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TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL – AUGUST 19, 2014

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At 8:41 p.m., the meeting was adjourned to Tuesday, August 26, 2014 at 5:30 p.m. for an executive session, with regular business commencing at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber.

August 19, 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 5:31 p.m. on Tuesday, August 19, 2014 in the Council Chamber at Torrance City Hall.

ROLL CALL

Present: Councilmembers Ashcraft, Barnett, Goodrich, Griffiths, 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 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 7:00 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 Weideman.

The non-sectarian invocation was given by Rabbi Gary Spero.

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 on Thursday, August 14, 2014.

MOTION: Councilmember Goodrich 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 Rizzo and passed by unanimous vote.

4. WITHDRAWN, DEFERRED OR SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

No items were withdrawn or deferred.

5. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Furey asked that the meeting be adjourned in memory of retired City employee Arnold Sylvia who passed away August 9, 2014 at the age of 79.

Mayor Furey asked that the meeting be adjourned in memory of former City employee Jennifer Woods who passed away August 12, 2014 at the age of 52.

Mayor Furey reported that there is a West Nile Virus Advisory in effect because the virus has been detected throughout Los Angeles County and the public is urged to take precautions, including wearing insect repellent containing DEET when engaging in outdoor activities, mosquito-proofing their homes, and eliminating stagnant water where mosquitos breed. He noted that improperly maintained swimming pools can be reported to L.A. West Vector Control at 310.915.7370 or www.LAWestVector.org.

6. COMMUNITY MATTERS

6A. RESOLUTION NO. 2014-96 RE DON EDMONDS

RESOLUTION NO. 2014-96

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE HONORING **POLICE LIEUTENANT DON EDMONDS** UPON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE CITY AFTER TWENTY YEARS OF SERVICE

MOTION: Councilmember Ashcraft moved to adopt Resolution No. 2014-96. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Weideman and passed by unanimous vote.

To be presented at a later date.

6B. RESOLUTION NO. 2014-97 RE JEFFREY SANDERS

RESOLUTION NO. 2014-97

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE HONORING **JEFFREY SANDERS** UPON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE CITY AFTER THIRTY YEARS OF SERVICE

MOTION: Councilmember Ashcraft moved to adopt Resolution No. 2014-97. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Weideman and passed by unanimous vote.

To be presented at a later date.

Agenda Item 8A was considered out of order at this time.

8A. ACCEPTANCE/APPROPRIATION OF DONATIONS FOR TOYOTA SPORTS COMPLEX

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Community Services Director that City Council accept and appropriate \$22,250 in donations to FEAP #879 - 555 Maple Avenue Field Equipment and Donor Wall Project for the purchase of additional materials for the Toyota Sports Complex.

Sr. Business Manager Minter acknowledged the generous donations from Alcoa Fastening Systems (\$10,000) and L.A. Galaxy South Bay (\$10,000).

Clint Paulson, Torrance, requested information regarding the materials purchased with Donor Wall funds, which was provided by Sr. Business Manager Minter.

Mr. Paulson questioned whether L.A. Galaxy receives discounted rental rates for the sports complex, and Sr. Business Manager Minter advised that they do not qualify for reduced rates.

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

6C. YOUTH COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Community Services Director that City Council appoint 18 members to the 2014-2015 City of Torrance Youth Council and have them officially sworn in by the City Clerk.

Members of the 2014-2015 City of Torrance Youth Council were introduced themselves to the Council.

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

City Clerk Poirier administered the oath of office.

6D. APPROVAL OF YOUTH COUNCIL WORKSHOP

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Community Services Director that City Council authorize the Torrance Youth Council to conduct their annual workshop on Saturday, September 6, 2014, at The ATTiC Teen Center, 2320 West Carson Street.

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

7. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #1

7A. John Brumbaugh, former Torrance Police officer, reiterated his request made at the June 24, 2014 Council meeting that the City Council appoint an independent investigator to look into what he believes to be illegal and unethical conduct by the Torrance Police Department and renewed his offer to reimburse the City for all legal fees spent in connection with his case if the investigation does not reveal specific examples of violation of POST (Police Officer Standards and Training), false evidence being used against him, relevant evidence being screened from the Council, and investigative protocols being violated. He contended that his attempts to file a personnel complaint about a police captain for his role in this matter have been ignored in violation of state and federal law.

7B. Suzan Hubert and Dolly Cross, Torrance Art Museum Advocates (TAMA), reported on upcoming events at the Torrance Art Museum and encouraged the public to join TAMA.

7C. John Patrick Gilbert, Torrance, expressed concerns about a parking citation he received for a street sweeping violation.

