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Ava Cripe
Minute Secretary

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Adjourned at 11:20 P.M.

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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 28, 1972, at 7:00 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, and City Clerk Coil. Absent: City Treasurer Rupert.

3. FLAG SALUTE:

Mr. Jim Conn led in the Salute to the Flag.

4. INVOCATION:

Reverend Milton Sippel, First Christian Church, gave the invocation for the meeting.

STANDARD MOTIONS:

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilman Sciarrotta moved that the minutes of March 14, 1972 be approved as recorded. His motion, seconded by Councilman Surber, was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

6. APPROVAL OF DEMANDS:

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

7. MOTION TO WAIVE FURTHER READING:

Councilman Uerkwitz 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 Brewster, and roll call vote proved unanimously favorable.

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8. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

Civil Service Committee:

Report will be made later in meeting at time of consideration of addendum item #29. City Manager Ferraro indicated that an Executive Session would be necessary to receive instructions regarding salaries and wages of certain department heads as part of the subject reorganization.

PRESENTATIONS:

- 9. PRESENTATION OF TILE PLAQUES to the Torrance Police Explorers for their service to the City of Torrance.

Torrance Police Officer Goebbel was present, as were the Explorers, for recognition and acclaim by Mayor Miller for the outstanding community accomplishments of these young people -- formal presentation of the plaques was made by Councilman Surber, one of the recipients being Miss Sandy Surber.

HEARINGS - OTHER THAN PLANNING AND ZONING:

- 10. PUBLIC HEARING - Proposed Vacation of Portion of Hawthorne Boulevard Service Road North of Del Amo Boulevard (Proponent and Beneficiary: Dr. Peter Mangurian. Fee Paid.)

Mayor Miller announced that this is the time and place for the subject public hearing.

There being no response, Councilman Sciarrotta moved that the hearing be closed. His motion was seconded by Councilman Uerkwitz, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

Concern was expressed by Councilman Johnson relative to the approving of the proposed vacation, in view of the undetermined fate for Hawthorne Boulevard and the possible widening thereof -- rewording of the resolution to eliminate any future rebuying by the City was urged by Mr. Johnson.

Discussion followed, participated in by City Engineer Weaver, City Attorney Remelmeyer, and City Manager Ferraro in the interest of clarification, and the following action resulted:

MOTION: Councilman Johnson moved to continue the subject public hearing to the Council meeting of April 18th. The motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

- 11. TRANSFER OF RATE SCHEDULE of Yellow Cab Company of Torrance and Lomi and South Bay Checker Cab Company.

RECOMMENDATION OF LICENSE REVIEW BOARD:

That the transfer and rate schedule be approved with the following added conditions:

- 1. City license decal be placed near rear license plate.
- 2. Parttime drivers be qualified as required by Code for regular drivers.
- 3. Amount of insurance to be \$1,000,000.00 single limit policy.

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Mayor Miller announced that this is the time and place for the subject public hearing.

Mr. Frank W. Masse, president, Del Amo Transportation, Inc., the proponent in this matter, was present.

There being no one present who wished to be heard, Councilman Uerkwitz 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 recommendation of the License Review Board for approval, subject to all conditions. His motion was seconded by Councilman Brewster, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

PLANNING AND ZONING HEARINGS:

(Items 12 and 13 were considered together).

12. CONTINUED HEARING - Appeal of Planning Commission Condition of Approval in CUP 72-1, DEL AMO DODGE (Marvin Lazar).
13. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE TRAFFIC COMMISSION, PLANNING COMMISSION, AND THE ENGINEERING, PLANNING, AND TRAFFIC AND LIGHTING DEPARTMENTS REGARDING VICTOR PRECINCT STREET WIDTHS.

Mayor Miller announced that this is the time and place for the public hearing on agenda items #12 and #13, as above described.

