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**TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL – SEPTEMBER 20, 2016**

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At 10:22 p.m., the City Council adjourned to Tuesday, September 27, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. for a joint meeting with the Torrance Library Commission in the Katy Geissert Civic Center meeting room, 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 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, September 20, 2016 in the Council Chamber at Torrance City Hall.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Councilmembers Ashcraft, Goodrich, Griffiths, Herring, Rizzo, Weideman and Mayor Furey.

Absent: None.

Present: City Manager Jackson, Assistant City Manager Giordano, City Attorney Fellows, City Clerk Poirier 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) Conference with Labor Negotiator pursuant to California Government Code § 54957.6.

The City Council reconvened at 7:00 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 Councilmember Rizzo.

The non-sectarian invocation was given by Councilmember Weideman.

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

City Clerk Poirier reported that the agenda was posted on the Public Notice Board at 3031 Torrance Boulevard and on the City's website on Thursday, September 15, 2016.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Ashcraft 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 Goodrich and passed by unanimous vote.

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 WITHDRAWN, DEFERRED OR SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS**

Item 9E was continued to a later date; supplemental material was available for Item 10A; Item 9G was revised to correct scrivener's errors.

**5. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Councilmember Herring announced that the League of Women Voters of Torrance will host a debate on Proposition 64 – Marijuana Legalization on Wednesday, October 5, 2016 from 7:00-9:00 p.m. at the George Nakano Theatre.

Councilmember Ashcraft reported on the successful Coastal Cleanup Day on Saturday, September 17, 2016 at Torrance Beach and thanked all who participated.

Councilmember Griffiths announced that the City Clerk's office is accepting applications for the Civil Service Commission, noting that applicants must have completed a two-hour Commissioner Certification Training class and be an elector of the City of Torrance to apply and applications are due by Tuesday, September 27, on or before 5:00 p.m.

City Clerk Poirier announced that the Los Angeles County Registrar/Recorder/County Clerk is seeking poll workers for the November 8 Presidential Election who are fluent in Japanese and Korean and interested parties may contact the County Clerk at 800-815-2666, Option 7 or register online at [www.LAvote.net](http://www.LAvote.net).

City Clerk Poirier announced that a Vote-by-Mail Drop-Off Box will be located in the Office of the City Clerk from October 11, 2016 through November 7, 2016.

**6. COMMUNITY MATTERS**

**6A. UPDATE ON URBAN COYOTE MANAGEMENT PLAN**

Police Captain Vukotic provided an update on the Urban Coyote Management Plan; reviewed community outreach efforts; and shared an informational video prepared to help educate the public about coyotes.

Karen K. Fitch urged people to make adjustments to safely co-exist with coyotes.

Tammy Kirkpatrick, principal of First Lutheran Church and School, reported on recent incidents involving coyotes on church/school property and expressed concerns about the danger posed to students and the surrounding neighborhood.

Sarah Wiltfong, representing Assemblyman David Hadley, read a statement on his behalf.

Loretta Calas expressed concerns about coyote incidents in the Riviera area and urged that signage be installed in the neighborhood to educate residents about this issue.

Tom Bryant offered suggestions for data to be included on the City's website regarding the coyote issue.

Kevin Lenton expressed concerns that overflowing trash at Lago Seco Park may be contributing to the coyote problem.

Jane Knauss urged the City to use social media to raise public awareness about this issue.

Michelle Moreno recommended that warning signs be posted at Greenwood Park and expressed concerns about coyote scat in this area that could be hazardous to people and pets.

Pamela Mauk related her experience that dog owners are not aware of the coyote problem in Torrance and recommended that informational signs be posted at places dog owners frequent, such as Torrance Beach and dog parks.

Samantha Stout expressed concerns that she can no longer walk her dog or allow the dog to be in the yard unsupervised due to the threat posed by coyotes and urged that more be done to remove them from the area.

Councilmember Goodrich related his understanding that the City was not recommending that people stop walking their dogs.

Police Chief Matusda reviewed the recommended guidelines for dog walking in areas where coyotes have been observed.

In response to Councilmember Griffiths' inquiry, Police Captain Vukotic provided information regarding new mapping applications that will soon be available on the City's website and Police Chief Matsuda reported on the status of trapping activities.

Councilmember Rizzo recommended that staff investigate the possibility that coyotes are inhabiting the Bishop Montgomery sump because incidents are increasing in the Southwood area and contact the City of Redondo Beach regarding the potential that there are coyotes at Wilderness Park.

