

**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 7:06 p.m. on Tuesday, March 16, 2004 in City Council Chambers at Torrance City Hall.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Councilmembers Lieu, Mauno, McIntyre, Nowatka, Scotto, Witkowsky, and Mayor Walker.

Absent: None.

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

Agenda Item 17 was considered out of order at this time.

**17. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Council immediately recessed to closed session to confer with the City Manager and the City Attorney on agenda matters listed under 17A) Conference with Labor Negotiator, and 17B) Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation, and 17C) Real Property – Conference with Real Property Negotiator pursuant to California Government Code Sections 54957.6, 54956.9(a), and 54956.8.

The Council reconvened in Council Chambers at 7:06 p.m.

**2. FLAG SALUTE/INVOCATION**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilmember Nowatka.

Councilmember Witkowsky gave the non-sectarian invocation for the meeting.

**3. AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING/WAIVE FURTHER READING**

**MOTION:** Councilmember McIntyre moved to accept and file the report of the City Clerk on the posting of the agenda for this meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Lieu, and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**MOTION:** Councilmember McIntyre 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 Lieu and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**4. WITHDRAWN OR DEFERRED ITEMS**

City Manager Jackson announced that Agenda Item 12D, a public hearing regarding a proposed hotel at 3531 Torrance Boulevard, will be continued to April 13, 2004.

**5. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Councilmember Witkowsky announced a meeting of the Ad Hoc Torrance Rose Float Committee to discuss the design of the 2005 Rose Float on Thursday, March 18, 2004, at 4:30 p.m., in the third floor assembly room.

Councilmember Nowatka announced that the Community Development and Enrichment Committee would be meeting in the near future to discuss the tree project at Paradise Park.

Mayor Walker asked that the meeting be adjourned in the memory of Jo Waters, mother of City Clerk Sue Herbers, who passed away on March 5, 2004 in Las Vegas after a brief illness, and Sergeant Steve Harvey, who passed away unexpectedly on March 4, 2004 of an apparent heart attack.

**6. COMMUNITY MATTERS**

**6A. PRESENTATION OF 2002-2003 AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PRACTICES**

Mitch Cochran, representing Municipal Information Systems Association of California (MISAC), presented the City of Torrance with the “**2002-2003 MISAC Award for Excellence, Information Technology Practices,**” which recognizes outstanding practices in Information Technology that meet or surpass local government standards, to Ernest Gallo, Communications Manager; Darryl Hugli, Administrative Analyst; and Ryan Lee, Information Technology Manager.

**6B. INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS FOR 2004-2008**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the **City Clerk** that City Council adopt a Resolution installing the officers appointed to the City Council for the term of 2004-2008.

Mayor Walker announced that this was the time and place to install the officers appointed by Resolution No. 2003-187 on December 16, 2003. He noted that for the first time in the City’s history, no one ran against the three incumbents, Paul Nowatka, Frank Scotto, and Hope Witkowsky; therefore, each of them was appointed to the office of councilmember for a full four-year term.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2004-26**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING INSTALLATION OF NEWLY ELECTED OFFICERS

**MOTION:** Councilmember Lieu moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2004-26. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Mauno and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

City Clerk Herbers administered the oath of office.

Councilmember Scotto stated that he has learned a lot over the past four years and tried to do his best for the City of Torrance. Commenting on things that have been accomplished during his first term, he noted the recent opening of the Stage II Theater and the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new animal control facility, and indicated that he was proud that the City has been able to balance its budget each year despite recent shortfalls in revenue. He expressed appreciation to City staff for the assistance they have provided; to his colleagues on the Council for being easy to work with; and to his family and wife Cindy for supporting him in this endeavor.

Councilmember Witkowsky expressed appreciation for the opportunity to serve the citizens of Torrance for a second term. She noted that during her term, Torrance has been able to balance its budget in the face of a record deficit due to cuts in State revenue and rising health care costs, with no cuts in personnel. She stated that she has supported programs that reach the full spectrum of ages, including the reorganization of a transportation program for seniors, which has resulted in timelier and more flexible service; the Fire Education program in the Torrance Unified School District, which insures that our youth are protected and educated; and Public Education officers, who work to insure safer schools. Commenting on appreciating home prices, she vowed to continue to support affordable housing for young people as well as seniors.

Noting her position as the City's representative to the League of California Cities, she reported that she was pressing federal partners to strengthen programs that support local homeland security, local public safety, transportation systems, and programs and services for children and families. Indicating that safety is her number one priority, she noted her support of specialized training for paramedics; the City's CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) program; and efforts to form a citizens communication system to assist the community in the event of a local or national emergency. She commented on the importance of having a well-maintained city, noting recently completed beautification projects on Carson Street, Hawthorne and Artesia Boulevards and 190<sup>th</sup> Street. She pledged to work hard and to be available to her constituents.

