

August 12, 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 6:14 p.m. on Tuesday, August 12, 2008 in City Council Chambers at Torrance City Hall.

ROLL CALL

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

Absent: None.

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

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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 City Attorney on agenda matters listed under 18A) Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation, and 18B) Real Property – Conference with Real Property Negotiator, pursuant to California Government Code § 54956.9(a) and 54956.8.

The City Council reconvened at 7:18 p.m. No formal action was taken on any matter considered in closed session.

2. FLAG SALUTE/INVOCATION

The flag salute was led by Councilmember Brewer.

Pastor Steve Sanchez, Hope Chapel, 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 Friday, August 8, 2008.

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

4. WITHDRAWN, DEFERRED OR SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS – None.

5. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilmember Brewer announced a joint meeting of the Community Development and Enrichment Committee and the Torrance Unified School District on August 19, 2008 at 5:00 p.m. in the TUSD Board Room at 2336 Plaza Del Amo to discuss the lease agreement with the Griffith Adult School and the parking lot.

Public Works Director Beste reported that the Torrance Boulevard storm drain improvement project would take place over the next five weeks with traffic limitations due to the construction.

Councilmember Furey asked that the City Council meeting be adjourned in memory of his mother-in-law, Midge DeSimone.

6. COMMUNITY MATTERS

6A. APPROVAL OF UPDATED 2008 STRATEGIC PLAN

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Community Development Director that City Council approve the updated 2008 Strategic Plan as proposed by the Strategic Plan Committee.

Deputy Community Development Director Cessna provided an overview of the Strategic Plan. She noted that phone surveys, a community profile/environmental scan and various focus groups were conducted to gather the data used in formulating the Strategic Plan and residents reported a high level of satisfaction with the quality of life in Torrance.

Harvey Horwich, on behalf of the Strategic Plan Committee, thanked the Council for entrusting them with the task of updating the Strategic Plan.

Stephanie Ernster, Committee member, reported on the new Strategic Priority entitled "Stewardship of the Environment," which focuses on environmental matters, including promoting "green" industries, waste reduction and recycling, environmentally friendly building/landscaping and water and energy conservation.

Todd Hayes, Committee member, discussed the enhancement of the Education priority to emphasize the importance of the City's collaboration with the Torrance Unified School District.

Lola Unger, Committee member, explained that the Committee felt strongly that there was a need to demonstrate a greater commitment to ethnic diversity, therefore, a new goal and sub-goals were added to encourage the community's diverse ethnic population to participate in all aspects of civic life and the priority formerly entitled "Personal Growth and Enrichment of the Individual" was renamed "Education, Diversity and Enrichment" to reflect his new emphasis.

Brad Moylen, Committee member, emphasized the need for regular review and renewal of the Strategic Plan.

Deputy Community Development Director Cessna commended Committee members for doing an outstanding job of updating the Strategic Plan and thanked Community Development staff members Carolyn Chun, Danny Santana and Kevin Joe for their assistance with the development of the Plan.

Councilmember Numark commended the Committee for their excellent work; stressed the need to provide funding for the action plan to implement the Strategic Plan; and commented positively on several of the goals included in the Plan.

Councilmember Furey, echoed by Councilmembers Barnett and Brewer, thanked Committee members for their service and acknowledged the tremendous amount of work involved.

Mayor Scotto thanked Committee members and people in the community who participated in surveys and focus groups, and encouraged residents to read the Strategic Plan, which will be available on the City's website.

MOTION: Councilmember Furey moved to accept the Strategic Plan. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Barnett and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

Deputy Community Development Director Cessna, echoed by Mayor Scotto, commended Scott Adams, who served as facilitator for the Committee.

Mayor Scotto presented plaques to the following Strategic Plan Committee members: Barbara Cardella, Don Clouch, Stephanie Ernster, Margaret Esfahani, Jim Faulk, Todd Hays, Steve Hemingway, Harvey Horwich, Brad Moylan, Frank Piersol, Lola Unger, Rick Wagner and Michael Wermers. Toni Bock, Marcia Cribbs and Kristen Matsuda were unable to attend.

7. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #1

7A. Stan Myles, South Coast Air Quality Management District, invited City staff and the public, including teachers and students, to attend "The Future is Green" conference being held at the Long Beach Convention Center, September 14-16, 2008.

