

**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 7:05 p.m. on Tuesday, December 9, 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.

2. FLAG SALUTE/INVOCATION

The flag salute was led by Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce Chairman Toni Bock.

Councilmember Brewer 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, December 4, 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 Numark and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

4. WITHDRAWN, DEFERRED OR SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

City Manager Jackson noted that the joint meeting of the City Council and the Environmental Quality and Energy Conservation Commission originally scheduled for this evening will be rescheduled at a later date. Supplemental material available on Agenda Items 8A, 12E and 13A.

5. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Scotto asked that the meeting be adjourned in memory of Winifred McDonough, aunt of Councilmember Rhilinger, who passed away December 8.

Mayor Scotto requested that the meeting be adjourned in memory of Custodian Jimmy Moorman, husband of Jeannie Moorman, who passed away November 27.

Councilmember Brewer announced a joint meeting of the Citizen Development and Enrichment Committee and the Torrance Unified School District in the 3rd Floor Assembly Room on Wednesday, December 10, at 4:00 p.m.

Councilmember Numark announced a meeting of Transportation Committee on Thursday, December 11, at 5:00 p.m. in the 3rd Floor Assembly Room, with topics to include advertising on city buses.

City Clerk Herbers invited staff and the public to view pastels by Torrance Artist Guild member Nancy Morris on display in the City Clerk's office for the month of December.

6. COMMUNITY MATTERS

6A. PROCLAMATION RE PHENOMENEX

Mayor Scotto presented a proclamation honoring and congratulating Phenomenex, which is headquartered in Torrance, on being named one of the 15 best small workplaces in the United States to Fasha Mahjoor, president of Phenomenex.

6B. PROCLAMATION RE "ADOPT-A-SCHOOL WEEK"

Mayor Scotto presented a proclamation declaring the week of December 8 through December 12, 2008 as "Adopt-A-School Week" in the City of Torrance to Barbara Glennie and Amy Herrschaft from the Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce.

Certificates were presented to the following Adopt-a-School participants: Maribel Denner, Torrance Marriott South Bay; Stuart Nemiroff, Golden Spoon Frozen Yogurt; Richard Lundquist, Continental Development; Cindy Thomas, Hitachi Automotive Products; Pam Kenoyer, Moog; Sally Eberhard and Kathryn Joiner, Torrance Memorial Medical Center; Deborah Fehn, Little Company of Mary; Paul McCabe, Sunrider International; Toni Bock, Virco; Kacey Takashima, American Honda Motor Co.; Crystal Williams, Kaiser Permanente South Bay Medical Center; Jill Fatal and Claranne Agnelly, First California Bank; and Frank Scotto, Frank Scotto Towing.

6C. 2007-2008 GREEN PRIDE IN TORRANCE AWARDS

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Community Development Director that City Council recognize winners of the Green Pride in Torrance Award for 2007-2008.

Mayor Scotto recognized the following Green Pride in Torrance Award winners for 2007-2008: Acura Design Center/American Honda, accepted by Barbara Van Gassbeek and Jeff Lemler; and Callie Cessna and Rebecca Thompson from Girl Scout Troop 273. The following "Green is Good" drawing contest winners were also recognized: Kellie Miyamoto, Robert Luk, Sean Sng, Bella Torres, Milad Goodarzi, Rachel Covey, Anthony Rojo, and Nina Johnson. Unable to attend: Gable House Bowl and drawing contest winners Layal Aryan, and Vanessa Delgado.

7. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #1

7A. Debbie Hays, Torrance Historical Society, invited the public to attend a reading of "Twas the Night Before Christmas" on Sunday, December 14, at 4:00 p.m. by Michael George at the Torrance Historical Museum, 1345 Post Avenue. She noted that the museum will be closed December 15 through January 5.

7B. Scott Gobble, Southern California Edison, encouraged residents to put outdoor holiday lights on a timer in order to conserve energy and save on electric bills and cautioned against stringing too many sets of lights together due to the safety hazard.

8. CONSENT CALENDAR

8A. APPROVAL OF CITY-SPONSORED ENVIRONMENTAL FAIR

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Community Development Director that City Council approve a City-sponsored environmental fair to be held at Madrona Marsh Saturday, June 13, 2009.