Staff presentation was made by City Engineer Weaver who described the continuing study of the Victor Precinct Master Plan, the recommended 80 ft. width for streets, the rezoning of the Victor Precinct, etc., and the Staff recommendation at this time that the 80 ft. wide streets in this area be reaffirmed, but that, as a matter of policy, certain properties be acquired which are needed to physically widen the streets to 80 ft. in such a way that the streets may be developed to a 70 ft. width at this time, retaining the flexibility to develop the streets to an 80 ft. width in the future, if deemed necessary. Further noted by Mr. Weaver was the Staff-recommended formation of an Assessment District.

First to speak was Attorney Byron Hayes, 3435 Wilshire Boulevard, representing Mr. Marvin Lazar, who reiterated his previously expressed question as to whether or not a 10 ft. irrevocable offer to dedicate is a proper condition to Mr. Lazar's conditional use permit proceedings, noting that the essential unfairness in the subject case is that Mr. Lazar is being asked to dedicate property for a future use which has nothing to do with the use of the property contemplated by him. Mr. Hayes then pointed out that the applied-for use is to change the use from a tire store with a rundown, nonconforming building located in the public right-of-way to an automobile display lot which is not a traffic-generating use and which will facilitate internal circulation.

It was the further comment of Mr. Hayes that there has been no expression by either the Planning Commission or the Council that the street is not adequate for the existing use of either the agency or the lot as proposed -- the 5 ft. dedication already imposed to make a 60 ft. wide street would seem

to be the share that this company ought to devote to this public use; further, no traffic count has been presented (unofficial reports indicate that the street is adequate for this use); there has been no testimony that the proposed use will increase the burden on the street.

In conclusion, Mr. Hayes stated his opinion that Mr. Lazar is being asked to give very valuable property to a possible future use that will be generated by future development of back properties -- Mr. Lazar should be compensated for same under some sort of proceeding (an Assessment District or ordinary condemnation proceedings) wherein he would be assessed the benefit of the improvement to him, with owners of back properties paying their share of the burden. In this specific case, according to Mr. Hayes the dedication requirement is unfair; it is not reasonable in relation to the projected use of the property, and, for that reason, ought not to be required.

City Attorney Remelmeyer noted his disagreement with Mr. Hayes' interpretation of the law, and pointed out previous dedication requirements through the years imposed by the City Council -- as well as the fact that reasonable Council actions are ever recognized by the courts as such.

Representing Parnelli Jones Enterprises, Mr. Zeke Alter stated their preference would be a 70 ft. street with the people furnishing their own parking; a 1911 Act Assessment District would expedite development of the area, in his opinion.

Concurrence with Planning Commission findings was expressed by Mr. Ralph Komesso, 20550 South Earl Street, along with his concern pertaining to elevations, storm drains, etc.

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

The Council directed its discussion to careful, meticulous consideration of the decision before them -- the discussion encompassed the need for an equitable street pattern for now and for the future; traffic problems; parking arrangements; the impact of future M-L development, as well as the importance of maintaining the M-L zoning; needed flexibility; and the merits of an Assessment District.

Formal action was taken in a series of motions, as follows:

MOTION: Councilman Sciarrotta moved to concur with recommendations of Traffic Commission, Planning Commission, and Engineering, Planning, and Traffic and Lighting Departments, as follows: Condition #1 re: 80-foot street requirement; Condition #3 re: blanket waiver of setback requirements; and Condition #4 re: formation of an Assessment District, such Assessment District to apply to the entire Victor Precinct. (Condition #2 to be deleted).

Discussion resumed with consideration of the Assessment District area, and the problems presented by setback requirements as above stated.

A new MOTION was offered by Councilman Uerkwitz (there being no second to Councilman Sciarrotta's motion above): That the Council concur with Recommendation #1 of the combined report: That the establishment of

Spencer Street and Emerald Street between Anza Avenue and Hawthorne Boulevard, and Earl Street between Torrance Boulevard and Del Amo Boulevard as 80-foot wide streets on the Master Plan be reaffirmed. The motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

MOTION: Councilman Sciarrotta moved that an Assessment District be formed, and his motion was seconded by Councilman Johnson.

