

August 7, 2007

**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 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 7, 2007 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 Pledge of Allegiance was led by Acting Community Services Director Reeder.

Councilmember Witkowsky 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, August 2, 2007.

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 Nowatka and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

4. WITHDRAWN OR DEFERRED ITEMS

None.

5. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Scotto asked that the meeting be adjourned in memory of retired police lieutenant Dave Cook, who passed away July 30.

City Clerk Herbers announced that letters were mailed last week to currently certified individuals to apply for positions on the Civil Service Commission and the Environmental Quality and Energy Conservation Commission, with appointments to be made at the City Council meeting of August 28, 2007.

City Clerk Herbers announced that new Commissioner Certification classes are scheduled for October 1 and November 28 and that the City Clerk's office was accepting names of those interested in taking the class. She noted that those already on the list will be advised of details shortly.

City Clerk Herbers invited staff and public to view the watercolors of Torrance Artist Guild member Geraldine Jaffe on display in the City Clerk's office for the month of August.

Councilmember Barnett announced the birth of his sixth grandchild Gabriella, who was born at this evening at 6:15 p.m.

Police Chief Neu announced that it was National Night Out and encouraged everyone to participate in neighborhood programs between 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Acting Community Services Director Reeder announced that the North Torrance branch library would be closed August 11 through August 15 due to roof replacement.

Public Works Director Beste reminded everyone to continue taking measures to conserve water, including fixing leaky pipes and running full loads of laundry.

6. COMMUNITY MATTERS

Agenda Item 6B was considered out of order at this time.

6B. RESOLUTION NO. 2007-77 RE ALLEN TUCKER JR.

RESOLUTION NO. 2007-77

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE HONORING ALLEN L. TUCKER JR. UPON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE CITY AFTER TWENTY YEARS OF SERVICE

MOTION: Councilmember Sutherland moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2007-77. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Barnett and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

To be presented at a later date.

6A. RESOLUTION NO. 2007-76 RE BEVERLY BARBERI

RESOLUTION NO. 2007-76

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE HONORING BEVERLY BARBERI UPON HER RETIREMENT FROM THE CITY AFTER TWENTY-ONE YEARS OF SERVICE

MOTION: Councilmember Sutherland moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2007-76. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Barnett and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

Mayor Scotto presented the Resolution to Beverly Barberi, who accepted with appreciation.

6C. INTRODUCTION OF TORRANCE SISTER CITY EXCHANGE STUDENTS

Mayor Scotto introduced Torrance Sister City President Hazel Tanaguchi and presented plaques to the following exchange students from Kashiwa, Japan: Miho Araya, Ami Ishido, Ami Muramatsu, Tasuku Tabata, Tomohiko Takatsu, Yuki Tsujii, Nozomi Tsuchio, Yuina Wakabayashi, and adult leader Hiroko Miyazaki.

7. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #1

None.

8. CONSENT CALENDAR

8A. INVESTMENT REPORT FOR JUNE 2007

Recommendation

The City Treasurer recommends that City Council accept and file the monthly investment report for the month of June 2007.

- 8B. LIBRARY COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2006-2007**
Recommendation
The **Acting Community Services Director, City Librarian, and Library Commission** recommend that City Council accept and file the Library Commission 2006-2007 annual report.
- 8C. CONTRACT FOR ANNUAL REQUIREMENT OF PERIODICALS**
Recommendation
The **Acting Community Services Director** recommends that City Council authorize a purchase order to W.T. Cox Subscriptions of Shallotte, NC, for an amount not to exceed \$52,500 to renew the contract for the annual requirement of periodicals for the Torrance Public Library system for 2008.
- 8D. CONSULTING SERVICES AGREEMENT FOR SCRAP METAL REMOVAL**
Recommendation
The **General Services Director** recommends that City Council award a consulting services agreement to B.J. Disposal of Los Angeles, CA for removal of scrap metal at the City Yard, for a two year period beginning August 7, 2007 through August 7, 2009.
- 8E. PURCHASE ORDER FOR TOYOTA SEDANS**
Considered separately, see page 5.
- 8F. CONTRACT EXTENSION FOR INSURANCE BROKERAGE SERVICES**
Recommendation
The **Human Resources Director** recommends that City Council approve an amendment to the two-year contract with Alliant Insurance Services (C2005-159) extending the contract for an additional year at a cost of \$50,000, for a total not to exceed amount of \$150,000. The one year extension is for August 1, 2007 through August 1, 2008.
- 8G. CONTRACT FOR SECURITY GUARD SERVICES AT CIVIC CENTER LIBRARY**
Recommendation
The **Acting Community Services Director** recommends that City Council award a contract to Command Guard Services of Hawthorne, CA to provide security guard services for one year at the Katy Geissert Civic Center Library in the amount of \$25,947 (B2007-29).
- 8H. APPROPRIATION FOR CHERRY TREE MONUMENT**
Recommendation
The **City Manager** recommends that City Council appropriate \$3,000 to place a monument at Columbia Park in recognition of Soka Gakkai International (SGI) for the planting of cherry trees.
- 8I. PURCHASE ORDER RE FLEETFOCUS HOSTING AND MAINTENANCE SERVICES**
Recommendation
The **General Services Director, Transit Director, and Information Technology Director** recommend that City Council authorize a purchase order in the amount of \$24,026 to MAXIMUS, Inc. of La Jolla, CA for consolidation and extension of the hosting services agreement and the software licensing and maintenance services agreement for FleetFocus FA™ software.

