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TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL – OCTOBER 6, 2020

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At 10:51 p.m., the City Council adjourned to Tuesday, October 20, 2020, at 5:30 p.m. for closed session, with the regular meeting commencing at 7:00 p.m. via teleconference or other electronic means. Tuesday, October 13, 2020 is a Council dark night.

**MINUTES OF AN ADJOURNED REGULAR MEETING
OF THE TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Torrance City Council convened in an adjourned regular meeting on Tuesday, October 6, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. via teleconference.

ROLL CALL

Present: Councilmembers Ashcraft, Chen, Goodrich, Griffiths, Kalani, Mattucci, and Mayor Furey

Absent: None.

Present: City Manager Chaparyan, City Attorney Sullivan, Deputy City Clerk III Harbaugh-Shirazi and other staff representatives

Agenda Item 14 was considered out of order at this time.

14. CLOSED SESSION

The City Council immediately recessed to closed session to confer with the City Manager and the City Attorney on agenda matters listed under 14A) Real Property – Conference With Real Property Negotiator, 14B) Conference With Labor Negotiator, 14C) Conference With Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation, and 14D) Conference With Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation pursuant to California Government Code §54956.8, California Government Code §54957.6, California Government Code §54956.9(d)(2), and California Government Code §54956.9(d)(4).

The City Council reconvened in public session at 7:00 p.m. No formal action was taken on any item considered in closed session.

2. FLAG SALUTE/ INVOCATION

The flag salute was led by Councilmember Griffiths.

The non-sectarian invocation was given by Councilmember Kalani.

3. REPORT OF CITY CLERK ON POSTING OF THE AGENDA/ MOTION TO WAIVE FURTHER READING

Deputy City Clerk III Harbaugh-Shirazi reported that the agenda was posted on the Public Notice Board at 3031 Torrance Boulevard and on the City's website on Thursday, October 1, 2020.

MOTION: Councilmember Chen moved that after the City Clerk has read aloud the number and title of 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 Griffiths and passed by 7-0 vote.

4. WITHDRAWN, DEFERRED OR SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

Item 8C was deferred. Supplemental material was available for items 9B, 9C, 10A, 15A, and Oral Communications.

5. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Furey requested Council adjourn the meeting in memory of Vietnam War hero and Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Vincent H. Okamoto, who passed away September 27, 2020 at the age of 76.

Councilmember Griffiths announced the Citizen Development and Enrichment Committee will meet virtually Monday October 19, 2020 at 3:00 p.m. to discuss safety concerns during the 2020 Seaside Ranchos holiday lights display. The agenda can be found on the City's website.

Councilmember Kalani announced the Employee Relations and Public Safety Committee will meet virtually Monday October 26, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. for a Fire Department presentation on the basic life support ambulance program (BLS). The agenda can be found on the City's website.

Councilmember Chen reminded the public that the 2020 Census is still accepting submissions online, by mail, and by phone. To submit online visit 2020census.gov.

Chief Serna announced the Torrance Refining Company monthly community alert siren testing will take place Wednesday, October 7, 2020 at 11:30 a.m. For more information contact (310) 212-1852.

Deputy City Clerk III Harbaugh-Shirazi announced vote-by-mail ballots for the November 3rd General Election were mailed out October 1-October 5 and the last day to register or re-register to vote is October 19, 2020. Visit LAVote.net to register to vote, check voter information, find a vote center, locate a ballot drop-off location, or track ballot. A ballot drop-off box was installed between the Torrance Personnel building and the Katy Geissert Civic Center Library.

6. COMMUNITY MATTERS

6A. PROCLAMATION RE THE GREAT CALIFORNIA SHAKEOUT

The proclamation declaring 10:15 a.m. on October 15, 2020 as The Great California Shakeout in the City of Torrance was presented to Emergency Services Manager Jeffrey Snoddy.

