

MINUTES OF AN ADJOURNED REGULAR MEETING OF THE TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Torrance City Council convened in an adjourned regular session at 7:02 p.m. on Tuesday, January 10, 2006 in City Council Chambers at Torrance City Hall.

ROLL CALL

Present: Councilmembers Guyton, Mauno, McIntyre, Nowatka, Scotto, Witkowsky, and Mayor Walker.

Absent: None.

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

2. FLAG SALUTE/INVOCATION

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilmember Witkowsky.

Councilmember Mauno gave the non-sectarian invocation.

3. AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING/WAIVE FURTHER READING

MOTION: Councilmember McIntyre 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 Scotto and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

MOTION: Councilmember McIntyre 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 Scotto and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

4. WITHDRAWN OR DEFERRED ITEMS

None.

5. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilmember McIntyre announced that the Ad Hoc Rose Float Committee would meet at 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, January 17, 2006 in the City Hall Third Floor Assembly Room.

Mayor Walker commended the Torrance Rose Float Association for their efforts in the 2006 Rose Parade.

Mayor Walker asked that the meeting be adjourned in memory of longtime resident Helen Henry and retired Torrance Police detective Joe Capriotti.

Councilmember Nowatka noted that he had the privilege of working with Joe Capriotti for 16 years before his retirement in 1977 and extended condolences to his family.

6. COMMUNITY MATTERS

6A. PRESENTATION ON “GRASSROOTS PUBLIC SERVICE ACADEMY”

Don Lee, Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce Board Chairman, gave a presentation on the Grassroots Public Service Academy, a four-week course offered by the Chamber to promote community involvement and provide information about volunteering and running for public office.

6B. APPOINTMENT OF COMMISSIONERS

Recommendation of the **City Clerk** that City Council review applications and make appointments to fill vacancies on various commissions, confirm the appointment of Commission on Aging club members and have the City Clerk administer the Oath of Office to commissioners present.

Mayor Walker invited anyone from the public who wished to address the Council before appointments were made to come forward. As no one came forward, he proceeded to introduce the applicants and the following appointments were made:

- Airport Commission - Deane Haddon and Don Pyles;
- Cable Television Advisory Board - Dale Korman and Ken Simmons;
- Civil Service Commission – Marla Shwarts;
- Commission on Aging – Chet Craft and Carol Dean; Club representatives: Art Callen, Sea-Aire Golf Club; Charles Breaker, Walteria Senior Club;
- Community Services Commission – Rusty Hicks, Cliff Numark (terms expire 1/15/2008) and Howard Orpe (term expires 1/15/2010);
- Cultural Arts Commission – Benito Miranda and Ann Smisek;
- Disaster Council – Kristin Matsuda;
- Environmental and Energy Conservation Commission – Michael Griffiths;
- Library Commission – Jerome Haig;
- Parks & Recreation Commission – William Cook and Morgan Tookey;
- Planning Commission – Gene Drevno (term expires 1/15/2010) and Judy Gibson (term expires 1/15/2009);
- Traffic Commission – Karen Galvin (term expires 1/15/2008), Jose Santome (term expires 1/15/2010) and Richard Tsao (term expires 1/15/2010);
- Water Commission – Frank Rizzardi.

City Clerk Herbers administered the oath of office to those members present at the meeting.

The Council briefly recessed to congratulate the appointees.

7. CONSENT CALENDAR

7A. INVESTMENT REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 2005

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **City Treasurer** that City Council accept and file the monthly investment report for the month of November 2005.

7B. APPROVAL OF LOS ANGELES URBAN AREA RESPONSE PLAN

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **Chief of Police** and the **Emergency Preparedness Team** that City Council authorize the Mayor to sign the Los Angeles Urban Area Response Plan certification letter signifying the receipt and approval of the plan.

7C. CHANGE ORDER RE SOUTH HIGH SCHOOL STORM DRAIN REPLACEMENT

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **Public Works Director** that City Council approve a change order to the agreement with Nikola Corporation (C2005-211) in the amount of \$5,402, for a new not-to-exceed agreement amount of \$95,392, for the South High School Storm Drain Replacement project (FEAP #532).

7D. APPROPRIATION FOR TOWER LIGHTING, RUNWAY SIGNS AND DESIGN CONSULTATION FOR AIRPORT PAVEMENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **Public Works Director** that City Council approve an appropriation of \$26,000 from the Airport Fund balance, to be used for the purchase and installation of a new tower beacon light, the installation of illuminated airport runway signs and design consultation for the Airport Pavement Management System. (FEAP-539)

7E. MAINTENANCE SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH CISCO SYSTEMS

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **Information Technology Director** that City Council approve the renewal of a service agreement to Cisco Systems in the amount of \$39,493 to provide data network equipment maintenance services.

