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**TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL – OCTOBER 15, 2013**

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At 9:03 p.m., the meeting was adjourned to Tuesday, October 22, 2013 at 5:30 p.m. for an executive session, with the regular meeting 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 7:02 p.m. on Tuesday, October 15, 2013 in the Council Chamber at Torrance City Hall.

**ROLL CALL**

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

Absent: None.

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

**2. FLAG SALUTE/ INVOCATION**

The flag salute was led by Community Development Director Gibson.

The non-sectarian invocation was given by Councilmember Brewer.

**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, October 10, 2013.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Numark 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 Sutherland and passed by unanimous vote.

**4. WITHDRAWN, DEFERRED OR SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS**

No items were withdrawn or deferred; supplemental material was available for Item 8C.

**5. COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Councilmember Numark announced that the City Council Strategic Plan Committee met earlier this afternoon to review the status of the City's Strategic Plan, which included an assessment by graduate students of the University of Southern California, and as a result, staff will be refining the KPI (key performance indicator) process, creating an annual report for presentation to the City Council, and expanding the use of social media to better inform the public.

City Clerk Herbers reminded voters of the November 5 election for seats on the Torrance Unified School District and the El Camino Community College District Boards of Trustees. She noted that registration closes on Monday, October 21; that Sample Ballot booklets will be mailed starting September 26; and that Vote-By-Mail (VBM) ballots may be requested October 7 through October 29, with additional information available at [www.lavote.net](http://www.lavote.net).

City Clerk Herbers announced that a candidate forum sponsored by the League of Women Voters will be held on Tuesday, October 23, at 6:30 p.m. in the meeting room at Zamperini Airport and that additional information about candidates is available at [www.SmartVoter.org](http://www.SmartVoter.org).

City Clerk Herbers announced that a Commissioner Certification class will be held on Thursday, October 24. She noted that certification is required in order to apply for appointment to a commission in January 2014; that interested parties can reserve a space online at [www.TorranceCa.gov/commissionercert.htm](http://www.TorranceCa.gov/commissionercert.htm); and that additional information about Torrance Commissions is available at <http://www.torranceca.gov/8752.htm>.

## **6. COMMUNITY MATTERS**

### **6A. PROCLAMATION RE “RED RIBBON WEEK”**

Mayor Scotto presented a proclamation declaring October 21 through October 25 as Red Ribbon Week in the City of Torrance to Torrance Council of PTAs President Janet Tajii, Vice President of Health Terry Ragins; and Red Ribbon Week Chairperson Michele Nadeau.

### **6B. PROCLAMATION RE “PTA MEMBERSHIP ENROLLMENT MONTH”**

Mayor Scotto presented a proclamation declaring the month of October as PTA Membership Enrollment Month in the City of Torrance to Torrance Council PTAs President Janet Tajii, Vice President of Organization Zainab Harb, and Membership Chairman Michell Van Lerberghe.

### **6C. PRESENTATION OF 2014 TORRANCE ROSE FLOAT ENTRY**

Torrance Rose Float Association President Mistydawn Jones thanked AYSO for sponsoring the 2014 Torrance Rose Float to commemorate its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary and introduced representatives Katrina Rodriguez, Fred Silver, Lynn Berling-Manuel, and Kim Roberts Hedgpath. She also thanked Ace Clearwater for its generous donation. Tim Estes of Fiesta Floats shared a rendering of the 2014 Torrance Rose Float entitled “Everyone Plays.”

## **7. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #1**

**7A.** Suzan Hubert and Bobbie Snyder, Friends of Madrona Marsh, announced the annual Moonlight Magic fundraiser will be held on Saturday, October 19, 2013 at 5:00 p.m. in the Ken Miller Recreation Center and Torino Plaza, with tickets available at [www.FriendsofMadronaMarsh.com](http://www.FriendsofMadronaMarsh.com).

