

March 18, 2008

**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 7:03 p.m. on Tuesday, March 18, 2008 in the West High School Library at 20401 Victor Street.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Councilmembers Barnett, Brewer, Nowatka, Sutherland, Witkowsky, and Mayor Scotto.

Absent: Councilmember Drevno.

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 Barnett.

Councilmember Witkowsky gave the non-sectarian invocation.

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

City Clerk Herbers reported that the agenda was posted on the Public Notice Board at 3031 Torrance Boulevard on Thursday, March 13, 2008.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Brewer 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 passed by unanimous roll call vote (absent Councilmember Drevno).

**4. WITHDRAWN OR DEFERRED ITEMS**

None.

**5. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Councilmember Nowatka noted that the Ad Hoc Ethics Committee had met earlier in the day and the next meeting would be held Tuesday, March 25, at 3:00 p.m. in the City Hall 3rd Floor Assembly Room.

Councilmember Nowatka announced that the Citizen Development and Enrichment Committee would meet on Tuesday, April 8, at 4:30 p.m. in the City Hall 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Assembly Room to discuss the 2009 rose float design.

Councilmember Sutherland announced that the City Council Community Planning and Design Committee would meet on Friday, March 21, at 4:00 p.m. in the City Hall 3rd Floor Assembly Room to discuss the Zamperini Way entry sign design.

City Clerk Herbers noted that staff reports for items on the agenda were available at the entrance to the library.

City Clerk Herbers announced that various election-related documents, including city council candidate statements and ballot measure arguments, were available for review in the City Clerk's office during regular business hours.

Management Associate Fulton commented on the Torrance Advantage Awards held last week to honor businesses for their commitment to the community, noting that the following businesses were recognized: Pelican Products, Sammy's Woodfired Pizza, Virco Manufacturing, Walser's, Sunrider International, Pediatric Therapy Network, Torrance Marriott and Torrance Bakery.

A representative from Fortel Traffic, Inc. demonstrated the VCalm Variable Message Sign, a radar speed feedback sign, to be purchased by the City for traffic calming. (Agenda Item 12C).

**6. COMMUNITY MATTERS**

**6A. PROCLAMATION RE "SUNSHINE WEEK"**

Mayor Scotto presented a proclamation to Barbara Barker, League of Women Voters declaring the week of March 16 through March 22, 2008 as "Sunshine Week" in the City of Torrance to promote a non-partisan effort to enlighten and empower individuals to play an active role in their government at all levels.

Ms. Barker invited everyone to attend "Get Into the Act" Fair on Friday, March 21, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. in the City Hall West Annex.

**7. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #1**

**7A.** Dennis Ettlin, Fathers for Justice, expressed concerns that his First Amendment rights were violated when he was forced to leave the West High campus three weeks ago.

**7B.** Lucas Fitzgerald, Pacific Lutheran High School, offered information about the school, a private Christian school located at the corner of Arlington and Sepulveda.

**7C.** Arohi Sharma and Daniel Coffe, representing the West High School Environmental Club, urged that Styrofoam take-out food containers be banned in Torrance due to the adverse impact they have on the environment, particularly with regard to marine life, and submitted a petition.

**7D.** Pat Furey, Torrance Education Foundation, invited everyone to purchase raffle tickets for a Toyota Prius to benefit Torrance schools, with the drawing to take place at the Torrance Education Foundation Gala on May 10 at the Torrance Marriott. He noted that \$10 of the \$20 ticket price goes directly to the organization selling the ticket.

**7E.** Ted Borges, Ronald Avenue, expressed concerns that his neighborhood was being inundated with debris from the nearby Redondo Beach Firing Range.

**7F.** Bryan Johnson, 180<sup>th</sup> Street, reported that CarMax is violating its Conditional Use Permit because residential streets are being used for test driving, as well as by oversized delivery vehicles, which poses a safety risk to neighborhood children.

**7G.** Rick Wagner, 180<sup>th</sup> Street, echoed concerns about CarMax.

**7H.** Eugene Petzel, Ronald Avenue, expressed concerns about noise from the Redondo Beach Firing Range.

7I. E. J. Wells, Entradero Avenue, voiced concerns about speeding traffic on his street and recommended that left turns onto Entradero from eastbound Del Amo Boulevard be prohibited during morning peak hours to thwart cut-through traffic.

