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Adjourned at 7:30 P.M.

# # #

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MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE TORRANCE CITY COUNCILOPENING CEREMONIES:1. CALL TO ORDER:

The Torrance City Council convened in a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, February 20, 1973, at 5:30 P.M. in the Council Chambers at Torrance City Hall.

2. ROLL CALL:

Present: Councilmen Armstrong, Brewster, Sciarrotta, Surber, Uerkwitz, and Mayor Miller. Absent: Councilman Wilson (In Chicago, on business).

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

3. FLAG SALUTE:

Mr. Kenny Uyeda led in the salute to the flag.

4. INVOCATION:

The invocation was given by Reverend Quincy K. Hamilton, Central United Methodist Church.

STANDARD MOTIONS:5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilman Sciarrotta moved that the minutes of February 6, 1973 be approved as recorded. His motion was seconded by Councilman Brewster, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Wilson absent).

6. APPROVAL OF DEMANDS:

Councilman Uerkwitz moved that all regularly audited demands be paid. His motion, seconded by Councilman Brewster, was unanimously approved by roll call vote (Councilman Wilson absent).

7. MOTION TO WAIVE FURTHER READING:

Councilman Surber moved that after the Clerk has given a number and read title to any resolution or ordinance on tonight's agenda, 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 (Councilman Wilson absent).

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8. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS:South Bay Councilmen's Association:

Councilman Uerkwitz advised that the needed information is not yet available, and postponement is necessary -- per request of February 13, 1973.

Finance Committee:

Will next meet on February 22nd at 5:00 P.M.

BID OPENING:

## 9. Bid Sale of Property (B73-7) Lomita/Madison Parcel.

RECOMMENDATION OF CITY MANAGER:

That Council accept the high bid submitted and award a 90-day option to purchase from this date in accordance with conditions of sale specified in "Notice to Bidders, Schedule B73-7"; that the City Manager and the City Attorney be directed to enter into an escrow and prepare the necessary documents therefor.

Mayor Miller announced that this is the time and place for the opening of Bid 73-7 for sale of a City-owned parcel (901-5-7377) of land at Lomita Boulevard and Madison Street, consisting of 16,561<sup>±</sup> square feet and zoned H-M-D.

City Clerk Coil presented an Affidavit of Publication -- Councilman Sciarrotta moved to receive and file said; his motion, seconded by Councilman Brewster, was unanimously approved by roll call vote (Councilman Wilson absent).

At the request of Mayor Miller, City Clerk Coil opened and publicly read the following sealed bids:

- (1) Robert L. Jordan, M.D. - \$71,666.00;  
Check for 5% of bid enclosed.
- (2) Mr. Ben Kaufman - \$65,000.00;  
No check enclosed. (City Attorney Remelmeyer ruled that this fact would disqualify the bid -- land trade discussions were acknowledged but were deemed a separate matter, and not responsive to the subject bid.)
- (3) Arthur B. Pilant - \$70,000;  
Check in the amount of \$3500.00 enclosed.
- (4) S. Cehllessener - \$30,000;  
Check in the amount of \$1500.00 enclosed.  
(City Attorney Remelmeyer ruled that the subject bid would not qualify in that the minimum bid was \$61,200.00.)

The fact that there are only two qualified bidders was affirmed by Mayor Miller, followed by his announcement that the City Treasurer, Assistant City Manager and Finance Director will at this time retire to the Caucus Room to analyze and tabulate the bids, with formal announcement of the bid award later in the meeting on their return. (See Page 7)

The Mayor then directed that the Council now consider the next agenda item.

10. KASHIWA, JAPAN SISTER-CITY CEREMONIES. (Page 6).
11. GIFT CHECK FROM SOUTHEAST TORRANCE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION FOR THE SOUTHEAST TORRANCE LIBRARY.

The president of the Southeast Torrance Homeowners Association, Mr. Orin P. Johnson, presented a check in the amount of \$200.00 to Mrs. Helen Chandler, Southeast Torrance Library -- Mrs. Chandler conveyed their appreciation for this generous gift.

