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TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL – OCTOBER 27, 2020

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At 9:27 p.m., the City Council adjourned to Tuesday, November 10, 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, November 3, 2020 is a Council dark night.

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Torrance City Council convened in a regular meeting on Tuesday, October 27, 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 I Peña 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) Threat To Public Services Or Facilities, 14B) Conference With Labor Negotiator, 14C) Conference With Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation, 14D) Real Property – Conference With Real Property Negotiator, and 14E) Conference With Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation pursuant to California Government Code §54957, California Government Code §54957.6, California Government Code §54956.9(d)(1), California Government Code §54956.8, and California Government Code §54956.9(d)(2).

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 Mattucci.

The non-sectarian invocation was given by Councilmember Ashcraft.

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

Deputy City Clerk I Peña reported that the agenda was posted on the Public Notice Board at 3031 Torrance Boulevard and on the City's website on Thursday, October 22, 2020.

MOTION: Councilmember Kalani 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 Ashcraft and passed by 7-0 vote.

4. WITHDRAWN, DEFERRED OR SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

No items were withdrawn or deferred. Supplemental material was available for items 9F and Oral Communications.

5. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilmember Kalani announced the Employee Relations and Public Safety Committee met virtually Monday October 26, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. for a Fire Department presentation on the basic life support ambulance program (BLS). The committee concurred with the department's recommendation and an item will come before Council before the end of the year.

Deputy City Clerk I Peña shared the locations for the 11-day vote centers in the area and that the 5-day Vote Centers will open on Friday, October 30, 2020. Residents can visit www.LAVote.net to locate a vote center and check wait times, locate a vote-by-mail ballot drop-off location, or track a ballot.

Fire Chief Serna announced the Torrance Refining Company monthly community alert siren testing will take place Wednesday, November 4, 2020 at 11:30 a.m. and more information is available by contacting (310) 212-1852.

Mayor Furey asked to adjourn the meeting in memory of Mary P. Miller, who passed away on September 29, 2020 at the age of 94.

6. COMMUNITY MATTERS

6A. RESOLUTION RE KYLE GOFFNEY

Resolution No. 2020-112 honoring Police Lieutenant Kyle Goffney upon his retirement from the City of Torrance after thirty years of service.

MOTION: Councilmember Griffiths moved to adopt Resolution No. 2020-112. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Chen and passed by 7-0 vote.

6B. RESOLUTION RE CHRISTIAAN ROOSEN

Resolution No. 2020-113 honoring Police Lieutenant Christiaan Roosen upon his retirement from the City of Torrance after twenty-five years of service.

MOTION: Councilmember Griffiths moved to adopt Resolution No. 2020-113. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Chen and passed by 7-0 vote.

6C. RESOLUTION RE JOSEPH GIETZEN

Resolution No. 2020-114 honoring Police Officer Joseph Gietzen upon his retirement from the City of Torrance after twenty years of service.

MOTION: Councilmember Griffiths moved to adopt Resolution No. 2020-114. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Ashcraft and passed by 7-0 vote.

6D. PROCLAMATION RE MILITARY VETERANS APPRECIATION WEEK

The proclamation declaring November 8-14, 2020 as Military Veterans Appreciation Week in the City of Torrance was virtually presented to Social Services Commissioner Deborah Bickford.

6E. PROCLAMATION RE TORRANCE EDUCATION FOUNDATION MONTH

The proclamation declaring November 2020 as Torrance Education Foundation Month in the City of Torrance was virtually accepted by TEF Executive Director Shireen Ossanlo.

6F. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE FROM SENATOR STEVEN BRADFORD

Senator Steven Bradford, representative for the 35th State Senate District, provided a legislative update.

7. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Members of the public spoke.

8. CONSENT CALENDAR

8A. APPROVE CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Recommendation of the City Clerk that City Council approve the City Council minutes of October 6, 2020.

MOTION: Councilmember Mattucci moved to approve the Consent Calendar in its entirety. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Griffiths 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 shared 20 businesses have secured financial assistance for outdoor setup through the Business Assistance Program. On October 23, the County announced personal care services may open for indoor services. He shared protocols for businesses that show sports games to reduce transmission. He touched on the expanded downtown antique street faire and approval of businesses for outdoor operations. He announced the County has issued guidance for celebrating holidays.

MOTION: Councilmember Kalani moved to accept and file the report for COVID-19. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Ashcraft and passed by 7-0 vote.

9B. RATIFICATION AND EXTENSION OF ADMINISTRATIVE ORDERS

Recommendation of the City Manager and City Attorney that City Council adopt a Resolution ratifying Administrative Orders by the City Manager issued from September 18, 2020 to October 22, 2020.

City Attorney Sullivan reviewed the staff recommendation, noting Attachment A should be included as Exhibit A as the resolution.

