

I N D E XCity Council - September 12, 1972

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Ava Cripe  
Minute Secretary

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Adjourned at 10:30 P.M.

# # #

September 12, 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, September 12, 1972, at 7:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers at Torrance City Hall.

2. ROLL CALL:

Present: Councilmen Armstrong, Brewster, 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:

Sherry Thompson led in the salute to the flag.

4. INVOCATION:

The invocation for the meeting was given by Reverend Wally Kornegay, First Church of the Nazarene.

STANDARD MOTIONS:

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

None for approval.

6. APPROVAL OF DEMANDS:

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

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 Wilson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

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8. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

Park, Recreation, and Community Development:

Met this date -- report will be made in near future.

Civil Service Committee:

Expediting of pending items with Civil Service Committee was requested by Councilman Armstrong.

Police, Fire, and Public Safety:

Cancelled for this month.

Public Works:

Will meet on September 13th at 4:30 P.M. re: dedication of new City Hall complex.

City Manager Ferraro requested an Executive Session this date to discuss salaries, wages, and working conditions for seasonal/recurrent employees. It was agreed to hold this session at the conclusion of the meeting.

PROCLAMATIONS:

9. Proclaiming the week of September 17-23 as "CONSTITUTION WEEK".

So proclaimed by Mayor Miller.

REAL PROPERTY:

10. RESOLUTION re: purchase of Parcel No. 1 for the widening of Carson Street (Dolores A. Ferraro)

RESOLUTION NO. 72-179

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE AND ATTEST THAT CERTAIN AGREEMENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF PARCEL NO. 1 FOR THE WIDENING OF CARSON STREET FROM MANUEL AVENUE TO WESTERN AVENUE.

(Dolores A. Ferraro)

Councilman Sciarrotta moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 72-179. His motion, seconded by Councilman Surber, was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

11. RESOLUTION re: purchase of Parcel No. 2 for the widening of Carson Street (Robert D. and Ethel D. Fernley)

RESOLUTION NO. 72-180

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE AND ATTEST THAT CERTAIN AGREEMENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF PARCEL NO. 2 FOR THE WIDENING OF CARSON STREET FROM MANUEL AVENUE TO WESTERN AVENUE.

(Robert D. and Ethel D. Fernley)

Councilman Sciarrotta moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 72-180. His motion was seconded by Councilman Surber, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

12. RESOLUTION re: purchase of Parcel No. 3 for the widening of Carson Street (Edwin O. and Dorothy H. Hill)

RESOLUTION NO. 72-181

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE AND ATTEST THAT CERTAIN AGREEMENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF PARCEL NO. 3 FOR THE WIDENING OF CARSON STREET FROM MANUEL AVENUE TO WESTERN AVENUE.

(Edwin O. and Dorothy H. Hill)

Councilman Sciarrotta moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 72-181. His motion, seconded by Councilman Surber, was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

13. RESOLUTION re: purchase of Parcel No. 4 for the widening of Carson Street (Reginald M. and Edith M. Dowsing)

RESOLUTION NO. 72-182

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE AND ATTEST THAT CERTAIN AGREEMENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF PARCEL NO. 4 FOR THE WIDENING OF CARSON STREET FROM MANUEL AVENUE TO WESTERN AVENUE.

(Reginald M. and Edith M. Dowsing)

Councilman Sciarrotta moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 72-182. His motion was seconded by Councilman Surber, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

14. AIRPORT MASTER PLAN.

RECOMMENDATION OF AIRPORT COMMISSION/AIRPORT MANAGER:

That the Airport Commission reaffirm its recommendation to the City Council that no long term leases be entered into until the completion of the Master Plan.

Councilman Uerkwitz deemed this a repetitious action by the Airport Commission, and noted the previous Council request that the Airport Manager bring all leases forward to the Council within thirty days; to concur with what is proposed by the Airport Commission would be contrary to these recent instructions to the Airport Manager. Mr. Uerkwitz acknowledged the Commission's good intent, but noted that it would defeat the purpose of the Council.

It was the comment of Councilman Sciarrotta that there could be an undertaking involving 500 or 600 employees and a very substantial endeavor -- this would be deserving of consideration, in his opinion.

The Commission's request was an understandable one to Councilman Wilson -- how is it possible to plan if the Council continues to permit leases? It was Dr. Wilson's suggestion that there be some indication by the Council as to exclusions, and then to give some assurance that the Council will not be constantly changing its mind in order that a Master Plan can be made.

