

September 1, 1998

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL**

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The Torrance City Council convened in a regular session at 5:32 p.m. on Tuesday, September 1, 1998, in the City Council Chambers at Torrance City Hall.

ROLL CALL

Present: Council members Cribbs, Lee, Messerlian, Nakano, Walker,
and Mayor Hardison.

Absent: Councilwoman O'Donnell.

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

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At this time Agenda Item No. 20 was considered out of order.

20. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 5:32 p.m., pursuant to California Government Code Sections 54957.6, 54956.9(a), and 54956.9(c), the Council recessed into a closed session to confer on matters listed on the meeting agenda.

At 7:00 p.m., the Council returned to Council Chambers, and the meeting resumed in regular agenda order. No formal action was taken on any item heard in closed session.

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2. **FLAG SALUTE/ INVOCATION**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Josh Bowen of Boy Scout Troop 310.

Reverend Charles Bullock, Torrance Church of the Nazarene, gave the invocation for the meeting.

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Mayor Hardison noted the passing of two long-time residents of the City of Torrance, Donald Roser, who supported animal causes and the protection of the environment, and Ila Ewing, who was involved in the Sister City Association, the Heart Association, and Las Amigas Festival of the Trees; and requested that the meeting be adjourned in their memory.

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3. **AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING/WAIVE FURTHER READING**

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MOTION: Councilwoman Cribbs moved to accept and file the report of the City Clerk on the posting of the agenda for this meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Messerlian and, there being no objection, it was so ordered by Mayor Hardison (absent Councilwoman O'Donnell).

MOTION: Councilwoman Cribbs 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 Council member the right to demand the reading of any such resolution or ordinance in regular order. The motion was seconded by Councilman Messerlian, and, there being no objection, it was so ordered by Mayor Hardison (absent Councilwoman O'Donnell).

4. **WITHDRAWN/DEFERRED ITEMS**

City Manager Jackson announced the withdrawal of Agenda Item No. 16a , the second and final reading of Ordinance 3455, pending approval of the amendment to the contract by all Miscellaneous Employees.

5. **COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mayor Hardison announced that the Ad Hoc Legislative Committee needs to meet concerning State propositions on the November Ballot.

Mayor Hardison requested that an item be brought forward to name delegates to the League of California Cities annual meeting.

6. **COMMUNITY MATTERS**

6a. **RESOLUTION NO. 98-103 RE BARRY WALSH**

RESOLUTION NO. 98-103

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF TORRANCE HONORING AND COMMENDING
POLICE OFFICER EDMOND BARRY WALSH UPON HIS
RETIREMENT FROM THE CITY AFTER TWENTY-EIGHT
YEARS OF SERVICE**

MOTION: Councilman Nakano moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 98-103. The motion was seconded by Councilman Walker and passed by unanimous roll call vote (absent Councilwoman O'Donnell).

For adoption only, to be presented at a later date.

7. **CONSENT CALENDAR**

7a. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES - JULY 28, 1998**

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Mayor Hardison requested that the approval of the minutes be held for one week.

7b. **SALE OF SURPLUS VEHICLES**

Recommendation

The Acting Fleet Services Director recommends that City Council authorize the sale of surplus City vehicles.

7c. **PURCHASE ORDER RE ASPHALT PLANT MIX**

Recommendation

The Acting Fleet Services Director recommends that City Council authorize a purchase order be issued for a two-year period to Blue Diamond Materials of Irwindale, California, in the anticipated amount not to exceed \$542,673.63, for the sole purchase of asphalt plant mix.

7d. **YOUTH COUNCIL DONATION RE TORRANCE-SOUTH BAY YMCA
RESIDENT CAMP PROGRAM**

Recommendation

The Torrance Youth Council recommends that City Council approve a \$2,000 donation from the Torrance Youth Council Donation Fund to the Torrance-South Bay YMCA Resident Camp Program.

