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Torrance City Council - December 18, 1990

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# # # # #

Peggy Laverty  
Minute Secretary

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MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL

OPENING CEREMONIES

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Torrance City Council convened in a regular meeting on Tuesday, December 18, 1990, at 5:35 p.m., in the Council Chambers at Torrance City Hall.

2. ROLL CALL:

Present: Councilmembers Applegate, Hardison, Mock, Nakano, Walker, Wirth and Mayor Geissert.

Absent: None.

Also present: City Manager Jackson, City Attorney Nelson, City Clerk Bramhall, and Staff representatives.

3. FLAG SALUTE/INVOCATION

The flag salute was led by the Hawk Patrol, Pack 785 - Mike O'Donnell, Webelos Leader.

The invocation for the meeting was provided by Lt. Kenneth Hodder, The Salvation Army.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES/MOTION RE FURTHER READING

MOTION: Councilman Applegate moved to approve the minutes of the City Council meeting of November 13, 1990 and November 20, 1990, as recorded. His motion was seconded by Councilman Mock and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

MOTION: Councilman Applegate moved that after the City Clerk has assigned a number and read title to any resolution or ordinance on the agenda for this meeting, the further reading

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thereof be waived, reserving and guaranteeing to each Councilmember the right to demand the reading of any such resolution or ordinance in regular order. His motion was seconded by Councilwoman Hardison and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

5. MOTION RE POSTING OF AGENDA

MOTION: Councilman Applegate moved to accept and file the report of the City Clerk on the posting of the agenda for this meeting. This motion, seconded by Councilman Mock, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

6. WITHDRAWN OR DEFERRED ITEMS

Item 15a, Appeal 90-48 Robert Cottone - continued to City Council meeting of May 21, 1991 - see Page 8.

7. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS

None.

8. COMMUNITY MATTERS

8a. PRESENTATION OF RETIREMENT PLAQUE - LEORA J. LOBRAICO

A plaque in honor of her retirement was accepted for Ms. Leora J. Lobraico, Secretary, Building and Safety Department, by her husband, George.

8b. SERVICE AWARD - WILLIAM OWINGS

Mayor Geissert presented a watch in commemoration of his twenty five years of service to the City to William "Doug" Owings, Firefighter.

8c. JAPAN AMERICA FRIENDSHIP FOUNDATION DONATION

Mr. Julian Leon, Director, and Mr. John Marumoto, Chief Financial Officer, were present to accept a plaque in recognition of a donation from the Japan America Friendship Foundation to the Torrance Cultural Arts Center.

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8d. PROCLAMATION to commend and congratulate the West Torrance High School Academic Decathlon Team.

SO PROCLAIMED by Mayor Geissert.

The Mayor presented a large plaque to Coach George Floratos and Assistant Coach Bruce Thompson. Individual plaques were presented to team members...

- Jennifer Hardy
- Douglas Kunz
- John Mangan
- Elizabeth Miles
- David Ozenne
- Michael Simek
- Cameron Vilhauer
- Gavin Wasserman
- Jinoos Yazdany.

8e. EL CAMINO COLLEGE WOMEN'S SOCCER TEAM RECOGNITION

Mayor Geissert introduced the El Camino College Women's Soccer Team, winners of the 1990 California Community College Championship, as follows...

- Amy Alderson
- Wendy Barnett
- Teresa Bateman
- Jennifer Bishop
- Kristi Blankinship
- Danielle Boyer
- Crista Bugge
- Valerie Dombrowski
- Liza Espinosa
- Tricia Fuller
- Erica Henderson
- Jill Henderson
- Kimberly Jurgens
- Jennifer Keating
- Robyn Kropp
- Sandra Somers
- Jennifer Stone
- Vicki Thomas
- Susie Weisenberg.

A tile plaque was presented by the Mayor to Coaches Bob Myers and Jim Millinder.

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At 5:58 p.m., a recess was called by the Mayor. The Council reconvened at 6:13 p.m.

\* \* \*

9. LIBRARY/PARKS AND RECREATION MATTERS

9a. GRANT AWARDS - NON-PROFIT SOCIAL SERVICES AGENCIES

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Human Resources Commission --

The Human Resources Commission recommends that funding under the 1991 Non-Profit Social Services Agencies Grant Program be awarded to:

National Council on Alcoholism of the South Bay	\$ 1,000
**Pregnancy Helpline and Center	3,000
Project Touch Corporation	2,000
Salvation Army Torrance Corps	2,500
South Bay Children's Health Center Association, Inc.	3,000
Torrance YWCA	2,500
Wellness Community-South Bay Cities	<u>1,000</u>
TOTAL	\$15,000

\*\*[The recommended \$3,000 for Pregnancy Helpline and Center was replaced by \$3,000 for South Bay Free Clinic in final Council action -- see Page 5].

