

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, November 4, 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.

Mayor Scotto announced that subsequent to the posting of the agenda it came to the City's attention that the City may want to file a response to Judge Chalfant's order in the case of *Allstar Fire Equipment Co. v. City of Los Angeles et al*, Case No. BS115556 and that the City Attorney has requested that this item be added to the agenda.

In order to take action on an item not on 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 Brewer moved to add the item to the Executive Session agenda pursuant to California Government Code § 54954.2(b)(2) and 54956.9(a). The motion was seconded by Councilmember Barnett and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

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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 the above-mentioned item and agenda matters listed under 18A) Conference with Labor Negotiator, 18B) Public Employee Performance Evaluation – City Manager and City Attorney, 18C) Conference with Labor Negotiator, 18D) Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation, 18E) Conference with Legal Counsel – Liability Claims, and 18F) Real Property – Conference with Real Property Negotiator, pursuant to California Government Code §54957.6, 54957, 54957.6, 54956.9(a), 54956.9(b)(1)(3)(C) and 54956.8.

The City Council reconvened at 7:15 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 Rhilinger 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, October 30, 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** – None.

5. **COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

City Clerk Herbers announced that City Clerk staff was available to assist voters in locating polling locations until 8:00 p.m.

Community Services Director Jones reported that staff will bring forward an agenda item on November 18 to request approval of a contract with Sea-Clear Pools for emergency repairs to the Benstead Plunge. He noted that the repairs will require closure of the pool for a minimum of two weeks and that long-term renters of the pool will be informed about the closure as soon as possible.

Mayor Scotto asked that the meeting be adjourned in memory of Dorothy Marie Jackson, mother of City Manager LeRoy Jackson, who passed away on November 1, 2008.

6. **COMMUNITY MATTERS**

6A. **RESOLUTION NO. 2008-111 RE RON SHESTOKES**

RESOLUTION NO. 2008-111

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE
HONORING **RON SHESTOKES** UPON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE
CITY AFTER TWENTY-FIVE YEARS OF SERVICE

MOTION: Councilmember Sutherland moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2008-111. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Numark and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

To be presented at a later date.

6B. PRESENTATION ON “GREAT SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA SHAKE OUT”

With the aid of slides, Police Lieutenant Megeff reported on the Great Southern California ShakeOut, an earthquake preparedness exercise to be held on Thursday, November 13, 2008, and invited the public to participate in the event. He noted that information about disaster preparedness is available on Torrance Police Department’s website www.tpd.toronet.com/disasterpreparedness and that the department also offers in-home presentations on this topic, as well as the Map Your Neighborhood program and the Community Emergency Response Team program.

6C. PRESENTATION BY AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY RELAY FOR LIFE

Katie Holmes and John Schmitt, representing the American Cancer Society, recognized the City of Torrance for supporting the Torrance Relay for Life, noting that this event has raised over \$1 million over the past six years for the work of the American Cancer Society.

7. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #1

7A. Ryan Adcock, Torrance, reported that trees in de Portola Park are obstructing his view and requested that they be trimmed, submitting photographs to illustrate.

7B. Maria Krason, Torrance, echoed concerns about views being blocked by trees in de Portola Park and also submitted photographs.

7C. David Henseler, president of Country Hill Homeowners Association, requested that the City address concerns about trees in de Portola Park.

8. CONSENT CALENDAR

8A. CONTRACT AMENDMENTS FOR INDEPENDENT COUNSEL

Recommendation

Recommendation of the City Attorney that City Council ratify eleven existing contracts, approve two amendments, and approve two new contracts with the law firm of Liebert Cassidy Whitmore, in a cumulative amount not to exceed \$250,000.

8B. SEPTEMBER 2008 INVESTMENT REPORT

Recommendation

Recommendation of the City Treasurer that City Council accept and file the monthly investment report for the month of September 2008.

8C. SUBSIDY FOR USAF GOLDEN WEST BAND CONCERT

Recommendation

Recommendation of the City Manager that City Council subsidize the rental fees of the James Armstrong Theatre and other related costs to include labor costs and printing of tickets and concert programs for the 2009 USAF Golden West Band for a total amount of \$1,734.50.

8D. PAYMENT FOR APPRAISAL OF DOW CHEMICAL RIGHT-OF-WAY

Recommendation

Recommendation of the City Manager and City Attorney that City Council authorize a payment of \$27,004.97 to Bell, Anderson & Sanders, LLC for appraisal work related to the acquisition of a portion of Dow Chemical property for the Del Amo Extension project.

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

Referring to Consent Calendar Item 8C, Mayor Scotto noted that there will be a free concert by the USAF Golden West Band on February 18, 2009 in the Armstrong Theatre.

12. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

12A. CONCEPTUAL APPROVAL FOR TORRANCE TRANSIT CENTER

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Transit Director that City Council approve staff to develop a conceptual regional Torrance Transit Center model for submission as a federal grant application.

With the aid of slides, Assistant City Manager Giordano discussed the functions of a Regional Transit Center (RTC) and the benefits of having one in Torrance. She advised that staff was seeking conceptual approval of Torrance Transit Center in order to apply for federal funding for the purchase of land and the construction of the center. She explained that the transit center would include bus bays, public restrooms, a layover area for bus operators, a transit store for the purchase of fares/dispensing of transit route information, and a 250-space parking lot on an approximately five-acre site. She noted that projects with regional significance are a higher priority for federal funding, therefore Torrance and Redondo Beach have discussed the possibility of applying jointly for their transit centers.

Charles Deemer, Torrance, requested clarification regarding a potential site the City is considering for the Torrance Transit Center.

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

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The Council met as the Redevelopment Agency from 8:12 p.m. to 8:14 p.m.

17. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #2

17A. Councilmember Numark thanked everyone who took part in government today by voting and encouraged community involvement.

17B. Councilmember Numark, with the concurrence of Council, requested that staff explore the cost to expand communications with residents via free email subscriptions, with sign-ups available on the City's website.

17C. Councilmember Barnett commended the Community Services Department and other departments that assisted with the successful Halloween Carnival at Wilson Park.

17D. Councilmember Furey thanked everyone who had offered kind words and support after his mother's recent passing.

17E. Mayor Scotto congratulated Torrance Citicable 3 for winning top honors in the annual W.A.V.E. video awards competition in the Live/Live-to-Tape category for Torrance City Council meetings and in the Documentary category for Kashiwa & Torrance 35th Anniversary.

17F. City Attorney Fellows commented on voting with his son, who had voted for the first time.

17G. Responding to a question from Charles Deemer, Finance Director Tsao indicated that the First Quarter Budget Review has been tentatively scheduled for the first part of December.

18. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Considered earlier in the meeting, see page 1.

19. ADJOURNMENT

At 8:19 p.m., the meeting was adjourned to Tuesday, November 18, 2008, at 5:00 p.m. for a Harassment Awareness Training session, with regular business commencing at 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, November 11, 2008 will be a Council Dark night.

***Adjourned in Memory of
Dorothy Marie Jackson***

Attest:

/s/ Frank Scotto
Mayor of the City of Torrance

/s/ Sue Herbers
Sue Herbers,
City Clerk of the City of Torrance

Approved on January 13, 2009