7B. Barbara Barker, president of the League of Women Voters Torrance, commented positively on the Strategic Plan and commended Committee members and City staff for their efforts.

7C. Scott Gobble, Southern California Edison, reminded the public about the need to conserve energy during possible power shortages in August and September.

8. CONSENT CALENDAR

8A. PURCHASE ORDER FOR VOLVO CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT

Recommendation

Recommendation of the General Services Director that City Council authorize the issuance of a sole-source purchase order with Volvo Construction Equipment & Services of Irwindale, California, in the amount of \$38,157.04, including sales tax, to furnish one (1) Volvo DD24 roller.

8B. PURCHASE ORDER FOR DUMP TRUCK

Recommendation

Recommendation of the General Services Director that City Council authorize the purchase of one (1) five cubic yard dump truck from Reynolds Buick GMC of Covina, California, in the amount of \$65,407.86 including sales tax and tire fees. Reference City of Pasadena Bid # WPW-7-2180.

8C. PURCHASE ORDER FOR READY MIX CONCRETE AND SLURRY MIX

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Public Works Director that City Council authorize a purchasing agreement with Catalina Pacific Concrete Co. of Azusa, California, in an amount not to exceed \$312,355, for ready mix concrete, Class "A", Class "C" and Slurry Mix, on an "as needed basis" for a one (1) year period. The term of the purchasing agreement will be from August 13, 2008 to August 12, 2009. Reference Bid No. B2008-34

8D. LEASE AGREEMENT WITH WEST TORRANCE LITTLE LEAGUE

Considered separately, see page 5.

8E. PURCHASE ORDER FOR METER READING LAPTOP RECEIVER

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Public Works Director that City Council authorize the issuance of a purchase order for one Neptune automated meter reading laptop receiver from Measurement Control Systems, Inc. of Santa Ana, California, in the amount of \$24,898 including sales tax.

8F. AGREEMENT FOR PREPARATION OF SEWER SYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROGRAM, I-97

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Public Works Director that City Council award a Consulting Services Agreement in the amount of \$62,015 to Willdan Engineering of Anaheim, California to prepare the City's Sewer System Management Plan, I-97.

8G. RENEWAL OF CONTRACT WITH MUNISERVICES, LLC

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Finance Director that City Council approve the two-year renewal option with MuniServices, LLC, (Contract 2005-158) to provide Sales and Use Tax Audit and Consulting Services to the City of Torrance, on a contingency basis, at a rate of 20% of sales tax revenues recovered.

8H. ENHANCEMENT OF EMPLOYEE SERVICE RECOGNITION PROGRAM

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Human Resources Director that City Council approve an enhancement to the Employee Service Recognition Program to include long-term part-time employees.

8I. PURCHASE ORDER FOR AMMUNITION

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Police Chief that City Council authorize a blanket purchase order to San Diego Police Equipment Co., of San Diego, California, in an amount not to exceed \$65,200, for purchases of ammunition on an as-needed basis. The purchase order will be for a 12-month term beginning August 13, 2008, and ending August 12, 2009.

MOTION: Councilmember Rhilinger moved for the approval of Consent Calendar Items 8A through 8C and 8E through 8I. the motion was seconded by Councilmember Furey and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

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

8D. AMENDMENT TO LEASE AGREEMENT WITH WEST TORRANCE LITTLE LEAGUE

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Parks and Recreation Commission and the Community Services Director that City Council approve an amendment to the five-year lease agreement with West Torrance Little League for the use of Entradero Sump until December 31, 2009 (C2004-227).

Councilmember Barnett commended the West Torrance Little League and nearby residents for working together to resolve issues related to this lease.

