

I N D E XCity Council - October 17, 1972

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Adjourned at 6:40 P.M.

Ava Cripe  
Minute SecretaryCity Council  
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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, October 17, 1972, at 5:30 P.M. in the Council Chambers at Torrance City Hall.

2. ROLL CALL:

Present: Councilmen Armstrong, Sciarrotta, Surber, Uerkwitz, Wilson, and Mayor Miller. Councilman Brewster arrived at 5:35 P.M.  
Absent: None.

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

3. FLAG SALUTE:

Mr. Jim Conn led in the salute to the flag.

4. INVOCATION:

The invocation was provided by Reverend William J. Roleder, First Lutheran Church.

STANDARD MOTIONS:

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilman Sciarrotta moved that the minutes of October 3, 1972 be approved as recorded. His motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Brewster had not yet arrived at the meeting.)

6. APPROVAL OF DEMANDS:

Councilman Surber moved that all properly audited demands be paid. His motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson; roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Brewster not yet at meeting).

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 Sciarrotta, and roll call vote proved unanimously favorable (Councilman Brewster not yet at meeting).

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8. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

Police, Fire, and Public Safety:

Councilman Uerkwitz called a meeting of this committee for October 24th at 5:00 P.M., and requested that the City Manager be present.

Ad Hoc Committee -- Boards, Commissions, and Committees:

The first meeting will be held on October 26th at 4:45 P.M., per Councilman Armstrong; all interested parties have been invited to attend.

REAL PROPERTY:

9. RESOLUTION authorizing execution of agreement between City and William Love for the purchase of Parcel No. 4 for the improvement of Carson Street from Carson Park to Western Avenue.

RESOLUTION NO. 72-206

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 AND WILLIAM LOVE FOR THE PURCHASE OF PARCEL NO. 4 FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF CARSON STREET FROM CARSON PARK TO WESTERN AVENUE.

(City v. Rex Mart at Park Ave., et al.)

Councilman Wilson moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 72-206. The motion was seconded by Councilman Armstrong.

There was Council discussion, prior to roll call vote on the motion, with considerable concern voiced by Councilman Uerkwitz as to the fate of Downtown Torrance during the holiday shopping period with both Torrance Boulevard and Carson Street in midst of construction. Like concern was voiced by Mayor Miller. City Engineer Weaver clarified the street construction status -- the numerous meetings with railroad representatives, and the difficulty of satisfactory negotiations, in that they take their own time, people are pulled off the job, working only when and if they want to. It was the request of Councilman Uerkwitz that the minutes specifically reflect the foregoing, and confirm that "the City had nothing to do with the railroad pulling off the job."

It was the hopeful opinion of City Engineer Weaver that Torrance Boulevard will be opened to traffic prior to the start of the Carson Street project, thereby avoiding any Christmas shopping traffic problems.

Roll call vote to adopt Resolution No. 72-206 was unanimously favorable.

10. RESOLUTION authorizing execution of agreement for the purchase of Parcel No. 5 for the widening of Carson Street from Crenshaw Boulevard to El Prado Avenue.

RESOLUTION NO. 72-207

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. 5 FOR THE WIDENING OF CARSON STREET FROM CRENSHAW AVENUE TO EL PRADO AVENUE.  
(Vicklund and Johnson)

Councilman Sciarrotta moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 72-207 His motion, seconded by Councilman Armstrong, was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

11. RESOLUTION authorizing execution of agreement for the purchase of Parcels 24, 25, and 26 for the widening of Del Amo Boulevard. (Leopold Alvarez and Consuelo Eredia.)

RESOLUTION NO. 72-208

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 PARCELS NO. 24, 25, AND 26, FOR THE WIDENING OF DEL AMO BOULEVARD.

(Leopoldo Alvarez and Consuelo Eredia,  
2053, 2063-5 Del Amo Boulevard)

Councilman Surber moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 72-208. His motion was seconded by Councilman Uerkwitz; roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

FISCAL MATTERS:

12. USE OF REVENUE SHARING FUNDS.

RECOMMENDATION OF ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER:

Of the remaining \$714,000 in Revenue Sharing Funds, it is recommended that:

1. Since the operating budget is balanced, the Council establish a policy that these funds be expended only on capital improvements.
2. That this office be directed to submit to the Council for the establishment of priorities on the use of this money, a list of capital projects which, in the opinion of the Staff, are necessary and desirable.

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It was the recommendation of Councilman Brewster that at least a small portion of the revenue sharing funds be directed into the sorely needed field of enforcement -- the enactment of legislation, minus any means of enforcement, becomes something of a sham. The deletion from the budget of two Zoning Enforcement Officers was discussed, and reconsideration was deemed in order, with Staff recommendations regarding manpower and/or equipment dollars.

