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TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL – SEPTEMBER 10, 2013

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At 7:23 p.m., the meeting was adjourned to Tuesday, September 17, 2013 at 5:30 p.m. for an executive session, with the regular meeting commencing at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber.

September 10, 2013

**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 5:32 p.m. on Tuesday, September 10, 2013 in the Council Chamber at Torrance City Hall.

ROLL CALL

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

*Joined meeting during closed session.

Absent: None.

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

Mayor Scotto announced that subsequent to the posting of the agenda, the City Attorney's office received a settlement proposal in the case of Jeremiah Banks v. City of Torrance, et al., United States District Court Case No. CV-12-5847 DMG (BVKx) and the City Attorney needs immediate instruction from the Council regarding this matter and has requested that the City Council consider adding this item to the agenda. In order to add an item to the agenda, the California Government Code requires a determination by a two-thirds vote that immediate action is required and that the need to take action arose subsequent to the posting of the agenda.

MOTION: Councilmember Sutherland moved to add the item to the closed session agenda per California Government Code §54954.2(b)(2) and 54956.9(d)(1). The motion was seconded by Councilmember Brewer and passed by unanimous vote (absent Councilmember Furey).

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

18. EXECUTIVE SESSION

City Manager Jackson announced that Item 18B, sub-item 2 concerning the property adjacent to the batting cages at Wilson Park, was being withdrawn and will be brought back at a later date.

The City Council immediately recessed to closed session to confer with the City Manager and the City Attorney on the urgency item and agenda matters listed under 18A) Conference with Labor Negotiator, and 18B) Real Property – Conference with Real Property Negotiator, pursuant to California Government Code §54957.6 and 54956.8.

Councilmember Furey joined the meeting during the closed session agenda.

The City Council reconvened at 6:59 p.m. with all members present. No formal action was taken on any matter considered in closed session.

2. FLAG SALUTE/ INVOCATION

The flag salute was led by Youth Council member Joseph Roh.

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, September 5, 2013.

MOTION: Councilmember Numark 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.

4. WITHDRAWN, DEFERRED OR SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

Item 18B sub-item 2 was withdrawn.

5. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Community Services Director Jones introduced Joyce Chan the new market manager of the Torrance Certified Farmers Market.

City Clerk Herbers invited staff and the public to view the photographs on canvas of Torrance Artist Guild member and city employee Allan Stansbury on display in the City Clerk's office for the month of September.

City Clerk Herbers announced that the Torrance Artist's Guild Gallery of Fine Art 2013 will be held on Saturday, September 14, and Sunday, September 15, from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Toyota Automobile Museum located at 19600 Van Ness Avenue.

City Clerk Herbers reminded voters of the November 5 election for seats on the Torrance Unified School District and the El Camino Community College District Boards of Trustees. She noted that registration closes on Monday, October 21; that Sample Ballot booklets will be mailed starting September 26; and that Vote-By-Mail (VBM) ballots may be requested October 7 through October 29. The election will be conducted by Los Angeles County, with additional information available at www.lavote.net.

Councilmember Furey reported that L.A. Country Vector Control District has issued a West Vector West Nile virus advisory and urged the public to take precautions, including wearing insect repellent containing DEET when engaging in outdoor activities, mosquito-proofing their homes, and eliminating stagnant water where mosquitos breed, with additional information available by calling Vector Control at 310.915.7370.

7. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #1

7A. Carol Gilles, Torrance Rose Float Association, announced that a “Restaurants for Roses” fundraiser will be held at Rascals restaurant on Tuesday, September 24, from 11:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. She reported that a rendering of Torrance’s 2014 Rose Float entitled “Everybody Plays” has been posted on TRFA’s Facebook page and people can begin signing up to help decorate it on October 17.

7B. Debbie Hays, Old Torrance Neighborhood Association, invited the public to attend OTNA’s general meeting on Wednesday, September 18, at 7:00 p.m. at the Bartlett Center, located at 1318 Cravens Avenue, at which the Torrance Fire Department will be offering instruction on “hands only” CPR.

8. CONSENT CALENDAR

8A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Recommendation

Recommendation of the City Clerk that City Council approve the City Council minutes of August 13, 2013.

8B. JULY 2013 MONTHLY INVESTMENT REPORT

Recommendation

Recommendation of the City Treasurer that City Council accept and file the monthly investment report for July 2013.

