

May 2, 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 5:34 p.m. on Tuesday, May 2, 2000, in City Council Chambers at Torrance City Hall.

ROLL CALL

Present: Councilmembers Cribbs, Messerlian*, Nowatka, Scotto, Walker Witkowsky and Mayor Hardison.

*Arrived at 5:35 p.m.

Absent: None.

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

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

16. EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 5:34 p.m., pursuant to Government Code Sections 54957.6, 54956.9(b)(1), 54956.9 (b)(3)(c) and 54956.8, the Council recessed into a closed session to discuss matters listed on the meeting agenda.

The Council reconvened in Council Chambers at 7:24 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 Russ Nolte, Commission on Aging.

Pastor Jim Hawkins, South Bay Church of God, gave the invocation for the meeting.

3. AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING/WAIVE FURTHER READING

MOTION: Councilmember Cribbs 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 Messerlian and, there being no objection, it was so ordered by Mayor Hardison.

MOTION: Councilmember Cribbs 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 Messerlian and, there being no objection, it was so ordered by Mayor Hardison.

4. WITHDRAWN OR DEFERRED ITEMS

City Manager Jackson announced that Agenda Items 7d, 7g, and 7h had been withdrawn and that the public hearing on Item 12a, Citizens Options for Public Safety (COPS) Grant Funding, would be opened and continued to May 16, 2000.

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Mayor Hardison asked that the meeting be adjourned in memory of Dick Ciciotti, a retired survey party chief in the Engineering Department.

Mayor Hardison asked that the City flags be lowered to half-staff on the day of the funeral for Long Beach Police Officer Daryle Black, who was killed in the line of duty.

Clerk Herbers announced that applications were being accepted until May 3 for vacancies on the Cable Television Advisory Board, the Community Services Commission and the Library Commission, with appointments to be made by the City Council on May 9, 2000, at 7:00 p.m.

5. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Hardison invited the public to attend the City Yard Open House on Saturday, May 6, 2000, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 20500 Madrona Avenue.

Fire Chief Bongard invited the public to commemorate National Fire Service Day on Saturday, May 13, 2000, by visiting open houses at each fire station, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and attending live demonstrations in the SCROC south parking lot.

Mayor Hardison announced that there would be a City Council Budget Workshop on Tuesday, May 16, 2000, at 5:30 p.m. in Council Chambers.

City Manager Jackson noted that ABC was restored to the cable lineup by Time Warner earlier in the afternoon. He emphasized that the disruption in service was the result of a dispute between two private companies, Time Warner and ABC/Disney, and that the City does not regulate the programming carried by the private cable company.

6. COMMUNITY MATTERS

6a. RESOLUTION NO. 2000-46 RE FRANCES BOLLINGER

RESOLUTION NO. 2000-46

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY
OF TORRANCE HONORING AND COMMENDING
FRANCES BOLLINGER UPON HER RETIREMENT FROM
THE CITY AFTER TWENTY-FOUR YEARS OF SERVICE**

MOTION: Councilmember Messerlian moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2000-46. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Nowatka and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

To be presented at a later date.

6b. PROCLAMATION RE “MUNICIPAL CLERK’S WEEK”

Mayor Hardison presented a proclamation declaring the week of April 30 through May 6, 2000, as “Municipal Clerk’s Week” in the City of Torrance to City Clerk Herbers, who briefly outlined the services performed by the City Clerk’s office and recognized her staff.

6c. PROCLAMATION RE “OLDER AMERICANS MONTH”

Mayor Hardison presented a proclamation declaring the month of May 2000 as “Older Americans Month” in the City of Torrance to Frank Wolf, Chair of the Commission on Aging.

6d. OLDER AMERICAN AWARDS FOR 2000

Mayor Hardison introduced the recipients of the 2000 Older American Awards and presented them with appropriately inscribed plaques. Ed “Eiji” Enouye, was recognized for his service as a member of the North Torrance Lions Club, the Japanese Cultural Institute, and J. Nolan Community Services, an autism support group. Frank Wolf, Chairman of the Torrance Commission on Aging, was recognized for providing support to individuals in need through his participation in various organizations, including A.A.R.P. Tax Aide Program, Torrance Focal Point on Aging, and South Bay Retired and Senior Volunteers. Dorothy Wu was recognized for her ten years of service as President of the South Bay Evergreen Seniors Association, an organization through which she uses her interpretive skills to aid people of Chinese decent. Violet Irvine, who was not present at the meeting, was recognized for assisting hundreds of South Bay residents in improving their reading and comprehension skills through her work on the South Bay Literacy Council.

7. CONSENT CALENDAR

7a. CONTRACT SERVICES AGREEMENT FOR REPAIR OF BUS ENGINES AND TRANSMISSIONS

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Transit Director that City Council approve and authorize the Mayor to execute and the City Clerk attest to a one-year agreement with Valley Detroit Diesel Allison (VDDA) to repair and rebuild engines and the Allison transmissions of the Torrance Transit buses for an annual cost not to exceed \$150,000.

