

I N D E XCity Council - August 1, 1972

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Ava Cripe
Minute Secretary

City Council
August 1, 1972

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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, August 1, 1972, at 5:30 P.M. in the Council Chambers at Torrance City Hall.

2. ROLL CALL:

Present: Councilmen Armstrong, Sciarrotta, Uerkwitz, Wilson, and Mayor Miller. Councilman Surber arrived at 5:35 P.M.
Absent: Councilman Brewster (vacation).

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

3. FLAG SALUTE:

Mr. Davey Crockett led in the salute to the flag.

4. INVOCATION:

Reverend Hooper White provided the invocation.

STANDARD MOTIONS:

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilman Sciarrotta moved that the minutes of July 18, 1972 be approved as recorded. His motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson; roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Absent: Councilman Brewster; Councilman Surber had not yet arrived at the meeting.)

6. APPROVAL OF DEMANDS:

Councilman Uerkwitz moved that all properly audited demands be paid. His motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Absent: Councilman Brewster; Councilman Surber had not yet arrived at the meeting.)

7. MOTION TO WAIVE FURTHER READING:

Councilman Wilson 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 Uerkwitz, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Absent: Councilman Brewster; Councilman Surber had not yet arrived at the meeting.)

1. City Council
August 1, 1972

8. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS.

No reports.

REAL PROPERTY:9. DELTHORNE PARK - FOLEY PARCEL.RECOMMENDATION OF CITY MANAGER:

That Council concur with Mr. Francis Foley's request for a 60-day extension of agreement; further, that the Park, Recreation, and Community Development Committee meet with the Staff to discuss the interim use of this land until it can be developed for park purposes.

MOTION: Councilman Sciarrotta moved to concur with the above recommendation of the City Manager; his motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson.

On behalf of the Delthorne Homeowners Association, Mrs. Sue Drobish stated that they had no objection to the 60-day extension, but requested that homeowner representatives be invited to the Park, Recreation, and Community Development Committee meetings. Mayor Miller requested that the City Manager provide such notification.

Roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Brewster absent).

FIRE OPERATIONS:10. ORDINANCE re: Explosives.ORDINANCE NO. 2343

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE REPEALING SECTION 14.6.7 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE PERTAINING TO EXPLOSIVES AND RENUMBERING AND READOPTING SAID SECTION TO APPEAR IN SAID CODE AS SECTION 86.2.8.

Councilman Wilson moved for the approval of Ordinance No. 2343 at its first reading. His motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Brewster absent).

11. WITHDRAWN.

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS:12. RESOLUTION expressing concern about American POW/MIA's and urging citizen support of American POW/MIA's and their families.RESOLUTION NO. 72-156

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE EXPRESSING CONCERN ABOUT AMERICAN POW/MIA'S AND URGING CITIZEN SUPPORT OF AMERICAN POW/MIA'S AND THEIR FAMILIES.

Councilman Uerkwitz moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 72-156, and his motion was seconded by Councilman Surber.

Prior to roll call vote, it was the recommendation of Councilman Surber that the word "some" be revised to read "...inhumane treatment of many of these prisoners of war...." in the third paragraph of the subject resolution. There were no objections, and it was so ordered.

Roll call vote proved unanimously favorable (Councilman Brewster absent).

SECOND READING ORDINANCES:

13. ORDINANCE NO. 2342.

ORDINANCE NO. 2342

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING SECTION 95.3.18 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE GOVERNING TRADE SCHOOLS IN THE R-P ZONE.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 2342 at its second and final reading. His motion, seconded by Councilman Armstrong, was unanimously approved by roll call vote (Councilman Brewster absent).

ROUTINE MATTERS:

14. EXPENDITURES OVER \$300:

RECOMMENDATION OF FINANCE DIRECTOR:

That Council approve the following purchases:

A. BUDGETED ITEMS:

1. \$446.25 to Doberman Press for 5000 theatre programs for the stage play "Unsinkable Molly Brown" as requested by the Recreation Department.
2. \$1060.50 to W.B. Equipment Company for 400 only 4-inch and 500 only 2½-inch plastic water hydrant caps as requested by the Water Department.
3. \$882.00 to Fluid Specialties for 3 each 3-inch hydrant water flow meters as requested by the Water Department as replacements.
4. \$309.54 to Torrance Auto Parts for one (1) only parts washer (for vehicle and fire equipment parts) as requested by the Fire Department for apparatus and equipment repair.
5. \$551.25 to A.F. Milleron Company, Inc. for one (1) only Bell & Howell motion picture projector as requested by the Fire Department as a replacement for training.

