

April 7, 2009

**MINUTES OF AN ADJOURNED REGULAR  
MEETING OF THE TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Torrance City Council convened in an adjourned regular session at 7:04 p.m. on Tuesday, April 7, 2009 in City Council Chambers at Torrance City Hall.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Councilmembers Barnett, Brewer, Furey, Numark, Rhilinger, Sutherland, and Mayor Scotto.

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

**2. FLAG SALUTE/INVOCATION**

The flag salute was led by Library Commission Chairman Jerome Haig.

Councilmember Rhilinger gave the non-sectarian invocation.

**3. REPORT OF CITY CLERK ON POSTING OF THE AGENDA / MOTION TO WAIVE FURTHER READING**

City Clerk Herbers reported that the agenda was posted on the Public Notice Board at 3031 Torrance Boulevard on Thursday, April 2, 2009.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Brewer 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 Barnett and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**4. WITHDRAWN, DEFERRED OR SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS**

Item 8C was withdrawn.

**5. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Councilmember Rhilinger reported that the Ad Hoc Legislative Committee had met earlier to discuss the ballot measures for the May 19, 2009 statewide election and that an agenda item will be brought forward next week.

Councilmember Brewer announced that the Citizen Development and Enrichment Committee will meet on Tuesday, April 14, at 4:30 p.m. in the third floor assembly room to discuss the 2010 Torrance Rose Float design.

Councilmember Sutherland announced that the Finance and Governmental Operations Committee will meet on Tuesday, April 21, at 5:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers to discuss budget matters.

City Clerk Herbers announced that the registration deadline for the May 19 statewide General Election is Monday, May 4, and mailed registration forms must be postmarked no later than midnight.

City Clerk Herbers invited the public to view the watercolors of Torrance Artist Guild member Susan Schilling on view for the month of April in the City Clerk's office.

Mayor Scotto asked that the meeting be adjourned in memory of Torrance Transit Bus Operator Joe Rodriguez, who passed away April 4 and Finance Department Buyer Laurie Lim, who passed away April 6.

**6. COMMUNITY MATTERS**

**6A. RESOLUTION NO. 2009-27 RE POLICE OFFICER DANIEL METZGER**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2009-27**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE  
HONORING POLICE OFFICER DANIEL I. METZGER UPON HIS RETIREMENT  
FROM THE CITY AFTER THIRTY YEARS OF SERVICE

**MOTION:** Councilmember Brewer moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2009-27. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Sutherland and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

*To be presented at a later date.*

**6B. PROCLAMATION RE "NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK"**

Mayor Scotto presented a proclamation declaring the week of April 12 through April 18, 2009 as **National Library Week** in the City of Torrance to Library Commission Chairman Jerome Haig and members Judi Gerber, Jim Sheldon, and Flo Stapleton.

Mr. Haig noted the wide variety of services and programs available at Torrance libraries, including homework assistance programs. He announced that the Friends of Torrance Library will be having a hardback book sale on Friday, April 17, from 2:00 – 6:00 p.m. for FTL members and Saturday, April 18, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. for the general public.

**6C. PROCLAMATION RE "DMV/DONATE LIFE CALIFORNIA MONTH"**

Mayor Scotto presented a proclamation declaring the month of April as **DMV/Donate Life California Month** in the City of Torrance to Tammy Rusznak, Donate Life Ambassador.

Ms. Rusznak thanked the Council for helping raise awareness about the importance of organ, tissue, marrow, and blood donation and encouraged residents to sign up with the Donate Life California Registry at Department of Motor Vehicle offices or online at [www.donateLIFecalifornia.org](http://www.donateLIFecalifornia.org). She invited everyone to participate in the Donate Life Run/Walk on April 25, at Cal State Fullerton.

**6D. ETHICS AND INTEGRITY COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the City Clerk that City Council review applications and appoint members to fill five positions on the newly established Ethics and Integrity Committee. The City Clerk will administer the oath of office to members present.

Mayor Scotto reviewed the procedure for the selection process.

In the first round the City Council named Marty Gallagher, Keith Montoya and Charles Payne to three-year terms. In the second round the City Council added no further nominations and named Linda Gottshall-Sayed and Kay White to two-year terms on the Ethics and Integrity Committee.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Sutherland moved to affirm the appointments by unanimous ballot. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Rhilinger and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

City Clerk Herbers administered the oath of office to the committee members.

