

May 25, 2004

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

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Torrance City Council convened in an adjourned regular meeting at 6:00 p.m. on May 25, 2004, in Council Chambers.

ROLL CALL

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

Absent: Councilmember Lieu.

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

17. EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

The City Council reconvened at 7:03 p.m.

2. FLAG SALUTE/INVOCATION

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilmember McIntyre.

The invocation was given by Councilmember Witkowsky.

3. AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING/WAIVE FURTHER READING

MOTION: Councilmember Scotto 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 Witkowsky and a voice vote reflected unanimous approval (absent Councilmember Lieu).

MOTION: Councilmember Scotto 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 McIntyre and a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval (absent Councilmember Lieu).

4. WITHDRAWN OR DEFERRED ITEMS

None.

5. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

City Clerk Herbers announced vacancies on the Library and Water Commissions with applications available online at www.torrcity.com or at the City Clerk's office, (310) 618-2870. She indicated that applications would be presented to the City Council at the meeting of June 22

Mayor Walker announced the City Yard Open House on Saturday, June 5 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the City Services Facility on Madrona Avenue with demonstrations games, displays, give-a-ways and more.

Fire Chief Bongard reminded everyone that the Exxon Mobil Torrance Refinery Monthly Community Alert Siren Testing would take place on Wednesday, June 2, 2004 at approximately 11:30 a.m.

Mayor Walker asked that the meeting be adjourned in memory of Claire Crain, former teacher, Library Commissioner, and founding member of Friends of the Torrance Library, Historical Society and North Torrance Civic Improvement Association.

6. COMMUNITY MATTERS

6A. RESOLUTION NO. 2004-60 RE TERÉSE LINNETTE CONDON

RESOLUTION NO. 2004-60

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE HONORING TERÉSE LINNETTE CONDON UPON HER RETIREMENT FROM THE CITY AFTER TWENTY-FOUR YEARS OF SERVICE.

MOTION: Councilmember Witkowsky moved to adopt Resolution No. 2004-60. Councilmember Nowatka seconded the motion and a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval (absent Councilmember Lieu).

Councilmember Witkowsky read the resolution and Mayor Walker presented it to Terése Condon who thanked the City for the opportunity to work on so many different projects. She indicated that the departments were very cooperative in disaster training and specifically thanked the Parks and Recreation Department and the citizens of Torrance who volunteer and work together to make everything work.

Councilmember Witkowsky thanked TARA and those who have worked closely with Terese.

6B. TORRANCE SISTER CITY 2004 STUDENT CULTURAL EXCHANGE PROGRAM WITH KASHIWA, JAPAN

Introduction of Torrance students participating in the Sister City 2004 Student Cultural Exchange Program with Kashiwa, Japan.

Al Muratsuchi, President of the Sister City Association, introduced the 2004 Student Ambassadors: Anthony Diaz, Home-Schooled; Mitchell Gebhard, Torrance High School; Evan Kono, South High School; Eric Matarrese, South High School; Michelle Mattson, West High School; Keri Namimoto, Torrance High School; Ken Radomski, West High School; and Tiffany Yoshida, West High School. He noted that Board Member Pamela Mallowney would be chaperoning the group. He also introduced Dave Brown, a 7th grade world history teacher at Jefferson Middle School who would be going to teach English in Kashiwa. Mayor Walker wished them all a safe and educational journey.

7. CONSENT CALENDAR

7A. PURCHASE ORDER RE EMPLOYEE SERVICE AWARDS

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **Human Resources Director** that City Council approve a purchase order with O.C. Tanner for an amount not to exceed \$35,000 for the purchase of employee service awards during the Fiscal Year 2004-2005.

7B. CONTRACT AMENDMENT RE CITY'S METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT CONNECTIONS

Recommendation

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

- 1) Approve a Fourth Amendment to contract services agreement with Northern Digital, Inc. (C2001-075) for a six month time extension to December 15, 2004 to complete the addition of the City's Metropolitan Water District (MWD) connections (T-5, T-6 & T-7); and
- 2) Authorize the Mayor to execute and the City Clerk to attest to said amendment.

