

December 8, 1998

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

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

There being no quorum at 5:30 P.M., the Torrance City Council convened in an adjourned regular session at 6:30 P.M. on Tuesday, December 8, 1998, in the City Council Chambers at Torrance City Hall.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Councilmembers Cribbs, Lee, Messerlian, O'Donnell and Mayor Hardison. Councilmember Walker arrived at 6:40 P.M. (six-member body).

Absent: None.

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

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Agenda Item No. 20 was considered out of order at this time.

20. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 6:32 P.M., pursuant to Government Code Sections 54956.9(a), 54956.9(c) and 54956.8, the Council entered into a closed session to confer with the City Manager and the City Attorney on the agenda matters listed under Items 20.a (Conference with Legal Counsel - Existing Litigation), 20.b (Conference with Legal Counsel - Anticipated Litigation) and 20.c (Real Property - Conference with Real Property Negotiator and Redevelopment Agency).

At 7:20 P.M., the Council returned to open session, with no action having been taken in closed session.

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Discussion returned to regular agenda order.

2. **FLAG SALUTE/INVOCATION**

Chris Steiner, Boy Scout Troop #310, Bruce Maass, Scoutmaster, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

City Clerk Herbers gave the invocation for the meeting.

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

Wendy Selogie  
Recording Secretary

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**MOTION:** Councilmember Lee moved to receive and file the report of the City Clerk on the posting of the agenda for this meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Cribbs and, there being no objection, it was so ordered by Mayor Hardison.

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

4. **WITHDRAWN/DEFERRED ITEMS**

None.

5. **COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

City Clerk Herbers announced the following: that applications for appointment to the City Council are being accepted in the City Clerk's office until 5:30 P.M. on Thursday, December 10, 1998, with appointment to be made at the Council meeting on December 15, 1998; and that applications for City commissions are being accepted in the City Clerk's office until 5:30 P.M. on Wednesday, January 6, 1999, with appointments to be made at the City Council meeting of January 12, 1999.

Mayor Hardison encouraged the community to participate in the "Toys for Tots" program.

6. **COMMUNITY MATTERS**

6a. **WATER REPLENISHMENT DISTRICT GRANT PROGRAM FOR TORRANCE**

On behalf of the Water Replenishment District (WRD), WRD Director Robert Goldsworthy presented the City of Torrance with a check in the amount of \$226,174.51 as the first installment of the \$452,000 Safe and Clean Water Grant Program for the City of Torrance.

Mayor Hardison related her appreciation of Director Goldsworthy's attention to the City's thoughts and concerns.

7. **CONSENT CALENDAR**

7a. **RENEWAL OF AGREEMENT RE TORRANCE SEASONS**

**Recommendation**

The City Manager recommends that the City Council approve a one-year renewal of an agreement with Rodgers & McDonald Graphics to be drafted by the City Attorney in an amount not to exceed \$55,540 to print and deliver four issues of Torrance Seasons.

7b. **PURCHASE ORDER RE OFFICE SUPPLIES**

Wendy Selogie  
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**Recommendation**

A recommendation of the General Services Director that the City Council authorize a purchase order for an anticipated amount not to exceed \$120,000.00 to Office Depot Business Services Division, Signal Hill, CA, for the purchase of the City's annual requirement of office supply products.

7c. **AUTHORIZATION FOR SALE OF SURPLUS VEHICLES**

**Recommendation**

It is the recommendation of the Acting Fleet Services Director that the City Council authorize the sale of surplus City vehicles.

7d. **REVISED CLASS SPECIFICATIONS RE LIBRARY MANAGEMENT**

**Recommendation**

The Human Resources Director and the Civil Service Commission recommend that the City Council approve the revised class specifications for the Library management classifications.

7e. **PURCHASE ORDER RE POLICE DEPARTMENT FIREARMS' RANGE**

(Considered separately, see page 4).

7f. **APPROPRIATION RE ASSET FORFEITURE FUNDS**

**Recommendation**

The Chief of Police and Finance Director recommend that the City Council authorize the appropriation of \$60,000 from unappropriated State asset forfeiture funds to the asset forfeiture miscellaneous projects account to:

Provide \$20,252 to meet the cash match for the 1997 Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) block grant;

Provide \$181,181 to meet the cash match for the 1998 Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) block grant; and

Provide funding in the amount of \$21,567 for minor purchases of asset forfeiture related equipment and supplies.

7g. **APPROPRIATIONS RE ELECTRIC PICK UP TRUCK ETC.**

**Recommendation**

A recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council:

Appropriate \$16,000 of AB2766 funds and approve purchase order with Advanced Technology Vehicles for 36-month lease of a Chevy S-10 electric pick-up truck; and

Appropriate \$15,000 of AB2766 funds and approve purchase order for purchase and installation of a heavy-duty above-ground vehicle lift, shelter and other related expenses. Funding broken down as follows:

Canvas; \$3,000 for shelter and installation with Morris Aluminum &

\$9,000 for lift with Peterson Hydraulics, Inc.

