

December 15, 1998

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL**

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The Torrance City Council convened in a regular session at 5:32 p.m. on Tuesday, December 15, 1998, in the City Council Chambers at Torrance City Hall.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Councilmembers Cribbs, Lee, Messerlian, O'Donnell\*, Walker and Mayor Hardison.  
\*arrived at 5:33 p.m.

Absent: None.

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

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

20. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 5:32 p.m., pursuant to California Government Code Sections 54957.6, 54956.9(a), and 54956.9(c), the Council recessed into a closed session to confer on matters listed on the meeting agenda.

At 6:47 p.m., the Council reconvened in Council Chambers. No formal action was taken on any matter heard in closed session.

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2. **FLAG SALUTE/ INVOCATION**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Beach Cities Civil Air Patrol Squad #107.

Captain Don Gilger, The Salvation Army, 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.

**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.

4. **WITHDRAWN/DEFERRED ITEMS**

City Manager Jackson announced that Item No. 6b (Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce 1st Quarter Budget Report) was withdrawn and rescheduled for the January 12, 1999, City Council meeting; and that Item No. 14b (Vacation of a Portion of Torrance Boulevard) would be rescheduled to January 19, 1999.

5. **COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mayor Hardison announced that the annual "Toys for Tots" program would be continuing through December 20, 1998, and that anyone wishing to donate may bring a new, unwrapped toy or gift certificate to the Torrance Police Department, Torrance Fire Station, or Torrance Main Library.

City Clerk Herbers announced that Commission applications are being accepted in the City Clerk's office until 5:30 p.m. on January 6, 1999, with appointments to be made at the City Council meeting of January 12, 1999.

6. **COMMUNITY MATTERS**

6a. **RESOLUTION NO. 98-156 RE COUNCILMAN GEORGE NAKANO**

Considered out of order (see page 8).

6b. **TORRANCE AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE 1ST QUARTER BUDGET REPORT**

Rescheduled for the January 12, 1999, City Council meeting.

7. **CONSENT CALENDAR**

7a. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES - NOVEMBER 10, 1998 AND NOVEMBER 17, 1998**

7b. **YOUTH COUNCIL DONATIONS**

**Recommendation**

The Torrance Youth Council recommends that City Council approve a \$6,500 donation from the Torrance Youth Council Donation Fund in the following amounts:

(1) \$5,500 to Parks and Recreation Department for the Make\*A\*Circus program; and

(2) \$1,000 to the Volunteer Center for Operation Backpack.

7c. **TORRANCE ROSE FLOAT ASSOCIATION DONATION**

**Recommendation**

The Parks and Recreation Director recommends that City Council accept a donation of \$15,000 from the Torrance Rose Float Association and appropriate this amount to Account #620062.

7d. **EXPENDITURES FOR SENIOR CITIZEN EXCURSIONS**

**Recommendation**

The Parks and Recreation Director recommends that City Council approve expenditures for senior citizens program excursions planned for the months of January through June, 1999.

7e. **FINAL TRACT MAP NO. 52408 - 2808 235TH STREET**

**Recommendation**

The Engineering Director recommends that City Council approve Final Tract Map No. 52408, located at 2808 - 235th Street, which substantially conforms to and has met all conditions of approval of the tentative map.

7f. **UPDATE ON PHASE II OF CITY'S CLASSIFICATION PLAN**

**Recommendation**

The Human Resources Director recommends that City Council accept the update on Phase II of the City's Classification Plan.

7g. **HOLLYWOOD RIVIERA SPORTSMAN'S CLUB DONATION**

**Recommendation**

The City Librarian recommends that City Council accept and appropriate a \$509.00 donation from the Hollywood Riviera Sportsman's Club for the purchase of range end shelving for the Walteria Branch Library.

7h. **CONTRACT FOR LIABILITY CLAIMS ADMINISTRATION**

**Recommendation**

The Human Resources Director recommends that City Council approve a one-year contract with Ward North America, Inc., from January 1, 1999, to January 1, 2000, at an annual cost not to exceed \$94,000, for liability insurance.

