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TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL – MARCH 20, 2012

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At 7:42 p.m., the meeting was adjourned to Tuesday, March 27, 2012 at 5:00 p.m. for a City Council Workshop – Transit Design Review in the Nakano Theatre, with regular business commencing at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber.

**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 20, 2012 in the City Council Chamber at Torrance City Hall.

ROLL CALL

Present: Councilmembers Barnett, Brewer, Furey, Rhilinger, Sutherland, and Mayor Scotto.

Absent: Councilmember Numark.

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

2. FLAG SALUTE/INVOCATION

The flag salute was led by chef/restaurateur Michael Shafer.

The non-sectarian invocation was given by Councilmember Rhilinger.

**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 15, 2012.

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 Brewer and passed by unanimous vote (absent Councilmember Numark).

4. WITHDRAWN, DEFERRED OR SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

None.

5. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilmember Rhilinger announced that a City Council Workshop on the design of the Torrance Transit Park & Ride Regional Terminal will be held on Tuesday, March 27, at 5:00 p.m. in the Nakano Theatre.

Councilmember Sutherland announced that the Finance and Governmental Operations Committee will meet on Tuesday, April 3, at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chamber to review the mid-year budget report.

Councilmember Furey announced that a realignment workshop "Current and Future Impact of the Criminal Justice Realignment Plan on Torrance" is scheduled for Tuesday, April 10, at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chamber.

City Clerk Herbers announced that a Commissioner Certification Training class has been scheduled for May 9 and a reservation link for the training is now active and will remain until midnight May 2. She noted that a written notice will be mailed at the end of this week to those who have already requested information or have attended within the past four years.

City Clerk Herbers announced that the City Council item to fill commission vacancies has been scheduled for Tuesday, May 22.

City Clerk Herbers reported that voters may register to receive their sample ballots via email on the L.A. County Registrar website www.LAVote.net and this will automatically sign them up as permanent absent voters so ballots will also be received via email.

Mayor Scotto asked that the meeting be adjourned in memory of retired fire captain Paul DeMello who passed away March 13.

7. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #1

7A. Oscar Gasparini, Torrance, reported that he would like to get street sweeping signs posted on his block, but has been unable to gather the required number of signatures, noting that the signs were in place 12 years ago but were taken down and never replaced. He expressed concerns that he never received any notice regarding a second story addition being built behind him that will block his view. He also expressed concerns about people parking in front of his residence on trash day.

City Manager Jackson offered to have staff meet with Mr. Gasparini to explain the process for formally requesting street sweeping signs.

Community Development Director Gibson advised that Mr. Gasparini does not live within the Hillside Overlay therefore he would only receive notice of an addition if it involved a variance or a waiver.

7B. Michael Shafer, owner of The Depot and Buffalo Fire Department restaurants, announced that Torrance Firefighters Association and the Buffalo Fire Department are sponsoring Old Town Torrance Festival Day on May 6, from noon to 6:00 p.m., which will benefit the South Bay Fire and Police Memorial Foundation and the Relay for Life. He noted that the event will feature children's games, a display of antique fire engines and a chili cook-off and will include a "Take a Hero to Lunch" auction.

7C. Rob Katherman, Water Replenishment District, presented the Ground Water Ambassador of the Year Award to Public Works Director Rob Beste and briefly reviewed his accomplishments, including leading the fight against eastside politicians who attempted to cut the cost of ground water in their district at the expense of those in the West Basin and drafting a plan to help cities in the West Basin utilize all of their pumping rights.

7D. Scott Gobble, Southern California Edison, noting recent windstorms, reminded the public not to touch downed power lines and to report them to the utility company.

8. CONSENT CALENDAR

8A. LIVING DEDICATION TREE PROGRAM 2011 ANNUAL REPORT

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Parks and Recreation Commission and the Community Services Director that City Council accept and file the Living Dedication Tree Program Report for the period of January through December 2011.

8B. APPROVAL OF NAME FOR CENTENNIAL PARK PROJECT

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Parks and Recreation Commission and the Community Services Director that City Council approve a name for the Centennial Project located at El Prado Park.

8C. AGREEMENT FOR PLAN REVIEW SERVICES

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Community Development Director that City Council approve a consulting services agreement with California Code Check for plan review services, on an as needed basis, in an amount not to exceed \$300,000.

8D. SUBSIDY OF FILMING PERMIT FEES FOR PEOPLE FIRST MEETING

Recommendation

Recommendation of the City Manager that City Council approve the subsidy of filming permit fees for a People First meeting, a non-profit organization that raises awareness of the challenges faced by people with disabilities, at the Cultural Arts Center in the amount of \$519.

8E. CONTRACT FOR SENIOR EXCURSIONS

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Community Services Director that City Council approve a contract with MS Tours, dba: Main Street Tours, in an amount not to exceed \$30,372 for fiscal year 2011-2012 to provide Recreation Services senior citizens excursions.

MOTION: Councilmember Furey moved for the approval of Consent Calendar Items 8A through 8H. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Rhilinger and passed by unanimous vote (absent Councilmember Numark).

12. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

12A. CANCELLATION OF 2012 GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION AND RESOLUTION FOR APPOINTMENT TO OFFICES

Recommendation

Recommendation of the City Clerk that City Council act on the City Clerk's certification that there are not more candidates than-- offices to be elected by:

- 1) Appointing to office those persons nominated and adopt a Resolution providing for the appointment to the offices of the City of Torrance that were to be elected on Tuesday, June 5, 2012 and cancelling the 2012 General Municipal Election; or
- 2) Giving direction to the City Clerk to continue preparation for placing the election on the June 5, 2012 ballot.

City Clerk Herbers advised that the California Elections Code allows for the persons nominated to be appointed when there are no more candidates than offices to be elected. She noted that by canceling the June 5, 2012 election the City would save approximately \$194,000, which was the estimate given by L.A. County.

City Attorney Fellows confirmed that the three councilmembers nominated for re-election may vote on this item because legal staff has determined that it would not be a conflict of interest.

Councilmember Sutherland expressed support for canceling the election, noting that a recent El Camino College election greatly exceeded the cost estimate provided by L.A. County so the savings could be even more than \$194,000.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 2012-30

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE PROVIDING FOR THE APPOINTMENT TO THE OFFICES OF THIS CITY THAT WERE TO BE ELECTED ON TUESDAY, JUNE 5, 2012 AND CANCELLING THE 2012 GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION

MOTION: Councilmember Brewer moved to adopt Resolution No. 2012-30. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Sutherland and passed by unanimous vote (absent Councilmember Numark).

12B. RESOLUTION AMENDING TORRANCE MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES – AFSCME LOCAL 1117 MOU RE LONGEVITY PAY

Recommendation

Recommendation of the City Manager that City Council adopt a Resolution pursuant to the Memorandum of Understanding amending Resolution No. 2011-26 for employees represented by Torrance Municipal Employees – AFSCME, Local 1117 to reflect the longevity pay provision of the Animal Control Officer classification.

Human Resources Manager Lawrence clarified that the modification specifies that the Animal Control Officer classification is not eligible for longevity pay.

MOTION: Councilmember Barnett moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Rhilinger and passed by unanimous vote (absent Councilmember Numark).

RESOLUTION NO. 2012-31

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 2011-26 SETTING FORTH CHANGES REGARDING THE HOURS, WAGES, AND WORKING CONDITIONS FOR EMPLOYEES REPRESENTED BY TME-AFSCME, LOCAL 1117

MOTION: Councilmember Brewer moved to adopt Resolution No. 2012-31. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Sutherland and passed by unanimous vote (absent Councilmember Numark).

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The City Council met as the Public Housing Agency from 7:31 p.m. to 7:35 p.m.

17. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #2

17A. Councilmember Furey reported that Torrance Education Foundation's "Tip Your Hat to Education" dinner will be held on Friday, March 23, at the Torrance Marriott, which will include the raffle of a 2012 Lexus hybrid donated by Toyota Motor Sales. He noted that 4000 tickets have been sold to date raising \$120,000, \$80,000 of which goes directly to Torrance schools and school organizations.

17B. Councilmember Rhlinger announced that the Torrance Youth Council will be holding its 13th annual Pancake Breakfast fundraiser on Saturday, April 7, from 7:00 – 11:00 a.m. at the Attic, 2320 W. Carson Street.

17C. Councilmember Sutherland noted that the remaining \$40,000 from the Lexus raffle will also benefit Torrance schools.

17D. Councilmember Barnett announced that the Community Services Department is sponsoring “Breakfast with the Bunny” on Saturday, April 7, from 9:00 a.m. to noon, with additional information available at 310.618.2930.

17E. Councilmember Brewer announced that tickets are still available for the “Tip Your Hat to Education” dinner at the Marriott and can be purchased by calling 310.972.6418.

17F. Councilmember Brewer, with the concurrence of Council, requested that staff look into drafting regulations for garage sales.

17G. Councilmember Brewer reported on his recent trip to Washington, D.C. He noted that he met with Secretary of the Air Force Michael Donley, a South High alumni, to discuss the Armed Forces Day Parade and he was very excited about the parade and offered to help in whatever way he can. He reported that he also met with the staff of Congresswoman Janice Hahn, Congresswoman Maxine Waters and Congressman Henry Waxman to introduce them to Torrance and familiarize them with major projects for which the City is seeking federal funding.

17H. City Clerk Herbers noted that she will be bringing back an item to schedule a date for the installation of the newly appointed councilmembers.

18. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Considered earlier in the meeting, see page 1.

19. ADJOURNMENT

At 7:42 p.m., the meeting was adjourned to Tuesday, March 27, 2012 at 5:00 p.m. for a City Council Workshop – Transit Design Review in the Nakano Theatre, with regular business commencing at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber.

***Adjourned in Memory of
Paul DeMello***

Attest:

/s/ Frank Scotto

Mayor of the City of Torrance

/s/ Sue Herbers

Sue Herbers, CMC
City Clerk of the City of Torrance

Approved on April 24, 2012