\$3,000 for other related expenses (permits, etc.)

**MOTION:** Councilmember O'Donnell moved for the approval of the Consent Calendar as written, with the exception of Item No. 7e (Purchase Order Re Police Department Firearms' Range). The motion was seconded by Councilmember Walker and passed by unanimous roll all vote.

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Agenda Item No. 7e was considered separately from the Consent Calendar as follows:

7e. **PURCHASE ORDER RE POLICE DEPARTMENT FIREARMS' RANGE**

**Recommendation**

The Chief of Police and City Manager recommend that the City Council award a purchase order in the amount of \$61,748.34 to Caswell Detroit Armor Companies of Cary, Illinois, for the sole source purchase and installation of replacement parts and equipment for the firearms range located at the Police Department.

Councilmember O'Donnell asked if any companies located closer to Torrance could provide these services.

Police Chief Herren explained that a decision was made to utilize Caswell Detroit Armor Companies of Cary, Illinois, because they installed the existing firearms range equipment; that Caswell is one of the best companies for this purpose; and that it would be approximately \$25,000 more to replace the entire system if another vendor was to be used.

**MOTION:** Councilmember O'Donnell moved for the approval of Agenda Item No. 7e. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Walker and, there being no objection, it was so ordered by Mayor Hardison.

9. **TRANSPORTATION/PUBLIC WORKS**

9a. **PHASE I OF PROPOSED ROUTE RESTRUCTURING PLAN**

Wendy Selogie  
Recording Secretary

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## **Recommendation**

A recommendation of the Transit General Manager that City Council direct staff to complete Phase I of the proposed Route Restructuring Plan by July 1999, which includes the following elements:

- (a) Discussion with adjoining transit operators and local jurisdictions to facilitate scheduling, transfer and fare arrangements;
- (b) Proceed with formal inter-operator notifications and public hearing required by local and Federal regulations relating to implementation of the proposed restructuring plan;
- (c) Initiate discussions with affected City of Torrance employee organizations regarding restructuring impacts;
- (d) Refine operational, financial and passenger impacts associated with the proposed restructuring plan, including a detailed plan and schedule for Phase II implementation; and
- (e) Concur in the recommendation to provide for personnel revisions, if any, through attrition.

Supplemental written material of record distributed at the meeting included Transit General Manager Whittle's "Response to Cribbs' Notes Re Transit Restructuring" (undated).

Transit General Manager Whittle presented the staff report. With the aid of visual materials, he provided a detailed explanation of the existing and proposed bus routes, as well as the financial, operational and patronage impacts of the proposed modifications.

City Manager Jackson clarified that changes in manpower resulting from the proposed modifications would be through attrition only.

Councilmember Messerlian inquired as to when services at Harbor Station would be curtailed. He asked how negative responses would impact the proposed restructuring plan; whether the plan would jeopardize funding and regional responsibility for transit; and if a line goes to the employment center in El Segundo and to Los Angeles International Airport (LAX).

In response to questions from the Council, Transit General Manager Whittle advised that Phase II would probably consist of Lines 2 and 4, and possibly 3; that it would be from July 1999 to December 1999; that the City currently operates its transit routes at approximately 70% of what it costs the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) to do the same thing; that the proposed modifications would not affect efficiency, that the service would be brought closer to home and would be more productive; that services at Harbor Station would be terminated only at off-peak times; that, should it not be possible to work out an arrangement with Long Beach, the entire restructuring would

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be affected; that, as long as adjacent areas would continue to be serviced, funding would not be affected; that the line going to LAX and the employment center in the City of El Segundo would not be affected; and that service would go to LAX on Sundays and it would be increased on Saturdays.

Councilmember Cribbs suggested that Phase II cost information include the potential loss of riders no longer being able to pick up connections and that the potential impact on administrative personnel be addressed.

Councilmember O'Donnell commended the information provided by staff. She commented on the importance of providing mass transit. However, Ms. O'Donnell related her concern over duplications in effort and she suggested that, because at least two nearby cities have lines running to Downtown Los Angeles, the Torrance line to that area be eliminated. She agreed that the administrative process should be examined and stated her support for providing service to El Camino College and from Torrance Boulevard to the new shopping center on Figueroa Street. Ms. O'Donnell stated her impression that it would be safe to terminate the service to Long Beach, but she is surprised that the idea has not been discussed with that city.

