

INDEX
TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL – MAY 14, 2013

<u>SUBJECT</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
<u>OPENING CEREMONIES</u>	
1. Call to Order/Roll Call	1
2. Flag Salute/Invocation	1
3. Affidavit of Posting/Waive Further Reading	1
4. Withdrawn, Deferred or Supplemental Items	1
5. Council Committee Meetings and Announcements	1-2
6. <u>COMMUNITY MATTERS</u>	
6A. Resolution No. 2013-26 re 54th Annual Armed Forces Day Parade	2
6B. Resolution No. 2013-27 re Major General Melvin G. Spiese	2
6C. Resolution No. 2013-28 re Edward Q. Hicks	2
6D. Resolution No. 2013-29 re Robert D. Reid	3
6E. Proclamation re “Blue Ribbon Week”	3
6F. Proclamation re “Older Americans Month”	3
6G. Recognition of 2013 Older Americans Award Recipients	3
6H. Recognition of Grades of Green 2013 Trash Free Lunch Challenge Participants	3
6I. Acceptance/Appropriation of ExxonMobil Donation for 2013 Youth Development Program	4
6J. Acceptance/Appropriation of ExxonMobil Donation for 8th Grade Leadership Program	4
7. <u>ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #1</u>	
8. <u>CONSENT CALENDAR</u>	
8A. Revised/Retitled Class Specification for Farmers’ Market Manager	4-5
12. <u>ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS</u>	
12A. Resolution re Farmers’ Market Manager	5
12B. City Council Dark Nights	5
12C. Setting of Hearing Date for Vacation of Public Alley	5-6
12D. Resolution re Police and Fire Trainees	6
13. <u>HEARINGS</u>	
13A. First Public Hearing/Budget Workshop for 2013-2015 Operating Budget	6-9
17. <u>ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #2</u>	
18. <u>EXECUTIVE SESSION</u>	
19. <u>ADJOURNMENT</u>	

At 11:44 p.m., the meeting was adjourned to Tuesday, May 21, 2013 at 5:30 p.m. for an executive session, with regular business commencing at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber.

**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 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 14, 2013 in the Council Chamber at Torrance City Hall.

ROLL CALL

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

Absent: None.

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

Agenda Item 18 was considered out of order at this time.

18. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The City Council immediately recessed to closed session to confer with the City Manager and the City Attorney on agenda matters listed under 18A) Conference with Labor Negotiator, and 18B) Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation, pursuant to California Government Code §54957.6 and 54956.9(d)(1).

The City Council reconvened at 7:04 p.m. with all members present. No formal action was taken on any matter considered in closed session.

2. FLAG SALUTE/ INVOCATION

The flag salute was led by Magruder Middle School Principal Chris Sheck.

The non-sectarian invocation was given by Councilmember Rhilinger.

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, May 9, 2013.

MOTION: Councilmember Furey 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 Numark and passed by unanimous vote.

4. WITHDRAWN, DEFERRED OR SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

Item 12E regarding the car sharing program was withdrawn and deferred to a later date. Supplemental material was available for item 13A.

5. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilmember Sutherland announced that the first budget workshop/public hearing will be conducted during the regular City Council meeting this evening and the second budget workshop/public hearing will be held on Tuesday, May 21, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber during the regularly scheduled City Council meeting.

Councilmember Barnett announced that the 54th annual Armed Forces Day Parade and Celebration will take place this weekend, with exhibits on display at the Del Amo Fashion Center, a free concert on Friday, May 17, at 1:30 and 7:30 p.m. in the Armstrong Theatre, and the parade on Saturday, May 18, at 1:30 p.m. on Torrance Boulevard between Crenshaw Boulevard and Madrona Avenue.

City Clerk Herbers announced that a Commissioner Certification training class will be held on Tuesday, June 4. She noted that Torrance residents interested in seeking appointment to a Torrance commission must have taken this free class within 2 years prior to appointment; that the City Council will be making appointments to fill vacancies on the Cable Television Advisory Board, the Library Commission, the Traffic Commission and the Water Commission on Tuesday, June 25; and that reservations can be made by calling the City Manager's office at 310.618.5880 or online at www.TorranceCA.Gov/CommissionerCert.htm.

City Clerk Herbers invited staff and public to view the works of Torrance Artist Guild member Bobbie Davison on display in the City Clerk's office for the month of May.

