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**TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL – OCTOBER 22, 2013**

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At 9:06 p.m., the meeting was adjourned to Tuesday, November 5, 2013 at 5:30 p.m. for an executive session, with regular business commencing at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber. **Tuesday, October 29 will be a Council dark night.**

October 22, 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, October 22, 2013 in the Council Chamber at Torrance City Hall.

**ROLL CALL**

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

Absent: Councilmember Numark.

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 the City Attorney on 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.

The City Council reconvened at 7:01 p.m. with all members present except Councilmember Numark. 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 Daniel Park.

The non-sectarian invocation was given by Councilmember Furey.

**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, October 17, 2013.

**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 Sutherland and passed by unanimous vote (absent Councilmember Numark).

**4. WITHDRAWN, DEFERRED OR SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS**

No items were withdrawn or deferred. Supplemental material was available for items: 10A, 12C, and 15.1A.

**5. COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mayor Scotto announced that the City Council Ad Hoc State Legislative Advocacy Committee will meet on Tuesday, November 12, at 4:00 p.m. in the City Manager Assembly Room.

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 today; that the last day to request Vote-By-Mail (VBM) is October 29; and that the election is being conducted by Los Angeles County, with additional information available at [www.lavote.net](http://www.lavote.net).

City Clerk Herbers announced that a candidate forum sponsored by the League of Women Voters will be held on Tuesday, October 23, at 6:30 p.m. in the meeting room at Zamperini Airport and that additional information about candidates is available at [www.SmartVoter.org](http://www.SmartVoter.org).

City Clerk Herbers announced that a Commissioner Certification class will be held on Thursday, October 24. She noted that certification is required in order to apply for appointment to a commission in January 2014 and recommended that potential candidates in the 2014 Election consider attending. Reservations can be made by contacting the City Manager's office at 310.618.5880, with additional information about Torrance Commissions available at <http://www.torranceca.gov/8752.htm>.

**6. COMMUNITY MATTERS**

**6A. RESOLUTION NO. 2013-73 RE JACK VAN DER LINDEN**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2013-73**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE  
HONORING **JACK VAN DER LINDEN** OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT UPON  
HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE CITY OF TORRANCE AFTER TWENTY YEARS OF  
SERVICE

**MOTION:** Councilmember Furey moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2013-73. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Weideman and passed by unanimous vote (absent Councilmember Numark).

Mayor Scotto presented the proclamation to Jack van der Linden, who shared an original poem entitled "This Heart Called Torrance."

Public Works Director Beste commended Mr. van der Linden for his leadership and dedication and wished him well in his retirement.

**6B. PROCLAMATION RE “WORLD POLIO DAY”**

Mayor Scotto presented a proclamation declaring October 24 as **World Polio Day** in the City of Torrance to Lomita-Torrance Airport Rotary Club representatives Karen Greenberg and David Hensler; Del Amo Rotary Club representatives Dean Reuter, Carl Kaemerle and Ted Jones; South Bay Sunrise Rotary Club representatives Rick Castillon, Jim Beardsley, Rosy Riera and Todd Crusier; and Torrance Rotary Club representatives Rod Vargas and Katie Gleason.

**6C. PROCLAMATION RE “MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY”**

Mayor Scotto presented a proclamation declaring October 26 as **Make A Difference Day** in the City of Torrance to Madrona Marsh Nature Center Director Tracy Drake.

Ms. Drake invited the community to commemorate Make A Difference Day by replanting native species at the Madrona Marsh Preserve on Saturday, October 26, from 8:30 a.m. to noon.

**6D. PROCLAMATION RE “NATIONAL SAVE FOR RETIREMENT WEEK”**

Mayor Scotto presented a proclamation declaring October 20 through October 26 as **National Save for Retirement Week** in the City of Torrance to City Treasurer Dana Cortez and Deputy City Treasurer Shiela Abalayan.

City Treasurer Cortez encouraged City employees and the public to look into options offered by their employers regarding retirement savings plans.

**7. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #1**

**7A.** Joel Massa, South Bay Bocce Courts Project, announced that a fundraiser will be held at the California Pizza Kitchen located in Rolling Hills Plaza on October 24, with 20 percent of food and drink sales to be donated with presentation of flyer.

**7B.** Mary Hoffman, Torrance Education Foundation, announced that the 5<sup>th</sup> annual Skechers Pier-to-Pier Friendship Walk will be held on Sunday, October 27, beginning at the Manhattan Beach Pier at 9:00 a.m. and people can sign up to benefit Torrance schools at [www.SkechersFriendshipWalk.com](http://www.SkechersFriendshipWalk.com).