6B. PROCLAMATION RE FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

The proclamation declaring the week of October 4-10, 2020 as Fire Prevention Week in the City of Torrance was presented to Fire Prevention Specialist Ellery Sanders.

7. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Members of the public spoke.

10. HEARINGS

10A. ZON20-01001, CUP20-01002, DIV20-01001, PRE20-01007: LINDA L. DIAS, TRUSTEE

Recommendation of the Planning Commission and the Community Development Director that City Council:

- 1) Adopt an Ordinance approving a Zone Change from C3-PP (Solely Commercial District, Precise Plan) to C2-PP (General Commercial District, Precise Plan); and
- 2) Approve an Ordinance Summary for publication; and

- 3) Adopt Resolutions approving a Conditional Use Permit and Precise Plan of Development to allow the construction of a 15-unit residential condominium development that exceeds a Floor Area Ratio of 0.6 to 1.0, in conjunction with a Tentative Tract Map for condominium purposes, on property located in the C3-PP Zone (C2-PP Zone Change Pending) at 18333/18419 Western Avenue (APN: 4096-019-055).

Councilmember Mattucci recused himself.

With the aid of slides, Planning & Environmental Manager Oscar Martinez reviewed the staff recommendation, noting the site is undeveloped and vacant. He stated the floor area ratio is 0.76, shared the setbacks for each side, outlined the project floorplans and parking, and touched on the elevation and architectural style. He shared the Planning Commission discussion and concerns, adding they ultimately approved the project.

Councilmember Chen disclosed he met with the applicant and his decision will be based on the data provided.

Councilmember Goodrich provided an identical disclosure to Councilmember Chen.

Proponent Dan Withee of Withee Malcom Architects provided an overview of the project with the aid of slides. He added the project exceeds parking, setback, and open space requirements and is below the height limit for R-3 zoning.

Councilmember Griffiths asked about parking availability on Western Avenue.

Planning & Environmental Manager Martinez explained there is no parking along Western Avenue on that side of the street.

Councilmember Griffiths mentioned a similarly sized project to the north, comparing the 20 exterior parking spaces to the six at this project. He shared his concerns for the tandem parking and asked if there is any flexibility on providing additional parking for the project.

Mr. Withee stated two more spaces can be added where the green space is.

Councilmember Chen received confirmation the entrance and exit are only via Western Avenue and there are no security gates. He stated he has no strong feelings to add parking if there is sufficient parking. He asked if there is any agreement with the adjacent credit union for guests to utilize the parking lot when the credit union is closed.

Mr. Withee responded the parking lot is open so he is unsure if anyone will prevent afterhours parking.

Looking at the plan, Councilmember Goodrich opined it is virtually unheard of for a three bedroom to have three parking spaces in a new development. Regarding the green space, he added there is not that much of it and it is owed to the residents to preserve the green space so he voiced his support for the project as-is.

Councilmember Ashcraft noted the difficulty of balancing additional parking and green space. She stated the development will be a plus for the neighborhood as the Torrance side of Western Avenue needs help.

Members of the public spoke.

Mr. Withee touched on concerns regarding dust and construction noise as mentioned by a caller. He stated there are standard measures that will minimize dust and noise. He added 10% of the parking spaces have to be EV compliant plus the units themselves have to be 50% energy-free which means there will be solar panels on the roofs. He noted Torrance is the only city he's worked with that requires three parking spaces for a three bedroom unit, and more and more cities require less parking. He reiterated there is ample parking at over three spaces per unit.

MOTION: Councilmember Griffiths moved to close the public hearing. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Kalani and passed by 6-0 vote, with Councilmember Mattucci recused.

Councilmember Griffiths expressed his concern for parking and stated he would support the project with the two additional parking spaces and if they aren't utilized in the future they can be converted back into green space.

Councilmember Goodrich offered a compromise of approving the project with one extra parking space.

Councilmember Ashcraft asked if the two spaces were put in and unused how it would work to convert them back to green space.

