

City Council Chamber, City Hall, Tuesday, January 29, 2019

A regular meeting of the Houston City Council was held at 1:30 p.m., Tuesday January 29, 2019; Mayor Sylvester Turner presiding with Council Members Brenda Stardig, Jerry Davis, Ellen Cohen, Dwight Boykins, Dave Martin, Steve Le, Greg Travis, Karla Cisneros, Robert Gallegos, Mike Laster, Martha Castex-Tatum, Mike Knox, David Robinson, Michael Kubosh, Amanda Edwards and Jack Christie D.C.; Randy Zamora, Legal Department, Marta Crinejo, Agenda Director and Stella Ortega, Agenda Office present.

At 1: 38p.m. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Davis called the meeting to order and stated they would start with the presentations and on behalf of Mayor Turner, the Mayor Pro Tem Cohen will be doing the first presentation. Mayor Turner, Council Members Stardig, Boykins, Martin, Le, Travis, Gallegos, Laster, Castex-Tatum, Knox, Kubosh and Edwards absent. Mayor Pro Tem Cohen presiding. **NO QUORUM**

Mayor Pro Tem Cohen stated that Mayor Turner wishes he could be here, at this moment but he is doing a Press Conference in regards to the Police Officers and their condition. He will be here as soon as possible.

Mayor Pro Tem Cohen stated that renowned art collector Lester Marks consistently opens his Houston home to thousands of art enthusiasts every year and continues to mentor local emerging artists. In conjunction with LCM Partners, he has assembled a world class collection, with an emphasis on art by African-American artists; and, Lester Marks has received numerous awards and recognitions from his peers, including Art News, Art & Antiques 100 Collectors Making a Difference in the World, The World's Top 200 Collectors, and Patron of the Year designations from Houston Fine Arts Fair, Houston's Art League and Community Artists Collective, in perpetuity; and, Lester Marks has served on the boards of virtually every visual arts organization in Houston, including the Museum of Fine Arts, the Contemporary Arts Museum, and most recently, the Board of the Houston Arts Alliance where he serves as the Mayor's Ambassador to the Arts. Through Marks Automotive Group, he initiated free admission for all to the Contemporary Arts Museum for 11 consecutive years; and, on January 29, 2019, Lester Marks will be recognized for fostering an environment in which art and culture can flourish for the benefit of all residents and visitors. The City of Houston commends Lester Marks for his tremendous dedication and passion to the arts community and extends best wishes for his continued success and therefore Mayor Pro Tem Cohen on behalf of Mayor Turner hereby proclaimed January 29, 2019, as Lester Marks Day in Houston, Texas. Mayor Turner, Council Members Stardig, Boykins, Martin, Le, Travis, Gallegos, Laster, Castex-Tatum, Knox, Kubosh and Edwards absent. Mayor Pro Tem Cohen presiding. **NO QUORUM**

Council Member Cisneros stated that for 25 years, Project GRAD's constant mission has been to help individuals in low-income communities develop and achieve their educational aspirations. It serves more than 8,000 individuals each year with free, one-on-one guidance to gain the desire, confidence, information and support they need to complete college or workforce certification. Thanks to Project GRAD, 57 percent of these young people persist in college -- more than double the rate of their peers across Texas; and, Project GRAD also strengthens Houston's economic vitality, which greatly depends on an educated workforce. More than half of all area jobs require more than a high school diploma. More than half of Houston Independent School District students are economically disadvantaged and only 10 percent of this population will earn any credential after high school; and, Project GRAD provides HISD students, and students of other under-resourced neighborhoods throughout Houston, with the necessary resources and tools they need

to excel beyond high school. The Café Model Walk-in centers provide all of Project GRAD's college and career advising services in a welcoming, café-like environment open to the public. This successful implementation is due to a partnership with the City of Houston, Council District H, Houston Public Library and most recently Lee College in Baytown, Texas; and, Project GRAD also provides area services such as GRADcafé on the Go, a custom van that brings Project GRAD to regional neighborhoods in partnership with Harris County Public Library, and school-based advising services from Project GRAD staff that is embedded in partnering public schools; and, on January 29, 2019, Project GRAD will be recognized for its overall contributions and innovative service to the greater Houston area and on the occasion of its 25th anniversary. The City of Houston commends Project Grad for its commitment to Houston's under resourced youth for over two decades, as their services continue to support a strong workforce and economy, and greater prosperity for students, their families and the Houston community and therefore, Mayor Turner here by proclaimed January 29, 2019, as Project GRAD Day in Houston, Texas. Council Members Stardig, Boykins, Le, Laster, Castex-Tatum, Knox and Edwards absent.

Council Member Davis stated that the Houston area is wonderfully enriched by companies, businesses and organizations that are committed to providing support and resources to the city's vibrant, creative community. Founded in 2016, Guzo is a collaborative travel social network based in Houston, with a mission to empower travelers to discover the world and make meaningful connections. The founding team's vision is to be one of the world's premiere travel centric company, by making the travel ecosystem smarter and more connected. Throughout the last three years, Guzo has been active in 19 universities around the country such as Ohio State University, Rice University and University of Colorado-Boulder with thousands of users. In 2018, the company turned down an investment from a major VC market to stay local in Houston and live the dream of creating consumer tech in Houston. Guzo has begun to work with many Houston organizations such as Houston First, Houston Metro, CoachUSA Bus and Zipcar. The company has also partnered with local hotel chains such as the Downtown Le Meridien, Aloft and various airport systems outside of the Houston area and on January 29, 2019, Guzo will be honored for their official launch at City Hall. The City of Houston commends Guzo for adding on to the economic, social and cultural fabric of Houston and extends best wishes for continued success and therefore, Mayor Turner hereby proclaimed January 29, 2019, as Guzo Day in Houston, Texas. Council Members Stardig, Boykins, Martin, Laster, Castex-Tatum and Knox absent.

Mayor Turner stated that one of the Police Officers was discharged today and now, 2 of the Police Officers are out. One would likely be discharged in the next couple of days and then there are 2 Police Officers remaining in serious but stable condition. Let's keep praying for them and all of the Police Officers, that is where he was earlier today. He wants to thank the people of the City for their overwhelming support and the well wishes that have come from across the Country.