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The Council recessed from 7:41 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

**7. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

**7A.** Tim Goodrich, Torrance, reported that a group of residents are offering a reward for information leading to the arrest of person responsible for vandalizing 14 cars in the Torrance Gardens area during the early morning hours of January 18, 2009, and that anyone with information may send an email to [torrancetipline@gmail.com](mailto:torrancetipline@gmail.com).

**8. CONSENT CALENDAR**

**8A. FEBRUARY 2009 INVESTMENT REPORT**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the City Treasurer that City Council accept and file the monthly investment report for the month of February 2009.

**8B. SUBSIDY FOR USE OF JAMES ARMSTRONG THEATER LOBBY**

Considered separately, see page 4.

**8C. APPROVAL FOR REFUND OF OVERPAYMENT OF BUILDING PERMIT FEES**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the Community Development Director that City Council approve a refund in the amount of \$69,674.88 to Riviera Coast Developers, Inc. for overpayment of building permit fees for their mixed-use project at 131 Palos Verdes Boulevard.

Item was withdrawn.

**8D. FEE AGREEMENTS WITH LAW OFFICE OF ROBERT D. ACCIANI**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the City Attorney that City Council approve four agreements with the law office of Robert D. Acciani in the total amount of \$135,000 and terminate the post-retirement at-will employment agreement.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Furey moved to approve Consent Calendar Items 8A and 8D. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Numark and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

Consent Calendar Item 8B was considered separately at this time.

**8B. SUBSIDY FOR USE OF JAMES ARMSTRONG THEATRE LOBBY**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the City Manager that City Council subsidize rental fees at the James Armstrong Theatre lobby for Senator Jenny Oropeza's memorial program scheduled for Saturday, May 23, 2009 to honor the men and women who have lost their lives this past year while serving in the military.

Robert Pullen-Miles, representing Senator Jenny Oropeza, reported that the Senator has organized a Memorial Day tribute to honor men and women from the South Bay who lost their lives this past year while serving in the military and she would like to hold the event in the Armstrong Theatre lobby on Saturday, May 23, 2009 from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Sutherland moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Numark and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**12. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

**12A. CONTRACT FOR CORE TRAINING SERVICES**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the City Manager that City Council approve a contract with El Camino Community College for CORE training services for an amount not to exceed \$130,000 through June 30, 2010.

Assistant City Manager Giordano provided an overview of the new training and development program for City employees, entitled Torrance University Development and Training Program. She introduced members of the Training Team who assisted with the creation of the program: Management Associate Eleanor Barthe-Jones, Sr. Human Resources Analyst Kelli Lee and Sr. Human Resources Analyst Viet Hoang.

Sr. Human Resources Analyst Lee discussed the three components of the program: basic training (CORE); technical training and supervisor development (GEAR UP); and leadership development (STEP UP).

Management Associate Barthe-Jones reported on the process used to select a vendor to provide training in the areas of customer service, communication, and ethics.

Sr. Human Resources Analyst Hoang advised that the Training Team was recommending that El Camino Community College be selected to provide the training because of their curriculum, past experience with other public agencies, and ability to customize the program to meet the City's needs. He introduced El Camino staff – Jose Anaya, Dean of Community Advancement and the Business Training Center, and Cristallea Byun, Director of Training and Development.

Councilmember Sutherland noted the contract is only for the first phase of the program (CORE), and asked about the cost of the other two phases (GEAR UP) and (STEP UP).

Assistant City Manager Giordano reported that the costs for the other phases have not been calculated, however, they will be significantly less than the CORE phase. She noted that the program was funded at the end of 2006 as an on-going program and staff does not anticipate that any additional funds will be needed.

In response to Councilmember Numark's inquiry, Sr. Human Resources Analyst Hoang confirmed that there will be an evaluation process to ensure the program is effective.

Councilmember Numark stated that he believed residents should also realize some benefits from this program and encouraged staff to spot check departments to see if customer service improves.