8J. EXTENSION OF AGREEMENT RE WASTER REDUCTION PROGRAMS

Recommendation

The **Public Works Director** recommends that City Council approve an agreement amendment with Huls Environmental Management (C2007-023) extending the term one year, through June 9, 2008, in order to revise several commercial waste reduction programs.

8K. REJECTION OF BIDS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF RETAINING WALL AT WALTERIA RESERVOIR

Recommendation

The **Public Works Director** recommends that City Council reject all bids received on May 10, 2007 for the Soil Nailed Wall at Walteria Reservoir Project, I-95 (B2007-20).

8L. APPROPRIATION FOR REFUSE/RECYCLING ENCLOSURE AT TORRANCE AIRPORT

Considered separately, see page 5.

8M. AGREEMENT RE SURVEY SERVICE FOR CITY OF TORRANCE WATER SYSTEM

Recommendation

The **Public Works Director** recommends that City Council approve a consulting services agreement with Case Land Surveying, Inc. in the amount not to exceed \$81,375 for survey of North Torrance Water Main Replacement Project, CIP No. I-74, and other as needed survey service for the City of Torrance water system.

8N. CONTRACT FOR FEASIBIITY STUDY FOR TRANSFER STATION

Recommendation

The **Public Works Director** recommends that City Council award a contract to HF&H, LLC in the amount of \$109,000 for a feasibility study for a transfer station for the City of Torrance. (FEAP 571)

8O. AGREEMENT RE MADRONA MARSH RESTORATION/ENHANCEMENT PROJECT

Recommendation

The **Public Works Director** and **Acting Community Services Director** recommend that City Council:

- 1) Appropriate \$280,000 from the Water Enterprise Fund for the Madrona Marsh Restoration and Enhancement Project, CIP No. I-77 to cover an increase in reimbursable grant funding for the City of Torrance from \$500,000 to \$780,000, from the California State Coastal Conservancy; and
- 2) Award an agreement in the amount of \$294,927 to Moffatt & Nichol of Long Beach, CA to provide design consulting services for the Madrona Marsh Restoration and Enhancement Project.

8P. CONTRACT FOR SUNDAY CIVIC CENTER LIBRARY PERSONNEL

Recommendation

The **Acting Community Services Director** recommends that City Council authorize a contract in an amount not to exceed \$32,000 with Advanced Information Management (AIM) to provide contract personnel for the Katy Geissert Civic Center Library for 32 selected Sundays from September 9, 2007 through June 15, 2008.

MOTION: Councilmember Witkowsky moved for the approval of Consent Calendar Items 8A through 8P, with the exceptions of Items 8E and 8L. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Nowatka and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

Consent Calendar Items 8E and 8L were considered at this time.

8E. PURCHASE ORDER FOR TOYOTA SEDANS

Recommendation

The **General Services Director** recommends that City Council authorize the purchase of two (2) current year model Toyota Avalon XL sedans from Carson Toyota of Carson, CA in the amount of \$54,557.04, including sales tax and tire fees (B2007-30).

In response to Councilmember Brewer's inquiry, Fleet Services Manager Winnett reported that Torrance Toyota declined to submit a bid because the dealership felt that their pricing would not be competitive for the particular vehicles being requested.

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

8L. APPROPRIATION FOR REFUSE/RECYCLING ENCLOSURE AT TORRANCE AIRPORT

Recommendation

The **Public Works Director** recommends that City Council approve the appropriation of an amount not to exceed \$11,300 to cover the cost of materials and labor to build a refuse and recycling enclosure for the Torrance airport.

Karen Fitch, member of Airport Commission, noted that when the Airport Commission considered the replacement of 22 smaller trash containers with 2 large dumpsters, the allocation of \$11,300 from the Airport Enterprise Fund to build an enclosure was not discussed.