7i. **PURCHASE ORDERS RE STANDARD PERSONAL COMPUTER SOFTWARE**

**Recommendation**

The Information Systems Director and the Police Chief recommend that City Council authorize a purchase order be issued for an anticipated amount not-to-exceed \$110,000 in total for a one-year period to ASAP Software Express, Inc.

7j. **PURCHASE ORDER RE LEGAL ADVERTISING FOR FISCAL YEAR 1998-99**

**Recommendation**

The City Clerk recommends that City Council authorize a purchase order for an anticipated amount not to exceed \$23,000 to the Daily Breeze for legal advertising.

7k. **CONTRACT RE SUPERKIDS GYMNASTICS**

**Recommendation**

The Parks and Recreation Director recommends that City Council approve an agreement hiring Superkids as the provider of gymnastics classes at the Torrance Cultural Arts Center, not to exceed \$85,320.00.

**MOTION:** Councilwoman O'Donnell moved for the approval of Consent Calendar Item Nos. 7a through 7k. The motion was seconded by Councilman Walker and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

8. **LIBRARY / PARKS & RECREATION**

8a. **1999 GRANT PROGRAM FOR NON-PROFIT SOCIAL SERVICES AGENCIES**

**Recommendation**

The Community Services Commission recommends that City Council approve funding under the 1999 Grant Program for Non-Profit Social Services Agencies to be awarded to Behavioral Health Services, Inc. (\$1,800), Community Helpline, Inc. (\$2,500), Enrichment Through Employment (\$1,370), Home Ownership for Personal Empowerment (\$3,860), Jewish Family Service of Los Angeles (\$1,000), My Handi-Capable Reporter (\$5,000), Retired & Senior Volunteer Program (\$2,500), and South Bay Post-Polio Support Group (\$800), for a total of \$18,830. The Parks and Recreation Director concurs with the Commission's recommendations with the exception of funding the \$1,000 grant to the Jewish Family Service of Los Angeles, for a total allocation of \$17,830. The Community Services Commission and the Parks and Recreation Director recommend that City Council authorize unused funds from 1999 to be reallocated to the 2000 grant program.

Parks and Recreation Director Barnett reported that the Commission's and staff's recommendations for the 1999 grant program are consistent with the exception of the Jewish Family Service of Los Angeles, and that staff was not recommending funding for that agency because they elected not to send a representative to interviews before the Commission. He indicated that over 90 letters were sent out to former grant program participants, but only 10 applications were received; and requested that unused funds be rolled over into the 2000 grant program.

Mr. Paul Nowatka, Chairman of the Community Services Commission, offered clarification concerning the Commission's recommendation for funding the Jewish Family Service in the amount of \$1,000; noted that a survey will be done to determine the reason for the decrease in the number of applicants; and requested that unused funds be reserved for next year's grant program.

**MOTION:** Councilman Lee moved to concur with the Commission's recommendations in the amount of \$18,830 and authorized unused funds from 1999 to

be reallocated to the 2000 grant program. The motion was seconded by Councilman Walker and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

9. **TRANSPORTATION/ PUBLIC WORKS**

9a. **ANNUAL APPROPRIATION FOR STREET LIGHTING COSTS**

**Recommendation**

The Planning Director recommends that City Council appropriate \$1,717,000 from previously unexpended street lighting funds that have been transferred into the General Fund to cover operational costs of providing street lighting and signals throughout the City of Torrance during fiscal year 1998-99. The Planning Department further recommends that City Council approve the corrected appropriation of \$100,000 from the same source for the preparation of a new Street Lighting District.

Councilman Lee questioned whether the provision of maintenance and energy could be bifurcated to take advantage of the impending competitive marketplace, and City Manager Jackson agreed to explore the possibility.

In response to Mayor Hardison's inquiry, Traffic Engineering and Transportation Planning Manager Buchman outlined the tentative timeline for a public meeting, a public hearing, and balloting regarding the formation of a new street lighting district in the spring.

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

10. **POLICE / FIRE**

10a. **DISPOSITION OF FIRE EQUIPMENT**

**Recommendation**

The Fire Chief recommends that City Council adopt a resolution authorizing title transfer of five lengths of surveyed 1 3/4" hose, three surveyed 1 1/2" nozzles, and two Scott Air Paks to the L. A. County Fire Chief's Physical Ability Testing (PAT) program.

