

**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 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, November 26, 2002, in City Council Chambers at Torrance City Hall.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Councilmembers Lieu, McIntyre, Mauno, Nowatka, Scotto\*, Witkowsky, and Mayor Walker.

\*Arrived at 5:32 p.m.

Absent: None.

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

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Agenda Item 17 was considered out of order at this time.

**17. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Attorney Bob Danner, Danner & Martin, representing General Motors Corporation and Argonaut Holdings, addressed the City Council regarding the negotiations of a new lease with Argonaut Holdings for the Peninsula Pontiac site at 2909 Pacific Coast Highway, to be considered in closed session, and asked that negotiations continue to finalize a lease.

The Council immediately recessed to closed session to confer with the City Manager and the City Attorney on agenda matters listed under 17a) and 17b) Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation, and 17c) Real Property – Conference with Real Property Negotiator, pursuant to California Government Code Sections 54956.9, 54956.9(c), and 54956.8.

The Council reconvened in Council Chambers at 7:00 p.m.

**2. FLAG SALUTE/INVOCATION**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilmember McIntyre.

Pastor Rob Stoffel, Calvary Chapel, gave the invocation for the meeting.

**3. AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING/WAIVE FURTHER READING**

**MOTION:** Councilmember Lieu moved to accept and file the report of the City Clerk on the posting of the agenda for this meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Nowatka, and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Lieu 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 Nowatka and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

4. **WITHDRAWN OR DEFERRED ITEMS**

None.

5. **COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mayor Walker asked that the meeting be adjourned in memory of Dale Gasteiger, founder of the Radium Theater.

6. **COMMUNITY MATTERS**

6a. **RECOGNITION OF NOVEMBER 14 DISASTER EXERCISE PARTICIPANTS**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the **Chief of Police** that City Council recognize community organizations and staff members who were responsible for the success of the City of Torrance Disaster Exercise on November 14, 2002.

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

Deputy Police Chief Besse and Division Fire Chief Thompson presented certificates to Torrance Fire Department CERT Team - CERT Coordinator Tad Friedman, Volunteer Coordinators Kathy Galbasan and Kathy Wood, and CERT member Don Sturrock; Redondo Beach Fire Department CERT Team - Battalion Chief Don Herr, and CERT team members Pamela and David Hoole; Toyota Motor Sales USA - Senior Emergency Response Coordinator Chris Barbour; American Medical Response Ambulance Corporation - Vice President of Operations Tom Williams, Government Relations Laurie Hunter, Operations Supervisor Pedro Flores, and Communications Specialist Rod Croom; Gerber Ambulance - Owner/President Bob Gerber, Operations Director Adrian Ojeda, and Supervisor Matt Steeneken; Little Company of Mary Hospital - Environment of Care Manager Bill Kemp; Torrance Memorial Medical Center - Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer Craig Leach; TARA (Torrance Amateur Radio Association) - Ed Thornley; Torrance Unified School District - Barry Gross; City of Torrance employees - Police Captain Kevin Kreager, Fire Battalion Chief Ken Carter, Volunteer Coordinator Patrick Wren, and Emergency Services Coordinator Terese Condon.

Life Goes On Moulage Team and Del Amo Fashion Center did not have representatives present.

7. **CONSENT CALENDAR**

7a. **INVESTMENT REPORT FOR OCTOBER 2002**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the **City Treasurer** that the City Council accept and file the monthly investment report for the month of October 2002.

7b. **AMENDMENT TO SENIOR RIDE PROGRAM CONTRACTS**

**Recommendation**

b. Recommendation of the **Transit Director** that City Council approve an amendment to the Senior Ride Program contracts and an appropriation of \$51,343.50 for:

- 1) C2000-180 with Administrative Services Cooperative for \$50,849.40; and
- 2) C2000-181 with United Independent Taxi for \$494.10.

7c. **CONTRACT RE LAGO SECO PARK IMPROVEMENTS**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the **Parks and Recreation Director** that City Council approve a contract with V2C Group, Inc. to design construction plans and specifications for improvements at Lago Seco Park and assist in administering the construction process for an amount not-to-exceed \$36,720.