Councilmember Nowatka stated that he has greatly enjoyed his four years in office and highlighted major projects completed during his term, including the Wilson Park gym, the Madrona Marsh Nature Center; the Veterans' Memorial; the Stage II Theater; and the Joslyn Center project. Noting the recent dedication of the City's animal control facility, he stated that he was pleased that efforts to establish a City-run animal control program have finally come to fruition. He thanked his wife Helen for her support and understanding, which has allowed him to take an active role in this community; commended his colleagues for their ability to work together and disagree without rancor; and stated that he looked forward to the next four years.

Councilmember Lieu, Councilmember Mauno, Councilmember McIntyre, and Mayor Walker offered their congratulations.

Mayor Walker called for a short recess and invited the audience to join the Council in the lobby for refreshments.

The Council recessed from 7:37 to 7:55 p.m.

**7. CONSENT CALENDAR**

**7A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – FEBRUARY 3, 2004**

**7B. PURCHASE ORDER RE SERIAL DIGITAL PRODUCTION SWITCHERS**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the **City Manager** that City Council authorize the award of a purchase order in the amount of \$162,945.64, to Enders and Associates of West Hills, CA, to furnish three (3) mixed effects serial digital production switchers (B2003-40).

**7C. CONSULTING SERVICES AGREEMENT RE STREET LIGHTING ASSESSMENT DISTRICT (LD2004-05)**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the **Community Development Director** that City Council approve the expenditure of not to exceed \$58,250 and execute a consulting services agreement with David Taussig & Associates, Inc. to prepare and administer the Street Lighting Assessment District (LD 2004-05).

**7D. REJECTION OF BIDS FOR RENOVATION OF HANGARS AT TORRANCE MUNICIPAL AIRPORT**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the **General Services Director** that City Council reject all bids for the renovation of 20 hangars at the Torrance Municipal Airport.

Considered separately, see pages 7-8.

**7E. CONSULTING SERVICES AGREEMENT RE NETWORK OPERATIONS CENTER**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the **Human Resources Director** that City Council execute an amendment to consulting services agreement with Network Operations Center, Inc. (C2003-050) extending the agreement to provide network support for the Worksource Centers to June 30, 2004.

**7F. AMENDMENT TO SUBLEASE AGREEMENT WITH CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF LOS ANGELES**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the **Human Resources Director** that City Council accept and ratify the administrative changes made to the sublease agreement with Catholic Charities of Los Angeles, Inc. (C2003-071).

**7G. ACCEPTANCE OF FUNDS FOR TREE DEDICATIONS JANUARY THROUGH DECEMBER 2003**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the **Parks and Recreation Commission** and the **Parks and Recreation Director** that City Council accept donations totaling \$2,225 for the Living Tree Dedication Program.

**7H. GRANT AWARD TO TORRANCE SISTER CITY ASSOCIATION FOR 2004**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the **Parks and Recreation Director** that City Council award the Torrance Sister City Association a grant in the amount of \$1,500 for specified services.

**7I. CONTRACT WITH PETDATA CORPORATION TO PROVIDE DOG LICENSING SERVICES**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the **Chief of Police** that City Council approve a contract with PetData Corporation to provide dog licensing services. The contract agreement is funded through fee collection on a per license sold basis.

**7J. AMENDMENT OF CONTRACT WITH MATRIX IMAGING**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the **Chief of Police** that City Council amend the agreement with Matrix Imaging (C2003-123) to include quality control and increase the number of microfilmed images to be scanned. It is further recommended to increase the amount of the agreement by \$9,858 for a total contract amount of \$197,746 and extend the term of the agreement through December 31, 2004.

**7K. AGREEMENT TO TEMPORARILY LEASE WATER RIGHTS TO ROMAN CATHOLIC ARCHBISHOP OF LOS ANGELES**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the **Public Works Director** that City Council:

- 1) Approve an agreement to temporarily lease water rights to the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Los Angeles during the remaining 2003-2004 fiscal year; and
- 2) Authorize the Mayor to execute and the City Clerk to attest to said agreement.

**7L. AMENDMENT TO CONTRACT SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH CHANDLER'S PALOS VERDES SAND AND GRAVEL**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the **Public Works Director** that City Council authorize the one-year renewal option of agreement with Chandler's Palos Verdes Sand and Gravel (C2002-262) in an amount not to exceed \$200,000.