**7. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #1**

The following 3 people spoke: Linda McGonegal, Janet Payne, and Debbie Hayes.

**8. CONSENT CALENDAR**

**8A. PROPOSED CLASS SPECIFICATIONS FOR LICENSE SUPERVISOR AND BUYER**

Recommendation of the Human Resources Administrator that City Council approve the proposed class specifications for License Supervisor and Buyer.

**8B. PAYMENT FOR EMERGENCY SEWER LINE REPAIR**

Recommendation of the Public Works Director that City Council authorize payment to Clarke Contracting Corporation of Lawndale, CA in the amount of \$56,855.99 for the emergency repair of a sewer line on Gramercy Place.

**8C. FEE AGREEMENT FOR LEGAL SERVICES**

Recommendation of the City Attorney that City Council:

- 1) Approve a fee agreement with Liebert Cassidy Whitmore of Los Angeles, CA in the amount of \$100,000 to provide legal services pertaining to the civil service appeal of personnel matter #A15-000779, and;
- 2) Appropriate \$100,000 from the Self-Insurance Reserve Fund.

**8D. PURCHASE ORDER FOR RENEWAL OF VIRTUALIZATION SOFTWARE LICENSES AND SUPPORT**

Recommendation of the Communications and Information Technology Director that City Council authorize a purchase order with vCloud Tech of Rolling Hills, CA for an amount not to exceed \$147,377.81 (including \$30,000 for upcoming software renewals) for VMWare software licenses and support for virtual servers and desktops.

**8E. PURCHASE ORDER FOR TELECOMMUNICATIONS TIME AND MATERIALS SUPPORT**

Recommendation of the Communications and Information Technology Director that City Council authorize a purchase order with Digital Telecommunications Company of Santa Clarita, CA in the amount of \$4,000 for telecommunications time and materials support.

**8F. MAINTENANCE SERVICE AGREEMENT RE PUBLIC SAFETY DISPATCH CONSOLES**

Recommendation of the Communications and Information Technology Director that City Council approve the purchase of an annual maintenance service agreement with Motorola Solutions of Schaumburg, IL in the amount of \$64,999.92 for public safety dispatch consoles from October 1, 2016 to September 30, 2017.

**8G. CHANGE ORDER RE MAINTENANCE OF COLOR COPIER**

Recommendation of the General Services Director that City Council authorize a change order to purchase order 2016-00000197 with Canon Solutions of Gardena, CA to provide additional maintenance for a Canon Image Press C800 color copier for the remaining 46 months of the maintenance term through 6/30/20. This change order will increase the amount of the purchase order by \$76,000 to a new not-to-exceed total of \$181,000.

**8H. AGREEMENT FOR BID SUPPORT SERVICES RE NORTH TORRANCE WELL FIELD PROJECT**

Recommendation of the Public Works Director that City Council award a sole source consulting services agreement to AECOM Technical Services, Inc. of Long Beach CA, in the amount not to exceed \$69,897 to perform bid support services for the design/build process for the North Torrance Well Field Project, I-108 (Phase 3) for a two-year period beginning September 20, 2016 and ending September 19, 2018.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Rizzo moved for the approval of Consent Calendar Items 8A through 8H. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Griffiths and passed by 7-0 vote.

**9. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

**9A. RESOLUTION IMPLEMENTING PAY RANGES FOR BUYER AND LICENSE SUPERVISOR**

Recommendation of the City Manager that City Council adopt a Resolution pursuant to a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) amending Resolution No. 2014-26 setting forth changes regarding wages, and working conditions for employees represented by Torrance Professional and Supervisory Association (TPSA) by modifying the compensation section to implement the pay ranges for Buyer and License Supervisor.

Human Resources Manager Lawrence reviewed the staff recommendation, noting that this was a companion item to Consent Calendar Item 8A.

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

**MOTION:** Councilmember Weideman moved to adopt Resolution No. 2016-82. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Herring and passed by 7-0 vote.

**9B. CONFIRMATION OF CITY COUNCIL'S POSITION ON PROPOSITION 57**

Recommendation of the City Manager that Councilman Goodrich confirm the City's position on Proposition 57 at the League of California Cities Annual Conference to be held from October 5 through October 7, 2016 in Long Beach, CA.

Management Associate Jones reviewed the staff recommendation.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Ashcraft moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Weideman and passed by 7-0 vote.