7D. Nagy Bakhoun, Torrance, expressed concerns about the Pacific Coast Highway/Hawthorne Boulevard Intersection Improvement Project and the impact on residents and business owners and urged that other options be explored.

7E. Mark Stephenson, Torrance, contended that the City's pension costs are unsustainable and urged residents to insist that the pension framework be changed to a 401K plan.

8. CONSENT CALENDAR

8A. ACCEPTANCE/APPROPRIATION OF DONATION FOR TOYOTA SPORTS COMPLEX

Considered earlier, see pages 2-3.

8B. AGREEMENT AMENDMENT RE DISPOSAL OF SOLID FILL MATERIALS

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Public Works Director that City Council:

- 1) Approve a second amendment to contract services agreement with Chandler's Palos Verdes Sand and Gravel (C2012-159) to extend the agreement for a one year term ending August 27, 2015; and
- 2) Increase the not to exceed amount by \$150,000 for a new contract amount inclusive of this amendment not to exceed \$450,000.

Councilmember Weideman noted that there is a possibility the Chandler facility will close during the term of this contract and questioned if there was a contingency plan.

Public Works Director Beste advised that these materials can be taken to the City's regular refuse disposal contractor, but the cost would be much greater and staff will explore other options if the Chandler facility closes.

MOTION: Councilmember Barnett moved to approve Consent Calendar Item 8B. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Griffiths and passed by unanimous vote.

12. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

12A. POSITION ON LEAGUE OF CALIFORNIA CITIES RESOLUTION

Recommendation

Recommendation of the City Council Ad Hoc State Legislative Advocacy Committee that City Council approve and concur with the Committee's position on the League of California Cities resolution to be presented at their annual Conference on September 3-5, 2014.

Mayor Furey reported that the Ad Hoc State Legislative Advocacy Committee met on August 12, 2014 to consider taking a position on the League of California Cities' resolution, which calls for the Governor and Legislature to convene a summit to develop a strategy for addressing the environmental impact and public safety problems associated with illegal marijuana grow sites, and after reviewing background material and discussing the issues with staff, the Committee voted to support the resolution.

MOTION: Councilmember Goodrich moved to concur with the committee's recommendation to support the resolution. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Rizzo and passed by unanimous vote.

12B. AGREEMENT AMENDMENTS RE PACIFIC COAST HIGHWAY AND HAWTHORNE BOULEVARD INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Public Works Director that City Council:

- 1) Approve an amendment to consultant service agreement with Harris & Associates (C2012-160) to increase the amount by \$100,000 for a new not to exceed amount of \$1,056,995 and extend the contract by 24 months from August 28, 2014 to August 28, 2016;
- 2) Approve the South Bay Measure R Highway Program Amendment No. 1 to Funding Agreement (FA) #MOU.MR312.10 A-1 to be executed with Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority ("LACMTA");
- 3) Approve the Measure R project F51, Pacific Coast Highway and Hawthorne Boulevard Intersection Improvements, amending the City's current capital budget; and
- 4) Upon approval of Amendment No. 1 to Funding Agreement, appropriate additional \$13,400,000 of Measure R Highway Program funding to IAP T-131 into fiscal year 2014-2015 to said project for a new not to exceed total project budget of \$19,600,000.

Engineering Manager Semaan reported that this action was necessary so the City can continue to move forward with Pacific Coast Highway/Hawthorne Boulevard intersection improvements to be funded by Measure R.

In response to Councilmember Rizzo's inquiry, Engineering Manager Semaan provided clarification regarding new State requirements concerning this project as referenced in the staff report.

Councilmember Weideman stated that he still had concerns about the process employed in this project as discussed when the project was originally considered in February 2014, therefore, he will be voting against the staff recommendation.

Councilmember Goodrich indicated that he also had reservations, but would support the staff recommendation.

MOTION: Councilmember Goodrich moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Rizzo and passed by a 5-2 vote, with Councilmembers Rizzo and Weideman dissenting.

12C. RESOLUTIONS RE MEMORANDA OF UNDERSTANDING FOR TME-AFSCME, TLEA AND CROSSING GUARDS

Recommendation

Recommendation of the City Manager that City Council adopt RESOLUTIONS pursuant to Memoranda of Understanding setting forth the hours, wages, and working conditions for employees represented by the Torrance Municipal Employees (TME-AFSCME Local 1117), Torrance Library Employees Association (TLEA), and Crossing Guards for the period July 27, 2014 to December 31, 2017, and repealing Resolution Nos. 2011-26 (TME), 2011-27 (TLEA) and 2011-28 (Crossing Guards) in their entirety. Expenditure:

\$261,000 one-time and 2.1% year 1; 2.0% year 2 and 4.0% year 3 of contract for a total package of 8.1% over 42 months.

