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TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL – NOVEMBER 8, 2011

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At 7:57 p.m., the meeting was adjourned to Tuesday, November 15, 2011 at 4:00 p.m. for Preventing Workplace Harassment, Discrimination and Retaliation Training for the City Council, with regular business commencing at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

November 8, 2011

**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 8, 2011 in City Council Chambers at Torrance City Hall.

ROLL CALL

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

Absent: Councilmember Brewer.

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 Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation, and 18 B) Real Property – Conference with Real Property Negotiator, pursuant to California Government Code § 54956.9(a) and 54956.8.

The City Council reconvened at 7:01 p.m. with all members present except Councilmember Brewer. No formal action was taken on any matter considered in closed session.

2. FLAG SALUTE/INVOCATION

The flag salute was led by City Librarian Theyer.

The non-sectarian invocation was given by Councilmember Rhilinger.

**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, November 3, 2011.

MOTION: Councilmember Barnett 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 Rhilinger and passed by unanimous vote (absent Councilmember Brewer).

4. WITHDRAWN, DEFERRED OR SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

None.

5. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

City Clerk Herbers reminded voters that today is election day and polls will be open until 8:00 p.m. She noted that polling locations and sample ballot information can be found at www.lavote.net and Torrance CitiCABLE will be reporting El Camino College election results on the screen at the close of the City Council meeting.

City Clerk Herbers reminded those who have reservations that a Commissioner Certification class will be held on Wednesday, November 9, from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m. in the Toyota Meeting Hall at the Cultural Arts Center. She noted that information will be sent out in late November/early December regarding appointments to be made by the City Council on January 24, 2012 for terms beginning February 1, 2012.

Public Works Director Beste announced Del Amo Boulevard has been re-opened between Maple Avenue and Madrona Avenue and a new stop sign has been installed at Del Amo Boulevard and Maple Avenue.

Torrance Transit Manager Jim Mills and Sue Andrews, along with Charles Russell and John Bonebright of TUSD Transit, announced that the Transit departments of City of Torrance and Torrance Unified School District are teaming up to host a "Stuff a Bus" toy and donation drive beginning Wednesday, November 9, through Wednesday, December 14.

Mayor Scotto thanked the Centennial Committee, community organizations, youth groups, City staff, business sponsors and all who took part in the very successful Centennial kick-off event "Lights, Camera, Action" on Sunday, November 6, at Wilson Park. He noted that photographs of the event will soon be available on the City's website.

6. COMMUNITY MATTERS

6A. PROCLAMATION RE "NATIONAL AMERICAN INDIAN HERITAGE MONTH"

Mayor Scotto presented a proclamation declaring the month of November as **National American Indian Heritage Month** in the City of Torrance to Sandra Bourassa, American Indian Chair for El Redondo Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, and Dr. Donna Grogan.

6B. PROCLAMATION RE "CALIFORNIA RETIRED TEACHERS WEEK"

Mayor Scotto presented a proclamation declaring the week of November 6 through November 12 as **California Retired Teachers Week** in the City of Torrance to South Bay Chapter President Wendy Wengrow, California Retired Teachers Association.

6C. ACCEPTANCE APPROPRIATION OF FRIENDS OF TORRANCE LIBRARY DONATION

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Community Services Director that City Council accept and appropriate a \$7,000 donation from the Friends of the Torrance Library for outreach supplies for the Torrance Public Library.

Friends of Torrance Library Board Member Teresa Covey presented the donation to Mayor Scotto, who expressed appreciation for the generous donation.

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

7. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #1

7A. Melanie Dreike, Centennial Committee, thanked everyone who participated in the Centennial kick-off event "Lights, Camera, Action" on Sunday, November 6. She noted that an email will be sent out to all participants when the official photo from the event becomes available for purchase.

7B. Debbie Hays, Torrance Historical Society, invited the public to attend a free presentation entitled *If Walls Could Talk — Researching the History of Your Home* by Torrance Historian and Reference Librarian Michael George, which will be held on Sunday, November 13, at 2:00 p.m. at the museum located at 1345 Post Avenue.

7C. Janet Payne, Torrance Historical Society, announced that Torrance CitiCable will be running 5-15 minute Torrance historical segments on Channel 3 on Wednesday and Thursday evenings.

8. CONSENT CALENDAR

8A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Recommendation

Recommendation of the City Clerk that City Council approve the City Council minutes of October 4, 2011.

8B. CONSULTING SERVICES AGREEMENT RE INTELLIGENT TRANSIT SYSTEM PROJECT

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Transit Director that City Council approve a consulting services agreement with Eiger TechSystems in the amount of \$130,000 for project management and procurement assistance for bus transit computer-aided dispatch radio and vehicle locator system for a term of November 8, 2011 to November 7, 2013.

8C. AGREEMENT RE USED OIL PAYMENT PROGRAM

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Public Works Director that City Council approve a consulting services agreement with KJ Services Environmental Consulting in the amount of \$52,384.70 to continue implementation of the City of Torrance Used Oil Payment Program for Fiscal Year 2011-2012.

8D. AMENDMENT TO LEASE WITH TUSD RE 1520 GREENWOOD AVENUE

Recommendation

Recommendation of the City Manager that City Council approve a fourth amendment to Lease (C2000-155) by and between the City of Torrance (City) and the Torrance Unified School District (TUSD) for a portion of certain real property located at 1520 Greenwood Avenue within Greenwood Park.

