

I N D E XCity Council - December 5, 1972

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Adjourned at 7:35 P.M.

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Ava Cripe
Minute Secretary

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December 5, 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, December 5, 1972, at 5:30 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, City Attorney Remelmeyer, City Clerk Coil, and City Treasurer Rupert. Absent: Assistant City Manager Scharfman.

3. FLAG SALUTE:

Mr. Art Reeves led in the salute to the flag.

4. INVOCATION:

The invocation for the meeting was provided by Reverend Milton Sippel, First Christian Church.

STANDARD MOTIONS:

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilman Sciarrotta moved to approve the minutes of November 14, 1972, as recorded. His motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

6. APPROVAL OF DEMANDS:

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

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 was unanimously favorable.

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8. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS:Public Works Committee:

Met this date on the continuing subject of the dedication ceremonies for City Hall -- will meet again on December 12th at 6:00 P.M. to discuss budget considerations for this program.

Transportation Committee:

Met on December 1st to discuss Airport Goals/Master Plan -- final report will be made in the near future.

Finance Committee:

Will meet on December 6th at 5:30 P.M. for presentation by Chamber of Commerce re: budget review.

PROCLAMATIONS:

9. BILL OF RIGHTS WEEK - December 9-15, 1972.

So proclaimed by Mayor Miller.

REAL PROPERTY:

- 10.
- RESOLUTION
- authorizing execution of a contract for appraisal services with James R. Leonard for the widening of Torrance Blvd.

RESOLUTION NO. 72-237

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE AND ATTEST A CONTRACT FOR APPRAISAL SERVICES BETWEEN THE CITY AND JAMES R. LEONARD FOR THE WIDENING OF TORRANCE BOULEVARD.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 72-237. His motion was seconded by Councilman Surber; roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

FISCAL MATTERS:

- 11.
- RESOLUTION
- authorizing execution of agreement with William E. Brady, CPCU, for Workmen's Compensation consultant services.

RESOLUTION NO. 72-238

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH WILLIAM E. BRADY AS A CONSULTANT WITH ITS WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION SELF-INSURANCE PROGRAM.

Councilman Surber moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 72-238. His motion was seconded by Councilman Armstrong, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

LEGISLATIVE MATTERS:

- 12. REVISED RESOLUTION urging the State Legislature to provide more efficient means of presenting ballot issues to the public and to take the responsibility of enacting some of these measures through legislative action.

RESOLUTION NO. 72-239

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE URGING THE STATE LEGISLATURE TO PROVIDE MORE EFFICIENT MEANS OF PRESENTING BALLOT ISSUES TO THE PUBLIC AND TO TAKE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF ENACTING SOME OF THESE MEASURES THROUGH LEGISLATIVE ACTION.

Councilman Armstrong moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 72-239 -- his motion, seconded by Councilman Brewster, was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

MATTERS NOT OTHERWISE CLASSIFIED:

- 13. Appropriation of Alcoholic Beverage Consumption Tax Funds.

RECOMMENDATION OF FINANCE DEPARTMENT:

That Council authorize the following fund transfers and appropriations:

- 1. Transfer \$179,000 from the Capital Improvement Fund to the Alcoholic Beverage Consumption Tax Fund to repay the outstanding loan.
- 2. Transfer \$179,000 from the General Fund to the Capital Improvement Fund as a loan for the Meadow Park Redevelopment Project. This loan will be repaid from tax increments in the project area.
- 3. Cancel the General Fund Delthorne Park appropriation included in the 1972-73 budget in the amount of \$200,000.
- 4. Appropriate the entire balance of the ABC Tax Fund in the amount of \$211,695.61 for Delthorne Park land acquisition.

MOTION: Councilman Uerkwitz moved to concur with the above recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta; roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

SECOND READING ORDINANCES:

- 14. ORDINANCE NO. 2372.

ORDINANCE NO. 2372

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING SECTION 225.1.3 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE RELATING TO TELEPHONE USERS' TAX TO INCLUDE PROVISIONS FOR TELETYPE-WRITER EXCHANGE SERVICES.

Councilman Wilson moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 2372 at its second and final reading. His motion was seconded by Councilman Armstrong, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

PLANNING AND ZONING MATTERS:

15. RESOLUTION re: V72-13, Prairie Avenue Church of the Four-square Gospel.

RESOLUTION NO. 72-240

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE APPROVING A VARIANCE FROM THE PROVISIONS OF DIVISION 9, CHAPTER 1, ARTICLE 7 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE, AS APPLIED FOR BY PRAIRIE AVENUE CHURCH OF THE FOURSQUARE GOSPEL IN PLANNING COMMISSION CASE NO. V 72-13.