Community Development Director Danny Santana explained if built and utilized for parking purposes, it would be very difficult to convert the spaces back to functional open space other than a basketball court. He furthered the adjacent unit would not want that type of utilization of the area, but it is the only option for repurposing once it's constructed for parking.

Councilmember Kalani asked how far the nearest parking would be and if guests would have to go around the corner to the residential areas.

Community Development Director Santana confirmed those seeking parking would have to go around the corner on 185th Street adjacent to the credit union building.

Mayor Furey concluded there has always been an issue with parking in the community and Torrance is the only city that requires three parking spots. He stated the applicant doubled the guest parking spots from three spaces to six and have complied with everything and more that the City has asked them to do. He reiterated this is recommended approval by the Planning Department as well as Planning Commission. He added people will adapt to the parking situation and the green space backs the buildings away from the residences next door.

MOTION: Councilmember Goodrich moved approve the recommendation of the Planning Commission and the Community Development Director and adopt Ordinance No. 3885 approving a zone change with ordinance summary and resolutions. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Chen and passed by 5-1 vote, with Councilmember Griffiths voting no and Councilmember Mattucci recused.

MOTION: Councilmember Goodrich moved to adopt Resolution Nos. 2020-104, 2020-105, and 2020-106. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Chen and passed by 5-1 vote, with Councilmember Griffiths voting no and Councilmember Mattucci recused.

8. CONSENT CALENDAR

8A. APPROVE CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Recommendation of the City Clerk that City Council approve the City Council minutes of September 1, 2020 and September 15, 2020.

8B. ACCEPT AND FILE INVESTMENT REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST 2020

Recommendation of the Finance Director that City Council accept and file the Investment Report for the month of August 2020.

8C. PURCHASE ORDER FOR ELGIN CNG CROSSWIND J SWEEPERS WITH AUTOCAR CHASSIS

Recommendation of the Public Works Director and General Services Director that City Council:

- 1) Authorize a purchase order with Haaker Equipment Company of La Verne, CA in the amount of \$771,561.08 (including sales tax) for two (2) 2021 Elgin CNG (Compressed Natural Gas) Crosswind J Sweepers with Autocar chassis as a cooperative purchase with Sourcewell; and
- 2) Appropriate \$771,561.08 from the Sewer Vehicle Replacement Fund Balance for the purchase of two (2) 2021 Elgin CNG (Compressed Natural Gas) Crosswind J Sweepers with Autocar chassis.

This item was deferred.

8D. MEADOW PARK PARKING DISTRICT MAINTENANCE FEE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020-21 PARKING LOT COSTS

Considered separately, see below.

MOTION: Councilmember Kalani moved to approve the Consent Calendar Items 8A and 8B. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Ashcraft and passed by 7-0 vote.

8D. MEADOW PARK PARKING DISTRICT MAINTENANCE FEE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020-21 PARKING LOT COSTS

Recommendation of the Community Development Director that City Council approve the Meadow Park Parking District maintenance fee at \$50.19 per parking space for Fiscal Year 2020-21 to pay maintenance costs of the parking lots.

Councilmember Griffiths noted Council waived the fees for the businesses due to COVID. He questioned if there was an extra modifier for waiving the fees for certain employers exceeding a certain size.

Community Development Director Santana stated Council previously waived the annual fee as part of a number of items implemented as a response to the pandemic. He did not recall something specific to a number of employees as there are a number of businesses that vary in size and number of employees and the fee they each pay was waived entirely.

MOTION: Councilmember Griffiths moved to approve Item 8D. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Kalani and passed by 7-0 vote.

9. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

9A. COVID-19 RECOVERY UPDATE AND OPTIONS FOR RESPONDING TO ORDERS FROM LOS ANGELES COUNTY AND THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Recommendation of the City Manager that City Council:

- 1) Receive COVID-19 Recovery Update (for Discussion Only); and
- 2) Determine whatever action deemed appropriate for responding to Orders from the County of Los Angeles and the State of California Regarding COVID-19.

