

September 11, 2001

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Torrance City Council convened in a regular meeting at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 11, 2001, in Council Chambers.

ROLL CALL

Present: Councilmembers Cribbs, Messerlian, Nowatka, Scotto, Walker, Witkowsky and Mayor Hardison.

Absent: None.

Also Present: City Manager Jackson, City Attorney Fellows, City Clerk Herbers and other staff representatives.

16. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Council immediately recessed to closed session to confer with the City Manager and the City Attorney on the agenda matters listed under 16.a) Conference with Labor Negotiator 16.b) Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation; and Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation pursuant to California Government Code Sections 54957.6, 54956.9.(a) and 54956.9 (b).

No formal action was taken on any matter considered in closed session.

The Council reconvened at 7:04 p.m.

Mayor Hardison read the following statement:

Good evening. Today was a sad day for this country. We have watched with horror the terrorist acts that have killed and injured an untold number of innocent civilians and public safety personnel. And, we extend our condolences to all the families who have lost loved ones today.

At this time, we do not know who is responsible for these terrorist acts. In the days ahead, I would ask our Torrance family to remember that we are a very culturally diverse community, and we are proud of that diversity. Please do not place unfair blame on individuals of another culture for the horrible acts that have occurred today. This is a strong country, and I know we will find the strength to face the days ahead.

While we must not allow terrorism to interfere with the business of this City, my colleagues on the City Council and I recognize the severity of today's events. Therefore, we have curtailed our agenda for this evening's meeting. But before we begin our brief meeting, I'd ask our Police and Fire departments to provide an update on the City's response to this serious situation.

Police Chief Herren read the following statement:

This morning the City Manager convened a special meeting of members of Police and Fire Command staffs, along with other City Officials critical to the ongoing, safe operation of our City. The purpose of this meeting was to ensure that we as a City are as prepared as possible for an emergency or disaster situation, such as occurred this morning on the East Coast.

One of the outcomes of that meeting is that we opened our Emergency Operations Center in order to track any activity or conditions that may have an impact upon the City. It was not necessary to fully activate our EOC, however that could be done very rapidly if a need is determined.

Another outcome from our meeting this morning is that the Police Department increased our presence in areas that we believe could be more vulnerable to any type of terrorist activity.

We have developed operational plans that would place our officers on 12-hour shifts in order to more efficiently provide for a safe and secure community and can easily implement that plan if necessary.

On a regional level, Capt. Besse has attended a meeting with L.A. Sheriff's Department officials, and many other law enforcement agencies within Los Angeles County, to discuss the County's plans for a unified response in the event of any terrorist activity.

Fortunately, we have not experienced any activity in our local area that would cause reason for us to implement emergency measures, but we stand prepared to do so if necessary.

On behalf of the Police Department our hearts and our prayers go out to the victims that suffered casualties on the East Coast this morning and to the rescuers who are involved in trying to assist. We are very proud of the stance taken by the President in seeking to defend our great country.

Fire Chief Bongard read the following statement:

The entire Torrance Fire Department is deeply saddened by today's tragic and shocking events. Our sympathy and prayers are with the victims, their families and our entire nation, sharing in their grief.

As members of the nation's fire service, we stand ready to offer our full support to the fire departments of New York, Washington DC, Virginia and Pennsylvania in response to today's tragic and shocking events.

We have highly sophisticated response protocols for dealing with such emergencies, but, as with all fire and rescue services across the nation, we have developed these protocols and trained in the hope that our skills would never be required.

We remain committed to working with all appropriate agencies, national and international, to assure the safety and security of the Citizens of Torrance and all Americans.

The Fire Department has placed strike team engines on a 1-hour response status per State Region 1 request. Today we staffed our Communications Office with

one additional dispatcher. All personnel have reviewed Multi Casualty Incident practices and conducted inventories of the Multi-Casualty kits in the stations and on all apparatus.

As the Mutual Aid Area G liaison, we have conducted a survey of resource availability with the other South Bay cities. Area G will be able to provide a 5 engine Type 1 Strike Team with a Battalion Chief/Leader and a Medical Strike Team with five Paramedic Rescues and a Leader. These are available on a "1-hour status".

State Region 1 continues to survey at 4-hour intervals all areas in Region 1 for availability status of personnel and equipment.

Local hospitals, Little Company of Mary, Torrance Memorial, and Harbor General are on a higher "situation awareness" level and are being provided periodic updates through the hospital "Ready Net" system. Otherwise it's business as usual for the hospitals. The hospitals do request that blood donations be given at the Red Cross because as many as 50,000 units may be needed on the East Coast.

We are still obtaining information and assessing the situation. We join with the rest of our City's leaders in our total commitment to each member of our community.

Again, on behalf of the men and women of the Torrance Fire Department, we extend our prayers to the victims, their families, and the rescuers. All who have suffered such a great loss this morning.

Mayor Hardison concluded her remarks noting that she had spoken with Congresswoman Jane Harmon's office who indicated that while Congress had been off-site, the Federal government was functioning. The Congresswoman is a member of the House Select Committee on Intelligence which met all day and Congress will resume session at 10:00 a.m. (Eastern time) tomorrow. Her local office stands ready to answer questions and concerns and is open tonight at (310) 372-1600.

Mayor Hardison added that the public could assist victims of the tragedy through donations to the American Red Cross and checks should be made out to the American Red Cross, National Relief Fund with a notation on the check that indicates "World Trade Center, New York" or "Pentagon, Washington, D. C." Checks should be mailed to the:

American Red Cross, National Relief Fund
P. O. Box 1008
Santa Monica, CA 90406

Mayor Hardison asked all to join in a moment of silence for those who lost their lives in the horrible terrorist attack.

2. FLAG SALUTE/INVOCATION

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Hardison.

The invocation was given by Pastor Rollin Keller, Grace Orthodox Presbyterian Church.

3. AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING/WAIVE FURTHER READING

MOTION: Councilmember Cribbs moved to accept and file the report of the City Clerk on the posting of the agenda for this meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Nowatka and hearing no objection, Mayor Hardison so ordered.

MOTION: Councilmember Cribbs moved that after the City Clerk has read aloud the number and title to any resolution or ordinance on the meeting agenda, the further reading thereof shall be waived, reserving and guaranteeing to each Councilmember the right to demand the reading of any such resolution or ordinance in regular order. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Nowatka and hearing no objection, Mayor Hardison so ordered

4. WITHDRAWN OR DEFERRED ITEMS

Item 7i. was withdrawn from the consent calendar.

5. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilmember Scotto announced a meeting of the Veteran's Memorial Committee on Wednesday, September 19, 2001 at 5:30 p.m. in the Third Floor Assembly Room at City Hall.

Mayor Hardison announced the Energy Efficiency Forum and Expo scheduled for Thursday, September 13, 2001 has been postponed and will be rescheduled.

6. COMMUNITY MATTERS

Mayor Hardison noted that Community Matters would not be considered and as there were events taking place over the weekend the information would be available on CitiCable Channel 3.

6a. RESOLUTION NO. 2001-100 RE POLICE LIEUTENANT JACK RUSSELL MCDONALD

RESOLUTION NO. 2001-100

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE HONORING POLICE LIEUTENANT JACK RUSSELL MCDONALD UPON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE CITY AFTER THIRTY YEARS OF SERVICE.

The item was not considered.

6b. PROCLAMATION RE COASTAL CLEAN-UP DAY

Proclamation declaring Saturday, September 15, 2001 as Coastal Clean Up Day in the City of Torrance urging all residents to participate in maintaining Torrance Beach and all other beaches to demonstrate our commitment to environmental awareness and ecological improvement.

The item was not considered.

6c. PROCLAMATION RE TRY TRANSIT WEEK

Proclamation declaring the week of September 10 through 17, 2001 as Try Transit Week in the City of Torrance, calling upon all citizens to examine their personal travel choices, to commute via transit or share the ride, and become more active in education and advocacy efforts to promote the vital role of public transit in the City of Torrance across the United States.

The item was not considered.

6d. PROCLAMATION RE CONSTITUTION WEEK

Proclamation declaring the week of September 17 through 23, 2001 as Constitution Week in the City of Torrance, urging citizens to study the Constitution and reflect on the privilege of being American with all the rights and responsibilities which the privilege involves.

The item was not considered.

6e. PROCLAMATION RE TOMIHIRO HOSHINO

Proclamation honoring and commending Tomihiro Hoshino for his inspirational artwork and reflective poems and essays, and encouraging all citizens of the community to attend the "Tomihiro L.A. Exhibition" held at the Torrance Cultural Arts Center from September 18 through 24, 2001.

The item was not considered.

6f. PROCLAMATION RE NATIONAL ALCOHOL AND DRUG ADDICTION RECOVERY MONTH

Proclamation declaring the month of September 2001 as National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month in the City of Torrance encouraging all citizens to support this year's theme – "We Recover Together: Family, Friends and Community" by supporting men, women and youth who are in drug and alcohol addiction treatment and recovery.

The item was not considered.

6g. CERTIFICATE OF COMMENDATION RE BUS OPERATOR HIMANSHU PATEL

Certificate of Commendation to Bus Operator Himanshi Patel as the 2001 Torrance Transit Bus Roadeo winner.

The item was not considered.

7. CONSENT CALENDAR

Item 7i was withdrawn.

7a. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – AUGUST 7, 2001

7b. TIDEMARK, INC. CONTRACT RE BUSINESS LICENSE MODULE

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Information Technology Director and Finance Director that City Council authorize a contract with TideMark, Inc. to implement the TideMark Business License module in the amount of \$49,904.