Councilman Surber moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 72-24. His motion, seconded by Councilman Armstrong, was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

16. RESOLUTION re: V 72-12, Newton Pacific.

RESOLUTION NO. 72-241

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE APPROVING A VARIANCE FROM THE PROVISIONS OF DIVISION 9, CHAPTER 3, ARTICLE 2 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE, AS APPLIED FOR BY NEWTON PACIFIC IN PLANNING COMMISSION CASE NO. V 72-12.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 72-241. His motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and carried, with roll call vote as follows:

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

PLANNING AND ZONING HEARINGS:

17. PP 72-21, RAYMOND L. TAYLOR.

(Held for 6:00 P.M., the hour advertised for the public hearing.)

APPEALS OTHER THAN PLANNING AND ZONING:

18. SIGN APPEAL of Natural Harvesters, 3826 Sepulveda Boulevard.
(Case No. S72-85)

The findings of the Sign Review Committee were detailed by its Chairman, Leroy Jackson -- the signing history of this site was reviewed at length; also noted was the existing oversigning of the area and the pending abatement program.

The proponent, Mr. Marvin Shannon, 1238 Coldwater Canyon, Beverly Hills, described his need for the requested signing to insure the success of this small business venture in Torrance. He also pointed out the need to be equitable to the signs of other businesses in the center, and urged Council approval of his request.

Specifically noted by Mayor Miller was the present hodge podge of signs on the buildings; it was the Mayor's request that there be an investigation as to the status of those obtained by permission, and those otherwise installed.

MOTION: Councilman Uerkwitz moved to concur with the recommendation of the Sign Review Committee that the subject appeal be DENIED. His motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta; roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

The Council now returned to:

PLANNING AND ZONING HEARINGS:

17. PP 72-21, RAYMOND L. TAYLOR. Appeal of certain Planning Commission conditions of approval of a Precise Plan of Development for hillside lots on property located east of Via Valmonte and north of High Street.

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 presentation by Planning Director Shartle, the proponent was invited to speak.

Mr. Raymond L. Taylor, 17625 Crenshaw Boulevard, reiterated the basis of his appeal which deemed sidewalks of street lights of "little or no use" to the property owners.

City Engineer Weaver noted the other vacant lots in this area, it being his recommendation that the subject consideration is the proper place to begin with such sidewalk construction. City Traffic Engineer Horkay strongly concurred in the need for sidewalks and street lighting in view of the heavy traffic on this street.

Mr. H.J. Hoffman, 24890 Via Valmonte, indicated his opposition to the proposed sidewalks -- sidewalks would prove dangerous on this steeply graded street, especially for children on bicycles. In his own case, sidewalk installation would necessitate a retaining wall, an expensive undertaking.

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

Council discussion was directed to the proponent's request, as well as the overall development of the subject area, and the following action resulted:

MOTION: Councilman Armstrong moved to deny the appeal of conditions of PP 72-21. The motion was seconded by Councilman Brewster, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

Mayor Miller commented on the "beginning" aspect of development in this area, and the importance of setting the pattern for inevitable future development.

ROUTINE MATTERS:

19. EXPENDITURES OVER \$300.

RECOMMENDATION OF FINANCE DIRECTOR:

That Council approve the following purchases:

1. \$835.08 to P.F.T. Instrument Company for repairs and inspections made of well meters #4,5, and 6 as requested by the Water Department.
2. \$362.41 to Johnson Stationers of Torrance for 1,000 legal pressboard binders as requested by the City Clerk's office for the Records Department.
3. \$705.24 to Bell & Howell c/o John F. Drummond for microfilm subscriptions with newspaper index to L.A. Times as requested by the City Librarian.
4. \$357.00 to University Microfilm c/o Dennis Gunnarson for subscription of Theatre Arts Magazine.
5. \$1489.01 to Campbell & Hall for 85 adult and 140 juvenile books.
6. \$346.00 to Donald M. Hoover Company for material and installation of floor covering in old Recreation Department office as requested by Building and Safety Department.
7. \$318.19 to 3M Business Products for 16 rolls and reams of 3M copy paper as requested by the Park Services Division for stock.
8. \$372.65 to Moore Business Forms for 30,000 City of Torrance payroll checks as requested by the Finance Department.
9. \$512.14 to Consolidated Electric Distributors of Torrance for 13,000 feet of various size wire and 24 each globe and guard fixtures as requested by the Traffic and Lighting Department for stock.

