

October 23, 2001

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

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Torrance City Council convened in a regular meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, October 23, 2001, in Council Chambers.

ROLL CALL

Present: Councilmembers Cribbs, Messerlian, Nowatka, Scotto, Walker, Witkowsky and Mayor Hardison.

Absent: None.

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

16. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Council immediately recessed to closed session to confer with the City Manager and the City Attorney on the agenda matter listed under 16.a) Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation pursuant to California Government Code Sections 54956.9 (a).

No formal action was taken on any matter considered in closed session.

The Council reconvened at 7:06 p.m.

2. FLAG SALUTE/INVOCATION

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilmember Cribbs.

The invocation was given by Pastor Mark Hong, Faith Presbyterian Church.

3. AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING/WAIVE FURTHER READING

MOTION: Councilmember Cribbs moved to accept and file the report of the City Clerk on the posting of the agenda for this meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Nowatka and hearing no objection, Mayor Hardison so ordered.

MOTION: Councilmember Cribbs moved that after the City Clerk has read aloud the number and title to any resolution or ordinance on the meeting agenda, the further reading thereof shall be waived, reserving and guaranteeing to each Councilmember the right to demand the reading of any such resolution or ordinance in regular order. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Nowatka and hearing no objection, Mayor Hardison so ordered.

4. WITHDRAWN OR DEFERRED ITEMS

City Manager Jackson stated that item 12a regarding 4425 Calle Mayor would be deferred to November 13, 2001.

5. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Hardison announced that the Torrance Public Library had started Sunday hours of operation at the Katy Geissert Civic Center Library on October 21 from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. and would continue through June 2, 2002.

Mayor Hardison announced the Energy Efficiency Forum and Expo for Torrance businesses would be held Tuesday, October 30, 2001 from 8:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. at the Toyota Meeting Hall located in the Cultural Arts Center.

Councilmember Messerlian announced a meeting of the Finance and Governmental Operations Committee on Monday, November 19 at 5:30 p.m. in the Katy Geissert Library Meeting Room to review the First Quarter Budget Reports.

Councilmember Scotto announced a meeting of the Veteran's Committee on Thursday, November 15 at 5:30 p.m. in the Third Floor Assembly Room.

City Clerk Herbers announced that Torrance CitiCable had purchased new hearing devices that would allow members of the public with hearing difficulties to better participate in public meetings. She noted that requests should be made at least 48 hours prior to the meeting in order to make arrangements.

6. COMMUNITY MATTERS

6a. RESOLUTION RE MAGGIE BAKOVIC

Resolution 2001-141 of the Torrance City Council honoring Maggie Bakovic upon her retirement from the City after forty-one years of service.

RESOLUTION NO. 2001-141

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE HONORING MAGGIE BAKOVIC UPON HER RETIREMENT FROM THE CITY AFTER FORTY-ONE YEARS OF SERVICE.

MOTION: Councilmember Messerlian moved to adopt Resolution No. 2001-141. Councilmember Scotto seconded the motion and a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval.

Mayor Hardison presented the resolution to Maggie Bakovic and Parks and Recreation Director Barnett commented that she set a high standard for 41 years. Ms. Bakovic introduced her family and thanked the Parks and Recreation Department for their support over the years.

6b. PROCLAMATION RE MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY

Mayor Hardison issued a proclamation declaring October 27, 2001 as Make A Difference Day, in the City of Torrance, California, and urged citizens to observe this day by connecting with friends, fellow employees, relatives, and with religious, school and civic groups to engage in projects benefiting their community. Parks and Recreation

Services Administrator Jones and Management Associate Wren accepted the proclamation. Management Associate Wren thanked the Mayor and Council and noted that it was the first year that Torrance had participated and the City would be hosting a clean-up of Wilson Park from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

6c. PROCLAMATION RE RED RIBBON WEEK

Mayor Hardison issued a proclamation declaring the week of October 22 – 28, 2001 as Red Ribbon Week in the City of Torrance and urged all citizens to participate in drug awareness activities throughout the City and display or wear red ribbons during the week to make a strong, visible commitment to live a healthy life. The proclamation was accepted by Ed LaLonde, Torrance Police Department; Cindy Pearson, Chairperson, Red Ribbon Week; and Terry Ragins, Corresponding Secretary, Torrance Council of PTAs.