6. \$834.75 to Halprin Supply for one only combustible hazards trainer requested by the Fire Department for training and public education. This unit is designed for training in fire prevention and control.
7. \$1,425.22 to Campbell & Hall, c/o Dorothy Wilson, for 141 adult and 47 juvenile books as requested by the City Library.
8. \$675.36 to Olympic Wholesale Sporting Goods, Inc. for 6000 rounds of .45 caliber new ammunition requested by the Police Department.
9. \$2624.43 to Graybar Electric for an annual contract to supply the City's requirement for dry cell type batteries (all types except car batteries) as requested by the Street, Traffic and Lighting, Garage, Police, Fire, Water and Airport Departments.
10. \$831.12 to Nixon-Egli Equipment Corporation for one only replacement frame assembly for a mobile street sweeper as requested by the City Garage for Mobile Street Sweeper #9100.
11. \$452.81 to Airport Nursery for 15 gal. trees and ground cover for planting at two sites -- (1) 101 Highway and Calle Mayor, and (2) plant replacements due to vandalism at Hickory Park.
12. \$11,383.47 to Motorola Communications and Electronics, Inc. for 10 only vehicle mobile stations; 1 only base station; and 1 only remoted base station requested by the Fire Department as: 1) replacements for old units presently in service; and 2) a requirement by the City for an increase in communication service within the Fire Department. One of the base stations will provide a "mutual aid" contact capability with other cities and the other base station will provide communications on the City's local government frequency with other City departments.

B. REIMBURSABLE ITEMS:

13. \$652.87 to Martin-Hannum, Inc. for 11 ozs. of gold and 80 ozs. of sterling casting requested by the Recreation Department for use in their jewelry craft classes. The City is reimbursed for this expenditure via fees collected from class participants. (It should be noted that the price of gold fluctuates daily.)
15. SEPULVEDA BOULEVARD IMPROVEMENT - GAS TAX APPROPRIATION.

RECOMMENDATION OF CITY ENGINEER:

That \$3,000 be appropriated from 2106 Gas Tax Funds for curb and gutter construction on Sepulveda Boulevard (north side) from Del Amo Circle East to Madrona Avenue.

16. NOTICE OF COMPLETION - Crenshaw Boulevard (East Side) from 227th Street to 230th Place (Job No. 72153).

RECOMMENDATION OF CITY ENGINEER:

That the work be accepted and final payment be made to the contractor, McAmis Engineering.

MOTION: Councilman Sciarrotta moved to concur with recommendations on agenda items #14, 15, and #16. His motion was seconded by Councilman Uerkwitz, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Brewster absent).

MATTERS NOT OTHERWISE CLASSIFIED:

17. RESOLUTION RE: STOCKPILE AGREEMENT WITH MOBIL OIL CORP. FOR THE PRAIRIE/MADRONA PROJECT.

RESOLUTION NO. 72-157

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, APPROVING AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF TORRANCE AND THE MOBIL OIL CORPORATION FOR THE STOCKPILING OF MATERIALS ON MOBIL OIL CORPORATION PROPERTY, AND AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE AND ATTEST SAID AGREEMENT.

Councilman Surber moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 72-157; his motion, seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, was unanimously approved by roll call vote (Councilman Brewster absent).

PLANNING MATTERS:

18. ORDINANCE to provide additional conditions for issuance of Home Occupation Permits.

ORDINANCE NO. 2344

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING ARTICLE 18 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE, DIVISION 9, CHAPTER 2, TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL CONDITIONS FOR ISSUANCE OF HOME OCCUPATION PERMITS; AND ADDING SECTION 99.1.13 CONCERNING THE FILING FEE THEREFOR.

Councilman Armstrong moved for the approval of Ordinance No. 2344 at its first reading. His motion was seconded by Councilman Surber, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Brewster absent).

