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TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL – SEPTEMBER 23, 2014

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

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

A. CALL TO ORDER

The Torrance City Council convened in a Disaster Preparedness Training Session at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, September 23, 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: Assistant City Manager Giordano, Assistant to City Manager Chaparyan, Assistant City Attorney Sullivan, City Clerk Poirier and other staff representatives.

B. DISASTER PREPAREDNESS FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS

A presentation was given by Emergency Services Coordinator Sorayo Sutherlin on Disaster Preparedness for Elected Officials.

C. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – None.

At 5:57 p.m., the City Council recessed.

1. RECONVENE MEETING

The City Council reconvened 7:01 p.m. in the Council Chamber to conduct regular business with all members present.

2. FLAG SALUTE/ INVOCATION

The flag salute was led by Councilmember Griffiths.

The non-sectarian invocation was given by Councilmember Rizzo.

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, September 18, 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 WITHDRAWN, DEFERRED OR SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

No items were withdrawn or deferred.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

Councilmember Weideman announced that the City Council Federal Legislative Advocacy Committee will meet on Tuesday, October 14, at 3:00 p.m. in the City Manager Assembly room of City Hall for a Federal Legislative update.

Councilmember Ashcraft announced the City Council State Legislative Advocacy Committee will meet on Tuesday, October 21, at 4:00 p.m. in the City Manager Assembly room of City Hall to discuss the November 4 General Election Ballot Measures.

6. COMMUNITY MATTERS

6A. PROCLAMATION RE “FIRE PREVENTION WEEK”

Mayor Furey presented a proclamation declaring October 5 through October 11, 2014 as **Fire Prevention Week** in the City of Torrance to Fire Prevention Manager Laura Mapes, who urged everyone to install, test and maintain smoke alarms in their homes.

6B. PROCLAMATION HONORING TORRANCE CULTURAL ARTS FOUNDATION

Mayor Furey presented a proclamation honoring the **Torrance Cultural Arts Foundation** for 20 years of enriching the lives of residents, which was accepted by Torrance Cultural Arts Foundation President Grace Yeh and board members.

6C. APPOINTMENTS TO FILL PLANNING COMMISSION VACANCIES

Recommendation

Recommendation of the City Clerk that City Council review applications and appoint members to fill two unscheduled vacancies on the Planning Commission. The City Clerk will administer the oath of office to commissioners present.

City Clerk Poirier introduced the ten applicants and they were given an opportunity to briefly address the Council.

The City Council made the following appointments to fill the two Planning Commission vacancies:

Richard Tsao to fill the term expiring January 31, 2018, and Milton Herring to fill the term expiring January 31, 2015.

City Clerk Poirier administered the oath of office.

7. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

7A. Norm Segal, Bluff Street, expressed concerns that a neighbor on Mesa Street has made unpermitted improvements that threaten the stability of the hillside and submitted letters of notification to the Mayor, City Attorney, City Manager, and Community Development Director.

7B. Lloyd Brown, Torrance, expressed concerns that people are leaving food for feral cats at local parks and other public places, which is attracting rodents and coyotes, and urged the Council to take action to prohibit this practice.

7C. Marco Sandoval announced that St. Catherine Laboure will be holding its annual fiesta on Friday, October 3, through Sunday, October 5, which includes carnival rides, game booths, food, entertainment and a raffle with a first prize of \$5,000.

7D. Janet Payne announced that the League of Women Voters and the Old Torrance Neighborhood Association will be hosting a forum on the two Torrance Unified School District bond measures on the November 2014 ballot on Thursday, September 25, at the Torrance Historical Museum, 1345 Post Avenue, at 7:00 p.m.

7E. Janet Payne, Torrance Historical Society, announced that there will be a free walking tour of historic Old Torrance on Sunday, September 28, beginning at 1:30 p.m. in front of the museum.

7F. Debbie Hays, Torrance Historical Society, announced that THS's annual Home Tour will be held on Saturday, October 11, and Sunday, October 12, from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., which will feature seven historic homes and refreshments and wine tasting in the garden of another.

8. CONSENT CALENDAR

8A. VERIFICATION OF LEASE RE 3481 AIRPORT DRIVE #200

Considered separately, see page 4.

8B. AIRPORT COMMISSION 2013-2014 ANNUAL REPORT

Recommendation

Recommendation of the General Services Director and Airport Commission that City Council accept and file the Airport Commission 2013-2014 Annual Report.

8C. APPROVAL OF FINAL PARCEL MAP NO. 69581

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Community Development Director that City Council:

- 1) Approve Final Parcel Map No. 69581; and
- 2) Accept a thirteen foot (13') wide street easement on Sepulveda Boulevard. This Final Parcel Map merges two lots into one lot for a new commercial/retail project. This project, owned by 2455 Sepulveda, LLC, is located at 2455 Sepulveda Boulevard, and substantially conforms to and meets all conditions of approval of the Tentative Parcel Map.