7e. **TORRANCE SKATE ASSOCIATION AGREEMENT**

Recommendation

The Parks and Recreation Commission and the Parks and Recreation Director recommend that City Council:

- (1) Approve a new roof and flooring on the existing Roller Hockey Rink at Charles H. Wilson Park (Rink One);
- (2) Approve the construction of a second rink to include roof, flooring, bleachers, and dressing rooms (Rink Two);
- (3) Concur with the proposed concession agreement with the Torrance Skate Association, changing the term of the agreement to ten years with a five-year option, and
- (4) Adding the schedule for percentage of gross receipts payments to the City as outlined in the proposal for both rinks.

MOTION: Councilman Lee moved for the approval of Consent Calendar Item Nos. 7b, 7c, 7d, and 7e. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Cribbs and passed by unanimous roll call vote (absent Councilwoman O'Donnell).

12. **PERSONNEL MATTERS**

12a. **REVISION OF CLASS SPECIFICATION AND MODIFICATION OF SALARY
RANGE RE PLANNING DIRECTOR AND STREET SERVICES DIRECTOR**

Recommendation

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The Human Resources Director and the Civil Service Commission recommend that City Council approve the proposed revised class specification for Planning Director. The Human Resources Director recommends the approval of an amendment to the Certain Management Resolution modifying the salary ranges for Planning Director and Street Services Director.

Human Resources Analyst Lawrence presented the staff report (per written material of record).

MOTION: Councilman Walker moved to approve the revised class specification for Planning Director. The motion was seconded by Councilman Nakano and passed by unanimous roll call vote (absent Councilwoman O'Donnell).

RESOLUTION NO 98-104

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 98-79 SETTING FORTH CHANGES REGARDING HOURS, WAGES, AND WORKING CONDITIONS FOR EMPLOYEES REPRESENTED BY CERTAIN MANAGEMENT EMPLOYEES

MOTION: Councilman Nakano moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 98-104. The motion was seconded by Councilman Walker and passed by unanimous roll call vote (absent Councilwoman O'Donnell).

12b. **CLASS SPECIFICATION AND ESTABLISHMENT OF SALARY RANGE RE FINANCE MANAGER**

Recommendation

The Human Resources Director recommends that City Council approve the proposed job description and adopt a resolution establishing the salary range for Finance Manager.

Human Resources Analyst Casper presented the staff report (per written material of record). In response to Mayor Hardison's inquiry, Ms. Casper reported that some of the functions of Finance Manager are currently being performed by Finance Department personnel, but additional duties will be added.

MOTION: Councilman Messerlian moved to approve the job description for Finance Manager. The motion was seconded by Councilman Lee and passed by unanimous roll call vote (absent Councilwoman O'Donnell).

RESOLUTION NO. 98-105

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 98-84 GOVERNING THE UNREPRESENTED EMPLOYEES

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MOTION: Councilman Nakano moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 98-105. The motion was seconded by Councilman Walker and passed by unanimous roll call vote (absent Councilwoman O'Donnell).

12c **PROMOTIONAL EXAMINATIONS FOR DEPARTMENT HEAD CLASSIFICATIONS**

Recommendation

The Civil Service Commission and the Civil Service Administrator recommend that Civil Service Rules be changed to allow non-civil service employees to compete in promotional examinations for Department Head Classifications.

Civil Service Administrator Ghio presented the staff report (per written material of record).

ORDINANCE NO. 3457

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING SECTION 14.1.29 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE, RELATING TO THE ELIGIBILITY OF CITY EMPLOYEES TO PARTICIPATE IN EXAMINATIONS FOR DEPARTMENT HEAD POSITIONS

MOTION: Councilman Nakano moved for the approval of Ordinance No. 3457. The motion was seconded by Councilman Walker and passed by unanimous roll call vote (absent Councilwoman O'Donnell).

13. **ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

13a. **REALIGNMENT OF POLICE DEPARTMENT BUDGET**

Recommendation

The Finance Director and the Chief of Police recommend that the Police Department's fiscal year 1998-99 budget be realigned with a reduction of approximately \$78,000.

Finance Director Tsao presented the staff report (per written material of record). Police Chief Herren advised that Option #1 was being recommended because it would have the least impact on Police Department operations.