Ms. Pearson presented a red ribbon bear to Mayor Hardison and thanked her for her support. Mr. LaLonde encouraged residents to stand up to support the efforts, of the police in cooperation with the PTA which will spend time in middle and elementary schools preaching a drug-free alcohol-free life and how critical it is to make good decisions.

Scott Schneider, Secretary of Torrance Firefighters Association, announced that TFFA had raised \$80,000 for the New York Fire Department and that Alpine Village would donate 100% of the Oktoberfest gate fees from October 26 through October 28 to the Torrance Fire Department toward their \$100,000 goal. He also stated that the Torrance Skate Association would donate proceeds from batting cages on October 28 between noon and 4:00 p.m. Members of the Torrance Fire Department are scheduled to travel to New York on November 6 to personally present the New York Fire Department with all donations they have raised.

6d. TORRANCE YOUTH COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS

Recommendation of the Parks and Recreation Director that City Council confirm the appointment of fourteen members to the 2001-2002 Torrance Youth Council and have them officially sworn in by the City Clerk.

Youth Council members introduced themselves and Mayor Hardison noted that the Youth Council accomplished miraculous things.

MOTION: Councilmember Messerlian moved to concur with the staff recommendation. Councilmember Scotto seconded the motion and, hearing no objection, Mayor Hardison so ordered.

City Clerk Herbers swore in the following members: Lindsay Adams, Russell Akiyama, Anthony Buncio, Amy Burnett, June Caseria, Tiffany Chao, Melissa Chen, Emily Cox, Tiffany Dohzen, Hetmann Hsieh, Gloria Kim, Julio Rodriguez, Kim Shipley and Debra Yip.

Mayor Hardison announced that the Exchange Club would be kicking off a Vial of Life Program on October 24. She noted that free vials to hold medical information in would be available at Torrance Memorial Hospital, Little Company of Mary Hospital, Salvation Army, the Torrance Fire Department and the Torrance Police Department.

7. **CONSENT CALENDAR**

Mayor Hardison noted that there was additional information available for items 7a and 7h.

7a. **MONTHLY INVESTMENT REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER 2001**

Recommendation of the City Treasurer that City Council accept and file the monthly investment report for the month of September 2001.

7b. **COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION 2000-2001 ANNUAL REPORT**

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Parks and Recreation Director and the Community Services Commission that City Council accept and file the Community Services Commission 2000-2001 Annual Report.

7c. **AMENDMENT RE EMS CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT (C2001-059)**

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Acting General Services Director and the Fire Chief that City Council approve an amendment to EMS Construction contract (C2001-059) for \$22,622.81 for additional costs incurred during the renovation of Fire Station #2 for a total contract price of \$193,622.81.

7d. **AMENDMENT RE MOINE BROTHERS CONTRACT (C2000-224)**

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Acting General Services Director that City Council approve an amendment to Moine Brothers contract (C2000-224) for repair of underground fueling tank systems at the City Yard; at no additional cost, to extend the contract term from June 30, 2001 to October 31, 2001.

7e. **FIRE DEPARTMENT'S EL CAMINO TRAINING FUND APPROPRIATIONS**

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Fire Chief that City Council authorize the following actions:

- 1) Appropriate \$7,641.80 from the Fire Department's El Camino Training Fund and issue a purchase order for the same amount to Alexeter Technologies for the purchase of one Standard Program Test Kit, one additional box of Anthrax test strips, and one box of proficiency strips.
- 2) Appropriate \$5,575 of the Fire Department's El Camino Training Fund to Operating Budget 712001000/5220.

7f. **APPROPRIATION RE 234th STREET CHANNEL DESIGN**

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Engineering Director that City Council approve an appropriation in the amount of \$220,000 for the design of an underground storm drain to replace the deteriorated 234th Street Channel.

7g. **AIRPORT COMMISSION 2000-2001 ANNUAL REPORT**

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Building and Safety Director and the Airport Commission that City Council accept and file the Airport Commission 2000-2001 Annual Report.

