

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO, HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MUNICIPAL PLAZA BUILDING, THURSDAY, JANUARY 23, 1997.

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97-03 The City Council convened in an informal "B" Session at 10:00 a.m., Municipal Plaza Building, "B" Room, to consider the following items(s):

Presentation of the Draft Downtown Transportation Study - Council concurred with presentation and with schedule as presented by staff.

"B" Session adjourned at 11:10 A.M.

The Council members present were: Flores, Lott, Avila, Solis, Marbut, Peak, Webster and Thornton. Absent: Billa Burke, Herrera, Ross.

97-03 The regular meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by the Presiding Officer, Mayor William E. Thornton, with the following members present: Flores, Lott, Billa Burke, Avila, Solis, Herrera, Ross, Marbut, Peak, Webster and Thornton. Absent: None.

97-03 Invocation - Chaplain Ron Adams, San Antonio Firefighters Association and San Antonio Fire Department.

97-03 Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States.

97-03 Minutes of the Regular City Council Meetings for October 3, 10, and 24, 1996 were approved.

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CEREMONIAL ITEMS

LIBRARY FOUNDATION MONTH

Mayor Thornton noted that, each year, the San Antonio Public Library Foundation and City Public Service collaborate on a fundraising effort for our city's public libraries, and that donation envelopes are enclosed with the February CPS bills. He further noted that Ms. Alice Lynch, President, and Ms. Juliana Field, Director, Public Library Foundation, are present in the audience to accept a proclamation for Library Foundation Month.

Ms. Field then introduced other members of her delegation also present.

Mayor Thornton read the official proclamation designating "Library Foundation Month" in San Antonio, and presented it to the delegation. He noted that during the recent National League of Cities Conference held in San Antonio, numerous delegates praised San Antonio's new Central Library.

Ms. Carol O'Malley then explained details of the theme for Library Foundation Month.

Ms. Lynch then spoke to the funding amounts raised by the Foundation for the public libraries.

SAN ANTONIO CONSERVATION SOCIETY PRESENTATION

Mayor Thornton noted that, in 1924, City Commissioners sought to re-direct the flow of the San Antonio River Bend for flood control. A group of women realized that this development would destroy the ambience and charm of downtown San Antonio. The group re-enacted a puppet show written by Miss Emily Edwards to the City Commissioners, urging them to reconsider. This historic playlet was re-created by the Magik Theater, Ms. Sally Burchanan, President, San Antonio Conservation Society, introduced the program.

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Ms. Buchanan stated that the message is still the same: don't kill the goose that lays the golden eggs. She then spoke to various Conservation Society events, over the years.

City Council members thanked the Society for its long history of working on behalf of San Antonio.

KEEP AMERICA BEAUTIFUL AWARD

Mayor Thornton stated that the Keep America Beautiful organization has presented the City of San Antonio and Keep San Antonio Beautiful with a first-place award, recognizing the cities which have excelled in solid waste education and volunteer community service programs. He noted that San Antonio was the only Texas city to receive this first-place recognition, and introduced Mr. David Carpenter, President, Keep San Antonio Beautiful, to present the award.

Mr. Carpenter presented the award to the Mayor and briefly explained its significance.

Mayor Thornton thanked the national organization for the award.

Mr. Jimmy Tucker, Vice President, Keep San Antonio Beautiful, thanked those who contributed to the award, noting that this is the fourth consecutive year that San Antonio has won this top award.

City Council members congratulated the organization and spoke to its good work within the community.

97-03 CONSENT AGENDA

Ms. Lott made a motion to approve Agenda Items 8 through 32, constituting the Consent Agenda, with items 16 and 17 having been pulled for individual consideration. Mr. Ross seconded the motion.

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After consideration, the motion carrying with it the passage of the following Ordinances, prevailed by the following vote: AYES: Flores, Lott, Avila, Solis, Herrera, Ross, Marbut, Peak, Thornton; NAYS: None; Absent: Billa Burke, Webster.

AN ORDINANCE 85472

ACCEPTING THE LOW BID OF VULCAN SIGNS TO PROVIDE THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT WITH TRAFFIC CONTROL SIGNS FOR A TOTAL OF \$20,180.35.

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AN ORDINANCE 85473

ACCEPTING THE LOW, QUALIFIED BID OF INDUSTRIAL CONSTRUCTION COMPANY TO PROVIDE THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT WITH A LUMBER RACK FOUNDATION FOR A TOTAL OF \$21,884.00. (MBE)

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AN ORDINANCE 85474

ACCEPTING THE PROPOSAL OF SOFTWARE AG OF NORTH AMERICA, INC, TO PROVIDE THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO INFORMATION SERVICES AND POLICE DEPARTMENTS WITH COMPUTERSOFTWARE FOR INTERNET APPLICATIONS FOR A TOTAL OF \$73,036.00.

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AN ORDINANCE 85475

ACCEPTING THE LOW BIDS OF ANCIRA WINTON CHEVROLET, INC. GMAC, MAXWELL C-P-D-J-E, LTD., RED MCCOMBS CHRYSLER-PLYMOUTH-JEEP-EAGLE, SMITH CHEVROLET/GEO AND SOUTHWAY

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FORD, INC. TO PROVIDE THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO WITH SEDANS FOR A TOTAL OF \$1,335,046.00. (MBE)

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AN ORDINANCE 85476

SELECTING WOODROW W. WOODS ARCHITECTS, INC. TO PROVIDE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH THE ACOUSTICAL INSULATION OF CHURCH FACILITIES, INCLUDING SCHOOLS, DAY CARE CENTERS, ETC., NEAR SAN ANTONIO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT; AUTHORIZING THE NEGOTIATION AND EXECUTION OF A CONTRACT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$199,674.00; REVISING THE BUDGET FOR THE PROJECT; APPROPRIATING FUNDS; AND PROVIDING FOR PAYMENT.

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AN ORDINANCE 85477

AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF FIELD ALTERATION NO. 2 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$64,610.00 TO THE CONTRACT WITH YANTIS CORPORATION FOR THE TAXIWAY G. RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT AT SAN ANTONIO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT; REVISING THE BUDGET FOR SAID PROJECT; AND PROVIDING FOR PAYMENT. (AMENDS ORDINANCE NO. 83192 DATED NOV. 16, 1995)

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AN ORDINANCE 85478

RATIFYING AND AMENDING THE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT WITH CHESNEY-MORALES & ASSOCIATES, INC. IN CONNECTION WITH THE FEDERAL INSPECTION STATION MODIFICATIONS PROJECT AT SAN ANTONIO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT BY INCREASING THE SCOPE OF WORK TO INCLUDE DESIGN OF MODIFICATIONS TO LOADING GATE 1 TO BE UTILIZED

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AS A SHARED USE GATE AND INCREASING THE TOTAL FEES PAYABLE BY THE AMOUNT OF \$114,610.00; APPROPRIATING FUNDS; AND PROVIDING FOR PAYMENT. (AMENDS ORDINANCE NO. 79627 DATED FEB. 11, 1994, AND ORDINANCE NO. 81267 DATED DEC. 8, 1994)

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AN ORDINANCE 85479

ACCEPTING THE LOW, QUALIFIED BID OF SMITH CONTRACTORS L.C. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$385,888.31 IN CONNECTION WITH THE SIDEWALKS CITYWIDE PHASE I, PART II COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PROJECT; AUTHORIZING A CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT; REVISING THE PROJECT BUDGET; AUTHORIZING \$23,515.00 FOR MISCELLANEOUS CONSTRUCTION CONTINGENCY EXPENSES; AUTHORIZING \$800.00 FOR ADVERTISING EXPENSES; AND PROVIDING FOR PAYMENT.