**7B.** Janet Payne, Torrance Historical Society, announced that an “Evening of Poe(try) – Selected Readings of Edgar Allan Poe” will be presented on Sunday, October 27, at 5:00 p.m. at the museum located at 1345 Post Avenue.

**7C.** Georgean Griswold, Torrance Rose Float Association, announced that the first opportunity to sign up to help decorate the 2014 Rose Float will be at the TRFA meeting on October 17 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber.

**7D.** Mark Stephenson, resident, requested information about safeguards being employed by law enforcement agencies regarding the collection of data from personal communication devices and urged that a town hall meeting be held on this topic.

## **8. CONSENT CALENDAR**

**8A. ACCEPTANCE/APPROPRIATION OF FRIENDS OF TORRANCE LIBRARY DONATION**  
Considered separately, see page 3.

### **8B. TORRANCE ROSE FLOAT ASSOCIATION 2012-2013 ANNUAL REPORT**

#### **Recommendation**

Recommendation of the Community Services Director that City Council accept and file the Torrance Rose Float Association 2012-2013 Annual Report.

**8C. SUBSIDY OF RENTAL FEES FOR KATY GEISSERT CIVIC CENTER LIBRARY MEETING ROOM**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the City Manager that City Council subsidize the rental fees for the use of the Katy Geissert Civic Center Library meeting room in an amount not to exceed \$180 for American Cancer Society to host a Relay for Life meeting on Tuesday, October 22, 2013.

**8D. CONTRACT AMENDMENT RE NOISE ABATEMENT SERVICES**

Considered separately, see page 4.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Sutherland moved for the approval of Consent Calendar Items 8B and 8C. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Barnett and passed by unanimous vote.

Consent Calendar Items 8A and 8D were considered separately at this time.

**8A. ACCEPTANCE/APPROPRIATION OF FRIENDS OF TORRANCE LIBRARY DONATION**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the Community Services Director that the City Council accept and appropriate a \$5,000 donation toward the Teen Tech-Pert Program from the Friends of the Torrance Library.

Councilmember Sutherland expressed appreciation to the Friends of Torrance Library for their generous and ongoing support of library programs.

City Librarian Theyer reported that donations from the Friends of Torrance Library have exceeded \$100,000 for the year 2013.

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

**8D. CONTRACT AMENDMENT RE NOISE ABATEMENT SERVICES**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the Community Development Director that City Council approve a second amendment with Bruel & Kjaer (C2010-135), for expanded noise abatement services, in the amount of \$35,990 prorated for the first year including set up costs and \$33,400 yearly thereafter to add Web Trak and Flight Track reporting modules to existing contract. The new not-to-exceed contract amount through June 30, 2015 inclusive of this amendment is \$506,310.64, which includes potential 3% CPI increase for FY2014-2015.

Councilmember Brewer questioned whether pilots were going to be informed about changes to the noise abatement system at Torrance Airport.

Deputy Community Development Director Cessna advised that an Open House will be held at the airport after the first of the year to highlight new features of the noise abatement system and there will also be a demonstration for the City Council.

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

**10. PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

**10A. APPROVAL OF PARTICIPATION IN CALIFORNIA PACE HERO PROGRAM**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the Environmental Quality and Energy Conservation Commission and the Community Development Director that City Council:

- 1) Adopt a Resolution supporting City of Torrance participation in the California Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) HERO program; and
- 2) Approve an amendment to a Joint Powers Agreement adding City of Torrance as an associate member of the Western Riverside Council of Governments to permit the provision of California HERO program services within the city.

Deputy Community Development Director Cessna advised that this action will allow Torrance residents to participate in the California Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) HERO program, which allows property owners to finance energy efficient improvements by means of an assessment added to their property tax bills at no cost to the City.

Dustin Reilich, HERO program director of Municipal Development, provided background information about the program regarding loan terms and interest rates.

