

**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 5:35 p.m. on Tuesday, December 16, 2003, in City Council Chambers at Torrance City Hall.

ROLL CALL

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

Absent: None.

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

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Mayor Walker stated that City Manager Jackson, under instruction from the City Council, was in the process of negotiating a ground lease for the City property located at 2600 Skypark Drive with Norm LaCaze from the LaCaze Development Company; that after the posting of the agenda, the City's negotiator received a proposal from LaCaze; and that the City Manager believed immediate instruction to the City's Real Property Negotiator was necessary. 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 Council that immediate action is necessary and that the need to take action arose subsequent to the posting of the agenda. Councilmember Scotto, seconded by Councilmember Witkowsky, moved to add the item to the agenda for consideration; roll call vote reflected unanimous approval. The City Council considered this item as part of the closed session agenda, pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8.

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

17. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The 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 17A) Conference with Labor Negotiator; 17B) Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation; 17C) Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation and 17D) Real Property – Conference with Real Property Negotiator, pursuant to California Government Code Sections 54957.6, 54956.9(a), 54946.9(b) and 54956.8.

The Council reconvened in Council Chambers at 7:15 p.m. No formal action was taken on any matter considered in closed session.

2. FLAG SALUTE/INVOCATION

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilmember Lieu.

Councilmember Witkowsky gave the non-sectarian invocation for the meeting.

3. AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING/WAIVE FURTHER READING

MOTION: Councilmember McIntyre 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 Lieu, and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

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

4. WITHDRAWN OR DEFERRED ITEMS

Item 6B was withdrawn.

5. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fire Chief Bongard announced that ExxonMobil would be testing the street closure barriers on Crenshaw Boulevard on Thursday, December 18, and that Crenshaw would be closed between Del Amo Boulevard and 190th Street from approximately 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Questions can be directed to the ExxonMobil's Public Affairs Advisor at (310) 212-4756.

City Clerk Herbers announced that applications were being accepted for appointment to various City Commissions and that appointments would be made by the City Council on Tuesday, January 13, with applications due no later than Wednesday, January 7. Information available by calling the City Clerk's office at 618.2870.

6. COMMUNITY MATTERS

6A. RESOLUTION NO 2003-185 RE RALPH ROGERS

RESOLUTION NO. 2003-185

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE HONORING RALPH ROGERS UPON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE CITY AFTER TWENTY-FIVE YEARS OF SERVICE

MOTION: Councilmember Lieu moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2003-185. The motion was seconded by Councilmember McIntyre and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

Mayor Walker presented the Resolution to Mr. Rogers, who accepted with appreciation.

6B. ACCEPTANCE OF DONATION FROM ALPINE ELECTRONICS

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **Parks and Recreation Director** that City Council accept the generous donation of \$10,000.00 from Alpine Electronics to be used for improvements at the ATTIC, a Torrance Teen Center.

Item was withdrawn, pending the availability of a representative from Alpine Electronics.

6C. RECOGNITION OF ROBERT SHAFER FOR SERVICE ON CARSON/LOMITA/TORRANCE WORKFORCE INVESTMENT NETWORK BOARD

Mayor Walker presented a plaque to Robert Shafer of Torrance-South Bay YMCA, in appreciation for his five years of service on the Carson/Lomita/Torrance Workforce Investment Network (WiN) Board.

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Mary Hoffman, President of the Torrance Rose Float Association, was pleased to announce that, in addition to Mayor Walker and six very brave former POWs, New York City Policeman Daniel Rodriguez would be riding on the City's float on New Years Day. She noted that Mr. Rodriguez, who came to national attention following 9/11, would be singing his rendition of "America the Beautiful," which is the theme of this year's float.

7. CONSENT CALENDAR

7A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 23, OCTOBER 7, OCTOBER 14, OCTOBER 21, OCTOBER 28, AND NOVEMBER 4, 2003

The minutes of October 14, October 21, October 28, and November 4, 2003 were withdrawn.

7B. SUBLEASE AND IMPROVEMENT AGREEMENT HI-SHEAR CORPORATION

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **Land Management Team** that City Council authorize the Mayor to execute and the City Clerk to attest to a Sub-Lease and Improvement Agreement by and between Hi-Shear Corporation (Lessee) and La Caze Development Company (Sub-Lessee).

Item was considered separately at the request of a member of the audience, see page 6.

