

MINUTES
HOUSTON CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, MAY 5, 2025
LOCATION: HOUSTON CITY HALL
601 S. GRAND AVE., HOUSTON, MO

The Houston City Council met in regular session at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, May 5, 2025 at Houston City Hall Council Chambers, 601 S. Grand Ave. with the following present: Mayor Samuel Kelley, Alderman Fred Stottlemire, Alderman Adam Vandiver, Alderwomen Sheila Walker, Alderwomen Kim Bittle, Alderman Don Romines, Alderwomen Ann Tottingham, City Attorney Sean Smith, City Administrator Lloyd Wells, City Clerk Barbara Rodgers, City Treasurer Joe Honeycutt, Police Sergeant Travis Thompson.

Mayor Kelley called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and led the council in the pledge of allegiance.

City Clerk Rodgers called roll call.

Mayor Kelley established a quorum.

The motion was made by Alderwomen Walker and seconded by Alderman Vandiver to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting on April 21, 2025. Motion carried with six yes votes.

| | <u>Aye</u> | <u>Nay</u> | <u>Abstaining</u> | <u>Not Present</u> |
|-----------------------|------------|------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Alderman Stottlemire | X | | | |
| Alderman Vandiver | X | | | |
| Alderwomen Walker | X | | | |
| Alderwomen Bittle | X | | | |
| Alderman Romines | X | | | |
| Alderwomen Tottingham | X | | | |

The motion was made by Alderman Romines and seconded by Alderwomen Tottingham to approve the minutes of the Closed Regular Council Meeting on April 21, 2025. Motion carried with six yes votes.

| | <u>Aye</u> | <u>Nay</u> | <u>Abstaining</u> | <u>Not Present</u> |
|-----------------------|------------|------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Alderman Stottlemire | X | | | |
| Alderman Vandiver | X | | | |
| Alderwomen Walker | X | | | |
| Alderwomen Bittle | X | | | |
| Alderman Romines | X | | | |
| Alderwomen Tottingham | X | | | |

The motion was made by Alderwomen Bittle and seconded by Alderwomen Walker to approve the minutes of the Special Council Meeting on April 28, 2025. Motion carried with six yes votes.

| | <u>Aye</u> | <u>Nay</u> | <u>Abstaining</u> | <u>Not Present</u> |
|-----------------------|------------|------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Alderman Stottlemire | X | | | |
| Alderman Vandiver | X | | | |
| Alderwomen Walker | X | | | |
| Alderwomen Bittle | X | | | |
| Alderman Romines | X | | | |
| Alderwomen Tottingham | X | | | |

The motion was made by Alderman Stottlemire and seconded by Alderman Romines to approve payroll dated for May 5, 2025 for the period of April 21st through May 4th, 2025. Motion carried with six yes votes.

| | <u>Aye</u> | <u>Nay</u> | <u>Abstaining</u> | <u>Not Present</u> |
|-----------------------|------------|------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Alderman Stottlemire | X | | | |
| Alderman Vandiver | X | | | |
| Alderwomen Walker | X | | | |
| Alderwomen Bittle | X | | | |
| Alderman Romines | X | | | |
| Alderwomen Tottingham | X | | | |

The motion was made by Alderman Romines and seconded by Alderwomen Walker to approve payments of invoices for April 24th, April 30th, May 2nd and May 5th, 2025. (\$240,349.91) Motion carried with six yes votes.

| | <u>Aye</u> | <u>Nay</u> | <u>Abstaining</u> | <u>Not Present</u> |
|-----------------------|------------|------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Alderman Stottlemire | X | | | |
| Alderman Vandiver | X | | | |
| Alderwomen Walker | X | | | |
| Alderwomen Bittle | X | | | |
| Alderman Romines | X | | | |
| Alderwomen Tottingham | X | | | |

Public Comments: Hunter Stilley presented a letter to the council regarding the Fire Department employees reprimand.

The motion was made by Alderman Romines and seconded by Alderwomen Walker to approve a bid of \$14,000 from Lazarus Cemetery Mapping Inc. and an initial set-up fee of \$330 with a \$1,159 annual recurring cost from Cemify Software to digitize the City's cemetery plots. Motion carried with six yes votes.

| | <u>Aye</u> | <u>Nay</u> | <u>Abstaining</u> | <u>Not Present</u> |
|-----------------------|------------|------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Alderman Stottlemire | X | | | |
| Alderman Vandiver | X | | | |
| Alderwomen Walker | X | | | |
| Alderwomen Bittle | X | | | |
| Alderman Romines | X | | | |
| Alderwomen Tottingham | X | | | |

A survey is needed to establish a legal description for Hill Street, located South of the track before the street can be deeded to the school.