City Manager Chaparyan provided an update on the COVID-19 recovery efforts. He shared LA County remains in the Purple Tier in the Blueprint for a Safer Economy, meaning there continues to be widespread transmission of the virus. He touched on restaurants operating outdoor dining and announced nail salons, card rooms, indoor shopping malls, and outside playgrounds have been allowed to reopen at 25% capacity. He shared Torrance opened its playgrounds on October 2 and Del Amo Fashion Center will reopen October 7.

Councilmember Mattucci requested exploring a way to make outdoor patios a more permanent fixture similarly to Redondo Beach.

City Manager Chaparyan explained Economic Development Manager Fran Fulton is working with Community Development Director Santana and his team for the design and installation of uniform vinyl materials to bring a consistent look and branding to the program. He stated staff will continue to bring the report back to Council as part of the Downtown redevelopment efforts and will incorporate some of these elements into a long-term vision of the area which may include a strategic approach to outdoor dining as a permanent fixture.

Councilmember Mattucci asked if the consultant is part of this discussion, which City Manager Chaparyan confirmed they are.

Councilmember Chen thanked staff for the quick Administrative Order to reopen parks and encouraged the public to practice good hygiene so as not to move backwards with reopenings.

MOTION: Councilmember Mattucci moved to accept and file Item 9A. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Kalani and passed by 7-0 vote.

9B. RESOLUTIONS RE ACQUISITIONS AND IMPROVEMENTS, PRELIMINARY ENGINEER'S REPORT, AUTHORIZING PURCHASE OF BONDS, AND APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR FORMATION OF RESIDENTIAL UTILITY UNDERGROUNDING DISTRICT

Recommendation of the Public Works Director that City Council:

- 1) Adopt a Resolution of intention to make acquisitions and improvements for the proposed Undergrounding Utility Assessment District No. 2020-1 (Paseo de la Playa); and
- 2) Adopt a Resolution approving Preliminary Engineer's Report and, directing related actions for the proposed Undergrounding Utility Assessment District No. 2020-1 (Paseo de la Playa); and
- 3) Adopt a Resolution authorizing the purchase of bonds issued by the City under the Improvement Bond Act of 1915; and
- 4) Upon receipt of funds from the Paseo de la Playa property owners, accept and appropriate the funds to the Paseo de la Playa Residential Undergrounding Project I-175 to cover costs associated with Proposition 218 ballot proceedings for the assessment district.

Engineering Manager Shin Furukawa introduced the Item. With the aid of slides, he touched on the project team, defined an assessment district as a resident-initiated resident-funded process, and provided a district formation overview and background.

Assessment Engineer Jeff Cooper, NV5, broke down the Assessment Engineer's Report and explained the cost.

Municipal Advisor Craig Hill, NHA Advisors, explained typical financing costs for a similar project, explained the estimated cost of project is too small for traditional bond issuance, and the City would purchase bonds for investment in its Treasury Pool.

Engineering Manager Furukawa explained the staff recommendation and next steps for the process if approved.

Mayor Furey reiterated this project is funded by the residents.

Councilmember Chen asked if the cash collection is for the utility company to do the engineering design.

Engineering Manager Furukawa explained the cash collection period is for any residents who want to pay for the total cost up front rather than getting an assessment on their property tax bills.

In response to Councilmember Chen's follow-up question, Mr. Hill explained the cash collection period is based on a predetermination of what the cost will be for each parcel. He furthered should anyone elect to make the cash payment in lieu of financing their portion, that money will go into escrow only at the time the bid is received in the future and it is determined there will be sufficient funds to cover the cost that would then be applied towards the project. If for some reason the project did not get completed, those funds would be released back to the property owner.

Councilmember Chen asked if the project goes above the 20% contingency, would the residents be responsible to pay any additional costs.

