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City Council - December 11, 1973

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Adjourned at 11:05 P.M. to December 18, 1973, at  
4:30 P.M.

# # #

December 11, 1973

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 11, 1973, 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, and Deputy City Clerk Moss. Absent: City Clerk Coil; City Treasurer Rupert.

3. FLAG SALUTE:

Miss Sherry Thompson led in the salute to the flag.

4. INVOCATION:

Reverend Carroll Parker, First Methodist Church, gave the invocation, as follows:

"AS WE GATHER THIS EVENING WE COME FIRST FOR A CALMNESS OF OUR OWN LIVES; HELP US TO REALIZE WHO WE ARE AS PERSONS, WHAT OUR TASK IS AS LEADERS AND AS A COMMUNITY. KEEP BEFORE US A SENSE OF THE INDIVIDUAL PERSON, THE DIGNITY AND WELFARE OF ALL MANKIND; GIVE US AN URGENCY FOR ETHICAL AND MORAL INSIGHTS INTO THE LIVES OF ALL OF US, AND SO HELP US TO REALIZE THAT OUR TASK IS A TASK TO SERVE EACH OTHER -- MAY THY DIRECTION AND STRENGTH BE EMPOWERED WITHIN US, WITHIN LEADERS AND WITHIN THOSE WHO LIVE AND WORK IN THE COMMUNITY, TO FIND THAT TASK WHICH IS ALL OURS, FOR A PLACE FOR THE WHOLENESS OF MANKIND."

STANDARD MOTIONS:

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilman Sciarrotta moved that the minutes of November 13, 1973 be approved as recorded. His motion was seconded by Councilman Armstrong, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

6. APPROVAL OF DEMANDS:

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

1.

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7. MOTION TO WAIVE FURTHER READING:

Councilman Wilson moved that after the Clerk has given a number and read title to any resolution or ordinance on tonight's agenda, the further reading thereof be waived, reserving and guaranteeing to each Councilman the right to demand the reading of any such resolution or ordinance in regular order. The motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

8. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS:Police, Fire, and Public Safety:

Next meeting scheduled for December 19th at 5:00 P.M.

Civil Service Committee:

Will meet on Monday, December 17th, at 4:30 P.M.

Ad Hoc Committee on Appointed Groups:

Meeting scheduled for Monday, December 17th, at 5:15 P.M.

9. (Omitted from agenda).

PRESENTATIONS:10. INTRODUCTION OF NEW CREDIT UNION MANAGER:

On behalf of the Torrance City Employees Federal Credit Union, Mr. Ed Enrietta introduced its new Manager, Mr. Bill Costine, along with the announcement that a three million dollar status has been achieved by the Credit Union, the optimistic outlook for 1974, and that the Credit Union operation will go on On-Line Real Time Data Processing shortly after the first of the year.

The congratulations of the Council were conveyed by Mayor Miller.

COMMENDATIONS:11. RESOLUTION honoring the late Robert H. Vroman.RESOLUTION NO. 73-225

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF TORRANCE IN MEMORY OF ROBERT H.  
VROMAN.

Councilman Wilson moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 73-225. His motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

The many varied activities of Mr. Vroman involving his neighbors and his community were acknowledged by Mayor Miller, as was this irreparable loss to the City.

PROCLAMATIONS:12. BILL OF RIGHTS WEEK - December 9-15, 1973.

So proclaimed by Mayor Miller.

STREETS AND SIDEWALKS:

13. RESOLUTIONS re: Construction of Curb, Gutter, Sidewalk and Driveways at various locations.

RESOLUTION NO. 73-226

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE DIRECTING THE CITY ENGINEER TO GIVE NOTICE TO THE OWNERS OF THE PROPERTY ON THE NORTH SIDE OF LINCOLN AVENUE BETWEEN APPLE AVENUE AND ARLINGTON AVENUE TO CONSTRUCT CERTAIN STREET IMPROVEMENTS AND SETTING A TIME AND PLACE OF HEARING THEREON.  
(Chapter 27, 1911 Act, 73-4)

Councilman Uerkwitz moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 73-226. His motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

RESOLUTION NO. 73-227

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE DIRECTING THE CITY ENGINEER TO GIVE NOTICE TO THE OWNERS OF THE PROPERTY ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF 237TH STREET BETWEEN CABRILLO AVENUE AND WALNUT AVENUE TO CONSTRUCT CERTAIN STREET IMPROVEMENTS AND SETTING A TIME AND PLACE OF A HEARING THEREON. (CHAPTER 27, 1911 ACT, 73-5).