Prior to roll call vote on the motion, it was clarified that the area for such District would encompass that area represented by Hawthorne to Anza; Torrance Blvd. to Del Amo; Spencer, Earl, and Emerald. Roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

MOTION: Councilman Johnson moved that the balance of the area be studied by Staff and the Commissions with the prospect of following the pattern established here, including the formation of an Assessment District as a part of their study and recommendation -- to be returned posthaste. The motion was seconded by Councilman Brewster, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

Council consideration was now directed to Item #12 - CUP 72-1, Del Amo Dodge - Appeal of Planning Commission Condition of Approval.

It was clarified by City Engineer Weaver that, in light of the above action, what will now be needed is a dedication 40 ft. from the property line, all the way along. City Attorney Remelmeyer pointed out that denial of the appeal would necessitate a 5 ft. dedication with an irrevocable offer to dedicate 10 ft., and recommended that the Council be specific and require such dedication.

Mayor Miller invited comments from Mr. Hayes at this point; Mr. Hayes stated that the escrow on this property is still pending (the condition of the extension being "until three days after final City Council action"), and indicated his disagreement with what will now be a 15 ft. dedication.

Discussion ensued regarding the proposed Assessment District, and the merits of a 5 ft. dedication by the proponent at this time, with the other 10 ft. to be picked up in the Assessment District. Mr. Hayes indicated concurrence with such an arrangement, noting that he then could argue at the Assessment District proceedings that the benefit is greater to the people in the back than to his client.

It was pointed out by City Engineer Weaver that there are precedent-setting irrevocable offers at hand from Little Company of Mary Hospital and Parnelli Jones in connection with 80 ft. streets -- no more is requested from this proponent than was requested, and received, from them. City Attorney Remelmeyer stated that, in view of this fact, if it is proposed to spread the cost of the extra 10 ft. throughout the area, it would be necessary to refuse the irrevocable offers and pick them up on the Assessment District. Mr. Weaver thereupon expressed concern for a possible danger in so proceeding -- if it is not proposed to pick up the dedications and keep the corridor clear, there can be development of structures which will make it more difficult and costly to remove. Further pointed out by the City Engineer was his understanding that anyone making a gratis dedication to the City receives a credit at the time that the cost of the

assessments are spread; therefore, there seems to be little value in stating that it will be picked up from one and not from another. Attorney Hayes confirmed that the statutes so state; the issue in this case is that they may be able to argue that because very valuable land is being taken from them in relation to the benefits of the front property that their assessment should be less than the value of the land that is taken, so the credit would not make up the difference for them. The propriety of a cash refund in an Assessment District in cases where a property owner has donated more than his fair share was confirmed by City Attorney Remelmeyer so long as there is an agreement from the proponent that no construction will occur on such property -- Mr. Hayes so stipulated, adding that there is no intent to construct buildings.

MOTION: Councilman Sciarrotta moved to DENY the subject appeal, with the above described conditions to prevail. The motion was seconded by Councilman Johnson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

Mr. Hayes returned to clarify that the above stipulation pertained to the fact that buildings would not be built, and that a condition to that effect would be satisfactory; they did not stipulate to agreement with the dedication in that they would prefer to have it taken under an Assessment District. It was clarified by Councilman Brewster that the dedication is to be made at this time, with such credit to be received in the Assessment District; such intent was confirmed by the Council.

In the interest of clarification, further action was taken as follows:

MOTION: Councilman Uerkwitz moved that the dedication be sufficient to bring the property to the 80 ft. right-of-way, as now determined necessary on the Master Plan. The motion was seconded by Councilman Brewster, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

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The hour being 8:40 P.M. Councilman Sciarrotta moved to recess as City Council and reconvene as the Redevelopment Agency. His motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

A 10-minute recess followed at 8:41 P.M.