At 2:17 p.m. Mayor Turner called the meeting into order and recognized Council Member Martin for the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Council Members Stardig, Davis, Castex-Tatum and Knox absent.

The Roll was Called. Council Members Stardig, Davis, Castex-Tatum and Knox absent.

Council Member Cohen moved to Adopt the Minutes for August 14-15, 2018 and to delay the balance and seconded by Council Member Robinson, all voting aye, nays none. Council Members Stardig, Davis, Castex-Tatum and Knox absent. **MOTION ADOPTED**

Mayor Turner recognized Council Member Christie for a Procedural Motion; Council Member Christie moved that the rules be suspended for the purpose of moving Lorenza Butler to the top of the 3 minutes speakers and seconded by Council Member Le, all voting aye, nays none.

Council Members Stardig, Davis, Castex- Tatum and Knox absent. **MOTION 2019-0036 ADOPTED**

Mayor Turner requested the Assistant City Secretary to call the List of Speakers.

Lorenza Butler, 4542 North Ripple Ridge Rd., 77053, (832)880-3733 appeared and stated that the 23rd Annual Texas Lunar Festival is at the Senior Publisher Way, 11122 Bellaire. They welcome all of City Council Members to be there and he presented an invitation to the VIP reception at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday morning. They will be looking for them to be there and they welcome all of them as always. As they say in China Town, "they want them to continue to advertise, because many of them are running for Office and they are looking forward in seeing many of them on Saturday". He asked them to show hands on how many people are coming to the festival? He thanked the Mayor because he is going to the Festival. Council Members Stardig, Davis and Castex- Tatum absent.

Members of Council commented to Mr. Butler.

Mayor Turner recognized Council Member Boykins for a Procedural Motion; Council Member Boykins moved that the rules be suspended for the purpose of adding Darlene King to the bottom of the 3 minutes speakers and seconded by Council Member Cohen, all voting aye, nays none. Council Members Stardig, Davis, Travis, and Castex-Tatum absent. **MOTION 2019-0037 ADOPTED**

Joseph Smith, 3503 Derril Ln., 77082, (713)423-4945 appeared and stated that he is a returning City employee, he used to work at the City of Houston in 1999 but due to his identity for his driver licenses and now going through the years he has come to find out that while his identity has been tainted. People that are having kids are putting them in his name and he is taking blood test, but they still keep them in his name. He is paying to their mother that are not his kids, but he can't pay for his biological kids but now that he is working which he is a Commercial Driver and his licenses has been threatened again by something he can't get any answers for. One of the ladies vandalizing his car and she even admitted it, and this has been going on for 20 years. He just got a letter that they are going to garnish his income, and, in the letter, they have his son's social security number with another name. He is showing them his job, his Birth Certificate, his custody papers but they are still garnishing his income and they are increasing the money. He can't take of his family and he wants to know what he can do? Council Members Stardig, Davis, and Boykins absent.

Mayor Turner asked Mr. Smith, if he has sought out for Legal Counsel or the Attorney General Office? Mr. Smith told Mayor Turner "no, he was given the run around". Mayor Turner asked him if he has obtained a Lawyer with this issue? He told him that yes because he been in court several times. Mayor Turner stated that he understands his frustration, but what did his Lawyer tell him? Mr. Smith said, "that they are not his kids, he's not supposed to be paying for these kids." Mayor Turner stated he needs to get a personal Lawyer and requested Rhonda Sauter, who is with the Mayor's Citizen Assistance Office, to help him because they are not going to be able to work it out here.

Herman Che, 2827 Dunvale, 77063, (832)428-4146 appeared and stated that he's here in regard to a small complaint about the ARA. Recently in December he went to renew his Limo license because he owns a Limousine Service here in Houston. He went to the ARA to renew his license and he found out that ARA decided to revoke his license because in 2007, he didn't submit a document of compliance and the people that he had a contract with stop paying on it. The problem

with that was he went to the company several times to work a better deal of the contract. They gave him a contract that required that he pay them a certain amount a month and when he gets a deal, he is supposed to give them the contract. He didn't think it was fair to him and in 2008, he found another company that was willing to give a better price and they gave him a price of \$120.00 which he pay in full in 2008 and in 2008 he renewed his license. When he went back to find out the problem and they told him at the 2007 he wasn't in compliance so that's why they revoked his license. ARA didn't notify him at his correct address but in 2008 when he renewed his license, he did give them the updated address. He is unable to continue his service and he tried to work a deal with them and the options that they did offer him was not reasonable to him and he can't renew his license until May, and he is here to see if he can get help. Council Members Stardig, Davis, Laster and Christie absent.

Mayor Turner stated to Mr. Che what he is told that his Limo License was revoke in April of 2018 for failure to comply with the City of Houston wheel chair accessible vehicle requirement. ARA is also saying that they sent several notices to him indicating that his license was going to revoked. Mayor Turner requested Laura Cunningham is here with ARA and she can talk to him and give him information on how to reapply for his license for April 2019.

Carol Burrus, 3615 Sun Valley, 77025, (713)818-4470 appeared and stated that she is here today to ask for their attention to the Climate Action Plan that is being created by the City of Houston through the Sustainability Department and with Develop Strategy from ARC the Houston Advance Research Center. She will be serving on the Committee which began yesterday, with an information session and a Q & A. As City Council Members there are so many things that demand their attention, there are fires that need to be put out, places that they need to show up but one of the most important things they can do is long range planning and they are facing a huge threat to our health and wellbeing. It's a threat because of Climate Change and everyone needs to be onboard to do their part to create change in our systems. Since, they are in a position of power in our City and since the City is embarking on this plan to be carbon neutral by 2050, she is requesting to keep in mind the climate and all of the decisions that come before them. They need to be thinking in terms of preventions of a future disaster and not post disaster. No one wants to do that again. She fears that short term budget concerns will point them to decisions that will create long term failure to prevent disaster. She is requesting that they be visionary leaders to help the City of Houston to be a green, clean City. They are facing a huge transition on how they do business and that is so we as humans, can survive. She again requests them to think long term, think creatively and work with amazing Non-Profits like the ones that are here today. Mayor Turner, Council Members Stardig, Boykins and Christie absent.