7d. **CONTRACTS RE ANNUAL REQUIREMENT OF WAREHOUSE/ WATER STOCK**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the **General Services Director** and the **Engineering Director** that City Council authorize vendor contracts be awarded to U.S. Filter of Vernon, CA and Marden Susco of Valencia, CA in the amount of \$166,704.31 for the purchase of Warehouse/Water Stock (B2002-33). The vendor contracts will be for a 12-month term, beginning November 27, 2002 and ending November 26, 2003.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Nowatka moved for the approval of Consent Calendar Items 7a through 7d. The motion was seconded by Councilmember McIntyre and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

10. **PUBLIC SAFETY**

10a. **ZAMPERINI FIELD AIRPORT SECURITY RECOMMENDATIONS**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the **Emergency Preparedness Team (E-PREP)** that City Council approve a series of security recommendations for Zamperini Field Airport.

- 1) Use of Police Officers during non-aviation hours on a temporary basis, with an appropriation of \$56,000 from the Airport Fund for seven months coverage;
- 2) Install security cameras at key areas at the Airport, with cost to be determined;
- 3) Install motion detectors at key areas around the Airport, with cost to be determined;
- 4) Meet with Fixed Base Operators (FBOs) and hangar tenants to discuss airport security concerns; and
- 5) Inspect airport for security concerns and storage of non-aviation debris.

Police Chief Herren indicated that staff was available to answer questions.

Noting the recent disaster exercise at Del Amo Fashion Center, Councilmember Witkowsky asked if any emergency response drills have been held at the airport. Deputy Police Chief Besse reported that an extensive review of airport security was done, which included lighting and fencing, but no such drills have been conducted. City Manager Jackson explained that security concerns at general aviation airports have focused on preventing unauthorized access to aircraft; that the airport is viewed as an asset in the event of a disaster because of its usefulness as a staging area for the receipt of emergency supplies/personnel; and that the airport probably would be included if a broader exercise involving the use of community resources was held.

Councilmember Mauno asked about the availability of federal funds for airport improvements. City Manager Jackson advised that commercial airports currently have a much higher priority than general aviation airports when competing for grant funds. He explained that, in the past, the City has been reluctant to apply for federal funds because of the requirement that there be no discriminatory practices and the City's prohibition of the sale of jet fuel could be an issue as it is clearly discriminatory toward one class of aircraft.

Mr. Alan Lee, President of AFSCME, Local 1117, voiced support for the Emergency Preparation Team's proactive approach to airport security, but suggested that the City may wish to explore the feasibility of stationing someone at the airport during nighttime hours at some point because cameras and motion detectors are no substitute for having someone on-site. He commented on the need to fill vacant positions in the police communications center to ensure that there are sufficient personnel to monitor the cameras/motion detectors. He invited the Mayor and Council to a holiday charity dinner and wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Mr. Barry Jay, President of the Torrance Airport Association, requested that the cost of the cameras and motion detectors, as well as their monitoring and maintenance, be evaluated against the cost of stationing someone at the airport 24/7, noting his agreement with Mr. Lee that there is no substitute for having someone patrol the premises. He stated that he looked forward to staff's meeting with tenants and FBOs so that safety concerns could be further addressed.

Councilmember Mauno asked about the possibility of having airport personnel monitor cameras/motion detectors during daytime hours, and Deputy Chief Besse agreed to explore this idea.

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

11. **ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

11a. **CONTINUATION OF STATE OF LOCAL EMERGENCY RE CAROLWOOD/  
SINGINGWOOD DRIVE**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the **City Manager** and the **City Attorney** that City Council continue the state of local emergency, proclaimed March 2, 2001 for properties located on Carolwood Drive and Singingwood Drive.

Building Regulations Administrator Segovia reported on preparations for the rainy season.