**City Manager Note**

The subject equipment has no value to the City of Torrance.

Fire Chief Bongard presented the staff report (per written material of record).

**RESOLUTION NO. 98-157**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF  
TORRANCE AUTHORIZING THE DISPOSITION OF SURVEYED  
HOSE, NOZZLES, AND DONATED SCBA'S TO L.A. COUNTY  
FIRE CHIEF'S PHYSICAL ABILITY TESTING PROGRAM**

**MOTION:** Councilman Lee moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 98-157. The motion was seconded by Councilman Walker and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

11. **PLANNING & ZONING MATTERS**

11a. **RESOLUTION NO. 98-158 RE 1902 WEST 237TH STREET**

**Recommendation**

The Planning Director recommends that City Council adopt a resolution denying the appeal and denying DIV98-0013 to allow one lot to be subdivided into four lots on property located in the R-1: Single-Family Residential Zone at 1902 West 237th Street. (DIV 98-0013) LANCO ENGINEERING

Acting Planning Manager Parkin Tate advised that this resolution documents the Council's prior action of November 10, 1998.

**RESOLUTION NO. 98-158**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, DENYING A DIVISION OF LOT TO ALLOW ONE LOT TO BE SUBDIVIDED INTO FOUR LOTS ON PROPERTY LOCATED IN THE R-1 ZONE AT 1902 WEST 237TH STREET**

**DIV98-0013: LANCO ENGINEERING**

**MOTION:** Councilman Messerlian moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 98-158. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Cribbs and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

11b. **RESOLUTION NO. 98-159 RE 2051 233RD STREET**

**Recommendation**

The Planning Director recommends that City Council adopt a resolution denying the appeal and denying DIV98-0012 to allow one lot to be subdivided into three lots, two of which are flag lots, on property located in the A-1: Light Agricultural zone at 2051 233rd Street. (DIV98-0012) LANCO ENGINEERING

Acting Planning Manager Parkin Tate advised that this resolution also corresponds to the Council's action of November 10, 1998.

**RESOLUTION NO. 98-159**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, DENYING A DIVISION OF LOT TO ALLOW A SUBDIVISION OF ONE LOT INTO THREE LOTS, TWO OF WHICH ARE FLAG LOTS; ON PROPERTY LOCATED IN THE A-1 ZONE AT 2051 233RD STREET**

**DIV 98-0012: LANCE ENGINEERING (TERRI STEWART)**

**MOTION:** Councilman Messerlian moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 98-159. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Cribbs and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

11c. **RESOLUTION NO. 98-160 RE 23030 MAPLE AVENUE**

**Recommendation**

The Planning Director recommends that City Council adopt a resolution to repeal Resolution No. 98-147, and adopt an ordinance to enact a Zone Change, ZON98-0002, reclassifying from R-1 (Single-Family Residential District) to PD (Planned Development District) a 7.2 acre property located at 23030 Maple Avenue. ZON98-0002: THE OLSON COMPANY

Acting Planning Manager Parkin Tate explained that this action is necessary to correct a procedural error on November 24, 1998.

**RESOLUTION NO. 98-160**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, REPEALING RESOLUTION 98-147 IN ORDER TO ADOPT AN ORDINANCE FOR THE APPROVAL OF A ZONE CHANGE FROM R-1 (SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT) TO PD (PLANNED DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT) OF A 7.2 ACRE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 23030 MAPLE AVENUE.  
ZON98-0002: THE OLSON COMPANY**

**MOTION:** Councilman Messerlian moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 98-160. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Cribbs and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**ORDINANCE NO. 3460**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING A ZONE CHANGE FROM R-1 (SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT) TO PD (PLANNED DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT) OF A 7.2 ACRE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 23030 MAPLE AVENUE  
ZON98-0002: THE OLSON COMPANY**

**MOTION:** Councilman Messerlian moved for the introduction and approval of Ordinance No. 3460. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Cribbs and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

12. **PERSONNEL MATTERS**

12a. **APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY CITY ATTORNEY II**

**Recommendation**

The City Attorney recommends that City Council appoint Heather K. Whitham to the position of Deputy City Attorney II.

City Attorney Fellows noted Ms. Whitham's outstanding job performance since being appointed as Deputy City Attorney I in December 1995 and recommended that she be appointed to the position of Deputy City Attorney II.