MOTION: Councilmember Griffiths moved to adopt Resolution No. 2020-115 with Attachment A included as part of the resolution. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Chen and passed by 7-0 vote.

9C. REVIEW AND DETERMINE NEED TO EXTEND LOCAL EMERGENCY RE COVID-19

Recommendation of the City Attorney and City Manager that City Council:

- 1) Review the need for extending the local emergency related to COVID-19 that was proclaimed on March 12, 2020; and
- 2) Adopt a Resolution extending the local emergency.

City Attorney Sullivan reviewed the staff recommendation.

MOTION: Councilmember Mattucci moved to adopt Resolution No. 2020-116. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Ashcraft and passed by 7-0 vote.

The City Council recessed from 8:41 p.m. to 8:46 p.m.

9D. UNDERGROUND CONDUIT LICENSE AGREEMENT FOR CITY CONDUIT INFRASTRUCTURE

Recommendation of the Public Works Director that City Council award a purchase order to Sully-Miller Contracting Company DBA Blue Diamond Materials of Brea, CA in an amount not-to-exceed \$2,750,000 (\$550,000 per year) for asphalt concrete, mixes, and SS1-1H emulsion (B2020-29), on an as-requested basis for a five (5) year period from October 20, 2020 to October 19, 2025.

Communications Manager Ernest Gallo reviewed the staff recommendation.

Councilmember Griffiths shared he has been looking forward to seeing this project happen for some time, adding the South Bay Cities Council of Governments (SBCCOG) has been instrumental in helping get the fiber put in place in the South Bay. He asked if another item will be brought forward when it is ready to connect to the network to secure a contract for the services.

Communications Manager Gallo responded separate from this agreement will be a standard service agreement for the internet service and based on the dollar amount it will not need to come back to Council. Responding to follow-up questions from Councilmember Griffiths, he explained currently the City has service with AT&T and Spectrum but will probably drop AT&T when this new service takes over. He furthered he does not have a firm timeline for City of Torrance deployment, but the contractor is eager to move forward and he expects within 30 days the fiber will be installed and there will be talks about turning on the service. Regarding overall South Bay network fiber installation, Communications Manager Gallo posited it will take the rest of the year to fully deploy and SBCCOG is putting out notices about eminent celebration of going live.

Councilmember Griffiths reiterated he is looking forward to benefitting from this and voiced his strong support for the Item.

MOTION: Councilmember Griffiths moved to concur with staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Goodrich and passed by 7-0 vote.

9E. RESOLUTION APPROVING GRANT FUNDS FOR MADRONA MARSH VERNAL POOL RESTORATION PROJECT

Recommendation of the Community Services Director that City Council adopt a Resolution approving grant funds from the California State Coastal Conservancy for the Madrona Marsh Vernal Pool Restoration Project.

Park Services Manager Tracy Drake reviewed the staff recommendation.

MOTION: Councilmember Goodrich moved to adopt Resolution No. 2020-117. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Ashcraft and passed by 7-0 vote.

9F. SAFETY MEASURES FOR 2020 SEASIDE RANCHOS HOLIDAY LIGHTS DISPLAY

Recommendation of the Citizen Development and Enrichment Committee that City Council approve the implementation of the following health and safety measures during the 2020 Seaside Ranchos Holiday Lights Display:

- 1) Place temporary "No Stopping" signs to restrict parking to allow for emergency vehicle access as requested by Seaside Ranchos Residents (Expense NTE \$600); and
- 2) Place 20 additional trash bins as was done in the 2019 Holiday Lights Display (Expense NTE \$924.76); and
- 3) Provide (2) illuminated light boards to assist with traffic control and to inform visitors of parking restrictions (Expense NTE \$3,231.19); and
- 4) Maintain informative webpage on City's website, to include information about COVID-19 protocols such as masks and social distancing; and
- 5) Direct Staff to return to City Council in the first quarter of 2021 to report on the 2020 display; and
- 6) Extend the one-year Pilot Program that was approved for the Seaside Ranchos neighborhood by City Council regarding Cottage Food Operations for one additional year.

Councilmember Griffiths introduced the Item.

Management Associate Katie Wand reviewed the committee recommendation.

Councilmember Mattucci inquired about putting restrictions on particular sides of Doris Way and Robert Road.

Management Associate Wand explained the residents asked for a change from the 2019 holiday lights display map between Linda Drive and Linda Drive on Doris Way and Robert Road. She stated the committee was willing to support the recommendation as long as the Fire Department didn't have any concern with it. Since the Fire Department can ensure emergency vehicle access is viable, they concurred with what residents had asked for during the committee meeting.

Councilmember Mattucci asserted it was supposed to be an effort to reduce confusion with a midblock change from one side to the other, noting he thought it was decided to go from the inside of the semi-circle to the outside of the semi-circle and keep restrictions on one side only.