Mayor Scotto stated that he was pleased this program was going forward and expressed hope that it will enhance employees' ability to provide better service to residents.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Barnett moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Rhilinger and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**12B. RESOLUTION RE TORRANCE FIRE FIGHTERS ASSOCIATION**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the City Manager that City Council adopt a Resolution pursuant to a Memorandum of Understanding setting forth hours, wages and working conditions for employees represented by the Torrance Fire Fighters Association (TFFA) for the period March 15, 2009 to December 31, 2011 and repealing Resolution No. 2005-75.

Assistant to the City Manager Chaparyan reported that the proposed wage and benefit package represents an increase of 10.5% over a period of 34 months.

Howard Schneider, president of Torrance Fire Fighters Association, stated that TFFA is very pleased with the package and thanked the Council for their support.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Barnett moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Rhilinger and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2009-29**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE SETTING FORTH HOURS, WAGES, AND WORKING CONDITIONS FOR EMPLOYEES REPRESENTED BY THE TORRANCE FIRE FIGHTERS ASSOCIATION (TFFA) FOR THE PERIOD FROM MARCH 15, 2009 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2011, AND REPEALING RESOLUTION NO. 2005-75

**MOTION:** Councilmember Brewer moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2009-29. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Sutherland and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**12C. RESOLUTION RE SAFETY MANAGEMENT EMPLOYEES**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the City Manager that City Council adopt a Resolution regarding hours, wages and working conditions for police managers listed in the Safety Management Pay Resolution No. 2005-122 for the pay period beginning March 29, 2009.

Assistant to the City Manager Chaparyan reported that the proposed wage and benefit package represents a 11.5% increase over 34 months and is consistent with the package approved for the Torrance Police Commanders Association. He noted that the Fire Division Chief was not included in the resolution as negotiations are still pending.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Barnett moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Rhilinger and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2009-30**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE  
SETTING FORTH HOURS, WAGES, AND WORKING CONDITIONS FOR  
SAFETY MANAGEMENT EMPLOYEES EFFECTIVE MARCH 29, 2009  
AND REPEALING RESOLUTION NO. 2005-122

**MOTION:** Councilmember Brewer moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2009-30. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Sutherland and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

The City Council met as the Redevelopment Agency from 8:34 p.m. to 8:38 p.m.

**17. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #2**

**17A.** Councilmember Sutherland reported that a group of South High students were visiting Rome when an earthquake struck and all are safe and sound.

**17B.** Councilmember Sutherland announced that the Torrance Civic Chorale will be presenting a concert of American and English music on Saturday, April 25, at the Armstrong Theatre, with information available at the box office, 310.781.7171.

**17C.** Councilmember Sutherland announced upcoming Armed Forces Day events, noting that there will be a Navy band concert on Friday, May 15, at 1:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. and the annual parade will take place on Saturday, May 16, at 1:30 p.m.

**17D.** Councilmember Barnett thanked Community Services staff for providing follow-up information on the Fit Kids gymnastic program.

**17E.** Councilmember Brewer reported that there will be an opportunity to recycle used motor oil and filters on Saturday, April 11, beginning at 9:00 a.m. in the Torrance City Hall parking lot, with additional information available at 888.CLEANLA or [www.cleanla.com](http://www.cleanla.com).

**17F.** Councilmember Brewer congratulated the winners of the City's annual Bus Rodeo held the past weekend, noting that George Gonzales the winner of the Maverick Division, will go on to compete in Seattle, Washington.

**17G.** Councilmember Brewer reported that he and Councilmember Rhilinger recently went on a Metropolitan Water District tour of the Colorado River aqueduct.

**17H.** Councilmember Brewer noted that census workers are currently canvassing Torrance neighborhoods checking addresses only.

**17I.** Councilmember Furey announced that the L.A. County Department of Public Works will be conducting a free hazardous waste and e-waste roundup on Saturday, June 6, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on the campus of America Honda, 1919 Torrance Boulevard.

**17J.** Councilmember Furey noted that the North Carolina Tar Heels men's basketball team, which includes Torrance High graduate Deon Thompson, won the 2009 NCAA Championship the previous evening and suggested that Mr. Thompson be formally recognized for this achievement at a future Council meeting.

**17K.** Councilmember Furey wished his son a happy birthday.

**17L.** Councilmember Numark congratulated the TorBots on winning a silver medal at a regional competition for robotics and suggested that the team be formally recognized at a future Council meeting.