Jaime Lawson, 4424 Bell St., 77023, (713)815-0504 appeared and stated that she is with the Houston Climate Movement in her role as a Community Outreach Coordinator, she is also Green Building Consultsnt professionally, and she has been involved for the past 7 ½ years. She was born and raised in Houston, in Alief area, this City means a lot to her. The reason that she is here today is to talk to you about collaborating with them at the Houston Climate Movement and their meeting this past Saturday morning for 4 hours with a great show out. One of the things she would like to speak about when they say sustainability using these words like green, where people think it means recycling and reusing reusable bags but it much more than that. Sustainability, if we're going to look at the triple bottom line which is economically, environmentally, and socially equitable; it has to address all of those in order for it to be sustainable. She appreciates the Co-Chair for the Climate Mayors, they are proud that they were elected as a C40 City, she also wanted to applaud Mayor Turner for hiring HARC to do the Climate Action Plan and Resiliency Plan and she voted for the Mayor because he was for neighborhoods and education, she may not agree with some of his choices. Her thing with the Houston Climate Movement, is very much

about climate justice and these areas that are most vulnerable that are still recovering like the Lakewood Community. The Grass Roots Effort doesn't get recognized enough, there is a coalition of Grass Roots Efforts here in Houston and they are the ones that are making a change, they are one on the ground and too often they are not invited to the table. Council Member Stardig absent.

Joe Angel Falcon, 7524 Victoria St., 77020, (832)752-3047 appeared and stated that he is coming to address discrimination about being considered MHMR and not allowed to file Police reports and some of the Police reports occasions and altercations would be more helpful if they are recorded and reported and spread throughout law enforcement that way that several things won't happen. He has been reporting people with weapons, people with zip guns, fully automatic arsenals and with the situation that Police Officers are being shot along with stuff like that. He had a home invasion when he was held up at gun point and he did report all of this stuff. They are telling him to take legal action as in going through civil suits and he just doesn't understand why he gets discriminated by saying he is MHMR. He is Bar Associated and if they look him up on computer his Bar Association is Deputized by all of Harris County.

Mayor Turner appreciates Mr. Falcon for coming and sharing that information with them. Before he leaves to please leave his information with Rhonda Sauter who is with the Mayor's Citizen Assistance Office which they can follow up with him.

Hayley McCord, 1747 Lexington St., 77098, (832)507-9535 appeared and stated that she represents Texas Campaign for the Environment, she is a full time Community Organizer and she's been going door to door in the Houston Community for the past 5 months. She is here to provide input on the City's Long Range Solid Waste Plan. And on that note, she is looking forward to the return of glass recycling with the completions of the FCC facility in the spring. She would like to remind everyone that her comments by emphasizing that she has concerns as a perspective citizen with living in other U.S. Cities and studying and traveling abroad. She would like to describe how 2 recycling programs looked and why they were successful. She will speak about Seattle, Washington and Hamburg, Germany. While comprehensive recycling does have it challenges, it shows that if any State or City communicates clearly it shows that the citizens will respond. Seattle, Washington; and why did it work? Recycling worked in Seattle and she can testify to the love and appreciation that people have for nature and their dedication to preserving it for the future. Recycling is a necessary conclusion of that. How is it implemented? First and foremost, accessibility. Bins like plastic, glass, paper and organic material are everywhere. Places like public transport, businesses, public area, campuses. The second thing through clearly marked signage, communication through sign on what to throw away or what not to throw away. For example, she lived in a house with 6 other students and recycling was part of their daily life. Her second example is from Hamburg, Germany; she can testify to the respect from the community and how it was implemented was through public education by the City. The City created constant pressure through visuals on the subway and along the streets, reinforcing the need to recycle for the good society but it wasn't invasive. There was a lot of use of humor, every bin had jokes on them. In conclusion Houstonians are no different for other engaged citizens from other Cities and in fact she speaks to one person a week who asks about the glass recycling and if and when it's coming back. This indicates a concerned community and she is confident with the implementation of clear and direct signage and accessible bins. Council Member Martin absent.

Members of Council commented and questioned Ms. McCord.

Jim Tucker, 507 Welch, 77006, (301)807-9255 appeared and stated that he was disappointed to hear that the Volkswagen settlement funds will not be used to make changes in the City's Waste Hauling Fleet by purchasing a couple of CNG and Electric Waste Hauling trucks. They need to

immediately be evaluating alternatives to our current diesel power fleet in order to have a service record to evaluate future replacements thoughtfully. At the inaugural City Climate Action Plan meeting informational on yesterday morning. They saw the components of Houston's Atmosphere and carbon, that is created by the Waste Management, including waste landfills and hauling. What was not included was the contribution of the City Diesel Waste hauling fleet to fine particle air pollution and effecting noncompliance with anti-idling Ordinance. The daily time these vehicles spend in start and stop execution of their function is about as ill suited to effective diesel engine use as we can imagine attaining the goals in the Houston's CAP and they need to include the impacts considering air quality and carbon impacts in each decision whether for the long or short term. The aging fleet needs replacing. Is there never a time to do it? But always time to do it oversee. His understanding is that much of the recent disruption are due to out of service vehicles and he suspects much of this is from problem with diesel power trains which that they log, and this gives them a basis for comparison for alternative vehicles in the fleet. He always hate to bring problems without at least some type of resolution even if its not a very good one. He certainly sympathizes with the constraints that Solid Waste Department is working with and the neighborhood green bins are packed and overflowing with other recyclables waiting for collections. He proposes that they go to a tri-weekly green bin pick-up schedule. If that what it takes to get back on regular schedule with the equipment that they have and the personal. They don't need to reduce the diversion of recyclables from the landfills, diluting the landfills that they have so far. Waste minimization remains the goals. Council Members Davis, Martin, Laster and Kubosh absent.