Councilman Surber moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 73-227. His motion, seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 73-228

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE DIRECTING THE CITY ENGINEER TO GIVE NOTICE TO THE OWNERS OF THE PROPERTY ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF 168TH STREET BETWEEN AINSWORTH AVENUE AND FONTHILL AVENUE TO CONSTRUCT CERTAIN STREET IMPROVEMENTS AND SETTING A TIME AND PLACE OF A HEARING THEREON.  
(CHAPTER 27, 1911 ACT, 73-6).

Councilman Sciarrotta moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 73-228. His motion was seconded by Councilman Armstrong, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

RESOLUTION NO. 73-229

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE DIRECTING THE CITY ENGINEER TO GIVE NOTICE TO THE OWNER OF THE PROPERTY ON 234TH STREET BETWEEN CRENSHAW AND PENNSYLVANIA TO CONSTRUCT CERTAIN STREET IMPROVEMENTS AND SETTING A TIME AND PLACE OF HEARING THEREON.  
(CHAPTER 27, 1911 ACT, 73-7)

Councilman Armstrong moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 73-229. His motion, seconded by Councilman Wilson, was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

REAL PROPERTY:

14. RESOLUTION authorizing amendment of H.T. Halibrand Lease to provide for the assignment of one hangar to William R. Daubenberger dba Aero Sheet Metal.

RECOMMENDATION OF LAND MANAGEMENT TEAM:

Adoption of the subject resolution subject to the following conditions:

1. Reimbursement of the City by H.T. Halibrand for out-of-pocket expenses in the amount of \$165.24 for preparation of the assignment documents.
2. Approval of the City Attorney as to form.
3. Approval of other City departments having jurisdiction.

RESOLUTION NO. 73-230

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF THAT CERTAIN FOURTH AMENDMENT TO AIRPORT HANGAR LEASE BETWEEN THE CITY AND HALIBRAND ENGINEERING AND THAT CERTAIN AIRPORT HANGAR LEASE BETWEEN THE CITY AND WILLIAM R. DAUBENBERGER DBA AERO SHEET METAL.

Councilman Surber moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 73-230, subject to above three conditions of Land Management Team. His motion was seconded by Councilman Uerkwitz; roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

15. RESOLUTION authorizing execution of License Agreement between the City and Dow Chemical Company to cross certain City streets to construct, operate and maintain a pipeline for the transportation of hydrocarbon substances.

RESOLUTION NO. 73-231

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF THAT CERTAIN LICENSE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF TORRANCE AND DOW CHEMICAL COMPANY TO CROSS CERTAIN CITY STREETS TO CONSTRUCT, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN A PIPELINE FOR THE TRANSPORTATION OF HYDROCARBON SUBSTANCES.

Councilman Uerkwitz moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 73-231. His motion, seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

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ELECTION MATTERS:

16. RESOLUTION re: GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION - April 9, 1974.

RESOLUTION NO. 73-232

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE REQUESTING THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES TO PERMIT THE REGISTRAR OF VOTERS OF SAID COUNTY TO RENDER SPECIFIED SERVICES TO THE CITY OF TORRANCE RELATING TO THE CONDUCT OF A GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION TO BE HELD IN SAID CITY ON APRIL 9, 1974.

Councilman Armstrong moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 73-232. His motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta; roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

PARK AND RECREATION:

17. RESOLUTION adopting a General Development Plan for Columbia Regional Park in the City of Torrance.

RESOLUTION NO. 73-233

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ADOPTING A GENERAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR COLUMBIA REGIONAL PARK IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE.

