

September 9, 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 5:35 p.m. on Tuesday, September 9, 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, 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 and 18B) Public Employee Performance Evaluation – City Attorney, pursuant to California Government Code §54957.6 and 54957.

The City Council reconvened at 7:05 p.m. No formal action was taken on any matter considered in closed session.

2. FLAG SALUTE/INVOCATION

The flag salute was led by Councilmember Sutherland.

Councilmember Brewer 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, September 4, 2008.

MOTION: Councilmember Sutherland 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 roll call vote.

4. WITHDRAWN, DEFERRED OR SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

Supplemental material available on Agenda Items 8G and 8O.

Mayor Scotto asked that the meeting be adjourned in memory of former City Councilwoman Gene Drevno, who passed away on September 1, 2008.

The Mayor and Councilmembers reviewed Ms. Drevno's long history of service to the community as a volunteer, educator and public servant.

5. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilmember Furey reported that L.A. County West Vector Control District issued a Public Health Advisory earlier in the day that a dead bird found in the county area adjacent to Torrance had tested positive for the West Nile Virus. He urged residents to use insect repellent containing DEET when they are outdoors during early morning and evening hours, to make sure window screens are tight-fitting and in good repair, and to eliminate any standing water from their property.

Police Chief Neu announced that the Torrance Police Department received the Team Achievement Award from the L.A. County District Attorney's office at the annual DNA Awareness Education Forum for its long-standing dedication to expanding the use of DNA evidence to all crimes.

City Clerk Herbers invited the public to view the works of Artist Guild member Gerene Lucas on display in the City Clerk's office for the month of September.

City Clerk Herbers announced that Commissioner Certification Training was scheduled for Wednesday, October 22, 2008 and reservations are required, with applications available at www.tornet.com or in the City Clerk's office. She noted that residents must be certified before they can apply for a position on any City commission.

City Clerk Herbers reminded the public about the upcoming November 4, 2008 election, noting that people must re-register if they have moved, changed their name, or wish to change their party affiliation and that information on candidates and ballot measures is available at www.smartvoter.org. She reported that the L.A. County Registrar is seeking poll workers, with information available at 1.800.815.2666, Option 7.

Mayor Scotto wished a happy birthday to Torrance resident Virginia Martin, who will be 100 years old on September 12.

6. COMMUNITY MATTERS

6A. PROCLAMATION RE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN TORRANCE BRANCH

Mayor Scotto presented a proclamation commending the American Association of University Women Torrance Branch for 40 years of dedicated service to AAUW Torrance Branch Co-Presidents Pat Carroll and Elaine Bohrer; Pam Kenoyer, Tech Trek Middle School Science Camp Coordinator; Barbara Huffer, Power and Promise Middle School Coordinator; and Kay Odgers, first president of Torrance Branch AAUW.

Ms. Odgers provided background information about the AAUW, highlighting the Tech Trek program designed to encourage girls to pursue careers in math and science.

6B. PROCLAMATION RE “NATIONAL ALCOHOL AND DRUG ADDICTION RECOVERY MONTH”

Mayor Scotto presented a proclamation declaring the month of September 2008 as **National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month** in the City of Torrance to Mike Ballue, National Council on Alcohol and Drug Dependency Executive Director, and Mauricio Jaimerena, Outreach Coordinator.

6C. PROCLAMATION RE “LIFE INSURANCE AWARENESS MONTH”

Mayor Scotto presented a proclamation declaring the month of September 2008 as **Life Insurance Awareness Month** in the City of Torrance to Lynn Cardarelli, Mutual of Omaha; Eric Takaki, New York Life; Mark Applegate, Farmers Insurance; Glen Isobe, AHTKY Insurance; and Mike Delany, Farmers Insurance.

7. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #1

7A. Debbie Hays, Torrance Historical Society, invited the public to meet Judi Gerber, the author of the new book *Farming in Torrance and South Bay*, at a book signing at the Historical Museum on Sunday, September 14, 2008 at 2:00 p.m.

8. CONSENT CALENDAR

8A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Recommendation

Recommendation of the City Clerk that City Council approve the City Council minutes of June 17, June 24, July 1, and July 8, 2008.

