war would affect Houston economically, in the humanitarian area and environmentally; that it was Council's responsibility to be responsible for everything affecting the city; and urged support of the resolution against the preemptive strike against Iraqi. Mayor Brown, Mayor Pro Tem Quan, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Edwards, Keller, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Ellis presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

Mr. Lytle Seibert, Jr., 16211 Charterstone, Houston, Texas 77070 (281-543-5549) appeared and stated that he was present to speak for the resolution allowing the inspectors the ability to work. Mayor Brown, Mayor Pro Tem Quan, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Edwards, Keller, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Ellis presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

At 4:40 p.m. City Council recessed until 9:00 a.m., Wednesday, February 12, 2003. Mayor Brown out of the city on city business. Council Member Wiseman absent due to being ill. Mayor Brown, Mayor Pro Tem Quan, Council Members Tatro, Galloway, Edwards, Keller, Vasquez, Alvarado, Parker, Berry and Robinson absent. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Ellis presiding. (NO QUORUM PRESENT)

City Council Chamber, City Hall, Wednesday, February 12, 2003

A Regular Meeting of the Houston City Council was held at 9:00 a.m. Wednesday, February 12, 2003, with Mayor Lee P. Brown presiding and with Council Members Bruce Tatro, Carol M. Galloway, Mark Goldberg, Ada Edwards, Mark Ellis, Bert Keller, Gabriel Vasquez, Carol Alvarado, Annise Parker, Gordon Quan, Shelly Sekula-Gibbs, M.D., Michael Berry and Carroll Robinson; Mr. Al Haines, Chief Administrative Officer, Mayor's Office; Mr. Anthony Hall, City Attorney; and Ms. Martha Stein, Agenda Director present. Council Member Addie Wiseman absent due to being ill.

At 8:30 a.m. the City Secretary read the descriptions or captions of items on the Agenda.

At 9:12 a.m. Mayor Brown called to order the meeting of the City Council and stated that the first order of business was a public hearing. Council Members Tatro, Goldberg, Ellis, Keller and Sekula-Gibbs absent.

HEARINGS

1. **PUBLIC HEARING** regarding the proposed sale of a portion of Herman Brown Park to the Texas Department of Transportation of a parcel of land to be used to widen and make other improvements to U.S. Highway 90/Wallisville Road Expansion Project - **DISTRICT I - ALVARADO - 9:00 A.M. - HEARING RECESSED BY MOTION #2003-69.**

Mr. Alexander stated that they had received a letter from TXDOT and read the following :

"This letter is to inform you that the Texas Department of Transportation is not actively pursuing the purchase of parcel 21A at the corner of Wallisville Road and the proposed US 90 westbound frontage road.

After further evaluation we have determined that the proposed parcel is not required. However, for your information, the proposed project has gone through the public involvement process and environmental evaluation to determine the proposed route. In addition, all of the right of way has been acquired and the schematic for this project was approved in May 2000.

Currently this project is under detailed design and is approximately 50 percent complete. A different alignment is not a consideration at this stage.

If you have any questions please contact my office at (713) 802-5031.

Sincerely

Gabriel Y. Johnson, P.E.
Director of Transportation
Planning and Development
Houston District"

Mr. Alexander stated that the affect of the letter was that TXDOT no longer wished to purchase the parcel so there would be no further need for the public hearing and would ask that it be closed. Council Member Goldberg absent.

Council Member Alvarado stated that she wanted to thank the folks for meeting with her yesterday and also knew that some of her colleagues also had a chance and was glad to see the end result. Council Member Goldberg absent.

Council Member Robinson stated that he wanted to thank the Mayor and Council Members for keeping the hearing open so they could continue the dialog and come to the point where they were now and it made a lot more sense at the end of the day and looked forward to moving forward with the project. Council Member Goldberg absent.

Council Member Sekula-Gibbs stated that she too had a chance to visit with TXDOT yesterday and this was basically a success in that they decided to change their plans and was happy to hear that, but left her with the impression that if they changed their plans and left the park intact to the greatest extent they could, that there might be some compromise of driver safety and wanted to be sure that they had not won on the park side but lost on the drivers safety side and asked Mr. Alexander how he felt about that, and Mr. Alexander stated that his recollection was that they said they would never take any steps that would compromise safety and believed that what they were going to do in the final design, the last 50 percent of the design of the highway, was to see if in their existing right of way they could put a safe right turn for northbound Wallisville traffic, if not then simply northbound Wallisville traffic would not be able to make a right turn onto the freeway, those were really the two choices, but all of that would be taken care of in the final tweaking of their design for the entire highway, that the City would not have input in the final tweaking because they owned the right of way and the City had nothing to do with the project. Council Members Goldberg and Alvarado absent.

After further discussion, Council Member Robinson moved to close the hearing, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Wiseman absent due to being ill. Council Member Goldberg absent. MOTION 2003-0124 ADOPTED.

MAYOR'S REPORT

CONSENT AGENDA NUMBERS 2 through 53

MISCELLANEOUS - NUMBERS 2 through 11

4. REQUEST from Mayor for confirmation of the reappointment of the following to the **REINVESTMENT ZONE NUMBER FIVE, CITY OF HOUSTON, TEXAS (MEMORIAL HEIGHTS) BOARD OF DIRECTORS**:
 - Position 1 - **MR. KENNETH S. KATZ**, for a term to expire December 31, 2004
 - Position 3 - **MR. CHARLES S. LEYENDECKER**, for a term to expire December 31, 2004 and as Chair, for a term to expire December 31, 2003
 - Position 5 - **MR. PORFIRIO F. DIAZ**, for a term to expire December 31, 2004

- was presented, moved by Council Member Quan, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Wiseman absent due to being ill. MOTION 2003-0125 ADOPTED.

5. REQUEST from Mayor for confirmation of the reappointment of **MR. CHARLES LEYENDECKER** to serve as Chair of the **MEMORIAL HEIGHTS REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS**, for a term to expire December 31, 2003

- was presented, moved by Council Member Quan, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Wiseman absent due to being ill. MOTION 2003-0126 ADOPTED.

6. REQUEST from Mayor for confirmation of the reappointment of the following to the **REINVESTMENT ZONE NUMBER EIGHT, CITY OF HOUSTON, TEXAS (GULFGATE) BOARD OF DIRECTORS**, for terms to expire December 9, 2004:
 - Position Two - **MS. MARY MARGARET HANSEN**
 - Position Four - **MR. MICHAEL A. MARQUEZ**

MR. ERIC LIPPER to serve as Chair, for a term to expire December 31, 2003

- was presented, moved by Council Member Quan, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Wiseman absent due to being ill. MOTION 2003-0127 ADOPTED.

7. REQUEST from Mayor for confirmation of the reappointment of the following to the **GULFGATE REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS**, for terms to expire December 9, 2004:

Position Two - **MS. MARY MARGARET HANSEN**

Position Four - **MR. MICHAEL A. MARQUEZ**

MR. ERIC LIPPER to serve as Chair, for a term to expire December 31, 2003

- was presented, moved by Council Member Quan, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Wiseman absent due to being ill. MOTION 2003-0128 ADOPTED.

9. REQUEST from Mayor for confirmation of the reappointment of **MS. ALGENITA SCOTT DAVIS** to serve as Chair of the **SOUTH POST OAK REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS**, for a term to expire December 31, 2003

- was presented, moved by Council Member Quan, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Wiseman absent due to being ill. MOTION 2003-0129 ADOPTED.