**9C. RESOLUTION RE VANTAGECARE RETIREMENT HEALTH SAVINGS PLAN**

Recommendation of the City Treasurer that City Council approve and adopt a Resolution relating to the Vantagecare Retirement Health Savings (RHS) Program.

Jonathan Palfi, City Treasurer's office, reviewed the staff recommendation.

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

**MOTION:** Councilmember Weideman moved to adopt Resolution No. 2016-83. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Herring and passed by 7-0 vote.

**9D. AUTHORIZATION TO REFINANCE 2009 CERTIFICATES OF PARTICIPATION**

Recommendation of the Finance Director that City Council authorize the City Manager to move forward with the refinancing of the City's 2009 Certificates of Participation, extending the term to 30 years.

Finance Director Tsao reviewed the options for refinancing the City's 2009 Certificates of Participation (COPs). He reported that staff was recommending Option 3, which would extend the term of the COPs for 7 years and generate \$6.25 million in new project funds, and these funds would be used for the construction/equipping of an Emergency Operations Center (\$3-3.5 million) with the remainder to be used to prefund pension obligations.

Councilmember Weideman, Councilmember Griffiths, Councilmember Herring and Councilmember Goodrich voiced support for Option 3.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Ashcraft moved to concur with the staff recommendation of Option 3. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Weideman and passed by 7-0 vote.

**9E. SETTING OF DATE FOR PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED INCREASES IN WASTEWATER DISCHARGE RATES**

Recommendation of the Public Works Director that City Council set a date of November 15, 2016 for a public hearing on a proposed series of annual increases in the wastewater (sewer) discharge rate to cover increases in operating and maintenance costs, fund infrastructure replacements, and to provide for an adequate level of financial reserves.

Item was continued to a later date.

**9F. APPROPRIATION OF PROPOSITION 84 INTEGRATED WATER MANAGEMENT GRANT FUNDS FOR NORTH TORRANCE WELL FIELD PROJECT**

Recommendation of the Public Works Director that City Council:

- 1) Approve a Memorandum of Understanding with the Los Angeles County Flood Control District that establishes the terms and conditions for them to perform administrative services for a not-to-exceed cost of \$76,707.63 (2.5% of grant) related to a \$3,068,304.99 grant from the Proposition 84 Integrated Regional Water Management Grant Program for the City of Torrance's North Torrance Well Field Project, I-108 (Phase III). The cost for the administrative services will be deducted from the City's grant amount; and
- 2) Upon approval of the Memorandum of Understanding with the Los Angeles County Flood Control District, appropriate \$2,991,597.36 Proposition 84 Grant funds to North Torrance Well Field Project, I-108 (\$3,068,304.99 grant less the administrative services of \$76,707.63) for a new not to exceed project cost of \$12,062,168.36.

Project Manager Dettle reviewed the staff recommendation.

Councilmember Weideman commented positively on the project.

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

**9G. STATUS REPORT ON CITY PROJECT PROPOSALS TO SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT**

Recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council propose three projects in response to the Request for Proposal issued by SCAQMD Board on September 2, 2016 funded from fines levied against ExxonMobil stemming from a 2015 explosion at the facility, of which a portion of the fines in the amount of \$2,771,250 was allocated to community benefit projects, as follows:

- 1) Enhanced integrated Community alarm/notification system; and
- 2) Offsite real time air quality monitoring system available to the public; and
- 3) Broad shelter-in-place air quality emergency preparedness community training.

Assistant to the City Manager Chaparyan reviewed the staff recommendation.

Councilmember Weideman asked if the items should be prioritized since \$2.7 million may not cover all of them.

City Manager Jackson advised that staff would like to develop proposals for all three items for consideration by SCAQMD.

Deputy Police Chief Anderson reported that staff is working with the current vendor to develop a proposal for an integrated siren/community notification/air quality monitoring system by expanding the existing Torrance Alerts system.

In response to Councilmember Herring's inquiry, City Manager Jackson clarified that other vendors will be able to submit proposals for these projects directly to the SCAQMD.

Councilmember Rizzo stressed the need to get more people in the community to sign up for the Torrance Alerts system if that is going to be the basis for an integrated system.

Deputy Police Chief Anderson explained that in addition to the voluntary opt-in portion of the Torrance Alerts system, there is an emergency override that sends alerts to cellphones and televisions.

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

The City Council recessed from 8:50 p.m. to 9:02 p.m.

