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TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL – MARCH 18, 2014

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At 8:20 p.m., the meeting was adjourned to Tuesday, March 25, 2014 at 5:30 p.m. for an executive session, with regular business commencing at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber.

March 18, 2014

**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 5:32 p.m. on Tuesday, March 18, 2014 in the Council Chamber at Torrance City Hall.

ROLL CALL

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

Absent: None.

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

Agenda Item 18 was considered out of order at this time.

18. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The City Council immediately recessed to closed session to confer with the City Manager and the City Attorney on agenda matters listed under 18A) Conference with Labor Negotiator and 18B) Real Property – Conference with Real Property Negotiator, pursuant to California Government Code §54957.6 and §54956.8.

The City Council reconvened at 7:03 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 Water Commissioner Linden Nishinaga.

The non-sectarian invocation was given by Councilmember Ashcraft.

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

City Clerk Herbers reported that the agenda was posted on the Public Notice Board at 3031 Torrance Boulevard on Friday, March 14, 2014.

MOTION: Councilmember Brewer moved that after the City Clerk has read aloud the number and title to any resolution or ordinance on the meeting agenda, the further reading thereof shall be waived, reserving and guaranteeing to each Councilmember the right to demand the reading of any such resolution or ordinance in regular order. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Barnett and passed by unanimous vote.

4. WITHDRAWN, DEFERRED OR SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

No items were withdrawn or deferred; supplemental material was available for Item 12A.

5. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

City Clerk Herbers announced that www.TorranceVotes.org has launched with full information on all aspects of the election to be held on June 3, 2014, including candidate statements, ballot designations, bios, signed ethics statements, financial statements and campaign finance filings. She noted that the website also features links to the Los Angeles County Registrar regarding registration and Vote-by-Mail ballots, information about candidate forums, and provides an opportunity to ask questions on anything not covered.

City Clerk Herbers announced that reservations for a free Commissioner Certification Training class to be held on Thursday, April 24 at 6:00 p.m. are available online at www.TorranceCA.gov/CommissionerCert.htm. She noted that this class is required to apply for appointment to any of the City's ten commission or boards.

Mayor Scotto announced that the ribbon cutting ceremony for the 555 Maple Avenue Multi-Use Sports Fields will be held on Wednesday, March 26, at 4:30 p.m. He noted that there was still time to make a contribution to the sports fields and be listed on the donor wall, with additional information available at 310.618.2930.

Councilmember Sutherland reported that the Ad Hoc Committee formed to develop a regional funding strategy for the Southern California Regional Occupation Center held an exploratory meeting at 4:00 p.m.

6. COMMUNITY MATTERS

6A. ACCEPTANCE/APPROPRIATION OF DONATIONS FOR 555 MAPLE AVENUE MULTI-USE SPORTS FIELDS

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Community Services Director that City Council accept and appropriate \$34,250 in donations to FEAP #879 – 555 Maple Avenue Field Equipment and Donor Wall Project for the purchase of startup materials

Sr. Business Manager Minter reported that the \$34,250 represents sponsorships received since February 25, 2014.

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

6B. PRESENTATION BY METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT BOARD DIRECTOR

Metropolitan Water District Board Director Russell Lefevre gave a presentation on Sacramento Bay-Delta water issues and the current drought situation.

7. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #1

7A. Joel Massa, South Bay Bocce Courts Project, announced that a fundraiser/bocce ball tournament will be held on Saturday, March 22, at 9:00 a.m. at Hawthorne Memorial Park, which will include a raffle and prizes.

7B. Trisha Murakawa, Public Works Department consultant, announced that there will be a public meeting on the Machado Lake Trash TMDL Project on Thursday, March 27, at 7:00 p.m. at the Madrona Marsh Nature Center.

7C. Mike Griffiths, Torrance, reported that over \$621,000 was raised during the South Bay YMCA's annual fundraising campaign to be used for various programs, including financial assistance for summer camps and after-school programs.

7D. Lloyd Brown, Torrance, expressed concerns about uncomfortable chairs in the Council Chamber and requested that audience members be allowed to bring in water bottles.

7E. Mark Stephenson, Torrance, contended that actuarial projections provided in a recent presentation on CalPERS rates were inaccurate and seriously underestimate the cost of pensions to Torrance taxpayers.

