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TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL DECEMBER 22, 2015

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At 10:37 p.m., the meeting was adjourned to Tuesday, January 12, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. for an executive session, with the regular meeting commencing at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber. Tuesday, December 29, 2015 and Tuesday, January 5, 2016 are City Council dark nights.

**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 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, December 22, 2015 in the Council Chamber at Torrance City Hall.

ROLL CALL

Present: Councilmembers Ashcraft, Barnett, Goodrich, Griffiths, Rizzo, Weideman and Mayor Furey.

Absent: None.

Present: City Manager Jackson, Assistant City Manager Giordano, City Attorney Fellows, City Clerk Poirier and other staff representatives.

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 the City Attorney on agenda matters listed under 18A) Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation, pursuant to California Government Code §54956.9(d)(1).

The City Council reconvened at 7:00 p.m. with all members present. No formal action was taken on any matter considered in closed session.

2. FLAG SALUTE/ INVOCATION

The flag salute was led by Councilmember Weideman.

The non-sectarian invocation was given by Councilmember Ashcraft.

3. REPORT OF CITY CLERK ON POSTING OF THE AGENDA/ MOTION TO WAIVE FURTHER READING

City Clerk Poirier reported that the agenda was posted on the Public Notice Board at 3031 Torrance Boulevard on Thursday, December 17, 2015.

MOTION: Councilmember Barnett 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 Griffiths and passed by unanimous vote.

4. WITHDRAWN, DEFERRED OR SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

No items were withdrawn or deferred; supplemental material was available for Items 9B, 12B, 12E and 12F.

5. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilmember Ashcraft reported on the Employee Relations and Public Safety Committee meeting held on October 27, 2015.

Councilmember Griffiths offered a reminder about Torrance Police Department's new free mobile application, which allows residents to access the Police Department directory, crime maps, crime bulletins, press releases, community events, job opportunities and much more.

Mayor Furey announced that applications are being accepted for the City's Hometown Heroes annual military recognition program, which recognizes active and retired military personnel with a display of banners to coincide with the annual Armed Forces Day Parade. He noted that applications are available at public counters throughout City Hall and on the City's website and the deadline to submit applications is February 1, 2016.

Mayor Furey, with the concurrence of Council, requested that staff return with an item to reimburse fees for the use of Garden Rooms A and B at the Cultural Arts Center for an event scheduled for Thursday, January 7, 2016 to recognize people who donated and/or volunteered to help those in need for the Torrance Thanksgiving event.

6. COMMUNITY MATTERS

6A. RESOLUTION NO. 2015-92 RE SCOTT SCHNEIDER

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-92

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE
HONORING SCOTT H. SCHNEIDER OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT
UPON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE CITY AFTER THIRTY-SEVEN
YEARS OF SERVICE

MOTION: Councilmember Rizzo moved to adopt Resolution No. 2015-92. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Goodrich and passed by unanimous vote.

Fire Chief Racowschi commended Mr. Schneider for his many years of dedicated service as a firefighter and paramedic.

U.S. Congressman Ted Lieu and U.S. Congresswoman Maxine Waters presented Certificates of Congressional Recognition to Mr. Schneider.

Mayor Furey presented the resolution to Mr. Schneider, who accepted with appreciation and introduced family members present at the meeting.

6B. RESOLUTION NO. 2015-95 RE FIRE CHIEF WILLIAM RACOWSCHI

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-95

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE
HONORING CHIEF WILLIAM RACOWSCHI OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT
UPON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE CITY AFTER THIRTY-FIVE
YEARS OF SERVICE

MOTION: Councilmember Rizzo moved to adopt Resolution No. 2015-95. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Goodrich and passed by unanimous vote.

City Manager Jackson highlighted Chief Racowski's achievements during his long career with the Torrance Fire Department and expressed appreciation his dedicated service.

U.S. Congressman Ted Lieu and U.S. Congresswoman Maxine Waters presented Certificates of Congressional Recognition to Chief Racowski.