6. COMMUNITY MATTERS

6A. RESOLUTION NO. 2013-26 RE "54TH ANNUAL ARMED FORCES DAY PARADE"

RESOLUTION NO. 2013-26

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE
DECLARING MAY 17 THROUGH MAY 19, 2013 FOR OBSERVANCE OF
THE 54TH ANNUAL ARMED FORCES DAY PARADE AND CELEBRATION

MOTION: Councilmember Rhilinger moved to adopt Resolution No. 2013-26. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Barnett and passed by unanimous vote.

Mayor Scotto presented the resolution to Police Lieutenant D'anjou, who encouraged the public to honor our military by attending the Armed Forces Day Parade.

6B. RESOLUTION NO. 2013-27 RE MAJOR GENERAL MELVIN G. SPIESE

RESOLUTION NO. 2013-27

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE
EXPRESSING APPRECIATION TO MELVIN G. SPIESE MAJOR
GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS FOR SERVING
AS GRAND MARSHAL OF THE 54TH ANNUAL ARMED FORCES DAY
PARADE AND OBSERVANCE.

MOTION: Councilmember Rhilinger moved to adopt Resolution No. 2013-27. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Barnett and passed by unanimous vote.

To be presented at a later date.

6C. RESOLUTION NO. 2013-28 RE EDWARD Q. HICKS

RESOLUTION NO. 2013-28

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE
EXPRESSING APPRECIATION TO EDWARD Q. HICKS FOR SERVING
AS HONORARY GRAND MARSHAL OF THE 54TH ANNUAL ARMED
FORCES DAY PARADE AND OBSERVANCE.

MOTION: Councilmember Rhilinger moved to adopt Resolution No. 2013-28. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Barnett and passed by unanimous vote.

To be presented at a later date.

6D. RESOLUTION 2013-29 RE ROBERT D. REID

RESOLUTION NO. 2013-29

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE EXPRESSING APPRECIATION TO ROBERT D. REID FOR SERVING AS HONORARY GRAND MARSHAL OF THE 54TH ANNUAL ARMED FORCES DAY PARADE AND OBSERVANCE

MOTION: Councilmember Rhilinger moved to adopt Resolution No. 2013-29. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Barnett and passed by unanimous vote.

To be presented at a later date.

6E. PROCLAMATION RE “BLUE RIBBON WEEK”

Mayor Scotto presented a proclamation declaring the week of May 12 through 18 as Blue Ribbon Week in the City of Torrance to Police Sergeant Chris Roosen.

Sergeant Roosen invited the public to attend a memorial service honoring Torrance police officers killed in the line of duty on Wednesday, May 15, in the Toyota Meeting Hall.

6F. PROCLAMATION RE “OLDER AMERICANS MONTH”

Mayor Scotto presented a proclamation declaring the month of May as Older Americans Month in the City of Torrance to Commission on Aging Vice-Chairperson Leilani Kimmel-Dagostino.

6G. RECOGNITION OF 2013 OLDER AMERICANS AWARD RECIPIENTS

Mayor Scotto presented plaques to 2013 Older Americans Award recipients Fran Day, Lynda Kraemer, and Toni Sargent and briefly highlighted their history of community service.

6H. RECOGNITION OF GRADES OF GREEN 2013 TRASH FREE LUNCH CHALLENGE PARTICIPANTS

Mayor Scotto provided background information about the 2013 Trash Free Lunch Challenge, which encourages students to reduce the waste generated by school lunches.

Waste Management Coordinator Alison Sherman introduced Grades of Green Senior Program Manager Nicole Sevier, Los Angeles County Sanitation District Chief Engineer Grace Chun, Senior Engineer Rupam Soni, and award recipients as Mayor Scotto presented certificates to:

Arnold Elementary – PTA President Yvonne Prestwood;

Riviera Elementary – Principal Christie Forshey, Parent Volunteer Allison Cohen, Green Team Ambassador Julia Cohen, and fellow Green Team Ambassador Jiselle Oropeza;

Seaside Elementary – Parent Volunteers Stu and Sarah Peterson;

Victor Elementary – Principal William Baker, PTA 1st Vice President Zee Harb, PTA Events Chairperson Ingrid Guzman, Volunteer Rick Perea, and Custodian Tony Gallardo; and

Walteria Elementary – Principal Bobbie Wynhoff.