7b. AMENDMENT TO AGREEMENT FOR DESIGN OF WATER REPLACEMENT PROJECTS

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Engineering Director that City Council:

- 1) Approve an amendment to an existing agreement (C99-096) with ASL Consulting Engineers to provide additional design services for Pacific Coast Highway Water Main Replacement (I-18), and 182nd Street Water Main Replacement (I-16), in an amount not to exceed \$12,500;
- 2) Authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute and attest said amendment; and
- 3) Authorize staff to transfer \$12,500 from I-16 to the account for Water Main Replacement (I-19).

7c. APPROVAL OF FINAL TRACT MAP 52690

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Engineering Director that City Council approve Final Tract Map No. 52690 by J.C.C. Homes for six condominium units on four parcels located at 3915 Emerald Street, which substantially conforms to and has met all conditions of approval of the Tentative Map.

7d. ACCEPTANCE OF DONATIONS

Recommendation

Recommendation of the City Manager that City Council accept the following donations submitted for the specified purposes:

- 1) \$1,000 to Police from Councilwoman O'Donnell for employee patio;
- 2) \$1,200 to Fire from Councilwoman O'Donnell for needed equipment; and
- 3) \$2,000 to General Services from Torrance Artists Guild for improvements to Joslyn Gallery Facility.

Withdrawn, see page 1.

7e. PROPOSED LEGISLATION RE THE ADOPTION OF REGULATIONS BY CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Transit Director that City Council support AB 2784 (Margett), prohibiting the state board or an air quality management district from adopting a motor vehicle fuel specification or from requiring a mandatory fleet engine conversion unless that regulation and a multimedia evaluation are reviewed by the California Environmental Policy Council.

7f. PURCHASE OF EXCESS COMPENSATION INSURANCE

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Human Resources Director that City Council approve the purchase of excess workers' compensation insurance, for the period of May

1, 2000 to May 1, 2001, from Robert F. Driver Company, at a cost not to exceed \$40,760.

7g. ACCEPTANCE AND APPROPRIATION OF CALWORKS YOUTH FUNDING

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Human Resources Director that City Council accept \$170,455 in CalWorks funding and appropriate these funds to the Employment and Training budget and authorize the execution of service agreements with Los Angeles Unified School District (\$101,414) and Southern California Regional Occupational Center (\$43,463) to provide summer work for CalWorks youth.

Withdrawn, see page 1.

7h. ACCEPTANCE AND APPROPRIATION OF WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACT FUNDS

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Human Resources Director that City Council accept \$606,453 in Workforce Investment Act youth funds and appropriate these funds to the Employment and Training Division budget and authorize the execution of service agreements with Los Angeles Unified School District (\$172,679) and Southern California Regional Occupational Center (\$115,120) to provide the Summer Work Component under the Workforce Investment Act.

Withdrawn, see page 1.

7i. CONSULTING SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH SCIENCE APPLICATION INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Transit Director that City Council approve a six month (March 1, 2000 – September 1, 2000) time extension of a consulting services agreement with Science Application International Corporation (SAIC). This agreement with SAIC was authorized by Council to assist the Transit Department in developing recommendations regarding bus propulsion systems for future bus procurements.

7j. CONTRACT RE YOGA CLASSES AT CULTURAL ARTS CENTER

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Parks and Recreation Director that City Council approve an agreement hiring Renee Taylor Yoga Studio as a provider of Yoga classes at the Torrance Cultural Arts Center, not to exceed \$34,830.

MOTION: Councilmember Walker moved for the approval of Consent Calendar Items 7a, 7b, 7c, 7e, 7f, 7i and 7j. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Witkowsky and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

9. **PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

9a. **VACATION OF DRAINAGE AND DETENTION EASEMENT NEAR VAN NESS AND DEL AMO BOULEVARD**

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Engineering Director that City Council approve and adopt a Resolution summarily vacating an Irrevocable Offer of Dedication (IOD) for a drainage and detention easement and replacement with a similar IOD near the intersection of Van Ness Avenue and Del Amo Boulevard.

Senior Division Engineer Perkins presented the staff report (per written material of record).

RESOLUTION NO. 2000-45

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ORDERING THE SUMMARY VACATION OF AN IRREVOCABLE OFFER OF DEDICATION FOR A DRAINAGE AND DETENTION EASEMENT NEAR THE INTERSECTION OF VAN NESS AVENUE AND DEL AMO BOULEVARD IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE

MOTION: Councilmember Messerlian moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2000-45. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Nowatka and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

9b. **VACATION OF A PORTION OF MADRONA AVENUE**

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Engineering Director that City Council approve and adopt a Resolution declaring the intention to vacate a portion of the east side of Madrona Avenue between Carson and Antonio Streets and setting June 20, 2000 as the date for the hearing thereon.

Senior Division Engineer Perkins presented the staff report (per written material of record).