Mayor Turner stated to Mr. Tucker that they are now just getting started developing the Climate Action Plan. They are going to see about the Volkswagen settlement, the break down on that end, they will take a look at that. They will get back on the regular scheduling cycle within 2 weeks if not before. And now we have the new recycling facility that will be opened by the end of March. They are making steps on that end and he will take a look at what comments he mention today.

Deborah Elaine Allen, Post Office Box 263252, 77027, (713)264-0127 appeared to express her concerns until her time expired. Council Members Davis, Martin, Travis, Laster and Castex-Tatum absent.

Steve Williams, no address, no phone, had reserved time to speak but was not present when his name was called. Council Members Davis, Martin, Travis, Laster and Castex-Tatum absent.

Abner Washington, 612 Branard, 77006, (713)533-0034 had reserved time to speak but was not present when his name was called. Council Members Davis, Martin, Travis, Laster and Castex-Tatum absent.

Mary Edwards, 5767 Belmark St., 77033, (713)306-6132 appeared and stated that she is an 80-year-old woman and she is from Precinct 239 Civic club. She has a water bill for \$165.00 that she can't afford to pay. She needs help. Secondly, my alarm company. She had ADT first and a man from the company knocked on her door last year to give her an upgrade to her system and he changed it, Now, the City sending her for false alarm wills because the alarm was malfunctioning. It keeps going off and the Police would come out. She wasn't even home half of the time and they want her to pay over \$1,000.00. She had the same alarm company she had before ADT and now the City is sending her a bill for the new alarm for \$350.00 because she doesn't have a permit and when she sent the payment for the permit, they put it on the other bill. She was requesting for some help because she can't afford it because she is on a fixed income. Council Members Davis, Boykins, Martin and Laster absent.

Mayor Turner requested for Ms. Edwards to get with Rhonda Sauter, who is from the Mayor's Citizens Assistance Office to work something out with her on the water bill. Let's see what her water bill has been in the past and to see if this one is out of line or let's see if they can get her on a plan. Mayor Turner is requesting that the City needs to work with Ms. Edwards because she is one of our seniors.

Ashton Woods, no address, (713)757-2317 appeared and stated that he's with the Black Lives Matter Houston and yesterday he saw something really bad happen. He saw 5 Police Officers get shot down in the line of duty. They do not advocate in putting targets, harm or anything like that on the Police Officers backs. He would like to address the Mayor and the Council Members that were at the Press Conference yesterday and not correct Joe Gamaldi and his rhetoric toward the end of his statement. There are a lot of people in the City of Houston who look like him, who look like brown people. When something like that happens, they have to endure heighten the Policing and Police being aggressive and rightfully so being in the line of duty. What it does not mean is that they still have to call the Police and that does not mean the Police Officer's Union, which they will be addressing soon, and he is asking them to step forward, hold these people accountable because they work with these people daily. It's bad enough that they were not included in the process. When the Union was part of the pay parity, they did it sealed, they did it in secret. They screwed the Firefighters in the process, but he thinks that the raise that they wanted was too high. He agrees its unsustainable, but they do deserve the raise. What happen at that press conference, it enraged him so much that he had to make a live video and he did say some things that he does regret but he is speaking with a clear mind today. So, please grieve but don't attack the Houston Advocate Community. It's not right and he is requesting them to grow a back bone. In November they will remember, and they will come for their power if they are not going to use it the right way and they all will be held accountable. Council Members Davis, Martin and Laster absent.

Council Member Stardig asked Mr. Woods, she trying to figure out where the attack was and Mr. Woods said she won't understand, and she needs to go and watch the actual video because she relates.

Shere Dore, no address, no phone, appeared and stated that she will go on the record for this elderly woman that can't pay her water bills, she doesn't work, and she doesn't make an income and she is willing to pay this lady's water bill. A lot of the City Leaders are not stepping up to help her but that is not the reason she is here. She is extremely outraged at the Police Officers Union President for the remarks that he made last night, putting targets of activist. A couple of years ago Devin Anderson and Ron Hickman came forward and claimed that Black Lives Matter Houston for the death of a Police Officer and come to find out that had nothing to do with them but that put targets on their back. Mr. Woods and herself know how it feels because they were harassed, they were threatened when this was taking to the Police, the Police ignored it because they call out their lack of accountability. They come to City Council Meeting to address them and they have extra Police Officers here. She can't even come to speak to her City Leaders without cops showing up, they are not the dangerous ones, they are not the ones holding weapons. She sat there last night and listened to this man how he was talking that he has their numbers, and this is threat and Council Member Stardig, she needs to see the video and even on social media when this was going down they were blaming the Black Lives Matter Houston and for no one to stand up for them, that's the reason they are upset and why they are here today. Council Members Davis and Martin absent.

Council Member Travis stated that he supports Joe Gamaldi and he supports the HPOU, which Ms. Dore made the comment "you would" and he stated that is his point. Ms. Dore came here today and show exactly Joe Gamaldi was right.

During the Council Member Travis commenting, Mr. Woods start yelling, and Mayor Turner stated not to stop and let him go and remain out the door.

Council Member Travis continue to state he supports the Police Officers and been at the Union and work with their Union and what he sees every time he goes over there? He sees Blacks, he sees Whites, he sees Hispanics, he sees men and sees women as part of that force. Their purpose is to serve and protect all of us and they do a very good job. We don't have a lot of Officers, but they don't have the problems like Chicago does or other places. They are doing a good job with the limitations of what they have. Council Member Travis said that "do they sometimes make mistakes, here and there, sure". They are put into situations that not everyone is put into. These are part of the peace of this City which Ms. Dore is nothing but a flame thrower.

Mayor Turner had to interrupt to get control of the conversation and the main reason that we are needed to remember is that last night Police Officers were injured and that's the main reason and the focus was and that is where the focus needs to be. Five Officers were seriously injured and that remains the focus. This conversation is not helpful to them and not helpful to the community as a whole. It requires community and Police working together. That is the focus and keep it on that level.