MOTION: Councilman Lee concurred with the staff recommendation approving Option #1 which reduces non-wage areas of the Police Department's fiscal year 1998-99 budget by \$78,000. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Cribbs and passed by unanimous roll call vote (absent Councilwoman O'Donnell).

13b. **SUPPLEMENTAL HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM**

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Recommendation

The City Manager recommends that City Council define the level of supplemental health insurance program for calendar year 1999.

Assistant to the City Manager Keane presented the staff report (per written material of record).

RESOLUTION NO. 98-106

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
TORRANCE EXTENDING THE SUPPLEMENTAL HEALTH
INSURANCE PROGRAM FROM JANUARY 1, 1999, THROUGH
DECEMBER 31, 1999, WITH A MAXIMUM OF \$428 PER MONTH**

MOTION: Councilman Nakano moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 98-106. The motion was seconded by Councilman Walker and passed by unanimous roll call vote (absent Councilwoman O'Donnell).

13c. **MEMORANDUM OF INTENT RE TORRANCE PROFESSIONAL AND
SUPERVISORY ASSOCIATION (TPSA) AND TORRANCE FISCAL
EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION (TFEA)**

Recommendation

The City Manager recommends that City Council approve a Memorandum of Intent (MOI) with Torrance Professional and Supervisory Association (TPSA), Engineers and the Torrance Fiscal Employees Association (TFEA).

MOTION: Councilman Messerlian moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilman Lee and passed by unanimous roll call vote (absent Councilwoman O'Donnell).

13d. **LEASE ASSIGNMENT FOR 2790 SKYPARK**

Recommendation

The Land Management Team recommends that City Council authorize the Mayor to execute and the City Clerk to attest to a lease assignment from Arthur L. Valdez and G. Arleen Valdez, husband and wife, to Executive Quarters, LLC, a California limited liability company for the property located at 2790 Skypark.

MOTION: Councilman Lee moved to concur with the Land Management Team recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Cribbs and passed by unanimous roll call vote (absent Councilwoman O'Donnell).

13e. **CONTRACT RE FLINT MARKETING COMMUNICATIONS**

Recommendation

The City Manger recommends that City Council approve a contract with Flint Marketing Communications in the amount of \$27,529 to provide scientifically accurate phone

surveys of the residential and the business community as part of the Strategic Plan renewal process; and approval of the proposed business community survey.

Assistant City Manager Giordano presented the staff report (per written material of record).

Mr. Tom Brewer, 23426 Evalyn, representing South Riviera Homeowners Association, related his understanding that representation for homeowners groups on the Strategic Planning Committee was being reduced from four to two representatives, and requested that the two positions be restored.

Mayor Hardison explained that the Strategic Planning Committee being formed to evaluate the Strategic Plan is about half the size of the original committee that assisted in the formulation of the plan, and that the number of representatives from all areas has been reduced proportionately. She advised that the Council of Homeowners Associations of Torrance (CHAT) has been contacted to recommend representatives.

MOTION: Councilman Lee moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Cribbs and passed by unanimous roll call vote (absent Councilwoman O'Donnell).

14. **HEARINGS**

14a. **ZONING CODE REVISION**

Recommendation

The Acting Planning Director recommends that City Council:

- (1) Consider the Environmental Review Procedures Study;
- (2) Adopt an ordinance which repeals Section 92.31 of the Zoning Code (Division 9, Planning and Land Use) entitled "Environmental Matters;" and
- (3) Approve a resolution which adopts separate "Local CEQA Guideline for the City of Torrance." (LUS98-0003)

Planning Manager Bluman presented the staff report (per written material of record).

Noting that he had formerly served as a Planning Commissioner, Councilman Lee expressed support for the revision, stating that it will make the process more user-friendly and more efficient.

In response to the Councilman Messerlian's inquiry, Planning Associate Richardson provided clarification of the term "decision making body," and advised that the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) notice and the planning case notice will be combined wherever possible, providing 20 days notice before a hearing.