8C. AGREEMENT RE BUS STOP SURVEY AND EVALUATION OF TORRANCE TRANSIT SYSTEM

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Transit Director that City Council award a consulting services agreement to Moore & Associates of Valencia, CA to conduct a bus stop survey and evaluation of the Torrance Transit System (RFP B2013-24) at a cost not to exceed \$79,982.20.

8D. AGREEMENT RE LINE-BY-LINE ANALYSIS OF TORRANCE TRANSIT SYSTEM

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Transit Director that City Council approve a consulting services agreement with Diversified Transportation Solutions of Eastvale, CA to conduct a line-by-line analysis of the Torrance Transit System (RFP B2013-20) at a cost not to exceed \$125,126 for a term of September 10, 2013 to June 30, 2014.

8E. AGREEMENT RE TEMPORARY LEASE OF GROUNDWATER RIGHTS

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Public Works Director that City Council approve an agreement to temporarily lease 150 acre-feet of groundwater rights to the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Los Angeles, a non- profit California Corporation, at \$125 per acre-foot during the 2013-2014 fiscal year.

MOTION: Councilmember Brewer moved for the approval of Consent Calendar Items 8A through 8E. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Sutherland and passed by unanimous vote.

12. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTER

12A. APPROVAL OF AGREEMENTS AND RATES FOR GROUP DENTAL INSURANCE AND EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Recommendation

Recommendation of the City Manager that City Council:

- 1) Approve an agreement extension and insurance rates with Delta Dental to provide group dental coverage at \$38.22 for single coverage; \$76.44 two-party, and \$131.87 family coverage for the Dental Preferred Option (DPO) program beginning January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2015; and \$17.47 for single coverage; \$31.54 two-party, and \$46.64 family coverage for the Dental Health Maintenance (DHMO) program beginning January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014 for a total projected expenditure of \$863,283 per year; and
- 2) Approve an agreement with Aetna Resources for Living to provide services related to Employee Assistance Program at the rate of \$2.16 per employee for a total annual projected cost of \$31,648 for a three year period beginning January 1, 2014.

Human Resources Manager Fuentes reported that staff was recommending that the City renew agreements with existing carriers, Delta Dental for dental insurance and Aetna Resources for Living for the Employee Assistance Program, because both have provided satisfactory service at competitive rates.

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

17. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #2

17A. Councilmember Brewer offered a reminder that Torrance Theatre Company begins its season on Friday, September 13, with additional information available online at www.torrancetheatrecompany.com.

17B. Councilmember Furey encouraged the public to reflect on the tragic events that occurred on September 11, 2001 as the 12th anniversary of that date approaches.

17C. Councilmember Numark announced that a Strategic Plan Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 8, from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber, which will include an update on Key Performance Indicators and a review of the 2012-2013 Community Report.

17D. Councilmember Numark requested an excused absence from the September 17 City Council meeting.

17E. Councilmember Sutherland urged the public to remember the victims of the 9/11 terrorist attacks and to never forget what occurred on this date.

17F. Councilmember Weideman suggested that the Council consider having the Planning Commission look into ways to regulate donation collection bins which are proliferating throughout the City.

Mayor Scotto reported that the Planning Commission will be considering this issue at an upcoming meeting.

17E. Councilmember Barnett encouraged the public to attend the 15th Annual Employee Variety Show on Saturday, September 28, at 7:00 p.m. in the Armstrong Theatre, with the proceeds to benefit the American Cancer Society.

17F. Mayor Scotto, with the concurrence of Council, requested that the Community Services Department, along with the Economic Development team, prepare a donor sponsorship program for the sports fields at 555 Maple Avenue to include a donor wall with tiered sponsorship levels and options for corporate naming rights for this facility. He suggested that conceptual program be brought back to the Council for initial review and then referred to the Parks and Recreation Commission for further development.

17G. Mayor Scotto echoed comments on 9/11, noting that flags will be flown at half-staff on Wednesday, September 11, in commemoration of 9/11 and Patriots Day.

17H. City Clerk Herbers announced that the Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce is offering its Grassroots Academy program, which is designed for people who are interested in volunteering or running for public office, on September 16, 23 and 30 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., with additional information available by calling Brian Rosario at 310.792.2339.

18. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Considered earlier in the meeting, see page 1.

19. ADJOURNMENT

At 7:23 p.m., the meeting was adjourned to Tuesday, September 17, 2013 at 5:30 p.m. for an executive session, with the regular meeting 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 October 1, 2013