8B. CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION FY 2007-2008 ANNUAL REPORT

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Community Services Director and the Cultural Arts Commission that City Council accept and file the Cultural Arts Commission Annual Report for July 2007 through June 2008.

8C. PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION FY 2007-2008 ANNUAL REPORT

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Community Services Director and the Parks and Recreation Commission that City Council accept and file the Parks & Recreation Commission Annual Report for July 2007 through June 2008.

8D. LIBRARY COMISSION FY 2007-2008 ANNUAL REPORT

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Community Services Director and the Library Commission that City Council accept and file the Library Commission 2007-2008 Annual Report.

8E. PURCHASE AGREEMENT FOR AUTOMOTIVE PARTS AND SUPPLIES

Recommendation

Recommendation of the General Services Director that City Council authorize a purchasing agreement with Peerless Auto Parts of Torrance, CA in the amount of \$65,000 to furnish automotive parts and supplies on an as-needed basis effective October 6, 2008 through October 5, 2009.

8F. CONTRACT FOR INSPECTION SERVICES RE TORRANCE BOULEVARD REHABILITATION

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Public Works Director that City Council award a two year contract services agreement in the amount of \$199,000 to Bureau Veritas North America, Inc. to perform full-time construction inspection services for the Torrance Boulevard Rehabilitation, T-43/44.

8G. INVESTMENT REPORTS FOR JULY 2008

Recommendation

Recommendation of the City Treasurer that City Council accept and file the investment reports for the month of July 2008.

8H. PURCHASE ORDER FOR GASOLINE-FUELED FLATBED DUMP TRUCKS

Recommendation

Recommendation of the General Services Director that City Council authorize purchase of four (4) 2009 GMC TC7C042 gasoline-fueled flatbed dump trucks from Reynolds Buick GMC of Covina, California, in the amount of \$291,645.65 including sales tax and tire fees.

8I. PURCHASE ORDER FOR PROPANE-FUELED FLATBED DUMP TRUCKS

Recommendation

Recommendation of the General Services Director that City Council:

- 1) Authorize purchase of four (4) 2009 GMC TC7C042 propane-fueled flatbed dump trucks from Reynolds Buick GMC of Covina, California, in the amount of \$369,392.33 including sales tax and tire fees; and
- 2) Appropriate \$73,900.00 from the General Fund Reserve for Alternative Fuel Vehicles to offset propane vehicle cost premium.

8J. PURCHASE ORDER FOR PROPANE-FUELED DUMP TRUCK

Recommendation

Recommendation of the General Services Director that City Council:

- 1) Authorize the purchase of one (1) 2009 GMC TC7C042 five cubic-yard propane-fueled dump truck from Reynolds Buick GMC of Covina, California, in the amount of \$103,913.93 including sales tax and tire fees;
- 2) Appropriate \$20,700.00 from the General Fund Reserve for Alternative Fuel Vehicles to offset propane vehicle cost premium.

8K. PURCHASE ORDER FOR PROPANE-FUELED CHIPPER TRUCK

Recommendation

Recommendation of the General Services Director that City Council:

- 1) Authorize the purchase of one (1) 2009 GMC TC7C042 propane-fueled chipper truck from Reynolds Buick GMC of Covina, California, in the amount of \$108,006.44 including sales tax and tire fees; and
- 2) Appropriate \$21,600.00 from the General Fund Reserve for Alternative Fuel Vehicles to offset propane vehicle cost premium.

8L. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT TRAINING

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Chief of Police that City Council authorize the payment of \$45,000 to the State of California Office of Emergency Services, for "Emergency Management - Intro to Earthquake" training held in December 2007.

8M. CONTRACT SERVICES AGREEMENT RE 190TH STREET AND HAWTHORNE BOULEVARD REHABILITATION PROJECTS

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Public Works Director that City Council award a contract services agreement to Labelle-Marvin, Inc. in the amount of \$159,800 to perform materials testing and paving compaction testing services for the 190th Street Rehabilitation (Hawthorne Boulevard to west City limit), T-49 and the Torrance Boulevard Rehabilitation (Sartori Avenue to west City limit), T-43/44.