7F. CONTRACT WITH COMDYN GROUP RE CONTACT MANAGEMENT SOFTWARE

Considered separately, see page 4.

7G. PURCHASE OF COMPUTER SERVER EQUIPMENT FOR POLICE AND FIRE PUBLIC SAFETY INFORMATION SYSTEM

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **Chief of Police** and the **Information Technology Director** that City Council authorize staff to purchase computer server equipment for the new Police and Fire Public Safety Information System from Advanced Systems Group, Thornton, Colorado in an amount not to exceed \$111,235.69. (FEAP #535).

7H. SECOND AMENDMENT TO FEE AGREEMENT WITH LIEBERT CASSIDY WHITMORE FOR LEGAL SERVICES

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **City Attorney** that City Council approve the Second Amendment to the Fee Agreement with the law firm of Liebert Cassidy Whitmore to provide legal services with regard to the termination proceedings of a city employee in the additional amount of \$35,000 for a total contract amount not to exceed \$59,000.

7I. PURCHASE ORDER TO PRINT AND DELIVER TORRANCE SEASONS PUBLICATION

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **City Manager** that City Council authorize the issuance of a purchase order to Southwest Offset Printing to print and deliver the Torrance Seasons publication for an amount not to exceed \$89,316.70, which includes a 10% contingency to allow for the printing of extra pages if needed.

MOTION: Councilmember Mauno moved for the approval of Consent Calendar Items 7A through 7E and 7G through 7I. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Scotto and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

7F. CONTRACT WITH COMDYN GROUP RE CONTACT MANAGEMENT SOFTWARE

Recommendation

Recommendation of **City Manager, Information Technology Director,** and the **Economic Development Team** that City Council award a contract to the Comdyn Group for \$48,838 with a 5% contingency of \$2,442 for creating and developing an Economic Development database and contact management system.

Management Aide Agarwal provided a brief summary of the staff report. City Manager Jackson noted that this was Mr. Agarwal's last meeting, and Councilmember Witkowsky, echoed by Mayor Walker, commended Mr. Agarwal for his efforts as an intern for the City and offered well wishes for his future.

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

11. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

11A. STATEMENT OF INVESTMENT POLICY FOR 2006

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **City Treasurer** that City Council adopt a Resolution to establish the Statement of Investment Policy for 2006.

City Treasurer Barnett reported that the City must adopt a Resolution on an annual basis establishing the Statement of Investment Policy, which sets forth guidelines and policies for the City Treasurer to follow in the investment of City funds.

Charles Deemer, resident, questioned whether consideration was given to short-term investments with foreign countries that have a AAA rating.

City Treasurer Barnett advised that the City makes no investments outside the United States.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 2006-01

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ESTABLISHING THE STATEMENT OF INVESTMENT POLICY 2006 IN ACCORDANCE WITH CERTAIN GUIDELINES

MOTION: Councilmember Witkowsky moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2006-01. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Nowatka and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

11B. ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT FOR PURCHASE OF RECYCLING CONTAINERS

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **Public Works Director** that City Council approve a Resolution for the award of a Department of Conservation grant to the City of Torrance in the amount of \$97,800 and approve the appropriation of funds for the purchase of recycling containers for several public areas maintained by the City.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 2006-02

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING THE AWARD AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE 2005-2006 COMPETITIVE BEVERAGE CONTAINER GRANT

MOTION: Councilmember Witkowsky moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2006-02. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Nowatka and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

11C. CALPERS CONTRACT AMENDMENT RE TWO-YEAR SERVICE CREDIT

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **City Manager** that City Council adopt a Resolution to grant a designated period for two years additional service credit under the California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS).

Human Resources Director Winer reported that the proposed Resolution would allow the City to offer the CalPERS two-year service credit to three Workforce Investment Network positions as part of a severance package.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 2006-03

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE TO GRANT ANOTHER DESIGNATED PERIOD FOR TWO YEARS ADDITIONAL SERVICE CREDIT

MOTION: Councilmember Witkowsky moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2006-03. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Nowatka and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

Agenda Item 11E was considered out of order at this time.

11E. APPROVAL OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **City Manager** that City Council accept and file the City of Torrance Economic Development Plan, January 2006 Update.

With the aid of slides, Economic Development Manager Fulton provided an overview of the City of Torrance Economic Development Plan, which was originally created in 2004. She reviewed the goals of the Economic Development Program; introduced members of the Economic Development Team; discussed the program's funding/budget; highlighted accomplishments in FY 2004-05; and detailed plans for the coming year.