**7M. CONTRACT SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH PACIFIC SEWER MAINTENANCE**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the **Public Works Director** that City Council:

- 1) Approve a contract services agreement in the amount of \$29,547.18 with Pacific Sewer Maintenance for vapor rooting of City sewer lines; and
- 2) Authorize the Mayor to execute and the City Clerk to attest to said agreement.

**7N. ACCEPTANCE/APPROPRIATION OF FY02 STATE DOMESTIC PREPAREDNESS GRANT; FY03 STATE HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT; AND FY03 STATE HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT – PART II**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the **Fire Chief** and the **Chief of Police** that City Council authorize the following actions:

- 1) Accept and appropriate the FY02 State Domestic Preparedness Grant (\$24,971.09); FY03 State Homeland Security Grant (\$24,863.97); and FY03 State Homeland Security Grant – Part II (\$24,997.50) for the total amount of \$74,832.56. These funds will be used to purchase specialized equipment for Fire and Police Departments, which will enhance the City of Torrance capabilities to respond to terrorism incidents; and
- 2) Approve a purchase order to Canberra Industries in the amount not to exceed \$36,463.75 (includes sales tax and freight) for the sole-source purchase of sixty-seven Mini-Radiac radiation monitors with vibrator alarm.

**70. AUTHORIZATION OF LEASE WITH KEY MUNICIPAL FINANCE**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the **General Services Director** that City Council authorize the Mayor to execute and the City Clerk to attest to a lease between Key Government Finance, Inc. and the City of Torrance for the financing of a new high-speed photocopying, color processing, network integrated printing and publishing system for the City's Central Services area.

**7P. CONTRACT EXTENSION AND BUDGET INCREASE FOR CITYWIDE WEBSITE REDESIGN**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the **City Manager** that City Council:

- 1) Approve Amendment No. 2 to agreement C2002-168 with Gramercy Partners Inc. for the Citywide Website Redesign (CWR) Project, (FEAP #297), to extend contract expiration date to August 31, 2004 and to increase the contract amount by \$60,000;
- 2) Authorize the Mayor to execute and the City Clerk to attest to the amendment on behalf of the City; and
- 3) Appropriate \$60,000 from the Cable Communications Fund Balance.

**7Q. RESURFACING OF NEWTON STREET**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the **Community Development Director** and the **Public Works Director** that City Council:

- 1) Authorize a budget transfer of \$91,568 in Gas Tax Funds from the I-5 Residential Street Rehabilitation Program to establish the Newton Street Resurfacing Project – Neece Avenue to 242<sup>nd</sup> Street;
- 2) Authorize the City Manager to approve a Service Request with the County of Los Angeles that provides for the resurfacing of Newton Street Resurfacing Project; and
- 3) Authorize the expenditure of \$91,568, with an initial deposit (check) of \$82,008, to pay the County of Los Angeles in accordance with the Service Request.

Considered separately, see pages 8-10.

**7R. CONTRACT AMENDMENT WITH URS FOR MADRONA MARSH TESTING AND REMEDIATION**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the **City Attorney** that City Council approve the contract amendment with URS (C2003-125) from \$19,500 for a total contract amount of \$33,000 to allow for additional testing and services for the remediation at the Madrona Marsh.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Mauno moved for the approval of Consent Calendar Items 7A through 7R, with the exception of Items 7D and 7Q. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Lieu and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

Consent Calendar Item 7D was considered out of order at this time.

**7D. REJECTION OF BIDS FOR RENOVATION OF HANGARS AT TORRANCE MUNICIPAL AIRPORT**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the **General Services Director** that City Council reject all bids for the renovation of 20 hangars at the Torrance Municipal Airport.

John King, Torrance, noted that all four of the bids received were higher than the \$170,000 estimated cost for the project and questioned whether more money would be appropriated for this project.

Facility Operations Manager Megerdichian explained that staff was recommending that all bids be rejected because the lowest bidder had very negative references, the second lowest bid was incomplete, and the third and fourth lowest bids were much higher than the estimated cost. He stated that staff hopes to receive more complete and cost-effective bids when the project is re-advertised in April 2004.

In response to Councilmember Nowatka's inquiry, City Attorney Fellows confirmed that the estimated cost for the project would be reevaluated prior to soliciting new bids.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Scotto moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember McIntyre and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

Consent Calendar Item 7Q was considered out of order at this time.