PURCHASING AND TABULATION OF BIDS - NUMBERS 12 through 19

12. **STACO** for Runway and Taxiway Repair Materials, Part II, for the Houston Airport System \$102,625.00 - Enterprise Fund - was presented, moved by Council Member Quan, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Wiseman absent due to being ill. MOTION 2003-0130 ADOPTED.
13. ORDINANCE appropriating \$30,977.58 out of Fire Consolidated Construction Fund for purchase of Continuous Power Source III for the Building Services Department, CIP C-0162 - was presented, moved by Council Member Quan, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Wiseman absent due to being ill. ORDINANCE 2003-0142 ADOPTED.
- 13a. **ALIEF ELECTRO-MECHANICAL, INC** for Continuous Power Source III for Building Services Department - \$29,502.46 and contingencies for a total amount not to exceed \$30,977.58 - was presented, moved by Council Member Quan, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Wiseman absent due to being ill. MOTION 2003-0131 ADOPTED.
14. **PERKIN ELMER, LLC** for One Multi-Label Reader System from the State of Texas Building and Procurement Commission's Contract through the State of Texas Cooperative Purchasing Program for Health and Human Services Department - \$47,686.04 - Grant Fund - was presented, moved by Council Member Quan, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Wiseman absent due to being ill. MOTION 2003-0132 ADOPTED.
16. **AMEND MOTION #2000-277, 2/23/00, TO EXTEND** expiration date from February 23, 2003 to February 22, 2004, for Controller Cabinets for Department of Public Works & Engineering, awarded to **U. S. TRAFFIC CORP. dba IDC** - was presented, moved by Council Member Quan, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays

none. Council Member Wiseman absent due to being ill. MOTION 2003-0133 ADOPTED.

18. **AMEND MOTION #2000-179, 2/9/00 and #2000-1342, 11/1/00, TO EXTEND** the term from March 1, 2003 to February 29, 2004, for Pedestrian Signals, Part I and Part II, for Department of Public Works & Engineering, awarded to **PEEK TRAFFIC SYSTEMS, INC** and **TRAFFIC ENGINEERING & CONTROLS, INC** - was presented, moved by Council Member Quan, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Wiseman absent due to being ill. MOTION 2003-0134 ADOPTED.
19. **AMEND MOTION #1998-2034, 12/16/98 and #2001-918, 8/15/01, TO EXTEND** expiration date from February 26, 2003 to February 25, 2004, for Equipment, Road Machinery, Gradall Replacement Parts Contract for Various Departments, awarded to **HI-WAY EQUIPMENT COMPANY** - was presented, moved by Council Member Quan, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Wiseman absent due to being ill. MOTION 2003-0135 ADOPTED.

RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES - NUMBERS 20 through 53

20. RESOLUTION approving the action of the City of Houston Higher Education Finance Corporation for Houston Student Housing II, LLC (Tierwester Oaks and Richfield Manor Projects) - **DISTRICT D – EDWARDS** had been pulled from the Agenda by the Administration, and was not considered.
22. ORDINANCE consenting to the addition of 1.125 acres of land to **FORT BEND COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 25**, for inclusion in its district - was presented, moved by Council Member Quan, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Wiseman absent due to being ill. ORDINANCE 2003-0143 ADOPTED.
23. ORDINANCE consenting to the addition of 90.75 acres of land to **HARRIS COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 26**, for inclusion in its district - was presented, moved by Council Member Quan, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Wiseman absent due to being ill. ORDINANCE 2003-0144 ADOPTED.
24. ORDINANCE consenting to the addition of 56.74 acres of land to **HARRIS COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 43**, for inclusion in its district - was presented, moved by Council Member Quan, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Wiseman absent due to being ill. ORDINANCE 2003-0145 ADOPTED.
25. ORDINANCE consenting to the addition of 13.3749 acres of land to **MONTGOMERY COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 6** for inclusion in its district - was presented, moved by Council Member Quan, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Wiseman absent due to being ill. ORDINANCE 2003-0146 ADOPTED.
26. ORDINANCE establishing the east and west sides of the 1200 block of Arlington 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 H - VASQUEZ** - was presented, moved by Council Member Quan, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Wiseman absent due to being ill. ORDINANCE 2003-0147 ADOPTED.

27. ORDINANCE establishing the south side of the 1000 block of Euclid Street within the City of Houston as a special minimum lot size requirement area pursuant to Chapter 42 of the Code of Ordinances, Houston, Texas - **DISTRICT H - VASQUEZ** - was presented, moved by Council Member Quan, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Wiseman absent due to being ill. ORDINANCE 2003-0148 ADOPTED.
28. ORDINANCE establishing the east and west sides of the 500 block of Granberry 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 H - VASQUEZ** - was presented, moved by Council Member Quan, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Wiseman absent due to being ill. ORDINANCE 2003-0149 ADOPTED.
29. ORDINANCE establishing the west side of the 1000 block of Oxford 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 H - VASQUEZ** - was presented, moved by Council Member Quan, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Wiseman absent due to being ill. ORDINANCE 2003-0150 ADOPTED.
30. ORDINANCE establishing the south side of the 2200 block of West Main Street within the City of Houston as a special minimum lot size requirement area pursuant to Chapter 42 of the Code of Ordinances, Houston, Texas - **DISTRICT C - GOLDBERG** - was presented, moved by Council Member Quan, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Wiseman absent due to being ill. ORDINANCE 2003-0151 ADOPTED.
34. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing contract between the City and **ENVIRONMENTAL VISUALIZATION AND SIMULATION RESEARCH CENTER, LTD.** for an Evaluation of Phase II of the Main Street Corridor Revitalization Project - \$145,000.00 - Grant Fund - **DISTRICTS C - GOLDBERG; D - EDWARDS; H - VASQUEZ and I - ALVARADO** - had not been received, and the City Secretary announced it would be considered at the end of the Agenda if received during the meeting.
37. ORDINANCE appropriating \$122,298.54 out of Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund and \$171,000.00 out of Housing and Homeless Consolidated Bond Fund and approving and authorizing Developer Participation Contract between the City of Houston and **SOUTHWAY BUSINESS PARK, LTD.**, for Water, Sanitary Sewer and Storm Sewer Lines to serve Southway Section 2, CIP S-0800-74-03 and R-0800-74-03 - **DISTRICT E - WISEMAN** - had not been received, and the City Secretary announced it would be considered at the end of the Agenda if received during the meeting.
38. ORDINANCE appropriating \$163,046.69 out of Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund and \$186,249.00 out of Housing and Homeless Consolidated Bond Fund and approving and authorizing Developer Participation Contract between the City of Houston and **SOUTHWAY BUSINESS PARK, LTD.**, for Water, Sanitary Sewer and Storm Sewer Lines to serve Southway Section 3, CIP S-0800-75-03 and R-0800-75-03 - **DISTRICT E - WISEMAN** - had not been received, and the City Secretary announced it would be considered at the end of the Agenda if received during the meeting.
39. ORDINANCE appropriating \$285,000.00 out of Street & Bridge Consolidated Construction Fund as an additional appropriation for Landscaping and Beautification of South Main

Street (US 90A) from South Loop (IH 610) to Kirby Drive by the Texas Department of Transportation (TXDOT), CIP N0611-13-3 (N-0611-13) - **DISTRICT C - GOLDBERG** - was presented, moved by Council Member Quan, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Wiseman absent due to being ill. ORDINANCE 2003-0152 ADOPTED.

40. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing sponsorship agreement between the City and **CREEKMONT FOREST APARTMENT HOMES CONDO. ASSOCIATION** for Garbage Collection Service for the respective civic association - 6 Months - \$1,080.00 - **DISTRICT A - TATRO** - was presented, moved by Council Member Quan, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Wiseman absent due to being ill. ORDINANCE 2003-0153 ADOPTED.
41. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing amendment to sponsorship agreement between the City and **TURKEY CREEK HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION** for Garbage Collection Service for the respective civic association - 6 Months - \$36.00 - **DISTRICT G - KELLER** - was presented, moved by Council Member Quan, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Wiseman absent due to being ill. ORDINANCE 2003-0154 ADOPTED.
45. ORDINANCE appropriating \$642,000.00 out of Houston Airport System Consolidated 2001 AMT Construction Fund, CIP A-0131, awarding construction contract to **ICE CONSTRUCTION, INC** for Terminal C Hazardous Material Abatement at George Bush Intercontinental Airport/Houston, Project No. 490R - **DISTRICT B - GALLOWAY** had been pulled from the Agenda by the Administration, and was not considered.
47. ORDINANCE appropriating \$73,934.73 out of Public Library Consolidated Construction Fund, awarding construction contract to **TEXAS LIQUA-TECH SERVICES, INC** for Stanaker Branch Library Roof Replacement, GFS E-0038-16-3; providing funding for contingencies relating to construction of facilities financed by the Public Library Consolidated Construction Fund **DISTRICT I - ALVARADO** - was presented, moved by Council Member Quan, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Wiseman absent due to being ill. ORDINANCE 2003-0155 ADOPTED.
48. ORDINANCE granting to **BFI WASTE SERVICES OF TEXAS, L.P. a Texas Limited Partnership**, the right, privilege and franchise to collect, haul and transport solid waste and Industrial Waste from Commercial properties located within the City of Houston, Texas pursuant to Chapter 39, Code of Ordinances, Houston, Texas; providing for related terms and conditions **FIRST READING** - was presented, moved by Council Member Quan, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Wiseman absent due to being ill. ORDINANCE 2003-0156 PASSED FIRST READING IN FULL.
52. ORDINANCE granting to **NATION WASTE, INC, a Texas Corporation**, the right, privilege and franchise to collect, haul and transport solid waste and Industrial Waste from Commercial properties located within the City of Houston, Texas pursuant to Chapter 39, Code of Ordinances, Houston, Texas; providing for related terms and conditions - **FIRST READING** - was presented, moved by Council Member Quan, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Wiseman absent due to being ill. ORDINANCE 2003-0157 PASSED FIRST READING IN FULL.
53. ORDINANCE granting to **ENSOURCE CORPORATION, a Texas Corporation**, the right, privilege and franchise to collect, haul and transport solid waste and Industrial Waste from Commercial properties located within the City of Houston, Texas pursuant to Chapter 39,

Code of Ordinances, Houston, Texas; providing for related terms and conditions - **FIRST READING** - was presented, moved by Council Member Quan, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Wiseman absent due to being ill. ORDINANCE 2003-0158 PASSED FIRST READING IN FULL.

MATTERS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA WERE CONSIDERED AS FOLLOWS:

MISCELLANEOUS

2. REQUEST from Mayor for confirmation of the appointment or reappointment of the following to the **HEALTH FACILITIES DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**

Position 1 - **MS. FRANCES J. WALKE**, reappointment, for a term to expire 1/1/2006

Position 2 - **MS. SHARON K. BERRYMAN**, reappointment, for a term to expire 1/1/2005

Position 3 - **MR. LARRY BLACKMON**, appointment, for a term to expire 1/1/2006

Position 4 - **MR. HARRY D. HOLMES**, reappointment, for a term to expire 1/1/2005

Position 5 - **MR. ARTHUR M. GAINES, JR.**, reappointment, for a term to expire 1/1/2006

Position 6 - **MR. JAMES J. DONATTO**, reappointment, for a term to expire 1/1/2005

Position 7 - **MR. JAMES HERNANDEZ**, reappointment, for a term to expire 1/1/2006

Position 8 - **MR. MICHAEL E. ROME**, reappointment, for a term to expire 1/1/2005

Position 9 - **MS. MELANIE MILES**, appointment, for a term to expire 1/1/2006

- was presented, moved by Council Member Quan, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Wiseman absent due to being ill. MOTION 2003-0136 ADOPTED.

3. REQUEST from Mayor for confirmation of the appointment or reappointment of the following to the **HIGHER EDUCATION FINANCE CORPORATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**

Position 1 - **MS. FRANCES J. WALKE**, reappointment, for a term to expire 1/1/2006

Position 2 - **MS. SHARON K. BERRYMAN**, reappointment, for a term to expire 1/1/2005

Position 3 - **MR. LARRY BLACKMON**, appointment, for a term to expire 1/1/2006

Position 4 - **MR. HARRY D. HOLMES**, reappointment, for a term to expire 1/1/2005

Position 5 - **MR. ARTHUR M. GAINES, JR.**, reappointment, for a term to expire 1/1/2006

Position 6 - **MR. JAMES J. DONATTO**, reappointment, for a term to expire 1/1/2005

Position 7 - **MR. JAMES HERNANDEZ**, reappointment, for a term to expire 1/1/2006

Position 8 - **MR. MICHAEL E. ROME**, reappointment, for a term to expire 1/1/2005

Position 9 - **MS. MELANIE MILES**, appointment, for a term to expire 1/1/2006

- was presented, moved by Council Member Quan, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Wiseman absent due to being ill. MOTION 2003-0137 ADOPTED.

8. REQUEST from Mayor for confirmation of the reappointment of the following to the **REINVESTMENT ZONE NUMBER NINE, CITY OF HOUSTON, TEXAS (SOUTH POST OAK) BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**

Position 3 - **MS. ALGENITA SCOTT DAVIS**, and as Chair, for terms ending 12/31/2003

Position 4 - **MS. NENE FOXHALL**, for a term ending 12/31/2003

Position 5 - **MR. CHARLES W. JENNESS**, for a term ending 12/31/2003
Position 6 - **MS. JESSICA FARRAR**, for a term ending 12/31/2004
Position 7 - **MS. WILLIE BELLE BOONE**, for a term ending 12/31/2004

- was presented, moved by Council Member Quan, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Wiseman absent due to being ill. MOTION 2003-0138 ADOPTED.

10. REQUEST from Mayor for confirmation of the appointment and reappointment of the following to **REINVESTMENT ZONE NUMBER FIFTEEN, CITY OF HOUSTON, TEXAS, (EAST DOWNTOWN ZONE) BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**

MR. DAN NIP, reappointment, to serve as Chair, for a term to expire
December 31, 2003

Position 2 - **MS. KARIN R. WERNESS**, reappointment, for a term to expire
July 6, 2004

Position 4 - **MR. GIOVANNI GARIBAY**, appointment, for a term to expire
July 6, 2004

Position 5 - **MR. ZEBEDEE STRONG, JR.**, appointment, to complete an unexpired
term ending July 6, 2003

- was presented.

Council Member Tatro stated that he was waiting for some information for Item No. 10 and moved to postpone Item No. 10 for one week, seconded by Council Member Ellis. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Wiseman absent due to being ill. MOTION 2003-0139 ADOPTED.

