

April 8, 2008

**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 7:05 p.m. on Tuesday, April 8, 2008 in the City Council Chambers at Torrance City Hall.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Councilmembers Barnett, Brewer, Drevno, Nowatka, Sutherland, Witkowsky, and Mayor Scotto.

Absent: None.

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

**2. FLAG SALUTE/INVOCATION**

The flag salute was lead by Councilmember Barnett.

Councilmember Brewer 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 3, 2008.

**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 Witkowsky and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**4. WITHDRAWN OR DEFERRED ITEMS**

None.

**5. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mayor Scotto welcomed back Councilmember Drevno.

Councilmember Nowatka announced that the City Council Ad Hoc Ethics Committee had met earlier and will be meeting again on April 22 at 3:00 p.m. in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Assembly Room.

Councilmember Nowatka reported that the Citizen Development and Enrichment Committee had met earlier to discuss the design of the 2009 Rose Parade float.

Councilmember Sutherland announced that the Community Planning and Design Committee would meet on Wednesday, April 16, at 4:00 p.m. in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Assembly Room to finalize the design of the Zamperini Way entry sign.

City Clerk Herbers announced that a candidate forum will be held on Wednesday, April 16, at 7:00 p.m. in the Toyota Meeting hall sponsored by the League of Women Voters, American Association of University Women and Torrance Council of PTAs.

City Clerk Herbers announced that sample ballots for the June 3 Election will not be mailed out until May 5 at the earliest.

6. **COMMUNITY MATTERS**

6A. **RESOLUTION NO. 2008-33 RE NANCY L. DIBENEDETTO**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2008-33**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE HONORING FIRE COMMUNICATIONS OPERATOR **NANCY L. DIBENEDETTO** UPON HER RETIREMENT FROM THE CITY AFTER TWENTY-NINE YEARS OF SERVICE

**MOTION:** Councilmember Brewer moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2008-33. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Sutherland and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

Mayor Scotto presented the resolution to Nancy DiBenedetto, who accepted with appreciation. Fire Chief Bongard commended Ms. DiBenedetto for her dedicated service.

6B. **PROCLAMATION RE “NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK”**

Mayor Scotto presented a proclamation declaring the week of April 13 through April 19, 2008 as **“National Library Week”** in the City of Torrance to Library Commissioner Judi Gerber.

Ms. Gerber announced that the Friends of Torrance Library would be holding a Hardback Book Sale on Saturday, April 19, from 9:00-4:00 p.m. at the Katy Geissert Library, with a preview for members on Friday, April 18, from 2:00- 6:00 p.m.

6C. **CITY COUNCIL SIGNING OF COMMITMENT TO INTEGRITY STATEMENT**

Mayor Scotto reported that the City Council adopted the City of Torrance Code of Ethics for elected and appointed officials at the last Council meeting and tonight each councilmember will be signing the “Commitment to Integrity,” thereby committing to serve with honesty and integrity, with respect for others, with transparency, and to always uphold the public’s trust.

Councilmembers joined Mayor Scotto at the podium for the formal signing, along with City Treasurer Barnett and City Clerk Herbers.

Councilmember Nowatka, chair of the City Council Ad Hoc Ethics Committee, noted that the Code of Ethics was developed by the Blue Ribbon Committee on Ethics and Integrity; that all elected and appointed officials will be required to sign the “Commitment to Integrity”; and that it will also be made available for candidates to sign on a voluntary basis.

7. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #1**

None.

8. **CONSENT CALENDAR**

**8A. FINGERPRINTING OF VOLUNTEERS**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the **City Manager** that City Council:

- 1) Approve a one time expenditure of \$52,000 for fingerprinting of volunteers to the Department of Justice; and
- 2) Appropriate \$52,000 from the General Fund Reserve for Program Contingency to the City Manager's Operating Budget.

**8B. FORBEARANCE AGREEMENT WITH ARGONAUT HOLDINGS, INC.**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the **City Manager** that City Council authorize a forbearance agreement by and between the City of Torrance, a Municipal Corporation (hereinafter referred to as the "City"), and Argonaut Holdings, Inc., a Delaware corporation (hereinafter referred to as "Lessee") concerning a lease for City-owned property located at 2909 Pacific Coast Highway.

**8C. SUPPLEMENTAL LEASE AGREEMENT WITH FAA**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the **Land Management Team** that City Council authorize a supplemental lease agreement by and between the City of Torrance and the Federal Aviation Administration for Lease number DTFARP-07-L-00011 to include approximately 5350 square feet of adjacent parking area to the FAA tower lease at 3115 Airport Drive.