8. CONSENT CALENDAR

8A. PURCHASE ORDER FOR DODGE RAM CHASSIS CAB WITH STAKEBED BODY

Recommendation

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

- 1) Authorize a purchase order to Crown Dodge of Ventura, CA in the amount of \$49,786.01 (including sales tax) for the purchase of one (1) model year 2014 Dodge RAM 4500 chassis cab with Harbor Truck stakebed body HTFB14496; and
- 2) Transfer \$5,863.36 from the Public Works Sanitation operating budget to the Fleet Vehicle Replacement Fund.

8B. PURCHASE ORDER FOR FORD CHASSIS CAB WITH CTEC UTILITY BODY

Recommendation

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

- 1) Authorize a purchase order to Wondries Fleet Group of Alhambra, CA in the amount of \$60,467.78 (including sales tax) for the purchase of one (1) model year 2015 Ford F-350 chassis cab with CTEC utility body 10438-VFT/HCT-79; and
- 2) Transfer \$3,988.27 from the Public Works Painting & Signs operating budget to the Fleet Vehicle Replacement Fund.

8C. PREPARATION OF CONTAMINATED SEDIMENT MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR DOMINGUEZ CHANNEL

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Public Works Director that City Council authorize the Mayor to sign a Letter of Intent for the City of Torrance to enter into a cooperative funding agreement with Los Angeles County for the County to prepare a Contaminated Sediment Management Plan for compliance with the new National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit for cities and County of Los Angeles.

MOTION: Councilmember Brewer moved for the approval of Consent Calendar Items 8A through 8C. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Barnett and passed by unanimous vote.

12. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

12A. ISSUANCE OF 2014 COPS/ FINANCING OF WATERIMPROVEMENTS

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Finance Director that Council adopt a Resolution approving, authorizing and directing the issuance of 2014 Certificates of Participation in the amount not to exceed \$45,000,000 and adopt a Resolution memorializing the financing of capital projects for the City Water Enterprise Fund and repayment.

Finance Director Tsao briefly reviewed the proposal to refinance 2004 Certificates of Participation (COPS), which would reduce the annual debt service by approximately \$180,000 and extend the final maturity to June 1, 2044. He noted that the extended term is expected to generate approximately \$6,900,000 in project funds for the water system to be paid back to the City's General Fund from Water Enterprise Fund revenues.

Mark Stephenson, Torrance, requested clarification regarding the refinancing process and associated documents, which was provided by Bill Madison, Jones Hall, the City's legal counsel for bond financing.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 2014-31

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE APPROVING, AUTHORIZING, AND DIRECTING EXECUTION OF CERTAIN LEASE FINANCING DOCUMENTS, APPROVING SALE OF CERTIFICATES OF PARTICIPATION, APPROVING A PRELIMINARY OFFICAL STATEMENT, AND AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING CERTAIN ACTIONS WITH RESPECT THERETO

MOTION: Councilmember Weideman moved to adopt Resolution No. 2014-31. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Furey and passed by unanimous vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 2014-32

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE MEMORIALIZING THE FINANCING OF A CAPITAL PROJECT FOR THE CITY'S WATER ENTERPRISE THROUGH A GENERAL FUND CERTIFICATE OF PARTICIPATION FINANCING, AND THE OBLIGATION OF THE CITY'S WATER ENTERPRISE FUND TO PAY OR REIMBURSE THE CITY'S GENERAL FUND FOR ALL COSTS OF SUCH PROJECT ADVANCED OR TO BE ADVANCED BY THE CITY'S GENERAL FUND

MOTION: Councilmember Weideman moved to adopt Resolution No. 2014-32. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Furey and passed by unanimous vote.

12B. OPPOSITION TO STATE ASSEMBLY BILL AB2189

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Water Commission and Public Works Director that City Council adopt a position in opposition to proposed State Assembly Bill 2189 (Garcia) that would negatively impact the current methodology for setting groundwater replenishment assessments (RA) in the local groundwater basins.

Public Works Director Beste provided background information about Assembly Bill 2189 and discussed the negative impact it would have on the City's water rates.

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

12C. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING LEVEL 1 WATER SUPPLY SHORTAGE AND IMPLEMENTATION OF ENHANCED WATER CONSERVATION MEASURES

Recommendation

Recommendation of Water Commission and Public Works Director that City Council:

1) Adopt a Resolution authorizing the activation of a Level 1 Water Supply Shortage Condition in accordance with Section 76.4.070 of the Torrance Municipal Code – Water Conservation Program; and

2) Authorize the implementation of enhanced water conservation measures.