7C. APPROVAL OF FINAL TRACT MAP NO. 54028

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **Community Development Director** that City Council:

- 1) Approve Final Tract Map No. 54028, creating 32 condominium units on one lot, located at 20536 Earl Street, which substantially conforms to and meets all conditions of approval of the Tentative Map;
- 2) Accept two variable width and one corner radius street easements at the intersection of Spencer and Earl Streets;
- 3) Accept five-foot wide street easements on Spencer and Earl Streets; and
- 4) Abandon an easement for landscaping and sidewalk purposes.

7D. 2002-2003 WATER COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **Public Works Director** and the **Water Commission** that City Council accept and file the 2002-2003 Water Commission Annual Report.

7E. LEASE AGREEMENT FOR PHOTOCOPYING, COLOR PROCESSING, AND NETWORK INTEGRATED PUBLISHING SYSTEM

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **General Services Director** that City Council replace an existing leased Xerox printing and publishing system, and enter into a new 5 year lease with Heidelberg, USA for a new high-speed photocopying, color processing, network integrated printing and publishing system, as a cooperative purchase with the State of California, in an amount not to exceed \$239,724 annually.

The **General Services Director** also recommends City Council authorize a one time payment of \$12,452.16 to the State of California for use of their contracts.

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7F. EXTENSION OF CONTRACT FOR TEMPORARY BUILDING INSPECTION SERVICES

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **Building and Safety Director** that City Council execute an amendment to consulting services agreement with JAS Pacific, Inc. (C2002-283), extending the agreement to provide temporary field inspection services until June 30, 2004, and increasing the original contract from \$90,000 to \$135,000.

7G. ASSUMPTION OF GROUND LEASE AND CONSENT TO ASSIGNMENT OF GREAT AMERICAN AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE CORPORATION, INC.

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **City Manager** that City Council authorize the Mayor to execute and the City Clerk to attest to an Assignment and Assumption of Ground Lease and Consent to Assignment from Mark J. Dessy and Jackie Dessy husband and wife, (jointly the "Assignor" herein) to Sunrise & Associates, a General Partnership, each as to an undivided one-half interest as tenants-in-common (jointly the "Assignee" herein) all rights, title and interest of the Assignor.

7H. PURCHASE ORDER FOR 2004 TORRANCE SEASONS PUBLICATION

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **City Manager** that City Council authorize a renewal purchase order be issued for an anticipated annual amount not to exceed \$47,353.94, to Southwest Offset Printing Co., Inc., Gardena, CA, to print and deliver the 2004 Torrance Seasons publication.

7I. APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS FOR SEMINAR REIMBURSEMENT RE FIRE DEPARTMENT SAFETY EMPLOYEES

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **Fire Chief** that City Council appropriate \$10,000 from the Fire Department's El Camino Training Fund to reimburse safety employees (up to \$500 per employee each fiscal year) for fire department related seminars attended voluntarily. The total departmental expenditure shall not exceed \$10,000 per fiscal year.

7J. REVENUE SHARING AGREEMENT WITH ROGER ROD

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **Parks and Recreation Director** that City Council approve a two-year revenue sharing agreement with Roger Rod to provide adult dance and exercise classes at the Torrance Cultural Arts Center for an amount not to exceed \$46,480. The expenditure will be fully reimbursed by class fees.

7K. CONTRACTS FOR SENIOR CITIZEN EXCURSIONS JANUARY THROUGH JUNE 2004

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **Parks and Recreation Director** that City Council approve contracts with Main Street Tours in the amount of \$18,788 and with American Travel Club/Tours in the amount of \$29,591, for a total amount not to exceed \$48,379, for Senior Citizens Program excursions planned for the months of January through June, 2004.

7L. PURCHASE AGREEMENT RE INTERACTIVE VOICE RESPONSE SYSTEM

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **Information Technology Director** and the **Building and Safety Director** that City Council appropriate an additional \$6,121 from the Program Innovation Reserve, and approve and execute purchase agreements with Selectron Technologies and Accela, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$71,121 for the purchase of equipment, software licenses, installation, and the training necessary to implement and integrate an Interactive Voice Response (IVR) system into the existing Accela Tidemark system (FEAP #251).

7M. GRANT FUNDING FOR NON-PROFIT SOCIAL SERVICES AGENCIES

Recommendation of the **Community Services Commission** and the **Parks and Recreation Director** that City Council approve grant funding under the year 2004 Grant Program for Non-Profit Social Services Agencies to Behavioral Health Service (\$2,000), Friends Without Barriers (\$2,000), H.E.L.P. (\$2,000), Helpline Youth Counseling (\$2,400), H.O.P.E. (\$3,000), Jewish Family Services (\$2,000), Little Company of Mary (\$2,500), New Life Advocacy (\$3,600), PROJECT Touch (\$2,000), R.S.V.P. (\$1,600), Salvation Army (\$3,000), So. Bay Children's Health Center (\$3,180), So. Bay Literacy Council (\$3,220), Westside Center for Independent Living, Inc. (\$2,500) for a total of \$35,000.