Councilman Armstrong would concur that it does not make sense to point out the need for a Master Plan, enter a contract for same, and then turn around and plan without such findings -- however, on the other hand, there are certain applications which would be desirable to act on, despite the fact of the Master Plan -- there is a need for a "middle ground". The Council's likely position, according to Mr. Armstrong, should be one of acceptance of the guiding principle, recognizing that there can be, and may be, exceptions due to unique circumstances, dealing with each situation one at a time as they come before the Council, per the direction to the Airport Manager.

The Transportation Committee's report, according to Councilman Surber's understanding, was that any lease or contract, if approved, would contain the stipulation that it be subject to the Master Plan. It was specifically noted by Airport Manager Egan that there are certain situations where this could not be done, particularly where it is necessary to make large investments for improvements. City Attorney Remelmeyer also referred to the established commercial development -- a "dye is cast" situation -- along Pacific Coast Highway to the Lomita boundary, this being already locked into the Master Plan.

It was Councilman Brewster's recollection that the Council had requested that in those cases where the lease application was at an extreme variance from normal airport development that they not be considered until completion of the Master Plan -- however, those lease applications in accordance with the historic development of the airport should be revised for approval in two classifications: those approved subject to final results of the Master Plan, and those which could not bear that kind of stipulation in their lease, necessitating special Council consideration. There was, according to Mr. Brewster, recognition of the Airport Commission's recommendation in this regard, but there was recognition of needed compromises as well.

Mayor Miller added his comments to the effect that the idea of a Master Plan is right and proper, but such a plan will not wholly answer all the problems of an airport, and can only set guidelines -- the considerations are many, specifically revenue that may be generated, and Mayor Miller does not want to be locked in because of a pending Master Plan study some 18 months away.

Airport Commissioner Garcelon was present to elaborate on the thinking of the Commission -- noted was the money being spent for a Master Plan for the Airport, the community and professional input as to goals for the Airport, etc. and the impracticability of pulling out a few acres here and there and committing them for long periods of time is the Commission's concern. Mr. Garcelon then noted the need for extreme caution at this stage, with a Master Plan so near, in any decisions involving large pieces of land.

It was the comment of Councilman Sciarrotta that the request of a substantial organization like Hi-Shear should be given careful consideration, along with requests of like nature -- Mr. Sciarrotta favors the Master Plan, but of primary concern is the best interest and economy of the City of Torrance; he, therefore, could not vote in favor of no more long term leases.

Discussion returned to Council policy, the opportunity of the Commission recommendation prior to Council review, the need for Master Plan progress reports, the present Transportation Committee study, etc. -- Mayor Miller further commented that he failed to understand why this matter is even before the Council; the procedure is established in that the Council supports the Master Plan concept but allows for exceptions in unique, worthwhile cases of merit to the City, and this is the format that is being followed. The Airport Commission's recommendation that nothing on a long term basis be considered is not in line with the Mayor's thinking.

MOTION: Councilman Uerkwitz moved to reaffirm the Council's policy in the subject matter. The motion was seconded by Councilman Surber, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

TRAFFIC AND LIGHTING:

15. RESOLUTION ratifying City-State District Cooperative Agreement regarding freeway ramp control program.

RESOLUTION NO. 72-183

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT BY THE CITY OF TORRANCE AND THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA BY AND THROUGH ITS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS, TO ACCOMPLISH ANY NECESSARY ALTERATIONS ON CITY STREETS IN CONJUNCTION WITH A TRAFFIC IMPROVEMENT PROJECT ON SAN DIEGO FREEWAY (ROUTE 405).

It was the comment of Councilman Uerkwitz, prior to taking action on the above resolution, that on-site inspection of the freeway metering system in Los Angeles revealed that three different locations employing such system have literally inundated the surrounding surface streets, up to three blocks away, and causing serious problems getting onto the freeway. The lack of east-west, north-south streets in Torrance is of concern to Mr. Uerkwitz in the injury, surface street wise, that could result with this system here -- freeways are supposed to relieve surface traffic, and not cause problems; such is not the case with ramp metering. Mr. Uerkwitz denied the suggestion by Councilman Brewster that freeways alleviate surface street traffic, and reiterated that the stopping of traffic at the entrance to any street will cause congestion, be it a freeway or otherwise, but the freeway itself was designed to eliminate surface street traffic.