Sanitation Services Manager Knapp confirmed that the need for an appropriate enclosure was not discussed at the Airport Commission meeting.

MOTION: Councilmember Witkowsky moved to send this item back to the Airport Commission for further review. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Nowatka and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

12. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

12A. SUBSIDY OF RENTAL FEES FOR "THE CLIMATE PROJECT"

Recommendation

The **City Manager** recommends that City Council authorize the subsidy of \$535.50 for rental fees for the Toyota Meeting Hall at the Torrance Cultural Arts Center for a presentation of "The Climate Project" hosted by Assemblymember Ted Lieu.

Management Aide Mukhim reported that staff was recommending that the City subsidize the rental fees for a presentation of "The Climate Project," which addresses environmental issues and global warming, to be held at the Toyota Meeting Hall on Thursday, October 18, 2007, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Councilmember Witkowsky expressed support for the subsidy, noting the growing interest in the topic of global warming.

In response to Councilmember Sutherland's inquiry, a representative from Assemblymember Lieu's office confirmed that the presentation was not a political event and the sole focus was on environmental issues.

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

12B. APPROPRIATIONS FOR ELECTRONIC VOTING SYSTEM

Recommendation

The **City Manager** recommends that City Council:

- 1) Appropriate \$128,482 plus a 5% contingency of \$6,424 to furnish and install custom modifications to the Council Chamber dais and desks and installation and integration of LCD video and clock panels, and personal computers for the Council voting system; and
- 2) Appropriate \$6,763 annually for support and capital replacement of the 13 (thirteen) Council voting system personal computers and 2 (two) servers.

Cable & Community Relations Manager Smith briefly reviewed the proposal to appropriate funds for the installation of an electronic voting system for the City Council.

Responding to questions from the Council, Mr. Smith confirmed that in addition to providing for electronic voting, the system will also provide the infrastructure for an electronic agenda process to be installed in the future. He noted that the electronic voting system will not be used by other commissions that meet in Council Chambers at this time, but may be modified for their use in the future if the Council deems it appropriate. He explained that while the system utilizes personal computer monitors, there will be no way for councilmembers to communicate with each other or anyone else via these computers and that monitors will be shielded so that councilmembers won't be able to see how their colleagues have voted until the vote is recorded.

Charles Deemer, resident, requested clarification regarding the operation of the system and security measures.

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

12C. MEMORANDA OF UNDERSTANDING FOR TORRANCE MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES AND TORRANCE LIBRARY EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION

Recommendation

The **City Manager** recommends that City Council adopt Resolutions pursuant to Memoranda of Understanding setting forth the hours, wages, and working conditions for employees represented by Torrance Municipal Employees (TME-AFSCME) and Torrance Library Employees Association (TLEA) for the period of July 22, 2007 through March 31, 2010.

Assistant to the City Manager Chaparyan reported that the wage and benefit packages are consistent with direction given by the City Council, noting that the total package represents a 12% increase over 3 years.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 2007-78

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE SETTING FORTH HOURS, WAGES, AND WORKING CONDITIONS FOR EMPLOYEES REPRESENTED BY THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES – AFSCME, LOCAL 1117, AND REPEALING RESOLUTION NO. 2005-110

MOTION: Councilmember Sutherland moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2007-78. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Barnett and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 2007-79

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE SETTING FORTH HOURS, WAGES, AND WORKING CONDITIONS FOR EMPLOYEES REPRESENTED BY THE TORRANCE LIBRARY EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION (TLEA), AND REPEALING RESOLUTION NO. 2005-109

MOTION: Councilmember Sutherland moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2007-79. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Barnett and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

13. HEARINGS

13A. ACCEPTANCE/APPROPRIATION OF 2007 EDWARD BYRNE MEMORIAL GRANT FOR DIGITAL RADIO SCANNERS

Recommendation

The **Chief of Police** recommends that City Council;

- 1) Authorize the application and acceptance of the 2007 Edward Byrne Memorial Grant in the amount of \$35,154.;
- 2) Establish a trust fund for the deposit of grant monies;
- 3) Upon federal approval of the grant application, appropriate and allocate the grant monies, and any interest on the funds, for the Digital Radio Scanners project; and
- 4) Appropriate \$4,746 from DOJ Unappropriated Asset Forfeiture, for a total project expenditure of \$39,900.

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.

Business Manager Anderson briefly reviewed the proposal to allocate grant funds for the purchase of digital radio scanners to replace existing scanners with obsolete technology that is not compatible with other police agencies.