8D. FEE AGREEMENT RE LEGAL SERVICES

Recommendation

Recommendation of the City Attorney that City Council:

- 1) Approve a fee agreement with Woodruff, Spradlin & Smart in the case of Tewelde Berhane v. City of Torrance, et al., LASC Case No. BC548277, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$300,000; and
- 2) Appropriate \$300,000 from the Transit Fund Balance.

8E. PURCHASE ORDER FOR BULK PROPANE FUEL

Recommendation

Recommendation of the General Services and Public Works Directors that City Council award a purchase order to Mutual Propane of Gardena, CA in an amount not to exceed \$440,000 (including taxes and fees) for the purchase of HD-5 bulk propane on an as needed basis (B2014-38), for a period of 5 years effective October 1, 2014 through September 30, 2019.

8F. ACCEPTANCE/APPROPRIATION OF DONATION FOR COLLECTION OF BLUE-RAY DISCS FOR LIBRARY

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Community Services Director that City Council accept and appropriate a donation of \$15,000 from the Friends of the Torrance Library for a pilot collection of Blu-ray discs for Torrance Library System.

8G. APPROVAL OF CLASS SPECIFICATION FOR ENGINEERING MANAGER – MAJOR PROJECTS

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Public Works Director and Human Resources Manager that City Council:

- 1) Approve the upgrade of 1.0 Engineering Manager to 1.0 Engineering Manager - Major Projects; and
- 2) Approve the proposed class specification for Engineering Manager - Major Projects.

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

Consent Calendar Item 8A was considered separately at this time.

8A. VERIFICATION OF LEASE RE 3481 AIRPORT DRIVE #200

Recommendation

Recommendation of the City Manager that City Council approve a verification of lease (C2001-118) for city-owned property located at 3481 Airport Drive #200, known as Torrance Flite Park.

Councilmember Griffiths noted that this item was continued in August 2014 because some of the tenants had changed their locks making it impossible for the City to inspect their hangars and questioned whether these tenants were now in compliance with terms of the lease.

Ralph Martin, president of Torrance Flite Park, offered his assurance that all locks have been changed back to their original condition, that keys have been provided for each of the hangars, and that all hangars are accessible whenever necessary.

MOTION: Councilmember Barnett moved to approve a verification of lease. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Griffiths and passed by unanimous vote.

12. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

12A. PURCHASE ORDER FOR CNG STREET SWEEPERS

Recommendation

Recommendation of the General Services Director and Public Works Director that City Council award a purchase order to Haaker Equipment Company of La Verne, CA (B2014-36) for three (3) model year 2015 Elgin CNG street sweepers with Autocar chassis in the amount of \$945,030 (including sales tax).

Fleet Services Manager Botiller reported that with this acquisition, the City will have converted its entire front line of street sweepers to alternative fuels.

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

12B. MADISON STREET AND SKYPARK DRIVE REHABILITATION PROJECT AND MEADOW PARK PARKING LOTS RESURFACING PROJECT

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Public Works Director that City Council:

- 1) Determine that the approval of the Madison Street and Skypark Drive Rehabilitations, I-122 and the Meadow Park Parking Lots Resurfacing, I-118 is categorically exempt from environmental review pursuant to Section 15301 (c) of the Guidelines implementing California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA);
- 2) Approve the plans and specifications for the Madison Street and Skypark Drive Rehabilitations, I-122 and Meadow Park Parking Lots Rehabilitation, I-118, (B2014-29);
- 3) Authorize a transfer of Gas Tax funds in the amount of \$150,342 from the Crenshaw Boulevard Intersection Improvements and 208th Street Extension, T-157 to IAP I-122;
- 4) Appropriate an additional \$81,235 from FY2013-2014 General Fund year-end carry over to IAP I-118, thereby increasing the project budget from \$190,000 to \$271,235;
- 5) Award a two-year public works agreement to Sully-Miller Contracting Company in the amount of \$1,385,245.60 and authorize a 5% contingency in the amount of \$69,262.28 to construct IAP I-122 and IAP I-118;
- 6) Approve a total of \$82,661 of Project Management funds for IAP I-122 (\$72,661) and IAP I-118 (\$10,000) from the respective project budgets;
- 7) Approve the ADA Improvements for IAP I-118 in the amount of \$11,500;
- 8) Approve a two-year consulting services agreement with Onward Engineering in the amount of \$99,348 to perform construction inspection services for IAP I-122; and
- 9) Approve a two-year consulting services agreement with MTGL Inc. in the amount of \$47,996 to perform material testing services for IAP I-122.

Engineering Manager Semaan provided an overview of the project, which includes the reconstruction of Madison Street and Skypark Drive.