City Traffic Engineer Horkey reported on the extensive research in arriving at the subject recommendation; Staff would concur that there will be some problem on Crenshaw --- however, hopefully, this can be overcome with the funds that will be made available from the State.

MOTION: Councilman Wilson moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 72-183. The motion was seconded by Councilman Armstrong, and roll call vote was as follows:

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Armstrong, Brewster, Sciarrotta, Surber, Wilson, and Mayor Miller.

NOES: COUNCILMEN: Uerkwitz.

MOTION: Councilman Armstrong moved to concur with the following Traffic Commission, Police Department, and City Traffic Engineer recommendations: Authorize the installation of the illuminated "NO LEFT TURN" sign on 182nd Street to prevent left turn movements to the freeway on-ramp during metering operations (cost \$336.00 which is 100% reimbursable under the agreement); Instruct the Traffic and Lighting, and Police Departments to observe the traffic patterns and queue lengths that begin to emerge after the metering has been in operation for a week and report back on any unexpected difficulties that may be encountered.

The motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, and carried, with roll call vote as follows:

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Armstrong, Brewster, Sciarrotta, Surber, Wilson, and Mayor Miller.

NOES: COUNCILMEN: Uerkwitz.

FISCAL MATTERS:

16. ORDINANCE adding Peddlers License and Transient Business License to the Torrance City Code.

ORDINANCE NO. 2354

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ADDING NEW SECTIONS 31.1.8, 31.1.9, 33.18.68 and 33.18.69 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE; DEFINING TRANSIENT BUSINESS AND PEDDLER AND ESTABLISHING LICENSE TAXES THEREFOR.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved for the approval of Ordinance No. 2354 at its first reading. His motion, seconded by Councilman Surber, was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

17. RESOLUTION authorizing the filing of a Claim for Local Transportation Funds.

RESOLUTION NO. 72-184

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF A CLAIM

WITH THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF  
GOVERNMENTS FOR LOCAL TRANSPORTATION FUNDS.

Councilman Armstrong moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 72-184. The motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

It was the comment of Councilman Uerkwitz, at the time of his "yes" vote, that "I'm voting yes, reminding you that this is the same group that was not going to become a second set of government bodies."

Legislative Advocate Rupert advised the Council that the subject funds (\$302,669) are the first such funds disbursed, and that Torrance was the sponsor of the amendment that provided this money to local jurisdictions.

PARK AND RECREATION:

18. BEACH BUS SPECIAL.

RECOMMENDATION OF TORRANCE YOUTH COMMISSION:

That Council extend the Beach Bus Special to Torrance Beach through the month of October, with the schedule being one trip every day Monday through Friday beginning at 3:00 P.M.

There was extensive discussion by the Council of the Beach Bus Special -- with particular note of the statistics furnished by the Director of Recreation indicating limited usage and a cost of \$66.50 per day.

The absence of acceptance of this program was noted by Councilman Uerkwitz, as was the existing serious bus financial picture. It was Mr. Uerkwitz' recommendation that the Beach Bus Special plan not be inaugurated until there is some show of good faith on the part of the students and some evidence of demand for such service -- there is not sufficient demand at this time to continue this operation.

Concurrence with the above comment was indicated by Councilman Brewster -- at a cost of \$3.30 per student per one-way trip to the beach, a taxi would be more practical! Mr. Brewster expressed the opinion that it is an extravagance that the City cannot afford. Councilman Wilson expressed agreement that taxi fare would be preferable to the \$66.50 per day, running a bus for a few people.

Councilman Armstrong likewise agreed that \$66.50 per day represented an extravagance -- however, according to Mr. Armstrong, it was never presumed that this project would be profitable; the original objective has been achieved. It must be recognized that it was a summer program, a program conceived somewhat tardy in the season, and there is substantial potential for its future, with an eye to the Christmas shopping season, etc. Councilman Armstrong concurred that revisions are needed, but does not feel that the idea should just be shelved.

The dismal past history of the bus system's financial status was noted by Councilman Sciarrotta who expressed his disappointment in this latest setback -- \$66.50 per day is simply too much to be losing.

