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**TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL – NOVEMBER 26, 2013**

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At 8:52 p.m., the meeting was adjourned to Tuesday, December 3, 2013 at 5:30 p.m. for an executive session, with the regular meeting commencing at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber.

**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 5:33 p.m. on Tuesday, November 26, 2013 in the Council Chamber at Torrance City Hall.

**ROLL CALL**

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

Absent: None.

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 pursuant to California Government Code §54957.6.

The City Council reconvened at 7:02 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 Transit Director Turner.

The non-sectarian invocation was given by Councilmember Numark.

**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 21, 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 Numark and passed by unanimous vote.

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 WITHDRAWN, DEFERRED OR SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS**

No items were withdrawn or deferred.

## **5. COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Fire Chief Racowschi reviewed safety precautions for those who will be deep frying turkeys for Thanksgiving.

Transit Director Turner announced that Torrance Transit will be offering free Shoppers Special bus service between Del Amo Fashion Center and the South Bay Galleria beginning on Friday, November 29, and continuing every weekend through Sunday, December 22, with additional information available on the Torrance Transit website.

Councilmember Brewer announced that a City Council preventing workplace harassment training session will be held on Tuesday, December 10, at 4:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber.

Councilmember Barnett offered a reminder that the 34<sup>th</sup> annual Turkey Trot three-mile fun run will be held on Thursday, November 28, beginning at 8:00 a.m. in the Sam's Club parking lot.

Mayor Scotto reported on a recent meeting with Los Angeles City Councilman Joe Buscaino, who represents San Pedro, to discuss the two cities' mutual interests.

Mayor Scotto announced that Saturday, November 30, is Small Business Saturday in the City of Torrance and encouraged everyone to support small businesses on that date.

## **7. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #1**

**7A.** Ann Ferrelli, Newton Street resident, expressed concerns about drainage and vegetation issues involving a neighbor's property and about the City's lack of action on a tree ordinance.

**7B.** David Smock, resident, reported that construction on the new Montessori school on Hawthorne Boulevard is taking place outside permitted hours of construction and requested that enforcement action be taken.

**7C.** George Simon, resident, expressed concerns about reduced illumination from new light poles being installed by Southern California Edison.

Mayor Scotto directed staff to prepare a formal complaint letter because SCE has been notified of this problem but has declined to do anything about it.

## **8. CONSENT CALENDAR**

### **8A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

#### **Recommendation**

Recommendation of the City Clerk that City Council approve the City Council minutes of November 5, 2013.

### **8B. PURCHASE ORDER FOR AUTOMATED REFUSE/RECYCLING CONTAINERS**

#### **Recommendation**

Recommendation of the Public Works Director that City Council authorize a purchase order with Toter Incorporated of Statesville, NC in the amount of \$70,250.36 for the sole source purchase of 1,272 Toter automated curbside refuse and recycling containers.

**8C. AGREEMENT RE TRAFFIC SIGNAL LEFT TURN UPGRADES**

Considered separately see below.

**8D. AGREEMENT RE GOVERNMENT CONSULTING AND ADVOCACY SERVICES**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the City Manager that City Council approve a services agreement with Joe A. Gonsalves & Son, in the amount of \$48,000, to provide government consulting and advocacy services at the state level for the period of January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014.

**8E. PURCHASE ORDER FOR TASERS AND ACCESSORIES**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the Chief of Police that City Council authorize a purchase order to ProForce Law Enforcement of Prescott, AZ in the amount of \$220,356.75 for X26P Tasers and accessories.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Sutherland moved for the approval of Consent Calendar Items 8A, 8B, 8D and 8E. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Barnett and passed by unanimous vote.

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

**8C. AGREEMENT RE TRAFFIC SIGNAL LEFT TURN UPGRADES**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the Public Works Director that City Council:

- 1) Approve the plans and specifications for Traffic Signal Left Turn Upgrades at the intersections of Prairie Avenue and 182nd Street; Sepulveda Boulevard and Hickory Avenue; Sepulveda Boulevard and Arlington Avenue; and Sepulveda Boulevard and Cabrillo Avenue, Project T-128, (B2013-44);
- 2) Adopt finding of a categorical exemption per staff determination, pursuant to Section 15301 Class 1 of the California Environmental Quality Act guidelines for said project;
- 3) Authorize an advance of Measure R Local Return funds in the amount of \$46,340 from CIP project I-120, Crenshaw Boulevard Rehabilitation – Sepulveda to Skypark, to project T-128 and return said funds back to project I-120 in FY 2014-2015; and
- 4) Award a public works agreement for a term of two years to Traffic Development Services, Inc., the lowest responsible bidder, in the amount of \$151,391; and authorize a 5% contingency in the amount of \$7,570.

Engineering Manager Semaan provided an overview of the traffic signal upgrades designed to improve the flow of traffic and discussed efforts to educate the public about the new left-turn signals, which have a flashing yellow arrow phase.

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

**12. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

**12A. CITY COUNCIL DARK NIGHTS**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the City Manager that City Council declare the following Tuesdays as City Council dark nights from January 1 through June 30, 2014: January 21, February 18, April 29, May 27, and June 3.

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

**12B. FIRST QUARTER 2013-14 BUDGET REVIEW/ PROGRAM MODIFICATIONS**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the Finance and Governmental Operations Committee that City Council:

- 1) Accept the First Quarter 2013-2014 Budget Review Report;
- 2) Accept the City Treasurer's Investment Report; and
- 3) Approve staff's recommendation for the following program modifications for the City Treasurer's Office, Fire Department, General Services Department, and Police Department.