8. **CONSENT CALENDAR**

8A. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the City Clerk that City Council approve the City Council minutes of January 8 and January 15, 2008.

8B. **AGREEMENT FOR A TEMPORARY NETWORK CONTRACTOR**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the Information Technology Director that City Council approve an amendment to the contract services agreement with Sapphire Technologies (C2007-191) by \$23,000 for a new not to exceed total of \$70,000 for a temporary network contractor.

8C. **CONSULTANT AGREEMENT FOR RECRUITMENT AND SELECTION SERVICES**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the Human Resources Director that City Council authorize a consulting services agreement with K. Kennedy and Associates, LLC to conduct recruitment and selection services through June 30, 2008 for an amount not to exceed \$25,000.

8D. **REVISED CLASS SPECIFICATIONS FOR SYSTEMS ANALYST**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the Human Resources Director and the Civil Service Commission that the City Council approve the revised class specification for Systems Analyst.

8E. **AGREEMENT FOR HYDRAULIC MODEL ANALYSIS SERVICE**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the Public Works Director that City Council approve a two year consulting services agreement with Tetra Tech, Inc. for as needed hydraulic model analysis service (CIP No. I-52) in an amount not to exceed \$39,975.81.

8F. **AGREEMENT FOR CITY'S TELEPHONE AND VOICEMAIL MAINTENANCE SERVICE**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the Information Technology Director that City Council approve a one-year contract services agreement with NEC Unified Solutions Inc. in the amount of \$104,889.60 for 24/7 maintenance services of the City's telephone and voicemail system.

8G. **SUBLEASE FOR PROPERTY AT 3445, 3511, AND 3525 PACIFIC COAST HIGHWAY**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the City Manager that City Council consent to an assignment of sublease from SCB Restaurants to CB Restaurants (Master Tenant JAS Madison I, LLC) on City-owned property located at 3445, 3511 and 3525 Pacific Coast Highway at the center known as Madison Park (C-2738).

**MOTION:** Councilmember Sutherland moved for the approval of Consent Calendar Items 8A through 8G. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Barnett and passed by unanimous roll call vote (absent Councilmember Drevno).

**12. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

**12A. RESOLUTIONS RE MODIFICATION OF BENEFITS FOR EXECUTIVE AND MANAGEMENT EMPLOYEES, TFEA, TLEA AND TME-AFCME LOCAL 1117**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the City Manager that City Council adopt RESOLUTION amending the Executive and Management Employees Resolution No. 2007-67 and adopt RESOLUTIONS pursuant to Memoranda of Understanding amending Torrance Fiscal Employees Association (TFEA) Resolution No. 2007-38, Torrance Library Employees Association (TLEA) Resolution No. 2007-79, and Torrance Municipal Employees (TME-AFSCME Local 1117) Resolution No. 2007-78 setting forth hours, wages and working conditions.

Assistant to the City Manager Chaparyan reported that the modifications concern health insurance contributions for part-time employees.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Sutherland moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Witkowsky and passed by unanimous roll call vote (absent Councilmember Drevno).

**RESOLUTION NO. 2008-34**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 2007-57 SETTING FORTH CHANGES REGARDING THE HOURS, WAGES, AND WORKING CONDITIONS FOR EXECUTIVE AND MANAGEMENT EMPLOYEES

**MOTION:** Councilmember Brewer moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2008-34. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Nowatka and passed by unanimous roll call vote (absent Councilmember Drevno).

**RESOLUTION NO. 2008-35**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 2007-38 SETTING FORTH CHANGES REGARDING THE HOURS, WAGES, AND WORKING CONDITIONS FOR EMPLOYEES REPRESENTED BY THE TORRANCE FISCAL EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION (TFEA)

**MOTION:** Councilmember Brewer moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2008-35. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Sutherland and passed by unanimous roll call vote (absent Councilmember Drevno).

**RESOLUTION NO. 2008-36**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 2007-79 SETTING FORTH CHANGES REGARDING THE HOURS, WAGES, AND WORKING CONDITIONS FOR EMPLOYEES REPRESENTED BY THE TORRANCE LIBRARY EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION (TLEA)

**MOTION:** Councilmember Brewer moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2008-36. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Sutherland and passed by unanimous roll call vote (absent Councilmember Drevno).