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PLANNING AND ZONING MATTERS:

14. REQUEST FOR MODIFICATION OF CUP 68-36 to allow the illumination of an existing billboard in the M-2 zone, PACIFIC OUTDOOR ADVERTISING COMPANY, located on the west side of Crenshaw Boulevard between the railroad right-of-way and the Mobil Oil Company refinery property line.

RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL, SUBJECT TO A CONDITION, BY THE PLANNING COMMISSION.

PLANNING COMMISSION/DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION:

That Council approve the requested modification to CUP 68-36 allowing illumination of an existing billboard in the M-2 zone, subject to the following condition:

1. That the permit be subject to annual review by the Planning Commission and that as a result of such a review, the Planning Commission may revoke the permit if it is determined to be inconsistent with or detrimental to the surrounding area.

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

TRAFFIC AND LIGHTING:

15. RESOLUTION supporting statewide bicycle licensing.

RESOLUTION NO. 72-53

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE IN SUPPORT OF A PROGRAM OF STATEWIDE LICENSING AND REGISTRATION OF BICYCLES.

Councilman Wilson moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 72-53. The motion, seconded by Councilman Johnson, was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

It was the comment of Councilman Surber, at the time of his "yes" vote, that he fails to see how a State licensing system will reduce bicycle theft, in view of the fact that there are large numbers of stolen licensed automobiles.

ELECTION MATTERS:

16. RESOLUTION ordering the canvass of the General Municipal Election, April 11, 1972.

RESOLUTION NO. 72-54

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, ORDERING THE CANVASS OF THE GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION TO BE HELD ON THE 11TH DAY OF APRIL, 1972, TO BE MADE BY THE CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA.

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Councilman Surber moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 72-54. His motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

PARK AND RECREATION:

17. SUR LA BREA PARK.

RECOMMENDATION OF PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION:

That the Council be advised that this body recognizes the need for minimal development of Sur La Brea Park, but, as a Commission, is unable to identify a source of revenue at this time.

The chairman of the SETHA Park Committee, Mrs. Marion Lyman, 1922 West 237th Street, first presented petitions containing over 800 names, along with the indication of many, many other residents, in the interest of positive Council action relative to Sur La Brea Park which will permit development of the presently owned 4 acres and acquisition of the remaining acreage for this park.

The history of this long awaited park was reviewed by Mrs. Lyman, as were revenue sources (per Finance Director memo of March 1st) -- it was her request that any new projects be set aside, as this park has been, and permit Sur La Brea Park to become a reality for those residents who have waited for over 15 years for such development.

Staff presentations followed, with clarification of the aspects of City park sites, the chronology of Sur La Brea Park specifically, the status of the condemnation action, the fiscal factors, etc.

Discussion followed. Councilman Johnson pointed out the possible merits of leaseback arrangements, the "borrowing talent" of the City Treasurer, in the interest of developing Phase I, without interrupting the continuing purchasing efforts -- such commitment could be made prior to budget sessions, and could be backed up with the tippler's tax and/or oil depletion funds, license fees, and severance tax, until the park has been developed and paid for. Assistant City Manager Scharfman then described the overall cost picture, and City Attorney Remelmeyer reported on the as yet unresolved aspect of the tippler's tax.

It was the comment of Councilman Brewster during this discussion that the foregoing points out the need for consideration of a land bank bond issue, in view of the rapidly rising property values -- this would appear more reasonable than to try to accumulate funds before property is tied up

City Manager Ferraro outlined the financing problems faced by him in the preparation of the 1972-73 budget, and clarified the projections for redevelopment funds, at Councilman Brewster's question.

Mayor Miller stated that he is totally committed to the purchase of the land -- above the development of the park -- what with the sky-high increases in land value; however, if there is a way to work out the development of Sur La Brea Park in this year's budget, short of borrowing the money and along the lines of possible tippler's tax funds being

available for future land purchase, this would meet with his approval. Discussion was then directed to this area of concern, it being City Attorney Remelmeyer's opinion that it would not be a good idea to stall on the acquisition of the property due to the escalation of land values; further, the City is firmly committed to the acquisition program what with a trial involving the subject property scheduled for April 16th. It was stated by Mrs. Lyman that she is entirely in agreement that the acquisition of the land should not be endangered in any way -- however, it was her opinion that there must be some projects which could be set aside to permit the development of Phase I. City Manager Ferraro reiterated the financial problems faced by the City, deeming both acquisition and development an "impossible task".

Mr. Robert Philpott, 2062 233rd Street, pointed out SETHA's long wait for the park, and his feeling that it would be unfair to tie its hopes to a tippler's tax -- grass, sprinklers, and grading is really all they are seeking.

It was the opinion of Councilman Wilson that it might be well to provide for the development from the tipplers tax or like sources, and then to take a second step for acquisition of the land by way of a small bond issue that would take care of all park needs. Mr. Philpott commented at this point that Southeast Torrance residents, after waiting all these years, would not like to be tied to other park developments, and would prefer to stand on their own.

Councilman Surber indicated his sympathy for Southeast Torrance residents in that he has waited 20 years for a park in Central Torrance and ended up with a Japanese garden. It is of further interest to Mr. Surber that it is proposed to purchase another 17 acres for a City Yard, and yet development of the subject four acres is not possible. Further, according to Councilman Surber, the people have responded on a bond issue, regardless of the amount, and such elections are costly. Mr. Surber then stated that he would favor development of the existing property -- it is needed now -- perhaps development could be accomplished by way of an Assessment District.

It was the comment of Mayor Miller that this matter should appropriately be considered at the budget sessions starting in May, with presentations by this group at the time monies are allocated and priorities are established. It was Mrs. Lyman's request at this point that Staff be directed to give Sur La Brea Park top priority for both development and acquisition at budget time. Councilman Sciarrotta so MOVED; the motion was seconded by Mayor Miller.

It was then indicated by Mrs. Lyman that word had come forward to her from the SETHA delegation^{present} that they do not want to wait for the budget hearings, it being their feeling that they have waited too long; a decision is desired at this time, and it is felt that some other project can be delayed in order to fund development of their park.

Review of financial considerations resumed. The following SUBSTITUTE MOTION was offered by Councilman Johnson: That Council authorize Staff to negotiate for a loan in the amount of \$219,000 for the purpose of purchasing park land, and \$99,000 for the development of Phase I - on the best possible negotiation basis.

Councilman Brewster recommended that such action best be reviewed by the City Treasurer before so proceeding, and that a one week delay would be in order.

It was the opinion of Mayor Miller that borrowing money was unwise, and while he has no objection to City Treasurer review, he feels it mandatory that fiscal responsibility be displayed. Councilman Uerkwitz expressed reservations as to the "Utopia" inference; there must be facts to support the availability of the desired funds.

The substitute motion died for lack of a second.

Park and Recreation Commission Chairman Flora reported on this Commission's efforts to establish priorities, which they found a most difficult job -- SETHA's request being the first, with other areas yet to be considered.

It was next requested by Mrs. Lyman, on behalf of her delegation, that the Council instruct the City Manager to come up with the additional needed \$120,000. Councilman Johnson so MOVED, by way of a SUBSTITUTE MOTION, which died for lack of a second.

The need for establishment of priorities at budget time was again stressed by Mayor Miller, with Sur La Brea Park a recognized high priority item by Staff and Council, per Councilman Sciarrotta's original motion -- the motion was amended to reflect the fact that the Council assigns this a top priority before any further land is purchased.

Prior to roll call vote on the above motion, Councilman Johnson made a SUBSTITUTE MOTION: That Council instruct Staff to come up with the Phase I acquisition and the \$99,000 now to commence development of Phase I -- and not wait for the budget hearing -- to borrow, if necessary. The substitute motion died for lack of a second.

Roll call vote on the original motion was unanimously favorable.

Further action was taken:

MOTION: Councilman Johnson moved that Staff come back next week with a report relative to the feasibility of borrowing the money or otherwise finding the money, through not completing or doing a project or projects that might otherwise be done. The motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson. There were no objections, and it was so ordered.

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ITEMS NOT OTHERWISE CLASSIFIED:

18. REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS from Legislative Liaison Council Committee.

It was the consensus of the Council that further review of the written report was necessary. Councilman Sciarrotta MOVED that this item be held for one week and returned to the Council agenda for April 4th. The motion was seconded by Councilman Surber, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

PERSONNEL MATTERS:

19. LAY-OFF PROCEDURE.

ORDINANCE NO. 2318

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ADDING ARTICLE 9 ENTITLED "LAY-OFF PROCEDURE" TO PART V, CHAPTER 7, DIVISION 1 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE ESTABLISHING A LAY-OFF PROCEDURE FOR EMPLOYEES COVERED BY THIS PART V, CHAPTER 7, DIVISION 1 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE.

Councilman Surber moved for the approval of Ordinance No. 2318 at its first reading. His motion, seconded by Councilman Wilson, was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

SECOND READING ORDINANCES:

20. ORDINANCE NO. 2314.

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 Wilson moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 2314 at its second and final reading. His motion was seconded by Councilman Uerkwitz, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

21. ORDINANCE NO. 2315.

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

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180TH PLACE, AND DESCRIBED IN ZONE CHANGE 71-27.
(Torrance Planning Commission)

Councilman Sciarrotta moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 2315 at its second and final reading. His motion was seconded by Councilman Uerkwitz, and roll call vote proved unanimously favorable.

22. ORDINANCE NO. 2316.

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 Wilson moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 2316 at its second and final reading. His motion, seconded by Councilman Brewster, was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

23. ORDINANCE NO. 2317.

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.

Councilman Uerkwitz moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 2317 at its second and final reading; his motion was seconded by Councilman Brewster; roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

NONCONTROVERSIAL ITEMS:

24. EXPENDITURES OVER \$300:

RECOMMENDATION OF FINANCE DIRECTOR:

That Council approve the following purchases:

A. BUDGETED ITEMS:

1. \$374.85 to Photo Reproduction Service for 3,000 copies of a Recreation Department publication entitled "Recreation and Leisure Opportunities Directory".
2. \$929.02 to IBM for a six-months supply of various types of typewriter ribbons for different model typewriters.
3. \$3261.88 to Columbia Ribbons for an annual contract for miscellaneous office equipment printing ribbons to be delivered "as requested".

4. \$618.60 to Burt C. Gentle Company for eight only Amestack metal library book shelf ranges as requested by the City Librarian for installation at the Southeast Torrance Library Branch. (This expenditure will be encumbered from funds available in the Library Bond Fund.)
5. \$510.30 to IBM for one only IBM Selectric typewriter as requested by the Police Department as a replacement item
6. \$643.26 to Monroe International for one only electronic printing calculator as requested and selected by the Finance Department as a replacement item.
7. \$372.34 to A.B.C. Body Shop for the repair of vandalism damage to a 1967 City Dodge pickup truck (Unit #8039) as requested by the City Garage.
8. \$409.50 to Graybar Electric for 5,000 feet of 5,000 volt underground street lighting, requested by the Traffic and Lighting Department.
9. \$609.68 to Bro-Dart, Inc. for various Bro-Dart brand library book processing or book repair supplies as requested by the City Librarian.
10. \$315.00 to Genealogical Publishing Company, Inc. for 29 adult books.
11. \$1368.86 to Campbell & Hall, c/o Harry R. Wilson, for 167 adult and 42 juvenile books.
12. \$4567.50 to Cataphote for 3,000 pounds of yellow and white thermo street striping powder which is applied by City crews as requested by the Traffic and Lighting Department for use on crosswalks.

B. REIMBURSABLE ITEM:

13. \$873.60 to Hersey Products for two 2" Hersey water meters as requested by the Water Department for installation at A&M Enterprises Service and McAlister Construction Company. Payment for this expenditure has already been received.

25. CLOSURE OF SERVICE ROAD AT CALLE MAYOR AND PACIFIC COAST HIGHWAY (JOB NO. 72102) - NOTICE OF COMPLETION.

RECOMMENDATION OF CITY ENGINEER:

1. That the work be accepted on the basis of as-built quantities; and
2. That final payment be made to the constructor, G.W. Shore Construction Company.

(This project was financed by \$25,000 appropriated from 2106 Gas Tax Funds on July 6, 1971.)

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26. DOWNTOWN AREA STREET LIGHTING - (B 71-21) (JOB NO. 55609)RECOMMENDATION OF CITY TRAFFIC ENGINEER:

1. That Council accept the work for the improvement of the Downtown Area Street Lighting (B71-21) (Job No. 55609);
2. That final payment be made to the contractor.

27. FINAL TRACT MAP NO. 24209.

Subdivider: Don Wilson Builders.
 Engineer: Engineering Service Corporation.
 Location: 190th Street east of Beryl Street.
 No. of Lots: 1.

RECOMMENDATION OF CITY ENGINEER/PLANNING DIRECTOR:

That subject final tract map, be approved.

28. RELEASE OF SUBDIVISION BOND - TRACT NO. 30060.

Subdivider: Creative Homes (James Taylor)
 Bonding Company: American Motorists Insurance Company
 Bond No. 8SM-158-425 - Amount: \$5,000.00

RECOMMENDATION OF CITY ENGINEER:

That subject bond be released.

MOTION: Councilman Sciarrotta moved to concur with the recommendations on agenda items #24, 25, 26, 27, and #28. His motion was seconded by Councilman Uerkwitz, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

ADDENDUM ITEM:29. COMMITTEE REPORT RE: ADMINISTRATIVE REORGANIZATION NO. 15:RECOMMENDATION OF CIVIL SERVICE COMMITTEE:

That the City Council:

1. Approve Administrative Reorganization No. 15 in concept;
2. Meet in Executive Session to give instructions regarding wages of employees affected by the reorganization;
3. Place the proposed reorganization in effect immediately on a temporary basis pending review by the Civil Service Commission;
4. Submit those parts of the plan which are within the jurisdiction of the Civil Service Commission to the Commission for its consideration and recommendation; and
5. Instruct Staff to prepare the necessary documents to effectuate and implement the plan and to bring these documents to the City Council for final action in accordance with the law.

MOTION: Councilman Johnson moved to concur with the above recommendation of the Civil Service Committee. The motion was seconded by Councilman Surber, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

30. Councilman Brewster noted the selection of Torrance resident, Miss Becky Hayes, as Hollywood Park's "Goose Girl", and recommended that there be appropriate recognition of this honor. There were no objections, and a tile plaque was ordered.

31. The installation of Director of Recreation Van Bellehem as president-elect, and Park and Recreation Commissioner McVey as secretary, of the California Association of Park and Recreation Commissioners and Board Members was lauded by Councilman Johnson.

32. Councilman Sciarrotta referred to the City's Employee Relations Program and the State Senate Committee hearings regarding employee relations in the State of California, such hearings being held up and down the State to evaluate the performance of various cities and counties under the Brown Act -- the contrast between what is going on in the City of Torrance in employee relations and what has happened in other agencies has been shown as quite dramatic -- so dramatic, in fact, that Senator Dills requested that word be brought back to the Torrance City Council that he was proud of the accomplishment of this city, in his District, in the field of employee relations. To arrive at this success has taken the efforts of the employee organizations, the Staff, and the members of the City Council, per Senator Dills.

33. Councilman Sciarrotta noted the reactions from his March 21st Oral Communication pertaining to his request for a "Fact Sheet" on Council accomplishments the last two years, and commented that "it is easy to predict what will happen from some sources."