Considered separately, see pages 4-5.

8B. CONTRACT WITH INTRATEK, INC. FOR TEMPORARY STAFFING SERVICES

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Communications & Information Technology Director that City Council approve a seven month contract services agreement with Intratek, Inc., to hire a temporary Systems Administrator for an amount not to exceed \$79,051.

8C. ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMISSION 2007-2008 ANNUAL REPORT

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Community Development Director and the Environmental Quality Commission that City Council accept and file the Environmental Quality Commission's 2007-2008 Annual Report.

8D. PURCHASE ORDER FOR UNIFORM RENTAL SERVICE

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Finance Director that City Council authorize a purchase order to SoCal Uniform Rental, San Gabriel, CA, for a not to exceed amount of \$201,425 to provide uniform rental service for a three (3) year period (B2008-64).

8E. CONTRACT FOR INTERIOR DEMOLITION AND ABATEMENT AT BRANCH LIBRARIES

Recommendation

Recommendation of the General Services Director that City Council award a contract to Janus Corporation for \$39,630 with a 5% contingency of \$1,982 for the interior demolition and abatement at five (5) branch libraries (FEAP #623).

8F. CONTRACT FOR SPECIAL EVENT CONSULTING SERVICES

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Community Services Director that City Council approve a contract with John Powers in an amount not to exceed \$62,100 for special event consulting services.

8G. DISASTER COUNCIL 2007-2008 ANNUAL REPORT

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Chief of Police and the Disaster Council that City Council accept and file the Disaster Council 2007-2008 Annual Report.

8H. PURCHASE ORDER FOR FIREARMS TRAINING SIMULATOR SYSTEM

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Chief of Police that City Council authorize a purchase order to Ti Training systems of Golden, CO, in the amount of \$52,556.46, for the purchase of a firearms training simulator system and accessories.

8I. INVESTMENT REPORT FOR OCTOBER 2008

Recommendation

Recommendation of the City Treasurer that City Council accept and file the monthly investment report for October 2008.

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

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

8A. APPROVAL OF CITY-SPONSORED ENVIRONMENTAL FAIR

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Community Development Director that City Council approve a City-sponsored environmental fair to be held at Madrona Marsh Saturday, June 13, 2009.

Mayor Scotto reported that Congresswoman Jane Harman has requested that the City consider holding an energy fair and suggested the possibility of combining this event with the environmental fair.

City Manager Jackson agreed to look into this matter and report back to the Council next week.

12. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

12A. AIRPORT COMMISSION REPORT ON USE OF JET FUEL AT TORRANCE MUNICIPAL AIRPORT – ZAMPERINI FIELD

Recommendation

Recommendation of the General Services Director that City Council accept and file the Airport Commission's Committee report regarding the use of jet fuel at Torrance Municipal Airport - Zamperini Field.

Mayor Scotto noted that staff was recommending that the City Council accept and file the report and should the Council decide to take any action on recommendations in the report, a hearing will be scheduled at a later date.

Councilmember Sutherland voiced his opinion that this item should have never been brought before the Council and that the Airport Commission failed to listen to residents, who are overwhelmingly opposed to allowing the sale and storage of jet fuel at Torrance Airport.

Facility Operations Manager Megerdichian provided background information about the Airport Commission's decision to form a committee to explore this topic.

David Ouwerkerk, Torrance, stated that there are two main objections to the sale of jet fuel at Torrance Airport: 1) That it would increase noise, and 2) That it would create more jet traffic at the airport. He contended that neither of these concerns was valid because the City has monitoring devices around the airport and rules and regulations to control noise and allowing the sale of jet fuel would not create more jet traffic, but would simply be a convenience for airport users. He related his belief that the opposition was coming from a small but vocal minority, noting that almost all who have expressed concerns live in the 90505 zip code. He called for a factual study to provide objective data on the pros and cons of allowing the sale of jet fuel at the airport rather than relying on emotional arguments. He urged the Council to address this issue and not "bury their heads in the sand."

Commissioner Brewer expressed concerns about spending money on a study when the City is already faced with budget shortfalls.

Commissioner Rhilinger voiced her opinion that there was no compelling need to sell jet fuel at the airport at this time, therefore there was no reason to go to the expense of funding a study to pursue this matter.

Councilmember Numark stated that he also was not in favor of spending money to study this issue during this difficult financial time and felt it was more important that noise monitoring equipment works properly.

Councilmember Furey indicated that he also did not favor pursuing this matter, relating his belief that the ban on the sale of jet fuel at the airport has served the City well and is widely supported by residents.

Councilmember Barnett reported that it was his impression while campaigning for his seat on the Council that the majority of residents strongly support the ban on jet fuel and he favors continuing this policy.

Mayor Scotto stated that he also did not support introducing the sale of jet fuel at Torrance Airport because it has the potential of attracting jet-related businesses, thereby increasing air traffic.

MOTION: Councilmember Brewer moved to accept and file the report. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Barnett and passed by unanimous roll call vote, with Councilmember Sutherland abstaining.

12B. STATEMENT OF INVESTMENT POLICY FOR 2009

Recommendation

Recommendation of the City Treasurer that City Council adopt a Resolution establishing the Statement of Investment Policy for 2009.

City Treasurer Barnett reported that the Investment Policy remains the same except references to the year 2008 were replaced with 2009 and FDIC insurance coverage has increased from a maximum of \$100,000 to \$250,000.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 2008-123

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE
ESTABLISHING THE STATEMENT OF INVESTMENT POLICY FOR 2009
IN ACCORDANCE WITH CERTAIN GUIDELINES

MOTION: Councilmember Sutherland moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2008-123. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Brewer and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

12C. RESOLUTION TO JOIN CALIFORNIA STEWARDSHIP PRODUCT COUNCIL

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Environmental Quality and Energy Conservation Commission and the Public Works Director that City Council adopt a Resolution to join the California Product Stewardship Council and authorize an annual membership fee of \$1,500.

Waste Management Coordinator Sherman reported that the California Product Stewardship Council is a non-profit coalition of local governments, solid waste organizations, and other related groups that promotes "extended producer responsibility" (EPR), a system that encourages manufacturers to share the responsibility for the disposal of the goods they produce. She noted that the Public Works Department will act as liaison to this organization.

Councilmember Brewer expressed concerns about providing ongoing financial support to an organization when the City has little control over its policies.

MOTION: Councilmember Sutherland moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Numark and passed by a 6-1 roll call vote, with Councilmember Brewer dissenting.

RESOLUTION NO. 2008-124

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE
SUPPORTING EXTENDED PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY (JOIN THE
CALIFORNIA PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL)

MOTION: Councilmember Sutherland moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2008-124. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Numark and passed by a 6-1 roll call vote, with Councilmember Brewer dissenting.

12D. FIRST QUARTER 2008-2009 BUDGET REVIEW

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Finance and Governmental Operations Committee that City Council:

- 1) Accept and file the First Quarter 2008-2009 Budget Review Report and the City Treasurer's Investment Report; and
- 2) Concur with staff's recommendation for the capital project requests.

Finance Director Tsao reported that revenues and expenditures are within budgetary targets at this time; that revenues are expected to decline due to the current economic downturn; and that the City is in a holding pattern until mid-January when more definitive information concerning sales tax and property tax revenues will be available. He noted that as a precaution, the City Manager is evaluating personnel requisitions and deferring major expenditures where feasible.

Responding to questions from the Council, Finance Director Tsao advised that CalPERS has experienced significant losses and the City expects an increase in pension rates beginning in 2009-2010. He reported that property tax revenues are stable and projected to increase slightly.

Charles Deemer, Torrance, requested and received clarification regarding the City's investment policy.