**7C.** Janet Tajii, Torrance Council of PTAs, expressed concerns that a Torrance-based campaign company, Liberty Campaign Solutions, is using a logo/symbol that is almost identical to the PTA’s trademarked logo/symbol in campaign materials, giving the impression that the PTA has endorsed certain candidates. She wanted to make clear that the PTA is a non-partisan organization that does not comment on, support or endorse candidates for public office.

**7D.** Joni Gang, Friends of Torrance Animals, announced that November 3 through November 9 is Animal Shelter Appreciation Week and encouraged residents to support the City-based animal control program by donating dog and cat food to their facility at Wilson Park.

**7E.** Debbie Hays, Torrance Historical Society, announced that the museum, located at 1345 Post Avenue, will be hosting two events on Sunday, October 27, a free walking tour of historical downtown Torrance at 1:30 p.m., and “An Evening of Poe(try)” featuring selected readings of Edgar Allan Poe at 5:00 p.m.

**7F.** Gavin Wasserman announced that Towers Elementary School will be hosting a Halloween Carnival on Saturday, October 26, from 2:00 – 5:00 p.m.

**7G.** Gavin Wasserman, Fair Political Practices Commission, encouraged those interested in running in the upcoming election to become informed about the requirements of the Political Reform Act, noting that information is available by calling the FPPC hotline.

**8. CONSENT CALENDAR**

**8A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the City Clerk that City Council approve the City Council minutes of September 17, September 24, and October 1, 2013.

**8B. SUBSIDY OF RENTAL FEES FOR 300<sup>TH</sup> ARMY BAND CONCERT**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the City Manager that City Council subsidize the fees for use of the Armstrong Theatre in an amount not to exceed \$2,644.50 for the 300th Army Band to present a free concert titled "Songs from the Home Front" on Friday, June 13, 2014.

**8C. AGREEMENT AMENDMENT RE LEGAL SERVICES**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the City Attorney that City Council approve a first amendment to the fee agreement with Rutan & Tucker (C2012-210) to provide legal services in the case of Carpenter v. City of Torrance requesting an additional \$40,000, for a new not to exceed contract amount of \$75,000.

**8D. PROPOSITION C 5% TRANSIT FUNDS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the Transit Director that City Council approve a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) for the allocation of Proposition C 5% Security funds for the period from July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014.

**8E. FISCAL YEAR 2014-2016 SHORT RANGE TRANSIT PLAN**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the Transit Director that Council approve the fiscal year 2014-2016 Short Range Transit Plan (SRTP) for submission to the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LACMTA).

**8F. AGREEMENTS RE MADRONA MARSH SUMP DREDGING PROJECT**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the Public Works Director that City Council

- 1) Approve an appropriation of \$128,752.84 from the Sewer Enterprise Fund to FEAP #782 for a new not to exceed project budget of \$328,752.84;
- 2) Award a contract services agreement to the highest ranked bidder, American Integrated Services, Inc. of Wilmington, CA in the amount of \$264,641 for sediment dredging and hauling services (RFP2013-34), and authorize a 5% contingency of \$13,232.05;
- 3) Award a consulting services agreement to Northgate Environmental Management, Inc. of Laguna Hills, CA in the amount of \$18,656 for contractor inspection and oversight services; and
- 4) Authorize an amount of \$25,000 for project management.

**8G. APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS FOR PUBLIC SAFETY CENTER**

Considered separately, see below.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Sutherland moved to approve Consent Calendar Items 8A through 8F. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Barnett and passed by unanimous vote (absent Councilmember Numark).

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

**8G. APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS FOR PUBLIC SAFETY CENTER**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the Chief of Police that City Council appropriate \$25,000 of asset forfeiture funds for the establishment of a Public Safety Center at Del Amo Fashion Center (Fashion Center District).

Police Lieutenant Jezulin briefly described the new Public Safety Center at Del Amo Fashion Center to be funded by asset forfeiture funds.

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

Item 15.1A was considered out of order at this time.

Councilmember Barnett announced that due to a conflict of interest he would recuse himself from consideration of items 15.1A and 10A and exited the Council Chamber.