Councilman Wilson moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 73-233. The motion, seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, carried, with roll call vote as follows:

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Armstrong, Brewster, Sciarrotta, Wilson;  
Mayor Miller.  
NOES: COUNCILMEN: Surber (for reasons previously stated);  
Uerkwitz (for reasons stated the last  
three years).

PERSONNEL:

18. COMMENDATION FOR OFFICER LARRY C. DAVIS.

REQUEST OF POLICE CHIEF NASH:

That Council approve a resolution commending Officer Larry C. Davis for his heroic actions.

Police Chief Nash described the act of courage by Officer Davis on August 16, 1973 when he and his partner were faced with grave danger.

MOTION: Councilman Sciarrotta moved to grant the above request of the Chief of Police. The motion was seconded by Councilman Armstrong, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

It was agreed that the subject commendation would be returned to the Council via the Police, Fire and Public Safety Committee.

19. REVISED CLASS SPECIFICATIONS.

<u>Current Title</u>	<u>Revised Title</u>
Park Maintenceman	Park Caretaker
Tree Trimmer	Same
Tree Topper	Senior Tree Trimmer
Tree Timmer Leadman	Same.

RECOMMENDATION OF CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION:

That Council adopt the revised specifications with the following revisions:

The Educational Requirement for Tree Trimmer class specification should read "None required".

The first sentence in the "Ability to" section of the Park Caretaker specification would be changed from "read and write at the high school entrance level" to "read and write at the ninth grade level."

RECOMMENDATION OF PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT:

The Personnel Staff does not concur with the Civil Service Commission's recommendations and recommends the specifications be approved as they have been written and approved by Management and AFSCME.

The Commissioners believed the "Graduation from high school desired" requirement may dissuade eligibles from filing because they may think graduation from high school is required. Personnel Staff believes eligibles will interpret the educational requirement as desired and not mandatory, and that they will file if they have less than a high school education. This can be clarified on the bulletins if the Civil Service Commission deems clarification to be appropriate.

The Personnel Staff RECOMMENDS the revised class specifications be approved as they are.

Council discussion was directed to the varying recommendations regarding the Tree Trimmer educational requirements, it being the suggestion of Councilman Brewster that the statement "Graduation from high school desired but not required" be used. It was the general feeling of Councilmen Sciarrotta and Uerkwitz that talent, rather than education, should prevail -- Mayor Miller deemed the ability to skillfully trim a tree was not related to reading and writing qualities.

MOTION: Councilman Sciarrotta moved to concur with the recommendation of the Civil Service Commission. The motion was seconded by Councilman Uerkwitz.

A SUBSTITUTE MOTION was offered by Councilman Armstrong: That Council concur with the recommendation of the Personnel Department, with the Educational Requirement for the Tree Trimmer to state: "Graduation from high school desired but not required." The motion was seconded by Councilman Brewster, and carried, with roll call vote as follows:

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

NOES: COUNCILMEN: Mayor Miller.

The need for review of the revised language by the appropriate employee group was acknowledged.

20. EXECUTIVE SESSION - Hours, Wages and Working Conditions.

Mayor Miller directed that the Executive Session be held at the end of the formal agenda.

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS:

21. "SAVE OUR MADRONA MARSH" PAMPHLET.

RECOMMENDATION OF PARK AND RECREATION DIRECTOR:

That \$1,045 be appropriated from the General Fund for the publication of 5,000 copies of the pamphlet, "SAVE OUR MADRONA MARSH".

MOTION: Councilman Sciarrotta moved to concur with the above recommendation of the Park and Recreation Director. The motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson.

Prior to roll call vote on the motion, it was the comment of Councilman Uerkwitz that this, again, is "jumping the gun" in that there is no real feeling that the general public wants this project -- it is imperative that the desires of the people first be ascertained. Concurrence with these comments was indicated by Councilman Surber -- it was further noted by Mr. Surber that such a pamphlet would be deceiving in that it would be used to seek financial support from other sources.

The Acting President of "Friends of Madrona Marsh", Mrs. Grace Lear, 2662 West 232nd Street, expressed the strong feeling of this group that preservation of the Marsh is essential -- the subject brochure will be of tremendous help in contacting private foundations, as well as public agencies, for fund-raising purposes. At Mrs. Lear's request, the large number of members present at this meeting stood up in recognition of their support.