**7Q. RESURFACING OF NEWTON STREET**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the **Community Development Director** and the **Public Works Director** that City Council:

- 1) Authorize a budget transfer of \$91,568 in Gas Tax Funds from the I-5 Residential Street Rehabilitation Program to establish the Newton Street Resurfacing Project – Neece Avenue to 242<sup>nd</sup> Street;
- 2) Authorize the City Manager to approve a Service Request with the County of Los Angeles that provides for the resurfacing of Newton Street Resurfacing Project; and
- 3) Authorize the expenditure of \$91,568, with an initial deposit (check) of \$82,008, to pay the County of Los Angeles in accordance with the Service Request.

Street Services Director Bell reported that this project was being brought forward in conjunction with a Los Angeles County storm drain project currently underway on Newton Street and explained that the City would provide additional funding for resurfacing to upgrade the condition of the roadway.

Responding to questions from the Council, Street Services Director Bell advised that the County's contribution to the work, approximately \$30,000, would be lost if the project is done at a later date; that the resurfacing would have a life expectancy of approximately 10 years; that the street would remain in its current configuration with one lane in each direction; and that the project would be completed within 3 months. He stated that the resurfacing would be a temporary fix, however, it would allow time for residents to decide whether they want to have curbs, gutters and sidewalks installed.

City Manager Jackson explained that, typically, the installation of new sidewalks, curbs and gutters has been the responsibility of property owners and that it requires the establishment of an assessment district, which must be approved by a majority vote of property owners.

Jana Shepard, Newton Street resident, stated that contractors have told her that the resurfacing would last only five years and expressed her preference that Newton Street be completely reconstructed, noting that the existing street consists of a thin layer of asphalt over an old dirt road. She commented on the large volume of traffic on Newton; maintained that the street has been neglected, with only patching done over the past 42 years; contended that the substandard street has diminished property values and is unsafe; and related her understanding that the reconstruction would cost approximately \$400,000, which is only 20% of the \$2 million the City has set aside for road repairs.

City Manager Jackson reminded the Council of the limited resources available for street repairs throughout the entire City and advised that an expenditure of this level would jeopardize other projects with higher priority due to the volume of traffic or degree of deterioration. He suggested that consideration of this project be deferred until the Capital Budget is brought forward if the Council would like to add the Newton Street reconstruction to the queue of future projects.

Mayor Walker indicated that he was opposed to spending half a million dollars on a project that does not resolve basic issues, such as the widening of the street or the installation of curbs, gutters and sidewalks, when the street could be resurfaced for a fraction of that amount, especially after just cutting \$12 million from the City's budget. He suggested that the resurfacing would make the street serviceable and allow time for the entire neighborhood to come together and agree upon a plan to do the job right and have it placed on the list of future capital projects.

In response to questions from the Council, City Manager Jackson estimated that it would take a minimum of two years from the appropriation of funding before reconstruction of the street could begin and that it would cost between \$1 million and \$1.5 million without curbs, gutters and sidewalks.

Councilmember Scotto indicated that he favored delaying action on this item until residents on Newton have been polled regarding what option they prefer.

Alex Shepard, Newton Street resident, stated that the street is unsafe for riding bikes and skateboarding and requested that it be properly reconstructed.

Steve Shepard, Newton Street resident, requested that action be postponed until facts and figures have been provided regarding the reconstruction of the street and residents have had an opportunity to be heard. He noted that numerous petitions in support of the reconstruction have been presented to the Council and expressed dismay that no response was received after a two-page letter outlining concerns was presented at a recent Council meeting and Councilmember Scotto directed staff to meet with residents. He contended that the street was beyond rehabilitation and reported that his home has exterior cracks due to shifting caused by the substandard street.

Ted Henry, 3826 Newton Street, noted that he has lived at this address for 37 years and has never seen anything done to the street other than patching. He commented on the deep ruts caused by the storm drain project and voiced his opinion that the County should be obligated to repair and smooth out the street after the project has been completed. He stated that he did not believe sidewalks were necessary and

pointed out that there is no room for sidewalks in some areas. He indicated that he would support the staff recommendation if the area was expanded to include the entire length of Newton Street from Vista Montana to Hawthorne Boulevard.

Steve Nardell, 3874 Newton Street, urged the Council to go out and take a firsthand look at the condition of the street; recommended that residents be provided with information regarding the options available so that they could arrive at a consensus; and expressed appreciation for the Shepards' efforts to gather signatures.

In response to Commissioner Mauno's inquiry, City Manager Jackson stated that should the Council delay action for a few weeks to hold a community meeting, it was likely that the County would move forward with street repairs and their contribution to the project would be lost. With regard to scheduling the street reconstruction project, he estimated that it would take at least five to six years before the project could begin because funds have already been committed for the next three years.