6I. ACCEPTANCE/APPROPRIATION OF EXXONMOBIL DONATION FOR 2013 YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Recommendation

Recommendation of the City Manager that City Council:

- 1) Accept and appropriate \$50,000 donation from ExxonMobil Corporation to the 2013 Youth Development Program;
- 2) Transfer remaining appropriation of \$7,450.62 from the 2012 Youth Development Program (FEAP #789) to the 2013 Youth Development Program to total \$57,450.62; and
- 3) Authorize payment to Torrance Unified School District (TUSD) for the 2013 Youth Development Program in an amount not to exceed \$14,981.

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

Mayor Scotto provided background information about the 2013 Youth Development Program, a summer job placement/career exploration program, noting that 25 Torrance teens will participate in the program.

Pablo Borgnino, ExxonMobil Torrance, presented the donation to Mayor Scotto, who expressed appreciation for the generous donation.

6J. ACCEPTANCE/APPROPRIATION OF EXXONMOBIL DONATION FOR 8th GRADE LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Chief of Police that City Council appropriate and allocate \$10,000 donation from ExxonMobil Corporation for the 8th Grade Leadership Program.

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

Mayor Scotto provided background information about the 8th Grade Leadership Program, which was designed to assist middle school students as they prepare to enter high school.

Pablo Borgnino, ExxonMobil Torrance, presented the donation to Police Chief Neu and Juvenile Diversion Coordinator Shannon Flannery.

7. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #1

7A. Mark Stephenson, resident, expressed concerns about rising costs for employee pensions and post-employment benefits, contending that they were inequitable and unsustainable.

7B. Lynn Robinson, Torrance Rose Float Association, announced that fundraisers will be held at Jersey Mike's Subs on Thursday, May 16, and at the Comedy and Magic Club on Thursday, May 30, with flyers and additional information at www.TorranceRoseFloat.com.

7C. Debbie Hayes, AYSO, announced that early bird sign-ups for Region 15, Central Torrance, will take place on Saturday, May 18, at J.H. Hull Middle School between 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

7D. Janet Payne, Old Torrance Neighborhood Association, invited the public to attend OTNA's general meeting on Wednesday, May 15, at 7:00 p.m. at the Bartlett Center, which will feature City staff and the City's traffic consultant speaking on the topic of traffic signal upgrades.

8. CONSENT CALENDAR

8A. REVISED/RETITLED CLASS SPECIFICATION FOR FARMERS' MARKET MANAGER

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Human Resources Manager that City Council approve the revised and re-titled class specification for Farmers' Market Manager position.

Councilmember Brewer stated that he was pleased that the revised class specification for this position requires a college degree.

Councilmember Sutherland expressed concerns that requiring a college degree could eliminate well-qualified candidates.

MOTION: Councilmember Sutherland moved to approve Consent Calendar Item 8A. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Brewer and passed by unanimous vote.

12. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

12A. RESOLUTION RE FARMERS' MARKET MANAGER

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Human Resources Manager that City Council adopt a Resolution amending Resolution No. 2011-77 for Certain Full Time Salaried and Hourly Employees implementing the title change for the classification of Farmers' Market Manager.

Human Resources Manager Lawrence noted that this is a companion item to Consent Calendar Item 8A and clarified that both education and experience will be considered when evaluating candidates for this position.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 2013-37

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE
AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 2011-77 SETTING FORTH CHANGES
REGARDING THE HOURS, WAGES, AND WORKING CONDITIONS
FOR CERTAIN FULL TIME SALARIED AND HOURLY EMPLOYEES

MOTION: Councilmember Rhilinger moved to adopt Resolution No. 2013-37. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Barnett and passed by unanimous vote.

12B. CITY COUNCIL DARK NIGHTS

Recommendation

Recommendation of the City Manager that City Council declare the following Tuesdays as City Council dark nights from July 1 through December 31, 2013: July 30, September 3, October 29, November 12, December 24, and December 31.

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

12C. SETTING OF HEARING DATE FOR VACATION OF PUBLIC ALLEY

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Community Development Director that City Council:

- 1) Adopt a Resolution declaring the intention to vacate a portion of the public alley north of Spencer Street and east of Hawthorne Boulevard; and
- 2) Approve setting June 18, 2013 as the date for the public hearing.

Dave Sargent, resident, requested clarification regarding the term "vacate," which was provided by Associate Civil Engineer Symons.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 2013-38

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE
DECLARING ITS INTENTION TO VACATE A PORTION OF THE PUBLIC
ALLEY NORTH OF SPENCER STREET AND EAST OF HAWTHORNE
BOULEVARD IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE; FIXING A TIME AND
PLACE FOR THE HEARING THEREON AND PROVIDING FOR THE
PUBLICATION OF THIS RESOLUTION

MOTION: Councilmember Rhilinger moved to adopt Resolution No. 2013-38. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Barnett and passed by unanimous vote.