Councilman Surber was in agreement with the sentiments expressed by Councilman Armstrong -- this was not intended to be a money-maker. Mr. Surber further commented that there has been no money made with the bus system since he has been on the Council and apparently for some time before that -- however, there is some \$302,000 available, voted for by him simply because it is not a Federal fund but money worked for from the State, a proper direction. The young people are of much concern to Councilman Surber, and while the Beach Bus Special was not a great success, it was partially successful, and should be given a fair chance. More study and a revised pickup method was recommended by Mr. Surber. He would have no objections to its continuance, with certain alterations and deemed it a useful service to the youth in the community.

General discussion of the Beach Bus Special resumed, with review of the Staff statistics and the costly aspect of the program, as well as acknowledgment of the value of the role of youth in the community.

The chairman of the Youth Commission, Mr. Harold Smith, 1005 Cranbrook, indicated that certain mistakes had been made in the original planning of this project, mistakes which are now recognized -- hence the desire for a "second chance" under revised circumstances. It was the suggestion of Councilman Uerkwitz that the time had now arrived when the students should display initiative and come up with a workable plan for Council review.

Youth Council chairman, Jeff Tasker, outlined revised plans -- along the lines of Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 3 P.M. to 6 P.M. -- and indicated confidence in the success of such plans.

Consideration was then given the revised format, the proposed generation of interest, and the approximate \$600 for an additional six weeks of the Beach Bus, to provide the requested "second chance".

The following action resulted:

MOTION: Councilman Uerkwitz moved that the Council deny the request of the Youth Commission, without prejudice, allowing them to present a new proposal at a later date, at their discretion. The motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson.

A SUBSTITUTE MOTION was offered by Councilman Surber: That the program be continued, at the discretion of the Youth Commission, through September and October, with a maximum expenditure of \$600. The motion was seconded by Councilman Brewster, and carried, with roll call vote as follows:

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Armstrong, Brewster, Sciarrotta, Surber.  
NOES: COUNCILMEN: Uerkwitz, Wilson; Mayor Miller.

Mayor Miller requested that the City Manager return with the appropriate statistics at the end of the allotted time.

LIBRARY OPERATIONS:19. RECIPROCAL LIBRARY SERVICES AGREEMENTS:

- a) RESOLUTION and agreement between Torrance and Inglewood.
- b) RESOLUTION and agreement between Torrance and Los Angeles.

RESOLUTION NO. 72-185

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE AND ATTEST THAT CERTAIN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF TORRANCE AND THE CITY OF INGLEWOOD FOR RECIPROCAL LIBRARY SERVICES.

Councilman Surber moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 72-185. His motion, seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, carried, as follows:

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

RESOLUTION NO. 72-186

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE AND ATTEST THAT CERTAIN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF TORRANCE AND THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES FOR RECIPROCAL LIBRARY SERVICES.

Councilman Uerkwitz moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 72-186; his motion, seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

HEARINGS - PLANNING AND ZONING:

20. TENTATIVE TRACT NO. 29541, Stan Wilson. Request for approval of tentative tract map on property located between 235th Street and 235th Place, east of Arlington Avenue.  
 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, following Staff clarification, inquired if anyone wished to be heard. There was no response.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved that the hearing be closed. His motion was seconded by Councilman Armstrong, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

MOTION: Councilman Wilson moved to concur with the recommendation of the Planning Commission for approval of Tentative Tract No. 29541, subject to certain conditions. The motion was seconded by Councilman Surber.

Prior to roll call vote on the motion, there was discussion, based on the earlier map presentation by Staff re: the location of the bulb and the sizable dedication represented thereby -- there was, the further observation that access to Lot #1 is the only purpose served by the cul-de-sac, it was the comment of Councilman Brewster that there may be very valid reasons for the cul-de-sac being that far to the west, in terms of traffic safety, parking, etc. -- but he would rather leave that up to the decision of the City Engineer and Staff as to what is the appropriate location for the cul-de-sac. Councilman Wilson amended his motion to so stipulate, as did Councilman Surber who seconded the motion.

Mr. Bill Cameron, Lanco Engineering, came forward at this time. Councilman Uerkwitz thereupon MOVED to reopen the hearing on Tentative Tract No. 29541; the motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson; there were no objections, and it was so ordered.

First questioned by Councilman Uerkwitz was how to achieve proper notification to purchasers of Lots #1 and #6 of the zoning of the adjoining property to the west (Staff condition #5). It was stated by City Engineer Weaver that this can be included in the Real Estate Commission Report which prospective purchasers must read.

Mr. Cameron stated that the reason the cul-de-sac was so made is that it went along with the Master Plan, and the houses were already designed for that particular lot design; it also adds some curbside parking. Mr. Cameron confirmed that there are no objections to the cul-de-sac as designed.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved that the hearing be closed. His motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson; roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

MOTION: Councilman Wilson moved to concur with the recommendation of the Planning Commission for approval of Tentative Tract No. 29541, subject to certain conditions. The motion was seconded by Councilman Uerkwitz, and carried, with roll call vote as follows:

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Armstrong, Brewster, Sciarrotta, Surber,  
Uerkwitz, and Wilson.  
NOES: COUNCILMEN: None.  
ABSTAIN: COUNCILMEN: Mayor Miller (owns property within 300 ft.  
of the subject property.)

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21. TENTATIVE TRACT NO. 28469, HOUSING DEVELOPMENT RESOURCES, INC.  
Request for approval of a tentative tract map on property located at the east side of Palos Verdes Blvd. between Calle Miramar and Calle Mayor.  
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 public hearing on Tentative Tract No. 28496, with Staff presentation the first order of business.

It was confirmed by Planning Director Shartle, at Councilman Surber's question, that the subject development will be done by private enterprise.

Mr. Larry Bowman, attorney for the applicants, pointed out that the project is still subject to a Conditional Use Permit application; Mr. Bowman further indicated that all conditions are acceptable.

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

MOTION: Councilman Sciarrotta moved to concur with the recommendation of the Planning Commission for approval of Tentative Tract No. 28469, subject to certain conditions. The motion was seconded by Councilman Armstrong, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

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The hour being 8:20 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 5-minute recess followed at 8:21 P.M.

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PLANNING AND ZONING MATTERS:

Considered together:

22. STUDY OF THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF REDONDO BEACH BLVD. AND YUKON AVENUE.
23. ORDINANCE re: ZC 71-13.

The recent purchaser of the subject property, Mr. Mel Palvison, 3550 Redondo Beach Blvd., was present to request postponement of this matter to permit further review by him. Also present, Mr. Nick Drale, reiterated his request that their property remain C-2.

MOTION: Councilman Armstrong moved to hold agenda items #22 and #23 for one week, at the proponent's request. The motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson; there were no objections, and it was so ordered.

24. RESOLUTION re: V 72-6, Jefferson Company and Rolling Hills Plaza Company (Albert Levitt)

RESOLUTION NO. 72-187

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE APPROVING A VARIANCE FROM THE PROVISIONS OF DIVISION 9, CHAPTER 3, ARTICLE 1, OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE, AS APPLIED FOR BY JEFFERSON COMPANY AND ROLLING HILLS PLAZA COMPANY IN PLANNING COMMISSION CASE NO. V 72-6.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 72-187. His motion, seconded by Councilman Surber, carried, as follows:

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

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS:

25. FILLING VACANCIES ON TRAFFIC AND WATER COMMISSIONS.

The date selected for Commission interviews was September 26, 1972, at 6:30 P.M.

It was agreed that there be appropriate recognition for retiring Commissioners, per the new Council policy in this regard -- further, that the City Clerk henceforth automatically follow through in such cases.

ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS:

26. RECOMMENDATION TO EXPERIMENTALLY CONVERT A PORTION OF THE CITY'S VEHICLE FLEET TO PROPANE FUEL.

Mr. Norman Dreyfus, president, Smog Abatement System, challenged the validity of Staff statements, and outlined what he deemed discrepancies therein.

In view of the apparent need for clarification and review, it was the suggestion of Mayor Miller that this matter be referred to the Transportation Committee for a meeting with Staff and all interested parties. There were no objections, and it was so ordered.

Purchasing Supervisor White stated at this time that Staff will stand on the points made by them, and they are prepared to support same. Mayor Miller requested that the record reflect that Staff members have not had an opportunity to refute statements made by Mr. Dreyfus, it being understood that this will take place at the Committee meeting.

The date selected for the subject meeting was Thursday, September 14th, at 4:30 P.M.

27. OIL FIELD HAZARD.RECOMMENDATIONS OF OIL BOARD:

1. That no further action be taken in regard to water flooding by CWOD or by the Superior Oil Company.
2. That the City Attorney be directed to draft an ordinance, which will place a burden upon any oil operator who would drill an oil or injector well, from outside the City Limits, but which would be "bottomed" within the City, to secure the proper drilling permit and be subject to any conditions which the City of Torrance may impose.
3. That the Oil Board be directed to continue to monitor this situation should any information become available which could indicate the presence or threat of hazard to homes.