## 10. HEARINGS

### 10A. PRE15-00022: 410 VIA SAN SEBASTIAN – NAGY BAKHOUM (TINA AND BLAKE SATHOFF)

Recommendation of the Planning Commission that City Council Deny the Appeal and take the following action on property located in the Hillside Overlay District within the R-1 Zone at 410 Via San Sebastian. 1) Adopt a Resolution denying without Prejudice PRE15-00022.  
– OR –

Recommendation of the Community Development Director that City Council Grant the Appeal and take the following action, on property located within the Hillside Overlay District in the R-1 Zone at 410 Via San Sebastian. 1) Adopt a Resolution approving PRE15-00022.

Mayor Furey announced that this was the time and place for a public hearing on this matter. City Clerk Poirier confirmed that the hearing was properly advertised.

With the aid of slides, Planning Manager Lodan briefly reviewed the proposed project and shared photos taken from various vantage points in the neighborhood. He reported that since the Planning Commission denied the project on February 17, 2016, significant revisions have been made to address privacy and view impacts and it is now a one-story structure instead of a two-story structure. He noted that supplemental material contains documents from the resident at 416 San Sebastian indicating that she no longer opposes the project and from the applicant agreeing to certain revisions to gain this resident's support.

In response to Councilmember Weideman's inquiry, Planning Manager Lodan reported that only one of the items agreed to by the applicant to gain the support of the neighbor at 416 San Sebastian has been included as a condition of approval and confirmed that the other items could be added to the resolution.

Councilmember Herring disclosed that he was serving on the Planning Commission at the time this project was considered in February 2016.



City Attorney Fellows advised that Councilmember Herring may participate in this hearing because this project is significantly different than the project considered by the Planning Commission.

Councilmember Griffiths disclosed that he visited the location, spoke to the neighbor at 416 Via San Sebastian, and viewed the impact from 415 Via San Sebastian. Mayor Furey disclosed that he visited the site and walked the neighborhood, but did not speak with anyone. Councilmember Ashcraft disclosed that she drove the area, but spoke to no one.

Nagy Bakhoun, project architect, reviewed revisions that were made to the project to mitigate the impact on the various view corridors over this property, using slides to illustrate.

Mayor Furey invited public comment.

Bryan Tsunoda, 419 Via San Sebastian, expressed concerns about the proposed project's impact on the view from his kitchen and master bedroom, submitting photos to illustrate. He noted that when he expanded his kitchen, he was careful to avoid impacting anyone's view.

Councilmember Goodrich stated that according to the photos submitted, it appears that a fairly significant portion of blue water view will be blocked by the project and questioned why staff has recommended approval.

Planning Manager Lodan responded that based on the totality of views in this neighborhood and the areas in which the applicant could add square footage, staff believes the proposed project represents the least intrusion on views.

Mr. Bakhoun noted that the project was revised to reduce the impact on Mr. Tsunoda's view corridor and related his belief that everything possible had been done to mitigate the impact on neighbors' views.

In response to Councilmember Goodrich's inquiry, Planning Manager Lodan estimated that approximately 200 square feet would have to be eliminated from the project to restore Mr. Tsunoda's blue water view.

Blake Sathoff, applicant/owner of the subject property, along with his wife Tina, explained that this project has been in the works for two years and it has been scaled down considerably to gain the support of immediate neighbors.

Returning to the podium, Mr. Tsunoda provided clarification regarding the location from which the photos he submitted were taken and estimated that he would lose 20% of the view from his master bedroom and 40-50% of the view from his kitchen.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Rizzo moved to close the public hearing. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Weideman and passed by 7-0 vote.

Councilmember Weideman indicated that he could not support the project due to the impact on Mr. Tsunoda's view.

Councilmember Goodrich acknowledged that the applicants have spent a lot of time and money trying to mitigate the project's impact, but stated that he could not support it unless Mr. Tsunoda's blue water view is restored.

Councilmember Griffiths reported that the photos submitted by Mr. Tsunoda accurately represent what he observed and that he believes there's a similar view blockage at 415 Via San Sebastian therefore he could not support the project.

Councilmember Rizzo voiced his opinion that a property owner is not guaranteed that there will be no view blockage from all points within their home and stressed the need for compromise. He related his belief that the view blockage in Mr. Tsunoda's master bedroom was not that detrimental since he will still have a significant view. Expressing support for the project, he stated that he believes it has been designed to have as little impact as possible and that it will add to the quality and character of the neighborhood.