Parks and Recreation Department --

Pregnancy Helpline and Center	\$ 3,000
Project Touch Corporation	3,000
Sensory Integration International dba The Ayres Clinic	2,200
South Bay Children's Health Center Association, Inc.	4,000
South Bay Free Clinic	<u>2,000</u>
TOTAL	\$15,000

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MOTION: Councilman Wirth moved to concur with the above stated recommendation of the Human Resources Commission with the following modification: replace the \$3,000 proposed for the Pregnancy Helpline and Center with \$3,000 for the South Bay Free Clinic.

The motion was seconded by Councilman Mock and ultimately carried.

Prior to roll call vote on the motion, Ms. Olive O'Brien, 1311 Crenshaw Boulevard, representing the Pregnancy Helpline and Center, described their program and urged favorable Council consideration.

Ms. Maureen O'Donnell, 1522 Beech Avenue, Chairperson of the Human Resources Commission, likewise requested approval of the \$3,000 grant to the Pregnancy Helpline.

A SUBSTITUTE MOTION was offered by Councilman Walker to concur with the recommendation of the Human Resources Commission as submitted. This motion was seconded by Councilman Applegate.

Councilman Applegate expressed his opinion that, in view of the fact that the Council charges the Commission with the responsibility of recommending grant recipients and in light of the extensive time and effort put forth in establishing their recommendation, those efforts should be supported.

The above SUBSTITUTE MOTION failed to carry by way of the following roll call vote.

AYES: Councilmen Applegate and Walker and Mayor Geissert.

NOES: Councilmembers Hardison, Mock, Nakano and Wirth.

Mayor Geissert commented that, although she voted for the motion, in her opinion, the capital expenditure need was not as apparent in the case of the Pregnancy Helpline as for other agencies.

The MAIN MOTION carried as shown below.

AYES: Councilmembers Hardison, Mock, Nakano, Wirth and Mayor Geissert.

NOES: Councilmen Applegate and Walker.

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9b. LEASE OF PROPERTY TO BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES, INC.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Parks and Recreation Director recommends that the City Council approve the lease of a building located at 1520 Greenwood Avenue to BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES, INC. and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute said agreement on behalf of the City.

MOTION: Councilwoman Hardison moved to concur with the recommendation of the Parks and Recreation Director on Agenda Item 9b. Her motion, seconded by Councilman Mock, carried without objection.

9c. SPECIAL EVENT WELCOMING AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR COMPANY

RECOMMENDATION:

It is the recommendation of the Parks and Recreation Director that your Honorable Body grant permission to the Downtown Torrance Merchants Association to use El Prado Park on January 13, 1991, to conduct a special event welcoming American Honda Motor Company to the City of Torrance.

MOTION: Councilman Applegate moved to concur with the above recommendation of the Parks and Recreation Director. His motion, seconded by Councilman Wirth, carried without objection.

10. TRANSPORTATION/PUBLIC WORKS MATTERS

10a. ABALONE AVENUE STORM DRAIN

RESOLUTION NO. 90-232

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE APPROVING THE PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE ABALONE AVENUE STORM DRAIN AND AUTHORIZING THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS (LACDPW) TO COMMENCE CONSTRUCTION

MOTION: Councilman Nakano moved to adopt Resolution No. 90-232. His motion was seconded by Councilwoman Hardison and roll call vote proved unanimously favorable.

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At 6:31 p.m., the City Council convened in joint session with the Redevelopment Agency of the City of Torrance. During the course of the joint session, the following City Council agenda item was considered...

10b. RECONSTRUCTION OF INTERSECTION OF VAN NESS AVENUE WITH BORDER AND ARLINGTON AVENUES

RECOMMENDATION:

The Engineering Department recommends that your Honorable Body: (1) approve the Plans and Specifications and authorize the City Engineer to advertise for construction bids; and (2) appropriate \$30,000 in Gas Tax Funds for design and reconstruction of Van Ness Avenue south of and at the intersection with Border and Arlington Avenues.

City Engineer Burt provided clarification as desired by Agency Member/Councilwoman Hardison, justifying the increase in cost and also noting that the additional \$30,000 will come from unappropriated Gas Tax Funds.

MOTION: Councilman Walker moved to concur with staff recommendation on Agenda Item 10b. This motion was seconded by Councilwoman Hardison and carried as follows.

AYES: Councilmembers Applegate, Hardison, Mock, Walker, Wirth and Mayor Geissert.

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: Councilman Nakano.