Mr. Arnold S. Johnson, 2278 West 232nd Street, made a verbal presentation of the September 12th communication, of record, from Mr. A.E. Martois protesting the subject action of the Oil Board, pointing out existing hazards, and requesting an environmental report re: waterflooding in the Southeast Torrance area; further recommending that illegal waterfloods of Southeast Torrance be enjoined until the facts are known.

The president of SETHA, Mr. Orin Johnson, 23810 Stanhurst, voiced the residents' continuing worry and concern re: CWOD and Superior Oil waterflooding operations -- a map clarifying the Waterflood Trespass was furnished the Council and reviewed by Mr. Johnson. It is his organization's recommendation that Staff be directed to prepare a policy calling for environmental impact studies on all oil operations. SETHA is not in agreement with the "no further action" recommendation of the Oil Board, according to Mr. Johnson.

Next to speak was Mrs. Arnold Johnson who stated that in connection with the CWOD waterflood, it is her understanding that the first line injectors, which were responsible for the alleged increase in water and oil production in certain main zone wells in Southeast Torrance, have been stopped -- the injectors closer to Crenshaw have and are being converted to producing wells so that the oil will be captured before it gets into Southeast Torrance, according to Mrs. Johnson.

Next noted by Mrs. Johnson was the report made at a recent Oil Board meeting that a responsible Superior Oil Company official has stated that his unit has the permission of the Division of Oil and Gas to do its waterflooding, noting that there are three injector wells located and bottomed in Southeast Torrance; the surface locations are in the City of Los Angeles, and they are slant-drilled under Southeast Torrance. Further, according to Mrs. Johnson, per the map before the Council, the second well up from the bottom is the one that has caused the increase in oil and water production in the parksite wells.

Continuing, Mrs. Johnson stated that it has been observed that a large pumping unit on the northwest corner of 235th and Walnut has been installed to take the place of the small conventional pumping unit, and was presumably installed to handle increased water and oil. It is Mrs. Johnson's opinion that that is an expansion of an existing non-conforming oil use, and is one of the things that is happening in

connection with the fact that Superior is injecting water into wells bottomed in Southeast Torrance. The homeowners concern, a concern shared by Mrs. Johnson, relates to the location of these bottomed holes to the bottomed holes of wells in Southeast Torrance. It was the finding of Oil Board Chairman Babson, according to Mrs. Johnson, that it is possible to monitor bottomed hole pressures, with wells shut down at the time this is done, a procedure which has been considered -- it would seem that the environmental impact studies which have been proposed would permit the undertaking of this program. Rather than leaving the matter to the discretion of the Oil Board, according to Mrs. Johnson, Council might direct that these studies be made a part of the environmental impact report which certainly would be called for in connection with the proposed waterflood of Southeast Torrance by the townlot operators.

It was clarified by Mrs. Johnson, at Councilman Uerkwitz' question regarding her role, as an Oil Board member, in the subject recommendations, that the Council communication did not bear her signature and was not specifically voted on by the Board -- there was general discussion by the Board, minus explicit instructions.

Mrs. Johnson added her understanding that the Superior Oil Company official had indicated that if the City wished to send written, formal communication to his company, then they would respond formally, but, until such time, it is as though there has been no contact with them -- it is Mrs. Johnson's further understanding that neither the Division of Oil and Gas nor Superior<sup>Oil</sup> notified the City of Torrance of their intent to include part of Southeast Torrance in their unit or that they were going to bottom injectors in the area.

Discussion was directed to the likely accomplishments of the recommended ordinance (recommendation #2), as were the merits of an environmental impact study, it being noted by City Manager Ferraro that the City is neither qualified nor staffed to make such a study, and can only provide an evaluation of qualified reports. It was the suggestion of Councilman Wilson that such outside consultants be selected by the City and paid for by the oil companies. The need for more professional involvement was generally acknowledged, as was the need for additional input in this regard. The following action resulted:

MOTION: Councilman Sciarrotta moved to concur with recommendations #1,2, and #3 of the Oil Board. The motion was seconded by Councilman Surber, and roll call vote was unanimsusly favorable.