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

11b. **REVISED RESOLUTION FOR MANAGEMENT/EXECUTIVE EMPLOYEES  
PAY AND BENEFITS**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the **City Manager** that City Council adopt a revised pay Resolution for Executive and Management employees for the pay period beginning November 17, 2002, and making certain modifications to the pay for the City Manager and the City Attorney.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2002-124**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF  
TORRANCE REPEALING RESOLUTION NO. 2002-76 SETTING  
FORTH CHANGES REGARDING EMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION  
FOR EXECUTIVE AND MANAGEMENT EMPLOYEES EFFECTIVE  
NOVEMBER 17, 2002

**MOTION:** Councilmember Witkowsky moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2002-124. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Nowatka and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

11c. **TORRANCE MUNICIPAL WATER DEPARTMENT BUSINESS PLAN**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the **Engineering Director** and the **Water Commission** that City Council accept and authorize proceeding with the Business Plan for Torrance Municipal Water Department.

Engineering Director Burt briefly summarized the written material of record. He discussed the development of the Business Plan; highlighted its focus areas; and noted that Torrance is one of the few municipal water utilities to have a Business Plan.

In response to Councilmember Witkowsky's inquiry, Engineering Director Burt provided clarification regarding the scheduling of improvements to the high pressure zone.

Councilmember Scotto commented that he thought the Business Plan was very thorough and well done.

At Councilmember Nowatka's request, Engineering Director Burt briefly explained the conjunctive use program, which provides for the storage of surplus water in the groundwater basin.

Mr. Alan Lee, President of AFSCME, Local 1117, commented positively on the Business Plan, noting that he is an employee of the Water Department and believes that it is a well-run department.

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

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The Redevelopment Agency convened at 5:31 p.m. for an executive session; recessed at 7:00 p.m.; reconvened at 7:43 p.m.; and adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

## **16. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

**16a.** Transit Operations Manager Kim Turner announced the Torrance Transit Holiday Shopper, a special free shuttle bus service on Hawthorne Boulevard between Del Amo Fashion Center and Artesia Boulevard (8 stops) every half hour from 9:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays, beginning November 30. Torrance Transit will also provide free bus rides on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve after 5:00 p.m. in appreciation for patronage during the year.

**16b.** City Attorney Fellows announced that in Closed Session under California Government Code § 54956.9(c) the City Council unanimously authorized the City Attorney to submit a letter of support in the matter of a petition for review to the California Supreme Court in the matter of Paul M. Walters, et al. vs. Superior Court (Manuel Arenas, Real Party in Interest) Fourth Appellate District, Division Three, Case No. G031434. He noted that the case deals with the circumstances under which police personnel files can be disclosed and the manner under which they can be released.

**16c.** City Clerk Herbers announced that applications were being accepted in the City Clerk's office for appointments to the various commissions, with appointments to be made by the City Council at its meeting of January 14, 2003.

**16d.** Each Councilmember extended Thanksgiving wishes to all.

**16e.** Councilmember Scotto congratulated TPOA for their participation in a baseball tournament in which two Torrance teams won 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place.

**16f.** Councilmember Witkowsky also wished everyone a Happy Hanukkah.

**16g.** Nagy Bakhoun, 204 Paseo de Granada and property owner at 3800 Pacific Coast Highway, questioned City Council support of a CalTrans plan for improvement of the intersection of Pacific Coast Highway and Hawthorne Blvd.

**16h.** Pat Wren and Linda Cessna announced that the recent Employee Variety Show raised \$4,000 for the American Cancer Society and \$700+ for the American Breast Care Research Center with the date for the next show set for September 19, 2003.

**17. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Considered earlier in the meeting, see page 1. Action taken on Item 17b reported under Orals, Item 16b, see page 6.

**18. ADJOURNMENT**

At 8:50 p.m., the meeting was adjourned to Tuesday, December 3, 2002, for the regular meeting commencing at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

***Adjourned in Memory of  
Dale Gasteiger***

Attest:

/s/ Dan Walker

Mayor of the City of Torrance

/s/ Sue Herbers

Sue Herbers,  
City Clerk of the City of Torrance

Approved on January 23, 2003