Items 19 and 20 - Planning and Zoning Hearings - were held for later in the meeting to comply with the advertised hour of 6:00 P.M. Taken at this time:

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

21. Appreciation for the thoughtfulness displayed by his wife, Anne, who recently underwent surgery, was expressed by Councilman Armstrong.
22. Councilman Armstrong requested that the report pertaining to conversion of City fleet fuel system be expedited.

23. Councilman Sciarrotta indicated concern regarding correspondence from Hi-Shear indicating their interest in the Airport land now proposed for use as a minibike park and their desire to expand their operation. Mr. Sciarrotta requested a Staff report in this matter in order that there may be further, detailed discussion.

24. The decision of the Sister City Committee not to participate in the delivery of the ambulance to Guatemala City (per his request of July 18th) was reported by Councilman Sciarrotta.

25. The request of the Senior Citizens for use of the Post Avenue Library building was noted by Councilman Surber. City Manager Ferraro advised the communications have gone forward to all those interested in the use of this building inviting them to attend a meeting on Wednesday, August 9th, at 3:00 P.M. for massive administrative-type discussion.

26. Clarification in the official record was requested by Councilman Surber, as follows:

Minutes of June 20, 1972: (Page 12, Item #41) It is indicated therein that Councilmen Brewster and Surber made telephone calls regarding the revenue sharing -- Mr. Surber stated that "Councilman Brewster did that; I did not do it; he didn't consult with me. I am still against it, the way it is, with certain strings attached, so I did not call."

Councilman Surber then referred to the Council minutes of July 18, 1972, and the references to the Personnel Session that date relative to the "Stokes matter". Mr. Surber stated that "I do not like the way it reads, and I didn't intend it that way."

The verbatim comments of Councilman Surber at this time were as follows:

"Item 40, Council minutes of July 18th, 'City Manager Ferraro requested that there be a Personnel Session at the conclusion of this meeting -- per his communication regarding same -- in response to reference to public officers.'

"Item 50: 'Councilman Surber requested that the record reflect that he asked Mr. Ferraro for written reports on the Stokes matter -- that Mr. Ferraro recommended that there be a Personnel Session to discuss this matter, such Personnel Session to occur at the conclusion of this meeting.'

"'At 7:30 P.M. Councilman Sciarrotta moved to recess for the purpose of a Personnel Session to discuss the request of Councilman Surber regarding public officers.'

"The communication that I sent to Mr. Ferraro, I will read, for the record, and I did not intend to cast any suspicions on any public officer:

"July 17 to City Manager Ferraro

From: Councilman Surber

Subject: CARL STOKES ALLEGED ATEMPT RAPE CASE AND "WANTED" FLYERS.

Ed: I have not received a report to date re: the circulation of the "WANTED - CARL STOKES" flyers since you sent Council the flyer and a

memo stating you were investigating the distribution of same on parking lots throughout the city - over a month ago.

I find the situation is such that I must now request a written report of your own personal investigation of the flyers and the entire matter involving Mr. Stokes.

I also request that you secure a full, written report from Chief Don Nash as well as every supervisor, detective and field officer involved on the date of the incident or on any follow-up detail since that date, at the very least their original reports.

Considering the fact that the alleged crime occurred almost four months ago and you have been investigating the flyer circulation over a month, I do not consider it unreasonable to also request that the above be ready for the Mayor and Council by noon Tuesday, July 18, 1972. I have to presume most, if not all, of the information is already available and, frankly, I am shocked that you have not made a report to Council long before now.

I feel assured I can expect and will receive the fullest cooperation from all concerned in this matter.

Please ask Claire to make copies of this memo for Chief Nash, the Mayor and Council, and City Clerk Coil.

Signed by myself."

The concluding remarks by Councilman Surber were: "It was a misunderstanding on my part that Mr. Ferraro was not investigating it; it was simply sent to each one of the Councilmen and the Mayor, for our information, on these flyers. I am content with this; I have received numerous phone calls, and I have done everything that I can, as a Councilman, in this matter. And I just want to have the record clear so that the people will know and that the officers of this City will know that I was not taking them on. I just wanted some answers, and I got them. Thank you."