7N. CONTINUATION OF LEASE FOR ELECTRONIC MAIL PROCESSING SYSTEM

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **General Services Director** that City Council authorize a 7 month extension to the current lease for an amount not to exceed \$7,547.19 to Pitney Bowes of Los Angeles, CA, for an electronic mail processing system as a special opportunity purchase.

7O. PURCHASE ORDER FOR MISCELLANEOUS OFFICE PAPER

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **General Services Director** that City Council authorize a purchase order to Kelly Paper of Gardena, CA, in an amount not to exceed \$55,000 for the purchase of miscellaneous office paper (B2003-35). The term will be for a period of one (1) year, beginning December 17, 2003 and ending December 16, 2004.

7P. AMENDMENT ONE TO SUBLEASE WITH CAREERS

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **Human Resources Director** that City Council authorize the Mayor to execute and the City Clerk attest to Amendment One to the sublease agreement by and between the City of Torrance and IAM CARES, Inc. (C2002-259) for space at the Carson WorkSource Center. This amendment names CAREERS, Inc. as successor to IAM CARES, Inc.; and increases space and rent through December 31, 2003.

7Q. PURCHASE RE TECHNOLOGY UPGRADES FOR POLICE RADIO SYSTEM

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **Chief of Police** that City Council appropriate and allocate \$208,738.45 from existing Police, City and State funds to:

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- 1) Purchase technology upgrades for the Police Department radio system; and
- 2) Issue a purchase order in the amount of \$208,738.45 (tax included) to Advanced Electronics for the acquisition and installation of the upgrades.

7R. CONTRACT FOR REPLACEMENT OF CULTURAL ART CENTER AIR CONDITIONING COMPONENTS

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **General Services Director** that City Council:

- 1) Award a contract to Xcel Mechanical, Inc. for \$64,158 with a 5% contingency of \$3,207 for replacement of the Cultural Arts Center Cooling Tower (FEAP #68) and Cultural Arts Center Drain Pans (FEAP #67); and
- 2) Appropriate \$19,429 from the Building Maintenance Capital Project Fund.

7S. CONTRACT FOR RENOVATION OF TORRANCE TRANSIT OPERATIONS OFFICE

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **General Services Director** and the **Transit Director** that City Council:

- 1) Award a contract to RAN Enterprises, Inc. for \$122,500 with a 5% contingency of \$6,125 for renovation of the Transit Operations Offices (FEAP #358); and
- 2) Authorize a 10% project management fee of \$12,250.

MOTION: Councilmember Mauno moved for the approval of Consent Calendar Items 7A and 7C through 7S, with Councilmember Witkowsky abstaining on Item 7M due to a conflict of interest. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Scotto and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

Consent Calendar Item 7B was considered out of order at this time.

7B. SUBLEASE AND IMPROVEMENT AGREEMENT HI-SHEAR CORPORATION

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **Land Management Team** that City Council authorize the Mayor to execute and the City Clerk to attest to a Sub-Lease and Improvement Agreement by and between Hi-Shear Corporation (Lessee) and La Caze Development Company (Sub-Lessee).

John King, Torrance, questioned what the Sub-Lessee, La Caze Development Company, intends to do with this parcel.

Land Management Chair Sunshine reported that the intended use for the site could not be publicly disclosed at this time because the City was in the process of negotiating a long-term lease with La Caze Development Company.

9. PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

9A. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT RE PROPOSED LOMITA BOULEVARD RESIDENTIAL PROJECT

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **Community Development Director** that City Council adopt a Resolution authorizing a contract with Gruen Associates in the amount of \$149,422 to prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Lomita Boulevard Residential Project proposed for property located at 2740 Lomita Boulevard.

Community Development Director Gibson stated that staff was recommending that the City enter into a contract with Gruen Associates to prepare an Environmental Impact Report for a 459-unit residential development proposed for a 20-acre parcel on Lomita Boulevard in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act. He noted that cost was not a factor in the selection of a consultant because the applicant would be paying for the report.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 03-186

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE THAT CERTAIN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY AND GRUEN ASSOCIATES FOR PREPARATION OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR THE LOMITA BOULEVARD RESIDENTIAL PROJECT

MOTION: Councilmember Lieu moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2003-186. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Nowatka and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

11. **ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

11A. **STATE OF LOCAL EMERGENCY RE CAROLWOOD LANE AND 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 Lane and Singingwood Drive.