Commissioner Mauno indicated that he was not comfortable making a decision on this issue without input from residents.

Mayor Walker voiced support for the staff recommendation and suggested that the neighborhood could work on consensus building after the street has been resurfaced because it would be several years before the reconstruction could begin, noting that reductions in State revenues could cause further delay.

Councilmember Witkowsky stated that she believed it was important for Newton residents to be consulted before the Council makes a decision. She indicated that she would be willing to risk the loss of the County's contribution to the resurfacing in order to allow the necessary time for a community meeting and consider it a penalty for not talking to homeowners as earlier promised.

Mertz Maher, Newton Street resident for 49 years, recalled that residents paid a special assessment for sidewalks in 1961 and questioned what happened to the money. She stated that the condition of the street is an embarrassment and contended that the proposed resurfacing would not take care of the problem.

City Manager Jackson related his understanding that there has never been a special assessment district in that area for sidewalks, and Mayor Walker asked that staff research this matter.

Jerry Brannon, Torrance, provided background information about the history of the area and maintained that WALTERIA has been overlooked and treated like a stepchild. He urged the Council to reject the staff recommendation and to do whatever is necessary to do the job right.

Indicating that he would not support the staff recommendation, Councilmember Scotto proposed that the Council direct staff to hold a community meeting within the next three months to discuss options for repairing the street and to determine what level of improvement residents desire.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Scotto moved to reject the staff recommendation and to allow L.A. County to proceed with the repair of the trenches. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Witkowsky and passed by a 5-2 roll call vote, with Councilmember Nowatka and Mayor Walker dissenting.

City Manager Jackson stated that staff would schedule the community meeting as soon as possible. Councilmember Scotto requested that the scope of repairs be expanded to include Newton Street from Vista Montana to Hawthorne Boulevard.

The Council recessed from 9:15 p.m. to 9:37 p.m.

**9. PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

**9A. INTENTION TO VACATE A PORTION OF ZAMPERINI WAY**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the **Community Development Director** that City Council approve and adopt a Resolution declaring the intention to vacate the street easement on the east side of Zamperini Way between Airport Drive and Pacific Coast Highway and setting April 27, 2004, as the date for the hearing thereon.

John King, Torrance, expressed concerns about the impact the vacation would have on traffic in the area.

City Manager Jackson explained that the Council was simply setting the hearing date and that the public would have an opportunity to air their concerns at the hearing.

Transportation Manager Semaan offered to provide information about traffic on Zamperini Way at the April 27 hearing.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Scotto moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember McIntyre and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**RESOLUTION 2004-31**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE DECLARING ITS INTENTION TO VACATE THE STREET EASEMENT ON THE EAST SIDE OF ZAMPERINI WAY BETWEEN AIRPORT DRIVE AND PACIFIC COAST HIGHWAY IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE; FIXING A TIME AND PLACE FOR THE HEARING THEREON AND PROVIDING FOR THE PUBLICATION OF THE RESOLUTION

**MOTION:** Councilmember Lieu moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2004-31. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Nowatka and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**11. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

**11A. STATE OF LOCAL EMERGENCY RE CAROLWOOD LANE AND SINGINGWOOD DRIVE**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the **City Manager** and the **City Attorney** that City Council continue the state of local emergency, proclaimed March 2, 2001 for properties located on Carolwood Lane and Singingwood Drive.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Scotto moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Witkowsky and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**11B. MID-YEAR 2003-04 BUDGET REVIEW**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the **Finance and Governmental Operations Committee** that City Council concur with the following recommendations:

- 1) Accept and file the Mid-Year (2nd quarter 2003-2004) financial report;
- 2) Accept and file the City Treasurer's Investment Report; and
- 3) Approve the program modifications for the Finance, Parks and Recreation, and Transit departments.

Finance Director Tsao reported on the impact the passage of State Propositions 57 and 58 would have on City revenues.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Scotto moved to concur with the Committee's recommendations. The motion was seconded by Councilmember McIntyre and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**11C. APPLICATION/APPROPRIATION RE DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION BEVERAGE CONTAINER RECYCLING GRANT PROGRAM FUNDS**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the **Public Works Director** that City Council:

- 1) Approve a revised Resolution changing the signature authority to that of the Administrative Services Manager; and
- 2) Approve the application for an appropriation of \$40,077 upon receipt of funds from the Department of Conservation Beverage Container Grant Program, for the purpose of implementing beverage container recycling programs. The appropriation will include any interest earned from these funds as well.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Scotto moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember McIntyre and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2004-32**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE  
AUTHORIZING THE SUBMITTAL OF FUNDING REQUESTS TO  
RECEIVE FUNDS FOR BEVERAGE CONTAINER RECYCLING

