

May 4, 1999

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

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Torrance City Council convened in a regular session at 5:31 p.m. on Tuesday, May 4, 1999, in the City Council Chambers at Torrance City Hall.

ROLL CALL

Present: Councilmembers Cribbs, Horwich, Lee, Messerlian, O'Donnell, Walker and Mayor Hardison.

Absent: None.

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

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

20. EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 5:31 p.m., pursuant to Government Code Section Nos. 54957.6 and 54956.9(a), the Council recessed into a closed session to discuss matters listed on the meeting agenda.

At 7:09 p.m., the Council returned to Council Chambers, and the meeting reconvened in regular agenda order. No formal action was taken on any matter heard in closed session.

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2. FLAG SALUTE/ INVOCATION

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Bob Wade, President of the Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce.

Dr. Frank Flores, Minister of the Church of Christ, gave the invocation for the meeting.

3. AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING/WAIVE FURTHER READING

MOTION: Councilman Lee 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 Councilwoman Cribbs and, there being no objection, it was so ordered by Mayor Hardison.

MOTION: Councilman Lee 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 Councilwoman Cribbs and, there being no objection, it was so ordered by Mayor Hardison.

4. WITHDRAWN/DEFERRED ITEMS

None.

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Mayor Hardison announced supplemental material available at the meeting concerning Items 7e, 7h, and 7j.

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5. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fire Service Day

Saturday, May 8, 1999, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Demonstrations at South Parking Lot at SCROC
Open House at all Fire Stations

40th Annual Armed Forces Day Parade

Saturday, May 15, 1999, 2:00 p.m.
Crenshaw and Torrance Boulevards
Displays at Del Amo Fashion Center
May 14-16, 1999

City Yard Open House

Saturday, May 22, 1999, 10:00 am to 2:00 p.m.
20500 Madrona Avenue
Demonstrations, Displays, Refreshments and Giveaways

Budget Workshops

Wednesday, May 26, 1999
Wednesday, June 2, 1999
5:30 p.m., Council Chambers – City Hall
3031 Torrance Boulevard

Budget Hearings

Tuesday, June 8, 1999
Tuesday, June 15, 1999
5:30 p.m., Council Chambers – City Hall
3031 Torrance Boulevard

Parks and Recreation Director Barnett announced that the Torrance Youth Council was sponsoring a Multicultural Festival “Quilt of Many Colors,” on Saturday, May 22, 1999, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Cultural Arts Center.

6. **COMMUNITY MATTERS**

7.

6a. **RESOLUTION NO. 99-45 RE ARMED FORCES DAY PARADE**

RESOLUTION NO. 99-45

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
TORRANCE DECLARING MAY 14 THROUGH MAY 16 AS
THE DATES FOR THE OBSERVANCE OF THE 40TH ANNUAL
ARMED FORCES DAY PARADE AND CELEBRATION**

MOTION: Councilman Messerlian moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 99-45. The motion was seconded by Councilman Horwich and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

Mayor Hardison presented the resolution to Captain Steve Ross of the Torrance Police Department. Captain Ross extended an invitation to the community to come to the Armed Forces Day Parade on Saturday, May 15, and to view exhibits on display at Del Amo Fashion Center throughout the weekend of May 14 – 16, 1999.

6b. **PROCLAMATION RE “LETTER CARRIER FOOD DRIVE DAY”**

Mayor Hardison presented a proclamation declaring Saturday, May 8, 1999, as “Letter Carrier Food Drive Day” in the City of Torrance to Dave Johnson, Customer Service Supervisor, Torrance Post Office; Wayne Pfeiffer, President, NALC Union Branch 2207; Kimberly Utzinger, Coordinator, and Dianna Lyon, Assistant Coordinator, NALC Food Drive. Mr. Johnson invited residents to participate in the National Association of Letter Carriers Food Drive, the largest one-day food drive in the country, by placing non-perishable food items by their mailboxes on Saturday, May 8, 1999. Ms. Utzinger commended residents for their past generosity, noting that last year 16 tons of food was collected in Torrance and distributed to local food banks.

6c. **PROCLAMATION RE “VETERAN APPRECIATION MONTH”**

Mayor Hardison presented a proclamation declaring the month of May, 1999, as “Veteran Appreciation Month” in the City of Torrance to Teo Barbar, Veterans Representative, Employment Development Department. Mr. Barbar expressed his appreciation and noted that the proclamation will be displayed at the EDD office located in Torrance.