The activation of the Level 1 shortage condition would increase current mandatory measures by prohibiting outdoor watering from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., limiting outdoor watering to three days per week and requiring that all leaks be repaired within seven days.

Sr. Administrative Analyst Schaich reported that staff was recommending the activation of a Level 1 Water Supply Shortage Condition and the implementation of enhanced water conservation measures due to the statewide drought. He noted that public outreach efforts will be expanded to inform residents about restrictions, as well as incentives and rebate programs.

Responding to questions from the Council, Sr. Administrative Analyst Schaich confirmed that allowances will be made for areas of the City where more frequent outdoor watering is necessary due to expansive soils.

Councilmember Weideman commented positively on the City's efforts to encourage water conservation at a time when other South Bay cities have yet to do so.

Leilani Kimmel-Dagastino, Torrance, requested clarification regarding the two different water companies serving Torrance, which was provided by Public Works Director Beste.

Clint Paulson, Torrance, expressed concerns that the proposed resolution does not specifically exempt residents in expansive soil areas.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 2014-33

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE
REPEALING RESOLUTION NO. 2011-63 AND ACTIVATING THE LEVEL 1 WATER
SHORTAGE CONDITION IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTIONS 76.4.070 AND
76.4.100 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE

MOTION: Councilmember Weideman moved to adopt Resolution No. 2014-33. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Furey and passed by unanimous vote.

12D. RESOLUTION REAFFIRMING SUPPORT OF PROPOSITION 13

Recommendation

Recommendation of the City Council Ad Hoc State Legislative Advocacy Committee and concurred by City Council at the March 4, 2014 meeting that City Council adopt a Resolution reaffirming support of Proposition 13 pertaining to property tax assessment.

Mayor Scotto stated that the proposed resolution reaffirms the City's support for Proposition 13 in its present form so there will be no increase in property taxes for residents or businesses.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 2014-34

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE
TO REAFFIRM SUPPORT FOR PROPOSITION 13 PERTAINING TO PROPERTY TAX
ASSESSMENT

MOTION: Councilmember Weideman moved to adopt Resolution No. 2014-34. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Furey and passed by unanimous vote.

**12E. APPROVAL OF BUDGET WORKSHOP/ PUBLIC HEARING DATES FOR 2014-2015
OPERATING BUDGET**

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Finance Director and the City Manager that City Council approve May 6, 2014 and May 13, 2014 as dates to conduct two budget workshops/public hearings on the 2nd year of the City's two-year 2013-2015 Operating Budget and, if needed, budget adoption on May 20, 2014.

Finance Director Tsao reported that he was just informed that May 6 is Students and Government Day and recommended that budget workshops/public hearings be rescheduled to May 13 and May 20, 2014.

MOTION: Councilmember Barnett moved to approve May 13 and May 20, 2014 as budget workshop/public hearing dates. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Weideman and passed by unanimous vote.

17. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

17A. Councilmember Brewer announced that the Torrance Education Foundation's "Celebrate Education" dinner will be held on Friday, March 28, at the Marriott Hotel, which will include the raffle of a 2014 Lexus RX350 generously donated by Toyota Motor Sales USA. He noted that raffle tickets are \$30, \$20 of which goes directly to the designated school organization, with additional information available at www.TorranceEducationFoundation.org.

17B. Councilmember Furey encouraged the purchase of Lexus raffle tickets.

17C. Councilmember Sutherland announced that a fundraiser for Fern Elementary School will be held at Islands Restaurant on Thursday, March 20, from 5:00-9:00 p.m., with 20% of sales to benefit the school with presentation of a flyer available at www.fern.tusd.org.

17D. Councilmember Weideman commented positively on the City's water conservation efforts.

17E. Mayor Scotto offered a reminder about the ribbon cutting ceremony for the 555 Maple Avenue Multi-Use Sports Fields on Wednesday, March 26, at 4:30 p.m.

18. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Considered earlier in the meeting, see page 1.

19. ADJOURNMENT

At 8:20 p.m., the meeting was adjourned to Tuesday, March 25, 2014 at 5:30 p.m. for an executive session, with regular business commencing at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber.

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Attest:

/s/ Frank Scotto
Mayor of the City of Torrance

/s/ Sue Herbers
Sue Herbers, CMC
City Clerk of the City of Torrance

Approved on April 15, 2014