Mayor Furey presented the resolution to Chief Racowski, who accepted with appreciation and introduced family members present at the meeting.

Chief Espinosa, President of South Bay Fire Chiefs Association, presented an award of appreciation to Chief Racowski.

Deputy Fire Chief Dumais presented Chief Racowski with a framed display of patches and badges worn throughout his career on behalf of Torrance Fire Department and staff.

Assistant Fire Chief Cerna presented Chief Racowski with a plaque in appreciation for his service on behalf of Torrance Fire Chief Officers Association.

6C. RECOGNITION OF TORRANCE THANKSGIVING STEERING COMMITTEE AND VOLUNTEERS

Mayor Furey presented a proclamation commending the Torrance Thanksgiving Steering Committee and community volunteers for their commitment to making a difference in the lives of those in need to Dr. Rogers Govender and Pastor Johnny Saveedra of the Christ for the Nations Church, Debbie Russel and Amie Wills with Torrance Church of the Nazarene, Lionel Pieterse, Jacques Schaeffer and Susan Sanborn with Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A. Inc.

6D. RECOGNITION OF TORRANCE POLICE DEPARTMENT BY ARTS COUNCIL OF TORRANCE

Steve Norris, President of the Arts Council of Torrance, and Ted Lange, actor, presented a painting to Police Chief Matsuda in appreciation for the Torrance Police Department's support of arts programs.

6E. QUARTERLY UPDATE FROM SOUTH BAY WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD

Chris Cagle, Regional Affairs Manager, provided a quarterly update on South Bay Workforce Investment Board's activities for July through September 2015, noting that over 9,000 people visited the South Bay One-Stop Job Center in downtown Torrance during that period. He highlighted the new business services website www.southbaybusiness.org designed to be a tool for layoff aversion, business retention and business attraction efforts.

7. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #1

Georgean Griswold, Jennifer Harris, Tim Beck, and Harry Stuver, spoke.

8. CONSENT CALENDAR

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

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Community Services Director that City Council accept and appropriate a \$16,800 donation from the Friends of the Torrance Library for Youth Services programming.

8B. SECOND AMENDMENT TO TAXI FRANCHISE AGREEMENTS

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Finance Director that City Council authorize the second amendment to the taxicab franchise agreements approving a two-year extension at an annual fee of \$35,000 per franchise and \$100 per licensed taxicab with the following taxicab companies:

- 1) Bell Cab (F2009-40)
- 2) South Bay Yellow Cab (F2009-41)
- 3) United Checker (F2009-42)
- 4) All Yellow Taxi (F2009-43)

8C. WATER COMMISSION 2014-2015 ANNUAL REPORT

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Water Commission and Public Works Director that City Council accept and file the Water Commission 2014-15 Annual Report.

8D. AMENDED CONCESSION AGREEMENT FOR LAS CANCHAS TENNIS FACILITY

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Community Services Director that the City Council:

- 1) Adopt a California Environmental (CEQA) Categorical Exemption to Guideline 15301 (existing facilities); and
- 2) Approve a fourth amendment to the concession agreement with South Bay Tennis Center of Torrance, CA (C2008-243) for the lease and full operation of the Las Canchas Tennis Facility through December 31, 2019, extending the term of the agreement for four years with options for two (2) two-year extensions.

8E. CLASS SPECIFICATION FOR RECORDS MANAGEMENT SPECIALIST

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Civil Service Commission and the Human Resources Administrator that City Council approve the proposed class specification for Records Management Specialist.

MOTION: Councilmember Weideman moved for the approval of Consent Calendar Items 8A through 8E. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Ashcraft and passed by unanimous vote.

9. COMMUNITY SERVICES

9A. RESOLUTION RE YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PLAN FOR PROPOSITION A PROJECTS

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Community Services Director that the City Council adopt a Resolution authorizing a Youth Employment Plan for three Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District Proposition A grants.

