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TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL – JULY 17, 2012

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At 8:31 p.m., the meeting was adjourned to Tuesday, July 24, 2012 at 5:30 p.m. for an executive session, with regular business commencing at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber.

July 17, 2012

**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 5:31 p.m. on Tuesday, July 17, 2012 in the City Council Chamber at Torrance City Hall.

ROLL CALL

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

Absent: Councilmember Rhilinger.

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

Agenda Item 18 was considered out of order at this time.

18. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The City Council immediately recessed to closed session to confer with the City Manager and City Attorney on agenda matters listed under 18A) Conference with Labor Negotiator, pursuant to California Government Code §54957.6.

The City Council reconvened at 7:02 p.m. with all members present except for Councilmember Rhilinger. No formal action was taken on any matter considered in closed session.

2. FLAG SALUTE/INVOCATION

The flag salute was led by Community Services Director Jones.

The non-sectarian invocation was given by Councilmember Brewer.

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, July 12, 2012.

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 Furey and passed by unanimous vote (absent Councilmember Rhilinger).

4. WITHDRAWN, DEFERRED OR SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS – None.

5. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Scotto thanked Councilmember Brewer for serving as Mayor Pro Tem for the last six months and welcomed Councilmember Barnett who will be serving as Mayor Pro Tem through December.

Councilmember Brewer announced that the Citizen Development and Enrichment Committee will meet on Monday, August 13, at 4:00 p.m. in the West Annex meeting room of City Hall to discuss subsidy of community services, senior excursions, and the Madrona Marsh.

Councilmember Barnett announced a City Council Employee Relations and Public Safety Committee will meet on Tuesday, August 7, at 4:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber to discuss public employee pensions.

Mayor Scotto announced that a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Del Amo Boulevard extension will take place on August 22 at 4:30 p.m. at the west end of Del Amo Boulevard near Maple Avenue.

Mayor Scotto announced that Torrance resident and surviving Tuskegee airman Walter Crenshaw, who is 102 years old, will be presented with a Congressional Gold Medal at the July 24 City Council meeting in recognition of the sacrifices that he and other Tuskegee airmen made in defense of this nation during World War II. He encouraged the public to attend this memorable event.

6. COMMUNITY MATTERS

6A. RESOLUTION NO. 2012-59 RE JEANNIE MOORMAN

RESOLUTION NO. 2012-59

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE
HONORING JEANNIE MOORMAN UPON HER RETIREMENT FROM
THE CITY OF TORRANCE AFTER TWENTY-NINE YEARS OF SERVICE

MOTION: Councilmember Barnett moved to adopt Resolution No. 2012-59. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Brewer and passed by unanimous vote (absent Councilmember Rhilinger).

Mayor Scotto presented the resolution to Jeannie Moorman, who accepted with appreciation.

Community Services Director Jones commended Ms. Moorman for her dedicated service and wished her well in her retirement.

Alan Lee, AFSCME International, acknowledged Ms. Moorman's tireless efforts on behalf of City workers during her 29 years with the City of Torrance.

6B. RESOLUTION NO. 2012-63 RE TODD REYNOLDS

RESOLUTION NO. 2012-63

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE
HONORING TODD REYNOLDS UPON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE
CITY OF TORRANCE AFTER TWENTY-NINE YEARS OF SERVICE

MOTION: Councilmember Barnett moved to adopt Resolution No. 2012-63. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Brewer and passed by unanimous vote (absent Councilmember Rhilinger).

To be presented at a later date.

7. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #1

7A. Claudia Marroquin, Real Heroes Children's Charity, reported that the organization provides scholarships and books for the children of military families and announced that a fundraiser/concert will be held on Saturday, August 4, on the USS Iowa in San Pedro, with additional information available at www.RHCCfoundation.com.

7B. Neva Gallegos, Torrance, asked about the process for banning leaf blowers in residential neighborhoods in Torrance.

7C. Jan Wierzbicki, Leadership Torrance 2012, invited the public to attend an exhibition/awards ceremony for the Torrance Centennial photo contest on Sunday, July 22, from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. at the Toyota USA Automobile Museum, with additional information available at www.OurTorrancePhotos.com or 424.999.5138.

7D. Debbie Hays, Torrance Historical Society, reminded the public that the “Rock-Around-the-Century” block party will be held on Thursday, July 19, from 5:00 – 9:00 p.m. in front of the museum at 1345 Post Avenue and will include vintage cars, music, games and food, with additional information at 310.328.5392.

7E. Debbie Hays, Torrance Historical Society, announced that there will be a free docent-led walking tour of Downtown Torrance on Sunday, July 22, at 1:30 p.m. beginning in front of the museum located at 1345 Post Avenue.

7F. Janet Payne, Torrance Centennial Committee, announced the “Where’s Jared” photo location contest, with details available at www.torrancecentennial.org.