7c. FRIENDS OF MADRONA MARSH DONATION

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Parks and Recreation Director that City Council accept the generous donation of a Nikon stereoscopic dissecting microscope from the Friends of Madrona Marsh, to be used for educational purposes at the Madrona Marsh Nature Center.

7d. PURCHASE ORDER RE ZOLL MEDICAL CORPORATION

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Fire Chief that City Council authorize a purchase order be issued to ZOLL Medical Corporation in an amount not to exceed \$67,077.70 for five biphasic M-series cardiac defibrillator/monitor packages and five battery chargers as a cooperative purchase with the City of Anaheim.

7e. PURCHASE ORDER RE WEST COAST SAND & GRAVEL, BUENA PARK, CA

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Street Services Director that City Council authorize a purchase order in the amount of \$184,000, including sales tax, to West Coast Sand & Gravel of Buena Park, CA, to furnish the City's requirement of crushed aggregate base for the City's various street maintenance and repair projects on an as needed basis for a period of 10 months from September 11, 2001 to June 30, 2002. (B2001-24)

7f. BJA GRANT LOCAL ADVISORY BOARD APPOINTMENTS

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Chief of Police that City Council:

1. Appoint individuals to the BJA Grant Local Advisory Board;
2. Identify Board duties; and
3. Establish a sunset for the Board's authority to meet.

7g. METROPOLITAN COOPERATIVE LIBRARY SYSTEM ADVISORY BOARD APPOINTMENTS

Recommendation

Recommendation of the City Librarian that City Council approve the appointment of Library Commissioners Jamie Watson and Peggy Basile as the Torrance delegate and alternate respectively to the Metropolitan Cooperative Library System Advisory Board.

7h. **LIBRARY COMMISSION 2000-2001 ANNUAL REPORT**

Recommendation

Recommendation of the City Librarian and the Library Commission that City Council accept and file the Library Commission 2000-2001 Annual Report.

7i. **CONSULTING SERVICES AGREEMENT RE PATH ENERGY – CLAREMONT, CA**

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Acting General Services Director that City Council approve an agreement for consulting services with Path Energy of Claremont, CA for an amount not to exceed \$70,000.

7j. **CONTRACT RE VAN LINGEN BODY SHOP DBA VAN LINGEN TOWING**

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Chief of Police that City Council award a contract to Van Lingen Body Shop Inc. dba Van Lingen Towing, to furnish vehicle towing and storage services for the City of Torrance Police Department on an "As Needed Basis." The recommended term of the agreement is for three years, with an option to extend for a period not to exceed two years. (B2001-27)

7k. **PURCHASE ORDER RE EBSCO SUBSCRIPTION SERVICES**

Recommendation

Recommendation of the City Librarian that City Council authorize a purchase order in an amount not to exceed \$65,000 to EBSCO Subscription Services of Los Angeles for the purchase of the annual requirement of periodicals for the Torrance Library System for the calendar year 2002. (B2001-29)

7l. **SOUTHWEST INDUSTRIES CONTRACT RE JOSLYN FINE ARTS CENTER**

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Parks and Recreation Director that City Council approve a contract with Southwest Industries not to exceed \$29,150 to abate asbestos and lead at the Joslyn Fine Arts Center. (B2001-23)

7m. **CYPHERS ELECTRIC AND ROKNI ELECTRIC COMPANY RE LAS CANCHAS TENNIS FACILITY**

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Parks and Recreation Director that City Council:

1. Approve a Contract Services agreement in the amount of \$12,850 with Cyphers Electric for the installation of new conduit and wires at the Las Canchas Tennis Facility; and
2. Approve a Change Order in the amount of \$10,736.23 to Public Works agreement C2001-027 with Rokni Electric Company, Inc. for installation of remote ballast boxes at the Las Canchas Tennis Facility.

7n. **CONSULTING SERVICES AGREEMENT AMENDMENT RE CASE, STANFORD AND ASSOCIATES, INC.**

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Engineering Director that City Council:

1. Approve an amendment to the Consulting Services Agreement with Case, Stanford and Associates, Inc. (# C2001-30) for an additional \$3,760 for surveying services for Public Works projects;
2. Appropriate \$9,040 from Prop C funds previously allocated to the completed Crenshaw Boulevard Project, 190th St. - Dominguez St. (I-2) to the Carson Street Rehabilitation Project (T-23); and
3. Authorize the Mayor to execute and the City Clerk to attest to said amendment.

MOTION: Councilmember Walker moved for the approval of Consent Calendar items 7a through 7h and 7j through 7n as written. Councilmember Scotto seconded the motion and a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval.

MOTION: Councilmember Walker moved to postpone consideration of items on the agenda to September 25, 2001. Councilmember Witkowsky seconded the motion and a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval.

9. PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

9a. RESOLUTION 2001-101 RE PUBLIC SEWER EASEMENT

Recommendation of the Engineering Director that City Council approve and adopt a Resolution summarily vacating a 6' wide public sewer easement east of Abalone Avenue from 223rd Street to 630 feet north of 223rd Street.

The item was not considered.

10. PUBLIC SAFETY

10a. RESOLUTION NO. 2001-102 RE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES FIRE MUSEUM

The item was not considered.

11. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

11a. RESOLUTION NO. 2001-98 RE TORRANCE SUPERVISORY AND PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION

Recommendation of the Human Resources Director that City Council adopt Resolution 2001-98 amending Resolution No. 2001-96 governing employees represented by Torrance Supervisory and Professional Association to implement professional certification premiums.

The item was not considered.

11b. PUBLIC HEARING RE PROPOSED MODIFICATION OF EXISTING UNDERGROUND UTILITY DISTRICT (UUD) NO. 15

Recommendation of the Planning Director that City Council set September 25, 2001 at 7:00 p.m. as the date for a Public Hearing for a proposed modification of existing Underground Utility District (UUD) No. 15 on Artesia Boulevard between Hawthorne Boulevard and Western Avenue and to notify all property owners affected by UUD NO.15.

The item was not considered.

11c. RESOLUTION NO. 2001-99 RE TORRANCE SUPERVISORY AND PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION

Recommendation of the Human Resources Director and the Civil Service Commission that City Council approve the following:

1. Revise the class specifications of Sanitation Crew Supervisor, Sewer Maintenance Crew Supervisor, Asst. Street Maintenance Supervisor, Street Services Crew Supervisor and Streetscape Supervisor and retitle the classifications as Street Services Supervisor.
2. Revise the class specification of Airport Operations & Maintenance Chief and retitle as Airport Operations Supervisor.
3. Revise the class specification of Park Maintenance Supervisor and retitle as Park Services Supervisor.
4. Revise the class specification of Traffic and Lighting Supervisor.

In addition, the Human Resources Director recommends adoption of Resolution 2001-99 amending Resolution No. 2001-96 governing employees represented by Torrance Supervisory and Professional Association to implement the recommended salary ranges.

The item was not considered.

11d. CONTINUED STATE OF EMERGENCY FOR CAROLWOOD DRIVE AND SINGINGWOOD DRIVE

Recommendation of the City Manager and City Attorney that City Council continue the state of local emergency proclaimed March 2, 2001 for properties located on Carolwood Drive and Singingwood Drive.

MOTION: Councilmember Messerlian moved to concur with the staff recommendation. Councilmember Nowata seconded the motion and a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval.

12. HEARINGS

12a. CONGESTION MANAGEMENT PROGRAM (CMP) AND CMP LOCAL IMPLEMENTATION REPORT (LIR)

Recommendation of the Planning Director that City Council:

1. Conduct a public hearing as required by the Congestion Management Program of the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority;
2. Adopt a Resolution to self-certify that the City of Torrance is in conformance with local Congestion Management Program (CMP) requirements; and,

3. Direct staff to submit the CMP Local Implementation Report (LIR) as required by the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority

The item was not considered.

12b. ZONE CHANGE RE 5580 DEL AMO BOULEVARD

Recommendation of the Planning Commission and the Planning Director that City Council deny the appeal and take the following action on property located at 5580 Del Amo Boulevard:

1. Adopt an Ordinance approving a Zone Change (ZON99-00007) from C-R (Restricted Commercial District) to R-1 (Single-Family Residential District);
2. Approve an Ordinance Summary for publication; and
3. Adopt Resolutions approving:
 - a. A Tentative Tract Map (TTM53339) to create 18 lots.
 - b. A Waiver for an over-height retaining wall.
 - c. Precise Plans of Development (PRE99-00019, PRE01-00024 through

PRE01-00036) to construct 14 single-family residences in the Hillside Overlay District. ZON99-00007, TTM52429, WAV01-00013, PRE99-00019, PRE01-00024 through PRE01-00036: Richard Gould/JCC REDBEAM LLC

The item was not considered.

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2001. The Torrance Redevelopment Agency meeting was postponed to September 25,

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15. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

None.

16. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Considered earlier.

17. **ADJOURNMENT**

At 7:17 p.m., the meeting was adjourned to Tuesday, September 25, 2001 at 5:30 p.m., for an executive session in the Council Chamber, with the regular meeting commencing at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers. Tuesday, September 18, is a City Council dark night.

****** Adjourned in memory of the victims who lost their lives
in the terrorist attack on this date ******

Attest:

Mayor of the City of Torrance

Sue Herbers
City Clerk of the City of Torrance

Approved on October 2, 2001