Mayor Miller at this point in the meeting, with considerable pride, read the following telegram from the White House:

"THE PRESIDENT REQUESTS THE PLEASURE OF YOUR COMPANY AT THE SIGNING OF THE REVENUE SHARING BILL IN INDEPENDENCE HALL, PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA, ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20, 1972, AT 12:00 NOON. PLEASE PRESENT THIS TELEGRAM AT THE MAIN ENTRANCE ON CHESTNUT STREET, BETWEEN 5TH AND 6TH STREET. R.S.V.P. BY RETURN WIRE."

This outstanding honor to the City of Torrance was gratefully acknowledged by Mayor Miller. It was added by Legislative Advocate Rupert that such recognition had come to Torrance because of its leadership and dedication over the long period of hassle before arriving at this point; at the direction of this Council, the movement was spearheaded both by wire, by letter, and by personal contact with Washington legislators -- hence this recognition of Torrance's efforts.

It was recalled by Mayor Miller that Councilman Sciarrotta had originally requested that South Bay area cities meet in this regard and to support this legislation -- there were mixed emotions; it was necessary to "push" the idea, and Mr. Sciarrotta is to be complimented on his sustained salesmanship efforts.

Councilman Sciarrotta acknowledged the efforts of the Legislative Liaison Committee formed by the Mayor; further, the Council was gracious enough to permit appearances before the League of California Cities with the pertinent documentation -- every Councilman is to be complimented in this matter on what is a "team effort" to effect this accomplishment for the City of Torrance.

Mr. Orin Johnson, president, SETHA, joined in congratulations to the Council, and then advised that SETHA has formed a committee for the purpose of taking inventory of streets in their area that do not have curbs, gutters, and sidewalks, listing them in order of priority. This inventory will be provided in the near future in the hope that some of these funds will be earmarked for this purpose.

Concurrence with the above comments of Councilman Brewster relative to the need for enforcement officers was voiced by Councilman Sciarrotta. Mr. Sciarrotta then MOVED to concur with the recommendations of the Assistant City Manager, subject to the suggestions made by Councilman Brewster. The motion was seconded by Councilman Armstrong, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

MATTERS NOT OTHERWISE CLASSIFIED:

13. FOLLOW-UP REPORT ON 1972 SUMMER BEACH BUS SPECIAL.

RECOMMENDATION OF CITY MANAGER:

That Council concur in terminating the 1972 Beach Bus Program, returning the unexpended funds to the reserve.

MOTION: Councilman Surber moved to concur with the above recommendation of the City Manager. His motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

SECOND READING ORDINANCES:

14. ORDINANCE NO. 2363.

ORDINANCE NO. 2363

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING SECTIONS 33.6.1, 33.8.1, 33.15.1, 33.18.18, 33.18.23, 33.18.25, 33.18.63, AND 34.1.1 OF DIVISION 3 AND ADDING SECTIONS 32.1.30, 32.1.31, AND 33.18.67 TO DIVISION 3 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE.

Councilman Wilson moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 2363 at its second and final reading. His motion was seconded by Councilman Armstrong, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

ROUTINE MATTERS:

15. EXPENDITURES OVER \$300:

RECOMMENDATION OF FINANCE DIRECTOR:

That Council approve the following purchases:

A. BUDGETED ITEMS:

- 1. \$315.00 to South Bay Reloading Service for 25,000 only .38 caliber bullets only (no case or powder) as requested by the Police Department for use in reloading operation for pistol range.
- 2. \$1085.92 to Olympic Wholesale Sporting Goods for miscellaneous new ammunition for Police Service (as compared to reloaded ammunition for pistol range use) which consisted of 3000 rounds of .38 special ammunition and 1000 rounds each of 30-30 Winchester; .270 Winchester and .223 Remington as requested by the Police Department.
- 3. \$676.25 to B&H Carpet of Torrance to furnish and install 100 sq. yds. of carpeting for one of City's Airport leased offices (Sperry Air Services) as requested by the Airport Department.

4. \$6401.85 to Motorola Communications & Electronics, Inc. for seven portable 4-frequency radios as requested by the Police Department.

B. REIMBURSABLE ITEM:

5. \$332.48 to A.B.C. Body Shop for repairs to rubbish truck #9029 involved in an accident, as requested by the City Garage. Billing to responsible party is in progress.

16. AWARD OF CONTRACT - Furnish and Install Carpeting in three Branch Libraries (Ref. Bid No. B72-30) Total Expenditure: \$8,743.81.

RECOMMENDATION OF FINANCE DIRECTOR/PURCHASING SUPERVISOR:

That Council accept the bid from B&H Carpet Company which would be low bid when considering the local sales tax rebate back to the City, and approve of the awarding of the contract to them for this carpet in the total amount of \$8743.81 including tax.