Mr. Cooper responded when the ballots are mailed, the property owner will be told in the ballot what their maximum assessment amount is and it's based upon the estimate in the Engineer's Report plus the 20% contingency. He explained if the actual bid comes in higher than what was estimated, ballots would need to be mailed out again to get the property owners to increase what they have agreed to on the assessment amount to complete the project.

Councilmember Chen questioned why the City would need to issue the bond if the property owners are paying for all of it.

Mr. Cooper clarified those property owners that want to pay cash up front save a financing cost and those who don't want to pay cash can then let it go to bond, meaning they agree to make a payment on their property taxes every year to pay back their fair share of the bonds that were issued on their behalf. He added if they do that, the assessment is on the property taxes and the assessment stays with the property

Councilmember Chen received confirmation if ten residents want to pay cash, they're done and the remaining ten residents would be paying incrementally with a certain amount of interest. He asked who pays for the maintenance if something breaks underground.

Mr. Cooper stated once the project is completed it would be turned over to the utility companies and they're responsible for operating and maintaining it forever. He added it would be no liability to the City as property owners are paying to build and utility companies are putting their equipment underground so they own the system and operate and maintain it.

City Attorney Sullivan reiterated this is an SCE project and it is SCE equipment and the property owners are paying for SCE to move it underground; therefore it is SCE's equipment and responsibility to repair.

MOTION: Councilmember Mattucci moved to adopt Resolution Nos. 2020-107, 2020-108, and 2020-109 and approve staff recommendation #4. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Ashcraft and passed by 7-0 vote.

9C. UPDATE ON PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT RESEARCH

Recommendation of the City Manager that City Council:

- 1) Receive Public Health Department research update; and
- 2) Direct staff on how to proceed.

Management Aide Connor Shortland reviewed the staff recommendation.

Councilmember Mattucci voiced his disappointment in the list of disadvantages, which included a lack of autonomy still under LA County Health Department. He noted the variety of different funding sources and asked if a grant would need to be applied for ever year, five, or ten years and how the funding works for a health district.

Management Aide Shortland responded the funding varies from federal, state, county, and private funds. He noted some funding comes from grants, but he was unsure about deadline for the grants. He added the City of Pasadena Public Health Department receives federal, county, and state grants.

Councilmember Mattucci asked about opening it up to the South Bay and creating a South Bay Health District. He noted the possibility of keeping it in Torrance but brought up the necessity of paying for it in order to benefit from it. He touched on the advantages, like the ability to build programs tailored to the community to create targeted intervention. He stated Torrance is quite different than most of Los Angeles with its state-of-the-art facilities, adding that the City should be able to put some of its own decision making into the process. He concluded he was torn on proceeding without doing anything unless funding was secured to be able to put together a program where Torrance can see a true benefit.

Councilmember Ashcraft mentioned the Beach Cities Health District and how a lot of their funding comes from assessments on their property taxes which she does not want to see going to Torrance. She stated there is a continuing cost, a yearly cost, and how it is funded, but the startup cost is unknown. She assumed startup costs for something like this would be more than the cost of one year running the district and inquired about startup cost.

Management Aide Shortland explained most of the public health departments were established in the early 1900s or late 1800s. He reached out to representatives from each of the cities and they were unable to provide that information.

Councilmember Ashcraft opined it was probably double or even more of what actual operating costs would be to be able to even start it up.

Councilmember Kalani asked what it would take to actually leave the LA County umbrella and create a new department. She asked if it would go to a vote and if the county has to approve releasing Torrance.

City Manager Chaparyan explained the City of Los Angeles had a similar effort a few years back when they were exploring the creation of an independent health department. He stated staff could come back with additional research and more details about the legal framework of being able to separate from LA County.

Councilmember Goodrich stated one of biggest complaints from small businesses is lack of communication from LA County Public Health inspections and City staff and their inspectors and competing direction adds a lot of delays. He asked if instead of doing an entire public health program, the City could take over just that small subset from the County.

City Manager Chaparyan responded if Council wishes, staff can do more research.