6d. **PROCLAMATION RE “BLUE RIBBON WEEK” AND “CALIFORNIA PEACE OFFICERS MEMORIAL DAY”**

Mayor Hardison presented a proclamation declaring the week of May 9, through May 15, 1999, as “Blue Ribbon Week” in the City of Torrance and further proclaiming May 15, 1999, as “California Peace Officer Memorial Day” in the City of Torrance to Kristine Golia, Services Officer, Community Affairs. Services Officer Golia related incidents where Torrance Police Officers have gone beyond the call of duty and invited the public to attend a Memorial Service on Wednesday, May 12, 1999, at 10:00 a.m.

6e. PROCLAMATION RE “INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF OLDER PERSONS” AND “OLDER AMERICANS MONTH”

Mayor Hardison presented a proclamation declaring 1999 as the “International Year of Older Persons,” and May as “Older Americans Month” in the City of Torrance to Frank Wolf, Chairman; Bea Virobik; Arthur Callen; May Amemiya; Irene Griffith; Ted Doty; and Ursel Nolte, Commission on Aging. Mr. Wolf announced that a “Senior Faire,” would be held on Saturday, May 8, 1999, at the Ken Miller Recreation Center.

6f. 1999 OLDER AMERICAN AWARDS

Mayor Hardison presented the following recipients of the 1999 Older American Awards with inscribed plaques: Maggie Bakovic, recognized for her work in the Senior Citizens Program at the Tillim Senior Citizens Center; Irene Galaviz, recognized for her work in the Senior Citizens Program at the Bartlett Center; Mary Helen Moore, recognized for her work as Senior Citizens Tour Coordinator; Norma Orr, recognized for her volunteer service at Little Company of Mary Hospital; Marcelle Robinson, recognized for her helping students improve their literacy skills as a member of the South Bay Literacy Council; and Richard Werts, recognized for his volunteer service at Torrance Memorial Hospital.

6g. TORRANCE AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE 2ND AND 3RD QUARTER REPORTS

In the interest of time, Mr. Bob Wade, President of the Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce, chose to forego his slide presentation on the 2nd and 3rd Quarter Report and asked that the Council review the written report at their leisure. Noting that his term as Chamber President would end in June, he highlighted some of Chamber’s accomplishments over the past year, including a successful effort to increase membership and reduce member attrition, an expansion of cultural outreach programs; the launching of a new partnership with the Japanese business community; the creation and distribution of an international dining guide; and a technology fund campaign which will raise over \$15,000 for new equipment for Torrance schools.

Councilman Messerlian congratulated Richard Tsao, one of six statewide recipients of California Chamber of Commerce Small Business Advocate of the Year award.

7. CONSENT CALENDAR

7a. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – MARCH 23, 1999 AND APRIL 6, 1999

7b. BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT LOCAL ADVISORY BOARD

Recommendation

The Chief of Police and the City Manager recommend that City Council:

- 1) Appoint the listed individuals to the BJA Grant Local Advisory board as recommended by the Mayor;
- 2) Identify Board duties; and
- 3) Establish a sunset for the Board’s authority to meet.

7c. NETWORK INFRASTRUCTURE CORPORATION CONTRACT

Recommendation

The Chief of Police and the City Manager recommend that City Council approve an amendment to an existing contract with Network Infrastructure Corporation (NIC) for the installation of an additional 30 data and 25 phone lines at the Police Department at a cost of \$6,377.26.

7d. REJECTION OF BIDS FOR CITYWIDE FIRE HYDRANT REPLACEMENT PROJECT

Recommendation

The Engineering Director recommends that City Council reject all bids received for the Citywide Fire Hydrant Replacement Project (B99-17).

7e. WATER MAIN REPLACEMENT PROJECT

Recommendation

The Engineering Director recommends that City Council:

- 1) Approve an agreement with ASL Consulting Engineers for Professional Engineering Services in the amount of \$108,730.00;
- 2) Authorize a 5% contingency in the amount of \$5,435.00 for a total not-to-exceed amount of \$114,165.00; and
- 3) Authorize the Mayor to execute and the City Clerk to attest to this Agreement on behalf of the City.

7f. POLICE DEPARTMENT COMMUNICATIONS RECORDER SYSTEM

Recommendation

The Chief of Police recommends that City Council approve the purchase of a TEAC CR-556D Communications Recorder along with associated hardware and software, and the second and third year service contract for the Police Department in the amount of \$82,454.

7g. COLLING'S FOUNDATION EXHIBIT

Considered separately, see page 6-7.