MOTION: Councilmember Barnett moved to approve the amendment to the lease agreement with West Torrance Little League. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Rhilinger and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

12. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

12A. CITYWIDE SIDEWALK RAMPING AND GRINDING PROGRAM, PHASE XI

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Public Works Director that City Council:

- 1) Approve a budget transfer of Gas Tax funds in the amount of \$80,000 from the Rolling Hills Road Traffic Signals & Rolling Hills Way Median/Striping Improvements, S-34 to the Citywide Sidewalk Ramping and Grinding Program, I-55;
- 2) Approve a Second Amendment to Public Works Agreement C2006-148 with Hardy & Harper, Inc. that extends the term one-year until August 31, 2009 and increases the amount from \$845,510 to \$1,175,510 (an increase of \$330,000) to construct Phase XI of the Citywide Sidewalk Ramping and Grinding Program, I-55; and
- 3) Approve a Second Amendment to Consulting Services Agreement C2006-149 with Project Partners that extends the term until August 31, 2009 and increases the amount from \$162,000 to \$252,000 (an increase of \$90,000) for construction inspection services for Phase XI of the Citywide Sidewalk Ramping and Grinding Program, I-55.

Engineering Manager Bilezerian reported that the Citywide Sidewalk Ramping and Grinding Program is a multi-year program that temporarily repairs sidewalk displacements. He noted that it takes approximately three years to complete the cycle for the entire City and Phase XI will cover the area south of Sepulveda Boulevard to the City boundary.

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

12B. APPROVAL OF CONTRACT FOR BROKER SERVICES

Recommendation

Recommendation of the City Manager that City Council approve a contract with The Klabin Company for broker services to represent the City's interests in the purchase of property located at 465 Crenshaw Boulevard.

Assistant to the City Manager Giordano reported that the City has been interested in this property for the last two years as a potential location for a Torrance Regional Transit Center Hub; that it has come on the market and it is necessary to contract with a broker to represent the City's interests; and that the Klabin Company was selected due to its experience in this area.

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

**12C. INCREASE IN CONTRACT AND PURCHASING APPROVAL LIMIT/
FORMAL BID REQUIREMENT**

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Finance Director that City Council adopt an Ordinance increasing the contract and purchasing approval limit of the City Manager from \$24,999 to \$39,999 and increasing the formal bid requirement for contracts and purchases from \$25,000 to \$40,000.

Finance Director Tsao reported that staff was recommending that the purchasing approval limit of the City Manager be increased to \$39,999 in order to streamline the purchasing process, noting that the existing limit of \$24,999 has been in place since 1989.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 3714

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE
AMENDING SECTION 1 OF ARTICLE 3 OF CHAPTER 2 OF DIVISION 2
AND SECTION 1 OF ARTICLE 4 OF CHAPTER 2 OF DIVISION 2 OF THE
TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE INCREASING THE FORMAL BIDDING
THRESHOLD

MOTION: Councilmember Sutherland moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 3714. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Brewer and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

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The Council met as the Redevelopment Agency from 8:17 p.m. to 8:18 p.m.

17. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #2

17A. Councilmember Sutherland commented on the City-sponsored Concert in the Park held the previous Sunday at El Prado Park.

17B. Councilmember Barnett, with the concurrence of the Council, requested that that the Torrance Babe Ruth All Star baseball team and coaches be formally recognized, noting that the team won District 2 and Southern California championships and were runners up in the qualifier for the Babe Ruth World Series.

17C. Councilmember Barnett urged the public to attend one of the last performances of *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers* at the Armstrong Theatre.

17D. Councilmember Brewer also encouraged the public to attend *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers*.

17E. Councilmember Furey invited the public to attend Torrance Unified School District's dedication of the Gene Drevno Community Day School on Friday, September 5, 2008 at 10 a.m. at the Griffith Adult School campus, 2291 Washington Avenue.

17F. Councilmember Furey invited the public to attend the 10th Annual City of Torrance Employee Variety Show "Best of Ten" on September 27, 2008 at the Armstrong Theatre, with proceeds benefiting the American Cancer Society Torrance Relay-for-Life as start up funds for the weekend event taking place in May 2009.

17G. Councilmember Numark stated that he was pleased to be on the Council for the approval of the Strategic Plan and was glad to see that historic preservation was included.

17H. Councilmember Numark commented on current gas prices and noted that the City's website includes a "Map Your Trip" by public transportation link.

17I. Councilmember Numark expressed condolences to the Furey family.

17J. Councilmember Rhilinger noted that she had attended *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers* and found it very entertaining.

17K. Mayor Scotto expressed condolences to the Furey family.

17L. Mayor Scotto commended staff for doing an outstanding job on the Strategic Plan.