COMMISSION MATTERS:

12. CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION VACANCY.

RECOMMENDATION OF CITY CLERK:

That the above vacancy be filled as soon as possible. A date and time should be set for Commission interviews.

It was agreed that the date for such interviews be scheduled for Tuesday, March 13, 1973, at 6:30 P.M., with the usual newspaper advertising -- it was the specific request of Councilman Uerkwitz that present Commissioners be notified of these interviews.

STREETS AND SIDEWALKS:

13. PROPOSED STREET VACATION - Northeast corner of Torrance Boulevard and Sartori Avenue.

RECOMMENDATION OF CITY ENGINEER:

That Council approve the vacation subject to the reconstruction of the sidewalk by the individual property owners.

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

REAL PROPERTY:

14. RESOLUTION authorizing execution of grant deed regarding Redevelopment Agency.

RESOLUTION NO. 73-25

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE AND ATTEST GRANT OF EASEMENT TO THE REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE FOR INGRESS AND EGRESS OVER LOT 22, TRACT NO. 21484, IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE.

Councilman Uerkwitz moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 73-25. His motion was seconded by Councilman Armstrong, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable. (Councilman Wilson absent).

FISCAL MATTERS:15. EXPENDITURE OF FEDERAL REVENUE SHARING FUNDS.FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

(Per communication of February 15, 1973):

The Finance Committee agreed with the City Manager's assigned priorities and selection of specific projects but indicated that the decision is contingent upon the successful financing of the Fire Station, City Yard improvements, and other key projects from other revenue sources.

The Committee recommends that the Federal Revenue Sharing Program, as set forth in subject communication, be approved in principle, with the Administrative Staff returning to Council for specific appropriations as the funds become available within each entitlement period.

MOTION: Councilman Sciarrotta moved to concur with the above recommendation, to adopt the subject communication in principle. The motion was seconded by Councilman Surber, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable. (Councilman Wilson absent).

16. REQUEST THAT THE EL RETIRO PARK PLANNED EXPANSION BE INCLUDED IN THE 1972-73 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM.

It was the recommendation of Councilman Brewster that this matter be referred to the City Manager for research as to possible avenues for financing as an improvement -- there were no objections, and it was so ordered.

PERSONNEL MATTERS:17. APPEAL OF POLICE OFFICERS GEORGE KUKOKAS, EDWARD G. FINN, AND JAMES J. LORENTZ.

The date of Monday, February 26, at 7:00 P.M. was established for the requested hearing. There were no objections, and it was so ordered.

SECOND READING ORDINANCES:18. ORDINANCE NO. 2383.ORDINANCE NO. 2383

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 EAST OF HAWTHORNE BOULEVARD BETWEEN PACIFIC COAST HIGHWAY AND SKYPARK DRIVE, AND DESCRIBED IN ZONE CHANGE 72-27.  
(Torrance Planning Commission)

Councilman Uerkwitz moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 2383 at its second and final reading. His motion was seconded by Councilman Armstrong, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Wilson absent).

HEARINGS - OTHER THAN PLANNING AND ZONING:19. TRAFFIC BARRICADES IN THE SOUTHWEST PARK TRACT.TRAFFIC COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION:

The Traffic Commission concurs with the placement of the two barricades as proposed by the Engineering Department.

TRAFFIC AND LIGHTING DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION:

The Traffic and Lighting Department concurs with the appealing petitioners and recommends that the barricades not be installed in Southwest Park until the situation has been reevaluated after the installation of new traffic signals on 190th 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 City Traffic Engineer Horkay, those desiring to speak were invited to do so at this time.

The president of the Southwest Park Homeowners Association, Mr. Robert Rusch, reiterated the contents of his February 12, 1973 letter, a communication of record, and stated that "the homeowners association is opposed to the barricades as it stands; hopefully, a better solution can be resolved."