7G. Janet Payne, Torrance Centennial Committee, requested that the Council consider lifting the 10 food truck limit for the “Birthday Bash” on October 28, which is part of the City’s centennial celebration.

7H. Maureen O’Donnell, resident, announced that the Torrance Salvation Army will be sponsoring a Chili Cook-off on Saturday, July 21, at the Salvation Army located at 4223 Emerald Street, with additional information available at 310.370.4515.

8. CONSENT CALENDAR

8A. ACCEPTANCE/ ALLOCATION OF 2011 URBAN AREA SECURITY INITIATIVE GRANT

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Police Chief and Fire Chief that City Council

- 1) Accept the 2011 Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) grant contract;
- 2) Appropriate and allocate the award in the amount of \$149,185 for counter-terrorism training and a transportation video security system; and
- 3) Authorize the City Manager as the city’s signatory for the contract.

8B. PURCHASE/ INSTALLATION OF BUS RADIO EQUIPMENT

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Transit Director that City Council approve a purchase order with Advanced Electronics Inc. of Redondo Beach, CA for the purchase of radios to be installed on transit buses (B2012-14) in an amount not to exceed \$246,658.77.

8C. AGREEMENT FOR DESIGN OF PALOS VERDES BL. REHABILITATION PROJECT

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Public Works Director that City Council award a one year consulting services agreement in the amount of \$242,950 to CBM Consulting to provide design services for the rehabilitation of Palos Verdes Boulevard, south of Pacific Coast Highway to the southern city boundary (RFP B2012-05).

8D. AGREEMENT AMENDMENT RE LEGAL SERVICES

Recommendation

Recommendation of the City Attorney that City Council approve a second amendment to fee agreement with Jerold A. Goddard, Esq. (C2010-220) to represent the City of Torrance in defending Pitchess motions. The second amendment will substitute the Exhibit B agreement for the previous Exhibit A agreement to satisfy CALPERS requirements for retirees.

8E. PURCHASE ORDER RE COMPUTER SOFTWARE

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Information Technology Director that City Council authorize an annual purchase order with CompuCom Systems, Inc. of Dallas, TX for Microsoft computer software on an as needed basis in an amount not to exceed \$60,300 for the period of July 1, 2012, to June 30, 2013.

8F. AWARD OF AGREEMENT FOR OPERATION OF DOWNTOWN TORRANCE MARKETPLACE

Considered separately, see below.

MOTION: Councilmember Brewer moved to approve Consent Calendar Items 8A through 8E. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Sutherland and passed by unanimous vote (absent Councilmember Rhilinger).

Consent Calendar Item 8F was considered separately at this time.

8F. AWARD OF AGREEMENT FOR OPERATION OF DOWNTOWN TORRANCE MARKETPLACE

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Community Development Director that City Council:

- 1) Authorize a consultant service agreement for the Downtown Torrance Marketplace; and
- 2) Award a consultant service agreement to Michael Shafer to operate the Downtown Torrance Marketplace for a term beginning August 1, 2012 through July 31, 2013.

Michael Shafer provided a brief overview of the proposed Downtown Torrance Marketplace to be held on Thursday evenings, which will feature 15 to 20 vendors selling specialty food products, produce, flowers and arts and crafts, noting that the first event will be held in 3 to 4 weeks.

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

12. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

12A. AUTHORIZATION OF PUBLIC HEARINGS RE PROPOSED TORRANCE TRANSIT SERVICE CHANGES

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Transit Director that City Council authorize three (3) public hearings to be held by the Torrance Transit department to request public input regarding the implementation of the proposed September 2012 service changes.

Administrative Analyst Daily reported that staff was recommending that three hearings be held to obtain input from the public on proposed changes to Torrance Transit routes/schedules as detailed in the staff report. He noted that the hearings are scheduled as follows: August 1 at the Torrance Cultural Arts Center, August 6 at El Camino College, and August 9 at the Carson Community Center, with all hearings to begin at 7:00 p.m.

Charles Deemer, Torrance, requested clarification of the topics to be discussed at the hearings, which was provided by Administrative Analyst Daily.

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

12B. TORRANCE BRIDGE MAINTENANCE AND BEAUTIFICATION PLAN

Recommendation

Recommendation of the City Council Citizen Development and Enrichment Committee that City Council approve the lighting and railing concept for the maintenance and beautification of the Torrance Bridge plans (Project I-125).

With the aid of slides, Associate Engineer Reis, briefly described proposed improvements to the Torrance Bridge, consisting of the installation of in-ground lighting to illuminate the bridge's arches and columns; the repair of cracks and spalls on the bridge; and the repair and replacement of wooden railings. She reported that staff hopes to begin construction in mid-September and complete the project by December 2012 and that the Historical Society has recommended a bridge opening in 2013 to coincide with the centennial of the construction of the bridge in 1913.

Councilmember Sutherland noted that the staff report mentions that additional funding may be necessary in excess of the funds that have already been approved for this project and voiced his opinion that the cost should be held to the original estimate because the project is not a high priority at this time.

Councilmember Brewer, chair of the Citizen Development and Enrichment Committee, explained that examination of the bridge revealed structural damage caused by the ivy growing on it, which was not anticipated, and this damage needs to be repaired to avoid further deterioration.

A brief discussion ensued regarding the replacement of the wooden railings, which were added in the 1940s and were not a part of the original bridge.

City Attorney Fellows discussed potential liability issues should the wooden railings not be replaced.

Janet Payne, Torrance Historical Society, voiced support for the proposed restoration of the bridge, which is probably the most recognizable Torrance landmark. She noted that a newspaper photo was recently discovered that indicates that the bridge may have been under construction in 1914.

Mayor Scotto recommended that electrical outlets be installed on the bridge for future use in conjunction with the installation of the lighting.

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

12C. APPROVAL OF PUBLIC SAFETY DISPATCH PILOT WORK SCHEDULE

Recommendation

Recommendation of the City Manager that City Council approve the Police Department Public Safety Dispatch 3/13.2 pilot work schedule effective July 10, 2012 in the amount of \$45,000.

Assistant to the City Manager Chaparyan provided background information about the proposed changes to the work schedule of Police Department Public Safety Dispatchers.

Mayor Scotto expressed concerns that dispatchers may become fatigued with a 13.2 hour workday.

Police Captain Irvine stated that dispatchers should return well rested after having 4 days off following each 3 days of working and a rest area will be provided for dispatchers to rest during breaks. He noted that there will be sufficient staff to handle calls if a dispatcher becomes fatigued and needs a break.

Councilmember Sutherland asked if there was anything to prevent a dispatcher from taking another job on days off. Assistant to the City Manager Chaparyan advised that an employee must notify the City if he or she takes another job and action would be taken if such employment interfered with dispatching duties.

Councilmember Sutherland voiced support for the proposed pilot program and commended staff and the union for working together to come up with a new scheduling plan that is mutually beneficial.

Responding to questions from the Council, Police Chief Neu reported that the pilot program will be evaluated on a monthly basis and it is expected that the schedule will result in cost savings, but the amount can only be determined after the schedule has been in effect for a period of time for purposes of comparison.

Charles Deemer, Torrance, questioned whether this schedule is being used in other police departments.

Police Chief Neu advised that the three-day work week is fairly standard for dispatchers in other agencies and it will help the City attract well-qualified employees.

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

12D. SCHEDULING OF CITY COUNCIL COMMUNITY OUTREACH MEETINGS

Recommendation

Recommendation of the City Manager that City Council concur scheduling two City Council community outreach meetings, in the amount of \$800, at 7:00 p.m. on the following dates:

- 1) September 18, 2012, in the North Torrance High School Library; and
- 2) December 11, 2012, in the Dee Hardison Gymnasium at Wilson Park.

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

17. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #2

17A. Councilmember Brewer reported on his attendance at the Independent Cities Association conference last weekend, which included a discussion of potential ways to implement the South Bay Master Bicycle Plan.

17B. Councilmember Furey announced that applications are being accepted for the second phase of the Hometown Heroes Banner Program and applications available at public counters at City Hall and online at www.TorranceCA.Gov/7491.htm.

17C. Councilmember Furey announced that the South Bay Cities Council of Governments will be hosting a free American with Disabilities (ADA) Compliance and Education workshop with Congresswoman Janice Hahn on Friday, July 27, at Port of Los Angeles High School, 250 West 5th Street, San Pedro from 8:30 – 11:00 a.m.

17D. Councilmember Numark provided information about the two cooling centers that will be operated this summer at the Bartlett Center, 1318 Cravens Avenue, and the Katy Geissert Civic Center Library, 3301 Torrance Boulevard, noting that additional information was available by calling the City Manager's office at 310.618.5880 or visiting www.TorranceCA.Gov/news.htm.

17E. Mayor Scotto offered a reminder that Tuskegee airman Walter Crenshaw will be honored on July 24 during the regularly scheduled City Council meeting.

17F. Mayor Scotto encouraged non-profit community groups to participate in the Torrance Centennial Community Parade to be held on Sunday, September 16, in Downtown Torrance and announced that the Centennial Birthday Bash will be held on October 28, 2012.

17G. Mayor Scotto encouraged the public to attend City of Torrance night on Sunday, August 26, at the L. A. Galaxy versus Dallas soccer game, with additional information available at www.LAGalaxy.com/Torrance. Community Services Director Jones noted that game time has been changed from 7:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

17H. Charles Deemer, Torrance, asked about progress in the Del Amo Fashion Center expansion/renovation.

18. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Considered earlier in the meeting, see page 1.

19. ADJOURNMENT

At 8:31 p.m., the meeting was adjourned to Tuesday, July 24, 2012 at 5:30 p.m. for an executive session, with regular business commencing at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber.

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 August 21, 2012