Management Associate Wand stated staff will verify with the residents specifically what they are asking for and can work with Traffic and Engineering to address their concerns and to address the issue surrounding minimal parking.

Councilmember Mattucci stated the lights display is a beautiful thing but it has grown and created issues with quality of life, trash, traffic, and noise. He concluded the feedback from residents is vital to ensure going forward the programs put together are palatable and he shared his support of the recommendation.

Councilmember Chen noted last year was the pilot program so this year the committee blended in lessons learned from resident feedback. He inquired about suspension of parking enforcement related to street sweeping due to COVID and asked if parking violations were enforced last year and with parking enforcement easing up, if residents will be allowed to park or will receive fines.

Management Associate Wand confirmed in 2019 parking citations were issued by the Police Department and they towed vehicles that were non-compliant to ensure safety vehicles could get through in case of an emergency. She explained these no stopping signs are different than the street sweeping violations and are enforceable by the Police Department as they did last year. She confirmed there is no modification to no parking zones.

Councilmember Chen asked if the committee discussed if the neighborhood may be considering some kind of foundation to reimburse the City for these additional expenses since this isn't a City event.

Management Associate Wand responded the committee did not discuss that potential and the Seaside Neighborhood Association did not bring such a proposal forward. As this is annual neighborhood coordinated lights display, she added the association has same perspective that each homeowner can decide to decorate or not decorate. She stated she is unsure if they have ever explored the potential of some kind of funding for reimbursement, but if directed by Council staff can bring the idea to the neighborhood association.

MOTION: Councilmember Mattucci moved to approve the recommendation of the committee and staff for items #1-6. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Ashcraft and passed by 7-0 vote.

9G. THIRD AMENDMENT TO CONTRACT SERVICES AGREEMENTS FOR TORRANCE COMMUNITY TRANSIT PROGRAM

Recommendation of the Transit Director that City Council approve the third amendment to contract services agreements to extend the term date to December 31, 2020 for the taxi companies that provide service for the Torrance Community Transit Program (Senior Taxi and Disabled Dial-A-Taxi):

- 1) Administrative Services Co-Op dba South Bay Yellow Cab and United Checker Cab Co-Op of Gardena, CA (C2016-010); and
- 2) All Yellow Taxi, Incorporated of Gardena, CA (C2016-011); and
- 3) Bell Cab Company of Hawthorne, CA (C2016-012); and
- 4) Approve payment to the TCTP vendors for services rendered to date after the initial contract expiration totaling \$343,526.73.

Transit Manager James Lee reviewed the staff recommendation.

Councilmember Mattucci asked if there are programs similar to this that would apply to veterans that live in the city.

Transit Manager Lee stated not presently, and explained staff has studied it and is trying to figure out the eligibility requirements for it as well as any sort of fare infrastructure. He confirmed staff is still researching it with the Feds and will get back to Council shortly.

Councilmember Mattucci expressed he would like to see staff come back with VA funding or a source of funding that would help veterans.

MOTION: Councilmember Mattucci moved to approve the third amendment to the agreements with the taxi companies. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Goodrich and passed by 7-0 vote.

10. **HEARINGS** – None scheduled

11. **AGENCY AGENDAS** – None scheduled

12. **SECOND READING ORDINANCES**

12A. **SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 3886**

Second and Final reading of Ordinance No. 3886 approving the addition of Exhibit A-1 to an existing franchise Ordinance No. 3722 reflecting an additional 214 feet of pipeline and a new 10' x 16' underground vault to be located on Maple Avenue north of Sepulveda Boulevard within the City of Torrance.

MOTION: Councilmember Chen moved to adopt Ordinance No. 3886. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Kalani and passed by 7-0 vote.

12B. **SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 3887**

Second and Final reading of Ordinance No. 3887 approving the addition of Exhibit A-2 to an existing franchise Ordinance No. 3723 reflecting an additional 305 feet of pipeline to be located along Sepulveda Boulevard and Maple Avenue within the City of Torrance.

MOTION: Councilmember Chen moved to adopt Ordinance No. 3887. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Kalani and passed by 7-0 vote.

13. **CITY COUNCIL ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

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

Councilmember Goodrich requested concurrence for staff to bring back an item within 90 days to seek Council direction regarding the creation of an Ad Hoc Technology Committee to identify best strategies to attract and support tech businesses, formalize specific strategies to attract and retain tech businesses, develop tools to market Torrance tech business recruitment efforts and community strengths, and foster relationships among tech companies.

14. **CLOSED SESSION**

Considered earlier, see page 1.

15. ADJOURNMENT

At 9:27 p.m., the City Council adjourned to Tuesday, November 10, 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, November 3, 2020 is a Council dark night.

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

Attest:



Rebecca Poirier
City Clerk of the City of Torrance



Mayor of the City of Torrance

Approved on November 10, 2020