Mrs. Veda Galbraith, 4617 Narrot Street, stated that she was one of the authors of the petition against the barricades -- an appeal representing some 585 signatures -- it being their desire that the situation be reevaluated after the installation of traffic signals on 190th Street; the proposed barricades will only create a needless expense and inconvenience to the City and to the tract.

Other speakers were Mr. Dale Cushman, 4806 Carmelynn, who felt that the barricades should be installed on a temporary basis until a better solution can be achieved. Mrs. Sandra Radford, 4615 Towers Street, was of the opinion that the barricades would be ineffective. Mr. Jack Bowington (?), 4764 Towers, described the long standing traffic problems faced by him during the 18½ years he has resided at this address.

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

Council discussion ensued pertaining to the "unresolved problem" aspect of barricades and the "maze concept" thereof; the likely effectiveness of police patrol cars in the area; the importance of making the most of perimeter arterial highways surrounding the tract so that through traffic would be inclined to stay on those arterials; overall traffic problems in all areas of the City and future plans for alleviation of these problems -- there being general concurrence with the Staff recommendation for reevaluation.

Specifically recommended by Councilman Brewster was a left-turn sequence of signals at Del Amo and Anza, and, further, that the problem intersection of Towers and Inglewood be reviewed with an eye to possible improved design.

The following action resulted:

MOTION: Councilman Uerkwitz moved to concur with the recommendation of the Traffic and Lighting Department that the barricades not be installed in Southwest Park until the situation has been reevaluated after the installation of new traffic signals on 190th Street. The motion was seconded by Councilman Surber, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Wilson absent).

(Further comments on this item -- See Page 11, Item #37.)

# # #

With the arrival of the distinguished visitors from Kashiwa, Japan, the Council now considered:

PRESENTATIONS:

10. OFFICIAL SIGNING OF RESOLUTION ADOPTING A SISTER CITY PROGRAM WITH KASHIWA, JAPAN.

The Kashiwa delegation was welcomed by Mayor Miller who then requested that City Clerk Coil assign a number and read the title to a resolution prepared for this occasion.

RESOLUTION NO. 73-24

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE WELCOMING THE CITY OF KASHIWA, JAPAN, AS A SISTER CITY TO THE CITY OF TORRANCE.

Mayor Miller then entertained a motion of adoption for Resolution No. 73-24 from Councilman Sciarrotta, the City's liaison with the Torrance Sister City Committee.

The motion was prefaced by Councilman Sciarrotta with the comment that this is a day long looked forward to, starting in November, 1971, when the Council, by formal resolution action, extended an invitation to Kashiwa, Japan, to become our Sister City -- a number of visits and other exchanges followed -- and it is now possible to formalize a people-to-people program for creating greater mutual understanding between the peoples of our two great cities and nations.

Councilman Sciarrotta thereupon MOVED, with pleasure, the adoption of Resolution No. 73-24. The motion was seconded by Councilman Uerkwitz and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Wilson absent)

Formal introductions, a joint signing of the official resolution, an address by Mayor Ryotoro Yamazawa of Kashiwa, Japan conveying appreciation of and optimism for this alliance -- with a like response by Mayor Miller -- followed.

An exchange of gifts between Kashiwa and Torrance officials completed the official launching of the Torrance/Kashiwa Sister City Program.

# # #

With the Bid Tabulation now completed, the Council returned to:

9. BID SALE of Property (B73-7) Lomita/Madison Parcel.

Mayor Miller announced that the highest bid had been presented by Robert L. Jordan, M.D. for \$71,666.00, with only one other qualified bidder to enter into the auction under the conditions specified in Notice to Bidders, Schedule B73-7 -- Arthur B. Pilant, Vice President of Jo-Jo Restaurants. Seats in the "Reserved" section for this purpose were assumed by these parties.

It was then announced by Mayor Miller that oral bidding -- only from those who have submitted written bids -- was now in order, noting that the first oral bid must be at least 5% higher than the highest written bid; subsequent bids must be a minimum of \$100 more than the preceding one. A representative for Mr. Pilant stated that they had no desire to bid higher.

Mayor Miller then posed the question three times: "Are there any other bids?" There was no response, and the Mayor announced that the oral bidding was closed; that the highest bidder has purchased the land and will have until 5:00 P.M. Wednesday, February 21, 1973, to deposit an additional sum of 5% with the City Treasurer in the form of a certified or cashier's check or money order.

Dr. Robert L. Jordan was declared owner of the property, subject to stated conditions, by Mayor Miller.

# # #

PLANNING AND ZONING HEARINGS:

20. CONTINUED HEARING - ZC 72-14, BANK OF AMERICA NT&SA.

Request for a variance to the off-street parking requirements to permit an addition to an existing bank building and to construct drive-up banking facilities in a shopping center located at the northwest corner of Pacific Coast Highway and 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. There was no one present who wished to speak.

The City Manager's request to hold this item until Tuesday, March 13th, was noted. Councilman Sciarrotta MOVED to concur with the request. The motion was seconded by Councilman Armstrong, and approval was unanimous (Councilman Wilson absent).

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Considered together:

21. ZC 72-25, PHILIP A FINIE AND ANTONIO VERDUSCO.  
Change of zone from A-1 to R-1 or R-2 on property located at the west side of Amie Avenue approximately midway between 179th Street and 182nd Street.  
PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDS APPROVAL SUBJECT TO CERTAIN CONDITIONS.
22. ZC 72-30, TORRANCE PLANNING COMMISSION.  
Change of zone from A-1 to R-1, R-2 and P-U on property located at the east and west sides of Amie Avenue between 180th Street and 182nd Street.  
PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDS APPROVAL.

Affidavits of Publication for items #21 and #22 were presented by City Clerk Coil, and they were ordered filed, there being no objection.

Mayor Miller announced that this is the time and place for the public hearing on the above items, and invited those desiring to speak to do so at this time.

Mr. Edward Grajeda, 18109 Amie Avenue, confirmed that his R-1 property would not be affected by these zone changes. Concurrence with Planning Commission recommendations by area residents was indicated by Mr. William Largent, 18832 Felbar Avenue.

There being no one else who wished to be heard, Councilman Sciarrotta moved to close the hearings on items #21 and #22. His motion was seconded by Councilman Armstrong, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Wilson absent).

MOTION: Councilman Uerkwitz moved to concur with Planning Commission recommendations on items #21 and #22. His motion was seconded by Councilman Brewster, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Wilson absent).

# # #

ROUTINE MATTERS:23. EXPENDITURES OVER \$300:RECOMMENDATION OF FINANCE DIRECTOR:

That Council approve the following purchases:

A. BUDGETED ITEMS:

1. \$6777.96 to Econolite Corporation for one only replacement traffic signal controller as requested by the Traffic and Lighting Department to replace equipment being phased out due to obsolescence.
2. \$1842.75 to Motorola Communications and Electronics, Inc. for two Mobile Motorola radios as requested by the Police Department.

B. REIMBURSABLE ITEMS:

3. \$1527.52 to Martin Hannum, Inc. for 24 ounces of gold; 115 ounces of sterling and 1 ounce of silver wire as requested by the Park and Recreation Department for jewelry craft classes. The City is reimbursed via fees collected from class participants for this expenditure.

24. PURCHASE OF FIVE BUDGETED MANUAL TYPEWRITERS:RECOMMENDATION OF FINANCE DIRECTOR/PURCHASING SUPERVISOR:

That Council approve of the purchase of these five budgeted replacement MANUAL typewriters on the State of California contract price from our local Remington typewriter dealer, Michelin Office Machines Company, in the total amount of \$702.45, including tax.

