

February 1, 2000

**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 6:00 p.m.\* on Tuesday, February 1, 2000, in City Council Chambers at Torrance City Hall.

\*At 5:30 p.m., City Clerk Herbers announced aloud in Council Chambers that a quorum was not present, but was expected at 6:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Councilmembers Cribbs, Horwich, Lee, Messerlian, O'Donnell, and Mayor Hardison.

Absent: Councilman Walker.

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

\*

Agenda Item 16 was considered out of order at this time.

**16. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 6:00 p.m., pursuant to Government Code Sections 54957.6, 54956.9(c) and 54957, the Council recessed into a closed session to discuss matters listed on the meeting agenda.

The Council reconvened in Council Chambers at 7:17 p.m. (Councilwoman O'Donnell arrived at 7:18 p.m.) No formal action was taken on any matter considered in closed session.

**2. FLAG SALUTE/INVOCATION**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Peggy Basile, Library Commissioner.

Pastor Chris Wright, Abundant Life Church of God, gave the invocation for the meeting.

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

**MOTION:** Councilman Lee 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 Councilwoman Cribbs and, there being no objection, it was so ordered by Mayor Hardison (absent Councilman Walker).

**MOTION:** Councilman Lee 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 Councilwoman Cribbs and, there being no objection, it was so ordered by Mayor Hardison (absent Councilman Walker).

**4. WITHDRAWN OR DEFERRED ITEMS**

None.

\*

Mayor Hardison asked that the meeting be adjourned in memory of George Z. Dale, a long-time Torrance realtor and brother of former Councilmember Nicholas Dale.

**5. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mayor Hardison announced a meeting of the Ad Hoc Legislative Committee to consider state propositions that may impact the City of Torrance on Tuesday, February 15 at 5:30 p.m. in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Assembly Room.

Councilman Lee announced a meeting of the Armed Forces Day Committee at 12:00 noon on Thursday, February 10, location to be announced.

Councilwoman Cribbs announced a meeting of the Finance and Governmental Operations Committee on Tuesday, February 29 at 5:30 p.m. in the West Annex Meeting Room.

**6. COMMUNITY MATTERS**

**6a. PROCLAMATION RE "BURN AWARENESS WEEK"**

Mayor Hardison presented a proclamation declaring the week of February 6 through February 13, 2000, as "Burn Awareness Week" in the City of Torrance to Tad Friedman, Torrance Fire Department Information and Education Officer, and Bob Bennett, Torrance Memorial Medical Center. Mr. Friedman invited residents to attend the Burn Prevention Fair to be held on February 5, 2000 at the Torrance Cultural Arts Center.

**6b. PROCLAMATION RE "CENSUS AWARENESS MONTHS"**

Mayor Hardison presented a proclamation declaring the months of February and March 2000 as "Census Awareness Months" in the City of Torrance to Albert Ng, Chair of the City of Torrance Census 2000 Complete Count Committee, who introduced committee members present including Len Simon, Barry Gross, Ada Garza, Carol Vernon and Frances Romero. Mr. Ng urged participation by all members of the public as federal funds and programs are distributed based on the information taken from census figures.

**6c. RECOGNITION OF DR. ARNOLD PLANK RE PRIVATE INDUSTRY COUNCIL**

Mayor Hardison presented a plaque to Dr. Arnold Plank, TUSD Superintendent, in recognition of his service on the Private Industry Council Board of Directors from 1991-1999.

**6d. PRIVATE INDUSTRY COUNCIL APPOINTMENT**

**Recommendation**

The Policy Board recommends that Council appoint and officially swear in Mark Goebel to the Carson/Lomita/Torrance Private Industry Council (C/L/T PIC).

Councilwoman Cribbs, Vice-Chair of the Policy Board, introduced Mr. Goebel and stated that the Council was very pleased to have him as a new member.

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Cribbs moved for the appointment of Mark Goebel to the C/L/T PIC. The motion was seconded by Councilman Messerlian and approved by unanimous voice vote (absent Councilman Walker).

City Clerk Herbers administered the oath of office to Mr. Goebel.

\*

City Clerk Herbers announced that the last day to register to vote in the March 7 Torrance Municipal Election and presidential primary election is February 7. The City Clerk further announced the dates of City Council Candidate Forums.

**7. CONSENT CALENDAR**

**7a. INVESTMENT REPORTS FOR NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 1999**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the City Treasurer that City Council accept and file the monthly investment reports for the months of November and December 1999.

**7b. LICENSE AGREEMENT RE GROUNDWATER MONITORING WELL**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the Engineering Director that City Council authorize the Mayor and the City Clerk to execute and attest to a License Agreement with Honeywell International, for one (1) groundwater monitoring well.