**MOTION:** Councilman Walker moved to appoint Heather K. Whitham to the position of Deputy City Attorney II. The motion was seconded by Councilman Messerlian and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

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Item 6a was considered out of order at this time.

6a. **RESOLUTION NO. 98-156 RE COUNCILMAN GEORGE NAKANO**

**RESOLUTION NO. 98-156**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF  
TORRANCE HONORING COUNCILMAN GEORGE NAKANO  
FOR HIS MANY YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE TO  
THE CITY OF TORRANCE**

**MOTION:** Councilman Messerlian moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 98-156. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Cribbs and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

Mayor Hardison presented the resolution to Assemblyman Nakano, who thanked everyone for their support and indicated that he will continue to work together with the Council on many issues of concern to the City.

Mr. Robert Savaskas, L.A. County West Vector Control District, presented a plaque to Assemblyman Nakano in recognition of his outstanding service on the district.

Mayor Hardison announced that a reception in honor of Mr. Nakano is being planned and that further information will be forthcoming.

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13. **ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

13a. **APPOINTMENT OF COUNCILMEMBER**

**Recommendation**

The City Clerk recommends that the City Council appoint a councilmember, whose term expires March 15, 2000, from a qualified list of applicants.

Mayor Hardison introduced the following applicants and invited them to provide any pertinent information that was not covered in their application:

Michael Botello	Michael Mauno	Bill Sutherland
Henry Carlson	Pat McIntyre	Hazel Taniguchi
Bill Cook	Allen W. Mitchell	Glenn Tanner



Kurt Driskill	Sandi Monda	Sara Ann Thomas
Judy Gibson	Paul M. Nowatka	Mark Wirth
William Goedike	Donald Pyles	Hope Witkowsky
Harvey Horwich	Frank Rizzardi	John Wong
Anthony Kriss		

(Applicants William Mason II, Richard A. Olson, and Robert Smith, Jr. were not present at the meeting).

Councilmembers nominated Harvey Horwich and Hazel Taniguchi.

Subsequent to roll call balloting, the following motion was offered.

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Cribbs moved for a unanimous ballot on the appointment of Harvey Horwich to serve on the City Council, term to expire March 15, 2000. The motion was seconded by Councilman Messerlian and, there being no objection, it was so ordered by Mayor Hardison.

City Clerk Herbers administered the oath to newly appointed Councilman Horwich.

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Council recessed from 7:55 p.m. to 8:05 p.m. with Councilman Horwich taking his seat on the dais upon their return.

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14. **HEARINGS**

14a. **VACATION OF A PORTION OF TORRANCE BOULEVARD**

**Recommendation**

The Engineering Director recommends that City Council resume the public hearing that City Council consider adoption of a resolution ordering the vacation of a portion of Torrance Boulevard (locally known as "Little Torrance Boulevard"), a portion of 212th Street, and the alley connecting Torrance Boulevard and 212th Street.

Mayor Hardison noted supplemental material available at the meeting.

Mayor Hardison announced that this was the time and place for the continued hearing on this matter and opened the public hearing. She indicated that the City had received a request from the applicant to continue the hearing to January 19, 1999, due to ongoing discussions with neighboring property owners.

**MOTION:** Councilman Walker moved to continue the public hearing on this matter to January 19, 1999. The motion was seconded by Councilman Messerlian and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

18. **ADDENDUM MATTERS**

None.

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The Redevelopment Agency met from 8:06 p.m. to 8:09 p.m.

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19. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

19a. On behalf of the City's executive staff, City Manager Jackson wished everyone happy holidays.

19b. Fire Chief Bongard announced that Wednesday, December 16, 1998, would be the last day of testing of the Mobil siren.

19c. Councilmembers extended holiday greetings to all and welcomed Mr. Horwich to the Council.

20. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Considered earlier in the meeting (see page 1).

21. **ADJOURNMENT**

At 8:15 p.m., the meeting was adjourned to Tuesday, January 5, 1999, at 5:30 p.m. for an executive session, with the regular meeting commencing at 7:00 p.m.

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Mayor of the City of Torrance

ATTEST:

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City Clerk of the City of Torrance