Finance Director Tsao reported that all departments are within budget for the first quarter of FY2013-2014 and revenues are slightly higher than the previous year. He briefly reviewed the proposed Program Modifications:

City Treasurer's Office – Addition of .5 Account Clerk  
Fire Department – Final phase of the fire prevention organization  
General Services Department – Addition of 1.0 Lead Airport Worker  
General Services/Police Departments – Organization realignment of 2.0 Senior Business Managers

**MOTION:** Councilmember Sutherland moved to accept and file the First Quarter 2013-2014 Budget Review Report and the City Treasurer's Investment Report and to concur with the recommended Program Modifications. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Barnett and passed by unanimous vote.

**12C. APPROVAL OF NAMING RIGHTS PROCESS FOR MAPLE AVENUE SPORTS FIELDS**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the City Council Ad Hoc Naming of Public Facilities Committee that City Council review and approve the guidelines and expectations for naming rights for the multi-use sports fields located at 555 Maple Avenue, Torrance.

With the aid of slides, Assistant City Manager Giordano outlined the Ad Hoc Naming of Public Facilities Committee's recommended guidelines for naming rights for the Maple Avenue sports fields. She reported that funds will be used to offset the cost of developing the sports fields and to fund future Open Space projects. She noted that naming rights will be offered for both the east and west fields, as well as for the entire facility, with a total sponsorship base of \$1 million.

Sr. Business Manager Minter reviewed renderings of the sports fields and proposed corporate sponsorship signage.

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

**17. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #2**

**17A.** Councilmember Numark announced that he was resigning from the City Council effective immediately due to his newly elected position as an El Camino Community College Trustee. He briefly highlighted accomplishments during his tenure on the Council and thanked each of his colleagues on the Council and City staff.

Councilmembers and Mayor Scotto commended Councilmember Numark for his service and wished him well in his new position.

City Manager Jackson expressed appreciation for Councilmember Numark's service.

Mayor Scotto announced that there will be a reception for Councilmember Numark on December 7 from 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. at the Torrance Arts Museum and the public is invited.

**17B.** Councilmember Sutherland reported that he attended three ribbon-cutting ceremonies within the past week, which included Jerome's Furniture, a florist and a pain-management doctor.

**17C.** Councilmember Sutherland extended Chanukah and Thanksgiving greetings on behalf of him and his wife.

**17D.** Milton Herring, resident, thanked Councilmember Numark for his service.

**17E.** Councilmember Furey announced that Torrance Police Officers Association's Santa float will begin touring residential neighborhoods throughout Torrance on Sunday evening, with additional information at [www.TorrancePOA.com](http://www.TorrancePOA.com).

**17F.** Mayor Scotto offered a reminder about the annual Turkey Trot on November 28 and Shop Small Business Saturday on November 30.

**17G.** Mayor Scotto stated that as Councilman Numark had just resigned from the City Council and because of the limited number of Council meetings during the upcoming month, it was imperative that the Council provide direction to the City Clerk as soon as possible since the City Charter requires the Council to appoint a replacement councilmember within 30 days or to call a special election to fill the vacancy. He reported that while Councilman Numark did advise the Council and City staff of his intent to resign at the close of tonight's Council meeting through a letter dated Friday, November 22, an item to provide direction to the Clerk could not be placed on tonight's Council agenda because he could have rescinded his intention to resign at any time prior to his announcement.

In order to take action on a matter that is not on the agenda, the California Government Code requires a determination by a two-thirds vote of the City Council that immediate action is necessary and that the need to take action arose subsequent to the posting of the agenda.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Sutherland moved to add the above-mentioned urgency item to the agenda. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Weideman and passed by unanimous vote.

The matter was added to the agenda as Item 12D and considered pursuant to Government Code §54954.2(B)(2).

**12D. FILLING UNEXPIRED TERM OF COUNCILMEMBER CLIFF NUMARK**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the City Clerk that City Council give direction to the City Clerk and City staff for filling the vacant seat (term expiring June 2014) created by the resignation of Councilmember Numark.

City Clerk Herbers reviewed the options for filling the vacancy created by the resignation of Councilmember Cliff Numark per written material distributed to the Council. She reported that the vacancy must be filled within 30 days of the resignation or a special election must be held on April 8, 2014 at a cost of approximately \$200,000. She advised that the Council may make an appointment based on their own nominations or solicit applications, which has been the practice when filling previous vacancies; that the person selected will hold the office until the next municipal election on June 3, 2014; and that staff has prepared the necessary materials to allow the Council to make an appointment at the December 17, 2013 City Council meeting.

Councilmember Furey, echoed by Councilmember Sutherland, expressed support for soliciting applications and using the appointment process to fill the vacancy at the December 17 Council meeting.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Brewer moved to solicit applications and fill the vacancy by Council appointment at the December 17, 2013 City Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Barnett and passed by unanimous vote.

City Clerk Herbers announced that information packets will be available by noon on Wednesday, November 27, and the deadline for completed applications will be Wednesday, December 11, at 5:30 p.m.

**18. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Considered earlier in the meeting, see page 1.

**19. ADJOURNMENT**

At 8:52 p.m., the City Council adjourned to Tuesday, December 3, 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 January 14, 2014