11. REQUEST from Mayor for confirmation of the reappointment of **MR. DAN NIP** to serve as Chair of the **EAST DOWNTOWN REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS**, for a term to expire December 31, 2003

- was presented.

Council Member Tatro moved to postpone Item No. 11 for one week, seconded by Council Member Vasquez.

Council Member Quan asked how was Item No. 11 necessarily related to Item No. 10, that they were Members of the Board and Mr. Nip was being reappointed to serve as Chairman of the Board, and Council Member Tatro stated that he was waiting for some information on the whole management district and could not be specifically sure that it did not relate to Item No. 11 as well so seeing as they were together he just put them together.

A vote was called on Council Member Tatro's motion to postpone Item No. 11. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Wiseman absent due to being ill. MOTION 2003-0140 ADOPTED.

PURCHASING AND TABULATION OF BIDS

15. **AMERICAN BANK NOTE COMPANY** for Paper, Security Bank Note Contract for Health and Human Services Department - \$117,420.18 - General Fund - was presented, moved by Council Member Vasquez, seconded by Council Member Tatro. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Wiseman absent due to being ill. MOTION 2003-0141 ADOPTED.

17. ORDINANCE appropriating \$3,000,000.00 out of Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund for spending authority to address the Emergency Repair of the 5500 N. Braeswood Cave-In for Public Works & Engineering Department - **DISTRICT C** -

GOLDBERG – was presented.

Council Member Edwards stated that she was going to tag the ordinance but was not going to but would like to talk with Public Works and Engineering to see what sameness there was with the Alameda sink hole and to see if there was anything they could learn from that instance as to what they were doing with Alameda, and Mayor Brown stated that they would have someone meet with her.

Council Member Goldberg stated that he wanted to tag Item No. 17, that he knew the stretch of Braeswood and it was just repaired about a year ago, they did a reconstruction so he would like to get some answers as to why it happened, that he had been out at the site and would like a breakdown of the expenditures of why it was \$3 million and if someone could come and visit with him on it, and Mayor Brown stated that the item was tagged by Council Member Goldberg.

Council Member Keller stated that he was also going to tag Item No. 17 and would like to look into it for the exact same reasons as Council Member Goldberg, and Mayor Brown stated that they add Council Member Keller to the tag.

17a. **INSITUFORM TECHNOLOGIES, INC** for Spending Authority to address the Emergency Repair of the 5500 N. Braeswood Cave-In for Department of Public Works & Engineering \$3,000,000.00 - Enterprise Fund - **DISTRICT C – GOLDBERG** – was presented, moved by Council Member Tatro, seconded by Council Member Vasquez, and tagged by Council Members Goldberg and Keller.

RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES

21. ORDINANCE relating to **TREES AND SHRUBS; AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, HOUSTON, TEXAS**, and containing findings and other provisions relating to the foregoing subject; providing for severability; containing a savings clause – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Wiseman absent due to being ill. ORDINANCE 2003-0159 ADOPTED.

31. ORDINANCE changing the name of Portsmouth Avenue to Twelve Oaks Drive between Drexel Drive and Las Palmas Street - **DISTRICT C - GOLDBERG** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Wiseman absent due to being ill. Council Member Goldberg absent. ORDINANCE 2003-0160 ADOPTED.

Mayor Brown stated that on Item No. 21 they appointed a Blue Ribbon Committee to work on it for them and he wanted to express his thanks and appreciation to them for doing such an outstanding job.

32. ORDINANCE consenting to the assignment of the Tax Abatement Agreement between the City of Houston, **LAMONS METAL GASKET COMPANY** and **CATELLUS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION** to **KOJAIAN MD TRI-STATE, L.L.C.** - **DISTRICT E – WISEMAN** – was presented, and tagged by Council Member Ellis.

33. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing termination of the Tax Abatement Agreement between the City of Houston, Texas, and **THIEL MANUFACTURING AND SUPPLY COMPANY** **DISTRICT E – WISEMAN** – was presented, and tagged by Council Member Ellis.

Council Member Quan stated that Item No. 33 was the revocation of a tax abatement and thought the company had gone out of business and asked how were they helping by delaying taking away the abatement and Council Member Ellis stated that he was just looking at the

sheet and they owed about \$60,000 in taxes, but he understood and would remove his tag.

Mayor Brown stated that Council Member Ellis removed his tag on Item No. 33 and called for a vote on Item No. 33. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Wiseman absent due to being ill. ORDINANCE 2003-0161 ADOPTED.

35. ORDINANCE appropriating \$10,000,000.00 out of Houston Airport System Consolidated 2001 NON-AMT Construction Fund (549); finding and declaring public convenience and necessity for the acquisition of as much as 146 acres of land out of the R.B. West Survey, A-860; W.C.R.R. Co. Sec. 3, Blk. 5 Survey, A-927; H.T.&B.R.R. Co. Survey, A-1542; and H.T.&B.R.R. Co. Sec. 2 Survey, A-979, Houston, Harris County, Texas in connection with the public project of the Runway Protection Zone for the North Runway at George Bush Intercontinental / Houston Airport; approving and authorizing the acquisition of the land by purchase or condemnation at a consideration, purchase price or award in condemnation, including closing costs, which does not exceed the sum hereby appropriated; approving necessary documents related thereto – was presented, and tagged by Council Member Vasquez. (Note: Council Member Vasquez removed his tag later in the meeting.)
36. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing contract between the City and the **FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF DALLAS**, GFS 10042-03-2 - **DISTRICT I – ALVARADO** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Wiseman absent due to being ill. ORDINANCE 2003-0162 ADOPTED.
42. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing first amendment to professional services contract between the City of Houston and the **UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON** for University Research Projects (as passed by Ordinance No. 02-738) – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Wiseman absent due to being ill. ORDINANCE 2003-0163 ADOPTED.
43. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing contract between the City and **CONCENTRA HEALTH SERVICES, INC** for Occupational Medicine Consulting Services Citywide; providing a maximum contract amount - 3 Years with two one-year options - \$729,000.00 - General and Enterprise Funds – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Wiseman absent due to being ill. ORDINANCE 2003-0164 ADOPTED.
44. ORDINANCE awarding contract to **SOLUTIONS SAFETY SERVICES, INC** for Cleaning, Decontamination and Repair Services on Fire Fighting Protective Ensembles for Fire Department & Houston Airport System; providing a maximum contract amount - 3 Years with two one-year options - \$1,900,540.62 - General and Enterprise Funds – was presented, and tagged by Council Members Alvarado, Keller and Vasquez.
46. ORDINANCE appropriating \$395,800.00 out of General Improvements Consolidated Construction Fund, awarding construction contract to **ELEVATOR REPAIR SERVICE, INC** for Construction of modernization of four (4) elevators at City Hall CIP D-0113-01-3; providing funding for contingencies relating to construction facilities financed by the General Improvements Consolidated Construction Fund - **DISTRICT I – ALVARADO** – was presented, and tagged by Council Members Goldberg and Keller. (Note: Council Members Goldberg and Keller released their tags later in the meeting.)
49. ORDINANCE granting to **CSDS MEDICAL WASTE/CRIME SCENE DECONTAMINATION SERVICES, a Texas Sole Proprietorship**, the right, privilege and franchise to collect, haul and transport solid waste and Industrial Waste from Commercial properties located within the City of Houston, Texas pursuant to Chapter 39, Code of Ordinances, Houston, Texas; providing for related terms and conditions - **FIRST READING** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Wiseman

absent due to being ill. ORDINANCE 2003-0165 PASSED FIRST READING IN FULL.