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AN ORDINANCE 85480

AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT WITH THE WITTE MUSEUM ASSOCIATION FOR THE POTENTIAL USE OF UP TO \$1,000,000.00 IN 1994 PARKS GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND FUNDS IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE SCIENCE AND EDUCATION BUILDING AT THE CITY'S WITTE MUSEUM; ESTABLISHING A BOND PROJECT BUDGET AND TRANSFERRING FUNDS; AND AUTHORIZING THE ALLOCATION AND REIMBURSEMENT OF AN INITIAL \$500,000.00 OF THESE FUNDS FOR PROJECT CONSTRUCTION COSTS.

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AN ORDINANCE 85481

AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT WITH THE SAN ANTONIO LITTLE THEATER, INC. FOR THE ALLOCATION OF 1994 PARKS GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND FUNDS FOR USE IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF RENOVATIONS AND IMPROVEMENTS TO THE CITY'S SAN PEDRO PLAYHOUSE; ESTABLISHING A BOND PROJECT BUDGET AND TRANSFERRING FUNDS; AND AUTHORIZING THE REIMBURSEMENT OF \$500,000.00 FOR PROJECT CONSTRUCTION COSTS.

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AN ORDINANCE 85482

AUTHORIZING THE APPROPRIATION OF 1985 GENERAL OBLIGATION DRAINAGE BONDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$300,794.67 PAYABLE TO THE SAN ANTONIO RIVER AUTHORITY (SARA) FOR CONSTRUCTION AND ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES IN CONNECTION WITH THE SAN PEDRO CREEK TUNNEL PROJECT, PHASE IV.

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AN ORDINANCE 85483

AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF THE SUM OF \$1,104.00 OUT OF GENERAL OBLIGATION STREET BONDS; ACQUIRING FEE SIMPLE TITLE TO ONE PARCEL IN CONNECTION WITH THE 34TH STREET PROJECT - HIGHWAY 90 TO CASTROVILLE; AND PAYING FOR AN APPRAISAL FEE TO DUGGER, CANADAY, GRAFE & WOELFEL, INC.

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AN ORDINANCE 85484

AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF THE SUM OF \$7,800.00 OUT OF 1987 GENERAL OBLIGATION STREET BONDS TO OBTAIN FEE SIMPLE

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TITLE TO A PORTION OF LOT 1, BLOCK 49, NEW CITY BLOCK 15330, BEXAR COUNTY, TEXAS, IN CONNECTION WITH THE PINN ROAD RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT - W. COMMERCE STREET TO BROWNLEAF.

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AN ORDINANCE 85485

APPROVING THE PRICE, TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SALE BY THE URBAN RENEWAL AGENCY OF THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO OF ONE PARCEL OF REAL PROPERTY LOCATED WITHIN THE CITY-WIDE EMERGENCY SHTA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PROJECT AREA FOR A TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$5,250.00; AND PROVIDING FOR PAYMENT.

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AN ORDINANCE 85486

AUTHORIZING (1) THE CLOSE-OUT OF GRANT ACTIVITY RELATED TO THE SOUTH TEXAS RESEARCH PARK FOUNDATION (STRPF); (2) AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF THE REMAINING GRANT FUNDS OF APPROXIMATELY \$192,500.00 AND ASSETS FROM THE STRPF TO THE TEXAS RESEARCH PARK FOUNDATION (TRPF); AND (3) AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE TRPF FOR THE USE OF THE REMAINING GRANT FUNDS FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS RELATED TO THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER RESEARCH FACILITY AT THE TEXAS RESEARCH PARK.

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AN ORDINANCE 85487

AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION BY THE SAN ANTONIO METROPOLITAN HEALTH DISTRICT (SAMHD) TO THE

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TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (TDH) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$267,408.00 FOR FEDERAL TITLE X FAMILY PLANNING FUNDING FOR THE PERIOD OF APRIL 1, 1997, THROUGH MARCH 31, 1998.

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AN ORDINANCE 85488

CONFIRMING THE SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE UNITED WAY OF SAN ANTONIO IN THE AMOUNT OF \$50,000.00 TO FUND A YOUTH DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE THROUGH A COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAM.

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AN ORDINANCE 85489

AUTHORIZING PAYMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$27,500.00 FOR ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO IN PUBLIC TECHNOLOGY, INC. FOR THE PERIOD OF DECEMBER 1996 THROUGH NOVEMBER 1997.

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AN ORDINANCE 85490

AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 84245, PASSED ON JUNE 13, 1996 TO REFLECT PRECINCT CHANGES AND UPDATES TO BE USED IN THE MAY 3, 1997, REGULAR CITY ELECTION.

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AN ORDINANCE 85491

AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF A DONATION FROM MR. B.J. (RED) MCCOMBS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$22,000.00 TO FUND A

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MEMORIAL PLAZA AT THE POLICE ACADEMY AND ESTABLISHING
AN EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND FOR FUTURE CONTRIBUTIONS.

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AN ORDINANCE 85492

ESTABLISHING A POLICE DEPARTMENT CAPITAL PROJECTS
BUDGET FOR MUNICIPAL SECURITY AND AUTHORIZING THE
TRANSFER OF \$39,000.00 FROM THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS
RESERVE FUND TO SAID BUDGET.

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AN ORDINANCE 85493

AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A HIGH INTENSITY DRUG
TRAFFICKING AREA GRANT APPLICATION IN THE AMOUNT OF
\$937,639.00 TO THE OFFICE OF NATIONAL DRUG CONTROL POLICY
FOR THE PERIOD BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 1997 AND ENDING
DECEMBER 31, 1997.

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AN ORDINANCE 85494

AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF A DONATION FROM THE
ALLSTATE FOUNDATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5,000.00 TO
PURCHASE A FORENSIC MAPPING SYSTEM FOR THE POLICE
DEPARTMENT'S TRAFFIC INVESTIGATION DETAIL AND
ESTABLISHING AN EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND FOR FUTURE
CONTRIBUTIONS.

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97-03 The Clerk read the following Ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE 85495

ACCEPTING THE LOW, QUALIFIED BID OF SAN ANTONIO CONSTRUCTORS, INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$150,668.61 IN CONNECTION WITH THE FLEMING ROAD: PRICE AVENUE - W. GERALD AVENUE, PHASE I COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PROJECT: AUTHORIZING A CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT; REVISING THE PROJECT BUDGET; AUTHORIZING \$9,188.00 FOR MISCELLANEOUS CONSTRUCTION CONTINGENCY EXPENSES; AUTHORIZING \$800.00 FOR ADVERTISING EXPENSES; AND PROVIDING FOR PAYMENT.

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Mr. Avila made a motion to approve the proposed Ordinance. Mr. Herrera seconded the motion.

In response to a question by Mr. Avila, Mr. John German, Director of Public Works, described the project and the progress made by other area projects under construction.

After consideration, the motion carrying with it the passage of the Ordinance, prevailed by the following vote: **AYES:** Flores, Lott, Avila, Solis, Herrera, Ross, Marbut, Peak, Webster, Thornton; **NAYS:** None; **Absent:** Billa Burke.