Sr. Administrative Analyst Orpe advised that the City is required to file a Youth Employment Plan in order to receive funding for three Proposition A projects – Benstead Plunge Repairs, Pueblo Park Renovation, and Wilson Park Renovation – even though no youths were used because the projects required professional construction skills and were not suitable for training programs.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-93

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE
AUTHORIZING THE ADOPTION OF A YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PLAN FOR
THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY REGIONAL PARK AND OPEN SPACE
DISTRICT GRANT PROGRAMS FOR: Charles H. Wilson Park Phase II
Grant #58K4-98-1018; Pueblo Park Play Equipment and Restroom Installation
Grant #58K4-12-2300; and Benstead Plunge Rehabilitation Grant #58K4-98-1048

MOTION: Councilmember Rizzo moved to adopt Resolution No. 2015-93. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Goodrich and passed by unanimous vote.

9B. GRANT APPLICATION AND AUTHORIZATION OF PARKS AND RECREATION OPEN SPACE FUNDING FOR SPLASH PAD PROJECT

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Community Services Director that the City Council:

- 1) Authorize and appropriate \$210,000 in Parks and Recreation Open Space Funding to the Splash Pad Project; and
- 2) Approve a Resolution that authorizes the application for \$300,000 in grant funding and a Youth Employment Plan for the Splash Pad Project. Upon approval of the grant funding, authorize and appropriate the grant funding to the project.

Sr. Administrative Analyst Orpe provided an overview of the Splash Pad Project to be implemented as part of the re-purposing of the Wilson Park pond. He explained that a smaller pond with a bio-filtration system will be located on the north side of the existing pond, the narrow center area will become a hardscape plaza, and the new splash pad will be at the south end. He reported that the Splash Pad Project is estimated to cost \$510,000, with \$300,000 to come from grant funds and \$210,000 from Parks and Recreation Open Space funding

Councilmember Griffiths asked about funding for the remainder of the project, ongoing maintenance for the splash pad, and replacement costs.

Sr. Administrative Analyst Orpe advised that funding for remainder of the project will likely be available in the Open Space residual projects fund and this matter will be brought back for the Council's approval once the exact cost is known. He explained that maintaining the splash pad is not expected to take any more time than maintaining the existing pond, especially since it will be operational only approximately 6 months a year, and it will be handled by the regular staff at Wilson Park.

Community Services Director Jones noted that the chemical system for the splash pad is automated and will use less chemicals than the existing pond. He reported that the splash pad has a 10-year warranty for both the surface area and the equipment and the cost to replace it after the warranty has expired will be considerably less because the infrastructure will already be in place.

In response to Councilmember Ashcraft's inquiry, Community Services Director Jones confirmed that the final design of the project will be brought back to the Council for approval.

Voicing support for the project, Mayor Furey noted that this concept, which will be less costly in terms of maintenance and more usable by the community than the existing pond, was originally considered in 2009, but was not implemented due to funding constraints.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-94

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE APPROVING THE APPLICATION FOR GRANT FUNDS FROM THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY REGIONAL PARK AND OPEN SPACE DISTRICT FOR FOURTH SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT PROPOSITION A FUNDING FOR CHARLES H. WILSON PARK SPLASH PAD AND APPROVES THE ADOPTION OF A YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PLAN

MOTION: Councilmember Rizzo moved to adopt Resolution No. 2015-94. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Goodrich and passed by unanimous vote.

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The City Council briefly recessed from 8:55 to 9:05 p.m.

12. ADMINISTRATION MATTERS

12A. JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT FOR INTEROPERABLE RADIO SYSTEM AND TRANSITION TO NEW RECORDS MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Recommendation

Recommendation of the City Council Employee Relations and Public Safety Committee that City Council concur with the direction of two public safety projects:

- 1) Development of an Area G Joint Powers Agreement to govern a proposed interoperable radio communications system with Torrance as the Prime site and Glendale Interagency Communications Interoperability System as the Master site; and,

2) Police department proposed transition to a new Records Management System.