Council Member Gallegos stated to Mr. Dore that he is Hispanic, and he represent that District; he wanted to thank HPD for everything that they did because these are brave men and women. Ms. Dore continued to interrupt Council Member Gallegos remarks. Council Member Gallegos asked her to excuse him because this is not about her, it about these brave men and women. He was proud to stand right behind them.

Abdul-Haleem Muhammad, 4443 Old Spanish Trail, 77021, (832)236-9956 appeared and stated first and foremost the last time he came to City Council on the height of us tearing each other apart about the Confederate Statues and she urged this Council to come together to make decision for the removal of those statues not based on politics but based on their personal conscience and what's best for this City. Mayor Turner, given the height of the emotions after those 5 Police Officers were shot in the line of duty. The HPOU President Joe Gamaldi made some statements that were very threatening and so since he said that "he has our number", when Ray Hunt turn over the key to Officer Gamaldi, he gave Ray Hunt his personal number and he asked Mr. Hunt to pass it on to Mr. Gamaldi because if there is any need for Police, especially the rank and file to speak to the Activists, communities and others. Before he came to Council, he called Mr. Gamaldi and what he is here to say is, that they have an obligation to pull this City together, its not them, against us. Law Enforcement alone can't solve this problem. They all know that he is one of the top Activist in this City, but he had the honor and privilege in speaking at the Houston Cadet 238 Class. He had served on the Mayor's Commission against Gun Violence, he serves on the Racial and Ethics Community Disparity Committee. He's been able to work with Law Enforcements, Judges, Attorneys, the bail system in trying to reduce the jail populations and to end the disparity. Council Members Davis, Martin and Laster absent.

Mayor Turner allowed Mr. Haleem Muhammad to finish his statement and stated Mr. Haleem Muhammad that he would say that they do take that seriously. The emphasis on yesterday and last night was on the 5 Officers that were injured, 2 of them seriously injured and remain seriously injured but in stable condition. Last night the focus was on this community Praying for those officers and uplifting their families. That was the message that was conveying last night, and that message remains the same today. It was about the Police and the community, the community and the Police working together to make our communities safe. Mayor Turner doesn't think that message needs to be drawn out by any other message. It wasn't one against the other.

Members of Council had a lengthy discussion with Mr. Haleem Muhammad.

Tomas Ramos, 1345 Willowby, 77008, (713)294-0893 appeared and stated that he wanted to speak about the events from last night. First and foremost he gives his sympathy to the Officers and the family members; however, there is an issue that they are trying to discuss today and it seems it's getting swept underneath a rug and he would like to make it clear to the Council Members exactly what that young man said, " We are sick and tired of having targets on our backs. We are sick and tired of dirt bags trying to take our lives when all we are trying to do is to protect this community and their families. The ones that are out there spreading rhetoric that Police have their number." That was not a comment directed toward the alleged heroin dealer that they were trying to raid and end. It was directed toward the community, specifically the citizens that are trying to hold Police Officers accountable. His question to the Mayor and Members of Council, do they support that type of rhetoric?

Mayor Turner stated to Mr. Ramos, if he, is asking him, he didn't interrupt his comments in that way, he interrupted his comments in a way who are out there shooting at Police, just like the individuals that shot and wounded the 4 Police Officers last night.

Mr. Ramos stated to the Mayor that incredibly disingenuous and Mayor Turner interrupted him and told him that "he will give all the respect that he rightfully deserves but he paused and asked him a question and he gave him a response. Whether you agree with his response or not that is his prerogative. Council Members Stardig, Davis, Cohen, Boykins, Martin and Knox absent.

Council Member Gallegos stated to Mr. Ramos that he can't speak for Joe Gamaldi but he can speak for himself in the sentence that he was born and raised in that community and he can understand where he's coming from in regards to people out there that are trying to paint this horrible picture about the Police. To give the opportunity for someone or 2 individuals to sell these types of drugs in a community that is close to an elementary school, middle school and a high school and for him to have that passion last night because he stood right behind him and he can understand his pain and his frustration because again these are brave men and women that risk their lives by going through that doorway and for people to come here the day after and try to paint a different picture, he just can't understand.

Darlene King, no address, no phone, appeared and stated that she is here to deliver some great news and some extremely sad news. She helps operate a non-governmental organization and it is a King's Word Search Contest here in the City. It's a literacy push that they are using to help motivate students to learn and they actually pay their winners. During this September autumn event they actually crown a Word Search King and the contest is held in Public Schools and private schools and is sponsored by businesses in the community.

Note: During the public session motions were offered to extend time for questions of various speakers, and votes taken, which were not prepared in written form and may be viewed on HTV Houston or on disc.

At 4:01 p.m. The City Council was recessed until 9:00 a.m., Wednesday, January 30, 2019, Council Members Stardig, Davis, Boykins, Martin, Gallegos and Kubosh absent.

Pat J. Daniel, Assistant City Secretary read the description or captions of the Items on the Agenda. The Houston City Council reconvened at 9:00 a.m., Wednesday, January 30, 2019 Mayor Sylvester Turner presiding, with Council Members Brenda Stardig, Jerry Davis, Ellen Cohen, Dwight Boykins, Dave Martin, Steve Le, Greg Travis, Karla Cisneros, Robert Gallegos, Mike Laster, Marta Castex-Tatum, Mike Knox, David Robinson, Michael Kubosh, Amanda Edwards

and Jack Christie D.C.; Ronald Lewis, City Attorney, Marta Crinejo, Agenda Director and Stella Ortega, Agenda Office present.