50. ORDINANCE granting to **HIPPO WASTE SYSTMS, L.L.C. a Texas Limited Liability Company**, the right, privilege and franchise to collect, haul and transport solid waste and Industrial Waste from Commercial properties located within the City of Houston, Texas pursuant to Chapter 39, Code of Ordinances, Houston, Texas; providing for related terms and conditions - **FIRST READING** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Wiseman absent due to being ill. ORDINANCE 2003-0166 PASSED FIRST READING IN FULL.
51. ORDINANCE granting to **CRAIG PUCKETT D/B/A INDEPENDENCE DISPOSAL SYSTEMS, a Texas Sole Proprietorship**, the right, privilege and franchise to collect, haul and transport solid waste and Industrial Waste from Commercial properties located within the City of Houston, Texas pursuant to Chapter 39, Code of Ordinances, Houston, Texas; providing for related terms and conditions - **FIRST READING** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Wiseman absent due to being ill. ORDINANCE 2003-0167 PASSED FIRST READING IN FULL.

MATTERS HELD - NUMBERS 54 through 62

54. MOTION by Council Member Quan/Seconded by Council Member Vasquez to adopt recommendation from Acting Chief of Police to increase spending authority by \$70,000.00 from \$127,200.00 to \$197,200.00 on contract between the City of Houston and **BOOTH RESEARCH GROUP, INC** for Assessment and Evaluation of Candidates for Police Sergeants - General Fund – **(This was Item 2 on Agenda of February 5, 2003, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS VASQUEZ and ALVARADO)** – was presented.

Council Member Vasquez stated that he had been looking into the item and had been concerned about it because Captain Aguirre was the highest ranking Hispanic tested officer and so he had been looking into the background in terms of the numbers of promotions and those applying for the actual offices and was not going to request a delay but would like some continued discussion on that particular research and on their promotions policy and how that impacted the men and women who were applying for those promotions, and Mayor Brown stated that they would make sure that the Chief was aware of his interest and would work with him on it.

A vote was called on Item No. 54. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Wiseman absent due to being ill. MOTION 2003-0142 ADOPTED.

55. MOTION by Council Member Quan/Seconded by Council Member Vasquez to adopt recommendation from Director Houston Airport System for approval of final contract amount of \$4,184,659.83 and acceptance of work on contract with **JERDON ENTERPRISE, INC** for Roads and Services Support at William P. Hobby Airport (HOU), Project No. 498, CIP A-0295, A-0308, A-0310, A-0141, A-0347 and A-0405 - 21.80% over the original contract amount - **DISTRICT I - ALVARADO** – **(This was Item 3 on Agenda of February 5, 2003, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBER TATRO)** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Wiseman absent due to being ill. MOTION 2003-0143 ADOPTED.
56. MOTION by Council Member Quan/Seconded by Council Member Vasquez to adopt recommendation from Finance & Administration Department to award to **PHILPOTT MOTORS, LTD** - \$520,752.50 and **LAWRENCE MARSHALL CHEVROLET II, L.P.** \$230,585.00 for Light-Duty Trucks for Various Departments - Enterprise and Equipment Acquisition Consolidated Funds – **(This was Item 11 on Agenda of February 5, 2003, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBER PARKER)** – was presented, and tagged by Council

Members Keller and Robinson. Council Member Berry absent.

Mayor Brown stated that there were some concerns about whether or not it should be delayed and if it was delayed some additional costs would be incurred.

Council Member Robinson stated that his concern was there was a news story that they supposedly had a number of brand new vehicles with zero mileage and if somebody wanted to come and talk to him he needed more detailed information, and Mayor Brown stated that they could have people answer questions about that story, that as they knew everything they saw was not always accurate, that he thought it was one of those cases where there was an answer for the issues that were raised in that story.

Council Member Quan moved to suspend the rules to hear from Dr. Philip Scheps, Director, Finance and Administration, seconded by Council Member Parker. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Wiseman absent due to being ill. Council Member Berry absent. MOTION 2003-0144 ADOPTED.

Dr. Scheps stated that the specific question was about cost of delay and there were just for the hybrid vehicles a manufacturers guideline that would be missed if they waited one week, that it was negligible cost, that if they went beyond another week the bids expire, so unless they could get the vendors to agree to extend the bids, which he thought Mr. Wells was working on, it was probably wise to go on and have the debate and get it done.

Council Member Parker stated that she had originally tagged the item and posted it for Fiscal Affairs yesterday and they had a pretty extensive discussion, that the news item last night dealt mainly with heavy equipment and these were the cars and light duty vehicles, that there was a pretty extensive explanation given at Fiscal Affairs and she was happy with the item, but she wanted Council Members to have an opportunity to have their questions answered.

Council Member Goldberg stated that he saw the news report also and had some concerns and wondered if they could find out from the departments that needed the vehicles if they planned to put them into service right away or to wait six months or a year, and Mayor Brown stated that they were replacement vehicles and would go into service right away.

Council Member Quan stated that his concerns were the same and it was very disturbing to see the news report, that he was at Fiscal Affairs but did not hear the complete report and just wanted to make sure that they did get that out to the public as to what they were doing with those vehicles because it appeared that they were being quite wasteful in buying all of that equipment and not using it.

Mayor Brown stated that he had asked the departments involved to respond to the news report of last night and Council Members would get a copy of the written response.

57. MOTION by Council Member Quan/Seconded by Council Member Vasquez to adopt recommendation from Finance & Administration Department to award to **PHILPOTT MOTORS, LTD** - \$1,119,072.50, **CLASSIC CHEVROLET HUMMER, INC** \$1,185,286.25, **LAWRENCE MARSHALL CHRYSLER, L.P.** - \$40,837.50, **LAWRENCE MARSHALL CHEVROLET II, L.P.** \$1,197,530.00 and **LAWRENCE MARSHALL FORD-MERCURY, L.P.** - \$975,066.25 for Automobiles, Vans, Utility Vehicles and Pickup Trucks for Various Departments - \$4,517,792.50 Grant, Enterprise and Other Funds – (**This was Item 12 on Agenda of February 5, 2003, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS PARKER and ALVARADO**) – was presented, and tagged by Council Members Robinson and Keller.
58. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing contract between the City and **THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS at HOUSTON HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER** for Behavioral Surveillance

Services; providing a maximum contract amount - \$567,513.00 - Grant Fund – **(This was Item 39 on Agenda of February 5, 2003, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBER SEKULA-GIBBS)** – was presented.

Council Member Sekula-Gibbs stated that she wanted to thank Ms. Gloria Moreno, Health Department, and Dr. Riser, University of Texas, for giving her some further information about the grant that came from CDC.

A vote was called on Item No. 58. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Wiseman absent due to being ill. ORDINANCE 2003-0168 ADOPTED.

59. ORDINANCE amending Ordinance No. 2002-8 (passed by the City Council on January 3, 2002) to increase the maximum contract amount and approving and authorizing second amendment to contract (approved by Ordinance No. 1998-0352) between the City of Houston and the **WEST GROUP** for On-Line Research Services for the Legal Department - 5 Years - Increase of \$210,000.00 for total contract amount of \$510,000.00 - General Fund – **(This was Item 43 on Agenda of February 5, 2003, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBER ELLIS)** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Wiseman absent due to being ill. ORDINANCE 2003-0169 ADOPTED.

60. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing architectural services contract between the City of Houston and **JAMES S. WALKER ARCHITECTS** for Architectural Programming/Predesign Services in connection with the Gregory School Building, GFS E-0144-01-2 - \$138,819.00 Grant Fund - **DISTRICT I – ALVARADO** – (This was Item 46 on Agenda of February 5, 2003, TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS TATRO and ELLIS) – was presented.

Council Member Keller stated that it was not Building Services fault that he had some questions, that he was trying to catch up from being absent last week, that he was not opposed to the project but did have just a few questions that would need a little more than half an hour to talk about the architectural component of the item, so he was going to tag the item.

61. MOTION by Council Member Quan/Seconded by Council Member Vasquez to adopt recommendation from Finance & Administration Department to **AMEND MOTION #2000-570, 4/26/00, TO EXTEND** expiration date from May 14, 2003 to May 13, 2004, for Landscape Plants, Trees, Grass and Associated Materials for Various Departments, awarded to **HOUSTON LANDSCAPING DEVELOPMENT, INC** – (This was a portion of Item 53 on Agenda of February 5, 2003, POSTPONE BY MOTION #2003-0116) – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Wiseman absent due to being ill. MOTION 2003-0145 ADOPTED.

62. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing occupancy agreement between **GULF COAST COMMUNITY SERVICES ASSOCIATION**, as occupant, and the City of Houston, Texas, as owner, for space in the Third Ward Multi-Service Center - **DISTRICT I – ALVARADO** – (This was Item 60 on Agenda of February 5, 2003, POSTPONED BY MOTION 2003-0120) – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. ORDINANCE 2003-0170 ADOPTED.

Council Member Vasquez stated that he wanted to release his tag on Item No. 35.

35. ORDINANCE appropriating \$10,000,000.00 out of Houston Airport System Consolidated 2001 NON-AMT Construction Fund (549); finding and declaring public convenience and necessity for the acquisition of as much as 146 acres of land out of the R.B. West Survey, A-860; W.C.R.R. Co. Sec. 3, Blk. 5 Survey, A-927; H.T.&B.R.R. Co. Survey, A-1542; and H.T.&B.R.R. Co. Sec. 2 Survey, A-979, Houston, Harris County, Texas in connection with the public project of the Runway Protection Zone for the North Runway at George Bush

Intercontinental / Houston Airport; approving and authorizing the acquisition of the land by purchase or condemnation at a consideration, purchase price or award in condemnation, including closing costs, which does not exceed the sum hereby appropriated; approving necessary documents related thereto – was again before Council. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Wiseman absent due to being ill. ORDINANCE 2003-0171 ADOPTED.

34. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing contract between the City and **ENVIRONMENTAL VISUALIZATION AND SIMULATION RESEARCH CENTER, LTD.** for an Evaluation of Phase II of the Main Street Corridor Revitalization Project - \$145,000.00 - Grant Fund - **DISTRICTS C - GOLDBERG; D - EDWARDS; H - VASQUEZ and I - ALVARADO** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Wiseman absent due to being ill. ORDINANCE 2003-0172 ADOPTED.
37. ORDINANCE appropriating \$122,298.54 out of Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund and \$171,000.00 out of Housing and Homeless Consolidated Bond Fund and approving and authorizing Developer Participation Contract between the City of Houston and **SOUTHWAY BUSINESS PARK, LTD.**, for Water, Sanitary Sewer and Storm Sewer Lines to serve Southway Section 2, CIP S-0800-74-03 and R-0800-74-03 - **DISTRICT E - WISEMAN** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Wiseman absent due to being ill. ORDINANCE 2003-0173 ADOPTED.
38. ORDINANCE appropriating \$163,046.69 out of Water & Sewer System Consolidated Construction Fund and \$186,249.00 out of Housing and Homeless Consolidated Bond Fund and approving and authorizing Developer Participation Contract between the City of Houston and **SOUTHWAY BUSINESS PARK, LTD.**, for Water, Sanitary Sewer and Storm Sewer Lines to serve Southway Section 3, CIP S-0800-75-03 and R-0800-75-03 - **DISTRICT E - WISEMAN** – was presented. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Wiseman absent due to being ill. ORDINANCE 2003-0174 ADOPTED.

MATTERS TO BE PRESENTED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Council Member Quan stated that he appreciated the Mayor's instructions to the departments regarding those vehicles, but also last night on the same news report was the story about scanners that many pet owners were using now for their pets and that the City pound did not have the capability to read those scanners when a pet was lost, that he would like to ask that they at least look into that, that from the report it did not seem that it was not that costly, that he knew how dear pets were to people, that he understood the County was doing that, and Mayor Brown stated that they would look into it and see what needed to be done.

Council Member Quan stated that he knew the Islamic Community in Houston and around the world was celebrating Eid Al-Adha at this time, that it was a very special celebration for them and would like to send their regards to the Islamic members of their community

Council Member Quan stated that yesterday he distributed at Council a resolution in support of the inspectors in Iraq, that as they knew the world community was looking very carefully at Iraq and over 70 cities had issued resolutions in support of letting the inspectors do their job and giving them more time and as they look at the City's budget situation people may not realize how devastating such a war would be on them locally as well as around the Country, that he would ask Council Members to carefully consider that and knew it was a very difficult situation and some would question whether they should be involved in it at all, but as they begin their budget process he thought it was something that certainly impacted them all.

Council Member Sekula-Gibbs stated that back to the CDC, that yesterday she had the opportunity to interview Scott Lilibridge, the new Director of Bio Safety and Disaster

Preparedness at the University of Texas Health Science Center, who was brought to UT from the CDC and had 20 years experience in the arena of dealing with disasters and also interviewed Dr. John Stovo, President of UTMB in Galveston and after the meeting she had a chance to visit more with Doctor Lilibridge who informed her that the way the CDC allocated funding for bio terrorism as well as for HIV and as well as many of their big target issues was that they divide everything among the States equally and in bio terrorism they give every State \$5 million and then based on population they bump it up, but with the new Homeland Security Bill, which was around \$4.5 billion, they took out 3 big cities and consider them as States so they also get the flat \$5 million and then bump up based on their population, that she called the CDC yesterday to find out why they did not give Houston also special designation in that same category and they said they never considered Houston a separate entity and that they were using the census documents from 1990 and Houston was just not big enough, that they should be using 2000 documents but were not so what she suggested was that the City and the County work together to petition in a very quick way that Houston be designated as an independent entity so that they could have the flat \$5 million to begin with and come directly between the County and City, that right now they were only getting \$2 million, that it was an interesting discovery and would like to work with the Mayor and the Health Department to try and see whatever could be done to make the correction in it, and Mayor Brown stated that he would have Mr. John Bales, the person in charge of homeland security to work with the Health Department and her and make that appeal to the CDC.

Council Member Parker stated that she was glad that Council Member Quan brought up the issue of the pet scanners and their Bureau of Animal Regulation and CARE was something that she had been following for sometime and to be blunt as they cut the Health Department they preferred to fund services for people rather than pets and thought that the Animal Control Division had been squeezed and it would certainly be of great benefit to the citizens of Houston to have a scanner capable of identifying pets before they were euthanized and hoped that they could follow through on that.