7C. AGREEMENT AMENDMENT RE MADRONA MARSH WATER SOURCE EVALUATION

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **Acting Public Works Director** and **Parks and Recreation Director** that City Council:

- 1) Approve a Second Amendment to consulting service agreement with Telluris, Inc. (C2003-077) for a twelve-month time extension to June 6, 2005, to provide sufficient time for evaluating the water sources of the Madrona Marsh; and
- 2) Authorize the Mayor to execute and the City Clerk to attest to said amendment.

7D. MONTHLY INVESTMENT REPORT FOR APRIL 2004

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **City Treasurer** that City Council accept and file the monthly investment report for the month of April 2004.

7E. PUBLIC WORKS AGREEMENT RE ARTESIA BOULEVARD LANDSCAPE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **Community Development Director** that City Council:

- 1) Approve the plans and specifications for the Artesia Boulevard Landscape Improvements (B2004-16) [STPLER 5249-(012)/CIP A-15];
- 2) Award a public works agreement to Nativ Engineering, Inc. in the amount of \$1,050,454 and authorize a 5% contingency in the amount of \$52,522.70 for this project;
- 3) Authorize the Mayor to execute and the City Clerk to attest to said agreement; and
- 4) Appropriate an additional \$8,590 of Transportation Enhancement Activities (TEA) funds for this project.

7F. SERVICE REQUEST RE NEWTON STREET RESURFACING

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **Community Development Director** that City Council:

- 1) Authorize the Community Development Director to approve a service request with the County of Los Angeles that provides for the resurfacing of Newton Street from Hawthorne Boulevard to Vista Montana; and
- 2) Authorize the expenditure of \$161,983 with an initial deposit (check) of \$161,983 payable to the County of Los Angeles in accordance with the service request.

MOTION: Councilmember McIntyre moved to approve items 7a through 7f as written. Councilmember Scotto seconded the motion and a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval (absent Councilmember Lieu).

11. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

11A. CONTINUED STATE OF LOCAL EMERGENCY FOR CAROLWOOD LANE AND SINGINGWOOD DRIVE

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 Witkowsky moved to continue the state of local emergency for Carolwood Lane and Singingwood Drive. Councilmember McIntyre seconded the motion and a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval (absent Councilmember Lieu).

11B. PERS SYSTEM RE TWO YEAR SERVICE CREDIT

Recommendation of the **City Manager** that City Council begin Phase II of the process of offering a two-year service credit in their PERS System to certain employees whose jobs may be eliminated through recent budget reductions. This will cost no more than \$175,000 and is pursuant to Government Code 20903.

MOTION: Councilmember Scotto moved to accept the staff recommendation. Councilmember McIntyre seconded the motion and a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval (absent Councilmember Lieu).

11C. TORRANCE LIGHTING DISTRICT NO. 99-1 RE FISCAL YEAR 2004-2005

Recommendation of the **Community Development Director** that City Council:

- 1) Adopt a Resolution initiating proceedings to levy assessments within the City of Torrance Lighting District No. 99-1 for Fiscal Year 2004-2005;
- 2) Adopt a Resolution approving the Fiscal Year 2004-2005 Engineer's Report for the City of Torrance Lighting District No. 99-1; and
- 3) Adopt a Resolution of Intention to levy assessments with the City of Torrance Lighting District No. 99-1 for Fiscal Year 2004-2005.

MOTION: Councilmember Scotto moved to approve the staff recommendation. Councilmember Witkowsky seconded the motion and a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval (absent Councilmember Lieu).