12D. RESOLUTION RE POLICE AND FIRE TRAINEES

Recommendation

Recommendation of the City Manager that City Council adopt a Resolution regarding hours, wages, and working conditions for Police and Fire Trainees effective May 14, 2013 and repealing Resolution No. 2011-40.

Assistant to the City Manager Chaparyan reported that the Fire Department has requested an increase in the salary for Fire Recruit (\$4112 to \$4534 per month) in order to attract qualified applicants with prior paramedic training in a highly competitive marketplace.

Councilmember Sutherland expressed concerns about approving a 10% raise for this position when other City employees have not had raises for several years. He related his understanding that recruits are being trained by Torrance and then leaving to take positions with other cities and recommended that the City require recruits to sign a multi-year contract, which specifies that they must reimburse the City for training if they leave before the end of the contract.

Councilmember Numark asked how Torrance compares to other agencies. Assistant to the City Manager Chaparyan advised that this recommendation was based on the fact that the City has lost well-qualified candidates who have chosen to take positions with other agencies and staff did not conduct a survey of entry-level pay in other cities for purposes of comparison.

Mark Stephenson, resident, requested clarification regarding funding for this position, which was provided by City Manager Jackson.

A brief discussion ensued, and it was the consensus of the Council to defer action on this item until a survey of salaries in comparable agencies has been conducted.

The City Council recessed from 8:44 p.m. to 9:01 p.m.

13. HEARINGS

13A. PUBLIC HEARING/BUDGET WORKSHOP ON 2013-2015 OPERATING BUDGET

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Finance Director that City Council open the first public hearing and budget workshop regarding proposed City of Torrance two-year 2013-2015 operating budget and hold the second public hearing on May 21, 2013.

Mayor Scotto announced that this was the time and place for a public hearing on this matter. City Clerk Herbers confirmed that the hearing was properly advertised.

City Manager Jackson noted that this was the first time in several budget cycles that the City has not been faced with cutbacks.

With the aid of slides, Finance Director Tsao provided an overview of the proposed two-year 2013-2015 operating budget per written material of record. He explained that the budget is a no-growth General Fund budget, which does not restore programs that were affected by previous budget balancing actions or provide for any increase in employee wages. He reported that the budget is balanced and forecasts indicate a balanced budget for the next five years and revenues are projected to grow at an average rate of 3.9% during this time period. He briefly reviewed proposed program modifications.

Responding to questions from the Council, Finance Director Tsao provided clarification regarding the methodology used to forecast future revenues, the feasibility of refinancing Certificates of Participation, and the adequacy of Reserve Funds.

Mayor Scotto attributed the City's solid financial position to the prudent management of the City's finances as overseen by City Manager Jackson.

Mayor Scotto invited public comment.

Ana Molgren, resident, requested that consideration be given to establishing an after-school program at Jefferson Middle School.

Georgian Griswald, resident, expressed support for the proposal to provide funding for the Torrance Rose Float.

Judy Brunetti, Riviera Homeowners Association, suggested that there are other ways to gauge public support for establishing a view preservation ordinance instead of the expensive telephone survey outlined in budget documents, and encouraged the Council to explore other options such as holding a public hearing on this issue. She noted that the Recreation Vehicle Ordinance was adopted without conducting a survey.

Sandy Bennett, resident, stated that she has spent many years advocating for a view preservation ordinance and urged the Council to take action on this issue.

Richard Root, resident, called for better enforcement of noise abatement regulations at Torrance Airport. He urged the Council to approve funding for additional airport noise abatement staff and for the WebTrak system. He stated that the expense amounts to a very small percentage of the revenue generated by aeronautical operations and could be offset by charging airport tenants a small additional fee or establishing landing fees for transient aircraft.

Mayor Scotto noted that general aviation airports typically do not charge landing fees and the cost to administer such fees would likely be more than the funds collected. He requested that staff look into whether activating the WebTrak system would enable existing noise abatement staff to expedite their handling of noise complaints. He also asked that staff provide information about existing after-school programs at middle schools and the feasibility of offering one at Jefferson Middle School.

Councilmember Brewer noted that he and Mayor Scotto met with Mr. Root to discuss his concerns and learned that while the WebTrak system clearly shows the movements of aircraft, it does not identify them. He requested that staff explore whether there is new technology that would assist with the identification of violators without requiring additional staff.