97-03 The Clerk read the following Ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE 85496

ACCEPTING THE LOW QUALIFIED BASE BID OF CHARLIE & COMPANY IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$56,538.00 FOR THE ADDITION OF PLAYGROUND SURFACING AND EQUIPMENT AT THE JOSKES PAVILION PLAYGROUND IN BRACKENRIDGE PARK; AUTHORIZING A CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT; AMENDING THE BRACKENRIDGE PARK

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REHABILITATION PROJECT BUDGET; AUTHORIZING THE ALLOCATION OF 1994 PARKS GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND FUNDS INTO THIS PROJECT BUDGET; AUTHORIZING \$2,827,00 FOR CONSTRUCTION CONTINGENCY EXPENSES; AUTHORIZING \$1,200.00 FOR ADVERTISING EXPENSES; AND PROVIDING FOR PAYMENT.

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Mr. Peak made a motion to approve the proposed Ordinance. Mr. Webster seconded the motion.

The following person spoke:

Mr. Faris Hodges, Jr., 140 Dora, spoke in support for funding for Brackenridge Park, and spoke to the need to build an indoor swimming pool in the park.

After consideration, the motion carrying with it the passage of the Ordinance, prevailed by the following vote: **AYES:** Flores, Lott, Avila, Solis, Ross, Marbut, Peak, Webster, Thornton; **NAYS:** None; **Absent:** Billa Burke, Herrera.

97-03 REPORT BY THE MAYOR'S WATER POLICY COMMITTEE

Mayor Thornton informed the audience that this report, scheduled at Agenda Item 34, would be heard at 3:00 P.M.

97-03 The Clerk read the following Ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE 85497

AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE AUTOMATED FINGERPRINT IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM (AFIS) PURSUANT TO PREVIOUS RELATED ORDINACNE NO. 81108, PASSED ON NOVEMBER 8, 1994, AND ORDINANCE NO. 82805, PASSED ON SEPTEMBER 14, 1995; REVISING THE FUNDING AND REPAYMENT PACKAGE FOR THE SYSTEM; AND

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AUTHORIZING FINAL PAYMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,386,054.00 TO NORTH AMERICAN MORPHO SYSTEMS.

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Mr. Peak made a motion to approve the proposed Ordinance. Mr. Webster seconded the motion.

Police Chief Al A. Philippus narrated a video presentation on the Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) and explained the system and its advantages. A copy of his presentation is made a part of the papers of this meeting.

Mr. Avila spoke to the importance of this system.

In response to a question by Mr. Ross, Chief Philippus stated that this represents the end of a two-year process to develop such a system, using the latest technology. He noted that the system also will aid other governmental entities within the Alamo Area Council of Governments region, as well, and spoke to its funding from a number of sources including asset forfeiture funds confiscated from drug dealers.

After consideration, the motion carrying with it the passage of the Ordinance, prevailed by the following vote: **AYES:** Flores, Lott, Avila, Solis, Ross, Marbut, Peak, Webster, Thornton; **NAYS:** None; **Absent:** Billa Burke, Herrera.

97-03

ZONING HEARINGS

4A. CASE #Z96247 - to rezone and reclassify Lot 23, Block 4, NCB 3055, 235 Fair Avenue, from "B" Residence District to "R-3" Multiple Family Residence District. Property is located on the north side of Fair Avenue, 150.49 feet west of the intersection of Fair Avenue and Hackberry Street, having 50 feet on Fair Avenue and a depth of 151.5 feet.

Mr. Andy Guerrero, Land Development Services, explained the requested rezoning and the Zoning Commission recommendation.

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The following person appeared to speak:

Ms. Herlinda C. Rodriguez, the owner, spoke to the need for R-3 zoning in order to receive a license from the state for a personal care facility, and noted that there is no opposition from the neighborhood.

After discussion, Mr. Webster made a motion to continue this case to the Council meeting of February 13, 1997. Mr. Flores seconded the motion.

After discussion, the motion prevailed by the following vote: AYES: Flores, Lott, Avila, Solis, Herrera, Marbut, Webster, Thornton. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Billa Burke, Ross, Peak.

Zoning Case Z96247 was continued to February 13, 1997.

4B. CASE #Z962545 (SUP) - to rezone and reclassify Lots 23, 48 and east 15 feet of Lot 22, Block 40, NCB 3834, 2746 Minnetonka Street, from "A" Single Family Residence District to "R-1" Single Family Residence District with special use permit for a personal care facility caring for (5) individuals with one year time limitation. Property is located southwest of the intersection of Minnetonka Street and Clark Avenue, having 65 feet on Minnetonka Street and 120 feet on Clark Avenue.

Mr. Andy Guerrero, Land Development Services, spoke to petitions from some 66 signers in opposition to the requested rezoning.

Discussion ensued concerning the possibility of delaying this case, in the absence of the City Council member in whose district the case falls.

Ms. Barbara Gutierrez, 2735 Minnetonka, stated that if a postponement were to take place today, it would be the third such postponement of this particular case.

Discussion then took place on the possibility of continuing this case or temporarily postponing action at this time, awaiting the arrival of the City Council member in whose district the case is involved. On legal advice of Assistant City Attorney

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Habib Erkan, it was decided to temporarily postpone further action on this case to await the arrival of the Council member concerned.

(Zoning Case #Z96254 SUP was again taken up for consideration later in this meeting. See Page 20

4C. #Z96011 (CC) The City of San Antonio has under consideration changing the zoning from Temporary "R-1" Single Family Residence District to "R-A" Residence-Agriculture District, "R-4" Manufactured Home Residence District, "B-3" Business District, "I-1" Light Industry District, "I-2" CC Heavy Industry District for automotive salvage and "I-2" CC Heavy Industry District for a bulk oil storage. The area is bordered on the north by Ray Ellison Drive, to the south by Pearsall Road, to the west by Coval Road and to the east by S.W. Loop 410 Expressway. Zoning Commission has recommended approval of this request. (Council District 4)

Mr. Andy Guerrero, Land Development Services, explained the proposed rezoning request.

Mr. Avila made a motion to approve the proposed Ordinance. Mr. Herrera seconded the motion.

After consideration, the motion carrying with it the passage of the Ordinance, prevailed by the following vote: **AYES:** Lott, Avila, Herrera, Marbut, Webster, Thornton; **NAYS:** None; **Absent:** Flores, Billa Burke, Solis, Ross, Peak.

AN ORDINANCE 85498

AMENDING CHAPTER 35 OF THE CITY CODE THAT CONSTITUTES THE COMPREHENSIVE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO BY CHANGING THE CLASSIFICATION OF AND REZONING CERTAIN PROPERTY DESCRIBED HEREIN AS NCB 15248, P-1, THAT PORTION WAS ANNEXED DECEMBER 31, 1995, NCB 15248, P-1B, P-1C, P-1D, P-2, P-2A, P-2A, P-2B AND P-2C, NCB 15248, P-3, SAVE AND EXCEPT