RESOLUTION NO. 2004-63

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE INITIATING PROCEEDINGS FOR THE LEVY AND COLLECTION OF ASSESSMENTS WITHIN THE CITY OF TORRANCE LIGHTING DISTRICT 99-1 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2004-2005 PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF PART 2 OF DIVISION 15 OF THE STREETS AND HIGHWAYS CODE AND AS PROVIDED BY ARTICLE XIID OF THE CALIFORNIA CONSTITUTION.

MOTION: Councilmember Mauno moved to adopt Resolution No. 2004-63. Councilmember Scotto seconded the motion and a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval (absent Councilmember Lieu).

RESOLUTION NO. 2004-64

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE APPROVING the REPORT OF THE ENGINEER IN CONNECTION WITH THE LEVY AND COLLECTION OF ASSESSMENTS WITHIN THE CITY OF TORRANCE LIGHTING DISTRICT 99-1 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2004-2005 PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF PART 2 OF DIVISION 15 OF THE STREETS AND HIGHWAYS CODE AND AS PROVIDED BY ARTICLE XIID OF THE CALIFORNIA CONSTITUTION.

MOTION: Councilmember Mauno moved to adopt Resolution No. 2004-64. Councilmember Witkowsky seconded the motion and a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval (absent Councilmember Lieu).

RESOLUTION NO. 2004-65

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE DECLARING ITS INTENTION TO LEVY AND COLLECT ASSESSMENTS WITHIN THE CITY OF TORRANCE LIGHTING DISTRICT 99-1 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2004-2005 PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF PART 2 OF DIVISION 15 OF THE STREETS AND HIGHWAYS CODE AND AS PROVIDED BY ARTICLE XIID OF THE CALIFORNIA CONSTITUTION, APPOINTING A TIME AND PLACE FOR THE PUBLIC HEARING.

MOTION: Councilmember Mauno moved to adopt Resolution No. 2004-65. Councilmember McIntyre seconded the motion and a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval (absent Councilmember Lieu).

11D. RELIEF FIRE COMMUNICATIONS OPERATOR II POSITION

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

- 1) Approve a modification of the Fire Department budget by adding two part time Relief Fire Communications Operator II positions (.9 full time equivalents) and deleting two part time Relief Fire Communications Operator I (.9 full time equivalents);
- 2) Adopt an amendment to the pay Resolution for Certain Full Time Salaried and Hourly Employees adding the position of Relief Fire Communications Operator II; and
- 3) Adopt an amendment to the pay Resolution for Certain Part Time Hourly Employees adding the title of Relief Fire Communications Operator I.

Assistant to the City Manager Keane indicated that the item would assist in the consolidation of police and fire personnel. She noted that under the PERS contract,

these positions can only work 1,000 hours per year or less and when that limit is approached, the Fire Department has to call in Fire Department Dispatchers. She explained that the proposed change would save money by not having to pay fire fighters overtime to cover that job.

Alan Lee, AFSCME Local 1117, agreed that firefighters should not do communications jobs, but requested that the item be deferred as there has not been proper analysis of the new position and normal protocol has not been followed. He noted that a meeting is scheduled next week regarding consolidation of police and fire communications and if the item were deferred there could be proper discussion and an opportunity to appear before Civil Service Commission to either challenge the position or acquiesce.

City Manager Jackson reiterated that a cap on employee hours had been reached and the City would like to employ the part time workers rather than using firefighters as they are forced to do now. Fire Chief Bongard explained that new positions are not being created, but rather two part time positions are being expanded and medical and PERs benefits are being added.

In response to an inquiry from Councilmember Witkowsky, Mr. Lee explained that the union had not had a chance to properly learn about the positions. City Manager Jackson indicated that it would cost the City money to wait two weeks and would constrain the use of certain part time employees. He added that AFSCME would have a chance to review the matter and make their comments in two weeks and he reiterated that they were taking a current classification and giving two individuals additional benefits.

Councilmember Scotto asserted that waiting two weeks would accomplish nothing but asked that staff bring the items like this forward earlier in the future.