**7c. CONTRACT RE LIABILITY CLAIMS ADMINISTRATION**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the Human Resources Director that City Council approve a one year contract with Ward North America Inc. for liability claims administration services for the period of March 1, 2000, to March 1, 2001 at an annual cost not to exceed \$97,800.

**7d. CONTRACT RE SECURITY LIGHTING SYSTEMS UPGRADE**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the Parks and Recreation Director that City Council:

- 1) Accept the bid and award a standard Public Works Agreement, approved as to form by the City Attorney, to Minco Construction, Sole Proprietorship of Torrance, California, for the security lighting systems upgrades at various parks in the amount of \$125,050; and
- 2) Authorize the Mayor and the City Clerk to execute and attest to said Agreement. (Ref. B99-50) (CIP #S-15)

**MOTION:** Councilman O'Donnell moved for the approval of the Consent Calendar as written. The motion was seconded by Councilman Lee and passed by unanimous roll call vote (absent Councilman Walker).

**11. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

**11a. 1999-2004 CITY OF TORRANCE CAPITAL BUDGET**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the City Manager and the Finance Director that City Council approve modifications to the five-year Capital Budget, extend the Capital Budget to include the 2003/2004 fiscal year and appropriate additional funds for the 1999/2000 fiscal year

Mayor Hardison noted supplemental material available at the meeting.

City Manager Jackson introduced the five-year Capital Budget for 1999-2004, noting that it includes a Facilities and Equipment Action Plan and an Infrastructure Action Plan.

In a slide presentation, Finance Director Tsao provided an overview of projected revenues and expenditures for the five-year period; Budget Review Team Chair, Mary Giordano, discussed new Facilities, Equipment and Automation Projects; and Capital Projects Oversight Committee Chair, Brian Sunshine, described new and revised Capital Improvement Projects related to the City's infrastructure and outlined staff's recommendation regarding the sale of City-owned properties.

Responding to Councilman Messerlian's inquiry, Mr. Sunshine advised that while the Lago Seco property remains on the list of City-owned properties which potentially could be sold, staff was not recommending its sale at this time. Parks and Recreation Director Barnett offered clarification of plans to develop the parcel as a park and explained that funding for the project was not included in this Capital Budget.

In response to Councilman Messerlian's inquiry concerning the Joslyn Gallery, Ms. Giordano explained that the cost of improving the air conditioning system is included in the estimate (\$280,918) for renovation of the gallery, a project that has been deferred pending the availability of State or other grant funds, and that if the necessary funds are not obtained, \$40,000 for air conditioning is budgeted in 2004.

Mayor Hardison expressed concerns that residential street rehabilitation projects, some of which have already been delayed a year, will continue to be postponed due to staffing problems and requested that the situation be monitored very closely. City Manager Jackson offered to update the Council on a regular basis and stated that if positions are not filled by the target date, staff will return to the Council to discuss the consequences and possible shifting of priorities. Engineering Director Burt commented on the variable factors that are involved in scheduling street projects and noted that staff makes every effort to keep residents informed.

Mayor Hardison asked about the status of the pocket park at 226<sup>th</sup> and Ocean, and Parks and Recreation Director Barnett advised that funding for that park and another pocket park was included in the operating budget. With regard to the development of the Lago Seco property, he stated that staff is relying heavily on the passage of Proposition 12, which would provide a significant source of funding. Mayor Hardison suggested that it might be helpful if residents are informed about the advantages of State bond funding for local Parks and Recreation projects.

Responding to Councilman Messerlian's inquiry regarding the \$400 million estimate for deferred infrastructure projects, City Manager Jackson stated that he believed the figure to be a fairly realistic estimate of the needs that currently exist in the community. Councilman Messerlian noted that as the City currently spends approximately \$20 million a year on the infrastructure, it could take 20 to 25 years to complete these projects. City Manager Jackson advised that maintenance of the infrastructure is a never-ending process and that these costs can be expected to continue to escalate.

Mr. Tom Brewer, 23426 Evalyn Avenue, stated that he was pleased that the Lago Seco property was not among the properties scheduled for sale at this time, noting that the Southwood Riviera Homeowners Association strongly opposes the sale of this parcel.

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Cribbs moved to approve the modifications to the five-year Capital Budget as presented, to extend the Capital Budget to include the 2003/2004 fiscal year and to appropriate additional funds for the 1999/2000 fiscal year. The motion was seconded by Councilman Lee and passed by unanimous roll call vote (absent Councilman Walker).