At 9:03 a.m. Mayor Turner called the meeting to order and move to the Mayor's Report. Council Members, Stardig, Davis, Boykins, Le, Travis, Gallegos, Laster and Christie absent.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Turner wanted to start off by thanking everyone for all the Prayers for the Officers that were wounded. Two have been discharged and one will be discharged as soon as today, then there are two others who remain in the hospital in serious but stable condition. He wants everyone to continue to Pray for these Officers and their families. As we move forward it's a reminder, we're all on the front line, so to speak. So, it's the community and law enforcement working together for the good of the City. Mayor Turner is very encourage for what he has seen and what he has heard from people from all walks of life in joining in providing support for these Police Officers and in general, Law Enforcement. Mayor Turner wanted to thank the Great Medical care that has been offered by Memorial Herman Hospital. This incident with the 5 Police Officers were injured on the same day in which they announced, with the special help from Tilman Fertitta and the Board of the Police Foundation, the ground breaking for the Tilman Fertitta HPD Tackle Training Facility and this will provide a place for Officers to train for dangerous active shooting situation similar to the incident that happened on Monday. At the same time, they were standing with Chief of Police Art Acevedo. The decrease in crime in 2018 and a decrease for 4.4% overall compared to 2017 and violent crime was down 10.4%. Even the amount of rapes was down in 2018.

We know that the Police Department is working harder and smarter, but he also wanted to acknowledge the work of people in the communities as well; Civic Leaders, Communities Leaders who have been out there on the front line. Mayor Turner certainly wanted to acknowledge their support because it takes all of us working together for the greater good.

Thursday, morning some of them will take place in the grand opening of our new County Jail Facility that has been planned for years as a collaboration between City of Houston and the Harris County. The joint processing center will allow people to be arrested by HPD Officers to be booked directly into the County system. It will also reduce the time and effort required to transport arrestees and file out paper work.

Members of Council commented and questioned the situation with the crime rating.

CONSENT AGENDA NUMBERS 3 through 23

MISCELLANEOUS - NUMBERS 3 and 4

3. **RECOMMENDATION** from Fire Chief for Extension of Injury on Duty Leave (salary continuation) for **Communications Captain EMT/ARFF ANTONIO MESA** for the period November 24, 2018 through February 21, 2019- was presented, moved by Council Member

Cohen and seconded by Council Member Davis, all voting aye, nays none. Council Members Le and Cisneros absent. **MOTION 2019-0038 ADOPTED**

4. **RECOMMENDATION** from Fire Chief for Extension of Injury on Duty Leave (salary continuation) for **Communications Captain GABRIEL LOZANO** for the period November 17, 2018 through February 14, 2019- was presented, moved by Council Member Cohen and seconded by Council Member Davis, all voting aye, nays none. Council Members Le and Cisneros absent. **MOTION 2019-0039 ADOPTED**

ACCEPT WORK - NUMBER 5

5. **RECOMMENDATION** from Director Houston Public Works for approval of final contract amount of \$594,667.08 and acceptance of work on contract with **CLEANSERVE, INC** for Storm Sewer Cleaning and Television Inspection Work Order Contract FY2014 Maintenance Program A - 0.89% under the original contract amount - **DISTRICTS B - DAVIS; C - COHEN; G - TRAVIS; H - CISNEROS and I - GALLEGOS-** was presented, moved by Council Member Cohen and seconded by Council Member Davis, all voting aye, nays none. Council Member Le absent. **MOTION 2019-0040 ADOPTED**

PROPERTY - NUMBER 11

11. **RECOMMENDATION** from Director Houston Public Works to purchase Parcels DY17-046, DY17-047, DY17-048 and DY17-049, located on the east side of the Harris County Flood Control Ditch from the 12000 block of Maple Rock Drive to Buffalo Bayou and continuing west to Harvest Moon Lane, owned by Harris County Flood Control District, for the **DIVERSION AND ABANDONMENT OF KIRKWOOD #3 LIFT STATION TO NEW HARVEST MOON LIFT STATION PROJECT - DISTRICT G – TRAVIS-** was presented, moved by Council Member Cohen and seconded by Council Member Davis, all voting aye, nays none. Council Member Le absent. **MOTION 2019-0041 ADOPTED**

PURCHASING AND TABULATION OF BIDS – NUMBER 13

13. **AMEND MOTION NO. 2014-0952, 10/22/14, TO INCREASE** spending authority from \$1,800,890.00 to \$2,251,112.50 for purchase of Liquid Calcium Nitrate for Houston Public Works, awarded to **EVOQUA WATER TECHNOLOGIES, LLC.** - \$450,222.50 - Enterprise Fund- was presented, moved by Council Member Cohen and seconded by Council Member Davis, all voting aye, nays none. Council Member Le absent. **MOTION 2019-0042 ADOPTED**

ORDINANCES - NUMBERS 16 through 23

16. **ORDINANCE** approving and authorizing contract between the City of Houston and **COALITION FOR THE HOMELESS OF HOUSTON/HARRIS COUNTY** for the Administration and Operation of the Rapid Rehousing Case Management Intermediary Program- was presented, all voting aye, nays none. Council Member Le absent. **ORDINANCE 2019-0057 ADOPTED**
17. **ORDINANCE** approving and authorizing Settlement and Release Agreement between the City of Houston, **JOSE SALAZAR** and **CRAIG A. WASHINGTON** (USDC Civil Action Number 4:16-CV-362) to settle a lawsuit - \$100,000.00 - Property & Casualty Fund- was presented, all voting aye, nays none. Council Member Le absent. **ORDINANCE 2019-0058 ADOPTED**
18. **ORDINANCE** amending Ordinance No. 2009-0883 to increase spending authority for the Tower License Agreement between the City of Houston, Texas, licensee, and **PINNACLE TOWERS ASSET HOLDING, LLC, Licensor** - \$321,571.69 - General Fund- was presented, all voting aye, nays none. Council Member Le absent. **ORDINANCE 2019-0059 ADOPTED**
22. **ORDINANCE** appropriating \$1,216,648.37 out of Airport System Operation and Maintenance Grants Fund, awarding contract to **EZ DEMOLITIONS & UNDERGROUND LLC** for the Airport Traffic Control Tower Site Demolition at George Bush Intercontinental Airport/Houston (Project No. 746); setting a deadline for the bidder's execution of the contract and delivery of all bonds, insurance, and other required contract documents to the City; holding the bidder in default if it fails to meet the deadlines; providing funding for testing, and contingencies relating to site demolition of facilities financed by Airport System Operation and Maintenance Grants Fund - **DISTRICT B – DAVIS-** was presented, all voting aye, nays none. Council Member Le absent. **ORDINANCE 2019-0060 ADOPTED**
23. **ORDINANCE** appropriating \$3,655,487.53 out of Street & Traffic Control and Storm Drainage DDSRF and \$406,688.75 out of Contribution for Capital Projects Fund awarding contract to **FUSED INDUSTRIES, LLC** for 15 Windermere Lane Outfall Repair; setting a deadline for the bidder's execution of the contract and delivery of all bonds, insurance, and other required contract documents to the City; holding the bidder in default if it fails to meet the deadlines; providing funding for testing services, CIP Cost Recovery, construction management and contingencies relating to construction of facilities financed by the Street and Traffic Control and Storm Drainage DDSRF and Contribution for Capital Projects Fund - **DISTRICT G – TRAVIS-** was presented, all voting aye, nays none. Council Member Le absent. **ORDINANCE 2019-0061 ADOPTED**