As no one came forward to speak, the public hearing was closed.

MOTION: Councilmember Brewer moved to close the public hearing. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Drevno and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

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

16. SECOND READING ORDINANCES

16A. SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 3695

ORDINANCE NO. 3695

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, DESCRIBING THE REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY'S EXISTING EMINENT DOMAIN PROGRAM IN ACQUIRING REAL PROPERTY WITHIN THE SKYPARK REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT

MOTION: Councilmember Sutherland moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 3695 and to approve an ordinance summary for publication. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Barnett and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

16B. SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 3696

ORDINANCE NO. 3696

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, DESCRIBING THE REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY'S EXISTING EMINENT DOMAIN PROGRAM IN ACQUIRING REAL PROPERTY WITHIN THE TORRANCE INDUSTRIAL REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT

MOTION: Councilmember Sutherland moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 3696 and to approve an ordinance summary for publication. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Barnett and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

16C. SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 3697

ORDINANCE NO. 3697

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, DESCRIBING THE REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY'S EXISTING EMINENT DOMAIN PROGRAM IN ACQUIRING REAL PROPERTY WITHIN THE DOWNTOWN TORRANCE REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT

MOTION: Councilmember Sutherland moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 3697 and to approve an ordinance summary for publication. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Barnett and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

The City Council met as the Redevelopment Agency from 8:10 p.m. to 8:12 p.m.

17. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #2

17A. Councilmember Brewer asked about the short duration of the east/west signal at Lomita Boulevard and Hawthorne Boulevard.

Public Works Director Beste responded that Caltrans controls the signals on Hawthorne Boulevard and would normally have the north/south signals timed a bit longer to ease traffic during peak hours.

17B. Councilmember Brewer expressed concerns that parked vehicles were interfering with street sweeping and asked about the procedure for posting signs prohibiting parking during street sweeping hours.

Public Works Director Beste advised that the procedure is detailed on the City's website, www.torrcity.com, noting that it requires the filing of a petition signed by two-thirds of residents on any street in order to have signs placed. He reported that staff was looking into a citywide sign program because this is a common problem, especially in areas with multi-family residential developments.

17C. Councilmember Brewer noted that the Community Services Department and the Torrance Library have hosted a series of events at City parks this summer, which have been very successful, and announced a read-the-book/watch-the-movie event on Saturday, August 11, from 8:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. at Victor Park.

17D. Councilmember Nowatka announced that the next Wild Wednesday event would be held on August 8 at the Torino Plaza of the Torrance Cultural Arts Center from 11:45 a.m. - 1:15 p.m. featuring the alternative country group I See Hawks in LA.

17E. Councilmember Witkowsky expressed concerns that parked cars were preventing street sweeping near storm drains, making it necessary for residents to use their hoses to get rid of debris thereby wasting water in this time of drought. She asked about the possibility of placing reminders in the water bills.

City Manager Jackson advised that staff would look into finding an effective way to remind residents about the street sweeping schedule.

17F. Councilmember Witkowsky expressed concerns that Burlington Northern trains were blocking traffic for up to 18 minutes and creating gridlock.

City Manager Jackson agreed to have staff look into this issue.

17G. Councilmember Witkowsky encouraged attendance at the performance of the *West Side Story* at the Armstrong Theatre.

17H. Mayor Scotto congratulated Mary Lou Weiss, manager of the Torrance Farmers Market, on being honored as "Farmers Market Manager of the Year" by Los Angeles County.

17I. Mayor Scotto requested that staff bring forward an update on the Oversized Vehicle Ordinance, including the number of oversized vehicles that have been registered and the volume of daily permits being issued.

17J. Mayor Scotto asked about the possibility of replacing certain street signs that are in poor shape, particularly along Hawthorne Boulevard.

17K. Mayor Scotto announced that Martin Short would be performing on Friday, September 28, at the Armstrong Theatre. For ticket information contact the Torrance Cultural Arts Center Foundation at 310.787.1201 or the box office at 310.781.7171.

17L. Charles Deemer, resident, expressed concerns about an increase in jaywalking across Torrance Boulevard toward Del Amo Fashion Center and drivers making unsafe turns in front of Torrance Transit buses.

18. EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

19. ADJOURNMENT

At 8:28 p.m., the meeting was adjourned to Tuesday, August 14, 2007 at 5:30 p.m. for an executive session, with the regular meeting commencing at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

Adjourned in Memory of Dave Cook

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

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

Approved on September 11, 2007

Sue Sweet
Recording Secretary

City Council
August 7, 2007