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THE NORTHEAST 250 FEET, NCB 15248, P-5, P-5B, P-7C, P-8, P-8A, P-9, P-9A, NCB 15248, P-6, SAVE AND EXCEPT THE WEST 500 FEET , NCB 15248, P-10, SAVE AND EXCEPT A 1.156 ACRE TRACT OF LAND, NCB 15248, P-71, P-72, P-74C THOSE PORTIONS WERE ANNEXED DECEMBER 31, 1995, NCB15248, TRACT 3, SAVE AND EXCEPT THE WEST 500 FEET, NCB 15248, TRACTS 6, 7-C AND 7-E, NCB 15248, TRACT 7, SAVE AND EXCEPT THE WEST 150 FEET, NCB 15248, TRACT 7-B, SAVE AND EXCEPT THE WEST 500 FEET, FROM TEMPORARY "R-1" SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENCE DISTRICT TO "R-A" RESIDENCE-AGRICULTURE DISTRICT; NCB 15248, P-75, P-75A, THOSE PORTIONS WERE ANNEXED DECEMBER 31, 1995, NCB 17337, BLOCK 2, LOT 1, FROM TEMPORARY "R-1" SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENCE DISTRICT TO "B-3" BUSINESS DISTRICT; NCB 15248, TRACT 3-A, THAT PORTION WAS ANNEXED DECEMBER 31, 1995, NCB 15248, THE SOUTH 150 FEET OF THE WEST 1950 FEET OF TRACT 3 NCB 15248, THE WEST 500 FEET OF TRACT 4-B, NCB 15248, TRACT 7-D, NCB 15248, THE WEST 150 FEET OF TRACT 7, NCB 15248, THE WEST 500 FEET OF TRACTS, 5,6 AND 5-B AND P-6, NCB 15248, P-7 AND P-7A, NCB 15248, P-1A AND P-5A, NCB 15458, P-73, P-76, P-77A, THOSE PORTIONS WERE ANNEXED DECEMBER 31, 1995 NCB 18044, TRACTS 1 AND 2-A THAT PORTION WAS ANNEXED DECEMBER 31, 1995; FROM TEMPORARY "R-1" SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENCE DISTRICT TO "I-1" LIGHT INDUSTRY DISTRICT; NCB 15248, THE WEST 1200 FEET OF TRACT 4, NCB 15248, P-10A AND 0.156 ACRE TRACT AS PER ATTACHED FIELD NOTES FROM TEMPORARY "R-1" SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENCE DISTRICT TO "I-2" CC FOR AUTOMOTIVE SALVAGE; NCB 15248, TRACT 7-A FROM TEMPORARY "R-1" SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENCE DISTRICT TO "I-2 CC FOR BULK OIL STORAGE.

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97-03 It was the consensus of City Council members present at this time to undertake consideration of Agenda Item 37.

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The Clerk read the following Ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE 85499

ACCEPTING DONATIONS FROM VARIOUS DOWNTOWN BUSINESS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5,955.00 TO BE USED TO PURCHASE BICYCLES AND EQUIPMENT FOR THE SAN ANTONIO PARK RANGER PATROL (\$2,977.50) AND THE SAN ANTONIO FIRE DEPARTMENT EMS BIKE REPOSE TEAM (\$2,977.50); AS REQUESTED BY COUNCILMAN ROGER FLORES, II.

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Mr. Flores made a motion to approve the proposed Ordinance. Mr. Herrera seconded the motion.

Mr. Flores spoke to the donations received from downtown businesses for the purchase of bicycles for the Park Rangers and Emergency Medical Services Bike Response Teams.

After consideration, the motion carrying with it the passage of the Ordinance, prevailed by the following vote: **AYES:** Flores, Avila, Herrera, Ross, Marbut, Webster, Thornton; **NAYS:** None; **Absent:** Lott, Billa Burke, Solis, Peak.

97-03 It was the concensus of City Council members present to temporarily bypass consideration of Agenda Item 38 at this time pending the arrival of the District 3 representative.

97-03 The Clerk read the following Ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE 85500

AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF \$1,000.00 FROM THE DISTRICT 4 CONTINGENCY ACCOUNT FUND TO ASSIST WITH COSTS FOR THE HARLANDALE I.S.D. 22nd ANNUAL CULTURAL ARTS EXHIBIT PARADE

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TO BE HELD ON SATURDAY, MAY 10, 1997, AS REQUESTED BY
COUNCILMAN HENRY AVILA.

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Mr. Avila made a motion to approve the proposed Ordinance. Mr. Solis seconded the motion.

After consideration, the motion carrying with it the passage of the Ordinance, prevailed by the following vote: **AYES:** Flores, Lott, Avila, Solis, Herrera, Ross, Marbut, Webster, Thornton; **NAYS:** None; **Absent:** Billa Burke, Peak.

97-03 The Clerk read the following Ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE 85501

AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURE OF \$500.00 FROM THE DISTRICT 4 CONTINGENCY ACCOUNT FUND FOR A TEMPORARY PART-TIME ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES CONTRACT WITH RICHARD BORREGO FROM DECEMBER 16, 1996, TO JANUARY 8, 1997; AS REQUESTED BY COUNCILMAN HENRY AVILA.

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Mr. Avila made a motion to approve the proposed Ordinance. Mr. Solis seconded the motion.

After consideration, the motion carrying with it the passage of the Ordinance, prevailed by the following vote: **AYES:** Flores, Lott, Avila, Solis, Herrera, Marbut, Peak, Thornton; **NAYS:** None; **Absent:** Billa Burke, Ross, Webster.

97-03 The Clerk read the following Ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE 85502

AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF \$2,600.00 FROM THE DISTRICT 4 CONTINGENCY ACCOUNT FUND TO THE SAN ANTONIO POLICE DEPARTMENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF FOUR BICYCLES TO BE USED BY THE SOUTHSIDE POLICE SUBSTATION AND THE WESTSIDE POLICE SUBSTATION.

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Mr. Avila made a motion to approve the proposed Ordinance. Mr. Solis seconded the motion.

Mr. Avila spoke to the advantages of bike patrols.

After consideration, the motion carrying with it the passage of the Ordinance, prevailed by the following vote: **AYES:** Flores, Lott, Avila, Solis, Herrera, Marbut, Peak, Webster, Thornton; **NAYS:** None; **Absent:** Billa Burke, Ross.

97-03 The Clerk read the following Ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE 85503

AUTHORIZING REIMBURSEMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,475.00 FROM THE DISTRICT 6 CONTINGENCY ACCOUNT FUND TO COUNCILMAN ROBERT A. HERRERA FOR A PART-TIME ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES CONTRACT WITH JOE PIOTROWSKI (\$550.00 PER MONTH) FROM JANUARY 21, 1997 TO MAY 31, 1997; AS REQUESTED BY COUNCILMAN ROBERT A. HERRERA.

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Mr. Avila made a motion to approve the proposed Ordinance. Mr. Flores seconded the motion.

After consideration, the motion carrying with it the passage of the Ordinance, prevailed by the following vote: **AYES:** Flores, Lott, Avila, Solis, Herrera, Marbut, Peak, Webster, Thornton; **NAYS:** None; **Absent:** Billa Burke, Ross.

97-03 The Clerk read the following Ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE 85504

AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF \$2,500.00 FROM THE DISTRICT 7 CONTINGENCY ACCOUNT FUNDS PAYABLE TO HABITAT FOR HUMANITY OF SAN ANTONIO TO PURCHASE MATERIALS TO COMPLETE FIVE HOME REPAIRS AND FOR A MINOR HOME REPAIR PROGRAM FOR LOW-INCOME ELDERLY AND DISABLED SAN ANTONIANS; AS REQUESTED BY COUNCILMAN BOB ROSS.

* * * *

Mr. Avila made a motion to approve the proposed Ordinance. Mr. Lott seconded the motion.

After consideration, the motion carrying with it the passage of the Ordinance, prevailed by the following vote: **AYES:** Flores, Lott, Avila, Solis, Herrera, Marbut, Peak, Webster, Thornton; **NAYS:** None; **Absent:** Billa Burke, Ross.

97-03 The Clerk read the following Ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE 85505

REAPPOINTING DEBORAH GUERRERO, JUAN F. SOLIS, SR., JERRY ARREDONDO, CHRISTIAN H. TREUTLER, JAMIE AXTELL, TOM DECHANT, KATHLEEN TRENCHARD, DAVID FLORES, CHARLES RODRIGUEZ, TIM FRETTHOLD, LUIS DE LA GARZA, MARTIN

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BARTLETT, MARY RICHARDS, LARRY BAILEY, JAMES D. ROSENBLATT AND MIKE MANUPELLI TO THE AIR QUALITY TASKS FORCE FOR A TERMS OF OFFICE TO EXPIRE ON MARCH 31, 1999; AS REQUESTED BY COUNCILMAN BOB ROSS.

* * * *

Mr. Avila made a motion to approve the proposed Ordinance. Mr. Flores seconded the motion.

After consideration, the motion carrying with it the passage of the Ordinance, prevailed by the following vote: **AYES:** Flores, Lott, Avila, Solis, Herrera, Marbut, Peak, Webster, Thornton; **NAYS:** None; **Absent:** Billa Burke, Ross.

97-03 The Clerk read the following Ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE 85506

ADOPTING GUIDELINES FOR THE CITY ATTORNEY TO BRING FORFEITURE PROCEEDINGS AGAINST PROPERTY USED IN VIOLATION OF THE TEXAS LITTER ABATEMENT ACT.

* * * *

Mr. Peak made a motion to approve the proposed Ordinance. Mr. Flores seconded the motion.

Mr. Peak spoke to details of the initiative to battle illegal dumping, and stated his belief that the ordinance probably will not be often used, but will serve as a deterrent to illegal dumping activities.

Mr. Avila noted that more than 1000 illegal dump-sites have been identified in San Antonio, right now, and questioned the 500-pound minimum provision, asking that the ordinance be enforced against any illegal dumping.

Mr. Habib Erkan, Assistant City Attorney, noted that state law limits such enforcement to amounts of 500 pounds or more.

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Mr. Herrera spoke to his concern with possibly targeting specific areas of the city, and addressed a newspaper article on the topic.

Mr. Martin Rodriguez, Director of Code Compliance, stated that more than 1200 illegal dump-sites now exist in the city.

Mr. Peak reiterated his concern that such illegal dump-sites are found in every part of the city.

Mr. Erkan spoke to exactly what would be prosecuted and what would be subject to confiscation on a third offense.

Mr. Herrera stated that he could not support confiscation of a vehicle which may be a family's only means of transportation.

Mr. Ross spoke of the ordinance provisions as hard to enforce, noting that illegal dumpers must be caught in the act in order for them to be prosecuted.

In response to a question by Mr. Ross, Mr. Rodriguez stated that some 25 illegal dumpers were caught last year, and spoke to how such refuse is screened for clues as to who dumped it.

Discussion then took place concerning the Department of Code compliance's videotaping of offenders, and enforcement provisions of the law.

Mr. Erkan stated that the Supreme Court has upheld similar laws in other states, involving confiscation of vehicles used during the illegal dumping.

Mr. Avila, Ms. Lott and Mr. Herrera then spoke in support for the concept.

After consideration, the motion carrying with it the passage of the Ordinance, prevailed by the following vote: **AYES:** Flores, Lott, Avila, Solis, Herrera, Ross, Marbut, Peak, Webster, Thornton; **NAYS:** None; **Absent:** Billa Burke.

97-03 TRAVEL AUTHORIZATION - Granted:

Travel Authorization for Mayor William E. Thornton, to travel to Washington D. C., to attend the National School Boards Association Conference, on January 24, 1997.

97-04 It was the concensus of City Council members present to undertake reconsideration of Agenda Item 4B, Zoning Case Z96254 SUP at this time.

ZONING HEARINGS (CONTINUED)

4B. CASE #Z96254 (SUP) - to rezone and reclassify Lots 23, 48 and east 15 feet of Lot 22, Block 40, NCB 3834, 2746 Minnetonka Street, from "A" Single Family Residence District to "R-1" Single Family Residence District with special use permit for a personal care facility caring for (5) individuals with one year time limitation. Property is located southwest of th e intersection of Minnetonka Street and Clark Avenue, having 65 feet on Minnetonka Street and 120 feet on Clark Avenue.

The following citizens appeared to speak:

Ms. Sam Ella Dixon Campbell, the applicant, explained her rezoning request, noting that she has had this livelihood for the past 14 years, and spoke to a history of the use of this property.

Mr. Angelo de Pasquale, 2507 Hiawatha, spoke in opposition to the request.

Ms. Billa Burke stated that she would work with the applicant about this matter.

Ms. Billa Burke made a motion to deny the proposed ordinance. Mr. Solis seconded the motion.

After consideration, the motion to deny prevailed by the following vote: **AYES:** Flores, Lott, Solis, Herrera, Marbut, Webster, Thornton; **NAYS:** None; **Absent:** Billa Burke, Avila, Ross, Peak.

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Zoning Case Z96254 SUP was denied.

97-03 It was the concensus of City Council members present to at this time to undertake consideration of Agenda Item 38.

The Clerk read the following Ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE 85507

AUTHORIZING REIMBURSEMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$11,000.00 FROM THE DISTRICT 3 CONTINGENCY ACCOUNT FUND TO COUNCILWOMAN LYNDA BILL BURKE FOR A FULL-TIME ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES CONTRACT WITH RUBINA P. PANTOJA (\$2,200.00 PER MONTH) FROM JANUARY 1, 1997, TO MAY 31, 1997, AS REQUESTED BY COUNCILWOMAN LYNDA BILLA BURKE.

* * * *

Mr. Solis made a motion to approve the proposed Ordinance. Mr. Billa Burke seconded the motion.

After consideration, the motion carrying with it the passage of the Ordinance, prevailed by the following vote: **AYES:** Flores, Lott, Billa Burke, Solis, Herrera, Marbut, Webster, Thornton; **NAYS:** None; **Absent:** Avila, Ross, Peak.

97-03 The Clerk read the following Ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE 85508

ESTABLISHING A COUNCIL COMMITTEE TO REVISIT THE 1994 FIRE MASTER PLAN; AND DIRECTING CITY STAFF TO INITIATE A PROCESS

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TO REVIEW THE PROVISION OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES IN
THE AREA OF STEVES AND PRESA.

* * * *

Mr. Solis made a motion to approve the proposed Ordinance. Mr. Ross seconded the motion.

After consideration, the motion carrying with it the passage of the Ordinance, prevailed by the following vote: **AYES:** Flores, Lott, Billa Burke, Avila, Solis, Herrera, Ross, Marbut, Peak, Webster, Thornton; **NAYS:** None; **Absent:** None

97-03 REPORT BY THE MAYOR'S WATER POLICY COMMITTEE

Mayor Thornton summarized the background of the Mayor's Water Policy Committee, including its mission statement, and spoke to Senate Bill 1, now before the state legislature, and its significance, if enacted.

Mr. John Folk Williams, facilitator of the committee, spoke to this committee's work as one of his own great challenges, and noted the series of some 40 meetings held by the committee on the subject of water. He stated that this document is signed by 29 members of the 34-member committee who looked at all sides of the water issue, and that this document makes extensive recommendations on the process to be followed. He then spoke to a four-page "criteria for a solution" attached to the report and stressed the regional configuration of the report.

Mayor Thornton stated that this report is an historic document and thanked Mr. Ross for his role in 'shepherding' the issue. He then spoke to this, and past, approaches to the water issue, noting that the City of San Antonio has spent more than \$5 million in legal fees alone on this issue. He then addressed the short-term, intermediate, and long-term recommendations of the report and their importance, stating his belief that it develops policy that parallels that of Senate Bill 1, now before the legislature. He asked that the City Council formally receive the report and forward it to San Antonio Water system for its 60-day review in order to get

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their assessment of the report. He asked that the report receive wide dissemination to the public in all available media, and stated that he would be meeting with Lt. Governor Bullock to discuss that report with him. He thanked all the members of the committee, including the five members who did not sign the final document, for their hard work.

The following committee members then came forward to speak briefly to the issue: Mr. Juan Patlan, Ms. Fay Sinkin, Mr. Jim Lopez, Ms. Ann Paddie, Mr. Hugh Ames, COL Dave Cannan, Mr. Jack Rogers, Fr. Michael DeGerolami, Mr. Larry Hoffman, Ms. Mary Jane Nunez, Mr. John Gonzalez, Mr. Richard Woodward, Mr. Curtis Gunn Jr., Ms. Elaine Mendoza, Ms. Evelyn Bonavita, Mr. Don Durden, Ms. Susan K. Hughes, Mr. Jordan Meisner, Mr. Ed L. White Jr., Mr. Ernani Falcone, Mr. Hans Helland, Mr. Kirk Patterson, Ms. Kay Turner, and Ms. Carol Patterson, who provided the Council with a handout of materials, a copy of which is made a part of the papers of this meeting.

Ms. Danielle Milam, Vice-Chair, San Antonio Water System, stated that her board is committed to moving forward with the plan's implementation.

Mayor Thornton noted that, though the committee's work now has been completed, citizen participation in this program will continue in SAWS' consideration of the plan.

Mr. Tom Culbertson, 511 Westwood, commended the committee for its dedication and spoke to the hydrological cycle in this area and the need for recharge of the Edwards Aquifer. He spoke to specific topics of what he believes should have been discussed by the committee.

Mr. Ruben Espronceda, P.O. Box 14373, spoke to certain concerns with water matters, but commended this committee for its work.

Mr. Bob Bolner, Chairman, Greater San Antonio Chamber of Commerce, spoke in support for the report and its recommendations, and addressed certain specifics.

Mr. Javier Rodriguez, representing the South Side Chamber of Commerce, spoke to the importance of water and adoption of the committees' recommendations.

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Mr. Faris Hodge, Jr., 140 Dora, stated that water policy doesn't go far enough, and addressed several concerns. He spoke to the need for water from Canyon Lake and addressed prime water users in San Antonio and the need to curtail use of water.

Mr. Kirk Patterson, 410 Larkwood, stated his belief that the committee's plan failed to cover some important factors, but noted that the report is valuable. He spoke to his belief that the U.S. Geological Survey has determined that the Edwards Aquifer has plenty of water, and stated his contention that the committee report failed to fully discuss the costs of wastewater use and the 'dry-year option'. He spoke against spending money on projects that won't work to solve the water concerns, and asked the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service to implement a reasonable plan to protect the endangered species involved with the Edwards Aquifer. He stressed the need for all concerned to work together on the issue of protecting jobs, and spoke against limiting pumping from the aquifer, and in support of augmentation. Finally, he asked SAWS to work with the Edwards Aquifer Authority on this issue.

Ms. Kay Turner, representing People On Watch, spoke to the reasons why five of the committee members could not sign the report, and spoke to the need to fix the problem of the springs of the aquifer. She spoke against pumping limits and the 'dry-year option', and stated her belief that City Council needs funding for augmentation.

Mayor Thornton spoke in support for a 'citizen-driven' effort toward a water solution such as this committee and a 'hands-off' approach to the issue by government. He further noted that City Council had resolved to let the Edwards Aquifer Authority perform needed studies such as augmentation.

Mr. Philip Barshop stated his belief that there is no one solution to this complex problem, and stated his belief that the Edwards Aquifer Authority will bring forth a regional answer to the water problem.

Mr. Jose Ricardo Garcia, 1335 West Thompson Place, stated that the problem of the springs must be addressed, and expressed his opinion that there is no lack of water, just control of it. He spoke against allowing wastewater lines to crisscross the city, instead of more 'on-site' wastewater usage.

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Mr. Jack Finger stated his belief that the committee degenerated into signing-off on a document of programs that won't work and that will cost San Antonio ratepayers millions of dollars. He spoke to a recent letter of the Greater Chamber, addressed to its members, asking for their support of a number of programs he feels will not work, and spoke in support for augmenting the springflow from the aquifer.

Mr. Hans Helland, P. O. Box 6849, stated that despite having too little time for a good analysis, the report is a good one, in his opinion, and addressed certain problems including the amount of water needed for this region. He also spoke in support for recharge of the aquifer.

Mayor Thornton noted that a discussion of augmentation studies was authorized by City Council in the past few years.

Mr. Karl Wurz, 820 Florida, stated his belief that the committee failed, and spoke to its final report and his concept of problems with that report.

Mayor Thornton again thanked Mr. Ross for his work with the committee.

Mr. Ross spoke to the volumes of data faced by the committee and its final report and recommendations. He thanked the Mayor for appointing this committee designed to study a joint problem.

Mr. Flores thanked all involved with this work.

Mr. Flores then made a motion to accept this report and to refer it to San Antonio Water System for its review and a return to City Council within 60 days with recommendations. Mr. Webster seconded the motion.

Mr. Webster acknowledged the issue as a tough problem, and spoke in support for a continuing dialogue on the issues.

Mr. Peak discussed both technical and non-technical issues and the need for immediate action on the next step in order to insure a long-term water supply for this entire region.

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Ms. Lott thanked members of the committee for their work and spoke in support of the use of prayer to ask for help, such as was requested at the last water committee meeting.

Mr. Solis spoke to a new focus upon a joint solution and plan, put forth by citizens included in this issue.

Mr. Avila spoke of the report as a step in the right direction.

The pending motion then prevailed by the following vote: AYES: Flores, Lott, Billa Burke, Avila, Solis, Ross, Marbut, Peak, Thornton. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Herrera, Webster.

97-03 PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED CHARTER REVISIONS

Mayor Thornton provided a brief background of the charter revision discussions.

(At this point,. Mayor Thornton was obliged to leave the meeting. Mayor Pro Tem Flores presided.

Mr. Solis, Chairman, Charter Review Committee, spoke to the Charter Review Committee Recommendations Report, a copy of which is made a part of the papers of this meeting.

Mr. C.A. Stubbs, committee member, spoke in support for the committee recommendations. A copy of his prepared remarks is made a part of the papers of this meeting.

Mr. Gilbert Vasquez, committee member, spoke to his reasons for urging the Council to place the issue of term limits for City Council members on the May 1997 election ballot. He stated that the initial petition was on actual term limits, whereas this new initiative would be on the extension of terms.

The following persons then appeared to speak:

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Mr. Antonio Diaz, 1423 McKinley, spoke in favor of retaining term limits and against any petition modifications.

Mr. Ray Hamilton, 2523 Wilderness Hill, representing Northside Neighborhoods for Organized Development (NNOD), spoke to his disappointment that there were not more substantive issues proposed by the committee, including an extension of Council terms. He stated his belief that the electorate did not have an opportunity to vote on the length of terms.

Ms. Kay Turner, representing People on Watch (POW), wanted to be assured that the recommendations proposed by the committee be the ones placed on the ballot. She expressed concern about proper campaign ethics, and spoke in favor of retaining term limits.

(At this point, Mayor Thornton returned to the meeting to preside.)

Mr. Jose Ricardo Garcia, 1335 West Thompson Place, spoke to his concern that the initiative and referendum sections would be proposed for change, and expressed his desire that term limits be retained as they presently exist, although he stated that he would not be opposed to reviewing Council pay at a later time. He also spoke to his concerns about campaign reform.

Mr. Faris Hodge, Jr., 140 Dora, stated his belief that the pay-scale for Mayor and City Council is too low and should be raised. He also stated his belief that term limits on Council members should be decided by the voters at the ballot box.

Ms. Bonnie Connor, also representing NNOD, spoke to the need for a term-extension issue on the ballot.

Mr. Duane Wilson, representing the North San Antonio Chamber of Commerce, spoke to his organization's consideration of the issues of term extensions and Council pay, and urged that Council terms be extended to three years. He then spoke in agreement with the minority report on this matter, issued by Mr. Vasquez and Councilwoman Lott.

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Ms. Martha Mangum, representing the Real Estate Council, spoke to the need to review the issue of term extensions on the ballot, and addressed her group's support for having two three-year Council terms.

Mr. Donce Lopez, representing the Greater San Antonio Chamber of Commerce, spoke to the need to review the lifetime ban on Council service as well as extension of Council terms.

Ms. Mangum then read a prepared statement from Mr. Scott A. Blech, representing the San Antonio Apartment Association, regarding that organization's stance on the need for a review of term extensions.

Mr. Charlie Conner, also representing NNOD, took exception to the lack of a recommendation on term extensions in the report, and stated his belief that the issue of a campaign "cap" was not discussed until the final meeting of the committee.

Mr. Jack M. Finger, P.O. Box 12048, spoke in favor of term limits and the retention of the provision as it exists. He also stated that he does not favor staggered Council terms, but spoke in favor of an increase in Council pay. He stated his desire to see a change in the initiative and referendum areas of the City Charter to require only five per cent of registered voters to sign petitions calling for a vote on capital projects.

Mr. Jody Sherrill, 8503 Knight's Knoll, speaking on behalf of himself and also Mr. Ernani Falcone and other members of NNOD, spoke in support for an extension of term limits. Then, speaking as representative of the San Antonio Coalition of Neighborhoods, expressed their support for having two three-year Council terms.

Mr. Roy C. Lopez, Coordinator of Inner City Advocates, spoke to the need for a provision dealing with campaign finance. He further stated his belief that the recommendations of the committee need to be strengthened, and noted that his group is not in favor of the manner in which they are worded.

Mr. Webster then noted that Mr. Jeff Judson, representing the Texas Public Policy Foundation, had left a prepared statement with the City Clerk, a copy of which is made a part of the papers of this meeting.

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97-03 City Council recessed its regular meeting at 6:30 P.M. for dinner, reconvening at 7:10 P.M.

97-03 PUBLIC HEARING ON REALIGNMENT OF FIRE COMPANIES

Fire Chief Robert Ojeda narrated a video presentation on the San Antonio Fire Department Station Realignment Development Process, a copy of which presentation is made a part of the papers of this meeting. He addressed renovations of stations, increased staffing, the fire-response time goal, and other items. He then spoke to details of a departmental study which determined an over-abundance of fire station (14) within a three-mile radius of the downtown area, and compared this with a radius overlay around similar areas of the city such as the medical complex. He stated his willingness to work with the City Council Committee on its goals.

The following persons appeared to speak:

Mr. Ruben Espronceda, P.O. Box 14373, representing Save Our Stations (SOS), narrated a brief videotape of a recent neighborhood meeting on the status of Fire Station No. 13. He spoke to the impact of railroad tracks on fire service to the north and west portions of this area, and spoke in objection to having the Station No. 13 firefighters removed from the facility during its renovation, contending that sufficient room exists on-site for them to remain in temporary quarters. He asked the Council to rescind certain recent actions of the Fire Department staff, and work with the neighborhoods concerned. He also spoke to the need to halt annexation of more areas, and spoke to the need for some 80 firefighters to fight a recent fire on Euclid Street. He also spoke to the need for a new Fire Service Committee including citizens to study this issue.

Mr. Albert Pena Jr., 2300 West Commerce #300, representing Inner City Advocates, addressed the background of the Fire Master Plan, and stated his belief that the citizens and firefighters union need to be involved in a new study of the plan. He spoke to the need for fire protection to be a top priority item, and spoke to examples of what he termed 'structural racism'. He requested that temporary living facilities for firefighters be made available at fire stations being renovated, and stated his opinion that the inner city needs the most fire coverage.

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Mr. Robert Villarreal, student at Briscoe Elementary School, read a letter from students of his school against the closing of the fire station on South Flores Street.

Mr. John Anderson, Jr., 7551 Hyatt Street, representing the San Antonio Professional Firefighters union, stated his belief that fire station relocations are not justified, and expressed his belief that citizens must be involved in a new study of the Fire Master Plan. He spoke in comparison of the wording of the Fire Master Plan with wording in the Blue Ribbon Committee Report, recommending that fire protection not be shifted from existing fire stations into newly-annexed areas. He stated his opinion that that the Fire Master Plan is not a product of the recommendations made by the Blue Ribbon Committee, and stated that the downtown area has special needs in fire protection.

District Fire Chief Ralph Medina narrated a video presentation and expressed his opinion that the proposed relocations are causing a dangerous situation in the downtown area. He presented graphs comparing annexations over the past 10 years with the number of fire responses, indicating a 115 per cent increase over that period. He also noted that Emergency Medical Services responses are up some 52 per cent over the same period; however, the number of firefighters has remained about the same. He then spoke to a comparison of San Antonio with other Texas cities in per-capita numbers of firefighters, noting that firefighters have a ratio here of less than one per 1,000 citizens. He then addressed the proposed realignments of fire companies, and the recent dilution of inner-city fire services. He spoke in comparison of fires in average residences with fire in high-rise buildings, and addressed his concept of the need for additional firefighters, noting that the number of hotels is increasing in the downtown area. He spoke to the variables that govern the effectiveness of fire stations, and reiterated his belief that the number of fire stations and firefighters need to be increased. He expressed his opposition to the relocation of fire stations into newly-annexed areas.

District Fire Chief Michael Rankin spoke to 'community-based fire protection' and contrasted the radius measurements used to measure distances on response-maps with the actual routes taken by fire vehicles responding to fire calls. He stated his opinion that the Fire Master Plan computer model is flawed, and he spoke to alleged longer response times than planned, on actual runs. He expressed his belief that one cannot reduce fire responsiveness to numbers, and urged a fair representation of the community on a new study group for this matter.

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Mr. Buddy Maas, firefighter, stated that the City's firefighters are unified on this issue, and asked all firefighters present to take their oath of office as a pledge.

Mr. Harold Schaeferberger, Executive Assistant, International Association of Firefighters, stated his belief that fire stations needs to be properly staffed, equipped and location, and expressed his belief that the realignment plans are counter-productive. He asked that the firefighters from Fire Station No. 13 be returned to their station, and a halt be called to closure of two additional fire stations in the inner city as wrong, in his opinion. He spoke to reasons why the inner city needs its current fire protection, and noted that a state study indicates that the San Antonio Fire Department is understaffed and under-equipped. He urged that the City place new fire stations and new firefighters into newly-annexed areas.

Ms. Arlene Washington, 1706 Nolan, introduced "Rap of Hope", a group which sang to the City Council about the current situation and its request for a change in the procedures.

Ms. Washington then spoke of her desire for a partnership between neighborhoods and the City in providing quality fire protection, and expressed her view that the Fire Master Plan is wrong. She also expressed her opinion that the City is ignoring her group, and she asked to be involved in this process. She then spoke to certain alleged deficiencies of the San Antonio Fire Department, on average, and asked for more firefighters and equipment. She then presented a list of demands.

Mr. Solis noted at this point that four citizens were being named to this committee, including Ms. Arlene Washington, Ms. Christine Castro, Mr. Dennis Jones, and a to-be-named representative from the Great Northwest community.

Mr. Charles Stone, a member of the Oklahoma City Fire Department, stated that this is a matter of public safety, and spoke to how a similar situation affected his department. He asked that San Antonio not realign its fire stations.

Ms. Ruby McCullough asked for creation of a new Master Plan and spoke to petitions requesting the City not close Fire Station No. 3, noting that she has had no response to those petitions.

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Ms. Nancy K. Alanis, P.O. Box 15524, representing Citizens Organized For Adequate Fire Protection, narrated a video presentation and spoke to Open Records requests for certain records, seeking information about buildings which have been 'grandfathered' from compliance with the Fire Code. She stated her belief that this is a violation of law by not responding within 10 days, and spoke to the need for citizen input into the Fire Master Plan.

Mr. Andy Sciaraffa, 9318 Caen, representing the Guilbeau Park and Northwest Neighborhood Alliance, stated his belief that moving existing fire stations dilutes fire coverage.

Mr. Greg Trimble, 8827 Brigadoon, representing the Northwest Neighborhood Alliance, addressed antiquated firefighting equipment, and asked to be a part of the committee.

Ms. Christine Castro, 503 Drake Avenue, compared San Antonio's fire protection as measured under the National Insurance Key Rate, and spoke against the realignment of fire stations.

Ms. Josie Villarreal, 326 Lone Star Boulevard, spoke to her concern with realignment of downtown fire stations, and read a letter on this matter from students at Briscoe Elementary School.

Mr. Robert Galvan, representing People On Watch, addressed his organization's concerns with fire protection in San Antonio, stating his belief that the city has only 60 per cent of needed firefighters and also a lack of equipment. He stated his belief that there is no need for a new committee to study the issue, and spoke in favor of a new Fire Master Plan. He stated that his group wants 500 new firefighters and new fire stations constructed.

Mr. Glenn Stehle, 701 North St. Mary's Street, representing People On Watch, spoke to the matter of credibility and public trust, and addressed the closing of Fire Station No. 13 for renovation. He questioned certain statements made by Chief Ojeda and read demands asking for information about the contractor who will be doing the renovation work on that fire station.

Assistant Fire Chief Rodney Hitzfelder stated that the architectural firm of Beaty Saunders wrote the letter noted by Chief Ojeda.

Mr. T.C. Calvert, 829 Nevada, representing the Nevada Street Neighborhood Association, asked to meet with the City Council on this matter within seven days.

Rev. John Kyle, East End Baptist Church, presenting Citizens Organized For Adequate Fire Protection, spoke to his concern with taking away basic fire services from citizens, and urged City Council to find the money to build new fire stations in newly-annexed areas and hire more firefighters for them. He asked that Fire Station No. 13 be re-opened, with temporary housing for its firefighters on-site during its renovation. He asked that no more inner-city fire stations be closed, and that a standard be set for having four firefighters for each truck. He asked to meet with the City on these matters in seven days.

Mayor Thornton asked that the citizens meet with the committee, and noted that he also would get there, if the schedules can be worked out.

Mr. T.C. Calvert, Jr. stated his belief that this meeting will result in a new way of looking at this issue, and noted that neither the chairman nor co-chairman of the Blue Ribbon Committee agree with the Fire Master Plan. He spoke to the need for a new dialogue on these issues, and also spoke against realignment of fire stations.

Ms. Kay Turner, representing People On Watch, spoke to her concern with a lack of adequate fire protection, and the need to get priorities straight. She then spoke to certain demands.

Mr. Bob Salvatore, representing the AFL-CIO Council in San Antonio, asked the City to fix this matter, noting that the union has a stake in downtown San Antonio through ownership of the downtown Granada Homes.

State Rep. Arthur Reyna asked the Council to reconsider the realignment plan.

Ms. Jo Ann Ramon noted that she has experienced Mr. Jose Ricardo Garcia, 1335 West Thompson Place, stated his belief that the City needs to redirect its expenditures and build new fire stations. He urged the City to halt its annexations and dilution of basic services.

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fire-response times, noting that time is of the essence in such situations. She asked that her area not be left unprotected.

Minister Ruben Muhammad, 411 Spriggdale, spoke against the closure of fire stations.

Mr. Jory Vandenberg, 700 North St. Mary's Street, spoke to the impact of fire protection on homeowners insurance and made several suggestions, including building fire stations in the city's extra-territorial jurisdiction (ETJ), prior to annexation of those areas. He spoke against the realignment plan.

Mr. Antonio Diaz, 1423 McKinley Avenue, spoke against moving Fire Station No. 13 and asked that its firefighters be returned and an EMS unit located there. He urged the City build new fire stations.

Mr. Jaime Martinez, representing International Union of Electrical Workers, San Antonio local, stated that the inner-city needs fire protection.

Ms. Ruth Theresa Berlanga, P.O. Box 12816, spoke in support for points raised by previous speakers.

Mr. Faris Hodge, Jr., 140 Dora, asked the Council to hold off further annexations.

Mr. Jesse Gonzales, 9910 Cinnamon Ridge, asked Council to listen to the citizens.

Mr. Hector Cardenas, 539 West Elsmere, spoke against realignment of fire stations and in support for a new dialogue.

Mr. Edward Garza, President, Jefferson Area Neighborhood Association, spoke against annexations diluting existing fire services, and expressed his belief that the Fire Master Plan is a fluid document.

Ms. Jeanette Hernandez, 720 West Harriman Place, spoke to the need for more firefighters and fire stations.

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Mr. Jack Finger, P.O. Box 12048, spoke to the question of trust, and expressed his opinion that the Master Plan is not adequate. He urged the Council to find money for better fire services.

Ms. Toni Moorhouse, 735 West Magnolia Avenue, stated her opinion that existing fire stations are needed in the areas in which they presently are located, and addressed major downtown developments.

Ms. Jody Sherrin, 8503 Knights Knoll, representing Greater Northwest Neighborhood Association, spoke in support for a committee that represents the entire city.

Mr. Rene Martinez Meras, 607 John Adams Drive, addressed his concern with fire station closures in the older areas of the city, and expressed his opinion that more firefighters are needed.

Ms. Mary J. Alvarado, 1220 Camargo, stated that older areas of the city need firefighters for their own needs, and presented petitions bearing some 269 names of those in favor of keeping Fire Station No. 7 at its present locations.

Mr. Jose Menendez, 1735 Castroville Road, spoke against closing fire stations at the expense of any area.

Ms. Sarida Bradley, 1032 South Alamo Street, spoke in support for the modernization of fire stations, but addressed her concern with loss of coverage.

Mr. Rasul Oba, 255 Muskogee, addressed his concern with the possible loss of Fire Station No. 3 and the realignment of fire stations.

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CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

MR. FRED REYNOLDS

Mr. Reynolds, 1202 Waverly Avenue, spoke regarding his concerns and complaints about the Police Department, speaking about the number of incidents he has previously experienced. He noted that he has asked for a meeting with a Police Department representative.

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97-03 There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 12:25 A.M.

A P P R O V E D



WILLIAM E. THORNTON
M A Y O R

Attest:



NORMA S. RODRIGUEZ, CMC/AE
City Clerk

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