Assistant to the City Manager Chaparyan reviewed the staff recommendation.

Councilmember Griffiths announced that he was abstaining from voting on this item because he had not taken part in any of the negotiations.

Mark Stephenson, Torrance, stated that while the Council has frequently mentioned that City employees have not had a raise for 5-6 years, the City's longevity system increases employees' pay on average \$2400 – 2600 per year, which is another form of a raise. He questioned when the City will require classic employees to contribute to their pension costs as provided for in PEPRA (Public Employees Pension Reform Act) and why the City rewarded members of these employee groups with a \$500 one-time payment for delaying negotiations.

Assistant to the City Manager Chaparyan advised that it is within the City Council's discretion to require classic employees to contribute to their pension costs and this could be part of future negotiations. He explained that various employee groups began negotiations at different times and the one-time payment brings the expiration date in line with other employee group contracts, with the exception of safety employees.

City Manager Jackson noted that the \$500 one-time payment was consistent with the total package approved for other employee groups.

Clint Paulson, Torrance, requested clarification regarding provisions in the contract that allow City employees release time to work on union business while being paid by the City, which was provided by Assistant to the City Manager Chaparyan.

MOTION: Councilmember Goodrich moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Rizzo and passed by unanimous vote, with Councilmember Griffiths abstaining.

RESOLUTION NO. 2014-98

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE SETTING FORTH HOURS, WAGES, AND WORKING CONDITIONS FOR EMPLOYEES REPRESENTED BY THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES-AFSCME, LOCAL 1117, AND REPEALING RESOLUTION NO. 2011-26

MOTION: Councilmember Ashcraft moved to adopt Resolution No. 2014-98. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Weideman and passed by unanimous vote, with Councilmember Griffiths abstaining.

RESOLUTION NO. 2014-99

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE SETTING FORTH HOURS, WAGES, AND WORKING CONDITIONS FOR EMPLOYEES REPRESENTED BY THE TORRANCE LIBRARY EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION (TLEA) AND REPEALING RESOLUTION NO. 2011-27

MOTION: Councilmember Ashcraft moved to adopt Resolution No. 2014-99. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Weideman and passed by unanimous vote, with Councilmember Griffiths abstaining.

RESOLUTION NO. 2014-100

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE
 SETTING FORTH HOURS, WAGES, AND WORKING CONDITIONS FOR
 CROSSING GUARD EMPLOYEES FOR THE PERIOD FROM JULY 27, 2014
 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2017 AND REPEALING RESOLUTION NO. 2011-28

MOTION: Councilmember Ashcraft moved to adopt Resolution No. 2014-100. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Weideman and passed by unanimous vote, with Councilmember Griffiths abstaining.

12D. APPOINTMENTS TO CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Recommendation

Recommendation of the City Manager that City Council select chairs and committee members to Standing Committees in accordance with Council Rules of Order; and that the Mayor appoint:

- 1) Ad Hoc Committee Chairs and Members; and
- 2) City Council Liaisons.

City Attorney Fellows noted that the Armed Forces Day Committee and Federal and State Legislative Advocacy Committees were formerly listed as ad hoc committees, however they meet the definition of standing committees and were now being categorized as such.

Standing Committees – the following appointments were made by the City Council based on seniority:

Standing Committee	Chair	Members (2)
Citizen Development and Enrichment	Kurt Weideman	Mike Griffiths Gene Barnett
Community Planning and Design	Mike Griffiths	Heidi Ann Ashcraft Tim Goodrich
Employee Relations and Public Safety	Heidi Ann Ashcraft	Geoff Rizzo Mike Griffiths
Finance and Governmental Operations	Gene Barnett	Geoff Rizzo Tim Goodrich
Strategic Plan	Tim Goodrich	Kurt Weideman Gene Barnett
Transportation	Geoff Rizzo	Kurt Weideman Heidi Ann Ashcraft

Mayor Furey made the following appointments:

Standing Committee	Chair	Members
Armed Forces Day	Kurt Weideman	Tim Goodrich Geoff Rizzo
Federal Legislative Advocacy	Mayor Patrick Furey	Gene Barnett Kurt Weideman Geoff Rizzo (Alt)
State Legislative Advocacy	Mayor Patrick Furey	Heidi Ann Ashcraft Tim Goodrich Geoff Rizzo (Alt)

City Council Liaisons

Mayor Furey made the following appointments:

Organization	Liaison	Alternate
Sister City Association	Gene Barnett	Kurt Weideman

12E. APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE REGIONAL BOARDS AND AGENCIES

Recommendation

Recommendation of the City Manager that City Council:

- 1) Concur with the appointments made by the Mayor to the Independent Cities Association, League of CA Cities - LA County Division and the South Bay Cities Council of Governments (SBCCOG);
- 2) Appoint the Mayor to the Sanitation Districts of LA County, Southern California Association of Governments and West Vector Control District of LA County; and
- 3) Direct the City Manager to update and post Form 806 on the City's website.