**8D. CONTRACT RE DIGITIZATION OF HISTORICAL NEWSPAPERS**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the **Community Services Director** that City Council:

- 1) Accept and appropriate donations in the amount of \$20,000 from the Friends of the Torrance Library and \$20,000 from the Torrance Historical Society to digitize the Torrance Herald, Torrance Press, and other historical publications; and
- 2) Approve a one year contract with Progressive Technology Federal Systems, Inc. (PTFS) in an amount not to exceed \$60,000 for digitizing services.

Considered separately, see page 4.

**8E. PUBLIC WORKS AGREEMENT WITH PIVOT GROUP, INC.**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the **Public Works Director** that City Council:

- 1) Approve the plans and specifications for the Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Curb, Gutter and Sidewalk Replacement Program (Access Ramps), I-93 (B2008-04);
- 2) Accept the "Claim of Error" letter from Sturgeon General, Inc., the initial lowest bidder, and relieve them of their bid; and
- 3) Award a public works agreement to Pivot Group, Inc. in the amount of \$526,940 and authorize a 5% contingency in the amount of \$26,347 to construct the Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Curb, Gutter, and Sidewalk Replacement Program (Access Ramps), I-93 (B2008-04).

**8F. CONTRACT SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH CASE LAND SURVEYING, INC.**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the **Public Works Director** that City Council award a contract services agreement in the amount of \$96,000 to Case Land Surveying, Inc. to perform survey services for the Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Residential Curb, Gutter and Sidewalk Replacement, I-93 and the Residential Street Rehabilitation, I-94.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Nowatka moved for the approval of Consent Calendar Items 8A through 8F, with the exception of Item 8D. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Barnett and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

Consent Calendar item 8D was considered separately at this time.

**8D. CONTRACT RE DIGITIZATION OF HISTORICAL NEWSPAPERS**

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Recommendation of the **Community Services Director** that City Council:

- 1) Accept and appropriate donations in the amount of \$20,00 from the Friends of the Torrance Library and \$20,000 from the Torrance Historical Society to digitize the Torrance Herald, Torrance Press, and other historical publications; and
- 2) Approve a one year contract with Progressive Technology Federal Systems, Inc. (PTFS) in an amount not to exceed \$60,000 for digitizing services.

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

Representatives of the Friends of Torrance Library and the Torrance Historical Society presented checks to Mayor Scotto representing their donations.

**16. SECOND READING ORDINANCES**

**16A. SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 3708**

**ORDINANCE NO. 3708**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING SECTIONS OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE RELATING TO ELECTRIC FENCES

**MOTION:** Councilmember Brewer moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 3708. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Barnett and passed by 5-1 roll call vote, with Councilmember Sutherland dissenting and Councilmember Drevno abstaining.

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The Council met as the Redevelopment Agency from 7:42 p.m. to 7:43 p.m.

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**17. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #2**

**17A.** Councilmembers welcomed Gene Drevno back to the Council.

**17B.** Councilmember Barnett announced that an Earth Day event would be held at Madrona Marsh on Saturday, April 19, from 9:00 – noon.

**17C.** In response to Councilmember Brewer's inquiry, Community Services Director Jones reported that changes to the Youth Council's charter would be brought forward at next week's Council meeting along with an increase in the stipend to match other City commissions.

**17D.** Councilmember Brewer asked about the replacement of missing monument signs at entry points into the City, and Assistant to the City Manager Sunshine reported that bids for replacing the signs will be opened on April 17.

**17E.** Councilmember Brewer announced that there would be a "Star Party" at the Madrona Marsh Nature Center on Saturday, April 12, from 7:30 – 9:30 p.m.

**17F.** Councilmember Nowatka stated that he was pleased with the signing of the "Commitment to Integrity," noting that it has taken some time to get to this point.

**17G.** Councilmember Sutherland noted that Fran Fulton will be starting maternity leave on Friday and wished her well.

**17H.** Mayor Scotto appointed Councilmember Nowatka to serve as second alternate at the Independent Cities Association conference on Thursday, April 10.

**17I.** Mayor Scotto requested that staff look into arranging a joint meeting with the Torrance City Council and the Torrance School Board to discuss the potential of a bond measure.

**17J.** Councilmember Drevno stated that she was pleased to be back and thanked family and friends for all their care and concern.

**18. EXECUTIVE SESSION**  
None.

**19. ADJOURNMENT**

At 7:51 p.m., the meeting was adjourned to Tuesday, April 15, 2008 at 5:30 p.m. for an executive session, with the regular meeting commencing at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

Attest: /s/ Frank Scotto  
Mayor of the City of Torrance

/s/ Sue Herbers  
Sue Herbers,  
City Clerk of the City of Torrance

Approved on May 20, 2008