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. **OPTIONS FOR MARCH 2, 2004 GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION**

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **City Clerk** that City Council take action (per Elections Code Section 10229) on the City Clerk's certification that there are not more candidates than offices to be elected by:

- 1) Appointing to office those persons nominated; or
- 2) Giving direction to the City Clerk to continue preparation for placing the election on the ballot.

If choosing Option 1, the City Clerk also recommends:

- 3) Adoption of a Resolution providing for the appointment to the offices of this City that were to be elected on Tuesday, March 2, 2004.

City Clerk Herbers reported that at the close of the nomination period for the March 2, 2004 General Municipal Election, there were no more candidates than offices to be filled and that the California Election Code allows for the appointment of those candidates. She noted that an election was estimated to cost \$97,000.

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MOTION: Councilmember Mauno moved to concur with staff recommendation Option 1, re-appointing Councilmembers Nowatka, Scotto, and Witkowsky to a second term and canceling the March 2, 2004 General Municipal Election. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Lieu and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 2003-187

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, PROVIDING FOR THE APPOINTMENT TO THE OFFICES OF THIS CITY THAT WERE TO BE ELECTED ON TUESDAY, MARCH 2, 2004

MOTION: Councilmember Lieu moved for the adoption on Resolution No. 2003-187. The motion was seconded by Councilmember McIntyre and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

Mayor Walker congratulated Councilmembers Nowatka, Scotto, and Witkowsky on being re-appointed, noting that this was unprecedented in the history of the City of Torrance.

11C. INCREASE OF HEALTH INSURANCE SUPPLEMENTAL FOR TPOA

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **City Manager** that City Council adopt a Resolution increasing the City's supplemental health insurance contribution from \$695 to \$820 per month for Torrance Police Officer's Association only for calendar year 2004.

Assistant to the City Manager Keane reported that the proposed increase was agreed upon during negotiations with the Torrance Police Officers Association.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 2003-188

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ESTABLISHING AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$820 PER MONTH FOR THE CITY'S SUPPLEMENTAL HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN FOR THE TORRANCE POLICE OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION (TPOA) COMMENCING JANUARY 1, 2004

MOTION: Councilmember Lieu moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2003-188. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Nowatka and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

11D. AMENDING TPOA, TFFA AND SAFETY MANAGEMENT MEMORANDA OF UNDERSTANDING TO COMPLY WITH SB1464 REGARDING RETIREE HEALTH INSURANCE

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **City Manager** that City Council adopt supplemental Memoranda of Understandings and amended pay Resolutions changing retiree health insurance from \$16 to \$32.20 per month to comply with SB 1464 which goes into effect January 1, 2004.

- Torrance Police Officers' Association Memorandum of Understanding

- Torrance Fire Fighters Association Memorandum of Understanding
- Safety Management

Assistant to the City Manager Keane stated that the proposed increase would bring the City into compliance with SB1464.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 2003-189

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 2003-170 SETTING FORTH CHANGES REGARDING WAGES, HOURS, AND WORKING CONDITIONS FOR EMPLOYEES REPRESENTED BY TORRANCE POLICE OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION

MOTION: Councilmember Lieu moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2003-189. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Nowatka and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 2003-190

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 2003-160 SETTING FORTH CHANGES REGARDING WAGES, HOURS, AND WORKING CONDITIONS FOR EMPLOYEES REPRESENTED BY THE TORRANCE FIRE FIGHTERS ASSOCIATION (TFFA)

MOTION: Councilmember Lieu moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2003-190. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Nowatka and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 2003-191

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 2003-180 SETTING FORTH CHANGES REGARDING HOURS, WAGES, AND WORKING CONDITIONS FOR SAFETY MANAGEMENT EMPLOYEES

MOTION: Councilmember Lieu moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2003-191. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Nowatka and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

15. SECOND READING ORDINANCES

15A. SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 3552

ORDINANCE NO. 3552

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING A SECTION OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE RELATING TO REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR COMMERCIAL WASTE COLLECTION (ANNUAL DIVERSION PLAN)

MOTION: Councilmember Lieu moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 3552. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Nowatka and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

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The Council met as the Redevelopment Agency from 7:41p.m. to 7:42 p.m.

16. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

16A. City Manager Jackson wished everyone a happy and safe holiday.

16B. City Clerk Herbers invited staff and public to view the works of Torrance Artist Guild member Penelope Kastagir on display in the City Clerk's office for the month of December.