7h. AMENDMENT RE JOB TRAINING PARTNERSHIP ACT AGREEMENT

Recommendation

The Human Resources Director recommends that City Council accept and appropriate an additional \$87,000 in JTPA funding from the City of Los Angeles to the 1998-99 JTPA Operational Budget and authorize the execution of Amendment Two that adds the new funding to the 1998-1999 City of Los Angeles Agreement 97740.

7i. EXECUTION OF JOB TRAINING PARTNERSHIP ACT AGREEMENTS

Recommendation

The Human Resources Director recommends that City Council authorize the execution of a JTPA Agreement with:

- 1) Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) – contract is not to exceed \$329,070; and
- 2) Southern California Regional Occupational Center (SCROC) – contract is not to exceed \$219,380.

7j. PAVEMENT TRENCH RESTORATION STUDY

Recommendation

The Engineering Director recommends that City Council:

- 1) Approve an agreement with LA Associates for consulting services in the amount of \$57,692.00;
- 2) Appropriate \$61,000.00 from Gas Tax Funds, which includes a 5% contingency; and
- 3) Authorize the Mayor to execute and the City Clerk to attest to this agreement on behalf of the City for the Pavement Trench Restoration Study.

7k. CONTRACT RE STREET LIGHTING DISTRICT 99-1

Considered separately, see page 7.

MOTION: Councilwoman O'Donnell moved for the approval of Consent Calendar Items 7a, 7b, 7c, 7d, 7e, 7f, 7h, 7i, and 7j. The motion was seconded by Councilman Walker and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

Consent Calendar Items 7g and 7k were considered at this time.

7g. COLLING'S FOUNDATION EXHIBIT

Recommendation

The Acting Airport Manager recommends that City Council:

- 1) Approve the Colling's Foundation static display of two World War II vintage aircraft, one B-17 and one B-24, at Zamperini Field on May 15,16 and 17, 1999;
- 2) Designate the exhibit as a special exhibit under Section 46.8.10 of the Torrance Municipal Code which exempts such events from aircraft noise regulations; and
- 3) Approve giving 10 flights for hire on one of the aircraft.

Ms. Nancy Clinton, Torrance Air Fair Coordinator, offered clarification that the Colling's Foundation was proposing to give 10 flights for hire on each of the aircraft for a total of 20 flights, as has been the case in past years, with the exception of 1996 when the B-24 was down for maintenance.

MOTION: Councilman Walker moved to concur with the staff recommendations and approved 10 flights for each aircraft up to a maximum of 20 flights. The motion was seconded by Councilman Horwich and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

7k. CONTRACT RE STREET LIGHTING DISTRICT 99-1

Recommendation

The Planning Director recommends that City Council authorize the execution of a contract with David Taussig & Associates for Phases III, IV and V of the establishment of Street Lighting District 99-1.

Transportation Planning Manager Buchman indicated that many inquiries had been received regarding the proposed formation of Street Lighting District 99-1 and reviewed five frequently asked questions. She noted that ballots must be received by the termination of the public input portion of the hearing to be held at the City Council meeting of June 15, 1999.

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

11. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

11a. STATE DISABILITY PROGRAM FOR PART-TIME EMPLOYEES

Recommendation

The City Manager recommends that City Council adopt a resolution authorizing the City to begin offering a program of State Disability Insurance to part-time employees on a voluntary basis.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 99-48

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
TORRANCE APPROVING THE FILING OF AN APPLICATION
FOR ELECTIVE COVERAGE UNDER SECTION 710.5 OF THE
STATE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE CODE IMPLEMENTING
A STATE DISABILITY INSURANCE PROGRAM**

MOTION: Councilman Messerlian moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 99-48. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Cribbs and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

11b. PAY GRID FOR RELIEF FIRE COMMUNICATIONS OPERATORS

Recommendation

The City Manager recommends that City Council adopt a resolution adding a grid for the at-will position of "Relief Fire Communications Operator."

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

RESOLUTION NO. 99-49

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 98-85 SETTING FORTH CERTAIN CHANGES REGARDING HOURS, WAGES AND WORKING CONDITIONS FOR THE HOURLY UNREPRESENTED EMPLOYEES.

MOTION: Councilman Messerlian moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 99-49. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Cribbs and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

11c. INCREASE IN MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR SOUTH BAY CITIES COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Recommendation

The City Manager recommends that City Council approve in concept the proposed dues increase for the South Bay Cities Council of Governments (SBCCOG) and approve the proposed dues increase from \$600 to \$11,511 per year. The additional funds will be placed in the 1999-2001 budget via a "Program Addition."