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

CONSIDERATION OF MATTERS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

1. **RECOMMENDATION** from the Mayor's Office for approval of Calendar Year 2019 submittals consisting of 1) a proposed scope of services, 2) a Board of Directors list, and 3) a proposed budget for: **HOUSTON ARTS ALLIANCE, THE HOUSTON MUSEUM DISTRICT ASSOCIATION, MILLER THEATRE ADVISORY BOARD, INC, and THEATER DISTRICT IMPROVEMENT, INC** in accordance with the contract for the Support, Advancement and Promotion of the Arts- was present, moved by Council Member Cohen and seconded by Council Member Davis, all voting aye, nays none. Council Member Le absent. **MOTION 2019-0043 ADOPTED**
2. **RECOMMENDATION** from the Director Mayor's Office of Government Relations for annual renewal of membership in the **HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA COUNCIL** - \$83,978.04 - General Fund- was presented, moved by Council Member Cohen and seconded by Council Member Davis, all voting aye, nays none. Council Member Le absent. **MOTION 2019-0044 ADOPTED**
6. **RECOMMENDATION** from Director Houston Public Works for approval of final contract amount of \$3,437,214.64 and acceptance of work on contract with **PM CONSTRUCTION & REHAB, LLC** for Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation by Sliplining and Pipe Bursting Methods - 2.97% under the original contract amount - (4257-140) - **DISTRICTS B - DAVIS; C - COHEN; E - MARTIN; I - GALLEGOS and K - CASTEX-TATUM-** was presented, moved by Council Member Cohen and seconded by Council Member Davis, all voting aye, nays none. Council Member Le absent. **MOTION 2019-0045 ADOPTED**
7. **RECOMMENDATION** from Director Houston Public Works for approval of final contract amount of \$524,382.48 and acceptance of work on contract with **DG MEDINA CONSTRUCTION, LLC** for Wastewater System/Substitute Service Support - Bellaire West and Winlow Place - 2.51% over the original contract amount and under the 5% contingency amount - (WW5108-03) - **DISTRICTS C - COHEN; D - BOYKINS; F - LE; H - CISNEROS and I - GALLEGOS-** was presented, moved by Council Member Cohen and seconded by Council Member Davis, all voting aye, nays none. Council Member Le absent. **MOTION 2019-0046 ADOPTED**
8. **RECOMMENDATION** from Director Houston Public Works for approval of final contract amount of \$927,691.07 and acceptance of work on contract with **T CONSTRUCTION, LLC** for New Front Easement Reconnections - 2.56% under the original contract amount - (WW5159-01) **DISTRICTS B - DAVIS; C - COHEN; D - BOYKINS; G - TRAVIS; H - CISNEROS; I - GALLEGOS; J - LASTER and K - CASTEX-TATUM-** was present, moved by Council Member Cohen and seconded by Council Member Davis, all voting aye, nays none. Council Member Le absent. **MOTION 2019-0047**
9. **RECOMMENDATION** from Director Houston Public Works for approval of final contract amount of \$205,096.28 and acceptance of work on contract with **TEXAS PRIDE UTILITIES, LLC** for Wastewater System/Substitute Service Support - Beverly, Fugate - 35.88% under the original contract amount (WW5108-07) - **DISTRICTS C - COHEN and H - CISNEROS-** was presented, moved by Council Member Cohen and seconded by Council Member Davis, all voting aye, nays none. Council Member Le absent. **MOTION 2019-0048 ADOPTED**
10. **RECOMMENDATION** from Director Houston Public Works for approval of final contract amount of \$7,077,497.40 and acceptance of work on contract with **PLW WATERWORKS, LLC**

(Formerly **Pepper-Lawson Waterworks, LLC.**), for Pump Repair and Replacement at the East Water Purification Plant - 13.60% under the original contract amount - **DISTRICT E - MARTIN** - was presented, moved by Council Member Cohen and seconded by Council Member Davis, all voting aye, nays none. Council Member Le absent. **MOTION 2019-0049 ADOPTED**

12. RYAN CONSTRUCTION SERVICES LLC to Remove, Furnish and Install Automatic Sliding Doors & Glass Storefronts for the Houston Airport System - \$134,848.00 - Enterprise Fund- was presented, moved by Council Member Cohen and seconded by Council Member Davis, all voting aye, nays none. **MOTION 2019-0050 ADOPTED**

14. HERC RENTAL, INC for approval of spending authority for purchase of Equipment Rentals and Related Products and Services through the Master Intergovernmental Cooperative Purchasing Agreement with U.S. Communities for Various Departments - 5 Years - \$5,752,762.35 - General, Enterprise and Other Funds- was presented, moved by Council Member Cohen and seconded by Council Member Davis, all voting aye, nays none. **MOTION 2019-0051 ADOPTED**

15. ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE IX OF CHAPTER 21 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, HOUSTON, TEXAS, related to the use of Smokeless Tobacco by covered persons at event sites during professional sporting events; declaring certain conduct to be unlawful and providing penalties therefore; containing findings and other provisions relating to the foregoing subject; providing for severability; and declaring an emergency- was presented, during a lengthy discussion;

Council Member Knox moved to refer Item 15 back to the Administration on the grounds that this proposed Ordinance violates the equal protection clause in Section one of the 14th Amendment of the United States Constitution and seconded by Council Member Christie.