16C. Councilmember Lieu congratulated Councilmembers Nowatka, Scotto, and Witkowsky on being appointed for a second term.

16D. Councilmember Lieu noted he attended the Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce Legislative Leadership luncheon featuring Mayor Walker as the speaker.

16E. Councilmember Lieu announced a Christmas tree lot on the corner of Del Amo Boulevard and Madrona Avenue, which benefits the YMCA.

16F. Councilmember Lieu also noted that he attended the Joy of Christmas production held by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints at the Palos Verdes Estates center where they honored Jim Banim, West High School music teacher.

16G. Councilmember Mauno congratulated the three councilmembers on being re-appointed.

16H. Councilmember Mauno noted he attended a meeting on the South Coast County Golf Course project and that the Environmental Impact Report was available for public viewing in the Community Development department, the Civic Center library, and the Walteria library.

16I. Councilmember Mauno reported on his attendance at the League of Cities conference in Tennessee along with Mayor Walker and Councilmember Witkowsky, noting that topics included technology advancements in wireless devices, Federal government action impacting local cities, and homeland security.

16J. Councilmember Mauno wished everyone a happy and safe holiday.

16K. Councilmember McIntyre commended Mayor Walker for his speech at the Chamber of Commerce Leadership luncheon.

16L. Councilmember McIntyre echoed congratulations to Councilmembers Nowatka, Scotto, and Witkowsky.

16M. Councilmember McIntyre wished all residents a joyous Christmas and New Year filled with peace and prosperity.

16N. Councilmember Nowatka expressed appreciation to Mr. Shafer for his years of service on the Workforce Investment Network Board.

16O. Councilmember Nowatka asked staff to come back with an item to recognize the South Bay Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 96 for their contributions over the past 3 years to the Young Eagle program and noted that December 17th would be the 100th anniversary of the Wright brothers' first flight.

16P. Councilmember Nowatka wished everyone a Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, and a Happy New Year.

16Q. Councilmember Scotto thanked everyone who had offered support for his candidacy and pledged to continue to do his best to represent the residents of Torrance.

16R. Councilmember Scotto wished everyone a happy and safe holiday season.

16S. Councilmember Witkowsky stated she has greatly enjoyed being on the City Council the past four years and looked forward to continuing to serve the community.

16T. Noting that she was appointed to the Public Safety Policy Committee at the League of Cities conference, Councilmember Witkowsky reported that she had met with Fire Chief Bongard and Police Chief Herren to discuss emergency preparedness in the City of Torrance and discovered what she believes to be a missing element. She asked staff to explore the feasibility of an annual mailing to residents to make them more aware of how to handle chemical emergencies and the shelter in place procedure.

16U. Councilmember Witkowsky wished everyone a Happy Hanukkah, a Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year.

16V. Mayor Walker asked Council to concur with the recommendation that staff return with an item properly recognizing those individuals who assisted at the scene of the helicopter crash at the Torrance Municipal Airport on November 6, 2003.

16W. Mayor Walker complimented the three Councilmembers on their re-appointment, stating that it was the first time in history that there would not be an election and they should feel a tremendous amount of pride.

16X. Mayor Walker stated that it has been a great year for the City of Torrance; that the City has remained strong despite challenges due to strong leadership, great employees and a wonderful City Council; and that it has been a privilege for him to serve as mayor.

16Y. Mayor Walker wished everyone a happy holiday.

16Z. Alan Lee, TME-AFSCME, wished everyone a happy holiday season and thanked the Mayor and Council, City Manager, and management team. He also noted AFSCME was holding a toy drive for the children of grocery workers on strike.

16AA. Scott Gobble, Southern California Edison, wished everyone a happy and safe holiday season and reminded residents to make sure holiday lights are displayed safely, not to string more than 3 strands of lights per plug, and not to overload outlets.

16BB. Robert Mason, resident, protested that the Revenue Division would not accept his monthly hanger rent payment, voicing his objections to a \$50 fire inspection fee that was lumped into his monthly fee.

17. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Considered earlier in the meeting, see page 1.

18. **ADJOURNMENT**

At 8:00, the City Council adjourned to Tuesday, January 6, 2004, at 6:00 p.m. for the regular meeting commencing in the Council Chambers. **Tuesday, December 23, 2003 and Tuesday, December 30, 2003 will be Council dark nights.**

Attest:

/s/ Dan Walker

Mayor of the City of Torrance

/s/ Sue Herbers

Sue Herbers, CMC
City Clerk of the City of Torrance

Approved on January 27, 2004