Opposition was voiced by Mrs. Nina Fuller, 4020 Mesa Street -- the project represents disturbance of wild life, rather than preservation, to her.

The motion to concur with Staff recommendation carried, with roll call vote as follows:

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

ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS:

22. ORDINANCE relating to the landscaping of Oil Well Sites.

In view of pending findings re: duties and responsibilities by the Ad Hoc Committee on Appointed Groups, and the need for Environmental Quality Commission, Oil Board, and Oil Industry review of the ordinance in its final form, it was the recommendation

of Councilman Brewster, concurred in by the Council, that this matter be referred to a Council Committee.

MOTION: Councilman Sciarrotta moved that Item #22 be referred to a Council Ad Hoc Committee. The motion was seconded by Councilman Uerkwitz, and approval was unanimous.

Oil Board Chairman Nowicki noted the fact that certain recommendations made by the Oil Board and the Environmental Quality Commission are yet to be incorporated in the subject ordinance.

Representing the Torrance Unit, Mr. P.L. Lacombe confirmed that there would be opportunity to review the ordinance before the Ad Hoc Committee, this being their first opportunity for such review.

Mayor Miller appointed the following Ad Hoc Committee: Councilmen Brewster (chairman), Sciarrotta, and Uerkwitz.

FISCAL MATTERS:

- 23. RE-AWARD OF CONTRACT - Propane Fuel.  
(Reference Bid NO. B73-40)

RECOMMENDATION OF FINANCE DIRECTOR/PURCHASING SUPERVISOR/  
EQUIPMENT SUPERINTENDENT:

That Council approve of the re-awarding of the vehicle conversion contract to Petrolane Gas Service Company in the total amount of \$24,854.53, including tax.

A guarantee of propane fuel to operate our converted rubbish fleet is a substantial concession by the Petrolane Company at this period of the fuel crisis.

However, an additional appropriation of \$4,670.00 will be required to cover the conversion costs as bid by Petrolane in September, 1973. They possess different suppliers of tanks carburetion equipment, fuel pumps, etc. than that used by Fuelmetrics.

MOTION: Councilman Surber moved to concur with the above Staff recommendation, including the above noted appropriation. The motion was seconded by Councilman Armstrong, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

- 24. WITHDRAWN.

SECOND READING ORDINANCES:

- 25. ORDINANCE NO. 2444.

ORDINANCE NO. 2444

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 SOUTH SIDE OF LOMITA BOULEVARD, APPROXIMATELY 450 FEET EAST OF EARLY DRIVE, AND DESCRIBED IN ZONE CHANGE 73-17.

(Torrance Mental Health Park, Ltd.)

Councilman Armstrong moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 2444 at its second and final reading. His motion was seconded by Councilman Surber, and carried, with roll call vote as follows:

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Armstrong, Brewster, Surber, Uerkwitz,  
and Wilson.  
NOES: COUNCILMEN: None.  
ABSTAIN: COUNCILMEN: Sciarrotta; Mayor Miller  
(Not present at first hearing)

PLANNING AND ZONING MATTERS:

26. RESOLUTION re: PP 73-15; FRANCES PIKUSH.

RESOLUTION NO. 73-234

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE APPROVING A PRECISE PLAN OF DEVELOPMENT AS PROVIDED FOR IN DIVISION 9, CHAPTER 6, ARTICLE 2, OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE TO ALLOW THE CONSTRUCTION OF A DUPLEX AS APPLIED FOR BY FRANCES PIKUSH IN PLANNING COMMISSION CASE NO. PP 73-15 (EA 73-16).

Councilman Sciarrotta moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 73-234. His motion, seconded by Councilman Armstrong, carried, with roll call vote as follows:

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

27. ORDINANCE RE: ZC 73-14, D.G.H. Developers

ORDINANCE NO. 2445

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 CYPRESS STREET APPROXIMATELY MIDWAY BETWEEN SEPULVEDA BOULEVARD AND 229TH STREET, AND DESCRIBED IN ZONE CHANGE 73-14.  
(D.G.H. Developers, Inc.)