**MOTION:** Councilmember Lieu moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2004-32. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Nowatka and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**11D. EAS03-00014, GPA03-00011, ZON03-00010, CUP03-00044, DIV03-00016, WAV03-00019: CETECH ENGINEERING/ CITY OF TORRANCE**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the **Community Development Director** that City Council take the following actions on property located at 3671, 3673 and 3675 Newton Street:

- 1) Adopt an Ordinance approving a Zone Change from C-2 (General Commercial) to R-2 (Two Family Residential);
- 2) Adopt a Resolution approving a General Plan Amendment from Local Commercial to Low-Medium Density Residential
- 3) Adopt a Resolution approving a Conditional Use Permit to allow the construction of a two-unit condominium development with a floor area ratio above .65;

- 4) Adopt a Resolution approving a Division of Lot for condominium purposes, for a merger of two parcels into one parcel and to allow the abandonment of 125 square feet of public right-of-way along Newton Street;
- 5) Adopt a Resolution denying a height Waiver; and
- 6) Approve an Ordinance Summary for publication.

**EAS03-00014, GPA03-00011, ZON03-00010, CUP03-00044, DIV03-00016, WAV03-00019: THOMAS YUGE (CETECH ENGINEERING) & THE CITY OF TORRANCE**

Community Development Director Gibson advised that the Ordinance/Resolutions reflect the Council's action at the February 24, 2004 meeting.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Scotto moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Witkowsky and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**ORDINANCE NO. 3554**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING DIVISION 9 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE TO RECLASSIFY CERTAIN PROPERTY AT 3671, 3673 AND 3675 NEWTON STREET FROM C-2 (GENERAL COMMERCIAL) TO R-2 (TWO-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT)

**MOTION:** Councilmember Lieu moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 3554. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Nowatka and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2004-27**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING A GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT AS PROVIDED FOR IN DIVISION 9, CHAPTER 2, ARTICLE 34 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE TO CHANGE THE GENERAL PLAN LAND USE DESIGNATION FROM LOCAL COMMERCIAL TO LOW-MEDIUM DENSITY RESIDENTIAL FOR PROPERTY LOCATED IN THE C-2 ZONE (ZONE CHANGE TO R-2 PENDING) IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE AT 3671, 3673 AND 3675 NEWTON STREET

**MOTION:** Councilmember Lieu moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2004-27. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Nowatka and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2004-28**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT AS PROVIDED FOR IN DIVISION 9, CHAPTER 5, ARTICLE 1 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE TO ALLOW THE CONSTRUCTION OF A TWO-UNIT CONDOMINIUM DEVELOPMENT AND FOR A FLOOR AREA RATIO OVER .65 ON PROPERTY LOCATED IN THE C-2 ZONE (ZONE CHANGE TO R-2 PENDING) AT 3673-3675 NEWTON STREET

**MOTION:** Councilmember Lieu moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2004-28. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Nowatka and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2004-29**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING A DIVISION OF LOT AS PROVIDED FOR IN DIVISION 9, CHAPTER 2, ARTICLE 29 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE TO ALLOW THE MERGER OF TWO PARCELS INTO ONE PARCEL AND FOR CONDOMINIUM PURPOSES ON PROPERTY LOCATED IN THE C-2 ZONE (ZONE CHANGE TO R-2 PENDING) AT 3673-3675 NEWTON STREET

**MOTION:** Councilmember Lieu moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2004-29. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Nowatka and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2004-30**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, DENYING A WAIVER AS PROVIDED FOR IN DIVISION 9, CHAPTER 4, ARTICLE 2 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE TO ALLOW THE CONSTRUCTION OF AN OVERHEIGHT STRUCTURE IN CONJUNCTION WITH A TWO-UNIT DEVELOPMENT ON PROPERTY LOCATED IN THE C-2 ZONE (ZONE CHANGE TO R-2 PENDING) AT 3673-3675 NEWTON STREET

**MOTION:** Councilmember Lieu moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2004-30. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Nowatka and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**11E. SUPPLEMENTAL TO THE AFSCME-TME MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR POLICE COMMUNICATIONS OFFICERS**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the **City Manager** that City Council adopt a supplemental to the AFSCME-TME Memorandum of Understanding modifying the pay grid for Police Communication Operators.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Scotto moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Witkowsky and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2004-33**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 2003-99 SETTING FORTH HOURS, WAGES AND WORKING CONDITIONS FOR EMPLOYEES REPRESENTED BY THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES – AFSCME, LOCAL 1117