Councilmember Ashcraft noted her agreement with Councilmember Rizzo's remarks and related her belief that the Hillside Ordinance is flawed because it does not define the areas from which views are protected. She expressed support for the project, voicing her opinion that it will fit into the neighborhood very well and that the view impact is not significant given the totality of Mr. Tsunoda's view.

Mayor Furey indicated that he could not support the project unless the impact on Mr. Tsunoda's view is at least partially remediated. He called for a brief recess so the applicants and the architect could discuss the possibility of continuing the hearing.

The City Council recessed from 9:54 to 9:58 p.m.

Mr. Bakhoun requested that the public hearing be reopened so he could comment.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Weideman moved to reopen the public hearing. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Ashcraft and passed by 7-0 vote.

Mr. Bakhoun related his understanding that the window in Mr. Tsunoda's kitchen was added when he expanded his home and therefore the view is not protected according to the Hillside Ordinance.

Mr. Tsunoda explained that when he expanded his kitchen, he kept the window in the same location and just extended the kitchen wall 6 feet into the backyard.

Councilmember Weideman voiced his opinion that Mr. Tsunoda's view should be protected regardless of whether or not it was acquired through remodeling.

Councilmember Goodrich noted that he and other Councilmembers were also concerned about view impact in Mr. Tsunoda's master bedroom.

Mr. Bakhoun proposed eliminating a 6'9" x 15'4" alcove in the living room to address the view blockage, referring to the plans to illustrate.

After reviewing the proposed revision, Mr. Tsunoda stated that he agreed with it in principle and it looks like it would work, but noted that it would be easier for him to assess the impact if the project is re-silhouetted.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Rizzo moved to close the public hearing. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Weideman and passed by 7-0 vote.

Councilmember Weideman indicated that he was inclined to continue the hearing so the project could be re-silhouetted to reflect the proposed revision.

Councilmember Ashcraft expressed support for the project as revised.

Councilmember Herring also expressed support for the project as revised, noting that the project is much different than the one denied by the Planning Commission and the applicants have made a great effort to work with their neighbors.

Councilmember Griffiths voiced his opinion that Mr. Bakhoum's proposal was a good compromise because it would eliminate the area that was blocking views and indicated that while he would prefer to see it re-silhouetted, he would support the project as revised.

Councilmember Goodrich reported that he would also prefer to see the project re-silhouetted, but would vote to approve it this evening due to the time and expense involved in re-silhouetting and because Mr. Tsunoda indicated that he thought the proposed revision was workable.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Rizzo moved to grant the appeal and approve PRE15-00002, with the following added conditions:

**Add**

- That the southern property line fence shall be constructed as specified in supplemental material;
- That a landscaping plan shall be submitted to the Community Development Department to the satisfaction of the Community Development Director;
- That the 6'9" x 15'4" alcove in the northeast corner of the living room shall be eliminated to the satisfaction of the Community Development Director.

The motion was seconded by Councilmember Ashcraft and passed by 7-0 vote.

*Resolution to be brought back at a later date.*

11. **APPEALS** – None scheduled.

12. **SECOND READING ORDINANCES** – None scheduled.

13. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #2**

Councilmember Weideman requested that staff provide an update on improvements to the community alert/siren system.

Councilmember Ashcraft requested an excused absence for the next Council meeting.

Councilmember Griffiths, with the concurrence of Council, requested that staff bring forward an item to consider waiving the fees for the rental of the Nakano Theatre on October 13, 2016 for a town hall meeting on homelessness hosted by the Southern California Association of Governments in conjunction with the offices of Assemblyman David Hadley and Senator Ben Allen.

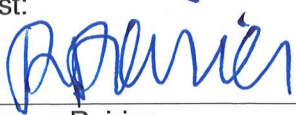
14. **CLOSED SESSION**

Considered earlier, see page 1.

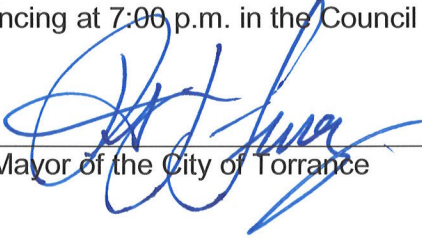
15. **ADJOURNMENT**

At 10:22 p.m., the City Council adjourned to Tuesday, September 27, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. for a joint meeting with the Torrance Library Commission in the Katy Geissert Civic Center meeting room, with the regular meeting commencing at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber.

Attest:



\_\_\_\_\_  
Rebecca Poirier  
City Clerk of the City of Torrance

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor of the City of Torrance

Approved on October 18, 2016