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Cribbs moved to concur with the staff recommendation to begin the sale process (appraisals and advertising) of the following City-owned property: Vine Sump, Newton and Bluff, and Del Amo properties. The motion was seconded by Councilman Lee and passed by unanimous roll call vote (absent Councilman Walker).

Mayor Hardison thanked everyone involved in the budget process and requested that staff look into some creative options for the small City-owned parcel at 236<sup>th</sup> Place and Arlington.

Councilwoman Cribbs thanked staff for providing recaps of the budget and expressed her preference that multiple parts of a single project be listed together making it easier to determine the total cost. She expressed the hope that in the future, the Operating Budget and the Capital Budget could be presented at the same time.

City Manager Jackson stated that due to demand the budget process places on staff's time and energy, he did not know if that would be possible, but indicated that he would look into the matter.

Councilman Messerlian stated that the Capital Budget presents a very ambitious program for a city the size of Torrance and reflects the commitment of the Council and City leadership to carry out the goals and the objectives set forth in the Strategic Plan. Councilman Lee commented on the improvement in the appearance of the City since he took office eight years ago.

**12. HEARINGS**

**12a. GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT RE 2323 CABRILLO AVENUE**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the Planning Commission and the Planning Director that City Council adopt a Negative Declaration and a General Plan Amendment changing the General Plan Designation from Local Commercial to Medium Density Residential for property located in the R-3 zone at 2323 Cabrillo Avenue. GPA: 99-00004 (EAS99-00012): JCC Cabrillo LLC

Councilman Lee announced that he would be abstaining from consideration of this matter as he was a director on the board of the bank which had provided funding for the proponent and left Council Chambers.

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

Planning Manager Isomoto presented the staff report (per written material of record).

There being no requests to speak, the public hearing was closed.

**MOTION:** Councilman Messerlian moved to close the public hearing. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Cribbs and passed by unanimous roll call vote (absent Councilman Walker).

**RESOLUTION NO. 2000-12**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING A GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT (GPA99-00028) AS PROVIDED FOR IN DIVISION 9, CHAPTER 2, ARTICLE 34 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE TO CHANGE THE GENERAL PLAN DESIGNATION FROM LOCAL COMMERCIAL TO MEDIUM DENSITY RESIDENTIAL FOR PROPERTY LOCATED IN THE R-3 ZONE AT 2323 CABRILLO AVENUE**

**GPA99-00028, ((EAS99-00012): JCC CABRILLO, LLC**

**MOTION:** Councilman Messerlian moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2000-12. The motion was seconded by Councilman Horwich and passed by unanimous roll call vote, with Councilman Lee abstaining (absent Councilman Walker).

Councilman Lee returned to the dais.

**14. SECOND READING ORDINANCES**

**14a. SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE 3478**

**ORDINANCE 3478**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING DIVISION 9 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE TO RECLASSIFY CERTAIN PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1840 186<sup>TH</sup> STREET, 18605, 18655 AND 18715 WESTERN AVENUE FROM ML (LIMITED MANUFACTURING DISTRICT) TO C-2 (GENERAL COMMERCIAL DISTRICT)**

**MOTION:** Councilman Messerlian moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 3478. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Cribbs and passed by unanimous roll call vote (absent Councilman Walker).

\*

The Council convened as the Torrance Redevelopment Agency at 8:50 p.m. and adjourned at 8:51 p.m.

**15. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

Fire Chief Bongard invited citizen participation in Burn Awareness Week activities.

Fire Chief Bongard announced a Mobil siren test planned for February 2.

Fire Chief Bongard also announced that Crenshaw Boulevard between 190<sup>th</sup> Street and Del Amo Blvd. would be closed for barrier installation on Wednesday, February 9 between 8:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.

Councilman Horwich thanked staff for their efforts in the preparation of the budget. He urged that the schedules be met as noted and asked that citizens be advised if those same schedules are not maintained.

Councilman Horwich stated that he had attended a League of California Cities meeting and had brought back material related to pending legislation regarding certain personnel issues that he would share with staff.

Councilwoman O'Donnell congratulated the following Torrance residents who graduated from the South Bay Police Explorer Scout program in recent ceremonies held at the Cultural Arts Center: Christina Kaminsky, Tracy Lang, Christina Perez, Cassi Sanchez, Carla Stevens, Sean Sylvia and Paul Wilkins.

16. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Considered earlier in the meeting, see page 1.

17. **ADJOURNMENT**

At 8:56 p.m., the meeting was adjourned to Tuesday, February 8, 2000, at 5:30 p.m. for an executive session, with the regular meeting commencing at 7:00 p.m.

\*\*\*

***Adjourned in Memory of  
George Z. Drale***

---

Mayor of the City of Torrance

---

City Clerk of the City of Torrance