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 vote (absent Councilmember Brewer).

12. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

12A. VACATION OF PUBLIC STREET EASEMENT ON WESTERN AVENUE

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Community Development Director that City Council adopt a Resolution summarily vacating a portion of a public street easement on the west side of Western Avenue north of Plaza Del Amo.

Mayor Scotto announced that he was recusing himself from consideration of this item because the easement is within 500 feet of his business and exited the dais.

Mayor Pro Tem Sutherland assumed the role of chair for this portion of the meeting.

Associate Civil Engineer Symons reported that the land to be vacated is a small triangular area which will be tied to the adjacent property to the south to allow for a wider driveway.

MOTION: Councilmember Furey moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Barnett and passed by unanimous vote (Mayor Scotto recused and Councilmember Brewer absent).

RESOLUTION NO. 2011-94

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ORDERING THE SUMMARY VACATION OF A STREET EASEMENT ON THE WEST SIDE OF WESTERN AVENUE NORTH OF PLAZA DEL AMO IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE

MOTION: Councilmember Numark moved to adopt Resolution No. 2011-94. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Furey and passed by a 5-0 unanimous vote (Mayor Scotto recused and Councilmember Brewer absent).

Mayor Scotto returned to the dais.

12B. AGREEMENT RE GOVERNMENT CONSULTING AND ADVOCACY SERVICES

Recommendation

Recommendation of the City Manager that City Council approve a services agreement with David Turch and Associates, in the amount of \$60,000, to provide government consulting and advocacy services for the period of January 1, 2012 through December 31, 2012.

Assistant City Manager Giordano reported that David Turch and Associates has been providing government consulting and advocacy services for the City for the past two years and the Ad Hoc Federal Legislative Advocacy Committee determined that it would be beneficial to continue the contract. She briefly reviewed the services provided by the firm over the past year.

Councilmember Sutherland expressed disappointment that it's necessary for cities to hire lobbyists.

Mayor Scotto related his belief that having an advocate was even more important now that Torrance will be part of two different congressional districts as a result of redistricting because this makes it more complicated to promote the City's goals and interests.

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

17. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

17A. Councilmember Furey stated that he greatly enjoyed being part of "Lights, Camera, Action" and thanked Pelican Products for providing flashlights for each participant and Robinson Helicopter for assisting with the aerial photography after the blimp was grounded due to weather conditions.

17B. Councilmember Furey reported that the US Marine Corps will be celebrating its 236th anniversary on Thursday, November 10, and offered his congratulations. He noted that he will be representing Torrance at the Palm Springs Veterans Day Parade on Friday, November 11.

17C. Councilmember Furey reminded the public that the Torrance Library offers free on-line homework help for students from kindergarten through the first year of college in math, science, English and social studies, which can be accessed at www.library.torranceca.gov.

17D. Councilmember Furey, with the concurrence of Council, requested that staff explore the possibility of developing a sister-city relationship with a similar community in Germany.

17E. Councilmember Numark echoed comments on "Lights, Camera, Action" and thanked all the volunteers.

17F. Councilmember Numark announced that there will be a "Seniors Don't Be Scammed" seminar on the topic of street scams and distraction burglaries on Tuesday, November 15, from 10:00 a.m. to noon in the community meeting room at the Katy Geissert Civic Center Library.

17G. Councilmember Rhilinger announced that there will be a "Tip-a-Cop" fundraiser benefitting the Special Olympics on Wednesday, November 16, from 5:00 – 9:00 p.m. at the Elephant Bar restaurant located at 21227 Hawthorne Boulevard, with additional information available at 310.618.6392.

17H. Councilmember Rhilinger echoed comments on "Lights, Camera, Action" and thanked City staff, sponsors and Melanie Dreike who coordinated the event.

17I. Councilmember Sutherland stated that he was very impressed by "Lights, Camera, Action" and looks forward to future Centennial events.

17J. Councilmember Sutherland urged residents to vote in today's election as military veterans fought to preserve the right to vote.

17K. Councilmember Sutherland commented on the City Attorney's upcoming wedding on 11-11-11.

17L. Councilmember Barnett echoed comments on "Lights, Camera, Action."

17M. Councilmember Barnett thanked military veterans for their service.

17N. Councilmember Barnett, with the concurrence of Council, requested that staff bring forward an agenda item to waive rental fees for a fundraiser to be held in Columbia Park on June 2, 2012 by the Friends of Torrance Exceptional Athletes.

17O. Mayor Scotto echoed thanks to Pelican Products, Robinson Helicopter and City staff for their assistance with "Lights, Camera, Action" and noted the swell of community support for this event.

17P. Mayor Scotto encouraged everyone to display flags on November 11 to commemorate Veterans Day and to thank any members of the military they encounter.

18. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Considered earlier in the meeting, see page 1.

19. ADJOURNMENT

At 7:57 p.m., the meeting was adjourned to Tuesday, November 15, 2011 at 4:00 p.m. for Preventing Workplace Harassment, Discrimination and Retaliation Training for the City Council, with regular business commencing at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

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 December 6, 2011