

**MINUTES
HOUSTON CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY OCTOBER 2, 2017**

The Houston City Council met in regular session at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, October 2, 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 Administrator Tona Bowen, City Clerk Tonya Foster, and Chief Tim Ceplina, were also present.

Mayor Tottingham established a quorum and called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Mayor Tottingham lead council in the pledge of allegiance.

The motion was made by Alderwoman Narancich and seconded by Alderman St. John to approve the amended minutes for the September 18, 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 Alderman Honeycutt to approve the minutes for the September 18, 2017 closed 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 the minutes for the September 20, 2017 special 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 Alderman St. John and seconded by Alderman Wilson to approve payment for payroll of September 18, 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 Alderman Wilson to approve payment of invoices except the Midwest Meter invoice for September 29 & October 2, 2017 (\$586,743.50) 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: Harley Coulter, Chalky Wells, Bob Richards, Brad Evans, Don Romines, Brad Gentry.

Free Work Policy. This is a policy to allow the City of Houston to work with individuals that have been assigned free work from their judge.

The motion was made by Alderwoman Narancich and seconded by Alderman Wilson to approve the Free Work Policy. 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 | | | |

Request from Houston Imagination Library.

The motion was made Alderman St. John and seconded by Alderman Wilson to approve the request for \$250.00 donation with a signed contract. 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 | | | |

Bill 113 to become Ordinance 2017-113. An Ordinance approving a contract between the City and Waste Corporation. (Bill 113 has been posted) The motion was made by Alderman Honeycutt and seconded by Alderwoman Walker to place Bill 113 on first reading by title only. 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 | | | |

Bill 113 to become Ordinance 2017-113. The motion was made by Alderwoman Narancich and seconded by Alderwoman Walker to place Bill 113 on second reading by title only. 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 motion was made by Alderman Wilson and seconded by Alderman St. John to adopt Bill 113 as Ordinance 2017-113. Motion passed with six yes 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 | | | |

No action take on Bill 114 to become Ordinance 2017-114. Changes to the employee manual. Council would like to revise the entire employee manual.

No action taken on Bill 115 to become Ordinance 2017-115. Cintas Contract.
Discussed paperless council packets. Mayor had prices on different options the city could purchase. Maybe look at getting a grant from Wal-Mart to cover some of the costs. Will keep looking into different options before decision is made.

City Administrator Update:

Monday, October 2, 2017

Finance Committee tomorrow at 4 PM is the finance Committee meeting to start the budget discussions with the departments.

I am suggesting we enter into a new contract with CINTAS. CINTAS is currently the US Communities provider. U.S. Communities is a nationwide purchasing cooperative designed to save time and money for Government Agencies, Educational and Nonprofit Organizations. US Communities does the bidding making this a competitive bid process and allows us to take advantage of savings offered to members of this group.

Tonya and I have posted the positions with MPUA, Houston Herald, and MML. I mentioned the Ordinance Sec. 22-17 regarding the board of aldermen shall appoint a supervisor of water and sewers, who shall make such inspection as are necessary to properly carry out the provisions of this article and who shall report all violations thereof to the city clerk. The Mayor had Tonya pull the original Ordinance and the person the board can appoint is an inspector for the Sewer \ water department. It appears when the item was added to muni-Code on our website the exact verbiage of the Ordinance was not correct or ever verified to be correct. We may need to have the codes verified

I still have following items I am focusing on:

- Budget
- More review on Ordinances
- Review of the floodplain in the City and making sure the structures there are following the guidelines they should have agreed to when being built.
- Job Descriptions – I am in final review of the water and have completed a Journeyman Electrical Lineman

The MPUA conference was very informative and there is a lot going on in the world of Utilities. There were discussions about Cybersecurity and the importance of keeping the grid safe, there was a discussion on solar and how it has grown but a portion of that session was the importance of educating our public on the real cost of solar. It is not free. There are two cities in the area looking at going to an AMI system. There is a third one thinking about going in five to seven years.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to serve,

Tona

Miscellaneous:

Continue reviewing online ordinances for any corrections.

Will celebrate Power Week October 2-6, 2017.

Learn from other cities as they install AMI systems.

Heard that the city was awarded the WWTP grant. Sending out RFQ for engineering services. This grant will help with cost of reducing INI in the city.

Hwy 63 sidewalk project has started.

Heard from business owner on the last electric rate increase which was on commercial accounts. The previous two increases were only on residential accounts.

Alderman Don Romines asked the council how many had access to a laptop or other device that could be used for paperless meetings. Is the city purchasing laptops or Ipads with a data plan for all of council? He wanted to caution the council about how taxpayer money is being spent. City Administrator Bowen commented that if city purchased the device they could be assigned to aldermen and have the history on them from year to year. Mr. Romines had concerns that sales tax, electric sales are all down and to watch expenditures.

Mayor Tottingham suggested a policy be written for devices purchased by the city for council or employee use.

The motion was made by Alderwoman Walker and seconded by Alderwoman Narancich to close this part of the meeting pursuant to Section 610.011 (1) or (2) and 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:

City Administrator Bowen will be attending a meeting in November about internet sales tax. FEMA representatives will be visiting Houston on Tuesday.

The motion was made by Alderwoman Walker and seconded by Alderman Wilson to adjourn at 8:31 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