25. FIRE ENGINE FOR PROPOSED FIRE STATION NO. 6:RECOMMENDATION OF FIRE CHIEF:

That the sum of \$51,000.00 be allocated from the General Fund Unappropriated Reserve for the purchase of one 1250 GPM Pumper for new Fire Station No. 6.

26. AWARD OF CONTRACT - 1973 Weed Abatement Program.RECOMMENDATION OF CITY ENGINEER:

That the contract be awarded to Elco Corporation and the other bid be rejected.

FINANCE DIRECTOR'S NOTE:

Funding for this work is from direct assessments to property owners on property tax bills.

27. REVISED CLASS SPECIFICATIONS FOR COMPUTER OPERATOR:RECOMMENDATION OF CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION:

That subject revised class specifications be approved.

MOTION: Councilman Sciarrotta moved to concur with recommendations on agenda items #23,24, 25, 26, and #27. His motion, seconded by Councilman Uerkwitz, was unanimously approved by roll call vote (Councilman Wilson absent).

ADDENDA ITEMS:

28. RESOLUTION re: V 72-16, Southern California Associated Newspapers.

RESOLUTION NO. 73-26

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 SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATED NEWSPAPERS IN PLANNING COMMISSION CASE NO. V 72-16.

Councilman Armstrong moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 73-26. His motion was seconded by Councilman Uerkwitz, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Wilson absent).

29. PROCLAMATION - "Community College Week" - February 25-March 3, 1973.

So proclaimed by Mayor Miller.

# # #

The hour being 7:15 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 (Councilman Wilson absent). The Council returned to its agenda at 7:16 P.M.

# # #

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

30. Charter Amendment Election Arguments were presented by City Attorney Remelmeyer, with a request for early approval -- also noted was the need for previously Council-approved signatures of the Mayor and Charter Review Committee members.

31. Councilman Armstrong requested that the City Traffic Engineer check out difficulties in the Victoria Knolls area in getting off Crest Road onto Crenshaw Boulevard.

32. Congratulations to the Daily Breeze on its excellent editorial regarding Proposition 20 were extended by Councilman Brewster. There were further congratulations by Mr. Brewster in this vein to City Librarian West for his outstanding article in Western Cities Magazine re: the Torrance Library System.

33. Councilman Sciarrotta reviewed revenue sharing procedures, specifically noting President Nixon's awareness of the needs of communities and his expressed wish to cut out all Grants except in the areas of law enforcement and transportation -- this should be encouraged, in Mr. Sciarrotta's opinion.
34. Trash Collector/City Manager Ferraro was commended by Councilman Surber -- such participation in departmental functions was deemed a most worthy endeavor by Mr. Surber..
35. Councilman Uerkwitz requested that there be further research by Staff regarding the absentee companies on the recent 1972 Environmental Efforts by Torrance Industry Report (presented at January 30, 1973 Council meeting).
36. Mr. John Davis, 2936 Winlock Road, reported on difficulties encountered in obtaining documents of public information pertaining to the proposed sand and gravel pit development, and the lack of communication to the Planning Commission in this regard. Mr. Davis then posed the following questions:

"1. Why was it necessary to spend two months, and have to resort to written request to the City Manager in order to obtain copies of information which we needed in order to become an informed public?

"2. Why wasn't the Planning Commission given all related material, when specifically asked for, instead of selected material, in order to make a proper public decision?

"3. Is this a normal procedure we may expect in the future?"

City Manager Ferraro advised that a report would be made in two weeks; there were no objections, and it was so ordered.

37. Re: agenda item #19 --Mr. Robert Rusch returned to recommend that there be traffic officers at 190th and Inglewood and 190th and Anza between the hours of 4:30 P.M. and 6:30 P.M., such recommendation being referred to Staff.

Mr. Dale Cushman commended the Council for its action this date in this matter, and for its acknowledgement and concern for the problems in this tract.

The meeting was regularly adjourned at 7:30 P.M.

# # #

Ava Cripe  
Minute Secretary

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APPROVED:

*Ken Miller*

Mayor of the City of Torrance

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