Responding to Mayor Hardison's inquiry regarding the Planning Commission's public hearing on this matter, Planning Manager Bluman reported that public comment at the hearing was generally favorable, particularly with regard to the elimination of the Environmental Review Board's afternoon meetings; and that concerns expressed mainly related to projects already in the

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process of being reviewed by the Planning Department, and that those concerns had been addressed by modifying the resolution to clearly state when the new guidelines will take effect.

Mayor Hardison invited public input, and with no one wishing to be heard, the public hearing was closed.

MOTION: Councilman Messerlian moved to close the public hearing. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Cribbs and passed by unanimous roll call vote (absent Councilwoman O'Donnell).

ORDINANCE NO. 3458

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE REPEALING ARTICLE 31 OF CHAPTER 2 OF DIVISION 9 RELATING TO ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

MOTION: Councilman Nakano moved for the approval of Ordinance No. 3458. The motion was seconded by Councilman Walker and passed by unanimous roll call vote (absent Councilwoman O'Donnell).

RESOLUTION NO. 98-108

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ADOPTING PROCEDURES IMPLEMENTING THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT, AND THE GUIDELINES OF THE SECRETARY FOR THE RESOURCES AGENCY AS AMENDED TO DATE

MOTION: Councilman Nakano moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 98-108. The motion was seconded by Councilman Walker and passed by unanimous roll call vote (absent Councilwoman O'Donnell).

16. **SECOND READING ORDINANCES**

16a. **SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE 3455**

Withdrawn (see page 2).

16b. **SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE 3456**

ORDINANCE NO. 3456

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ADDING A NEW CHAPTER 3 TO ARTICLE 4 OF DIVISION 6 RELATING TO SKATEBOARDS

MOTION: Councilman Nakano moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 3456. The motion was seconded by Councilman Messerlian and passed by a 4-2 majority roll call vote, with Councilmen Lee and Walker dissenting (absent Councilwoman O'Donnell).

18. **ADDENDUM MATTERS**

None.

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At 7:37 p.m., the Council met as the Torrance Redevelopment Agency. The meeting was adjourned at 7:38 p.m., and the meeting resumed in regular agenda order.

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19. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

19a. Councilwoman Cribbs commented on the need to replace Neighborhood Watch signs and suggested that the City pay for them, rather than charging homeowners.

19b. In response to Councilwoman Cribbs' request for re-striping of the Cultural Arts Center parking lot, City Manager advised that the matter will be addressed in the Capital Budget.

19c. Councilwoman Cribbs commended Melanie Hearn and her committee for their efforts on the Transit Division's bus Roadeo.

19d. Councilman Lee raised the possibility of exploring some form of assistance to enable employees to live in Torrance.

19e. Councilman Messerlian commented that SB 1540, requiring the licensing of residential group homes, is on the Governor's desk for signature.

19f. Councilman Messerlian reported that telephone companies have asked the State Public Utilities Commission to increase the charge to call information to \$1.10 and requested that City staff investigate the status of the request.

19g. In response to Councilman Messerlian's suggestion that stern language be used regarding the pavement of Hawthorne Boulevard, City Manager Jackson advised that according to Engineering Director Burt, negotiations with the State are continuing, and they are suggesting that the whole street be resealed if not repaved.

19h. Councilman Nakano advised that the Los Angeles County Commission on Aging held a successful Forum in Council Chambers.

19i. Mayor Hardison thanked Councilman Nakano for acting as Mayor Pro-Tem while she was on vacation..

19j. Mayor Hardison stated that a State legislature bill concerning funds for building sound walls is on the Governor's desk for signature.

20. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Considered out of order (see page 1).

21. **ADJOURNMENT**

At 7:46 p.m., the meeting was adjourned to Tuesday, September 8, 1998, at 5:30 p.m. for an executive session, with the regular meeting commencing at 7:00 p.m.

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*Adjourned in Memory of
Donald Roser and Ila Ewing*

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Mayor of the City of Torrance

ATTEST

City Clerk of the City of Torrance