Council Member Parker stated that she wanted to remind Council Members that there was a special Fiscal Affairs meeting this afternoon in the Council Chamber at 2:00 p.m. and the three departments coming in were Police, Public Works and Solid Waste and some of them would be making recommendations for changes in their 2004 Budget but it was really a core services discussion for each department and again the preliminary meetings for consideration of the 2004 Budget so she would encourage Council Members to attend.

Council Member Alvarado stated that she would like to invite everyone to the District I, CIP meeting tonight from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Magnolia Multi Service Center at 7037 Capitol.

Council Member Berry stated that he was sure everyone had seen the new Watch Them column in the Chronicle that Matt Schwartz had been writing, and tells them that he receives hundreds of emails per day with issues that people wanted resolved, that he wanted to commend a recent piece that Mr. Schwartz did on left over campaign signs put up by judges on a railroad overpass with liquid nails and Mr. Robert Norris, Sign Administration, responded immediately by personally taking down those signs using a crowbar, that their office had frequent occasion to deal with Mr. Norris in the Sign Administration and he was very professional and very responsive and they got a lot of comments back from constituents about what a great job he does.

Council Member Goldberg stated that he had concerns about the CIP projects for this fiscal year, that they got the CIP approved late in the year and was looking at projects that he knew of in his district and none of which had gotten started, that he could not get answers and had asked several times, that there was a \$1.5 million for acquisition of land for a fire station and nothing had been done and nobody had an answer, that everyone he had gone to blamed it on a different department, that he would like to know when Westwood Subdivision would be done, that the

plans had been done for two years and he could not get an answer or a good explanation of why they were not being done, and Mayor Brown stated that they would have that looked into.

Council Member Galloway stated that she had a couple of concerns, that one was where they had passed a contract on January 29 for boarding up approximately 35 houses and what happened was that owner came and boarded up the houses and Council approved the contract but only 5 houses remained, that she wanted to know because they approved the contract for a total of 35 but there were only 5 that remained to be boarded up, what process would they use now to get the other 5 because that was not the contract amount that they approved, and Mayor Brown stated that the contract amount was only the spending authority and would use what money they needed to use to take care of the problem, that the money was available for the 5 houses, that they would use the money to do the 5 houses.

Council Member Galloway displayed an inlet filter that went over the drainage and was made of heavy plastic, that they had a demonstration going on now downtown where they had installed some of them so that would save them a lot of money and wanted to bring it to the attention of her colleagues and if they wanted to go and view it downtown where they had them on a trial basis, that she wanted to thank Public Works for looking into it and figuring out ways to save them tax dollars, that it was a very good sturdy project and was used in the County.

Council Member Robinson stated that they would have a special called TTI meeting on February 19, 2003 to hear from Mr. Haines on the City's response to the San Jacinto Draft EIS and they would also hear from Mr. Richard Lewis on the Voice Over IP Project and if anyone had questions on it they could schedule individual meetings with him to come by and visit with them, that Mr. Lewis had sent out a memo recently on the ADA issue, so he assumed they would ask for a vote at the committee to move the item forward.

Council Member Robinson stated that he would not be at the special called meeting this afternoon but his question to the administration was if it was a change in the City's budget process and was it now a formal part of the budget process and if that was the case then he would change his schedule to make that accommodation, that his concern was that if they were supposed to be showing up to talk about their FY04 Budget in Core Services, he had not gotten a piece of paper from any of the departments with what they were spending their money on, what their suggestions were, what they were spending by program, not just all of their employees, travel and copy paper, but by programmatic areas, that they were expected to be at Council for a committee meeting and essentially for the very first time they were going to be talking about core services, that he did not have a problem with it but thought it was an inefficient way to do it and would prefer for them to give them programmatic expenditures in each department that was going to go to the meetings so that they could see what they were spending their money on, some recommendations from them as to what they believed their priorities ought to be and then they could engage in a meaningful discussion, that any information he could get from the departments and the administration so they could be more productive in those efforts.

Council Member Robinson stated that he wanted to thank Council Member Parker, yesterday his staff member was at the Fiscal Affairs Committee meeting on his behalf and had the opportunity to raise a couple of questions, that in part his concern was that the transmittal memo that Dr. Scheps provided in the Monthly Financial Report talked about a fund balance of \$2.7 million surplus for the year end and he knew there were a lot of caveats but it was not clear and his concern was that two years ago the City of Miami had been sued by some of their bond holders because their financial documents were not clear and if they read Dr. Scheps memo no where in there did it say that Council Members had to vote on the \$10 million interest transfer ultimately at the end of the day and he thought that it was very interesting that within a couple of weeks they went from a presentation by Mr. Haines and Dr. Scheps talking about millions of dollars in the hole and then within a couple of weeks they had a memo that said they could be at a \$2.7 million surplus and at the same time they had news stories that they were cutting back on library and multi service hours, so he thought it was a little incongruence and it confused the

public and he would at least wanted to have some more serious discussion like District Council Members if in fact they were making those kind of leaps out there, and with that said, Mayor Brown and Dr. Scheps sent him a memo and an email and he wanted to thank the Mayor for his memo because it reached to some of the same questions, concerns and issues that he had tried to talk about, that he wanted to lay on the table the things that he was going to want to talk about in the next budget cycle and read from a three page document titled "Fixing Houston City Government, A Plan for the Next Six years and Beyond", a copy of which is on file in the City Secretary's office for review.

Mayor Brown stated that he would appreciate receiving a copy of Council Member Robinson's comments.

Council Member Goldberg stated that at this time he would like to remove his tag on Item No. 46 and Council Member Keller stated that he as well would release his tag on Item No. 46.

46. ORDINANCE appropriating \$395,800.00 out of General Improvements Consolidated Construction Fund, awarding construction contract to **ELEVATOR REPAIR SERVICE, INC** for Construction of modernization of four (4) elevators at City Hall CIP D-0113-01-3; providing funding for contingencies relating to construction facilities financed by the General Improvements Consolidated Construction Fund - **DISTRICT I – ALVARADO** – was again before Council. All voting aye. Nays none. Council Member Wiseman absent due to being ill. ORDINANCE 2003-0175 ADOPTED.

Mayor Brown stated that they had a delegation from the State Department of the Central Government of the People's Republic of China present in the audience, that he had a chance to meet with them yesterday and they had a very fruitful and asked that they stand and be recognized.

Council Member Edwards stated that she read in the newspaper where the City of Houston was going to be entering into a direct flight from Houston to Legos, Nigeria and wondered if she could get somebody to tell her how they would work with it.

Council Member Edwards stated that she wanted the status of the Sister City of Lowanda, Angola with the City of Houston and where they were with that.

Council Member Edwards stated that she wanted to share with them some good news regarding the work being done with HIV, that last week there was a week long activity that ended Minority AIDS Week of HIV, that it was very successful throughout the community, that it was a County/City relationship and was very well attended, that it included a lot of aspects of the community including churches, professional organization and young people, that on the HOPWA situation, she wanted to report that the last meeting they had was very successful and there was a go forward strategy that was being developed between their Housing Department and would like to thank the leadership of Ms. Daisy Stiner and the CBO's and the vendors in just deciding to go ahead, that she thought the City would be the recipient of that work and they would have a better working relationship that should bring about better programming and better housing for people who were challenged by that particular disease.

