The meeting was called to order with Mayor McClellan presiding.

Roll Call:

Present: Mayor McClellan, Councilmembers Goodman, Himmelblau, Mullen, Mayor Pro Tem Trevino

Absent: Councilmember Cooke

Mayor McClellan announced that today's Special Emergency Meeting of the City Council of the City of Austin is being held to properly receive the Saltillo Delegation to Austin.

Mayor McClellan introduced members of the Council and Jorge Carrasco, Assistant City Manager, to the Saltillo delegation. The Mayor then addressed the Council as follows, with Mr. Carrasco translating for her in Spanish:

"Because my vocabulary is limited, please forgive me for speaking in English. I beg your indulgence and ask that you listen -- not with your ears -- but with your heart -- for although my words are in English, my spirit speaks to you in the beautiful sounds of Spanish.

On behalf of the City of Austin, Texas, I am delighted to welcome each and every one of you as honored representatives of our gracious Sister City, Saltillo. The City of Austin officials who were fortunate to have the opportunity to visit Saltillo last October still speak of your generous hospitality. We hope that your stay with us will be as well-remembered."
As you spend time with us now -- as you tour our unique Hill Country city - I think you will see that Austin's vitality and flavor comes from the blending of cultural heritages - the Contributions of many ethnic groups. This is Austin.

And this is what the world is all about: realizing that we are all of the human family -- all sisters and brothers who simply are born in different locations. In the basics we are the same, with only minor differences to add a spice to life.

As Sister Cities, Saltillo and Austin will always share the same concerns: how best to utilize or alter geography and circumstances to provide better social and economic conditions for all citizens.

The Sister Cities organization enables us to more easily share our problems -- but better still -- to share our solutions.

We look forward to planning together -- to working together -- to learning together -- and this weekend, to enjoy some leisure time together.

Again, I welcome you to Austin and will look forward to seeing you with us again in July for the Sister Cities International Convention.

Muchas Gracias; Viva Saltillo;

Mayor McClellan then presented Honorary Citizenship Awards and keys to the City to members of the Saltillo delegation who were:

Representatives, Department of Tourism of Coahuila, Sra. Socky Moeller, and Sr. Guillermo Moeller.

Representatives, Chamber of Commerce of Coahuila, Sr. Jorge Rosales, Presidente de la Federacion de Cameros del Estado de Coahuila and his wife; Sr. Kerim Saade, Vice-Presidente de Turismo de Saltillo and his wife; Sr. Marco Antonio de la Pena, Gerente, Camaro de Comercio Nacional de Saltillo, and his wife; Sr. Guillermo Damian, Miembro de la Camaro de Comercio; and Sr. Alberto Jaubert and his wife.
The delegates thanked the Mayor and Council for the welcome to the City of Austin and a spokeswoman remarked about the beauty of Austin. She issued an invitation from their Mayor and Governor to visit them in Saltillo.

ADJOURNMENT

The Council adjourned its Special Called Emergency Meeting at 11:40 a.m.

APPROVED

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk