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Ava Cripe
Minute Secretary

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Adjourned at 7:55 P.M.

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March 21, 1972

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL

OPENING CEREMONIES:

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The Torrance City Council convened in a regular meeting on Tuesday, March 21, 1972, at 5:30 P.M. in the Council Chambers at Torrance City Hall.

2. ROLL CALL:

Present were Councilmen Brewster, Johnson, Sciarrotta, Surber, Uerkwitz, Wilson, and Mayor Miller. Absent: None.

Also present: City Manager Ferraro, Assistant City Manager Scharfman, City Attorney Remelmeyer, City Clerk Coil, and City Treasurer Rupert.

3. FLAG SALUTE:

Mr. Charles Fulton led in the salute to the flag.

4. INVOCATION:

Reverend Milton Sippel, First Christian Church, led in the salute to the flag.

STANDARD MOTIONS:

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilman Sciarrotta moved that the minutes of March 7, 1972 be approved as recorded. His motion, seconded by Councilman Brewster, was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

6. APPROVAL OF DEMANDS:

Councilman Uerkwitz moved that all properly audited demands be paid. His motion was seconded by Councilman Brewster, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

7. MOTION TO WAIVE FURTHER READING:

Councilman Brewster moved that after the Clerk has given a number and read title to any resolution or ordinance on tonight's agenda, the further reading thereof be waived, reserving and guaranteeing to each Councilman the right to demand the reading of any such resolution or ordinance in regular order. The motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

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8. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

Legislative Committee:

Report will be forthcoming re: recent meeting.

PRESENTATIONS:

9. Torrance Police Explorers presentation - WITHDRAWN.
10. PRESENTATION OF PERMAPLAQUES to Coy Hall, Mike McNeill and the El Camino Football Team.

Councilman Surber extended the Council's congratulations for an outstanding year in Football; there was grateful acceptance by Mr. William Vincent of El Camino College.

- 10A. PRESENTATION OF PERMAPLAQUE to Torrance High School Pep Squad.

A permaplaque presentation by Mayor Miller in recognition of their outstanding representation of Torrance High School and the City of Torrance during the 1971-1972 school year was graciously accepted by a glamorous, vivacious Pep Squad.

PLANNING AND ZONING MATTERS:

11. APPEAL OF PLANNING COMMISSION DECISION denying consideration of the Aaron Bros. Art Mart, located at 18406 Hawthorne Boulevard, as a furniture store. (Foy E. Price)

Planning Director Shartle outlined the past history of the subject property, the present circumstances, and the Planning Department/Commission findings relative to this determination. Mr. Shartle also described his personal visit to the site this date and his opinion that at a low-customer activity time of day, there were quite a few customers in the store, and such would not be the case at a regular furniture store.

It was reported by Councilman Sciarrotta at this point in the meeting that he too had personally investigated the operation, the hour selected by him being on a Saturday at 2:00 P.M., and had found an abundance of available parking spaces; another trip on a Monday at 11:00 A.M. revealed that, again, all the spaces were not occupied -- this situation was supported by additional trips on a Wednesday at 3:00 P.M. and a Friday at 2:00 P.M. These several trips, according to Mr. Sciarrotta, were made for the reason of the split Planning Commission decision.

Attorney Don Hitchcock, 21515 Hawthorne Boulevard, representing the proponent, stated that routine procedures had been pursued by Mr. Price -- his initial application for a building permit indicating "furniture, art frame"; a building was constructed for a tenant; a long term lease was signed; and no problems were anticipated -- there was subsequent application by Aaron Bros. and the store was opened. Interpretation conflicts followed, and now Mr. Price is left with some 4400 square feet on the second story of this building unoccupied, pending Council decision.

A definition of "furniture" by Mr. Hitchcock followed; he pointed out the varied and extensive references which might be applied to "furniture", supported by letters of record from merchandisers in this industry, and its applicability to the subject situation. Also noted by Mr. Hitchcock was the fact that the City has allowed "specialty furniture stores", such as light fixtures, bar stools, etc.

It was added by Mr. Hitchcock that parking tests the last few days have revealed that the maximum parking at any one hour was 13 cars, which included employee cars.

Councilman Brewster expressed his opinion that the question of the variance with regard to the furniture store is really a secondary issue -- the basic underlying issue is the determination if these kind of accessory stores to be considered as predominantly furniture or furniture-associated uses.

Planning Director Shartle recommended that perhaps the best procedure as to parking needs for this particular business would be the variance procedure -- to rule on whether or not this is a furniture business would not affect just the subject business but would affect all similar type businesses; the consideration at this time is an interpretation of the ordinance as to whether this sort of business is forever going to be considered a furniture store. Mr. Shartle added that there are many types of commercial enterprises in the City which sell the same types of merchandise as the proponent, and the question is posed if they too are to be classified as furniture stores and require half as much parking.

Mayor Miller indicated his willingness to delay the matter to permit further Staff review, if desired.

It was the comment of Councilman Johnson that he had no objection to handling the subject request, but acknowledged that similar stores may make requests where the Council would require them to have more parking than is actually needed, and his concern that parking space is money. There should be adequate parking spaces, according to Mr. Johnson, but these business operators should not be required to have more spaces than is reasonable. Further, Mr. Johnson would recommend handling this request at this time, it being fairly obvious that it is okay -- if this business belongs in furniture, along with other stores such as light fixtures, then they should be so placed so such future owners will be informed.

Discussion ensued, with overall review of furniture store definition; Planning Director Shartle added that consideration should be directed to the classification for retail stores selling furniture items as possible furniture stores; Thrifty Drug Store, for instance, sells paint brushes, chairs, etc.; the Broadway Department Store has an entire floor devoted to furniture -- all matters of difficult interpretation.

Councilman Brewster reiterated his concern that the Council is involving itself in a class action kind of thing -- to afford the proponent relief on the subject application, it is necessary to find unique circumstances, or class action will be established which will have to apply to all these kinds of stores on a similar basis. Mr. Brewster urged that there be Planning Commission review of this particular problem.

MOTION: Councilman Sciarrotta moved that the requested relief be granted. The motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and carried, with roll call vote as follows:

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Johnson, Sciarrotta, Surber, Uerkwitz,
Wilson, and Mayor Miller.

NOES: COUNCILMEN: Brewster.

Mayor Miller noted the 4-3 Planning Commission vote which indicated a question of interpretation by these discerning Commissioners -- it would seem that the Council is being over-technical in trying to delineate the fine points. That, according to the Mayor, is what the right of appeal is all about; the Council must translate and make a decision, based on the problem presented. Mayor Miller also stated that to study bar stools, picture frames, etc. will result in breaking down whether the pictures should go into the frames! Somewhere along the line a decision must be made, the Mayor concluded, acknowledging the job that must be done by Staff in maintaining codes, but the right of the Council to make the final decision, as elected officials, must be respected.

Councilman Brewster requested the Council's concurrence in referring this kind of problem back to the Planning Commission for further study. The motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta.

It was Councilman Brewster's added comment that such a study should determine where the line should be drawn, along with possible reclassification. Councilman Uerkwitz commented that the whole purpose of the right of appeal is to have the Council make the judgment; perfect rules would make a City Council unnecessary. To divide businesses into such small groups is overlegislation, in Mr. Uerkwitz' opinion; he would prefer individual consideration.

The above action granting the requested relief was defined by City Attorney Remelmeyer as an interpretation of the ordinance to permit art furnishings/objects stores to be classified as furniture stores -- any exercise of judgment in individual cases would require the variance procedure involving parking requirements, etc. This understanding was acknowledged by the Council.

There were no objections to Councilman Brewster's motion, and it was so ordered.

12. ORDINANCE re: ZC 71-22.

ORDINANCE NO. 2314

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING DIVISION 9 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE TO RECLASSIFY THAT CERTAIN PROPERTY WHICH IS LOCATED AT THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF 180TH STREET AND CRENSHAW BOULEVARD, AND DESCRIBED IN ZONE CHANGE 71-22.
(Marvin M. Bass and Malcolm A. Winer)

Councilman Uerkwitz moved for the approval of Ordinance No. 2314 at its first reading. His motion was seconded by Councilman Surber, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

13. ORDINANCE re: ZC 71-27.

ORDINANCE NO. 2315

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING DIVISION 9 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE TO RECLASSIFY THAT CERTAIN PROPERTY WHICH IS LOCATED AT THE WEST SIDE OF CRENSHAW BOULEVARD BETWEEN 178TH STREET AND 180TH PLACE, AND DESCRIBED IN ZONE CHANGE 71-27.

(Torrance Planning Commission)

Councilman Sciarrotta moved for the approval of Ordinance No. 2315 at its first reading. His motion, seconded by Councilman Uerkwitz, was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

14. RESOLUTION granting V 71-15.

RESOLUTION NO. 72-48

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE APPROVING A VARIANCE FROM THE PROVISIONS OF DIVISION 9, CHAPTER 1, ARTICLE 7 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE, AS APPLIED FOR BY PAUL AND M.V. AZZOLINA, AND EUGENE AND CAROL SCHRIER IN PLANNING COMMISSION CASE NO. V 71-15.

Councilman Johnson moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 72-48. His motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, and carried, with roll call vote as follows:

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Johnson, Sciarrotta, Wilson; Mayor Miller.

NOES: COUNCILMEN: Brewster, Surber, Uerkwitz.

15. RESOLUTION granting V 71-16.

RESOLUTION NO. 72-49

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE APPROVING A VARIANCE FROM THE PROVISIONS OF DIVISION 9, CHAPTER 1, ARTICLE 15 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE, AS APPLIED FOR BY HIGGINS BRICK COMPANY IN PLANNING COMMISSION CASE NO. V 71-16.

Councilman Wilson moved for adoption of Resolution No. 72-49. His motion was seconded by Councilman Johnson, and carried, as follows:

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Johnson, Sciarrotta, Surber, Uerkwitz, Wilson, and Mayor Miller.

NOES: COUNCILMEN: Brewster.

At this point in the meeting, Mayor Miller granted requested permission to the Senior Citizens from the Albert H. Bartlett Adult Center to speak:

15A. REOPENING OF ADULT CENTER ON SUNDAYS.

Mr. Jim Comstock, 21502 Marjorie Avenue, on behalf of the Adult Center members, advised that temporary use of the Center on Sundays has resulted in an attendance of 50-60 members, and it is desired to continue such Sunday opening for an indefinite period.

MOTION: Councilman Johnson moved to grant the above request, and his motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson.

Clarification of this arrangement was provided by Director of Recreation Van Bellehem, with the comment "I think we can find it somewhere in the budget".

Roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

Mr. Charles Fulton, 2066 Lincoln, expressed the gratitude of the Bartlett Adult Center members to the City of Torrance, the Council, the Mayor, the Recreation Department, and all others who have contributed so much to making their lives more enjoyable.

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REAL PROPERTY:

16. RESOLUTION re: Fourth Amendment to Rolling Hills Plaza Lease 2-C.

City Attorney Remelmeyer advised that Mr. Al Levitt had telephoned him this date to state that he could not be present at this meeting; however, Mr. Levitt indicated that he deemed this a "noncontroversial item" which should be approved without his presence.

RESOLUTION NO. 72-50

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE AND ATTEST FOURTH AMENDMENT TO LEASE NO. 2-C BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY AND ROLLING HILLS PLAZA COMPANY ON THE AIRPORT TRIANGLE PROPERTY.

Councilman Surber moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 72-50. His motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

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17. AIRPORT 40-ACRE MASTER PLAN.

It was the comment of Councilman Johnson that the Master Plan presented was not too creditable, and showed an absence of "homework" -- a better job can be done; further, Staff will need to furnish 95% of the input with a consultant arrangement, and, in the opinion of Mr. Johnson, the Master Plan should be sent back for Staff to work with the Airport Committee/Commission to finalize such a Master Plan.

Councilman Wilson stated that this development is too important to warrant hasty decisions without full consideration of what it will mean to the City of Torrance as a whole -- the Council acted in haste when it directed Staff to return with a Master Plan in six weeks; such a request was unrealistic. An in-depth study should be made, in Dr. Wilson's opinion, with time for Staff to do the job adequately.

Airport Commissioners Vroman and Marousek were present to detail the previous considerations relative to Master Planning of the Airport, and the unique circumstances surrounding this property; specifically noted was the responsibility of the Airport Commission in the development of the Airport, a responsibility charged by the Council, a charge of primary importance, in need of direction by the establishment of goals. The order of priority of Staff-recommended Goals was considerably revised by Mr. Marousek; Council support of Airport Commission dedicated study was requested. Councilman Johnson indicated his concurrence with such procedure, particularly as it relates to the formulation of goals, dollar yield, priorities, etc.

Representing the Walteria Homeowners Association, Mrs. Diane Frieze, 3531 Cricklewood, reported their opinion that it would be more sensible to develop the Master Plan for the Airport first, then tackle the 40 acres. On behalf of the Riviera Homeowners Association, Mr. Don Geiler, 121 Via la Soledad, stated that they recommend and encourage the orderly development of the whole Airport according to a general Master Plan -- they are opposed to development of the 40-acre terminal area with a mini-master plan; further, they consider development of the 40-acre area ahead of the completion of the Airport Master Plan would seriously jeopardize the intent of a Master Plan since it would have to conform to the terminal area, rather than to provide guidelines for the best use of the 40-acre property.

Airport Commission Chairman Blaisdell advised the Council that a speaker at the Commission meeting had stated: "this is the first time the homeowners, the fixed base operators, and the pilots have all been in agreement concerning this Airport!" -- an interesting truth.

Discussion followed on the time element and financial aspects surrounding the development of a Master Plan, the "showdown" accomplished by input to date, the obvious encompassing of the 40-acres Plan within an overall Master Plan, the need for a "due date", etc. -- Assistant City Manager Scharfman pointed out definite Council action to this time (i.e. previous authorization for preparation of a Master Plan for the entire Airport, with review of proposals submitted by consultants already in progress, and the time schedule presented to the Council is being maintained, with a completion date some 13 months hence.

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The following action resulted:

MOVED

MOTION: Councilman Wilson to concur with the recommendation of the Airport Commission that further study be made of the overall Master Plan concept, such study to be referred back to the Airport Commission. The motion was seconded by Councilman Surber, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

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The hour being 7:00 P.M. Councilman Sciarrotta moved to recess as the City Council and reconvene as the Redevelopment Agency. The motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

A 10-minute recess followed at 7:04 P.M.

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PARK AND RECREATION:

18. SUR LA BREA PARK.

It was the request of Councilman Johnson that this item be held to a date when SETHA members can be present; Director of Recreation Van Bellehem confirmed this organization's request that this matter be held to the Council meeting of March 28th.

There were no objections, and it was so ordered.

19. NAMING OF A PARK.

RECOMMENDATION OF PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION:

That the present policy which states that a park shall not be named after an individual not be changed.

MOTION: Councilman Sciarrotta moved to concur with the above recommendation of the Park and Recreation Commission. His motion was seconded by Councilman Johnson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

LIBRARY OPERATIONS:

20. DONATION OF PIANO BY MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA.

RECOMMENDATION OF LIBRARY COMMISSION:

That the piano be accepted by the City and appreciation be extended to the Music Teachers Association for this gift.

MOTION: Councilman Wilson moved that the gift of a piano by the Music Teachers Association be accepted by the Council, with much gratitude. The motion was seconded by Councilman Surber, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

ITEMS NOT OTHERWISE CLASSIFIED:

21. WEED ABATEMENT PROGRAM - 1972.

RESOLUTION NO. 72-51

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE DECLARING THAT WEEDS GROWING UPON AND IN FRONT OF CERTAIN PRIVATE PROPERTIES IN THE CITY ARE A SEASONAL AND RECURRENT NUISANCE, AND DECLARING ITS INTENTION TO PROVIDE FOR THE ABATEMENT THEREOF.

Councilman Surber moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 72-51. His motion was seconded by Councilman Johnson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

22. RESOLUTION urging Legislation in the area of School Bus safety regulations.

RESOLUTION NO. 72-52

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE URGING LEGISLATION IN THE AREA OF SCHOOL BUS SAFETY REGULATIONS.

Councilman Johnson moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 72-52; his motion was seconded by Councilman Surber. The motion carried, with roll call vote as follows:

- AYES: COUNCILMEN: Brewster, Johnson, Surber, Uerkwitz, Wilson, and Mayor Miller.
- NOES: COUNCILMEN: Sciarrotta.

It was the comment of Councilman Sciarrotta, at the time of his "no" vote, that the above action is stepping on the work being done by the Board of Education, and they are the proper body to make such a request -- Mr. Sciarrotta has no desire to be a part of it, hence his "no" vote.

Councilman Surber commented that the Council should take a position and stimulate some interest in same -- it will save a few lives, and the City will have to enforce any such laws, not the School Board. (Mr. Sciarrotta added that it should be understood that he is for safety, but the above matter is the prerogative of the Board of Education; the Council should not legislate for them.)

PERSONNEL MATTERS:

- 23. ORDINANCE re: Outside Employment.

ORDINANCE NO. 2316

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE TO REPEAL SECTION 14.1.27 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE WHICH RELATES TO OUTSIDE EMPLOYMENT AND TO ADOPT A NEW ARTICLE 37 TO PART 3, CHAPTER 4, DIVISION 1 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE RELATING TO THE SAME SUBJECT.

Councilman Uerkwitz moved for the approval of Ordinance No. 2316 at its first reading. His motion was seconded by Councilman Surber.

Assistant to City Manager Jackson advised, on behalf of the Torrance Firefighters, that there will be a necessary revision to their Memorandum of Understanding, picking up the new numbers in the subject ordinance -- this will be returned to the Council at a later date.

Roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

- 24. ORDINANCE re: amendment to California Public Employees' Retirement System.

ORDINANCE NO. 2317

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AN AMENDMENT TO THE CONTRACT BETWEEN THE CITY COUNCIL AND THE BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION OF THE CALIFORNIA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM.

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Councilman Johnson moved for the approval of Ordinance No. 2317 at its first reading. His motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and roll call vote proved unanimously favorable.

25. REORGANIZATION NO. 15 - SANITATION AND PARK DEPARTMENTS.

Councilman Johnson moved that this item be referred to the Civil Service Committee for review prior to Civil Service Commission/Council hearing. The motion was seconded by Councilman Surber.

It was ascertained by Councilman Sciarrotta that the proposed reorganization had been studied by the various employee organizations; a SUBSTITUTE MOTION was then offered by Mr. Sciarrotta: That the Council act on this matter this evening, since everyone concerned is satisfied with same. The motion died for lack of a second.

It was the concensus of the remainder of the Council that the requested Committee review, if expedited, would be in order. There were no objections, and it was so ordered.

NONCONTROVERSIAL ITEMS:

26. EXPENDITURES OVER \$300:

RECOMMENDATION OF FINANCE DIRECTOR:

That Council approve the following purchases:

1. \$327.68 to 3M Company for 1,000 only overhead projector transparencies as requested by the Planning Department for Planning presentations to City Council and other groups.
2. \$2384.81 to Duncan Hunter Company for one only large tire size changer as requested by the City Garage. This unit is used for changing large heavy truck and bus tires.
3. \$1030.84 to Needham Book Finders for 253 adult books.
4. \$848.34 to Doubleday & Company to subscribe to the Greenaway "advanced copies of new books" program from the Doubleday & Company organization.
5. \$1617.36 to Campbell & Hall for 50 adult books.
6. \$2090.11 to Motor Truck Distributors Company for the installation of special braking equipment on fire fighting trucks as requested by the Fire Department in order to meet Department of Motor Vehicle braking requirements. (This expenditure was previously approved by Council on 2/8/72 for \$1654.00. However, an additional expense was incurred because of the necessity of replacing some parts not originally planned on, parts that could not be used.)
7. \$545.50 to Crown Body & Fender for repairs to 1969 Ford Police Unit #700⁰ and for vandalism damage to Unit #7700 1965 Jeep as requested by the City Garage.

8. \$1255.00 to Los Angeles Sales & Service Corporation for labor and materials required in repair of overhead doors for Fire Station #1 as requested by the Fire Department. (This expenditure was previously approved by Council on 2/1/72 for \$739.23. The additional expenditure was for unanticipated repairs to these doors which have not been serviced for over 16 years.)
27. NOTICE OF COMPLETION - Curb, Gutter and Paving in 190th Street E/O Beryl Street (B71-54) (Job #72137)

RECOMMENDATIONS OF CITY ENGINEER:

1. That the work be accepted on the basis of the as-built quantities; and
2. That final payment be made to the contractor, Sully-Miller Contracting Company.

28. TORRANCE KIWANIS CLUB CONTRIBUTION.

RECOMMENDATION OF DIRECTOR OF RECREATION:

That Council accept the contribution from the Torrance Kiwanis Club of \$280.00 for the purchase of Sports and Aquatics Division recreation materials on behalf of the City; and that the \$280.00 be deposited in Account #2146 (Donations for Recreation Programs).

MOTION: Councilman Sciarrotta moved to concur with the recommendation on agenda items #26, 27, and #28. His motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

PLANNING AND ZONING HEARINGS:

29. ZC 72-5. TORRANCE PLANNING COMMISSION. Change of zone from A-1 to R-1 on property located at the south side of the Dominguez Channel, west of Cherry Avenue.
RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL BY THE PLANNING COMMISSION.

An Affidavit of Publication was presented by City Clerk Coil, and it was ordered filed, there being no objection.

Mayor Miller announced that this is the time and place for the subject public hearing, and invited those desiring to speak to do so at this time.

Concurrence with the Planning Commission recommendation for approval to R-1 zoning was expressed by Ernest Battery, 3231 West 166th Street, at Floyd Camber, 16618 Ogram Avenue.

There being no one else who wished to be heard, Councilman Sciarrotta moved that the hearing be closed. His motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

MOTION: Councilman Sciarrotta moved to concur with the Planning Commission and Planning Department for a change of zone from A-1 to R-1. The motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

29A. Councilman Brewster referred to Case No. D72-29 recently before the Planning Commission on property in the Via El Chico area, an area of recent drainage problems during the last rainy season -- Mr. Brewster advised that he has requested that this case be appealed to the Council, it being his intent to request that the matter be referred to the Council Public Works Committee because of his concerns regarding such problems.

30. At the March 20th meeting of the Parks, Recreation and Community Development Committee, according to Councilman Brewster, discussion was directed to the role and mission of the Youth Council, the findings of the Junior Citizens Day Council, and the merits of Teen Centers -- it was Mr. Brewster's request that Staff compile pertinent information as to what resources might be required to hold a Youth Conference in Torrance, similar to the recent conference in Ontario, involving Torrance high school students in a meaningful seminar so that the Council might understand what Torrance's young people are seeking.

Councilman Johnson indicated concurrence with the above remarks by Councilman Brewster -- such a seminar should provide valuable input. Councilman Wilson stated that he also is in wholehearted approval with such activity.

There were no objections, and Staff was so directed.

31. Councilman Johnson referred to Information Item A -- re: A.B. 724 and A.B. 725 -- and stated that he certainly favors neighborhood schools; further, Mr. Johnson is against busing as a means of achieving integration.

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32. Councilman Sciarrotta stated that his oral communication pertains to comments that are being made at this election time. His prepared statement follows:

"The City of Torrance has not been at a standstill in the last two years -- much has been accomplished in the fields of traffic; for example, a Commission has been created, widening of streets has taken place, and is still taking place, and serious studies have been made to help solve our traffic problems. We have undertaken these things; so they are in the hopper, and this is true.

"Lower densities have been instituted and apartment buildings and R-3 land have been rezoned to manufacturing or other uses for which there is need -- as a matter of fact, I am told that we are way ahead of all other cities in the pioneering of this. More precise plans and stricter land uses, with more beautification, has been uppermost in the minds of this Council, our City planners, the Planning Commission, and so on.

"Our tax rate has remained the same, and our spending for people services per person has not increased. More citizen participation in local government has been encouraged and made a reality. More commercial enterprises, such as no other City has ever had, are headed our way because of the way we operate and cooperate, and this enables us not to raise City taxes now or for many years to come. The idea of leaseback which started several years ago has not been changed in procedures, it remains the same, yet one of the major candidates in the forthcoming election who started all this is the most vocal in denouncing the system.

"The creation of the Legislative Committee has borne fruit by initiating needed legislation, stopping some undesirable legislation, and being given recognition on all levels of government such as this City has never had before.

"I am going to ask Management to furnish me with a Fact Sheet on all the above items, to be used at the appropriate time, and to inform our citizenry on the facts. A group of concerned citizens has approached me and are willing to pay for a full page ad as a service to our beautiful, bustling and well balanced City."

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33. Councilman Surber noted the efforts of South High School students to raise money for the orthopedic hospital and the needed support of the Torrance community at their carnival on April 28, 29, and 30.

34. A recent communication to the Council pertaining to Youth Soccer was specifically referred to Staff for follow-through by Councilman Surber.

35. Councilman Surber shared the following worthy statement with his colleagues: Per Sports Illustrated, January, 1972 -- A famous coach once told his wife, "If I ever need a brain transplant, I'd like to get the brain of a politician, since it would be best to have an unused organ!"

36. It was clarified, at Councilman Uerkwitz' question regarding agenda item #25, Reorganization - Sanitation and Park Departments and the earlier action taken, that there will first be Committee review, then Council approval, along with review by the Civil Service Commission for the classification matters involved. City Manager Ferraro recommended that, with Committee approval, the plan be put into temporary operation pending review by the Civil Service Commission; there were no objections.

37. His forthcoming trip to the Mideast was noted by Councilman Wilson, as was the fact that each of the Councilmen has granted him permission to carry a resolution from the City of Torrance directed to capital cities he will be visiting, in the interest of promoting goodwill in these countries.

Dr. Wilson thereupon MOVED that appropriate resolutions be prepared for the six countries he will be visiting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, and there were no objections.

38. Mayor Miller advised that a request has been received from Supervisor Ernest Debs to name a Torrance Senior Citizen to be honored at the Seventh Annual "Recognition Day for Older Americans" on April 29th -- this honor was bestowed on Mr. FRANK PAOUR by the Mayor, an honor unanimously concurred in by the Council.

39. Reverend Lloyd Newlin referred to V71-11 granted "The Ark" and the problems pertaining to condition #6 requiring that the "rear yard shall be improved as a parking lot, in accordance with the offstreet parking ordinance" -- this is a temporary use of this small lot, according to Reverend Newlin, and compliance with the parking ordinance would result in very little usable parking area. Reverend Newlin then requested that the Council permit him to urge the young people to use the church parking lot, and forget about condition #6, above stated.

Building and Safety Director McKinnon indicated concurrence with Reverend Newlin's request, and added that the arrangement proposed, to use the church parking lot, would prove far superior to all concerned.

Mayor Miller MOVED to concur with the requested deletion of condition #6. His motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and approval was unanimous.

The meeting was regularly adjourned at 7:55 P.M.

Ava Cripe
Minute Secretary

15.

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Vernon W. Coil

Vernon W. Coil, Clerk of the
City of Torrance, California

Ken Miller

Mayor of the City of Torrance