Mike Griffiths, chair of the Environmental Quality and Energy Conservation Commission, expressed support for the program and emphasized the need to publicize it so property owners will know that this financing mechanism is available.

Mark Stephenson, resident, requested clarification of liability issues and disclosure requirements, which was provided by Mr. Reilich.

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 2013-72**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE CONSENTING TO THE INCLUSION OF PROPERTIES WITHIN THE CITY'S JURISDICTION IN THE CALIFORNIA HERO PROGRAM TO FINANCE DISTRIBUTED GENERATION RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES, ENERGY AND WATER EFFICIENCY IMPROVEMENTS AND ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING INFRASTRUCTURE AND APPROVING THE AMENDMENT TO A CERTAIN JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT RELATED THERETO

**MOTION:** Councilmember Furey moved to approve Resolution No. 2013-72. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Weideman and passed by unanimous vote.

**12. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

Agenda Item 12B was considered out of order at this time.

**12B. PURCHASE ORDER RE ASPHALT CONCRETE AND MIXES**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the Public Works Director that City Council authorize a purchase order with Sully-Miller Contracting Company, DBA Blue Diamond Materials, of Brea, CA, in an amount not to exceed \$960,000 for asphalt concrete, mixes and SS1-h emulsion (B2013-41), on an as requested basis for a two (2) year period from October 18, 2013 to October 17, 2015.

Street Operations Manager Cooper briefly reviewed the terms of the purchase order to provide materials for street maintenance crews for a period of two years.

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

**12A. CONTRACT RE 555 MAPLE AVENUE RECREATIONAL SPORTS FIELDS**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the General Services Director and Community Services Director that City Council:

- 1) Award a contract to Ohno Construction Company for \$1,614,782.48 with a \$50,000 contingency for 555 Maple Avenue Recreational Sports Field (B2013-40/FEAP#817);
- 2) Award a contract to AstroTurf for \$1,013,683 with a \$25,000 contingency for installation of synthetic turf as a special opportunity purchase;
- 3) Award a purchase order to Musco Lighting for \$297,733 to provide sports lighting as a sole source purchase;
- 4) Approve a contract amendment with Land Concern Ltd. (C2013-067) for \$16,645 for a not to exceed amount of \$93,070 for additional design services;
- 5) Approve \$17,460 for deputy inspections, Edison, and engineering services;
- 6) Approve 10% project management fee of \$161,478; and
- 7) Appropriate \$2,679,681 from Capital Improvement Reserve for Future Open Space Acquisition, \$240,042 from Parks and Recreation Open space Fund, \$240,000 from Parks and Recreation Facilities Fund, and \$37,059 from Unappropriated General Fund Capital project fund to FEAP #817 555 Maple Avenue Recreational Sports Field.

Facility Services Manager Landis briefly reviewed the proposed contracts for the construction of sports fields at 555 Maple Avenue. He noted that cost of the project is approximately \$500,000 more than originally estimated due to various changes in the design, however the cost remains well under the going rate for this type of facility.

Councilmember Sutherland questioned the need for the \$25,000 contingency for the installation of the AstroTurf since the site has already been graded and asked that the Council receive an accounting of any added expenses if the contingency is used.

Community Services Director Jones discussed the benefits of artificial turf, which include significantly lower maintenance costs, a reduction in water use, and year-round play. He reported that the market rate for rental of the fields is \$100 per hour/per field, although they will likely be rented for less during off-peak hours, and the sports fields are expected to generate approximately \$200,000 in revenue on an annual basis.

In response to Councilmember Weideman's inquiry, City Manager Jackson reported that the life of the artificial turf corresponds to the term of the lease and if the lease is not renewed, the City would only be out the cost to prepare the fields since the lighting can be moved to another location.

Community Services Director Jones advised that revenue generated during the term of the lease is expected to cover the cost of installing new artificial turf if the lease is renewed.

Mayor Scotto reported that the City has received several inquiries from a variety of sports teams interested in renting the fields so he anticipates they will be heavily used.