**MOTION:** Councilmember Lieu moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2004-33. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Nowatka and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**12. HEARINGS**

**12A. ZON04-00001: CITY OF TORRANCE – GENERAL PLAN CONSISTENCY**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the **Community Development Director** and the **Planning Commission** that City Council:

- 1) Adopt an Ordinance approving a Zone Change from A1 (Light Agricultural District) to R-1 (Single Family Residential District) on 121 single family properties located in the vicinity of Ainsworth Avenue, 169th Street, 168th Street, Cranbrook Avenue, 171st Street, Kornblum Avenue, and Fonthill Avenue in North Torrance; and
- 2) Approve an **Ordinance Summary** for publication.

**ZON04-00001: CITY OF TORRANCE-GENERAL PLAN CONSISTENCY**

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

Planning Manager Bihn advised that the proposed Zone Change would bring the zoning into conformance with existing uses.

As no one came forward to speak, the public hearing was closed.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Scotto moved to close the public hearing. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Witkowsky and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Scotto moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Witkowsky and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**ORDINANCE NO. 3555**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING DIVISION 9 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE TO RECLASSIFY CERTAIN PROPERTIES LOCATED IN NORTH TORRANCE FROM A-1 (LIGHT AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT) TO R-1 (SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT)

**MOTION:** Councilmember Lieu moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 3555. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Nowatka and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**12B. 2004 PHA PLAN FOR SECTION 8 RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the **Community Development Director** that City Council conduct a public hearing, consider any comments received during the hearing, and approve the 2004 PHA annual plan for the Section 8 Housing Rental Assistance Program.

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

As no one came forward to speak, the public hearing was closed.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Scotto moved to close the public hearing. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Witkowsky and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Scotto moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember McIntyre and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**12C. ZON04-00002: CITY OF TORRANCE – TANDEM PARKING**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the **Community Development Director** and the **Planning Commission** that City Council:

- 1) Adopt an Ordinance to amend portions of the Torrance Municipal Code to so that multiple family units that are required to provide three parking spaces may have one of the spaces in tandem; and
- 2) Approve an **Ordinance Summary** for publication.

**ZON04-00002: CITY OF TORRANCE – TANDEM PARKING**

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

Planning Manager Bihn noted supplemental material available at the meeting.

As no one came forward to speak, the public hearing was closed.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Scotto moved to close the public hearing. The motion was seconded by Councilmember McIntyre and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Scotto moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Witkowsky and passed by a 5-2 roll call vote, with Councilmembers Mauno and McIntyre dissenting.

**ORDINANCE NO. 3556**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING PORTIONS OF DIVISION 9 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE SO THAT MULTIPLE FAMILY UNITS THAT ARE REQUIRED TO PROVIDE THREE PARKING SPACES MAY HAVE TWO OF THE THREE SPACES IN A TANDEM ARRANGMENT

**MOTION:** Councilmember Lieu moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 3556. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Nowatka and passed by a 5-2 roll call vote, with Councilmembers Mauno and McIntyre dissenting.

**12D. CUP03-00029, DVP03-00004, DIV03-00010: ROBERT TUTTLE ARCHITECTURE (BARRETT PATEL)**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the **Planning Commission** and **Community Development Director** that City Council deny the appeal and take the following action on property located at 3531 Torrance Boulevard:

- 1) Adopt a Resolution denying a Conditional Use Permit to allow the construction of a 66-room hotel;
- 2) Adopt a Resolution denying a Development Permit to allow construction within the Hawthorne Boulevard Corridor Specific Plan; and

3) Adopt a Resolution denying a Division of Lot to merge two parcels into one parcel.

**CUP03-00029, DVP03-00004, DIV03-00010: ROBERT F. TUTTLE ARCHITECTURE (BARRETT PATEL)**

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

**MOTION:** Councilmember Witkowsky moved to continue the hearing on this matter to April 13, 2004. The motion was seconded by Councilmember McIntyre and passed by unanimous vote.

\*

The Council met as the Redevelopment Agency from 9:57 p.m. to 9:59 p.m.

## **16. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

**16A.** City Clerk Herbers invited staff and the public to view the works of Torrance Artist Guild member Elizabeth Lanzer on display in the City Clerk's office through the end of March.

**16B.** Councilmember Lieu extended condolences to City Clerk Herbers and her family and the family of Sergeant Steve Harvey.