It was reiterated by Mr. Sciarrotta that the Fact Sheet had been requested because he believes the people of Torrance have a right to know the truth, and, further:

"I wish to straighten out some of the half-truths and distorted statements which have been made. I would like to ask at this time why should anyone fear the truth -- why do some people resort to intimidations -- why does one wish to have the distorted statements remain unchallenged? These are the three things that come to my mind after reading the article. As you will recall, I have asked for some help in getting the true facts as they are recorded in our official minutes; I didn't ask for any distortions; I asked for the facts -- is this a crime? The people have elected me three times to serve them as their representative -- I have an obligation to all of those who voted for me. One of the services I can render as their representative is to make the truth known to them and rectify distortion. It must be remembered that all candidates and people have a right to our records. If I am not entitled to this help, our City Attorney is duty-bound to tell me so. However, as a Councilman who has to work for a living, with little time on my hands, I believe I am entitled to the help requested. If our City Attorney rules that under the circumstances I may not have this help, I will ferret out the facts myself -- the people must have the facts."

"Mr. City Attorney, I ask for a written opinion in this matter, and please expedite it, if you possibly can."

It was the added statement of Councilman Sciarrotta that "in order not to be accused of last-minute maneuvers, I have a list of ten items which I will gladly give to any candidate so that they too may look up the facts and straighten themselves out."

34. Councilman Surber stated his opinion, relative to the foregoing remarks made by Mr. Sciarrotta, that it is "improper, and possibly illegal," to make such a request, to assist any incumbent or candidate for Council in this campaign, "just as I thought it was illegal to expend public funds to have the League of Women Voters community survey printed to the tune of hundreds of dollars of City monies with distribution at the time of the Park and Recreation Bond Issue campaign."

Councilman Surber then MOVED that Mr. Ferraro be directed that he shall not allow any administrative or employee time to be used in researching, preparing, or printing a Fact Sheet of accomplishments as requested by Mr. Sciarrotta of Staff, or of any other City business to be used as propaganda favoring or criticizing any individual.

The motion died for lack of a second, it being generally agreed that any action should follow the City Attorney's written opinion. City Attorney Remelmeyer indicated that he would expedite such opinion; the requested research to be held in abeyance until the opinion is forthcoming.

In conclusion, Councilman Surber pointed out his past experience with a similar request -- he found it necessary to pay for the reproduction of material or obtain it himself; the same should be true for Councilman Sciarrotta.

35. Concern over delayed widening of Western Avenue by the State was expressed by Councilman Uerkwitz, with the request that this situation be investigated by Staff, with a report back to the Council.

36. A Police Department report indicating a decrease in crimes, violations, cases, etc. was noted and commended by Councilman Wilson.

It was pointed out by Councilman Surber that the same report revealed some 330 hours had been put in, minus compensation, by Police personnel -- deserving of further commendation.

37. Mayor Miller referred to a news release pertaining to the fact that the City of Long Beach is being considered as State College office headquarters. It was the request of the Mayor that City Manager Ferraro direct a letter to these officials, inviting them into the City of Torrance, in view of the present indecision as to an appropriate site.

38. Mr. Lou Sismondo stated that waterflood operations are being conducted in areas east of Southeast Torrance which should be investigated, in that there could be resultant damage to SETHA homes.

City Attorney Remelmeyer advised that such information has been previously requested of the Division of Oil and Gas, and a full report and opinion will be forthcoming.

39. Youth Council member Jeff Tasker, 2127 West 235th Place, requested future consideration of approval for staying overnight at youth conferences, in view of ^{their} experience at the current Ontario Youth Conference.

At 10:55 P.M. Councilman Uerkwitz moved to recess for the purpose of an Executive Session relative to agenda item #29 and instructions to the City Manager re: salary negotiations. The motion was seconded by Councilman Brewster; roll call vote was unanimously favorable, it being indicated no further business would be conducted. Formal adjournment was at 11:20 P.M.

Ava Cripe
Minute Secretary *Ken Miller*
Mayor of the City of Torrance

16. *Vernon W. Coil* City Council
March 28, 1972
Vernon W. Coil, Clerk of the
City of Torrance, California