10. \$452.87 to Southern California Trophy for reorder of 70 each 5-year pin awards; 42 each 10-year pin awards and 40 each 15-year service award pins as requested by the Personnel Department.

20. CATCH BASIN AT 178TH STREET AND GLENBURN AVENUE.

RECOMMENDATION OF CITY ENGINEER:

That \$2,200 be appropriated from the Drainage Improvement Fund for the referenced project.

21. CHANGE ORDER NO. 7 - CITY HALL ADDITION AND REMODELING.

RECOMMENDATION OF BUILDING AND SAFETY DIRECTOR:

That Council approve Change Order No. 7 in the amount of \$8,268.79.

(CITY MANAGER'S NOTE:

This is payable from the Civic Center Authority Funds. No City money is necessary.)

22. AWARD OF CONTRACTS FOR CITY HALL FURNISHINGS - (REF. BID #B72-47)
TOTAL EXPENDITURE - \$17,323.89.

RECOMMENDATION OF FINANCE DIRECTOR/PURCHASING SUPERVISOR:

That Council approve the following awards to the low bidder for each bid item:

1. That Bid Items 34,36,39,41 and 68 be awarded to the University Office Furniture Equipment, Inc. in the total amount of \$3589.90 including tax.
2. That Bid Items 29,30,31,32,33,35,37,38,51,52 and 99 be awarded to Western Office Furniture in the total amount of \$13,733.99 including tax.
3. Appropriate \$1,800.00 from the Civic Center Improvement Reserve Account to cover purchase cost and architect's fee (8½% of cost).

23. 24-HOUR COPYING MACHINE SERVICE IN THE POLICE DEPARTMENT FOR USE BY THE PUBLIC.

RECOMMENDATION OF ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER:

That no further action be taken and that the matter be filed.

24. CLAIM of Melvin Orley Miller for personal 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 the recommendations on agenda items #19,20,21,22, 23, and #24. His motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

ADDENDA ITEMS:

25. RESOLUTION re:Personnel Testing Services.

RESOLUTION NO. 72-242

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE AND ATTEST THAT CERTAIN COST SERVICE CONTRACT AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY OF TORRANCE AND THE STATE PERSONNEL BOARD FOR PERSONNEL TESTING SERVICES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 1972-1973.

Councilman Armstrong moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 72-242. His motion, seconded by Councilman Surber, was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

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The hour being 6:35 P.M., Councilman Sciarrotta moved to recess as City Council, and reconvene as the Redevelopment Agency. The motion was seconded by Councilman Armstrong, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

The Council returned to its agenda at 6:50 P.M.

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26. DONATION FROM THE DOG OBEDIENCE CLUB OF TORRANCE.

MOTION: Councilman Brewster moved to accept, with much gratitude, the check in the amount of \$300, a gift from the Dog Obedience Club of Torrance for activities of the Park and Recreation Department. The motion, seconded by Councilman Wilson, was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

27. City Attorney Remelmeyer reported on the settlement this date in the Superior Court of the Fritch case, involving the January 1, 1969 accident on Pacific Coast Highway at Ocean Avenue -- the sum represented by this settlement is \$625,000, of which \$325,000 is charged to the City. Mr. Remelmeyer detailed the circumstances of this accident involving the temporary removal of the stop sign during construction of curbs, gutters and sidewalks.

28. Building and Safety Director McKinnon advised that Monday, December 11th, will be MOVING DAY for certain departments into the new City Hall, a date of historical import and one to be long remembered.

City Manager Ferraro noted that it is now office selection time for the Councilmen, and that he awaits their pleasure in this matter.

29. Councilman Armstrong noted his interest in the pending report on Airport Days in light of the Sacramento experience.

30. The fact that Vel's Ford is the only automobile dealer along Hawthorne Boulevard making any obvious effort to provide customer parking as of this date was reported by Councilman Armstrong.

31. A report that the City had two fine representatives in City Manager Ferraro and City Attorney Remelmeyer at the Urban Planning Seminar at Dominguez College was conveyed by Councilman Brewster.

32. Worthy of note, according to Councilman Brewster, is that over 300 people were in attendance at the Rose Parade orientation meeting -- a most impressive beginning, in his opinion, and worthy of newspaper recognition.