Mayor Scotto invited public comment.

Fred Silver, resident and AYSO volunteer, expressed support for the proposed sports fields, noting that the facility will be showcased at AYSO's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary National Games to be held in Torrance at the end of June 2014.

Debbie Hays, AYSO team parent/coordinator, urged the Council to approve the sports fields, relating her belief that a first-class facility like the one proposed will help put Torrance on the map.

Rahmat Khan, resident, voiced support for the sports fields, noting that cricket players are also interested in using them.

Michael Byrd, resident, stated that sports fields at Torrance schools are in poor condition and this centrally located facility will greatly benefit the community.

Harry Bruni, FRAM Soccer Club, expressed his opinion that the facility will be a tremendous asset to Torrance and very fitting for the birthplace of AYSO. He noted that Torrance businesses will also benefit because the facility will bring more people to Torrance. He related his experience that fields with artificial turf are far superior to natural turf.

Mark Stephenson, resident, requested clarification regarding the bidding process, which was provided by staff. He also asked about compliance with storm water regulations, and Facility Services Manager confirmed that the project complies with all local, state and county storm water regulations.

Lou Gomez, AYSO board member/coach, discussed the benefits of youth sports and urged approval of the project.

Todd Hays, AYSO parent/referee, reported that currently there are not enough sports fields in Torrance to accommodate all the teams involved in the four major AYSO tournaments hosted by Torrance and the proposed sports fields would allow all games to be played in Torrance.

Mayor Scotto related his belief that this was a once in a lifetime opportunity to do something that will greatly benefit Torrance youths.

Councilmember Furey noted that the City is leasing this 6.2-acre site for only \$1 per year so despite the large initial expense, it is a comparative bargain. He reported that the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary AYSO National Games are expected to infuse \$9 million into the local economy and suggested that providing a high-quality experience for people taking part in the games could lead to Torrance being selected as their permanent home.

Councilmember Sutherland voiced his opinion that this will be one of the premier parks in the South Bay, noting that it will be used for other sports in addition to soccer. With regard to the financial aspects of the project, he stated that he could see no downside.

Councilmember Weideman expressed support for the project.

Mayor Scotto recognized the contribution of the court system for agreeing to lease this land.

Facility Services Manager Landis reported that the project is expected to be completed by early February 2014.

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

**17. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #2**

**17A.** Councilmember Furey noted that there is a critical shortage of foster homes in Torrance and throughout Los Angeles County and encouraged residents to attend an informational meeting on becoming a foster parent on Wednesday, October 16, from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. in the Toyota Automotive Museum, 19600 Van Ness, with additional information available by calling 888.811.1121. He reported that 22 Torrance residents are currently going through the process to become foster care providers as a result of outreach efforts.

**17B.** Councilmember Numark requested an excused absence from the October 22 City Council meeting as he will be out of town on a business trip.

**17C.** Councilmember Sutherland commented that it was a pleasure to be able to approve the sports fields project this evening after being faced with cutbacks for the past four years.

**17D.** Councilmember Barnett invited the public to attend the City's annual Halloween Carnival on Thursday, October 31, from 4:00-8:00 p.m. at Wilson Park, with a costume parade at 6:30 p.m.

**17E.** Mayor Scotto, with the concurrence of Council, requested that staff bring forward an item to subsidize the cost of rental fees for the Armstrong Theatre for the 300<sup>th</sup> Army Band's free concert on July 13, 2013 entitled "Songs from the Home Front."

**17F.** Annie Ko, resident, requested that she be allowed to continue to keep hens on her property until the matter of whether they are permitted can be resolved

**18. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None.

**19. ADJOURNMENT**

At 9:03 p.m., the meeting was adjourned to Tuesday, October 22, 2013 at 5:30 p.m. for an executive session, with the regular meeting commencing at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber.

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 November 19, 2013