MOTION: Councilmember Sutherland moved to concur with the staff recommendation to accept and file the First Quarter 2008-2009 Budget Review Report and City Treasurer's Investment Report and approve the following capital improvement requests: City Treasurer/Police – approve the transfer of unclaimed funds to support the expansion of the Community Affairs Division at the Police Department; and Community Services – approve the refurbishment of the Torrance Park restroom building. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Numark and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

12E. CONTRACT RE TORRANCE PARK RESTROOM RESTORATION

Recommendation

Recommendation of the General Services Director that City Council:

- 1) Accept the bid withdrawal from Let's Build It, Inc.;
- 2) Reject the bids from Sturgeon General Inc. as non-responsive and non-responsive and Hana Tech Construction as non-responsive;
- 3) Award a contract to Action Contractors, Inc. for \$142,320 with a 5% contingency of \$7,116 for the Torrance Park Restroom Restoration (B2008-60) (FEAP #677); and
- 4) Approve \$5,000 for inspection services and 10% project management fee of \$14,232.

Project Manager Landis reported that the project will repair damage caused by a 2007 fire.

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

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Mayor Scotto announced that subsequent to the posting of the agenda, the contractor waterproofing the Benstead Plunge viewing deck discovered extensive water damage to the plywood roof deck and replacement of damaged roof deck materials was not included in the original contract. The General Services Director recommends that City Council appropriate additional funds so that work may continue on the project, therefore, the City Attorney has requested that City Council consider adding this item to the agenda. In order to take action on a matter that is not on the agenda, the California Government Code requires a determination by a two-thirds vote of the Council that immediate action is necessary and that the need to take action arose subsequent to the posting of the agenda.

MOTION: Councilmember Brewer moved to add the item to the agenda (Agenda Item 12F) pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2(b)(2). The motion was seconded by Councilmember Barnett and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

12F. DECK REPAIRS TO BENSTEAD PLUNGE

Recommendation

Recommendation of the General Services Director that City Council appropriate \$8,175 from the Building Maintenance Capital Project Fund to the Plunge Deck Repairs. (FEAP #690). (C2008-219)

Project Manager Landis reported that approval of this item would allow repairs to the deck to be completed while the plunge is closed for another project currently underway.

Councilmember Sutherland expressed concerns that the leaking roof deck was not discovered earlier.

Project Landis advised that the roof deck was not leaking however extensive water damage was discovered by the contractor waterproofing the deck.

MOTION: Councilmember Brewer moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Barnett and passed by a 6-1 roll call vote, with Councilmember Sutherland dissenting.

13. HEARINGS

13A. ORDINANCE RE CIVIL DEBT COLLECTION

Recommendation

Recommendation of the City Treasurer and the Finance Director that City Council:

- 1) Conduct a public hearing to adopt an Ordinance modifying the current schedule of parking penalties and fees to authorize the City to recover the costs of collecting delinquent parking violation penalties through its existing citation management service agreement with the City of Inglewood and collection services from their collection agency contractor, Law Enforcement Systems (LES); and
- 2) Approve an ordinance summary for publication.

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.

Deputy City Treasurer Cortez reported that the proposed Ordinance would allow the use of a collection service to recover delinquent parking violation penalties at no additional cost to the City.

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

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

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

ORDINANCE NO. 3716

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE
ADDING A NEW SECTION 7 TO ARTICLE 2 OF CHAPTER 1 OF DIVISION 1 OF
THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE IMPOSING A FEE FOR THE
COLLECTION OF DELINQUENT PARKING CITATIONS

MOTION: Councilmember Sutherland moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 3716. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Numark and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

13B. CHANGES TO TORRANCE TRANSIT FARE STRUCTURE

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Transit Director that City Council adopt a Resolution approving proposed changes to the fare structure of the Torrance Transit System.

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.

In a PowerPoint presentation, Transit Administration Manager Mills provided an overview of the proposed changes to the fare structure of Torrance Transit System, noting that there would be no changes to fares for the disabled and seniors, but the age of seniors would be raised from 60 to 65, and a new discounted fare would be created for students, as well as a monthly student pass. He explained that fare increases were necessary due to a reduction in funding levels, rising labor costs and unpredictable fuel costs, noting that the last fare increase was 13 years ago in November 1995. He noted that two community outreach/information meetings were held at the Katy Geissert Civic Center Library on October 30, 2008 and the Long Beach Civic Center Library on November 12, 2008 with a total of 7 attendees; that public notices were posted on the Torrance Transit System (TTS) website and in local newspapers and *La Opinion*; and that a hotline and an email address were established to receive public comments. He reported that 19 comments were received and the main concern was that the fee increases would cause economic hardship. He contrasted TTS base fare with other transit agency base fares in the region, noting that TTS has the lowest base fare of any municipally operated transit system in California. He advised that the average cost per passenger trip is currently \$4.00, which requires a \$3.50 subsidy, and the subsidy would be reduced to \$3.00 if the proposed fare structure is approved and that the effective date would be January 5, 2009.

In response to Councilmember Brewer's inquiry, Transit Administration Manager Mills reported that there has been a slight increase in ridership due to higher gas prices, but the average cost per passenger trip has remained the same because of increased fuel costs and loss of revenue from the State.

Councilmember Numark proposed that consideration be given to reducing student fares from \$0.50 to \$0.25 and student monthly passes from \$30.00 to \$15.00 to encourage more young people to use the bus and offsetting this expense by allowing advertising on City buses.

City Manager Jackson advised that it would take approximately one month to explore this possibility.

Councilmember Sutherland voiced his opinion that the City has waited too long to raise fares and recommended that staff return in five years to determine whether fares should be raised at that time. He related his belief that the proposed \$30.00 monthly pass for students was reasonable given the current price of gas.

City Manager Jackson noted that prior to two years ago, the City could not raise fares without being penalized with loss of funds.

A brief discussion ensued regarding the possibility of lowering student fares, and City Manager Jackson confirmed that the Council could approve the fare changes as proposed and decide at a later date whether or not to reduce student fares.

Mayor Scotto asked students in the audience whether they would be more inclined to ride the bus if the fare was reduced to \$0.25.

Seven students from West High came forward (names inaudible/no speaker cards) and four students indicated that they might ride the bus more if the fare was reduced and thought it was a good idea; two students reported that it was unlikely that they would ever ride the bus regardless of the fare; and one student stated that very few high school students ride the bus, however, he believed college students would benefit from a reduced fare.

Charles Deemer, Torrance, recommended setting an age limit for student passes and having a tiered rate with students in grades K-12 paying less than college students. He also recommended that the student passes be available at Del Amo Fashion Center and the Carson Mall for ease of purchase.

Transit Administration Manager Mills advised that staff chose not to put an age limit on student passes as long as the purchaser is a full-time student because people of all ages are going back to school.

Councilmember Numark indicated that he favored delaying this item for one month to explore the feasibility of reducing student fares so the City would not incur the cost of redoing all the written materials listing fares if the Council decides to do so. He explained that he viewed this as an opportunity to change the behavior of students by providing an incentive to ride the bus and thereby improve the environment by reducing air pollution.

Mayor Scotto suggested delaying the decision on whether to reduce student fares for one year to establish a baseline as to how many students are riding the bus and to determine how much income can be generated from advertising on buses.

Councilmember Numark voiced support for Mayor Scotto's suggestion. He requested that staff look into the possibility of offering a monthly senior pass and explore subsidies offered by other agencies to reduce the cost of fares.

Councilmember Brewer voiced his opinion that revenue generated by fare increases should be used for new buses and expanding routes.

Mayor Scotto recommended that free ridership be offered for students periodically to familiarize them with the City's bus service.

Transit Director Turner advised that staff intends to actively promote bus ridership to students.

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

MOTION: Councilmember Numark moved to concur with the staff recommendation and to direct staff to investigate a monthly senior pass. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Brewer and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 2008-125

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE TO RESTRUCTURE THE FARE SCHEDULE OF TORRANCE TRANSIT SYSTEM TO ADDRESS RISING OPERATING COSTS AND DIMINISHING FUNDING FROM THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

MOTION: Councilmember Sutherland moved to adopt Resolution No. 2008-125. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Numark and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