7h. **AGREEMENT RE TORRANCE BEACH WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT AND BEACH STAIR AND SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENT**

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Engineering Director that City Council:

- 1) Authorize the Mayor to execute and the City Clerk to attest to an Agreement with the County of Los Angeles for \$543,600 for the administration, construction, and project management of the Torrance Beach Water Quality Improvement Project; and
- 2) Appropriate General Funds in the amount of \$48,600 to fund replacement of City-owned stairs and sidewalk at Torrance Beach.

MOTION: Councilmember Witkowsky moved to approve consent calendar items 7a through 7h as written. Councilmember Scotto seconded the motion and a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval.

11. **ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

11a. **CONTINUED STATE OF EMERGENCY FOR CAROLWOOD DRIVE AND SINGINGWOOD DRIVE**

Recommendation of the City Manager and City Attorney that City Council continue the state of local emergency proclaimed March 2, 2001 for properties located on Carolwood Drive and Singingwood Drive.

Building and Safety Manager Isomoto reported that the 24 homeowners of properties affected by the hillside slide had formed into two groups, one with 18 property owners and the other with 6 property owners.

MOTION: Councilmember Scotto moved to concur with the staff recommendation. Councilmember Walker seconded the motion and a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval.

11b. **NON-DISTURBANCE AND ATTORNMENT AGREEMENT RE BED BATH AND BEYOND**

Recommendation of the Land Management Team that City Council authorize the Mayor to execute and the City Clerk to attest to a Non-Disturbance and Attornment Agreement by and between the City of Torrance and Bed, Bath and Beyond as it relates to the property located at the corner of Pacific Coast Highway and Crenshaw Boulevard, known as Rolling Hills Plaza Shopping Center.

Assistant to the City Manager Sunshine noted the item was a subtenant agreement initiated by Bed Bath and Beyond so if the tenant defaults, Bed Bath and Beyond can pay rent directly to the City of Torrance.

MOTION: Councilmember Messerlian moved to concur with the staff recommendation. Councilmember Walker seconded the motion and a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval.

11c. RESOLUTION NO. 2001-131 RE URBAN RECREATIONAL AND CULTURAL CENTERS, MUSEUMS AND FACILITIES FOR WILDLIFE EDUCATION

Recommendation of the Parks and Recreation Director that City Council adopt an authorizing resolution approving the application for grant funds for the Urban Recreational and Cultural Centers, Museums, and Facilities for Wildlife Education or Environmental Education Grant Program, through the Safe Neighborhood Parks, Clean Water, Clean Air, and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2000, for a portion of the Joslyn Gallery Renovation Project.

Parks and Recreation Director Barnett noted that the grant process was a component of Proposition 12 and a very competitive grant requiring agencies to have a letter of nomination submitted by a member of the State Legislature. He reported that the City had received confirmation that they were moving through the process and he added that the first step was to have the City Council adopt an enabling resolution authorizing the formal grant application to the state. The deadline for grant submittal is November 1, 2001 and the request is for \$175,000.

RESOLUTION NO. 2001-131

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE APPROVING THE APPLICATION FOR GRANT FUNDS FOR URBAN RECREATIONAL AND CULTURAL CENTERS, MUSEUMS, AND FACILITIES FOR WILDLIFE EDUCATION OR ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION PROGRAM UNDER THE SAFE NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS, CLEAN WATER, CLEAN AIR AND COASTAL PROTECTION BOND ACT OF 2000.

MOTION: Councilmember Messerlian moved to adopt Resolution No. 2001-131. Councilmember Scotto seconded the motion and a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval.

12. HEARINGS

12a. 4425 CALLE MAYOR

Recommendation of the Planning Commission that City Council approve the appeal and take the following action on property located at 4425 Calle Mayor:

- 1) Adopt a Negative Declaration (EAS01-00006);
- 2) Adopt a Resolution approving a General Plan Amendment (GPA01-00001) changing the General Plan designation from Local Commercial to Low-Medium Density Residential;
- 3) Adopt an Ordinance approving a Zone Change (ZON01-00001) from C-1 PP (Retail Commercial District with a Precise Plan Overlay) to R-2 (Two-Family Residential District);
- 4) Approve an Ordinance Summary for publication; and
- 5) Adopt a Resolution approving Tentative Tract Map (TTM53286) to subdivide the parcels and for condominium purposes.