27. The need to delegate environmental considerations to the Emergency Preparedness Commission was noted by Councilman Uerkwitz who requested that such referral be expedited. City Manager Ferraro indicated that a presentation and orientation session will be provided this Commission regarding such assignment.

28. Councilman Wilson referred to the pending status of the Cultural Arts and Heritage Committee -- Sr. Administrative Assistant Meyer reported on the accomplishments of this Committee to date, with the recommendation that the Council encourage them to keep working, rather than establishing a specific date for conclusion of their projects. There were no objections, and it was so ordered.

Councilman Armstrong requested that the Torrance High School Alumni Association be invited to join this group; there were no objections.

29. Representing the Prairie Avenue Church, Reverend Johnson described a variance application on church property and the need to expedite same, hence the oral presentation. It was the consensus of the Council that written material, including Staff recommendations, etc. would be necessary; Staff was directed to place this item on the August 8th agenda.

30. Mrs. Celia Pons, a 36-year Torrance resident and property owner, expressed her deep hurt at being told by a City official that she "made millions of dollars in Torrance but does not live in Torrance". Mrs. Pons reviewed her years in Torrance proper, starting in 1937, and acknowledged that her present address is on Berendo Street; Mrs. Pons further clarified that her money emanates from Germany.

An apology was deemed in order by Mayor Miller, and he so extended the apologies of all concerned to Mrs. Pons.

The hour of 6:00 P.M. having arrived, the public hearing cases were considered:

PLANNING AND ZONING HEARINGS:

19. TENTATIVE TRACT NO. 26102, STAN WILSON.
Request for approval of a tentative tract map on property located approximately 120 feet east of Crenshaw Boulevard between 227th Street and 229th Street.
PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDS APPROVAL SUBJECT TO CERTAIN CONDITIONS.

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 public hearing on Tentative Tract No. 26102, and inquired if anyone wished to be heard.

Mr. Bill Delaney, 2456 West 228th Street, pointed out the pipe, owned by Standard Oil, running down 228th Street, and the need for imposition of a condition which will insure the lowering of this pipe. City Engineer Weaver pointed out that any necessary street work will have to be provided by the builder, and noted condition #5: "That all street improvements shall be installed to the satisfaction of the City Engineer....." Mr. Weaver added that the developer will be bonded, and the resolution of same will be his burden with Standard Oil.

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

MOTION: Councilman Sciarrotta moved to concur with the recommendation of the Planning Commission for approval of Tentative Tract No. 26102, subject to certain conditions. His motion was seconded by Councilman Surber, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Brewster absent).

20. TENTATIVE TRACT NO. 28155, UNION RENTALS & SUPPLY COMPANY, STAN WILSON, PRESIDENT. Request for approval of a Tentative Tract Map on property located between 234th Street and 235th Street, approximately 330 feet east of Crenshaw Boulevard. PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDS APPROVAL SUBJECT TO CERTAIN CONDITIONS.

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 inquired if anyone wished to be heard. There was no response.

Councilman Surber moved that the hearing be closed. His motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Brewster absent).

Councilman Uerkwitz voiced his objections to the substandard lots proposed in this case; his "yes" vote is not to be interpreted as approval of substandard lots. Mayor Miller commented that the subject request represents 6 lots vs. 4 lots in an area of basically substandard lots -- strict adherence to the Code would represent great financial hardship. Mr. Uerkwitz reiterated his objections to such exception.

MOTION: Councilman Wilson moved to concur with the recommendation of the Planning Commission for approval of Tentative Tract No. 28155 for approval subject to certain conditions. The motion was seconded by Councilman Armstrong, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Brewster absent).

Councilman Uerkwitz, at the time of his "yes" vote, stated that such vote was with the stipulation of objection.

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The hour being 6:15 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 proved unanimously favorable (Councilman Brewster absent).

The Council returned at 6:16 P.M. for formal adjournment of the meeting -- Councilman Uerkwitz so MOVED; the motion, seconded by Councilman Armstrong, was unanimously approved by roll call vote (Councilman Brewster absent). (Next stop - TORRANCE NIGHT AT DODGER STADIUM.)

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Ava Cripe
Minute Secretary

9. City Council
August 1, 1972

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Vernon W. Coil

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

Ken Miller

Mayor of the City of Torrance