Arthur Plourde, Torrance, received confirmation that this project will correct the undulations in the road that create a "roller coaster" effect on Madison Street. He requested clarification regarding the funding for the project, which was provided by Engineering Manager Semaan.

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

12C. FEE AGREEMENT RE LEGAL SERVICES

Recommendation

Recommendation of the City Attorney that City Council:

- 1) Approve a fee agreement with the law firm of Rutan & Tucker, LLP to provide legal services in the case of Rev 973, LLC v. John Mouren-Laurens, et al. for a total amount not to exceed \$15,000; and
- 2) Appropriate \$15,000 from the Airport Aeronautical Fund Balance.

Assistant City Attorney Sullivan reported that case Rev 993, LLC v. John Mouren-Laurens, et al deals with environmental issues involving sites in Compton and Torrance has been named as one of 28,000 potentially responsible parties.

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

12D. RESOLUTION RE CHANGES TO PREMIUM PAY AND CERTIFICATION PAY FOR EMPLOYEES REPRESENTED BY TPSA

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Human Resources Manager that City Council adopt a Resolution pursuant to the Memorandum of Understanding amending Resolution No. 2014-26 for employees represented by Torrance Professional and Supervisory Association implementing changes to the Premium Pay and Certification Pay. Expenditure: \$11,829.

Human Resources Manager Lawrence reported that staff was recommending a pay premium of 7.5% for the Water Service Supervisor responsible for day-to-day operations at the Goldsworthy Groundwater Desalination plant since this position requires additional certifications, with the premium to be funded by reimbursements from the Water Replenishment District. She noted that this item also updates eligible certifications Systems Analysts, IT Analysts, and IT Specialists can obtain for various Microsoft products that are used by the City.

Responding to questions from the Council, Public Works Director Beste explained that the City has assumed responsibility for operating and maintaining the Goldsworthy plant, which is a reverse osmosis treatment plant, and this requires a level of technical knowledge and expertise beyond typical water plant operations. He noted that since the City took over the plant, production has increased significantly because better maintenance has resulted in less down time.

Arthur Plourde, Torrance, requested background information about the ownership and operation of the Goldsworthy plant, and Mayor Furey offered to have staff provide the information outside of the meeting because it was beyond the scope of this agenda item.

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

RESOLUTION 2014-110

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 2014-26 FOR EMPLOYEES REPRESENTED BY TORRANCE PROFESSIONAL AND SUPERVISORY ASSOCIATION IMPLEMENTING CHANGES TO THE PREMIUM PAY AND CERTIFICATION PAY

MOTION: Councilmember Ashcraft moved to adopt Resolution No. 2014-110. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Weideman and passed by unanimous vote.

17. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #2

17A. Councilmember Weideman noted that he and his wife participated in Coastal Cleanup Day last Saturday at Torrance Beach and was pleased to find that the beach was already quite clean. He thanked the hundreds of people who helped with this effort.

17B. Councilmember Goodrich, who also participated, reported that Heal the Bay provided him with the following statistics - 568 volunteers participated at Torrance Beach picking up 125 pounds of trash and 36 pounds of recyclables.

17C. Councilmember Griffiths announced that the Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce will be hosting the State of the City address featuring Mayor Furey on Thursday, October 2, at the Doubletree Hotel at noon, with additional information available at www.TorranceChamber.org.

17D. Councilmember Griffiths offered a reminder about the 19th annual Halloween Ball benefitting the Pediatric Therapy Network to be held on Sunday, October 12, 2014 from 4:00 – 9:00 p.m. in a tent in front of the Depot Restaurant, which will feature a dinner buffet, a costume contest and live and silent auctions, with additional information available at www.PediatricTherapyNetwork.org.

17E. Mayor Furey reported that he attended a variety of functions last weekend, including the clean-up of Torrance Beach, the dedication of the new wing at Torrance Memorial Medical Center, and an art exhibit at the Sunrider museum on Saturday, and the Herbal Life triathlon at Torrance Beach on Sunday morning.

17F. Arthur Plourde, Torrance, encouraged everyone to visit the Western Museum of Flight at Torrance Airport/Zamperini Field and recommended that Torrance recognize Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie for their part in creating the upcoming movie about Louis Zamperini's life.

17G. Ryan Mand, Torrance, wished everyone a happy Halloween.

18. EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 8:09 p.m., the City Council recessed to closed session to confer with the City Manager and the City Attorney on agenda matters listed under 18A) Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation, and 18B) Real Property – Conference with Real Property Negotiator, pursuant to California Government Code §54956.9(d)(1) and 54956.8.

The City Council reconvened in public session at 8:29 p.m. No formal action was taken on any matter considered in closed session.

19. ADJOURNMENT

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

Attest:

/s/ Patrick J. Furey

Mayor Patrick J. Furey

/s/ R. Poirier

City Clerk Rebecca Poirier, MMC

Approved on October 14, 2014