MOTION: Councilman Wilson moved to request Staff to bring back recommendations regarding environmental impact studies that can be made in this area, along with a cost breakdown involved in the hiring of a petroleum engineer. The motion was seconded by Councilman Armstrong, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

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SECOND READING ORDINANCES:28. ORDINANCE NO. 2350.ORDINANCE NO. 2350

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 ON THE EAST SIDE OF HAWTHORNE BOULEVARD BETWEEN REDONDO BEACH BLVD. AND ARTESIA BLVD. AND DESCRIBED IN ZONE CHANGE 72-9.

(Torrance Planning Commission)

Councilman Wilson moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 2350 at its second and final reading. His motion, seconded by Councilman Armstrong, carried, as follows:

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Armstrong, Sciarrotta, Wilson; Mayor Miller.  
 NOES: COUNCILMEN: None.  
 ABSTAIN: COUNCILMEN: Brewster, Surber, Uerkwitz  
 (absent at hearing)

29. ORDINANCE NO. 2352.ORDINANCE NO. 2352

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING CERTAIN SECTIONS OF PART IV OF CHAPTER 7, DIVISION 1 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE TO AFFECT WAGES AND WORKING CONDITIONS OF CERTAIN MIDDLE-MANAGEMENT EMPLOYEES REPRESENTING THEMSELVES.

Councilman Wilson moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2352 at its second and final reading. His motion, seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, carried as follows:

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Armstrong, Brewster, Sciarrotta, Wilson,  
 and Mayor Miller.  
 NOES: COUNCILMEN: None.  
 ABSTAIN: COUNCILMEN: Surber, Uerkwitz (not present at  
 earlier consideration).

30. ORDINANCE NO. 2353.ORDINANCE NO. 2353

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING SECTIONS 17.91.1 AND 17.91.3 OF ARTICLE I, PART IX, OF CHAPTER 7, DIVISION 1 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE TO ADJUST THE SALARIES OF CERTAIN CLASSIFICATIONS.

15. City Council  
 September 12, 1972

Councilman Armstrong moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 2353 at its second and final reading. The motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and carried, with roll call vote as follows:

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Armstrong, Brewster, Sciarrotta, Wilson,  
and Mayor Miller.  
NOES: COUNCILMEN: None.  
ABSTAIN: COUNCILMEN: Surber, Uerkwitz (not present at  
earlier consideration)

ROUTINE MATTERS:

31. EXPENDITURES OVER \$300:

RECOMMENDATION OF FINANCE DIRECTOR:

That Council approve the following purchases:

A. BUDGETED.

1. \$1367.42 to Albro Fire Equipment Company for one only Oilhydraulic Power Expander as requested by the Fire Department as a replacement.
2. \$353.89 to Barnes & Delaney for 22 cycle tires as requested by the City Garage as replacements.
3. \$625.89 to I.B.M. for 41,000 business renewal license notices as requested by the License Division for distribution to all of the various Torrance businesses.
4. \$946.63 to S&J Chevrolet for one only Allison transmission as requested by the City Garage as a replacement.
5. \$1667.36 to James Jones Company for 12 hydrant heads as requested by the Water Department for stock.
6. \$1281.00 to Cataphote Company for 1,000 pounds of thermal powder street striping paint as requested by the Traffic and Lighting Department to make street crosswalks,
7. \$511.80 to Harbor Office Supply for 5,000 special Kraft folders and other miscellaneous filing supplies as requested by the Police Department.
8. \$656.25 to National Cash Register for one only cash register as requested by the Recreation Department as a replacement.
9. \$480.66 to Pasadena Pipe & Supply for various sprinkler repair and replacement parts as requested by the Park Services Division for the Recreation Center.
10. \$603.12 to Park-Son, Inc. for two each 8" and 6" water pipe valves as requested by the Water Department for stock.

B. REIMBURSABLE ITEMS:

11. \$577.50 to Best Concrete Products to furnish and install one only concrete meter vault as requested by the Water Department for installation at the Kearney Service on Lomita Boulevard. Payment for this service has already been received.
12. \$397.94 to Smith & Hartford Custom Coach for repairs to City Bus (Unit #348) as requested by the City Garage. Billing for damages is in progress.

32. AWARD OF CONTRACT - Storm Drain from Riviera Way to Via El Chico (Job No. 72152)

RECOMMENDATION OF CITY ENGINEER:

1. That the contract be awarded to G.W. Shore Construction Company and the other bid be rejected; and
2. That \$7,000 be appropriated from the Drainage Improvement Fund to cover costs.