Management Associate Jones reviewed the Mayor's appointments as follows:

Regional Board/Agency	Voting Delegate	Alternate
Independent Cities Association	Mayor Patrick Furey	Kurt Weideman
League of California Cities – LA County	Tim Goodrich	Heidi Ann Ashcraft
Southern California Association of Governments	Mayor Patrick Furey	Gene Barnett
South Bay Cities Council of Governments	Kurt Weideman	Heidi Ann Ashcraft
Sanitation Districts of LA County	Mayor Patrick Furey	Geoff Rizzo
West Vector Control District of LA County	Mayor Patrick Furey (Effective through 12/31/14)	None

MOTION: Councilmember Weideman moved to concur with the Mayor's appointments and to direct the City Manager to update and post Form 806 on the City's website. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Barnett and passed by unanimous vote.

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

13. HEARINGS

13A. AUTHORIZATION TO COLLECT DELINQUENT SOLID WASTE AND SEWER DISCHARGE FEES AS SPECIAL ASSESSMENT

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Finance Director that City Council adopt a Resolution authorizing and directing the Los Angeles County Assessor to place delinquent solid waste and sewer discharge collection fees on the Los Angeles County Assessor's roll to be collected at the same time in the same manner as county taxes.

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

Sr. Accountant Bittner reported that staff was seeking approval to place delinquent solid waste and sewer discharge fees on the LA County Assessor's 2014-15 tax roll and collected along with property taxes. She stated that there are 74 delinquent accounts totaling approximately \$30,000 and the cost to place them on the tax roll is \$68.50. She advised that this method of collection has proven to be very effective since the Council approved it in 2011 with a collection rate of over 90%. She noted that residents have until Wednesday, August 27, to pay the outstanding amount to avoid having it placed on their property tax bill.

In response to Councilmember Ashcraft's inquiry, Sr. Accountant Bittner confirmed that both the tenant and the property owner receive notification of the delinquent bill in the case of rental properties.

Mayor Furey invited public comment.

Mark Stephenson, Torrance, expressed concerns that the agenda item lists the addresses of those whose accounts are in arrears, which could subject these property owners to public humiliation, and suggested that the listing be by account number.

Finance Director Tsao explained that the list is published in the newspaper to comply with notification requirements and a listing by account number would be ineffective since most people do not know their account number.

MOTION: Councilmember Weideman moved to close the public hearing. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Barnett and passed by unanimous vote.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 2014-101

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE
AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY ASSESSOR TO
INCLUDE DELINQUENT SOLID WASTE AND SEWER DISCHARGE FEES AS A
SPECIAL ASSESSMENT TO BE COLLECTED AT THE SAME TIME AND IN THE
SAME MANNER AS COUNTY TAXES

MOTION: Councilmember Ashcraft moved to adopt Resolution No. 2014-101. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Weideman and passed by unanimous vote.

17. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #2

17A. Councilmember Barnett requested an excused absence for the August 26, 2014 City Council meeting.

17B. Councilmember Goodrich noted that there are still seats available for Torrance Theatre Company's presentation of *Oklahoma* on Saturday, August 23, at the Armstrong Theatre, which he plans to attend.

17C. Councilmember Griffiths thanked his colleagues on the Council, City staff and residents for their well wishes and support during his first week in office.

17D. Mayor Furey announced that donations are still being accepted for the Toyota Sports Complex, with additional information available by calling 310.618.5892.

17E. Mayor Furey announced that Saturday, October 4, will be City of Torrance night at the LA Galaxy game at the StubHub Center and the first 100 ticket purchasers will be invited to a post-game autograph session, with tickets available at www.LAGalaxy.com/Torrance.

17F. Mayor Furey, with the concurrence of Council, requested that the Citizen Development and Enrichment Committee review a request from the Torrance Rose Float Association to provide funding for the 2015 Torrance Rose Float and return to the Council with a recommendation, including a funding methodology if appropriate.

18. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Considered earlier, see page 1.

19. ADJOURNMENT

At 8:41 p.m., the meeting was adjourned to Tuesday, August 26, 2014, at 5:30 p.m. for an executive session, with the regular meeting commencing at 7:00 p.m.

Attest:

/s/ Patrick J. Furey

Mayor Patrick J. Furey

/s/ R. Poirier

City Clerk Rebecca Poirier, MMC

Approved on September 16, 2014