Councilmember Goodrich expressed his interest, adding funding is key. He noted he didn't see funding coming from property taxes in any of the examples in the attachment and mentioned Beach Cities Health District was brought up and doesn't do the same thing as the health departments being discussed.

City Manager Chaparyan confirmed Beach Cities Health District is a preventive health district and includes Redondo Beach, Manhattan Beach, and Hermosa Beach and in the past they were not interested in being a health department.

Councilmember Chen shared the feeling of helplessness during early stages of the pandemic and the idea of a Torrance Health Department spawned from those feelings. He asked if during pandemic the cities of Pasadena and Long Beach were overridden by the State and County.

City Attorney Sullivan confirmed Pasadena tried to exempt themselves out of some of LA County's COVID restrictions. He added the State Department of Public Health denied them and they had to wait for the County; even though they had their own separate department they were still subject to the County's orders and regulations. He confirmed it happened in Long Beach and both cities tried to break away and couldn't.

In looking at the potential advantages and disadvantages, Councilmember Chen proposed it may be worth asking the South Bay Cities Council of Governments to see if South Bay cities could be treated as their own entity based on data which can show some kind of independence. He asked staff if they could approach the Council of Governments and see if there is interest for further study. He noted the non-recurrent cost is probably at least double and touched on addressing the homeless issue under LA County Public Health.

City Manager Chaparyan explained LA County has a different department that handles homelessness and there may be some crossover related to matters within the Health Department, but it is independent. He added the need to consider the County carries the burden of staffing, facilities, liabilities, pensions, and costs. He stated if the City ventures into this arena even regionally, those are all elements would have to be taken into account in the context of restrictive funding means.

Councilmember Chen agreed it is an enormous undertaking but worth asking the Council of Governments if there is interest or not in taking the next step.

Mayor Furey suggested since Councilmember Chen is a representative on the Council of Governments, he should bring it forward to them and see if there is any interest to come up with a regional plan. He added most departments were created at the start of the 20th century so it would be worth it to see if there is interest in doing something like this as shared costs are a lot better than taking the whole thing on.

Councilmember Chen stated he will ask the Council of Governments.

Councilmember Griffiths stated the City hasn't had a need for its own health department and even with the pandemic it seems there isn't enough benefit to have a health department since Torrance would not be able to make its own decisions. He opined it is not worth the effort unless it is a more regional effort where the cost could be shared. He mentioned joking the beach cities should break off and form their own county, noting he is underestimating the amount of effort required to do something like that. Even if it was possible, he added it would probably have the higher likelihood of achieving the desired result as a separate county to be able to move more independently in the case of the pandemic than under the LA County guidelines. He concluded there is no reason as a city to individually look into becoming a public health department.

MOTION: Councilmember Mattucci moved to accept and file the public health department research and update and direct staff to bring back a report in approximately six months. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Goodrich and passed by 7-0 vote.

9D. RESOLUTION RE TRANSIT INTERCITY RAIL CAPITAL PROGRAM (TIRCP) FUNDS

Recommendation of the Transit Director that City Council:

- 1) Adopt a Resolution and approve a Master Agreement with the State of California Department of Transportation to receive Transit Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP) funds in the amount of \$6,000,000 for the purchase of zero-emission buses; and
- 2) Appropriate \$6,000,000 from TIRCP funds and local match of \$1,200,000 from Transit Municipal Operator Service Improvement Plan (MOSIP) funds upon receipt to a newly created Facility, Equipment, Automation Plan (FEAP) project for purchase of the vehicles.

Transit Manager James Lee reviewed the staff recommendation, adding the application submitted was one of 17 recommended for full funding of 45 applications received. A 20% local match is required for this project, bringing it to a total of \$7.2 million.

Mayor Furey commended staff for their work in getting the funding for this in such a short window of time.

Councilmember Goodrich echoed Mayor Furey's sentiments in securing funding and taking advantage of the grant.