Expressing his appreciation of the information provided by staff, Councilmember Lee questioned if safety concerns increase the further the buses get away from the City of Torrance. He felt that the proposed modifications would be a big step forward in providing a higher level of service to the community.

City Manager Jackson advised that, should the proposed modifications be approved, difficulties associated with multiple jurisdiction coverage would be changed. He verified that, should the City wish to increase the amount of transit funding it receives, it would be advantageous to lower the transit rates.

Mayor Hardison pointed out the importance of addressing the fact that, according to information obtained during the development of the Strategic Plan, the community does not feel the transit system within the City is as good as it could be. She asked if it would be possible to allow for flexibility in doing Phases I and II; questioned what would happen if Phase III did not work; and voiced her concern over the possibility of spending savings the City does not have.

Transit General Manager Whittle confirmed that Phases I and II could be done on an as-needed basis. He noted the City's capability to add incremental service to existing service.

City Manager Jackson advised that a Council decision on the proposed restructuring is not necessary at this time; that Agenda Item No. 9b before the Council this evening includes the Council's approval of using savings from the proposed restructuring for operational efforts closer to home and either enhancing or modifying current services; that personnel would not be reduced; and that it would not take much to implement the proposed alternatives.

Mr. Alan Lee, Torrance Municipal Employees (TME) American Federation of State, Municipal and County Employees (AFSCME) Local 1117, commented that this appears to be an effort to reduce personnel and public hearings for reductions of 25% or greater are required; that the proposed modifications appear to have very serious

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implications, including a substantial reduction in pay for some employees; that the statistics provided by staff appear to be incorrect; and that AFSCME plans to follow this matter and provide constructive input in the future.

Mr. Harold Peace, Torrance Bus Operator, explained that, when he was hired approximately eight months ago, he understood that Torrance intended to increase its bus system; that the proposed modifications would negatively impact patronage at existing shopping areas; and that ridership would decrease should riders be forced to change buses to get to their destinations.

Voicing her understanding of concerns over the proposed modifications, Mayor Hardison contended that the services need to be provided in Torrance. She related her interest in the City's development of routes to take riders to shopping centers in other cities.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Lee moved to concur with the staff recommendation to proceed with Phase I, with the understanding that formal proposals shall come forward for the Council's consideration during this process. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Cribbs and ultimately passed by unanimous roll call vote.

Sharing information about procedures relevant to this item, Transit General Manager Whittle provided input on the anticipated time schedule for planned discussions with adjoining cities. He indicated that a public hearing would not be necessary for each phase; but, it would be necessary to hold a public hearing prior to implementing the proposed modifications.

Mayor Hardison noted the receipt of two telephone calls expressing riders' concerns about getting to their jobs on Line 1.

The motion was passed by unanimous roll call vote.

9b. **TORRANCE TRANSIT ROUTE REDEPLOYMENT OPTIONS**

**Recommendation**

The Transit General Manager recommends that the City Council consider and give direction for alternate route deployment that could be funded with savings from the proposed route restructuring.

City Manager Note: The City Manager recommends the Line 5 and Line 8 options if Council concurs with the concept of alternate route deployment funded with route restructuring savings. Line 5 enhances local service for the citizens of Torrance and Line 8 provides the citizens with weekend transportation to the LAX area and connectivity to the LAX Transit Center.

Supplemental written material of record distributed at the meeting included Transit General Manager Whittles "Response to Cribbs' Notes Re Transit Restructuring" (undated).

City Manager Jackson related staff's request for direction from the Council on spending savings from the proposed route restructuring on expansion of local services in Torrance.

Councilmember Messerlian recommended that this issue be left open-ended at this time.

Councilmember Cribbs highlighted the importance of accurate calculations on the cost savings prior to making a determination on this matter.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Messerlian moved to provide increased services for Torrance residents if true savings are realized. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Cribbs and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

13. **ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

13a. **RESOLUTION RE POLICE AND FIRE RECRUITS**

**Recommendation**

It is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt a resolution for Police and Fire recruits adding salary and benefits for Fire recruits.

Supplemental written material of record distributed at the meeting included a December 7, 1998 memorandum addressed to the City Council from Assistant to the City Manager Keene transmitting a revised resolution.

City Clerk Herbers read aloud the number and title of Resolution No. 98-151.