**RESOLUTION NO. 2008-37**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 2007-78 SETTING FORTH CHANGES REGARDING THE HOURS, WAGES, AND WORKING CONDITIONS FOR EMPLOYEES REPRESENTED BY THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES – AFSCME, LOCAL 1117

**MOTION:** Councilmember Brewer moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2008-37. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Sutherland and passed by unanimous roll call vote (absent Councilmember Drevno).

**12B. RESOLUTIONS RE MODIFICATION OF BENEFITS FOR SAFETY MANAGEMENT EMPLOYEES, TPOA AND TPCA**

**Recommendation**

Safety Management Employees Resolution No. 2005-122 and adopt Resolutions pursuant to Memoranda of Understanding amending the Torrance Police Officers Association (TPOA) Resolution No. 2005-56 and Torrance Police Commanders Association (TPCA) Resolution No. 2005-61 setting forth terms, hours, wages, and working conditions.

Assistant to the City Manager Chaparyan reported that the modifications adjust health insurance benefits and extend the term of the respective contracts by one month.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Brewer moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Witkowsky and passed by unanimous roll call vote (absent Councilmember Drevno).

**RESOLUTION NO. 2008-38**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 2005-122 SETTING FORTH CHANGES REGARDING THE WAGES FOR SAFETY MANAGEMENT EMPLOYEES

**MOTION:** Councilmember Brewer moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2008-38. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Sutherland and passed by unanimous roll call vote (absent Councilmember Drevno).

**RESOLUTION NO. 2008-39**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 2005-56 SETTING FORTH CHANGES REGARDING THE HOURS, WAGES, AND WORKING CONDITIONS FOR EMPLOYEES REPRESENTED BY THE TORRANCE POLICE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION (TPOA)

**MOTION:** Councilmember Brewer moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2008-39. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Sutherland and passed by unanimous roll call vote (absent Councilmember Drevno).

**RESOLUTION NO. 2008-40**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 2005-61 SETTING FORTH CHANGES REGARDING THE HOURS, WAGES, AND WORKING CONDITIONS FOR EMPLOYEES REPRESENTED BY THE TORRANCE POLICE COMMANDERS ASSOCIATION (TPCA)

**MOTION:** Councilmember Brewer moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2008-40. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Sutherland and passed by unanimous roll call vote (absent Councilmember Drevno).

**12C. PURCHASE OF VCALM VARIABLE MESSAGE SIGNS**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the City Manager and the Community Development Director that City Council authorize a sole-source purchase of four (4) VCalm Variable Message Signs with Fortel Traffic, Inc., Anaheim, CA in the amount of \$38,537 (tax included) for traffic calming.

Management Aide Jeong noted that the sign was demonstrated earlier in the meeting.

Mayor Scotto expressed the hope that the signs would be an effective way to reduce speeding rather than having to issue traffic citations.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Witkowsky moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Nowatka and passed by unanimous roll call vote (absent Councilmember Drevno).

**12D. ORDINANCE REGULATING STATE AND CITY VIDEO FRANCHISES**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the City Manager that City Council adopt an Ordinance implementing regulation of State Video Franchises and City Video Franchises in the City of Torrance.

Cable and Community Relations Manager Smith reported that the Ordinance would allow the City to continue to collect fees and enforce customer service standards for existing and future multi-channel video providers. He noted that both Verizon and AT&T plan to offer video services in Torrance in addition to Time Warner.

In response to Cliff Numark, Ladeene Avenue, Mr. Smith confirmed that the new companies will be required to provide the same three PEG (Public, Educational and Governmental) channels as currently provided by Time Warner.

Councilmember Witkowsky noted that companies are offering bundled services (cable television/high speed internet/telephone service) at low introductory rates, however, it can be very expensive to go back to separate providers when those rates increase and recommended that residents be informed about this.

Cable and Community Relations Manager Smith agreed to look into placing an information item in the *Torrance Seasons* publication and doing a segment on *This Week in Torrance* explaining the different options.

