

**MINUTES**  
**HOUSTON CITY COUNCIL**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**MONDAY, DECEMBER 16<sup>TH</sup>, 2024**

The Houston City Council met in regular session at 6:30 P.M. on Monday, December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at Houston City Hall Council Chambers, 601 S. Grand Avenue with the following members present: Mayor Viki Narancich, Alderman Sam Kelley, Alderman Fred Stottlemyre, Alderman Don Romines, Alderwomen Sheila Walker, City Attorney Sean Smith, City Administrator Lloyd Wells, City Clerk Barbara Rodgers, Police Chief Brad Evans, Fire Chief Robbie Smith, and Economic Developer Kevin Buck.

Absent were Alderman Tim Ceplina and Alderwomen Angie Gettys.

Mayor Narancich called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.

City Clerk Rodgers called roll call.

Mayor Narancich established a quorum.

The motion was made by Alderman Stottlemyre and seconded by Alderwomen Walker to approve the minutes for the December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024 regular meeting. Motion carried with four yes votes.

	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstaining</u>	<u>Not Present</u>
Alderman Kelley	X			
Alderman Stottlemyre	X			
Alderman Ceplina				X
Alderwomen Walker	X			
Alderman Romines	X			
Alderwomen Gettys				X

The motion was made by Alderwomen Walker and seconded by Alderman Romines to approve the minutes for the December 12<sup>th</sup>,2024 Special Council Meeting. Motion carried with four yes votes.

	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstaining</u>	<u>Not Present</u>
Alderman Kelley	X			
Alderman Stottlemyre	X			
Alderman Ceplina				X
Alderwomen Walker	X			
Alderman Romines	X			
Alderwomen Gettys				X

The motion was made by Alderwomen Walker and seconded by Alderman Stottlemyre to approve payroll dated for December 16<sup>th</sup>,2024 for December 2<sup>nd</sup> through December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Motion carried with four yes votes.

	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstaining</u>	<u>Not Present</u>
Alderman Kelley	X			
Alderman Stottlemyre	X			
Alderman Ceplina				X
Alderwomen Walker	X			
Alderman Romines	X			
Alderwomen Gettys				X

The motion was made by Alderman Stottlemyre and seconded by Alderman Romines to approve payment of invoices for December 13<sup>th</sup> and December 16<sup>th</sup>,2024 (\$354,312.98) as presented. Motion carried with four yes votes.

	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstaining</u>	<u>Not Present</u>
Alderman Kelley	X			
Alderman Stottlemyre	X			
Alderman Ceplina				X
Alderwomen Walker	X			
Alderman Romines	X			
Alderwomen Gettys				X

Todd Dablemont with Benton & Associates presented Geographic Information System (GIS) mapping system. This system would include water, wastewater and electric infrastructure. Diamond maps is the platform map that is used. The GIS could be up and running in approximately six months.

The motion was made by Alderman Romines and seconded by Alderwomen Walker to approve the Transit System Agreement with SeniorAge Area Agency to deliver frozen foods to senior citizens inside the city limits on Tuesday and Thursday each week. This agreement will be reevaluated annually. Motion carried with four yes votes.

	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstaining</u>	<u>Not Present</u>
Alderman Kelley	X			
Alderman Stottlemyre	X			
Alderman Ceplina				X
Alderwomen Walker	X			
Alderman Romines	X			
Alderwomen Gettys				X

KPM Audit Report Review will be presented at the regular council meeting January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

The motion was made by Alderman Kelley and seconded by Alderwomen Walker to approve up to \$30,000 for the police department to order 11 tasers through the police taser contract. Motion carried with four yes votes.

	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstaining</u>	<u>Not Present</u>
Alderman Kelley	X			
Alderman Stottlemire	X			
Alderman Ceplina				X
Alderwomen Walker	X			
Alderman Romines	X			
Alderwomen Gettys				X

The motion was made by Alderman Romines and seconded by Alderman Kelley to use Archer Elgin Engineering for the drone topography survey and management for the quadplex on Thomasville Road. Motion carried with four yes votes.

	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstaining</u>	<u>Not Present</u>
Alderman Kelley	X			
Alderman Stottlemire	X			
Alderman Ceplina				X
Alderwomen Walker	X			
Alderman Romines	X			
Alderwomen Gettys				X

The motion was made by Alderman Kelley and seconded by Alderwomen Walker to move forward in discussions with Benton & Associates for work on sewer line, sidewalk curb at US 63 and Frist Street and electrical engineering at the Industrial Park. Motion carried with four yes votes.