Councilmember Ashcraft, chair of the Employee Relations and Public Safety Committee, reported that the Committee met on October 27, 2015 to review the above-mentioned public safety projects and voted to concur with the direction of both.

Councilmember Ashcraft asked about safeguards to ensure that cities involved in the JPA (Joint Powers Agreement) follow through with their financial commitments.

Assistant City Manager Giordano advised that by signing the JPA, cities will be agreeing to share the cost of the communications system and a debt will be incurred if a city decides to withdraw from the agreement and take its assets.

Harry Stuver, Torrance, recalled that an earlier effort to develop an interoperable radio system with other South Bay cities did not work out and questioned why the City of Torrance was taking on this burden.

Assistant City Manager Giordano reported that by organizing Area G cities, Torrance will have a much higher profile for obtaining federal grants, noting that the City was recently awarded a \$1 million grant to build the Prime site.

Mayor Furey stressed the need to be able to communicate with other public safety agencies in the region in the event of a disaster.

Communications Manager Gallo provided background information about the proposal to create an Area G interoperable communications system thereby sharing coverage, radio sites, and leveraging opportunities for federal grants and discussed the benefits of such a system.

In response to Councilmember Rizzo, Communications Manager Gallo confirmed that Torrance will continue to have its own dispatch center and there will be no operational changes in the way calls are handled.

MOTION: Councilmember Barnett moved to concur with the Committee's recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Griffiths and passed by unanimous vote.

12B. DRAFT ORDINANCE TO ALLOW THE KEEPING OF HENS ON SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Community Development Director that City Council modify the Draft Hens Ordinance and direct Staff to prepare an Ordinance modifying the Torrance Municipal Code to allow the keeping of hens for single family residences within the City.

Deputy Community Development Director Cessna reported that the draft ordinance to allow the keeping of chickens (hens only) on single-family residential properties has been revised based on discussion at the August 4, 2015 City Council meeting and staff was seeking the Council's direction.

Councilmember Rizzo questioned whether chickens would be allowed to roam the yard or be confined to coops/enclosures.

Ms. Cessna related her understanding that chickens are typically allowed to roam at least part of the time, therefore staff was recommending that they be confined to the backyard.

Noting that there have been recent incidents of predators killing small animals, Councilmember Rizzo recommended that the ordinance be amended to require that chickens be confined to coops/enclosures at all times. He also recommended that a more comprehensive section on public nuisances be added to clarify what "other causes" would be considered a public nuisance, such as vermin resulting from improper maintenance, and to define the procedure for abating the public nuisance.

Councilmember Rizzo asked if staff was able to identify any organizations that have established best practices for raising and maintaining chickens.

Ms. Cessna explained that there are chicken enthusiast groups in the area, but none with the same level of knowledge and authority as groups related to beekeeping.

Councilmember Rizzo noted that diseased chickens can also present a problem and recommended that this be included in the section on public nuisances.

Councilmember Ashcraft suggested that additional measures may be needed to keep chickens safe due to the increase in incidents involving coyotes. She related her understanding that disease can spread very rapidly among chickens and recommended that the procedure for dealing with this issue be clearly defined. She indicated that she would not support the ordinance as proposed due to the lack of a neighbor sign-off process.

Councilmember Barnett voiced his opinion that both beekeeping and the raising of chickens are better suited to a rural environment, relating his experience that there are strong odors associated with the keeping of chickens. He explained that he favored retaining the existing ordinance, which prohibits the keeping of chickens, since those residents who are currently doing so have caused few if any problems and he saw no need to create a new ordinance to relieve them of their guilt. He expressed concerns that enforcing the ordinance would overburden staff.

Referring to Section 3, Subsection 4 of the proposed ordinance, Councilmember Goodrich voiced his opinion that it was unnecessary to notify residents within a 300-foot radius that someone has applied for a permit to keep chickens since there is no such requirement for dogs, which can be an even greater nuisance.