The Commission did not make a recommendation on Conditional Use Permits (CUP01-00010, CUP01-00011, CUP01-00012) to allow the construction of three, two-unit condominiums.

The Planning Director recommends that City Council deny the appeal and deny the subject requests. GPA01-00001, ZON01-00001, TTM53286, CUP01-00010, CUP01-00011, CUP01-00012, (EAS01-00006): Calle Mayor LLC/SUBTEC-Cheryl Vargo.

Mayor Hardison reported that one of the parties was ill and requested a continuance of the matter until November 13, 2001. Planning Director Gibson stated that they would not re-advertise unless advised to do so by Council.

MOTION: Councilmember Messerlian moved to continue item 12a to November 13, 2001. Councilmember Nowatka seconded the motion and a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval.

14. 2nd READING ORDINANCES

14a. ORDINANCE NO. 3506 RE POSTED SPEED LIMITS

Submitted for a Second and Final Reading is Ordinance 3506 amending section 61.10.1 and 61.10.2 and 61.10.3 of Division 6 of the Torrance Municipal Code related to posted speed limits within the City

ORDINANCE NO. 3506

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING SECTION 61.10.1 AND 61.10.2 AND 61.10.3 OF DIVISION 6 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE RELATED TO POSTED SPEED LIMITS WITHIN THE CITY.

MOTION: Councilmember Messerlian moved to adopt the second and final reading of Ordinance No. 3506. Councilmember Nowatka seconded the motion and a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval.

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The Torrance Redevelopment Agency met from 7:52 p.m. to 10:20 p.m.

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15. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

15a. Councilmember Messerlian thanked everyone for their attendance at the Torrance Symphony including the Torrance Police Department Honor Guard, the Police Chief, and the Fire Chief, as the performance was dedicated in memory of those who lost their lives in the September 11 attacks.

15b. Councilmember Messerlian noted there needed to be some type of signage on El Dorado in front of Fern School to advise of the school site.

15c. Police Chief Herren responding to Councilmember Messerlian, stated that crime statistics were sent to homeowner associations and are posted on the department web page. He noted that there had been some problems with conversion to new software but the problem should be fixed shortly.

15d. Councilmember Nowatka commented that his service with the Salvation Army at ground zero and Pier 94 in New York City was a moving experience and he asked that everyone consider the Salvation Army when making donations as they have eight sites set up to provide food and supplies to workers and others in need.

15e. Councilmember Scotto announced a Veterans Committee meeting on Thursday, November 15.

15f. Councilmember Walker commended Councilmember Nowatka and expressed his pride for his service noting he brought honor to himself and the City Council.

15g. Councilmember Witkowsky gave phone numbers for Burlington Northern Railroad to use for making comments on noise: 24 hour emergency number (800) 832-5452 and Customer Relations - Lena Kent at (909) 386-4140.

15h. Mayor Hardison announced Torrance Unified School District candidate and Measure Q forums for Wednesday, October 24 at Riviera Homeowners and Thursday, October 25 at Northwest Torrance Homeowners.

15i. Scott Schneider, Torrance Firefighters Association, urged defeat of Measure Q on the November 6 ballot noting that it would cut \$1.2 million of the City budget resulting in personnel cuts to TFA and would create safety issues. He reiterated that TFA endorsed a no vote on Measure Q.

16. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Considered earlier.

17. ADJOURNMENT

At 10:32 p.m., the meeting was adjourned to Tuesday, November 13, 2001 at 5:30 p.m., for an executive session in the Council Chamber, with the regular meeting commencing at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers. Tuesday, October 30, 2001 and Tuesday, November 6, 2001, will be Council dark nights.

Attest:

Mayor of the City of Torrance

Sue Herbers
City Clerk of the City of Torrance

Approved on November 20, 2001

Kristi Callen
Recording Secretary

City Council
October 23, 2001