33. CLAIM of Dan E. Butcher for property damages.

RECOMMENDATION OF CITY CLERK:

That the above claim be denied and referred to the City Attorney. The City Attorney concurs with the above action.

34. AWARD OF CONTRACT - Stationery Supplies for Fiscal Year 1972-73. Reference Bid #B72-32.

RECOMMENDATION OF FINANCE DIRECTOR/BUYER:

That Council award \$12,739.83 plus tax to Inglewood Book and Stationers for annual contract to supply stationery supplies.

\*\* Re: Item #32. It was confirmed by City Engineer Weaver that the bid was simply a high bid, at Councilman Uerkwitz' question; there was no irregularity in the bid.

It was noted by Councilman Brewster that this item #32 was one of the matters diligently pursued by the Public Works Committee after the last rain because of the disaster that occurred at this location. At Mr. Brewster's request, City Engineer Weaver described the work to be done.

Mr. Frimonson, 351 Via El Chico, was present to describe flood damage suffered by him, and also to point out to the Council that the hill above the street is in more deplorable shape than last year; there has been no reseeding whatsoever; mud is coming down the hill and the mud danger is greater than last year. There are apparently unresolved matters between the contractor and the City, according to Mr. Frimonson, and all action has ceased -- the threat of this hillside is of grave concern to him and the homeowners.

City Engineer Weaver advised that the developer, Mr. Harry Kissell, has just recently received approval for construction of homes in this area, and his intentions regarding the hillside are unknown at this time. Building and Safety Director McKinnon advised that there have been negative results to date in efforts to ascertain what is proposed by Mr. Kissell.

Mayor Miller directed Mr. McKinnon to communicate to Mr. Kissell the desire of the Council to know his plans in view of their considerable concern regarding slippage problems in this area.

It was noted by City Manager Ferraro that the subject property is private property and there is no City liability -- Mr. Kissell can sandbag to protect the site, if he cares to sandbag, but it is entirely his responsibility, <sup>only</sup> an immediate emergency situation would prompt appropriate City action.

MOTION: Councilman Sciarrotta moved to concur with recommendations on agenda items #31, 32, 33, and #34. His motion was seconded by Councilman Armstrong, and roll call vote proved unanimously favorable.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

35. The establishment of a date by the Council for the purpose of viewing voting equipment in other cities, in order to proceed with such installation in the new Council Chambers, was requested by Building and Safety Director McKinnon.

Reservations as to the merit of such equipment were expressed by Mayor Miller and Councilman Sciarrotta -- however, it was generally agreed that such tour be arranged for Tuesday, September 26th, from 3:00 to 5:00 P.M. for those Councilmen desiring to participate.

36. City Manager Ferraro advised that an Administrative Review Team has been established for the purpose of hearing the matter of Airport problems, some 275 invitations having been extended -- the date is Wednesday, September 20, 1972, at 3:30 P.M. in the Council Chambers.

37. At Councilman Armstrong's question, City Traffic Engineer Horkay advised that there are signals in the immediate future for Del Amo and Henrietta and Del Amo and Victor.

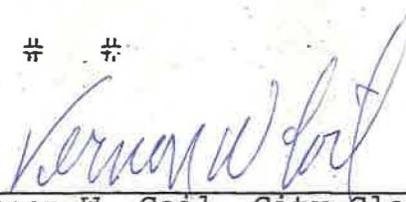
38. Councilman Armstrong alluded to earlier Council consideration of oil problems in Torrance and noted that one of the problems the oil people have in the community is that too often they have not played the game of good neighbors and have not made every effort to cooperate -- if it is a lesson yet to be learned, it is hoped that they learn it soon.

39. The undesirable spinning of wheels and burning of rubber at the intersection of Edgemere and Henrietta was noted by Councilman Brewster and deemed deserving of investigation.

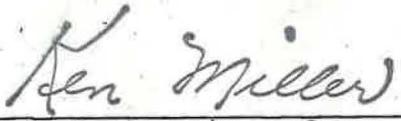
The hour being 10:00 P.M. Councilman Sciarrotia moved that the Council recess for the purpose of an Executive Session to discuss hours, wages, and working conditions concerning recurrent employees. City Attorney Remelmeyer confirmed the propriety of this action. Mayor Miller advised that the Council would return only to adjourn, and that no further business would be conducted.

The Council returned at 10:30 P.M. -- Councilman Sciarrotta moved to adjourn; the motion, seconded by Councilman Brewster, was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

# # #



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



Mayor of the City of Torrance