	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstaining</u>	<u>Not Present</u>
Alderman Kelley	X			
Alderman Stottlemyre	X			
Alderman Ceplina				X
Alderwomen Walker	X			
Alderman Romines	X			
Alderwomen Gettys				X

The motion was made by Alderman Romines and seconded by Alderman Kelley to enter into contract with Mid State Pipeline for the project management of the quadplex project. Motion carried with four yes votes.

	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstaining</u>	<u>Not Present</u>
Alderman Kelley	X			
Alderman Stottlemyre	X			
Alderman Ceplina				X
Alderwomen Walker	X			
Alderman Romines	X			
Alderwomen Gettys				X

The Historical Marker that was located on US 63 in front of Texas County Memorial Hospital was removed to utilize space for more parking. The council agreed to place the historical marker in a new location. The Historical Marker is currently in possession of the County. Alderman Romines will pursue with the County.

City Administrator Wells will present a new building permit fee structure to the council at the next regular council meeting January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025

The ¼ cent sales tax for transportation will expire June 30, 2025. The motion was made by Alderman Kelley and seconded by Alderman Stottlemyre to authorize the city to put the ¼ cent sales tax on the ballot for April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025 election. Motion carried with four yes votes.

	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstaining</u>	<u>Not Present</u>
Alderman Kelley	X			
Alderman Stottlemyre	X			
Alderman Ceplina				X
Alderwomen Walker	X			
Alderman Romines	X			
Alderwomen Gettys				X

The motion was made by Alderwomen Walker and seconded by Alderman Stottlemyre to approve early 4<sup>th</sup> quarter pay for the fire department. Motion carried with four yes votes.

	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstaining</u>	<u>Not Present</u>
Alderman Kelley	X			
Alderman Stottlemyre	X			
Alderman Ceplina				X
Alderwomen Walker	X			
Alderman Romines	X			
Alderwomen Gettys				X

The motion was made by Alderman Kelley and seconded by Alderman Romines to appropriate the ARPA funds to be used for the expense of the Geographic Information System (GIS) and the quadplex project. Motion carried with four yes votes.

	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstaining</u>	<u>Not Present</u>
Alderman Kelley	X			
Alderman Stottlemyre	X			
Alderman Ceplina				X
Alderwomen Walker	X			
Alderman Romines	X			
Alderwomen Gettys				X

The motion was made to approve the 2025 Draft Budget with a change of employee health insurance annual deductible to go from \$1,000 to \$1,500. Motion carried with four yes votes. The Final Budget will be presented to the council for approval during a special council meeting on December 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstaining</u>	<u>Not Present</u>
Alderman Kelley	X			
Alderman Stottlemyre	X			
Alderman Ceplina				X
Alderwomen Walker	X			
Alderman Romines	X			
Alderwomen Gettys				X

The motion was made by Alderman Romines and seconded by Alderwomen Walker to close City Hall at 12:00 P.M. on Christmas Eve. Motion carried with four yes votes.

	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstaining</u>	<u>Not Present</u>
Alderman Kelley	X			
Alderman Stottlemyre	X			
Alderman Ceplina				X
Alderwomen Walker	X			
Alderman Romines	X			
Alderwomen Gettys				X

Economic Developer Kevin Buck gave an update on his development work. Developer Buck stated he has seen growth in the areas he was tasked with improving such as housing, jobs, festivals and education for adult learning.

Mayor Narancich asked the council if they would like to have a state audit performed for the City. Alderman Kelley stated that there is no reason for a state audit. The estimated cost for a state audit is \$150,000.



The motion was made by Alderman Romines and seconded by Alderwomen Walker to close the regular session of the meeting at 7:42 P.M. and move to executive closed session in pursuant Section 610.021 subsection (3) disciplining. Motion carried with four yes votes.

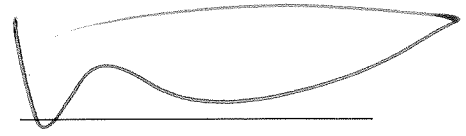
	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstaining</u>	<u>Not Present</u>
Alderman Kelley	X			
Alderman Stottlemyre	X			
Alderman Ceplina				X
Alderwomen Walker	X			
Alderman Romines	X			
Alderwomen Gettys				X

The motion was made by Alderman Romines and seconded by Alderwomen Walker to adjourn at 8:33 P.M. Motion carried with four yes votes.

	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstaining</u>	<u>Not Present</u>
Alderman Kelley	X			
Alderman Stottlemyre	X			
Alderman Ceplina				X
Alderwomen Walker	X			
Alderman Romines	X			
Alderwomen Gettys				X

Barbara Redger

Minutes Taken By:



Mayor

Attest:

Barbara Redger

City Clerk