Nancy Mansfield-Scott, resident, urged the Council to consider adopting a view preservation ordinance regulating trees.

John Bailey, Southeast Torrance Homeowners Association, requested that the Council approve funding to allow the Noise Abatement Center at the airport to be staffed full-time. He related his belief that the current staffing level was inadequate, noting that one aircraft has accumulated 28 noise violations with no disciplinary action and 17 airplanes have had 6 or more violations in 3 years.

Mark Stephenson, resident, asked about the rationale for the recommendation to add two police officers when the City's overall crime rate has fallen approximately 25% as of the end 2011 despite the elimination of 11 police officers in FY2009-2010. He questioned why the City's projections for rate increases for safety personnel pensions were lower than CalPERS forecasting model, citing CalPERS circular letter 200-19-13 dated April 26, 2013. He contended that the City was facing a growing debt in pension and loan debt.

Councilmember Furey explained that the City places a high priority on public safety and has taken a pro-active position with regard to AB109, which has shifted the responsibility for supervising certain convicted felons from state to local government.

Police Chief Neu discussed the additional demands on local law enforcement as a result of AB109.

Mayor Scotto suggested that Mr. Stephenson's figures were misleading because the City makes payments on pension debt similar to payments on a home mortgage and it is not an obligation that comes due all at one time.

Assistant City Manager Giordano briefly reviewed the budget-balancing elements of the budget; summarized the issues discussed during this hearing; and questioned whether there were any additional areas of concern the Council would like addressed with regard to the proposed budget.

Councilmember Numark requested that staff follow up on an earlier suggestion that the City establish a Business Advisory Council to help make the City as business-friendly as possible.

Councilmember Furey related his preference to explore the possibility of enacting a view protection ordinance via the public hearing process rather than a costly survey.

A brief discussion ensued regarding potential costs involved in the public hearing process and whether the view protection ordinance would involve the Hillside Overlay District or the entire city.

The Council took a brief recess from 11:10 p.m. to 11:12 p.m.

Councilmember Rhilinger indicated that she was inclined to support the City Attorney's request for additional staffing because of the increased workload due to the criminal justice realignment per AB109.

City Attorney Fellows reported that prosecutors in his office already handle workloads two to six times higher than comparable agencies and expressed concerns that the increased demands of realignment will make it very difficult for the City Attorney's office to continue to provide the same level of service. He noted that the cost of the additional staff person could be offset by handling police disciplinary actions in-house.

In response to Councilmember Rhilinger's inquiry, Community Services Director Jones provided clarification regarding the additional staff/equipment necessary to maintain the new community sports fields. Councilmember Rhilinger expressed the hope that the specialized mower purchased to maintain the fields could be used at other sports fields in Torrance.

Councilmember Rhilinger expressed support for increasing staff at the airport to better enforce noise abatement regulations.

Councilmember Barnett also favored increasing noise abatement staff at the airport, as well as exploring new technology to assist with enforcement efforts. He related his belief that the entire city should be involved in discussions about a potential view protection ordinance.

Councilmember Furey voiced support for adding City Attorney's office staff and for allocating the staff and resources necessary to maintain the new sports fields. He commended staff for a conservative, well thought-out budget plan.

Councilmember Numark voiced support for increasing noise abatement staff at the airport and activating the WebTrak system.

Councilmember Sutherland commented positively on the proposed budget and thanked residents for their input. He requested that staff provide information regarding the process that was used when the Hillside Overlay Ordinance was adopted because he expected that a view preservation ordinance would create similar controversy.

MOTION: Councilmember Brewer moved to close the 1st Public Hearing/Budget Workshop. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Numark and passed by unanimous vote.

17. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #2

17A. Councilmember Brewer encouraged everyone to attend the Armed Forces Day Parade on Saturday, May 17.

17B. Mayor Scotto also encouraged attendance at the Armed Forces Day Parade and associated events.

18. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Considered earlier in the meeting, see page 1.

19. ADJOURNMENT

At 11:44 p.m., the meeting was adjourned to Tuesday, May 21, 2013 at 5:30 p.m. for an executive session, with regular business commencing at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber. The 2nd City Council Budget Workshop/Hearing will be considered during the regular City Council meeting.

Attest:

/s/ Frank Scotto

Mayor of the City of Torrance

/s/ Sue Herbers

Sue Herbers, CMC
City Clerk of the City of Torrance

Approved on June 11, 2013