17. AWARD OF CONTRACT - Sepulveda Boulevard (n/s) from Del Amo Circle east to Madrona Avenue (Job No. 71136)

RECOMMENDATION OF CITY ENGINEER:

That the contract be awarded to J.B. Crosby Company, Inc., and all other bids be rejected.

(This project is financed by \$9,000 in 2106 Gas Tax appropriations.)

18. AWARD OF CONTRACT - Curb, Gutter and Sidewalk in various locations. (Chapter 27 Assessment District) (Bid No. B72-41).

RECOMMENDATION OF CITY ENGINEER:

That the contract be awarded to VARGAS CONSTRUCTION, and all other bids be rejected.

(This is a Short Form 1911 Act project.)

19. CLAIM of Sidney Lane, M.D. for property damages.

RECOMMENDATION OF CITY CLERK:

That the above claim be DENIED and referred to the City Attorney. The insurance carrier concurs with the above action.

MOTION: Councilman Sciarrotta moved to concur with recommendations on agenda items #15, 16, 17, 18, and #19. The motion, seconded by Councilman Surber, was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

20. An informative report on activities at the current League of California Cities convention in Anaheim was provided by Assistant City Manager Scharfman, particularly as it related to Torrance's anti-power pole resolution.

21. The recent requests of Mr. Antonio Verduco for relief of curb, sidewalk, and gutter requirements were detailed in a Staff recommendation dated October 17th.

Council discussion ensued on the complexities surrounding the necessary decision, and it was unanimously agreed that this item should be returned as an agenda item on October 24th.

22. Councilman Armstrong questioned the status of A.B. 491, which provides reimbursement to public agencies for reasonable expenses in the area of public works, and was advised by Legislative Advocate Rupert that further consideration of this legislation likely will not take place until 1973.

23. The use, in other communities, of school grounds as community parks was praised by Councilman Sciarrotta, with referral of the possibilities of a like arrangement in Torrance to the Park and Recreation Commission

Mayor Miller requested that this also be a matter on the agenda at the next City Council/School Board joint meeting.

24. Councilman Uerkwitz confirmed that the Emergency Preparedness Commission has been informed of its role pertaining to environmental problems and that it is now defining its functions in this respect. It was Mr. Uerkwitz' request that the Commission Chairman be invited to meet with the Industrial Environmental Committee at their regular monthly luncheons.

25. It was ascertained by Mayor Miller that the demolition of shacks on the Sur La Brea property will soon go to bid. Assistant City Manager Scharfman also reported that park landscaping plans are now being reviewed as well.

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The hour being 6:25 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. The Council returned to its agenda at 6:30 P.M.

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26. It was requested of Mr. Arnold Johnson, 2278 West 232nd Street, -- in connection with the three homeowner groups recommendation that the Torrance area be included in the U.S.C. oil field seismic monitoring studies -- that the City expert hired to do the seismic elements of the new General Plan be given instructions to include in his study a report on the correlation between the October 16th earthquake, centered in Torrance, and the secondary recovery repressurization activities of the CWOD Torrance Unit and the Superior Oil Company.

Building and Safety Director McKinnon pointed out the long range aspect of the subject study, which will result in basic overall information; he also noted the difficulties of pinpointing findings to specific incidents, particularly as it might pertain to the October 16th quake.

Next noted by Mr. Johnson was the Los Angeles Times article of July 2, 1972 wherein it was reported that the Torrance City Council had tabled the homeowner group-recommended seismic monitoring study of Torrance oil fields. Recent requests to consulting firms, incorporating the merits of such a program in their proposals, are now being analyzed, per Sr. Planner Hagaman.

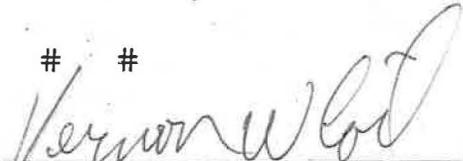
The need for further clarification was acknowledged by the Council, and Councilman Uerkwitz MOVED to refer this matter to Staff for further input. The motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta; there were no objections, and it was so ordered.

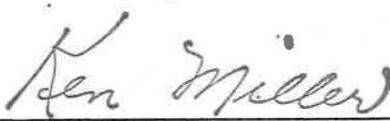
27. On behalf of the United Riviera Methodist Church, Mr. Fred Forrester requested permission to hang a banner denoting their "Fun Fair" for about 10 days, starting November 4th.

The need for Staff review of such requests was noted by Mayor Miller, with direction to Staff that approval be granted if there is nothing of detriment to the community in the request. There were no objections, and it was so ordered.

At 6:40 P.M. Councilman Sciarrotta moved to adjourn. His motion was seconded by Councilman Armstrong, and approval was unanimous.

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

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mayor of the City of Torrance

Ava Cripe  
 Minute Secretary

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