At 6:35 p.m., the meeting of the Redevelopment Agency was formally adjourned at which time the City Council convened as the Torrance Cable Television Public Access Foundation.

The meeting of the Cable Television Public Access Foundation was adjourned at 6:37 p.m., and the regular City Council agenda order was resumed as follows.

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15. HEARINGS

15a. APPEAL 90-48 ROBERT COTTONE

Mayor Geissert announced that this was the time and place for City Council consideration of an appeal of a Planning Commission denial of a request to allow seasonal sales of pumpkins and Christmas trees in the M-2 zone at 3323 Sepulveda Boulevard. APPEAL 90-48: ROBERT COTTONE.

Proof of publication, provided by the City Clerk, was filed without comment.

Mayor Geissert called attention to staff material of record wherein it was indicated that the applicant has requested that this item be continued to May 21, 1991 [a 5:30 p.m. meeting].

Councilman Applegate SO MOVED. His motion was seconded by Councilman Wirth and, there being no objection, it was so ordered by the Mayor.

17. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

17a. BUDGET REVIEW - FIRST FOUR MONTHS

RECOMMENDATION:

Based on the analysis of the Finance Director, the City Council Finance and Governmental Operations Committee recommends the following actions to the Council as a whole:

- o Authorize reallocation of reserves within the self-insurance fund by decreasing the reserve for workers' compensation claims by \$3,113,534 and increase the reserve for general liability claims by the same amount.
- o Appropriate \$1,000,000 from the general fund 1989-90 carry-over for increased funding of the reserve for general liability claims in the self-insurance fund.
- o Appropriate \$3,455,630 to reflect federal funding for the voucher and certification Section 8 rental assistance payment program.

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- o Designate unallocated general fund 1989-90 carry-over in the amount of \$2,207,297, and \$951,338 in 1990-91 reserves for the 1991 capital improvement budget, and direct staff to return with a proposed budget at mid year for the appropriation of these funds to specific projects.
- o Designate \$1,500,000 of 1990-91 reserves as a reserve for potential benefit calculation adjustments.
- o Designate \$500,000 of 1990-91 reserves as addition to the reserve for litigation.

**MOTION:** Councilman Nakano moved to approve the above stated recommendation of the City Council Finance and Governmental Operations Committee. His motion, seconded by Councilman Mock, carried by unanimous roll call vote.

17b. UNIFORM OCCUPANCY TAX

ORDINANCE NO. 3315

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE DEFERRING ONE-HALF PERCENT OF THE OCCUPANCY TAX UNTIL JANUARY 1, 1992, BY AMENDING SECTION 222.2.1 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE

**MOTION;** Councilman Walker moved to approve Ordinance No. 3315 at its first reading. His motion was seconded by Councilman Mock and carried by unanimous roll call vote [Councilman Nakano ABSTAINED].

17c. COUNCIL AWARD OF CONTRACT - Environmental Impact Report for Proposed Termination of Via Valmonte at the City's Southern Boundary

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the City accept the low bid and award the contract to Envicom Corporation, approve the form of contract, authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute and attest the contract on behalf of the City and appropriate \$29,970 from the General Fund Contingency Account.

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At the request of Councilwoman Hardison, Senior Principal Planner Gibson elaborated on scheduling and advised that it is anticipated that the scoping session will be held in the evening to ensure an opportunity for public input. Mr. Gibson advised that the scoping session is targeted for approximately 30 days.

MOTION: Councilwoman Hardison moved to concur with the above stated staff recommendation. Her motion, seconded by Councilman Mock, carried by unanimous roll call vote.

17d. EQUIPMENT LEASE WITH SECURITY PACIFIC EQUIPMENT LEASING, INC.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Finance Director and the City Treasurer recommend that your Honorable Body approve the Master Lease of Personal Property agreement with Security Pacific Equipment Leasing, Inc. in the amount of \$4,524,567, at an interest rate of 7.65% and authorize the Finance Director or her designee to execute all other documents in connection with or incidental to such Master Lease.

MOTION: Councilman Applegate moved to concur with the above recommendation. His motion was seconded by Councilwoman Hardison and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

20. CONSENT CALENDAR

20a. HUMAN RESOURCES COMMISSION 1989/90 ANNUAL REPORT

RECOMMENDATION:

It is the recommendation of the Parks and Recreation Director and the Human Resources Commission that your Honorable Body accept and file the report.

20b. Considered separately at the request of Councilman Nakano - see Page 12.

20c. COUNCIL AWARD OF CONTRACT - To provide all equipment, materials and labor required to completely remove trees and/or tree stumps in incremental releases.  
Ref: Bid No. B90-51.  
Anticipated Expenditure: \$45,750.00.