16. SECOND READING ORDINANCES

16A. SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 3715

ORDINANCE NO. 3715

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE GRANTING PACIFIC PIPELINE SYSTEM, LLC A PIPELINE FRANCHISE TO REPLACE EXPIRED FRANCHISE ORDINANCE NO. 3116 TO CONSTRUCT, LAY, OPERATE, TEST, MAINTAIN, USE, RENEW, REPAIR, REPLACE, MOVE, CHANGE THE SIZE AND NUMBER OF, AND REMOVE OR ABANDON IN PLACE A SYSTEM OF PIPELINES AND APPURTENANCES, FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONDUCTING, TRANSPORTING, CONVEYING AND CARRYING GAS, OIL, PETROLEUM PRODUCTS AND WATER, ON, ALONG, IN, UNDER AND ACROSS PUBLIC STREETS, WAYS, ALLEYS AND PLACES WITHIN THE CITY OF TORRANCE

MOTION: Councilmember Sutherland moved to adopt Ordinance No. 3715 and to approve an ordinance summary for publication. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Numark and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

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The City Council met as the Redevelopment Agency from 9:05 p.m. to 9:09 p.m.

17. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #2

17A. Councilmember Barnett invited the public to attend the Torrance Civic Chorale and Orchestra presentation of "Jubilant Songs of December" on December 12 and 13 at 8:00 p.m. in the Armstrong Theatre.

17B. Councilmember Brewer reported that he recently had an opportunity to visit the USS Abraham Lincoln and was very impressed by the men and women serving on the ship.

17C. Councilmember Brewer invited the public to attend “Breakfast with Santa” on Saturday, December 20, from 9:00 a.m. to noon in the Toyota Meeting Hall.

17D. Councilmember Brewer requested an excused absence for the December 23 Council meeting because he will be out of town.

17E. Councilmember Furey announced that Torrance Barnes & Noble was holding a book fair this month whereby people may purchase a book to be donated to Torrance schools. He noted that Barnes & Noble also held a fundraiser for the Torrance Education Foundation on Monday, December 8.

17F. Councilmember Numark expressed condolences to the Rhilinger family.

17G. Councilmember Rhilinger requested an excused absence for the December 16 Council meeting as she will be out of town to attend her aunt’s funeral.

17H. Councilmember Sutherland, with the concurrence of Council, requested that Torrance High girls’ golf team be recognized for winning the state championship two years in a row.

17I. Councilmember Sutherland noted that he also visited the USS Abraham Lincoln and expressed appreciation for the sacrifices of the young men and women serving on the ship to protect our nation.

17J. Mayor Scotto extended condolences to Councilmember Rhilinger and her family.

17K. Mayor Scotto reported that he greatly enjoyed his visit to the USS Abraham Lincoln during which he had the rare opportunity to watch both daytime and nighttime landings on the aircraft carrier, and thanked the Torrance Police Department and the U.S. Navy for arranging it. He noted that the service men and women with whom he spoke were proud and excited to serve on the ship and encouraged everyone to show their appreciation for our military by attending the City’s annual Armed Forces Day Parade in May.

17L. Charles Deemer, Torrance, requested and received clarification regarding the digitization of City records.

18. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Scotto announced that subsequent to the posting of the agenda, the City of Torrance and Dow Chemical agreed to a mediation regarding the acquisition of various interests in property located at 305 Crenshaw Boulevard, Torrance, CA, to facilitate construction of the Del Amo Extension Project. The City Attorney has requested that the City Council consider adding this item to the agenda because immediate instruction is needed. In order to take action on a matter that is not on the agenda, the California Government Code requires a determination by a two-thirds vote of the Council that immediate action is necessary and that the need to take action arose subsequent to the posting of the agenda.

MOTION: Councilmember Brewer moved to add the item to the agenda pursuant to Government Code § 54954.2(b)(2) and 54956.8. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Barnett and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

At 9:21 p.m., the City Council recessed to closed session to confer with the City Manager and City Attorney on the above item and agenda matters listed under 18A) Real Property – Conference with Real Property Negotiator pursuant to California Government Code § 54956.8.

The City Council reconvened at 9:51 p.m. No formal action was considered on any matter considered in closed session.

19. ADJOURNMENT

At 9:51 p.m., the meeting was adjourned to Tuesday, December 16, 2008 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
Winifred McDonough
and
Jimmy Moorman***

Attest:

/s/ Frank Scotto

Mayor of the City of Torrance

/s/ Sue Herbers

Sue Herbers,
City Clerk of the City of Torrance

Approved on February 10, 2009