Ms. Cessna clarified that the 300-foot notification area is for the keeping of pigeons and doves and the proposed notification area for chickens is the two lots on either side and behind the subject property.

Councilmember Goodrich reiterated his position that the notification of neighbors was unnecessary. He asked about the rationale for requiring chicken coops/enclosures to have a 15-foot minimum setback from the rear property line, but only a 10-foot minimum setback from the side property line.

Ms. Cessna advised that it was felt that requiring a 15-foot minimum setback for side yards would be too restrictive because side yards are usually much smaller than rear yards.

Councilmember Goodrich suggested that if a 10-foot minimum setback is sufficient for side yards where houses are closer together, it should also be sufficient for rear yards.

Mayor Furey indicated that he favored a sign-off process for immediate neighbors because they would be the ones most affected by noise and odors from chickens. He questioned the need to take any action on this issue because those who are currently raising chickens are causing very few problems and expressed concerns that approving this ordinance would cause a proliferation of this activity and create enforcement problems.

Councilmember Rizzo related his belief that Mayor Furey and Councilmember Barnett had made valid arguments for maintaining the status quo. He voiced his opinion that there should be a separate ordinance if the keeping of hens is allowed because amending the ordinance allowing pigeons and doves as currently proposed is confusing.

Mayor Furey invited public comment.

Harry Stuver, Torrance, urged adoption of the proposed ordinance. He contended that it would not create enforcement problems, as evidenced by the experience of other cities that allow the keeping of chickens and that chickens are no more of a nuisance than dogs. He recommended that chickens be allowed to roam the backyard rather than requiring them to be kept in enclosures, explaining that those who have chickens understand the risk of predators and take action accordingly.

A Torrance resident (name inaudible/no speaker card) expressed support for the proposed ordinance, noting that he currently raises chickens on his property. He suggested that raising chickens is beneficial because they eat insects and their droppings can be used for fertilizer and odor should not be an issue since no more than four hens would be allowed.

Milton Herring, Torrance, called for the Council to make a decision and either enforce the existing ordinance or enact the proposed ordinance.

Mayor Furey explained that the existing ordinance is enforced and any time there is a complaint the City takes action to have the chickens removed, however, this has happened only once in the past four years.

Councilmember Griffiths voiced support for the proposed ordinance, relating his belief that those who wish to undertake this activity should be able to do it legally within clearly defined guidelines. He noted that he has been involved in this process since the matter was first considered at the commission level and he has heard a lot of testimony from both experts and residents that allowing the keeping of chickens is a good thing.

Councilmember Goodrich indicated that he would drop his objection to the notification of neighbors in the interest of gaining a consensus. He pointed out that the same argument that there's no need to enact an ordinance since there are no problems could be applied to beekeeping, however, the Council recently approved an ordinance allowing this activity, which is much less common than raising chickens. Expressing support for the ordinance, he doubted that there would be a huge influx of residents who decide to keep hens if it is approved due to the considerable investment involved. He noted that three-quarters of cities in L.A. County have adopted ordinances allowing the keeping of chickens and he has seen nothing to indicate that any of these cities regret it.

Councilmember Rizzo reiterated his position that a separate ordinance is needed to regulate the keeping of hens for purposes of clarity.

A brief discussion ensued regarding revisions to the proposed ordinance.

Mayor Furey and Councilmember Ashcraft indicated that they would only support the ordinance if it includes a neighbor sign-off process.

Councilmember Weideman requested that staff return with two options for neighbor notification – a sign-off process, and the notification of immediate neighbors as currently proposed.

MOTION: Councilmember Weideman moved to direct staff to return with a revised ordinance specific to the keeping of hens that elaborates on what constitutes a public nuisance and details the procedure for nuisance abatement. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Griffiths and passed by unanimous vote.