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Councilman Wirth reminded staff of the notification process previously discussed.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Purchasing Division and Street Department request that your Honorable Body authorize the award of a contract to provide all equipment, materials and labor required to completely remove City's trees and/or tree stumps in incremental releases to the lowest responsible bidder, West Coast Arborists, Inc. of Buena Park, California in the anticipated amount of \$45,750.00.

- 20d. AWARD OF CONTRACT - Construction of Landscaping at Anza Avenue Service Road Medians (B90-48)

RECOMMENDATION:

The Engineering Department recommends that your Honorable Body award a contract to Aka-Tani Landscape Company for construction of landscaping at Anza Avenue service road medians.

- 20e. REQUEST FOR COUNCIL REJECTION OF BID - Bid to Furnish Torrance Transit Route Schedules  
Ref: Bid No. B89-37

At her request, Councilwoman Hardison was informed regarding delivery projections by Director of Transportation Horkay.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Purchasing Division and Transit Division request that Council reject the three (3) bids received.

MOTION: Councilman Applegate moved to concur with staff recommendations on Agenda Items 20a and 20c through 20e, inclusive. His motion was seconded by Councilwoman Hardison and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

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Considered separately...

20b. RECOMMENDATION FOR APPROVAL TO RETAIN POD/SASAKI  
[ARCHITECTURAL CONSULTANT] FOR MASTER PLAN REVISIONS  
OF CHARLES H. WILSON PARK

Councilman Nakano noted the importance of including potential users of the Wilson Park indoor facility, or representative groups of these individuals, in "brainstorming work sessions". Mr. Nakano observed that an earlier needs assessment was comprised of individuals who would not be using the indoor facility, and he requested that the consultant be so informed if the results of that earlier needs assessment are to be utilized.

City Manager Jackson indicated that his department would follow through in this regard.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is the recommendation of the Parks and Recreation Director that your Honorable Body approve the contract as to form; authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute and attest said agreement on behalf of the City; and approve the expenditure of \$30,000 for related architectural fees.

MOTION: Councilman Nakano moved to concur with the above stated recommendation of the Parks and Recreation Director. His motion was seconded by Councilman Walker and, there being no objection, it was so ordered.

22. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

22a. Street Maintenance Superintendent Garcia announced the proposed Christmas tree recycling program for the City of Torrance, noting that notification to the public will be by way of newspaper and cable television coverage.

22b. Councilwoman Hardison expressed special appreciation to Senior Management Assistant Sunshine and Parks and Recreation Director Barnett for their efforts regarding the City's "Yellow Ribbon Week".

22c. Councilman Wirth noted his appreciation for Street Maintenance Supervisor Garcia's memorandum relative to green waste.

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22d. Councilman Wirth noted favorable community input regarding the recently published Transportation Reporter.

22e. HAPPY HOLIDAY WISHES TO ALL were expressed by Council and staff.

23. EXECUTIVE SESSION

23a. EXECUTIVE SESSION MATTERS

Mayor Geissert read the following statement into the record.

The City Council will now recess to closed session to confer with the City Manager and/or the City Attorney on the following subjects:

- Salaries, salary schedules and compensation for certain unrepresented employees and represented employee groups as well as certain other personnel matters;
- Pending litigation entitled People of the State of California vs. Mobil Oil Corporation, et al., Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. C 719953;
- Pending litigation entitled Steve Timper vs. City of Torrance, et al., United States District Court case No. 8704855 KN (Gx);
- Possible litigation involving Utility Users Tax;
- Update on lease development at Madison Park; and,
- The lease of City-owned airport property presently under lease to Eli Alexander.

Authority to hold an executive session for these purposes is contained in Government Code Sections 54957.6(a), 54956.9(a) and 54956.8.

At 6:59 p.m., the City Council recessed to executive session, returning at 9:34 p.m.

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City Attorney Nelson noted that in the case of People of the State of California vs. Mobil Oil Corporation, et al., Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. C 719953, it is the recommendation of the City Attorney and the recommendation of all of the legal counsel in the case that the City Council concur in the appointment of SRI International as the safety advisor nominated by the City.

Councilman Applegate SO MOVED. His motion was seconded by Councilman Nakano and carried by way of the following roll call vote.

AYES: Councilmembers Applegate, Hardison,  
Nakano, Walker, Wirth and Mayor  
Geissert.

NOES: Councilman Mock.

24. ADJOURNMENT

At 9:35 p.m., this meeting of the City Council was formally adjourned to Tuesday, January 8, 1991, 7:00 p.m.

# # # # #

  
Mayor of the City of Torrance

  
Clerk of the City of Torrance

Peggy Laverty  
Minute Secretary

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