

**MINUTES
HOUSTON CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY FEBRUARY 6, 2017**

The Houston City Council met in regular session at 6:30 p.m. on Monday February 6, 2017 at Houston City Hall Council Chambers, 601 S Grand Avenue with the following members present: Alderman Joe Honeycutt, Alderwoman Mary Barnes, Alderman Chalky Wells, Alderwoman Sheila Walker, Alderwoman Viki Narancich, Alderman David Arthur and City Administrator Larry Sutton, City Clerk Tonya Foster, City Attorney Brad Eidson and Police Chief Tim Ceplina were also present.

Mayor Tottinham established a quorum and called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

The motion was made by Alderman Wells and seconded by Alderwoman Barnes to approve the minutes for the January 17, 2017 regular meeting. Motion passed with six yes votes.

	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstaining</u>	<u>Not Present</u>
Alderman Honeycutt	x			
Alderwoman Barnes	x			
Alderman Wells	x			
Alderwoman Walker	x			
Alderwoman Narancich	x			
Alderman Arthur	x			

The motion was made by Alderman Wells and seconded by Alderman Honeycutt to approve the minutes for the January 17, 2017 closed meeting. Motion passed with six yes votes.

	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstaining</u>	<u>Not Present</u>
Alderman Honeycutt	x			
Alderwoman Barnes	x			
Alderman Wells	x			
Alderwoman Walker	x			
Alderwoman Narancich	x			
Alderman Arthur	x			

The motion was made by Alderman Wells and seconded by Alderwoman Walker to approve payment for payroll of January 23, 2017. Motion passed with six yes votes.

	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstaining</u>	<u>Not Present</u>
Alderman Honeycutt	x			
Alderwoman Barnes	x			
Alderman Wells	x			
Alderwoman Walker	x			
Alderwoman Narancich	x			
Alderman Arthur	x			

The motion was made by Alderman Wells and seconded by Alderwoman Narancich to approve payment of invoices for February 3 & 6, 2017 (\$106,878.07) as presented. Motion passed with six yes votes.

	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstaining</u>	<u>Not Present</u>
Alderman Honeycutt	x			
Alderwoman Barnes	x			
Alderman Wells	x			
Alderwoman Walker	x			
Alderman Narancich	x			
Alderman Arthur	x			

Guests: Joe Kirkman, John Thomas, George Sholtz, Jeremy St John, Dennis Wilson, Martin Fisher, Don Romines, Eddie Smith.

Joe Kirkman public grounds supervisor spoke to council about the TASTC closing. The city will need to reopen the dog pound. Some repairs are needed and the State will inspect the facility. Discussed the reopening and how picking up and maintaining the animals will be handled and the fees associated with the pound.

Don Romines spoke to council about filling the vacancy of the economic development position after Ron Reed retired. HDC feels it's important to replace the position.

Request from Celebration for Life.

The motion was made by Alderwoman Walker and seconded by Alderwoman Barnes to donate \$200.00 to Celebration for Life. Motion passed with six yes votes.

	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstaining</u>	<u>Not Present</u>
Alderman Honeycutt	x			
Alderwoman Barnes	x			
Alderman Wells	x			
Alderwoman Walker	x			
Alderman Narancich	x			
Alderman Arthur	x			

Administrator Report

February 6, 2017

1. Utility beds are being installed on the new water/sewer and electric trucks and will be put into service soon. Will take best parts off each old truck to make a replacement truck for the parks and recreation director.
2. Touch up work is being completed along the walking trail adjacent to the Brushy Creek. Additional concrete reinforcement and replacement of sections of the walking trail still need done.

3. Will replace lights and poles along Hwy 63 that were taken down during highway widening when weather permits. LED lights will be installed on those poles.
4. Net Metering – we only have 4 customers that this applies to and there was 282 kwh produced by them the last billing cycle. It’s a requirement for council to be informed annually.
5. Mayor and I met with the IDA board.
6. Attended a MPUA meeting in Columbia last week.
7. Public Grounds has been burning leaves, cutting down dead trees in park and city lots along with routine maintenance of equipment.
8. Elect Dept working with new concrete plant owner, he’s relocating plant along highway and new electric service needed. Also tree trimming.
9. Water/Sewer continuing extension to far south lots on Hwy 63. Repaired a main water line break on East Crest and finishing up FEMA repair work along Brushy Creek bank.

Additions to Administrator’s Report:

The estimated cost of the Hwy 63 project has risen approximately \$100,000.00 so project maybe reduced.

The properties on the demolition list are being repaired or torn down.

Discussed the economic development director vacancy. The ED committee will meet to discuss job description, salary, qualifications, etc.

Heard from city clerk on collection of the real estate and personal property taxes. Going well with the county collecting.

The motion was made by Alderwoman Walker and seconded by Alderwoman Barnes to adjourn at 7:40 p.m. Motion passed with six yes votes.

	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstaining</u>	<u>Not Present</u>
Alderman Honeycutt	x			
Alderwoman Barnes	x			
Alderman Wells	x			
Alderwoman Walker	x			
Alderwoman Narancich	x			
Alderman Arthur	x			

Minutes Taken By

Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk