

City of Houston Ordinance No. 2023- 1154

AN ORDINANCE TABULATING THE VOTES CAST AND CANVASSING THE RETURNS OF THE CITY OF HOUSTON RUNOFF ELECTION HELD ON DECEMBER 9, 2023; MAKING VARIOUS FINDINGS AND PROVISIONS RELATED TO THE SUBJECT; DECLARING THE OFFICIAL RESULTS OF THE RUNOFF ELECTION; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

* * *

WHEREAS, the City of Houston (the "City") held a runoff election ("Election") on December 9, 2023, at the polling places and in the precincts established by City of Houston Ordinance No. 2023-1015 or ordered pursuant to the Mayor's Order dated December 4, 2023; and

WHEREAS, notice of the Election was given in the manner provided by law; and

WHEREAS, the County Clerk of Harris County and the Election Administrators of Fort Bend and Montgomery Counties (the "Election Officials") have tallied the returns for the Election and prepared a tabulation of the votes cast at the Election as required by the Texas Election Code; and

WHEREAS, the Election Officials have delivered the tabulation of votes cast at the Election to the Mayor of the City as the presiding officer of the City Council, the governing body of the City; and

WHEREAS, Texas Election Code Section 67.003 requires the City Council to examine and canvass the returns of the Election not less than three days nor more than eleven days after the date of the Election; **NOW, THEREFORE**,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HOUSTON, TEXAS:

Section 1. That the findings contained in the preamble of this Ordinance are determined to be true and correct and are hereby adopted as a part of this Ordinance.

Section 2. That, in accordance with the laws of the State of Texas and the Charter and Ordinances of the City of Houston, Texas, the Election was held in the City on December 9, 2023, for the following officers of the City:

Mayor
Council Member, District D
Council Member, District G
Council Member, District H

Council Member, At-Large Position 1
Council Member, At-Large Position 2
Council Member, At-Large Position 3
Council Member, At-Large Position 4
City Controller

Section 3. That the City Council finds and determines that a total of 202,310 ballots were cast in this Election.

Section 4. That the City Council, having examined the returns of the Election in an open meeting, finds that such returns are correct. The City Council further finds that miscellaneous irregular votes were cast, but the number of irregular votes was insufficient to prevent any leading candidate from receiving a majority of all the votes cast for that office.

Section 5. That the City Council finds and determines that the following candidates received the number of votes indicated below:

For the Office of Mayor

<u>Name of Candidate</u>	<u>Number of Votes</u>
John Whitmire	129,809
Sheila Jackson Lee	71,719

**For the Office of
Council Member, District D**

<u>Name of Candidate</u>	<u>Number of Votes</u>
Travis McGee	6,276
Carolyn Evans-Shabazz	11,840

**For the Office of
Council Member, District G**

<u>Name of Candidate</u>	<u>Number of Votes</u>
Tony Buzbee	14,158
Mary Nan Huffman	18,433

**For the Office of
Council Member, District H**

<u>Name of Candidate</u>	<u>Number of Votes</u>
Cynthia Reyes Revilla	4,756
Mario Castillo	8,409

**For the Office of
Council Member, At-Large Position 1**

<u>Name of Candidate</u>	<u>Number of Votes</u>
Julian Ramirez	89,039
Melanie Miles	88,776

**For the Office of
Council Member, At-Large Position 2**

<u>Name of Candidate</u>	<u>Number of Votes</u>
Willie Davis	95,470
Nick Hellyar	77,845

**For the Office of
Council Member, At-Large Position 3**

<u>Name of Candidate</u>	<u>Number of Votes</u>
Richard Cantu	85,012
Twila Carter	88,570

**For the Office of
Council Member, At-Large Position 4**

<u>Name of Candidate</u>	<u>Number of Votes</u>
Roy Morales	83,314
Letitia Plummer	93,040

**For the Office of
City Controller**

<u>Name of Candidate</u>	<u>Number of Votes</u>
Chris Hollins	110,082

Section 6. On the basis of the canvass above, the City Council finds and declares that as to the following offices:

a. John Whitmire received a majority of all votes for the Office of Mayor, and was elected to that office.

b. Carolyn Evans-Shabazz received a majority of all votes for the Office of Council Member, District D, and was elected to that office.

c. Mary Nan Huffman received a majority of all votes for the Office of Council Member, District G, and was elected to that office.

d. Mario Castillo received a majority of all votes for the Office of Council Member, District H, and was elected to that office.

e. Julian Ramirez received a majority of all votes for the Office of Council Member, At-Large Position 1, and was elected to that office.

f. Willie Davis received a majority of all votes for the Office of Council Member, At-Large Position 2, and was elected to that office.

g. Twila Carter received a majority of all votes for the Office of Council Member, At-Large Position 3, and was elected to that office.

h. Letitia Plummer received a majority of all votes for the Office of Council Member, At-Large Position 4, and was elected to that office.

i. Chris Hollins received a majority of all votes for the Office of City Controller, and was elected to that office.

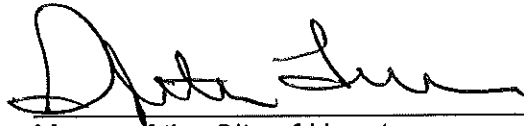
Section 7. That this Ordinance shall constitute the official act of the City Council in examining, counting and declaring the results of the Election.

Section 8. That the City Council officially finds, determines, recites and declares that sufficient written notice of the date, hour, place and subject of this meeting of the City Council was posted at a place convenient to the public at City Hall for the time required by law preceding this meeting, as required by the Open Meetings Law, Chapter 551, Texas Government Code; and that this meeting has been open to the public as required by law at all times during which this Ordinance and the subject matter thereof has been discussed, considered and formally acted upon. The City Council further ratifies, approves and confirms such written notice and the contents and posting thereof.

Section 9. That, if any provision, section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of this Ordinance, or the application of same to any person or set of circumstances, is for any reason held to be unconstitutional, void or invalid, the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance or their application to other persons or sets of circumstances shall not be affected thereby, it being the intent of the City Council in adopting this Ordinance that no portion hereof or provision or regulation contained herein shall become inoperative or fail by reason of any unconstitutionality, voidness or invalidity of any other portion hereof, and all provisions of this Ordinance are declared to be severable for that purpose.

Section 10. That there exists a public emergency requiring that this Ordinance be passed finally on the date of its introduction as requested in writing by the Mayor; therefore, this Ordinance shall be passed finally on such date and shall take effect immediately upon its passage and approval by the Mayor.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 20th day of December, 2023.



Mayor of the City of Houston



Prepared by Legal Dept.

TKL 12/19/2023

Sr. Assistant City Attorney

Requested by Pat Jefferson-Daniel, City Secretary

L.D. File No. GC-0000000244

Meeting 12/20/2023

Aye	No	
✓		Mayor Turner
....	Council Members
✓		Peck
✓		Jackson
Absent on personal business		Kamin
✓		Evans-Shabazz
	✓	Martin
✓		Thomas
✓		Huffman
✓		Cisneros
✓		Gallegos
✓		Pollard
✓		Castex-Tatum
✓		Knox
✓		Robinson
✓		Kubosh
✓		Plummer
✓		Alcorn
Caption	Adopted	

Captions Published in DAILY COURT REVIEW

Date: 12/26/2023