**16C.** Councilmember Lieu commended Police Chief Herren and the Torrance Police Department for the 17 percent decrease in violent crimes over the last year as compared to a 4 percent decrease in crimes in the State of California.

**16D.** Noting that he attended the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new animal control facility earlier in the day, Councilmember Lieu stated that he looked forward to having a City-run animal control program.

**16E.** Councilmember Lieu noted the recent installation of defibrillators at certain locations in Torrance and, with the concurrence of Council, requested that staff look into the feasibility of expanding the locations where these life-saving devices are available.

**16F.** Councilmember Mauno extended condolences to the Herbers and Harvey families.

**16G.** Councilmember Mauno reported that he noticed the resurfaced hockey rink at Wilson Park while attending the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the animal control facility and stated that he was pleased to learn that participation in the hockey program has been increased since the City has taken over its operation.

**16H.** Councilmember Mauno reported on his attendance at the National League of Cities conference in Washington, D.C., noting that he and his colleagues were able to meet with officials from the White House and both houses of Congress and came back with a lot of good information. He stated that there was a general feeling that local governments are more effective in getting things done because State and Federal governments are more prone to gridlock due to partisanship.

**16I.** Councilmember Mauno noted that he has been representing the City of Torrance at meetings to discuss the proposed project on the Chandler landfill site, which includes the potential for housing and the reconfiguration of the Rolling Hills Golf Course, and requested that a workshop be scheduled to serve as an informal update for the Council and the public.

Mayor Walker concurred with the idea of holding a workshop and clarified that no direct route off Crest Road to the site has been proposed.

**16J.** Councilmember McIntyre stated that she also attended the ceremony for the animal control facility and had every confidence that the City-run program will have a positive impact on the City.

**16K.** Councilmember McIntyre stated that it was clear from listening to various representatives while at the National League of Cities conference that no federal money is available for cities.

**16L.** Councilmember McIntyre reported that she enjoyed participating in the Read Across America program at Fern Avenue School after having been invited to do so in an eloquent letter by 4<sup>th</sup> grader Samantha Brooks.

**16M.** Referring to Consent Calendar Item 7G (Tree Dedications), Councilmember Nowatka noted that Soka Gakkai International has committed to donating 100 cherry trees, 10 of which were planted at a ceremony in March at Columbia Park, and that they will be contacting staff because they intend to donate another 100 trees.

**16N.** Councilmember Nowatka extended condolences to the family of Steve Harvey, noting that he was a former colleague who worked with him on the Armed Forces Day Parade, and to City Clerk Herbers.

**16O.** Councilmember Nowatka reported that four Boy Scouts from Troop 719 in North Torrance recently achieved the rank of Eagle Scout and were honored at a ceremony in Gardena on Saturday.

**16P.** Councilmember Nowatka announced a performance at the new Stage II Theater on March 24<sup>th</sup>.

**16Q.** Councilmember Scotto extended condolences to City Clerk Herbers and her family and to the family of Steve Harvey.

**16R.** Commenting on the implementation of the City-run animal control program, Councilmember Scotto reported that in the first full month of the program, one animal control officer serviced 288 calls and the rate of animals returned to owners was in excess of 70 percent as compared to a 28 percent rate when L.A. County was handling the program.

**16S.** Councilmember Scotto stated that he was grateful for being granted another term as councilmember without having to go through another election.

**16T.** Councilmember Witkowsky thanked her husband for his support, without which she could not carry out her duties as councilmember.

**16U.** Councilmember Witkowsky noted that there was a lobbying day at the National League of Cities conference and one of the main messages they tried to get across was "please do not balance the budget on the backs of local cities." She reported on a meeting with Congresswoman Jane Harman, at which Congresswoman Harman agreed to write a letter in support of the City's application for a grant to fund improvements at the North Torrance Library.

**16V.** Councilmember Witkowsky commented that she was disappointed that cherry trees were not in bloom while she was in Washington, D.C., but was pleased to see the cherry blossoms in Torrance upon her return.

**16W.** Mayor Walker extended condolences to City Clerk Herbers and her family and to the family of Steve Harvey.

**17. EXECUTIVE SESSION.**

Considered earlier in the meeting, see page 1.

**18. ADJOURNMENT**

At 10:15 p.m., the meeting was adjourned to Tuesday, March 23, 2004, at 5:30 p.m. for an executive session with the regular meeting commencing at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

***Adjourned in Memory of  
Jo Waters and Steve Harvey***

Attest:

/s/ Dan Walker

Mayor of the City of Torrance

/s/ Sue Herbers

Sue Herbers, CMC  
City Clerk of the City of Torrance

Approved on May 11, 2004