**MOTION:** Councilmember Messerlian moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 98-151. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Cribbs and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**RESOLUTION NO. 98-151**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE SETTING FORTH HOURS, WAGES AND WORKING CONDITIONS FOR RECURRENT POLICE AND FIRE RECRUITS FOR THE PERIOD STARTING DECEMBER 6, 1998

- 13b. **RESOLUTIONS RE AMENDED SERVICE AGREEMENT AND CUSTODIAL AGREEMENT; GREAT-WEST LIFE GROUP ANNUITY CONTRACT; DEFERRED COMPENSATION PLAN A; AND DEFERRED COMPENSATION PLAN B**

**Recommendation**

The City Treasurer, as the Deferred Compensation Plan Administrator, respectfully requests the adoption of resolutions approving the amended Service Agreement and Custodial Agreement with Norwest Bank; the Amendment and Assignment of Great-West Life & Annuity Insurance Company's Group Annuity Contract; the amended Deferred Compensation Plan A Document; and the Deferred Compensation Plan B Document (Part-Time, Seasonal and Temporary Employees).

Supplemental pertinent written material of record included a December 7, 1998 memorandum addressed to Assistant to the City Manager Giordano from City Manager Jackson.

City Treasurer Barnett advised that this item basically addresses legislation adopted in 1996, including the trust requirement, and that it must be adopted prior to January 1, 1999.

City Clerk Herbers read aloud the number and title of Resolution No. 98-152.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Messerlian moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 98-152. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Cribbs and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**RESOLUTION NO. 98-152**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE APPROVING AN AMENDED SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH GREAT-WEST LIFE & ANNUITY INSURANCE COMPANY AND THE CUSTODIAL AGREEMENT WITH NORWEST BANK RELATED TO THE DEFERRED INCOME PLAN FOR CITY EMPLOYEES

City Clerk Herbers read aloud the number and title of Resolution No. 98-153.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Messerlian moved for the adoption of Resolution  
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No. 98-153. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Cribbs and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**RESOLUTION NO. 98-153**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE APPROVING THE AMENDMENT AND ASSIGNMENT OF GREAT-WEST LIFE & ANNUITY INSURANCE COMPANY'S GROUP ANNUITY CONTRACT TO NORWEST BANK AS CUSTODIAN

City Clerk Herbers read aloud the number and title of Resolution No. 98-154.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Messerlian moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 98-154. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Cribbs and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**RESOLUTION NO. 98-154**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE APPROVING AND ADOPTING AN AMENDED EMPLOYEE DEFERRED COMPENSATION PLAN A

City Clerk Herbers read aloud the number and title of Resolution No. 98-155.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Messerlian moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 98-155. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Cribbs and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**RESOLUTION NO. 98-155**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE APPROVING AND ADOPTING AN EMPLOYEES' DEFERRED COMPENSATION PLAN B - PART-TIME, SEASONAL, TEMPORARY EMPLOYEES

13c. **CHANGES IN OPERATING BUDGET**

**Recommendation**

The Information Systems Director and the City Attorney recommend that the following changes be made to their respective 1998-1999 operating budgets:

Department Budget (General Fund)

Add one (1) Programmer Analyst position to the Information Systems Budget

Transfer funds from the City Attorney and Information Systems' Budget to cover one (1) Programmer Analyst position for the City Attorney's automation projects; and

Eliminate one (1) vacant legal secretary position from the

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City Attorney's Budget and one (1) vacant part-time Programmer Assistant position from the Information Systems Budget.

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

18. **ADDENDUM MATTERS**

None.

19. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

19a. Fire Chief Bongard announced plans to test the emergency siren at the Mobil Oil Refinery December 14 through 16, 1998.

Mayor Hardison requested that this information be announced on the local cable television channel.

19b. Councilmember Lee recommended that the December 15, 1998 meeting agenda be made available to the prospective Councilmembers.

Mayor Hardison clarified that the appointment of the new Councilmember at the December 15, 1998 meeting will be toward the very end of the agenda.

City Clerk Herbers advised that copies of the December 15, 1998 meeting agenda will be available to the prospective Councilmembers in either the City Clerk's office or the Police Department.

19c. Councilmember O'Donnell called attention to the "Science Sunday" program to be held at Madrona Marsh on December 13, 1998, 2:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.

19d. Councilmember O'Donnell noted a letter from an individual commending assistance received from the Police Department due to a traffic accident.

19e. Referencing discussion at a previous City Council meeting, City Attorney Fellows advised that, should the Councilmember to be appointed at the December 15, 1998 decide to run for office after the expiration of former Councilmember Nakano's term, the proper terminology used to reference the individual would be "Appointed Incumbent" or "Appointed City Councilmember."

20. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Considered earlier in the meeting (see page 1).

21. **ADJOURNMENT**

At 9:10 P.M., the meeting was adjourned to Tuesday, December 15, 1998, 5:30 P.M., for an executive session, to be followed by the regular meeting at 6:30 P.M.

Wendy Selogie  
Recording Secretary

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**ADJOURNED IN  
MEMORY OF  
RETIRED FIRE CAPTAIN JOHN BLAINE**

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Mayor of the City of Torrance

ATTEST:

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City Clerk of the City of Torrance