**15.1 SUCCESSOR AGENCY to the former Redevelopment Agency of the City of Torrance**

**15.1A CONVEYANCE OF REAL PROPERTY ASSETS FROM SUCCESSOR AGENCY TO FORMER REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the Community Development Director that the Successor Agency to the former Redevelopment Agency of the City of Torrance authorize the Chairman to execute, the Secretary to attest and cause to be notarized and to record all documents associated with the conveyance of property located at 1618 Cabrillo Avenue (APN 7355-030-904), 1620 Cabrillo Avenue (APN 7355-030-903), and 1622 Cabrillo Avenue (APN 7355-030-902) from the Successor Agency to the former Redevelopment Agency of the City of Torrance to the City of Torrance, in its capacity as Housing Successor entity.

Community Development Director Gibson advised that these properties were owned by the Redevelopment Agency prior to its dissolution and the City of Torrance is able to retain them because they were acquired using housing set-aside funds.

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

**10. PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

**10A. ACCEPTANCE OF REAL PROPERTY ASSETS FROM SUCCESSOR AGENCY TO THE FORMER REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the Community Development Director that City Council authorize the Mayor to execute, the City Clerk to attest and cause to be notarized and to record all documents associated with the conveyance of property located at 1618 Cabrillo Avenue (APN 7355-030-904), 1620 Cabrillo Avenue (APN 7355-030-903), and 1622 Cabrillo Avenue (APN 7355-030-902) from the Successor Agency to the former Redevelopment Agency of the City of Torrance to the City of Torrance, in its capacity as Housing Successor entity.

Mayor Scotto noted that this action allows the City to accept the properties conveyed in Item 15.1A.

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

Councilmember Barnett returned to the Council Chamber at 8:07 p.m.

**12. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

Item 12C was considered out of order at this time.

**12C. AGREEMENT RE SIDEWALK REPAIRS FOR HANDICAP ACCESSIBILITY**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the Public Works Director that City Council:

- 1) Authorize an appropriation and expenditure of \$285,680 from the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funds to I-135 to construct the improvements;
- 2) Authorize an appropriation and expenditure of \$297,627 from the Transportation Development Act (TDA) Article 3 Funds to I-135 to construct the improvements;
- 3) Approve a budget transfer of \$450,000 from I-127 Residential Rehabilitation Project Funds to I-135 Sidewalk Repair for Handicap Accessibility; The new not to exceed project cost for I-135 after the above appropriation and transfer will be \$1,828,084;
- 4) Determine that the approval of Sidewalk Repair for Handicap Accessibility, I-135 (CDBG #601478-12) is categorically exempt from environmental review pursuant to Section 15332 of the Guidelines implementing California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA);
- 5) Approve the specifications for the Sidewalk Repair for Handicap Accessibility, I-135 (CDBG #601478-12) (B2013-35);
- 6) Reject the lowest bid by Minako America, DBA Minco Construction; and
- 7) Award a two-year public works agreement to Nobest, Inc. in the amount of \$1,635,000 and authorize a 5% contingency in the amount of \$81,750 for the Sidewalk Repair for Handicap Accessibility, I-135 (CDBG #601478-12) for a total project cost not to exceed \$1,828,084.

Associate Engineer Reis provided an overview of the Sidewalk Repair for Handicap Accessibility Project.

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

**12A. AGREEMENT RE INSPECTION SERVICES FOR SIDEWALK REPAIRS FOR HANDICAP ACCESSIBILITY**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the Public Works Director that City Council approve a consulting services agreement with Onward Engineering in the amount of \$83,470 to perform inspection services for the Sidewalk Repair for Handicap Accessibility, I-135 (CDBG #601478-12), for a two year term beginning October 22, 2013 through October 21, 2015.

Associate Engineer Reis reported that this agreement provides for inspection services for the Sidewalk Repair for Handicap Accessibility Project approved under Item 12C.

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

**12B. AGREEMENT RE BUS SIGNAL PRIORITY SYSTEM**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the Transit Director that City Council award a contract services agreement with Iteris, Incorporated of Santa Ana, CA to implement a Bus Signal Priority System for the Torrance Transit System (RFP B2013-29), at a cost not to exceed \$2,177,510 for a term of October 22, 2013 to December 31, 2014.

Transit Administration Manager Mills reported that the Bus Signal Priority System enables a bus equipped with a transponder to hold the yellow light traffic signal for a few seconds longer to allow the vehicle to safely cross an intersection.

Responding to questions from the Council, Mr. Mills reported that the system will be installed in Rapid Service buses only and Public Works Director Beste advised that extending the yellow light would have little impact on the flow of traffic.

Lloyd Brown, resident, expressed concerns about the use of City funds for this purpose, and Transit Administration Manager Mills clarified that the project will be paid for using federal funds.