In response to Councilmember Sutherland's inquiry, Mr. Smith confirmed that Torrance Citicable is not available through Direct TV, but noted that the same programming is available on-line via the City's website.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Sutherland moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Brewer and passed by unanimous roll call vote (absent Councilmember Drevno).

**ORDINANCE NO. 3707**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE IMPOSING VIDEO FRANCHISE FEES AND REGULATING CUSTOMER SERVICE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND VIDEO COMPETITION ACT

**MOTION:** Councilmember Brewer moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 3707. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Sutherland and passed by unanimous roll call vote (absent Councilmember Drevno).

**15. OTHER**

**15A. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT – ACTIVITIES AND PROJECTS**

Community Development Director Gibson provided a brief overview of the department and introduced Deputy Community Development Director Cessna, Traffic Planning Manager Semaan and Building and Safety Director Segovia.

Deputy Community Development Director Cessna reported on the General Plan Update and Strategic Plan Renewal currently underway.

Traffic Planning Manager Semaan provided an update on the Oversized Vehicle and Trailer Ordinance.

**15B. COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT – UPDATE OF LIBRARY AND PARK IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS IN WEST TORRANCE AREA**

Community Services Director Jones gave a brief overview of the department and introduced Administrative Services Manager Minter, Acting Cultural Services Manager Kamerle, Acting Recreation Services Manager McClelland, City Librarian Weiner and Park Services Manager Wilson. He reviewed scheduled improvements at Henderson Library and La Romeria, Victor, Sunnyglen, Paradise and Entradero parks.

**15C. PUBLIC SAFETY INFORMATION RELATED TO CRIME TRENDS, CRIME PREVENTION, TRAFFIC AND QUALITY OF LIFE ISSUES**

Police Chief Neu introduced officers assigned to the West Torrance area, including Community Lead Officer Turretine, Traffic Officer Farley and the West High School Resource Officer Garcia.

Lieutenant D'Anjou provided an overview of the new Community Affairs Division, which places an emphasis on education and prevention. He noted that the Police Department's website was in the process of being modified to allow residents to schedule home security inspections and vacation checks and includes crime statistics and crime prevention information.

Mayor Scotto encouraged residents to take advantage of the new home security inspections, in which two officers conduct a 30-minute inspection of a home and offer suggestions for enhancing security.

Services Officer Aceves provided information about the revitalized Neighborhood Watch Program, including the new "Map Your Neighborhood" program beginning in June.

**15D. PUBLIC WORKS – INFORMATION ON FUNCTIONS OF PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT AND CAPITAL PROJECTS IN THE WEST TORRANCE AREA**

Public Works Director Beste provided an overview of the Public Works Department and introduced Sanitation Manager Knapp, Streetscape Manager Emerson, Street Maintenance Manager Cooper, Deputy Director Jack van der Linden and Engineering Manager Bilezerian. He reported on the success of the trial green waste program and discussed efforts to reduce reliance on imported water.

Fire Chief Bongard provided an update on the 5th paramedic rescue unit, which was put into service on February 3, 2008 and services the West Torrance area.

City Manager Jackson introduced Transit Manager Turner, Information Technology Director Shigaki, City Treasurer Barnett, and City Clerk Herbers.

**15E. PRESENTATION ON PROPOSED STORMWATER BASIN ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM IN WEST TORRANCE.**

Public Works Engineering Manager Dettle reviewed the proposed Stormwater Basin Enhancement Program designed to bring the City into compliance with EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) limits for bacteria discharged into the Santa Monica Bay. He explained that the Herondo Drain is the only storm drain with a tributary area from Torrance to the Santa Monica Bay which is not in compliance with wet weather bacteria limits and the enhancement of the Amie, Henrietta and Entradero Retention Basins offers the best opportunity for treating and containing stormwater. He noted that enhancements would include habitat restoration and opportunities for wildlife viewing areas and walking trails.

Community Services Director Jones reported on additional open space and recreational opportunities which will result from the proposed retention basin enhancements.

Responding to questions from the Council, Engineering Manager Dettle advised that the timing of the project depends on the availability of grant funds.

City Manager Jackson noted that the project is only in the beginning stages and there would many opportunities for the public to provide input during the process.

Mayor Scotto voiced his opinion that the enhancements would be a very cost effective way for the City to add much needed recreational space.

Mayor Scotto invited public comment.

Arthur Evans, resident, discussed safety concerns involving a sidewalk ramp at the northwest corner of Sepulveda Boulevard and Ocean Avenue, reconfigured medians on Sepulveda Boulevard; and illegal turns near Towers Elementary School and submitted maps to illustrate. He also expressed concerns about drainage problems on Beryl Street and about the large number of unsold units in a senior condominium complex on Sepulveda Boulevard.

Harry Stuver, Towers Street, expressed concerns about the lack of sidewalks, curbs and gutters on the south side of 190<sup>th</sup> Street and the south side of Beryl Street at Torrance's western boundary and the general neglect of this area of the City. He commended staff for devising a very forward thinking plan with regard to the proposal to use retention basins for the dual purposes of containing storm water and providing additional recreational space.

Susan Gibson, Ladeene Avenue, suggested that the Little League board of directors be informed about plans for the retention basins and expressed the hope that their natural beauty and wildlife habitats would be preserved.

Mayor Scotto explained that Little Leagues would not be displaced by the retention basin project; that the intent was to enhance the basins and make them more accessible; and that there will be many opportunities for the public to provide input.

Mayor Scotto thanked City staff for their efforts in putting together and setting up this off-site meeting. City Manager Jackson thanked West High staff for their assistance.

**16. SECOND READING ORDINANCES**

**16A. SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 3705**

**ORDINANCE NO. 3705**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE TO CLARIFY ITS ORIGINAL INTENT AND TO REMOVE OBSOLETE REFERENCES IN THE TELEPHONE AND TELETYPEWRITER EXCHANGE USERS TAX

**MOTION:** Councilmember Brewer moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 3705. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Sutherland and passed by unanimous roll call vote (absent Councilmember Drevno).

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The Council met as the Redevelopment Agency from 9:35 p.m. to 9:36 p.m.

**17. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

**17A.** Councilmember Nowatka noted that this was the last of the four off-site City Council/Community Outreach meetings; related his belief that they were a valuable learning experience; and thanked all involved in planning and setting them up.

**17B.** Councilmember Sutherland noted that some cities have taken action to regulate the residency of sex offenders and, with the concurrence of Council, requested that the Police Chief and City Attorney look into whether it would be appropriate for Torrance to enact similar regulations.

**17C.** Councilmember Sutherland, with the concurrence of Council, asked that staff bring forward an item to waive rental fees for Wilson Park softball fields for the Kalalea Jennings Memorial Softball Tournament benefiting First Candle.

**17D.** Councilmember Sutherland also thanked staff for their efforts in setting up the off-site meetings, including Cable and Community Relations Manager Smith and his staff.

**17E.** Councilmember Witkowsky requested that staff look into the possibility of installing countdown displays for signals at intersections where there is a lot of pedestrian traffic.

**17F.** Councilmember Barnett echoed thanks to staff and also thanked West Torrance residents for attending the meeting.

**17G.** Councilmember Brewer requested an excused absence for the March 25 Council meeting.

**17H.** Councilmember Brewer invited anyone interested in volunteer opportunities with the City to contact Eleanor Jones at 310.618.5880.

**17I.** Councilmember Brewer announced that the Youth Council would be holding a pancake breakfast on Saturday, April 5, from 7:00 – 11:00 a.m. at the Attic, 2320 W. Carson Street.

**17J.** Mayor Scotto echoed comments on the four City Council/Community Outreach meetings and thanked staff and West High School.

**17K.** Mayor Scotto reported on the Council's attendance at the National League of Cities Conference in Washington, D.C. the previous week.

**17L.** City Manager Jackson thanked staff for their work in setting up tonight's meeting, noting that it was a team effort involving several departments.

**18. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None.

**19. ADJOURNMENT**

At 9:47 p.m., the meeting was adjourned to Tuesday, March 25, 2008, at 5:30 p.m. for an executive session, with the regular business commencing at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

Attest:

/s/ Frank Scotto

Mayor of the City of Torrance

/s/ Sue Herbers

Sue Herbers,  
City Clerk of the City of Torrance

Approved on April 22, 2008