33. Councilman Sciarrotta reported on activities at the recent Indianapolis Conference -- one of the best organized conferences ever attended by him. Mr. Sciarrotta then provided a draft of a resolution for a future agenda, and offered a prepared statement pertaining to revenue sharing, as follows:

"Our cities currently face massive spending pressures to provide needed services for all of our people. In many instances, the capital outlays are mandated by State governments. We are faced with the problem of replacing obsolete capital facilities and equipment. Yet, it is the cities which have the greatest difficulty raising the resources to meet those needs. Our people are increasingly less willing to accept property tax increases.

"A strong Federal system requires that each level of government be strong. If the cities are to maintain a fiscally viable part of our Federal system, a major rearrangement in the availability of financial resources is required. To achieve the goal of a more fiscally balanced Federal system, intergovernmental policies and programs must be developed which will:

"(1) Provide cities with revenue resources adequate to finance present and future City programs and services. Such revenue sources should be responsive to the economic growth of the nation and to emerging problems which endanger the quality of life in our cities.

"(2) Relieve or avoid placing excessive tax burdens on individuals and classes of taxpayers.

"Therefore, Torrance must take the lead, as we have in the past, to urge Congress to maintain and broaden its commitment to Revenue Sharing. The program will take time to become workable at all levels of government, and Congress must allow time for the program to become fully operational at the State and local levels before passing judgment on its effectiveness.

"As with any new approach to intergovernmental relations initiated by the Federal Government, an evaluation can only be made on the basis of a reasonable performance period. I urge that we in Torrance take the lead to pressure Congress to refrain from amending the revenue sharing program until it becomes fully operational, and until the results of a reasonable performance period can properly be evaluated.

"The burden of proving that the revenue sharing program is in the national interest rests squarely on the shoulders of State and local government officials. To meet this responsibility, we, as leaders, must encourage all the municipal officials of Los Angeles County to:

- "(1) Use careful and intelligent decisions in selecting the uses of their funds as between the maintenance of needed services, tax stabilization, and improved financial management and administration; and
- "(2) Keep Congress and the President well informed on the positive impact which these funds have had in our communities."

Councilman Sciarrotta then furnished the City Attorney with a draft of an appropriate resolution in this regard for formal presentation at the December 12th Council meeting. There were no objections, and it was so ordered.

34. Councilman Surber requested appropriate recognition of the young people who responded to a recent robbery, per communication from Chief Nash, and assisted in the apprehension of two robbery suspects. City Manager Ferraro indicated that he would follow through with this request.

35. Noted by Councilman Surber was the Supreme Court decision this date pertaining to "entertainment" -- a report from the City Attorney in this regard was requested by Mr. Surber. Councilman Uerkwitz expressed his gratification at this ruling.

36. A report from the Bus Department regarding the seriousness of the L.A. Bus Line situation, per recent communication, was requested by Councilman Uerkwitz.

37. Information pertaining to the status of a pending presentation by the Industrial Environmental Committee was requested by Councilman Uerkwitz. Councilman Brewster recommended that there be a written summary furnished the Council prior to the presentation.

38. A status report on proposed construction of houses on the south slope of Vista Montana, per recent communication from Ruby McKee (?), was requested by Councilman Wilson.

39. Mayor Miller referred back to agenda item #18, Sign Appeal of Natural Harvesters, and requested that a letter go forward to all the property and store owners in this shopping center inviting them to

meeting re:
 an informal/sign review procedure in order that they may be aware of the City's intent for the future of this center, in order that tenants may be informed.

40. Mr. Glen Dragil, 20711 Annrita, reported on his considerable continuing difficulties with his neighbors and their Great Dane. City Attorney Remelmeyer advised that this situation had been reviewed by the Legal Department, it being ruled a matter for the civil courts.

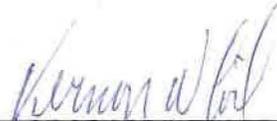
The need for review and recommendation by Staff was pointed out by Mayor Miller -- City Attorney Remelmeyer stated that he could furnish a report on this matter in approximately two weeks.

MOTION: Councilman Uerkwitz moved to refer the subject matter to Staff for study and recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta; there were no objections, and it was so ordered.

A report, at a convenient time, regarding cases where it might not be possible to obtain citizen cooperation, and the appropriateness of the City gathering evidence, was requested by Councilman Brewster.

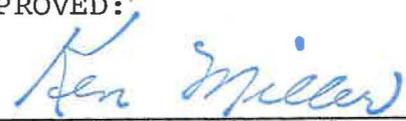
The meeting was regularly adjourned at 7:35 P.M.

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

APPROVED:



 Mayor of the City of Torrance

Ava Cripe
 Minute Secretary

11.

City Council
 December 5, 1972