12C. REVISED JOB DESCRIPTIONS FOR COMMUNITY SERVICES LEADER I-IV

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Human Resources Administrator that City Council:

- 1) Approve the revised job descriptions for Community Services Leader I-IV; and
- 2) Adopt a resolution pursuant to the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) amending Resolution No. 2014-39 for employees represented by the Torrance Recurrent Recreation Employees Organization (TRREO) to reflect the title changes and update pay ranges to conform to minimum wage requirements for 2016.

Human Resources Manager Lawrence reported that the proposed resolution revises job descriptions for Community Services Leader I-IV to more accurately depict their duties and provide greater flexibility in terms of staffing and it updates the pay range for Pool Locker Room Attendant to conform to new minimum wage requirements.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-96

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE
AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 2014-39 SETTING FORTH CHANGES
REGARDING HOURS, WAGES AND WORKING CONDITIONS FOR EMPLOYEES
REPRESENTED BY THE TORRANCE RECURRENT RECREATION ORGANIZATION

MOTION: Councilmember Rizzo moved to adopt Resolution No. 2015-96. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Goodrich and passed by unanimous vote.

12D. PAY RANGE RECORDS MANAGEMENT SPECIALIST

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Human Resources Administrator that City Council approve upgrade of 1.0 Office Assistant to 1.0 Records Management Specialist and adopt a resolution pursuant to the Memorandum of Understanding amending Resolution No. 2014-38 for employees represented by the Torrance City Employees Association (TCEA) to implement the new classification Records Management Specialist.

Human Resources Manager Lawrence reported that the proposed resolution would implement the pay range for the new classification of Records Management Specialist, noting that this is a companion item to Consent Calendar Item 8E.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-97

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE
AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 2014-38 SETTING FORTH CHANGES REGARDING
HOURS, WAGES AND WORKING CONDITIONS FOR EMPLOYEES REPRESENTED
BY THE TORRANCE CITY EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION (TCEA)

MOTION: Councilmember Rizzo moved to adopt Resolution No. 2015-97. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Goodrich and passed by unanimous vote.

12E. CONTINUATION OF AGREEMENT FOR FEDERAL GOVERNMENT CONSULTING AND ADVOCACY SERVICES

Recommendation

Recommendation of the City Manager the City Council approve continuation of services agreement with Van Scoyoc Associates, Inc. of Washington, D.C. to provide federal government consulting and advocacy services in the amount of \$72,000 for the period of January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016.

Assistant City Manager Giordano provided an overview of the services provided by Van Scoyoc and Associates (VSA) since being awarded the contract for federal advocacy services in December 2014, including facilitating two trips to Washington, D.C. to meet with the U.S. Coast Guard in connection with the 2015 Armed Forces Day Parade in January 2015 and a federal legislative advocacy trip in November 2015. She reported that VSA also provided information to the City on issues of interest and kept the City apprised of grants and funding opportunities for priority projects in the areas of public safety, water infrastructure and transit. She noted that approximately one-third of the contract is funded by the General Fund and the other two-thirds comes from Enterprise Funds.

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

12F. CONTINUATION OF AGREEMENT FOR STATE GOVERNMENT CONSULTING AND ADVOCACY SERVICES

Recommendation

Recommendation of the City Manager that City Council approve continuation of services agreement with Joe A. Gonsalves & Son of Sacramento, CA to provide state government consulting and advocacy services in the amount of \$51,000 for the period of January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016.

Management Associate Jones provided an overview of the services provided by Joe A. Gonsalves & Son since being awarded the contract for state government advocacy services in December 2014. She noted that the firm assisted the City in advocating for 37 legislative bills addressing various issues, including medical marijuana, homelessness, and drought regulations, and the firm reports to the City on the status of bills on a regular basis.

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

12G. ORDINANCE RE NPDES MUNICIPAL SEPARATE STORM SEWER SYSTEMS PERMIT

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Community Development Director that City Council:

- 1) Adopt an ordinance amending the Torrance Municipal Code, Division 4, Chapter 11, Section 411 to replace language enabling the City to comply with the updated requirements of the recently adopted National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4) permit for the Los Angeles Region; and
- 2) Approve an Ordinance Summary for publication.