Councilmember Witkowsky asked that items be forwarded to the unions before the meetings and City Manager Jackson indicated that they are notified of all agenda items.

MOTION: Councilmember Scotto moved to approve the staff recommendation. Councilmember Witkowsky seconded the motion and a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval (absent Councilmember Lieu).

RESOLUTION NO. 2004-66

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 2002-78 SETTING FORTH CHANGES REGARDING HOURS, WAGES, AND WORKING CONDITIONS FOR CERTAIN PART TIME HOURLY EMPLOYEES.

MOTION: Councilmember Mauno moved to adopt Resolution No. 2004-66. Councilmember Scotto seconded the motion and a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval (absent Councilmember Lieu).

RESOLUTION NO. 2004-67

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 2002-77 SETTING FORTH CHANGES REGARDING HOURS, WAGES, AND WORKING CONDITIONS FOR CERTAIN FULL TIME SALARIED AND HOURLY EMPLOYEES.

MOTION: Councilmember Mauno moved to adopt Resolution No. 2004-67. Councilmember Witkowsky seconded the motion and a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval (Councilmember Lieu).

15. SECOND READING ORDINANCES

15A. ORDINANCE NO. 3559 RE RESIDENTIAL PERMIT PARKING

Second and Final Reading of Ordinance No. 3559 amending Section 61.6.32 of the Torrance Municipal Code related to residential permit parking.

ORDINANCE NO. 3559

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING SECTION 61.6.32 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE RELATED TO RESIDENTIAL PERMIT PARKING.

MOTION: Councilmember Mauno moved to adopt Ordinance No. 3559. Councilmember McIntyre seconded the motion and a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval (absent Councilmember Lieu).

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The Torrance Redevelopment Agency met from 7:42 p.m. to 7:48 p.m.

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16. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

16a. Councilmember Mauno reported attending the Environmental Science Fair, and he noted that water quality in the Madrona Marsh is good and pollution in the marsh only comes from biological means.

16b. Councilmember Scotto commended Bill Daley for his work to ensure the safety of his neighborhood against dangerous pit bulls.

16c. Councilmember Witkowsky reported seeing the new airbus airplane that holds over 500 people, and was impressed with the Alcoa fasteners.

16d. Mayor Walker noted that the actual and necessary expense rates of \$100 and \$200 a month for Councilmembers were set 30 years ago and asked staff to reevaluate and if appropriate to realign with actual expenses.

16e. Alan Lee, AFSCME Local 1117, asked to receive information about Council agenda items earlier as it was hard to get the Council to defer items once a meeting is in progress. He voiced concerns that a five-year contract with Great West had been passed noting that he had not been contacted about meetings prior to the preparation of the item. He also questioned if need for competitive bidding was indicated. Mr. Lee also noted that his bargaining unit had not been included in any selection process for medical and life insurance plans.

16f. Bill Daley, 3820 W. 180th Street, provided a detailed report on an incident involving a dangerous pit bull in his neighborhood. He expressed appreciation to the Department of Animal Control for removing the animal and Mayor Walker thanked Mr. Daley for the information he had submitted.

16g. Councilmember McIntyre was pleased that Torrance Animal Control had been effective and she thanked Mr. Daley for his meticulous report, noting that it was thorough, extremely helpful and she appreciated his initiative and investigation of the incident.

16h. Patty Masai, 17902 Florwood Avenue, was proud of the Daleys for putting in so much energy into documenting the incident and was proud of the Police Department and Animal Control for their handling of the incident.

17. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Considered earlier in the meeting.

18. ADJOURNMENT

At 8:09 p.m., the meeting was adjourned to Tuesday, June 8, 2004 at 5:30 p.m., for an executive session, with the regular meeting commencing at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers. Tuesday, June 1, 2004 will be a Council dark night.

** * * Adjourned in memory of Claire Crain * * **

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 July 13, 2004