Further discussion from Members of Council, Council Members Laster, Knox and Kubosh tagged Item 15 along with the Motion from Council Members Knox and Christie.

19. ORDINANCE appropriating \$132,000.00 out of Street & Traffic Control & Storm Drainage DDSRF; approving and authorizing an Interlocal Agreement between the City of Houston and **HARRIS COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT** to acquire a drainage easement for conveyance of flood waters along Buffalo Bayou; providing funding for CIP Cost Recovery relating to construction of facilities financed by the Street & Traffic Control & Storm Drainage DDSRF - **DISTRICT F – LE-** was presented, all voting aye, nays none. **ORDINANCE 2019-0062 ADOPTED**

20. ORDINANCE approving and authorizing first amendment to the Professional Engineering Services Contract between the City of Houston and **MICHAEL BAKER INTERNATIONAL, INC** for Floodplain Management Office Staff Augmentation (Approved by Ordinance No. 2015-0188) - \$1,000,000.00 Building Inspection Fund- was presented, all voting aye, nays none. **ORDINANCE 2019-0063 ADOPTED**

21. **ORDINANCE** approving and authorizing an agreement between the City of Houston and **ALLIANCE FOR ORGANIZATIONAL EXCELLENCE, LLC** for Leadership Training and Employee Development for Houston Public Works - \$254,600.00 - Enterprise Fund- was presented, Council Member Laster voting no, balance voting aye. **ORDINANCE 2019-0064 ADOPTED**

NON CONSENT AGENDA - NUMBERS 24 and 25

MISCELLANEOUS

24. **RECEIVE** nominations for Positions One and Two and Two Alternate At-Large Positions of the **HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS**, for a one-year term to expire December 31, 2019- was presented,

Position 1- Council Member Travis nominated Council Member Davis

Position 2- Council Member Davis nominated Council Member Travis

Alternate At-Large Position 1 - Council Member Christie nominated Council Member Gallegos

Alternate At-Large Position 2 – Council Member Davis nominated Council Member Castex-Tatum

Mayor Turner requested a motion to close nominations; Council Member Cohen moved to close the nominations to the **HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS** and seconded by Council Member Davis, all voting aye, nays none. **MOTION 2019-0052 ADOPTED**

25. **MOTION TO SET A DATE** not less than seven days from January 30, 2019, to receive nominations for appointment to Position 8 of the **BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE HOUSTON CIVIC EVENTS, INC, CITY OF HOUSTON, TEXAS** for a term to expire January 1, 2022- was presented, Council Member Cohen moved to set a date to receive nominations for appointment to Position 8 of the Board of Directors of the Houston Civic Events and seconded by Council Member Davis, all voting aye, nays none. **MOTION 2019-0053 ADOPTED**

MATTERS HELD - NUMBERS 26 and 27

26. **MOTION** by Council Member Cohen/Seconded by Council Member Davis to adopt recommendation from Chief Procurement Officer to award to **SAFEWARE, INC** for approval

of spending authority for purchase of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Equipment and Related Services through the Master Intergovernmental Cooperative Purchasing Agreement with U.S. Communities for Various Departments - 5 Years - \$10,055,340.00 - General, Enterprise and Other Funds

TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBER EDWARDS

This was Item 9 on Agenda of January 23, 2019- was presented, all voting aye, nays none.

MOTION 2019-0054 ADOPTED

27. **ORDINANCE** authorizing and approving a form of agreement for housing construction and repair services to be executed by the City of Houston, Texas, and each of the following contractors: **BURGHLI INVESTMENTS, LLC dba BURGHLI HOMES; DSW HOMES, LLC; JAMES W. TURNER CONSTRUCTION LTD; MOSS & ASSOCIATES, LLC; SLSCO LTD** and **TEGRITY HOUSTON LLC dba TEGRITY HOMES**; authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement for housing construction and repair services with each contractor; containing findings and provisions related to the foregoing subject; providing a maximum contract amount - \$400,000,000.00 - Grant Fund

TAGGED BY COUNCIL MEMBER LASTER

This was Item 20 on Agenda of January 23, 2019- was presented, during a lengthy discussion; Council Member Stardig moved to delay Item 27 for one week and seconded by Council Member Travis. During discussion on delaying Item 27 and Council Member Travis requested roll call vote.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Mayor Turner voting- no
Council Member Stardig voting- aye
Council Member Davis voting- no
Council Member Cohen voting- no
Council Member Boykins voting- no
Council Member Martin voting- no
Council Member Le voting- aye
Council Member Travis voting- aye
Council Member Cisneros voting- no
Council Member Gallegos voting- no
Council Member Laster voting- no
Council Member Castex-Tatum voting- no
Council Member Kubosh voting- aye
Council Member Edwards voting- no
Council Member Christie voting- no

MOTION 2019-0055 FAILED

Council Member Davis requested a roll call vote on the Item 27

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Mayor Turner voting- aye
Council Member Stardig voting- aye
Council Member Davis voting- aye
Council Member Cohen voting- aye

Council Member Boykins voting- aye
Council Member Martin voting- aye
Council Member Le voting- aye
Council Member Travis voting- aye
Council Member Cisneros voting- aye
Council Member Gallegos voting- aye
Council Member Laster voting- no
Council Member Castex-Tatum voting- aye
Council Member Kubosh voting- no
Council Member Edwards voting- aye
Council Member Christie voting- aye
MOTION 2019-0065 ADOPTED

MATTERS TO BE PRESENTED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS - Council Member Travis first

Members of Council announced events and discussed matters of interest.

There being no further business before Council; the City Council adjourned at 12:36 p.m. Council Members Stardig, Davis, Boykins, Martin, Le, Travis, Knox, Edwards and Christie absent.

DETAILED INFORMATION ON FILE ON THE OFFICE OF THE CITY SECRETARY

MINUTES READ AND APPROVED

Pat J. Daniel, Assistant City Secretary