8N. PURCHASE ORDER FOR FURNITURE AT KATY GEISSERT CIVIC CENTER LIBRARY

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Community Services Director that City Council approve a sole source purchase order in the amount of \$111,530.11 to Yamada Enterprises of Huntington Beach, CA, for new furniture for the Katy Geissert Civic Center Library.

8O. CONTRACT SERVICES AGREEMENT FOR TREE MAINTENANCE

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Public Works Director that City Council approve a Contract Services Agreement with West Coast Arborists, Inc. of Anaheim, California in an amount not to exceed \$480,000, to furnish tree maintenance service at various locations throughout the city of Torrance and to provide the City with a tree inventory database of all City owned trees as a cooperative purchase with the City of Agoura Hills.

Considered separately, see page 6.

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

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

80. CONTRACT SERVICES AGREEMENT FOR TREE MAINTENANCE

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Public Works Director that City Council approve a Contract Services Agreement with West Coast Arborists, Inc. of Anaheim, California in an amount not to exceed \$480,000, to furnish tree maintenance service at various locations throughout the city of Torrance and to provide the City with a tree inventory database of all City owned trees as a cooperative purchase with the City of Agoura Hills.

Councilmember Brewer asked about the replacement of eucalyptus trees along Torrance Boulevard.

Public Works Director Beste explained that this contract concerns the maintenance of trees only and that staff will be bringing forward a plan to replace trees along Torrance Boulevard in the near future.

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

12. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

12A. ALLOCATION OF FUNDS FOR TORRANCE BOULEVARD REHABILITATION

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Public Works Director that City Council authorize the Mayor to execute and the City Clerk to attest to a Resolution of the City of Torrance requesting an allocation and payment of County "Highways through Cities" funds in the amount of \$900,000 to the City of Torrance for the Torrance Boulevard Rehabilitation (Sartori Avenue to the west city limit), T-43/44.

RESOLUTION NO. 2008-104

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE
REQUESTING AN ALLOCATION AND PAYMENT OF COUNTY HIGHWAYS
THROUGH CITIES FUNDS

MOTION: Councilmember Sutherland moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2008-104. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Brewer and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

12B. AD HOC LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Recommendation

Recommendation of the City Manager that the Mayor appoint an Ad Hoc Legislative Committee to address the City's position on upcoming ballot measures.

Mayor Scotto appointed Councilmembers Brewer, Furey and Numark to the Ad Hoc Legislative Committee, with Councilmember Brewer to serve as Chair.

12C. PUBLIC WORKS AGREEMENT FOR TORRANCE BOULEVARD REHABILITATION

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Public Works Director that City Council:

- 1) Approve a budget transfer in the amount of \$416,725 of Surface Transportation Program-Local ("STP-L") federal funds from the Hawthorne Boulevard Rehabilitation (PCH to south city limit), T-45 to the Torrance Boulevard Rehabilitation, T-43/44;
- 2) Approve a budget transfer in the amount of \$2,871,000 of Gas Tax funds from the Residential Street Rehabilitation, I-94 to the Torrance Boulevard Rehabilitation, T-43/44;
- 3) Approve a budget transfer in the amount of \$90,000 of Gas Tax funds from the Rolling Hills Road Traffic Signals & Rolling Hills Way Median/Striping improvements, S-34 to the Torrance Boulevard Rehabilitation, T-43/44;
- 4) Approve the plans and specifications for the Torrance Boulevard Rehabilitation, T-43/44 (B2008-33); and
- 5) Award a two-year public works agreement to Sully Miller Contracting Co. in the amount of \$5,874,267 and authorize a 5% contingency in the amount of \$293,713.35 for the Torrance Boulevard Rehabilitation, T-43/44.

Engineering Manager Overstreet provided an overview of the Torrance Boulevard Rehabilitation Project. She noted that the project is scheduled to begin in October 2008 and be completed by December 2009, with construction to continue through the holidays so the segment involved in the annual Armed Forces Day Parade will be completed by April 2009.