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

11D. AMENDMENT OF RESOLUTION REGARDING EMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION FOR EXECUTIVE AND MANAGEMENT EMPLOYEES

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **Human Resources Director** that City Council adopt a Resolution amending Resolution No. 2005-119 regarding employment compensation for Executive and Management Employees to implement the recommended salary range for Principal Librarian.

Human Resources Manager Lawrence reported that the proposed salary range for Principal Librarian is consistent with similar positions in comparable agencies.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 2006-04

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 2005-119 SETTING FORTH CHANGES REGARDING HOURS, WAGES, AND WORKING CONDITIONS FOR EXECUTIVE AND MANAGEMENT EMPLOYEES

MOTION: Councilmember Witkowsky moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2006-04. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Guyton and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

11F. WORKFORCE INVESTMENT NETWORK BUDGET REVISIONS

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **Human Resources Director** that City Council approve the deletion of ten federally funded positions from the Workforce Investment Network (WIN) operating budget for the balance of Fiscal Year 2005-06.

Human Resources Director Winer advised that the proposed deletion of ten federally funded positions from the Workforce Investment Network will bring expenses in line with reduced federal revenues.

Councilmember Witkowsky expressed concerns that the Workforce Investment Network will not be able to serve as many people as in the past due to the reduction in staffing.

Pat Unangst, Director of WIN, reported that a reduced level of service is inevitable due to the decrease in funding, which has declined approximately 43% since FY 1999/2000 due to shifting priorities in the federal budget. She reported that a similar number of people are visiting WIN centers, but more emphasis is being placed on self-service, as opposed to staff assisted services, and there is increased reliance on partnerships with other agencies, such as the California Employment Development Department.

Councilmember Nowatka, Chairman of the WIN Board, commented on the toll repeated budget reductions have had on WIN's operation; explained that other options have been exhausted and the Board had no choice but to eliminate positions; and thanked Ms. Unangst and City Manager's office staff for their efforts to cushion the blow for these employees.

Councilmember Scotto asked about the outlook for the future, and Ms. Unangst reported that federal funding for the program is projected to decrease approximately 4% in the next fiscal year and there is great competition for discretionary grants, which used to provide up to 50% of the budget.

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

11G. SEVERANCE PACKAGES FOR CERTAIN WORKFORCE INVESTMENT NETWORK EMPLOYEES

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **Human Resources Director** and the **City Manager** that City Council approve severance packages for certain WIN employees and the upgrade of one (1) Personnel Technician position to Human Resources Analyst in Civil Service.

Assistant City Manager Giordano reported on efforts to provide assistance to the ten Workforce Investment Network (WIN) employees whose positions are to be terminated, noting that three will be internally transferred and seven will be provided with severance packages based on tenure. She noted that staff was recommending the upgrade of one Personnel Technician position to Human Resources Analyst in conjunction with the internal transfers, which will also strengthen professional support for the Civil Service Commission.

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

11H. FIRST QUARTER 2005-06 BUDGET REVIEW

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **Finance & Governmental Operations Committee** that City Council:

1. Accept the First Quarter 2005-06 Budget Review Report;
2. Accept the City Treasurer's Investment Report;
3. Approve program modifications for City Manager's office, Community Services, Police, Fire, General Services, Human Resources and Public Works Departments.

With the aid of slides, Finance Director Tsao provided an update on the status of the City's budget. He noted that as of the end of the first quarter of 2005-06, all departments are within budget estimates and are projected to be at or below budget by the end of the fiscal year. He discussed the budgetary outlook, including the State of California's budget forecast; the potential for continued growth in the housing market; and concerns about the rising cost of fuel. He reviewed proposed program modifications for the City Manager's office, Community Services, Police, Fire, General Services, Human Resources and Public Works departments. He offered a brief summary of the City Treasurer's Investment Report.

Councilmember Scotto, Chair of the Finance and Governmental Operations Committee, reported on the committee meeting held on December 20, 2005 to review the First Quarter 2005-06 Budget, noting that the committee also reviewed the proposed program modifications in their entirety.

Councilmember Mauno commended City Manager Jackson and staff for maintaining the City's stable financial position despite difficult economic times.

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

Mayor Walker credited the City's sound financial condition to its long-standing conservative approach.

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The Council met as the Redevelopment Agency from 8:36 p.m. to 8:40 p.m.

16. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

16A. Councilmember Guyton asked for City Council concurrence to have staff look into the issue of recreation vehicles parking at schools and parks as they are impediments to parking for Little League and other activities. Hearing no objections, Community Development Director Gibson indicated that his department would take the lead in looking into the matter.

16B. Councilmember Mauno congratulated the Torrance Rose Float Association (TRFA) on Torrance's award-winning 2006 float and thanked everyone involved.

16C. Councilmember Mauno commented on an article in the *Daily Breeze* about Honda's decision to locate the Acura design team in Torrance.

16D. Councilmember McIntyre stated that she was proud of Torrance's entry in the Rose Parade, noting that it was the result of the efforts of over 500 volunteers.

16E. Councilmember McIntyre noted that the first meeting of the year had been pleasant and expressed the hope that the ambiance would continue.

16F. Councilmember Scotto congratulated the Torrance Rose Float Association and the many volunteers who worked on decorating the float.

16G. Councilmember Scotto thanked Honda for bringing the Acura design team to Torrance, noting that business journals reported at length about Honda's decision and Torrance was touted as a great community in which to live and work.

16H. Councilmember Scotto announced that the first 200 South California Edison customers would have an opportunity to trade in two strings of Christmas lights for new LED strings from January 9 through January 20, between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., at 3868 Carson Street, Suite 110.

16I. Councilmember Witkowsky wished everyone a happy new year. She thanked the Torrance Rose Float Association and all the volunteers who worked on the float and offered special thanks to those who rode on the float, braving torrential rains.

16J. Councilmember Witkowsky congratulated Diane Lauridsen on the receipt of a major award and lauded her efforts on behalf of the arts in the South Bay.

16K. Mayor Walker noted that the City of Torrance was beginning the new year in good financial condition, having benefited from the strong local economy, and that Torrance has the added benefit of a citizenry with a keen interest in community involvement.

16L. Patrick Furey, Torrance, commented on recent *Daily Breeze* articles, including a January 9 editorial reprinted from the *Sacramento Bee* concerning the word “integrity”; a January 6 article on Krispy Kreme doughnuts in which the mayor was quoted; and a January 7 article about District Attorney’s Public Integrity Unit’s determination that the Ralph M. Brown Act was violated at the October 18 City Council meeting. He noted the passage of AB 1234, which requires ethics training for governmental bodies once every two years, and called for the City Council to enter into a code of ethics and to consider the creation of an ethics commission. He encouraged all candidates for the upcoming election to sign the Code of Fair Campaign Practices pledge available on the League of California Cities website.

Mayor Walker noted the Council’s longstanding practice of conferring with the City Attorney and the City Manager on questions of ethics and publicly acknowledging any mistakes that have been made.

Mayor Walker and Mr. Furey engaged in a dialogue on past issues.

Councilmember Witkowsky indicated that she was uncomfortable with the tone of the discussion and questioned whether the Council could mandate civility.

City Attorney Fellows advised that while the Council can set rules, including time limits for those who wish to comment on items not on the agenda, the public does have a right to speak and suggested that the Council could call a recess to serve as a cooling off period as a means of restoring civility.

16M. Byron Stefferud, Torrance, Torrance Performing Arts Consortium, expressed gratitude to and commended the City Council for its support of the cultural arts in Torrance.

16N. Elaine Nieves, President of South Bay Ballet Board of Directors, thanked Councilmember Witkowsky for her support and presented her with a bouquet of flowers in appreciation of her participation in the South Bay Ballet Nutcracker.

16O. Fran Fulton, Economic Development Manager, thanked interns Kimanh Nguyen and Rajan Agarwal for their assistance in the Economic Development Team presentation she made earlier in the meeting.

16P. Bonnie Mae Barnard, Save Historic Old Torrance, invited the public to wish Louis Zamperini a happy birthday at an event to be held at the Zamperini House, 2028 Gramercy, on January 15, 2006.

16Q. Bonnie Mae Barnard, SHOT, invited the public to attend the 2nd Annual Preservation Extravaganza fundraiser at the Depot restaurant on February 26, 2006.

16R. Bonnie Mae Barnard, SHOT, announced that her pictorial history book on Torrance was available for pre-purchase by calling 310.320.0239.

17. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None.

18. **ADJOURNMENT**

At 9:15 p.m. the meeting was adjourned to Tuesday, January 24, 2006 at 5:30 p.m. for an executive session, with the regular meeting commencing at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers. **Tuesday, January 17, 2007 will be a Council dark night.**

***Adjourned in Memory of
Helen Henry and Joe Capriotti***

Attest:

/s/ Dan Walker

Mayor of the City of Torrance

/s/ Sue Herbers

Sue Herbers, CMC

City Clerk of the City of Torrance

Approved on March 21, 2006