The motion was made by Alderwomen Bittle and seconded by Alderman Vandiver to payoff the remainder of the pool loan in the amount of \$741,617.14. Motion carried with six yes votes.

| | <u>Aye</u> | <u>Nay</u> | <u>Abstaining</u> | <u>Not Present</u> |
|-----------------------|------------|------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Alderman Stottlemire | X | | | |
| Alderman Vandiver | X | | | |
| Alderwomen Walker | X | | | |
| Alderwomen Bittle | X | | | |
| Alderman Romines | X | | | |
| Alderwomen Tottingham | X | | | |

Alderman Stottlemire reported from the Utility Committee meeting on April 30, 2025. The committee would like to have a utility rate cost survey of all utility services.

The motion was made by Alderman Stottlemire and seconded by Alderwomen Tottingham to seek bids for a utility rate cost study. Motion carried with six yes votes. Administrator Wells was directed to get three bids to present to the council.

| | <u>Aye</u> | <u>Nay</u> | <u>Abstaining</u> | <u>Not Present</u> |
|-----------------------|------------|------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Alderman Stottlemire | X | | | |
| Alderman Vandiver | X | | | |
| Alderwomen Walker | X | | | |
| Alderwomen Bittle | X | | | |
| Alderman Romines | X | | | |
| Alderwomen Tottingham | X | | | |

The motion was made by Alderman Romines and seconded by Alderman Stottlemire to transfer \$28,000 from the Cemetery account to a CD for a 12 month term at 3.8%. Motion carried with six yes votes.

| | <u>Aye</u> | <u>Nay</u> | <u>Abstaining</u> | <u>Not Present</u> |
|-----------------------|------------|------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Alderman Stottlemire | X | | | |
| Alderman Vandiver | X | | | |
| Alderwomen Walker | X | | | |
| Alderwomen Bittle | X | | | |
| Alderman Romines | X | | | |
| Alderwomen Tottingham | X | | | |

The motion was made by Alderwomen Tottingham and seconded by Alderman Romines to postpone agenda item number 13 Resolution 2025-105R to the next regular council meeting on May 19, 2025. Motion carried with five yes votes.

| | <u>Aye</u> | <u>Nay</u> | <u>Abstaining</u> | <u>Not Present</u> |
|-----------------------|------------|------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Alderman Stottlemire | X | | | |
| Alderman Vandiver | X | | | |
| Alderwomen Walker | | | X | |
| Alderwomen Bittle | X | | | |
| Alderman Romines | X | | | |
| Alderwomen Tottingham | X | | | |

The motion was made by Alderwomen Tottingham and seconded by Alderwomen Walker to authorize Mayor Kelley to sign a letter to The Living Way Ministry, owner of two Grand Ave. buildings concerning the dangerous status. Motion carried with six yes votes.

| | <u>Aye</u> | <u>Nay</u> | <u>Abstaining</u> | <u>Not Present</u> |
|-----------------------|------------|------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Alderman Stottlemire | X | | | |
| Alderman Vandiver | X | | | |
| Alderwomen Walker | X | | | |
| Alderwomen Bittle | X | | | |
| Alderman Romines | X | | | |
| Alderwomen Tottingham | X | | | |

A motion was made by Alderwomen Walker and seconded by Alderman Romines to adjourn the regular session of the meeting at 6:29 p.m. and move to executive closed session in pursuant to Section 610.021 Subsection (3) Hiring, Firing, disciplining and Promoting, Subsection (9) Negotiations and Subsection (12) Contracts. Motion carried with six yes votes.

| | <u>Aye</u> | <u>Nay</u> | <u>Abstaining</u> | <u>Not Present</u> |
|-----------------------|------------|------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Alderman Stottlemyre | X | | | |
| Alderman Vandiver | X | | | |
| Alderwomen Walker | X | | | |
| Alderwomen Bittle | X | | | |
| Alderman Romines | X | | | |
| Alderwomen Tottingham | X | | | |

The motion was made by Alderwomen Walker and seconded by Alderman Stottlemyre to adjourn at 8:34 p.m. Motion carried with six yes votes.

| | <u>Aye</u> | <u>Nay</u> | <u>Abstaining</u> | <u>Not Present</u> |
|-----------------------|------------|------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Alderman Stottlemyre | X | | | |
| Alderman Vandiver | X | | | |
| Alderwomen Walker | X | | | |
| Alderwomen Bittle | X | | | |
| Alderman Romines | X | | | |
| Alderwomen Tottingham | X | | | |

Barbara Rodgers
Minutes Taken By

Samuel L. Kelley
Samuel L. Kelley
Mayor of Houston, Missouri

Attest:

Barbara Rodgers
Barbara Rodgers, City Clerk