In response to Charles Deemer, resident, Transit Administration Manager Mills confirmed that the system will be coordinated with other jurisdictions along the Rapid Bus route.

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

## **12D. 2013 ACTION PLAN FUNDING FOR 2008 STRATEGIC PLAN**

### **Recommendation**

Recommendation of the City Council Strategic Plan Committee that City Council concur with the 3rd year of funding for the 3-Year Action Plan for the 2008 Strategic Plan for calendar year 2013 in the total amount of \$25,422,321 funded through \$75,000 in new appropriation from the Economic Development Reserve, \$25,047,321 in grant funds previously awarded, \$300,000 in grant funds to be awarded in January 2014, and an appropriation transfer of \$300,000.

Assistant City Manager Giordano provided a status report on the 3-year Action Plan for the 2008 Strategic Plan and reviewed funding requests for calendar year 2013.

With the aid of slides, Assistant to the City Manager Chaparyan provided an overview of the Strategic Plan 2012-2013 Community Report, which highlights major accomplishments in implementing the goals outlined in the 2008 Strategic Plan. He noted that staff was recommending that a Community Report be prepared on an annual basis and shared with the community via the City's website.

Councilmember Weideman, member of Strategic Plan Committee, reported that a group of USC Masters of Public Administration students conducted an organizational assessment of the City's Strategic Plan, which resulted in the streamlining of the Key Performance Indicator (KPI) process which tracks the progress of the Strategic Plan.

Mayor Scotto commended the City's Strategic Plan Managers for doing an outstanding job.

Councilmember Sutherland echoed Mayor Scotto's comments and recommended that the City keep a count of people who access the Community Report on the City's website.

Councilmember Brewer commended staff for aggressively seeking grants, which has resulted in \$50 million in grant funding for City projects to further the goals of the Strategic Plan.

Mayor Scotto encouraged the public to review the information on the City's website [www.TorranceCA.gov/StrategicPlan](http://www.TorranceCA.gov/StrategicPlan) as it provides a clear picture of the City's vision for the future.

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

## **17. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #2**

**17A.** Councilmember Furey reported that seven additional families signed up to go through the process to become foster parents as a result of the informational meeting held last week bringing the total to 29 Torrance families.

**17B.** Councilmember Furey reported that retired Marine Corps Major Patrick Coulter, who has announced Torrance's Armed Forces Day Parade for almost 40 years, has been deemed well enough to travel after being hospitalized on the East Coast following a stroke and he will be admitted to UCLA Medical Center upon arrival in California.

**17C.** Councilmember Sutherland reported that he attended a summit on water issues last Thursday, which was very informative.

**17D.** Councilmember Weideman commented on his enjoyment of the Moonlight Magic fundraiser for the Madrona Marsh held the previous weekend.

**17E.** Councilmember Barnett congratulated the Cultural Arts Commission on their 36<sup>th</sup> annual Excellence in Arts Awards program held last Sunday at the Toyota Meeting Hall. He also congratulated Debbie Hays for receiving the Katy Geissert Award at this event.

**17F.** Councilmember Barnett invited the public to attend the City's annual Halloween Carnival on Thursday, October 31, from 4:00-8:00 p.m. at Wilson Park, with a costume parade at 6:30 p.m.

**17G.** Councilmember Brewer encouraged people to sign up for the 5<sup>th</sup> annual Skechers Pier-to-Pier Friendship Walk to be held on Sunday, October 27, noting that the entire \$25.00 registration fee goes to the school designated on the sign-up form.

**17H.** Mayor Scotto announced that on Sunday, November 3, from approximately 7:00 - 11:00 a.m., helicopters will be used to lift air conditioning units to the roof of Del Amo Fashion Center as part of major mall renovations currently underway and the mall, as well as surrounding streets will be closed during the airlift as a safety precaution.

**17I.** Mayor Scotto, with the concurrence of the Council, directed the City Clerk and staff to bring forward an item to implement approved Ethics Training Classes for candidates in the 2014 Municipal Election and to develop resources to keep the public informed about the Ethics Program.

**17J.** City Manager Jackson, echoed by Mayor Scotto, commended Assistant City Manager Giordano for her work the Strategic Plan Update and Action Plan.

**18. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Considered earlier in the meeting, see page 1.

**19. ADJOURNMENT**

At 9:06 p.m., the meeting was adjourned to Tuesday, November 5, 2013 at 5:30 p.m. for an executive session, with regular business commencing at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber. **Tuesday, October 29 will be a Council dark night.**

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 November 19, 2013