RESOLUTION NO. 2000-50

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE DECLARING ITS INTENTION TO VACATE A PORTION OF THE EAST SIDE OF MADRONA AVENUE BETWEEN CARSON AND ANTONIO STREETS IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE; FIXING A TIME AND PLACE FOR THE HEARING THEREON AND PROVIDING FOR THE PUBLICATION OF THIS RESOLUTION

MOTION: Councilmember Messerlian moved for the adoption on Resolution No. 2000-50. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Nowatka and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

9c. VACATION OF DRAINAGE EASEMENT WEST OF WESTERN AVENUE

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Engineering Director that City Council approve and adopt a Resolution summarily vacating a drainage easement west of Western Avenue from Harpers Way to Torrance Boulevard.

Senior Division Engineer Perkins presented the staff report (per written material of record).

RESOLUTION NO 2000-51

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ORDERING THE SUMMARY VACATION OF A DRAINAGE EASEMENT WEST OF WESTERN AVENUE FROM HARPERS WAY TO TORRANCE BOULEVARD IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE

MOTION: Councilmember Messerlian moved for the adoption on Resolution No. 2000-51. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Nowatka and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

9d. SIGNAL COORDINATION ALONG CRENSHAW AND TORRANCE BLVD.

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Planning Director that City Council:

- 1) Receive the staff report and presentation on signal coordination along Crenshaw and Torrance Boulevard; and
- 2) Direct the staff to negotiate an agreement with Meyer, Mohaddes Associates, to work on other major arterials such as Anza, Lomita and Sepulveda.

In a slide presentation, Transportation Planning Manager Semaan provided background information about the South Bay Signal Synchronization Project, a regional project approved by the South Bay Cities Council of Governments which is currently being implemented; and discussed the goals and objectives of the proposed pilot project to coordinate signals along Torrance and Crenshaw Boulevards. Using a computerized traffic simulation, a representative of Meyer, Mohaddes Associates demonstrated the reduction in travel time that could be achieved with the project's implementation. Mr. Semaan noted that the traffic study projects a travel time improvement of from 7 to 21 percent and savings of close to \$500,000 per year.

In response to Mayor Hardison's inquiry, Mr. Semaan offered clarification that the \$500,000 figure represents time saved by motorists which translates into increased productivity.

Councilmember Witkowsky questioned whether disruptions in traffic caused by trains were taken into account and whether it would be possible to alleviate the backups caused by trains through signal synchronization. City Manager Jackson stated that it would be very difficult to synchronize with the railroads and that he thought the best approach would be to strategize with them to avoid peak hours in order to minimize the

conflict. He noted that railroad traffic is expected to decrease once the Alameda Corridor is completed.

Responding to questions from Councilmembers, Mr. Semaan discussed the rationale for selecting Crenshaw and Torrance Boulevards for the pilot project and confirmed that, in addition to synchronizing the signals, different phasing was also being explored.

Mr. Semaan indicated that with the Council's approval, staff was prepared to begin implementing the pilot project. He noted that staff is working with L.A. County to ensure that as the regional South Bay Signal Synchronization Project is implemented, linking signals within the City are timed to coordinate for optimal efficiency.

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

Mayor Hardison requested that staff notify the Council when the project has been completed.

12. HEARINGS

12a. CITIZENS OPTIONS FOR PUBLIC SAFETY (COPS) GRANT FUNDING

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Chief of Police that City Council convene a public hearing concerning Assembly Bill 3229, Citizens Options for Public Safety (COPS) grant funding. Further, receive input from staff on programs of interest to the Chief of Police and Council as well as the public on the use of the grant funds. At the close of the hearing, appropriate and allocate the funds along with current and future interest to the approved programs.

Mayor Hardison opened the public hearing. There being no requests to speak, the hearing was continued to May 16, 2000.

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The Council convened as the Redevelopment Agency at 8:23 p.m. and adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

15. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Michael Smith, Cable Television Administrator discussed issues related to the Time Warner and ABC dispute.

Fire Chief Bongard announced the regular monthly siren test at 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday, May 3, 2000.

Councilmember Witkowsky commended police and fire personnel for their actions during a recent incident at Columbia Park.

Mayor Hardison congratulated City Treasurer Linda Barnett on her installation as president of the California Municipal Treasurer's Association.

Mayor Hardison noted the receipt of letters and faxes regarding LAX noise issues; explained that the City of Torrance is represented on various committees as part of a group effort to address these issues; and assured the public that attention is being paid to their concerns. She indicated that there had been airport construction, as well as some weather-related incidents that exacerbated noise problems in recent months.

David Cook, speaking on behalf of retired police personnel (TPRA), suggested an amendment to PERS Contract, to include death benefits for all City employees. He also added his thanks to the City for the paving of Madrona/Prairie Avenue.

Dick Cahill suggested raising death benefits for retired employees.

16. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Considered earlier in the meeting, see page 1.

17. ADJOURNMENT

At 8:46 p.m., the meeting was adjourned to Tuesday, May 9, 2000, at 5:30 p.m. in the West Annex Commission Meeting Room, for the purpose of meeting with the Torrance Youth Council, with the regular meeting to commence at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers.

***Adjourned in Memory of
Dick Ciciotti***