Building Regulations Director Segovia reported that the ordinance amends the Torrance Municipal Code to comply with updated requirements of the NPDES Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems permit approved by the California Regional Water Quality Board.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 3793

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 11 OF DIVISION 4 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE – STANDARD URBAN STORM WATER MITIGATION PLAN IMPLEMENTATION TO EXPAND THE APPLICABILITY OF THE EXISTING STANDARD URBAN STORM WATER MITIGATION PLAN (SUSMP) REQUIREMENTS BY IMPOSING LOW IMPACT DEVELOPMENT (LID) STRATEGIES ON PROJECTS THAT REQUIRE BUILDING PERMITS

MOTION: Councilmember Rizzo moved to adopt Ordinance No. 3793. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Goodrich and passed by unanimous vote.

16. SECOND READING ORDINANCES

16A. SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 3792

ORDINANCE NO. 3792

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING ARTICLES 10 AND 11 OF DIVISION 4 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE TO ALLOW THE KEEPING OF BEES FOR SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENCES, ESTABLISH STANDARDS FOR THE KEEPING OF BEES, AND ESTABLISH A REVIEW PROCESS FOR BEE KEEPING APPLICATIONS FOR SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENCES

MOTION: Councilmember Rizzo moved to adopt Ordinance No. 3792. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Goodrich and passed by a 5-2 vote, with Councilmember Ashcraft and Councilmember Barnett voting no.

17. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

17A. Councilmember Ashcraft wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a healthy and happy holiday season.

17B. Councilmember Barnett echoed holiday greetings.

17C. Councilmember Goodrich wished everyone happy holidays.

17D. Councilmember Griffiths invited residents to attend community workshops to help determine improvements at local parks. He reported that meetings to address parks south of Torrance Boulevard will be held on Thursday, January 7, at Walteria Elementary School and Monday, January 25, at the Dee Hardison Center at Wilson Park and meetings to address parks north of Torrance Boulevard will be held on Wednesday, January 6, at Victor Elementary School, and Thursday, January 21, at McMaster Park, with all meetings beginning at 6:30 p.m. He noted that the Parks and Recreation Commission will hold a hearing on Wednesday, February 10, to discuss the issues raised at the workshops, after which the matter will be forwarded to the City Council for discussion on Tuesday, February 23.

17E. Councilmember Griffiths thanked staff from Public Works, the Police Department and the City Manager's office for their assistance with an issue that was brought to his attention by residents involving an unsightly property on Plaza del Amo.

17F. Councilmember Griffiths wished all a merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

17G. Councilmember Rizzo echoed holiday greetings and urged everyone to act responsibility at holiday functions and parties.

17H. Councilmember Weideman wished everyone a happy and safe holiday.

17I. Mayor Furey requested that staff prepare an agenda item to eliminate the requirement that the City Council approve excused absences for City commissioners.

17J. Mayor Furey wished the community a happy and safe holiday and expressed the hope that there would be less violence in the world in 2016.

17K. City Manager Jackson extended holiday greetings to the Council and the community on behalf of staff.

18. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Considered earlier, see page 1.

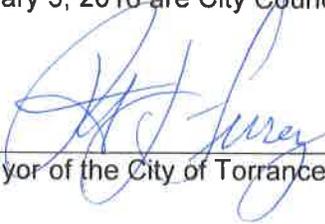
19. ADJOURNMENT

At 10:37 p.m., the meeting was adjourned to Tuesday, January 12, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. for an executive session, with the regular meeting commencing at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber. Tuesday, December 29, 2015 and Tuesday, January 5, 2016 are City Council dark nights.

Attest:



Rebecca Poirier
City Clerk of the City of Torrance



Mayor of the City of Torrance

Approved on January 26, 2016