Council Member Edwards stated that this was Black History Month and she had made a comment on Martin Luther King's Birthday that she did not see too much substantive change and some of her colleagues kind of took exception to that, that she wanted to quantify her remarks during Black History Month, that using the thing of HIV/AIDS and it was not all doom and gloom because there was light at the end of the tunnel because it could be challenged and they could be victorious with it, that she wanted to share some statistics regarding HIV/AIDS in Africa and in Houston that were so striking, that during the Middle Passage there were historians who say that close to 100 million Africans were lost in the Middle Passage, as of 2002, in the last

twenty years, over 20 million Africans had died from the HIV/AIDS virus, if that rate kept up they would lose the same number of Africans to the HIV virus that they lost to the Middle Passage, that last year 3 million Africans died of AIDS, that was the size equivalent to the population of Chicago, that AIDS had reduced the average age in some African countries to 35 years of age life expectancy, that one quarter of AIDS death in Africa were among young children, that there were now over 20 million African children that were orphaned because of AIDS, that when they compared that to Houston at the end of 2001 close to a half a million people in the United States had died of AIDS and in Houston AIDS was the number one killer of young Africans between the age of 25 and 44, that was males and females, in Houston African Americans were 58% of the new HIV infections but accounted for only 25% of the population, that African American youth were 80% of the new reported HIV cases and AIDS and African American women were 75% of all the new reported cases among females, that what did that mean since HIV was preventable, that she thought what it meant was that they had to have a made up mind to get on top of it and the City was charged with prevention, the County dealt with treatment, that the task force had been working on a volunteer basis and had done some great work, that they had been out there almost every weekend, at nights, in the evenings, in the parks, clubs and the churches, talking and testing and challenging people to change their behaviors or at least know the result of behaviors, that there was going to be a teach in, they were trying to develop a ground zero of knowledge in the Houston area regarding HIV/AIDS in Houston and in Africa, that there was such a strong correlation, that they had such a large African population in Houston and thought it was only natural, that on March 15, 2003 at Texas Southern University there would be a teach in regarding the Right to Health Care in Africa and Houston, using the issue of AIDS as that barometer, how do they measure how people were getting health care, that the health care in Africa was so bad now that a large number of people died from diarrhea, that Saturday March 15 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. there would be a teach in and they would have people talk about it from all different levels, from medical positions, community positions and from student positions and encouraged them to come out and be a part of it, that she wanted to thank the Mayor for his leadership and the committees thanked him and everyone was grateful for his stepping up to the plate and giving them the opportunity to make it happen. Council Member Berry absent.

Mayor Brown stated that he wanted to express his appreciation for her leadership on the issue, that it was a big problem, one that as a community they must recognize and do what ever they could to support her in her initiatives. Council Member Berry absent.

Council Member Vasquez stated that they had been having a lot of discussion about the community centers and the closings that had gone on and he wanted to thank the administration and the Parks Department for working with Rusk Elementary School to reopen the Settagast Community Center during after school hours and hoped they would continue to work with them on a case by case basis on community centers in his district and appreciated the Mayor's attention to these matters. Council Member Berry absent.

Council Member Keller stated that he appreciated the important stuff that Council Members Robinson and Edwards talked on. Council Members Tatro, Ellis and Berry absent.

Council Member Keller stated that he had enjoyed serving on the Houston Galveston Area Council with Council Member Robinson and hoped to carry some of the regional concept on in his absence because he had guided him a lot, especially on the transportation portion of the regional council. Council Members Tatro, Ellis and Berry absent.

Council Member Keller stated that he had been joking with some of his fellow colleagues on the Houston Galveston Area Council and said he wanted to be like Pasadena, not unlike Pasadena, that he learned from The Texas Department of Transportation Standards Specifications for Construction Highways Streets and Bridges 2.4 had competency of bidders, that basically they had the right in State law to qualify people's financial competency, that he did some he did some checking and found out that they had seven pretty good size Public Works projects in default right now in the City of Houston because they had awarded projects to people

who had the inability to handle the contract due to their financial instability and he thought that was a problem, that Pasadena hands out a Contractor's Financial Resources Brochure for every project and they require when a bidder submits they have to submit an audited balance sheet and a statement of contractor's financial resources, a completed confidential questionnaire containing financial equipment, etc, and they also were interested in determining the bidders capacity in size of the project so they do not discriminate, one could say that was only where only the biggest contractors would get the job, they had a formula, and they could learn from it, to where they had it in a proportionate basis to where it just showed when they showed their balance sheet and qualification statement, it would show in the pluses and minuses that they had enough to handle what they were taking on, so it did not discriminate in that regard, that they talked about projects on time and not only do they save a lot of money with projects being on time, but think about the disruption that it causes the people in the cars, the people in the houses, when some of these major Public Works projects get shut down because the company goes broke, then it takes X amount of money for the bonding company to find another contractor and it takes X amount of time for that contractor to figure out what they were doing and then they probably have to change something because something adverse has happened to the project, so it did cost more time physically to the project and also it costs more time, which was money, the disruption was immeasurable to value to the taxpayers, so he was going to try to work with some of his colleagues in the upcoming weeks to see if they could address it and would like to request a meeting with someone from Public Works to determine if there was in fact seven projects that had been put into default because of people's inability to perform on a contract and then try to target if there were anymore coming and then put a measure in to protect the taxpayers and the people affected by the delays and the disruption in the projects. Council Members Tatro, Ellis and Berry absent.

Council Member Keller stated that he thought the meeting yesterday by Council Member Parker was very good and liked a lot of the ideas that were coming up from it and thought it had been very inclusive how she handled it and looked forward to working closely with her on them, that he was kind of kidding but thought it was a good idea, that they were affecting a lot of the employees and it had taken them some time to understand their own staffs and how to run their own offices and there was no way they could in a couple of weeks understand that for about 20,000 other people, that they were silent because sometime they had to and he would like to hear from them, that he put up a suggestion box in the City Hall Annex by the reception desk and also was putting one up in the lobby of 611 Walker and would like to hear some suggestions from the employees that directly and indirectly were being affected by the decisions they were going to make in the up coming weeks, that they would take all suggestions and put them into their reports, they could also email him at Bert.Keller@Cityofhouston.net . Council Members Tatro, Ellis and Berry absent.

Council Member Edwards stated that she would be remised if she forgot to name the people who had helped them be so successful in the ventures in the HIV issue, Channels 20 and 26 who had produced over six hours of production for their efforts over the last six months, the Black newspapers, the Houston Defender, Forward Times, African American Times, the Houston Sun had been carrying articles regarding their efforts and the situation and radio stations, Radio One, Magic 102, KBXX, 97.9 Power, 97.5, KTSU Radio and KPFT radio stations had been very available to them and made every effort to make sure that their works and events were covered and would like to thank them publicly for their work, that without them they would not be anywhere as close as they were. Council Members Tatro, Ellis and Berry absent.

Council Member Parker stated that she had just gotten word from the Controller's office that they did receive the Sales Tax Check and the mythical Christmas Sales Tax Check's numbers were rather disappointing, it came in 11% lower than last year, that last year they received about \$41.2 million and this year was \$36.7 million, that she had not had an opportunity yet to see what effect that would have on the Controller's numbers but just wanted to give that to the Council Members as a subtext to this afternoon's meeting. Council Members Tatro, Ellis and Keller absent.

There being no further business before Council, the City Council adjourned at 10:22 p.m. upon MOTION by Council Member Robinson, seconded by Council Member Vasquez. Council Members Tatro, Ellis and Berry absent.

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

MINUTES READ AND APPROVED

Anna Russell, City Secretary