MOTION: Councilmember Ashcraft moved to approve and adopt Resolution No. 2020-110 and appropriate \$6,000,000 from TIRCP funds and local match of \$1,200,000 from Transit Municipal Operator Service Improvement Plan. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Goodrich and passed by 7-0 vote.

11. AGENCY AGENDAS – None scheduled

12. SECOND READING ORDINANCES

12A. SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 3883

Second and Final reading of Ordinance No. 3883 amending Division 9 of the Torrance Municipal Code to reclassify a certain property in the City of Torrance located on the east side of Prairie Avenue approximately 100 feet north of 176th Street (APN: 4088-002-021) from C-R (Restricted Commercial District) to C3-PP (Solely Commercial – Precise Plan).

MOTION: Councilmember Chen moved to adopt Ordinance No. 3883. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Griffiths and passed by 6-1 vote, with Councilmember Mattucci voting no.

12B. SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 3884

Second and Final reading of Ordinance No. 3884 granting to California Water Service Company, a California Corporation, a franchise, to construct, lay, operate, test, maintain, use, renew, repair, replace, move, change the size and number of, and remove or abandon in place a system of pipelines and appurtenances, for the purpose of conducting, transporting, conveying and carrying water, on, along, in, under and across public streets, ways, alleys and places within the City of Torrance.

MOTION: Councilmember Goodrich moved to adopt Ordinance No. 3884. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Griffiths and passed by 7-0 vote.

13. CITY COUNCIL ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Councilmember Kalani, Councilmember Mattucci, Councilmember Ashcraft, Councilmember Chen, Councilmember Goodrich, Councilmember Griffiths, and Mayor Furey spoke.

Councilmember Goodrich announced last week he and staff met virtually with opun, a pandemic lifestyle management solution company that assists in reopening and maintaining social and economic activities for people, businesses, and governing entities. Their online database offers solutions such as streamlining the sharing of county protocols and updates by sector to help businesses and they are looking to the City to provide the opportunity to test their software out on a pilot program basis to gauge if it is something local residents and businesses will benefit from. Councilmember Goodrich requested concurrence for staff to continue to meet with opun to determine if their software offerings are compatible with Torrance's current interface and also reach out to partners such as the Chamber of Commerce to see if they too are interested. Staff will report back to Council with status updates on this project and determine if there's interest in moving further forward.

Councilmember Griffiths shared Torrance recently received Regional Housing Needs Allocations at close to 5x the city's previous allocations. He stated a study recently completed by the Embarcadero Institute makes a strong case that the housing needs were double counted and he provided the study to staff to look at. He received a letter signed by every single mayor in Orange County requesting an appeal of their RHNA allocations for their cities Councilmember Griffiths requested concurrence that staff work with all possible parties available in LA County to generate a similar letter with other mayors to appeal the RHNA numbers. He requested staff bring back an item to discuss in more detail the RHNA allocation for the benefit of the public and the details of the City's planned appeal of this allocation.

14. CLOSED SESSION


City Council recessed to Closed Session from 10:24 p.m. to 10:50 p.m.

15. ADJOURNMENT

At 10:51 p.m., the City Council adjourned to Tuesday, October 20, at 5:30 p.m. for closed session, with the regular meeting commencing at 7:00 p.m. In compliance with Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-29-20, which suspended portions of the Brown Act, members of the Torrance City Council and staff will participate in this meeting via teleconference and other electronic means in our continuing effort to practice social distancing to reduce the spread of COVID-19. Members of the public are encouraged to watch the meeting via CitiCABLE Channel 3 (Spectrum) and Channel 31 (Frontier), streaming on TorranceCA.Gov, Facebook @ City of Torrance CA Government, and YouTube Channel TorranceCitiCABLE. Tuesday, October 13, 2020 is a Council dark night.

MOTION: Councilmember Ashcraft moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Goodrich and passed by 7-0 vote.

Attest:



Rebecca Poirier
City Clerk of the City of Torrance



Mayor of the City of Torrance

Approved on October 27, 2020