Mayor Hardison explained that prior to last year, SBCCOG had virtually no funding available for administrative functions and had to depend on member cities to provide in-kind staff time to cover the work that needed to be done, and that as the sub-regional efforts became more involved, the City of Torrance was bearing more than their share of the burden. She stated that while the increase in dues may seem large, it is a bargain compared to the City's former staff time commitment.

MOTION: Councilman Lee moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilman Messerlian and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

11d. EXTENSION OF TAXICAB LICENSE MORATORIUM

Recommendation

The City Attorney recommends that City Council extend an existing moratorium on the issuance of additional licenses to operate taxicabs in the City of Torrance for a further sixty days, extending the moratorium through July 6, 1999.

Councilman Walker, Chair of the Transportation Committee, announced that a meeting would be scheduled within a week and that a recommendation would be brought back to the Council as quickly as possible.

Mr. Neil Evans, 133510 Riverside Drive, #612, Sherman Oaks, counsel for Independent Taxi, stated that his client had been awarded the Access service contract for the South Bay, a federally funded project that provides transportation for disabled persons, and that they must be able to operate in Torrance by July 1, 1999, in order to effectively perform the contract. He noted that Independent Taxi's application to operate 50 cabs in the City was stalled just short of approval when the moratorium was established, and asked for an interim permit to operate at least 25 taxicabs beginning on July 1. He maintained that there would be no risk to the City because the company carries \$1 million in insurance coverage and has already successfully completed the majority of the application process.

City Attorney Fellows indicated that he had spoken with Mr. Evans and informed him that he believed there was a significant likelihood of a federal preemption from the City's regulations that would allow for the operation of Access vehicles and had invited him to provide background information in support of that position, information that he had not yet received. He stated that, based on the information available, he would not object to the company's operation of distinctively marked vans, but had not been provided with anything to substantiate the need for 25 taxicab licenses.

Mr. Evans explained that as part of the contract, the company is required to provide 27 sedans for Access services, in addition to 40 vans, and that he would like to use existing taxicabs and was concerned about the legal ramifications of operating them in the City without some kind of permit. He noted that even if an ordinance is adopted within the next few weeks, it would be difficult to complete the licensing process before the contract takes effect on July 1, and indicated that the company could face heavy fines if found to be in violation of the contract.

Mayor Hardison requested that an option regarding the issuance of temporary licenses be included in the ordinance when it is brought before the Council.

RESOLUTION NO. 99-50

AN RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE EXTENDING THROUGH JULY 6, 1999, AN EXISTING MORATORIUM ON TAXICAB PERMITS ISSUED PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 6 OF DIVISION 3 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE.

MOTION: Councilman Messerlian moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 99-50. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Cribbs and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

SECOND READING ORDINANCES

14a. SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 3466

ORDINANCE 3466

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING AND ADOPTING AMENDMENT NO. 3 O THE REDEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR THE TORRANCE INDUSTRIAL REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT

MOTION: Councilman Messerlian moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 3466. The motion was seconded by Councilman Lee and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

14. SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 3467

ORDINANCE NO. 3467

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT NO. 4 TO THE REDEVELOPMENT PLANFOR THE TORRANCE INDUSTRIAL REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT

MOTION: Councilman Messerlian moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 3467. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Cribbs and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

MOTION: Councilman Messerlian moved to approve the summary of Ordinance No. 3467 and publication of the same. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Cribbs and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

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The Torrance Redevelopment Agency met from 8:34 to 8:35 p.m.

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15. OTHER

15a. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Councilwoman Cribbs again asked about the possibility of installing signs on the freeways giving directions to the Cultural Arts Center.

Councilwoman Cribbs raised questions concerning methods of collecting money owed to the City by users of the Cultural Arts Center.

Councilman Horwich announced that the Special Olympics will be held on Saturday, May 8, 1999, at 9:00 a.m. at North High School.

Councilwoman O'Donnell commented on an article in the newspaper concerning the use of herbicides. Responding to Councilwoman O'Donnell's concerns, City Manager Jackson advised that Roundup is used under licensed supervision required by the State of California and that the use of a salt and water solution is the least destructive method currently allowed.

Mr. Yosef Mahamood Azim suggested that goats be allowed to take care of weeds in the City.

16. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Considered earlier in the meeting, see page 1.

17. ADJOURNMENT

At 8:44 p.m., the meeting was adjourned to Tuesday, May 11, 1999, at 5:30 p.m. for an executive session, with the regular meeting commencing at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

Mayor of the City of Torrance

ATTEST:

City Clerk of the City of Torrance