Commissioner Sutherland asked about penalties should the project not be completed in time for the parade in May, and Engineering Manager Overstreet advised that the contract includes a provision that requires the contractor to pay \$10,000 per day if the project is not completed by April 11, 2009.

Mayor Scotto recommended that businesses along Torrance Boulevard be notified about the project as soon as possible.

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

12D. REQUEST FOR FUNDING FOR BANNERS FROM TCACF

Recommendation

Recommendation of the City Manager that City Council consider a request from the Cultural Arts Center Foundation for the City to fund and approve the installation of twenty-four (24) banners along Torrance Boulevard between Madrona Avenue and Hawthorne Boulevard from September 15, 2008 through November 21, 2008; and sixteen (16) banners in the Cultural Arts Center parking lot from November 21, 2008 through February 23, 2009.

Assistant to the City Manager Sunshine reviewed the request from the Torrance Cultural Arts Center Foundation that the City fund the installation of banners to advertise upcoming events at the Cultural Arts Center.

Commissioner Sutherland recalled that when the City Council approved a similar request last year it was supposed to be a one-time occurrence and expressed concerns about setting a precedent by approving funding for the banners on an on-going basis.

Kurt Weideman, president of the Torrance Cultural Arts Center Foundation, noted that the foundation is committed to bringing high quality entertainment to Torrance and urged approval of the request.

Ray Solley, executive director of TCACF, reported that the banners were used for the first time last year and there was a significant increase in ticket sales, along with a greater awareness of programming at the Cultural Arts Center.

Councilmember Numark requested that staff develop a policy for the installation of banners by non-profit agencies so the Council does not have to consider them on a case-by-case basis. He related his belief that the banners are an effective way to inform non-residents driving through Torrance about Cultural Art Center programming.

Councilmember Furey suggested that the City consider developing an ongoing banner program to be used by TCACF and possibly other non-profit agencies and the City itself to promote upcoming events.

Councilmember Barnett recommended that a banner/sign policy also be developed for the corner of Sepulveda and Madrona.

Assistant to the City Manager Sunshine reported that staff was currently working on a recommendation for that corner, which will be forwarded to the Council's Citizen Development and Enrichment Committee.

Mayor Scotto voiced support for the request.

MOTION: Councilmember Rhilinger moved to approve the request. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Barnett and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

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The City Council met as the Redevelopment Agency from 8:04 p.m. to 8:09 p.m. and met as the Public Housing Agency from 8:09 p.m. to 8:14 p.m.

17. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #2

17A. Councilmember Furey reminded the public to attend the 10th Annual City of Torrance Employee Variety Show on September 27, 2008 at the Armstrong Theatre and that tickets are available for \$10 with the proceeds benefiting the American Cancer Society's Relay-for-Life taking place in April 2009.

17B. Councilmember Numark commented on the recent Community Emergency Response Team training and encouraged participation in the next training session to be held in March 2009.

17C. Councilmember Numark invited the public to attend the opening of “The Maize Project, Have a Nice Day, and Building into Shadows” at the Torrance Art Museum through November 1, 2008.

17D. Councilmember Rhilinger announced the new Sunday hours of 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. beginning, Sunday, September 14, 2008 for the Katy Geissert Library and noted that the remodel of the main level is expected to be completed by mid-January 2009.

17E. Councilmember Sutherland noted his concerns with the construction site located on the corner of Newton and Hawthorne Boulevard and requested staff to check into dust control, dirt on the streets and the condition of the road.

17F. Councilmember Brewer announced that Flag Football registration begins September 13, 2008.

17G. Mayor Scotto commented on the quote, “Life is a sum of your choices” by Albert Camus and how it was fitting in relation to the life of Gene Drevno.

18. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Considered earlier in the meeting, see page 1.

19. ADJOURNMENT

At 8:21 p.m., the meeting was adjourned to Tuesday, September 16, 2008, at 5:00 p.m. for a closed Personnel Hearing, with regular City Council meeting commencing at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

***Adjourned in Memory of
Gene Drevno***

Attest:

/s/ Frank Scotto

Mayor of the City of Torrance

/s/ Sue Herbers

Sue Herbers,
City Clerk of the City of Torrance

Approved on November 18, 2008