

**MINUTES
HOUSTON CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY JULY 17, 2017**

The Houston City Council met in regular session at 6:30 p.m. on Monday July 17, 2017 at Houston City Hall Council Chambers, 601 S Grand Avenue with the following members present: Alderman Joe Honeycutt, Alderman Donnie Wilson, Alderman Jeremy St John, Alderwoman Sheila Walker, Alderwoman Viki Narancich, Alderwoman Kim Bittle and City Clerk Tonya Foster, and Police Chief Tim Ceplina were also present.

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

The motion was made by Alderwoman Narancich and seconded by Alderman St. John to approve the minutes for the July 5, 2017 regular meeting. Motion passed with six yes votes.

	Aye	Nay	Abstaining	Not Present
Alderman Honeycutt	x			
Alderman Wilson	x			
Alderman St John	x			
Alderwoman Walker	x			
Alderwoman Narancich	x			
Alderwoman Bittle	x			

The motion was made by Alderwoman Walker and seconded by Alderwoman Bittle to approve payment for payroll of July 10, 2017. Motion passed with six yes votes.

	Aye	Nay	Abstaining	Not Present
Alderman Honeycutt	x			
Alderman Wilson	x			
Alderman St John	x			
Alderwoman Walker	x			
Alderwoman Narancich	x			
Alderwoman Bittle	x			

The motion was made by Alderman St. John and seconded by Alderwoman Walker to approve payment of invoices for July 14 & 17, 2017 (\$56,036.13) as presented. Motion passed with six yes votes.

	Aye	Nay	Abstaining	Not Present
Alderman Honeycutt	x			
Alderman Wilson	x			
Alderman St John	x			
Alderwoman Walker	x			
Alderman Narancich	x			
Alderwoman Bittle	x			

Guests: Tona Bowen, Bob Bowen, Mike Williams, Harley Coulter, Joe Mainer, Keith Hamilton, Bob Richards, Jerry Jackson.

Chief Ceplina spoke to council about one of the patrol cars needing major repairs. Cost of repairs is more than the car is worth. He had a handout with different options. Buying new or purchasing used from Missouri Highway Patrol. Wait time is 3-4 months could be 9 months. Chief Ceplina would prefer to purchase a police package explorer. No decision made.

Discussed the dress code. Employees asking to wear shorts. Electric department would not be able to wear shorts. No state regulations on wearing shorts in the water and sewer department. Heard from several employees on wearing shorts.

The motion was made by Alderman Wilson and seconded by Alderman St. John to allow city employees to wear shorts provided by the uniform company at cost to the employee. The electric and police departments will not be able to wear shorts do to safety. Motion passed with five yes votes.

	Aye	Nay	Abstaining	Not Present
Alderman Honeycutt		x		
Alderman Wilson	x			
Alderman St John	x			
Alderwoman Walker	x			
Alderman Narancich	x			
Alderwoman Bittle	x			

Discussed the FEMA project. Damage has been estimated at \$1,319,865.00. The city will have to pay for repairs. Payment for the possibility of a 75% reimbursement wait time could be up to a year. Some of the city match can be in kind work. Some repairs have already been made.

Face book Policy discussed. Alderwoman Narancich had a handout with ideas for putting information on a city face book page. Good communication tool. Alderwoman Narancich will work with new city administrator on getting a policy.

Press Release Policy. Discussed the handout Alderwoman Bittle presented. Will make some changes and bring back to council.

Alderwomen Narancich and Bittle toured the WWTP. Some repair is needed on an auger where a fine screen is needed. Supervisor Jerry Jackson will get some estimates for these repairs.

The motion was made by Alderwoman Walker and seconded by Alderwoman Narancich to close this part of the meeting pursuant to Section 610.021 (3). Motion passed with six roll call votes.

	Aye	Nay	Abstaining	Not Present
Alderman Honeycutt	x			
Alderman Wilson	x			
Alderman St John	x			
Alderwoman Walker	x			
Alderman Narancich	x			
Alderwoman Bittle	x			

The motion was made by Alderman St. John and seconded by Alderwoman Narancich to return to open session. Motion passed with six yes votes.

	Aye	Nay	Abstaining	Not Present
Alderman Honeycutt	x			
Alderman Wilson	x			
Alderman St John	x			
Alderwoman Walker	x			
Alderman Narancich	x			
Alderwoman Bittle	x			

Miscellaneous:

The Hwy 63 sidewalk project is scheduled to start August 17, 2017.

Healthy Schools is working on a grant to put a self contained toilet in at Rutherford Park. The city would need to commit \$3500.00 to this project. This would require low maintenance.

Question asked could a shower be added to this and where in the budget would the \$3500 be paid. There is no water line for a shower to be added. This would be in the 2018 budget. The grant needs to be submitted by July 2017

The motion was made by Alderman Wilson and seconded by Alderwoman Bittle to commit the \$3500.00 to HSHC for the toilet at Rutherford Park contingent on grant approval. Motion passed with six yes votes.

	Aye	Nay	Abstaining	Not Present
Alderman Honeycutt	x			
Alderman Wilson	x			
Alderman St John	x			
Alderwoman Walker	x			
Alderman Narancich	x			
Alderwoman Bittle	x			

The HSHC has a water fountain they would like to install at Rutherford Park. First plan was to install on the N side of the airport. A safer location would be in Rutherford Park. A water line would need to be cut across Westwood Drive. Earlene will be able to coordinate with City Administrator Bowen on this project.

Asphalt company is moving their plant closer and hopefully can start laying asphalt in August.

Mayor Tottingham addressed council about the extra hours added to Elaine Campbell's workload because of several projects the city has ongoing. She does an excellent job of getting the paperwork on the projects completed on time. FEMA, airport, Hwy 63 sidewalk are some of the projects. Her contract allows for 50 hours per month. Mayor had talked with Ms. Campbell and she thought 20 more hours a month would cover the extra work.

The motion was made by Alderman Honeycutt and seconded by Alderman Wilson to pay Ms. Campbell for 20 more hours a month from August 1 to December 1, 2017. Motion passed with five yes votes.

	Aye	Nay	Abstaining	Not Present
Alderman Honeycutt	x			
Alderman Wilson	x			
Alderman St John	x			
Alderwoman Walker			x	
Alderman Narancich	x			
Alderwoman Bittle	x			

Along the same note. With the city being without a city administrator and an economic developer a lot of extra work has fell onto the city clerk. Would ask that you be understanding of overtime when needed. When the city administrator starts she will be monitoring the work schedule and approve overtime as needed. Alderwoman Walker expressed her concern over one employee's timecard being audited. She felt the council as a whole should spot check timecards randomly. This will also fall under the city administrator's duties.

Alderwoman Bittle felt that the Chamber contract needs to be renegotiated.

The motion was made by Alderman St. John and seconded by Alderwoman Narancich to adjourn at 9:04 p.m. Motion passed with six yes votes.

	Aye	Nay	Abstaining	Not Present
Alderman Honeycutt	x			
Alderman Wilson	x			
Alderman St John	x			
Alderwoman Walker	x			
Alderman Narancich	x			
Alderwoman Bittle	x			

Minutes Taken By

Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk