

**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 7:01 p.m. on Tuesday, July 22, 2008 in City Council Chambers at Torrance City Hall.

ROLL CALL

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

Absent: None.

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

2. FLAG SALUTE/INVOCATION

The flag salute was led by Boy Scout Darren Kawasaki.

Councilmember Furey 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, July 17, 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 Barnett and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

4. WITHDRAWN, DEFERRED OR SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

City Manager Jackson announced that there was a request for continuance of Item 13A. Mayor Scotto noted supplemental material available at the meeting on Item 12A, as well as notes for Items 8B and 8D.

5. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS – None.

6. **COMMUNITY MATTERS**

6A. **RESOLUTION NO. 2008-95 RE COUNCILWOMAN GENE DREVNO**

RESOLUTION NO. 2008-95

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE HONORING **COUNCILWOMAN GENE DREVNO** FOR HER MANY YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE CITY OF TORRANCE.

MOTION: Councilmember Sutherland moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2008-95. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Numark and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

To be presented at a later date.

6B. **RESOLUTION NO. 2008-96 RE COUNCILMAN PAUL NOWATKA**

RESOLUTION NO. 2008-96

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE HONORING **COUNCILMAN PAUL NOWATKA** FOR HIS MANY YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE CITY OF TORRANCE.

MOTION: Councilmember Sutherland moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2008-96. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Numark and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

To be presented at a later date.

6C. **RESOLUTION NO. 2008-97 RE COUNCILWOMAN HOPE WITKOWSKY**

RESOLUTION NO. 2008-97

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE HONORING **COUNCILWOMAN HOPE WITKOWSKY** FOR HER MANY YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE CITY OF TORRANCE.

MOTION: Councilmember Sutherland moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2008-97. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Numark and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

To be presented at a later date.

6D. **PROCLAMATION RE "INTERNATIONAL SURF FESTIVAL WEEKEND"**

Mayor Scotto presented a proclamation declaring Friday, August 1 through Sunday, August 3, 2008 as ***"International Surf Festival Weekend"*** in the City of Torrance to Surf Festival Director Gary Crum. Mr. Crum encouraged attendance at festival events, which will include volleyball, sand soccer and swimming and surfing competitions at Torrance, Redondo, Hermosa, and Manhattan beaches, with information available at www.surffestival.org.

7. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

7A. Mazen Alloush, Torrance, announced a blood drive sponsored by the North High School ASB on Friday, July 25, from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the school cafeteria.

7B. Richard Browning, Torrance, advised the public that Time Warner Cable will be performing maintenance on the cable system which could result in intermittent interruptions in service of up to 3 hours and warned of possible loss of VoIP (Voice over Internet Protocol) phone service during this period.

7C. Torrance Historical Society President Gene Higginbotham commented on the activities at the *Rock Around the Block* event and expressed appreciation to the city for its support, as well as the many sponsors.

7D. Debbie Hays, Torrance Historical Society, announced a free walking tour of old Torrance on Sunday, July 27, from 1:30 to 3:00 p.m. starting at the museum on Post Avenue.

8. CONSENT CALENDAR

8A. PURCHASE ORDER FOR MOTOROLA PARTS AND PRODUCTS

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **Information Technology Director** that City Council authorize a purchase order be issued to Advanced Electronics, Redondo Beach, CA. in the not-to-exceed amount of \$110,000.00, for the sole-source purchase of Motorola parts and products to maintain radio communications equipment for all City departments on an as-requested basis for one year.

8B. AMENDMENT TO RESIDENTIAL WATER CONSERVATION FUNDING AGREEMENT WITH METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **Public Works Director** that City Council approve an Amendment to an existing residential water conservation funding agreement (Agreement No. 74350) with the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. The Amendment provides the City of Torrance an option to participate in a region-wide residential conservation program administered by the Electric and Gas Association.

8C. AGREEMENT FOR LARGE METER TESTING

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **Public Works Director** that City Council:

- 1) Accept the proposal submitted by Measurement Control Systems, Inc. for performing large meter testing and removal and installation of unitized measuring elements (UME's), and award a Contract Services Agreement to this firm in the amount of \$61,390 and
- 2) Reject all other proposals.

8D. AMENDMENT TO AGREEMENT FOR GEOTECHNICAL SERVICES RE NORTH TORRANCE WATER MAIN REPLACEMENT PROJECT

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **Public Works Director** that City Council approve an Amendment in the amount of \$15,450 to Consulting Services Agreement C2007-185 with Geo-Environmental, Inc. to perform Geotechnical services for the North Torrance Water Main Replacement Project (CIP No. I-73), for a new not to exceed amount of \$45,405.

8E. EXTENSION OF BROKERAGE SERVICES CONTRACT

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **Human Resources Director** that City Council approve an amendment extending the contract with Alliant Insurance Services (C-2005-159) for an additional two years, at a cost of \$50,000 per year, for a total not-to-exceed amount of \$250,000. The two-year extension is for August 1, 2008 through August 1, 2010.

8F. MODIFICATION OF PURCHASE OF SECONDARY WEAPONS AND ACCESSORIES

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **Police Chief** that City Council:

- 1) Appropriate and allocate \$36,000 of asset forfeiture in addition to a previous appropriation, for the purchase of a quantity of 115, .223 caliber secondary weapons and accessories, for a new total not to exceed \$258,000; and
- 2) Authorize a purchase order increase of \$9,900 to Phoenix Distributors of Feasterville, PA for a quantity of 115, .223 caliber rifles, for a total not to exceed \$74,900.

8G. ADOPTION OF TORRANCE TRANSIT OVERALL ANNUAL DBE GOAL FOR FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2008-2009

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **Transit Director** that City Council approve the Overall Annual Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE) Goal of 2.5% for FFY 2008-2009, for submission to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA).

8H. TORRANCE TRANSIT FY2008-2009 CLAIM FOR TRANSPORTATION DEVELOPMENT ACT AND STATE TRANSIT ASSISTANCE FUNDING

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **Transit Director** that City Council approve the submittal of the annual claim to the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (METRO) for \$5,042,111 in Transportation Development Act (TDA) funding and \$1,895,174 in State Transit Assistance (STA) funding for the Torrance Transit System fiscal year 2008-2009.

8I. PARKS AND SPECIAL EVENTS RECYCLING PROGRAM AGREEMENT

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **Public Works and Community Services Directors** that City Council approve:

- 1) A Contract Services Agreement in the amount of \$32,000 with the Los Angeles Conservation Corps to provide operation and maintenance of the City's parks and special event recycling program; and
- 2) The appropriation of grant funds in the amount of \$38,972 plus any future interest earnings from the Department of Conservation that will be used in part to fund the contact with the Los Angeles Conservation Corps.

8J. PURCHASE ORDER FOR FORD ESCAPE HYBRID VEHICLES

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **General Services Director** and the Transit Director that the City Council authorize award of a purchase order to South Bay Ford Lincoln Mercury of Hawthorne, California, in the amount of \$168,226.60 (includes sales tax) to furnish six (6) 2009 Ford Escape Hybrid vehicles.

MOTION: Councilmember Rhilinger moved for the approval of Consent Calendar Items 8A through 8J. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Furey and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

12. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

12A. DIRECTION ON SALARY MODIFICATION FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **City Manager** that City Council provide direction with respect to salary modification for Elected Officials that also serve as department heads.

Assistant to the City Manager Chaparyan noted that the staff report outlines four options for modifying the salary of the City Clerk and the City Treasurer.

Councilmember Barnett announced that he was recusing himself from consideration of this matter because his wife is City Treasurer and exited Council Chambers.

Councilmember Rhilinger stated that in reviewing the survey of comparable cities, she was surprised at how far behind the salary of these elected officials/department heads was in comparison to other cities, therefore, she favored either Option C – a 5% increase in salary, or Option D – setting a percentage level based on Council's preference.

Councilmember Sutherland stated that he felt all City employees were underpaid and he was inclined to support Option A – a 3.5% increase due to the current economic climate and uncertainties with regard to the State budget.

Councilmember Brewer reported that he was leaning toward Option B – a 4.5% increase, recognizing both the disparity in pay and the current economic climate, noting that the staff report indicates that this is the option preferred by the City Clerk and City Treasurer.

Councilmember Numark asked about the average raise for department heads. City Manager Jackson explained that department heads are on a Merit Plan whereby individual positions are reviewed and adjusted accordingly, with raises that can range from 0% to a maximum of 10%.

Councilmember Furey noted that the survey reveals that the salaries for City Clerk and City Treasurer are at least 10% below salaries in surrounding cities, therefore he favored Option C to bring these salaries closer to parity.

Councilmember Scotto also expressed support for Option C, noting that the salaries for these positions are considerably higher in surrounding cities that are smaller than Torrance.

MOTION: Councilmember Rhilinger moved to approve Option C (5% increase). The motion was seconded by Councilmember Furey and passed by a 4-2 roll call vote, with Councilmembers Brewer and Sutherland dissenting (absent Councilmember Barnett).

Councilmember Barnett returned to Council Chambers.

13. **HEARINGS**

13A. **EMPLOYEE TERMINATION APPEAL HEARING**

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **City Manager** that the City Council conduct a hearing on the appeal of the Civil Service Commission decision sustaining the termination of Russell Halleen and that deliberation of this matter shall occur in Executive Session (per Government Code Section 54957).

Acting Civil Service Manager Lohnes requested that the hearing be continued to September 16, 2008 at 5:00 p.m. in Council Chambers because the appellant's attorney was unable to attend tonight's hearing.

Mayor Scotto expressed concerns that this delay could increase the City's liability with regard to back pay should Mr. Halleen be reinstated.

Deputy City Attorney Whitham advised that this issue could be raised as an argument against any increase that would accrue as a result of delays requested by the appellant's attorney.

The Council concurred with the recommendation to continue the hearing to September 16, 2008.

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The Council met as the Redevelopment Agency from 7:46 p.m. to 7:47 p.m.

17. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #2**

17A. Councilmember Numark invited the public to attend the summer musical *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers* beginning Saturday, August 2, at the Armstrong Theatre.