Councilman Wilson moved for the approval of Ordinance No. 2445 at its first reading. His motion, seconded by Councilman Armstrong, carried, as follows:

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Armstrong, Brewster, Surber, Uerkwitz,  
and Wilson.  
NOES: COUNCILMEN: None.  
ABSTAIN: COUNCILMEN: Sciarrotta (not present); Mayor  
Miller (for previously expressed  
reasons).

9. City Council  
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PLANNING AND ZONING HEARINGS:28. INFORMAL HEARING V-645 - DALE F. McMURRAY.

Request for a time extension of a previously approved Variance to continue utilization of a single-family house as a medical office in the R-1 zone at 22426 Palos Verdes Boulevard.

PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDS APPROVAL SUBJECT TO CONDITIONS.

An Affidavit of Publication was presented by Deputy City Clerk Moss, and it was ordered filed, there being no objection.

Mayor Miller announced that this is the time and place for the subject public hearing, and inquired if anyone wished to be heard.

Mrs. Kay Horrell, Horrell Realtors, Redondo Beach, was present to review the background history of the subject property, the 1960 variance minus time specification, subsequent ordinance revisions, etc. Mrs. Horrell further noted the continuous medical usage of this building, and the current problems surrounding the sale of the property because of the fact that only seven years remain on the variance -- hence the requested extension.

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

It was the comment of Councilman Brewster that he has no objections to the present use or the extension thereof -- however, a zone change application, rather than a variance, would be the appropriate procedure, in his opinion.

MOTION: Councilman Uerkwitz moved to concur with the recommendation of the Planning Commission for approval of the subject time extension, subject to all conditions. The motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, and carried, with roll call vote as follows:

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

NOES: COUNCILMEN: Brewster (procedural).

HEARINGS OTHER THAN PLANNING AND ZONING:29. FASCO INVESTMENTS, INC.

Application for Permit to Operate Taxicabs in the City of Torrance,

RECOMMENDATION OF LICENSE REVIEW BOARD:

That the transfer and rate schedule be approved.

An Affidavit of Publication was presented by Deputy City Clerk Moss, and it was ordered filed, there being no objection.

Mayor Miller announced that this is the time and place for the public hearing in this matter.

Representing Fasco Investments, Inc, dba Yellow Cab Company, dba Crescent Cab Company, Mr. David Byron provided pertinent information pertaining to this company and its staff members, the service record for response, etc.

Also present was Mr. S.P. Cass, S.P. Cass Corporation, who reported on acquisition of Blue and White Cab Company equipment, and inquired as to the possibility of obtaining certain permits. It was pointed out by City Manager Ferraro that this is a pending application and not related to the matter at hand.

There being no one else who wished to be heard, Councilman Wilson moved that the hearing be closed. His motion, seconded by Councilman Armstrong, was unanimously approved.

MOTION: Councilman Wilson moved to concur with the recommendation of the License Review Board. The motion was seconded by Councilman Armstrong, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

APPEALS OTHER THAN PLANNING AND ZONING:

30. APPEAL OF PROPOSED BARRIER DESIGN AT PASEO DE LAS TORTUGAS AND VIA VALMONTE.

RECOMMENDATION OF DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION:

That the design of turn barriers at the intersection of Paseo de las Tortugas and Via Valmonte, per Staff exhibit of record, be approved.

RECOMMENDATION OF TRAFFIC COMMISSION:

- (1) To concur with the Transportation Department's recommendation;
- (2) That the proposed berms be installed with the stipulation that there be a minimum of 34 feet from the point of the berm in the middle of the road to the beginning of the private road.

Director of Transportation Horkay provided clarification regarding the proposed barrier design, and the alternative offered by Mr. James E. Newell, 24707 Via Valmonte, which concurs with Staff design, but adds a full barricade entirely across Via Valmonte at the City Limits.

Mr. James E. Newell was present and referred to his communication of record, the requested appeal, and the reasons therefor. Mr. Newell likewise elaborated on his recommendation for total barricade on Via Valmonte at the City Limits, to the end that there would be evidence of cooperation by Palos Verdes Estates in the opening of other closed streets at the City Limits.

A number of Palos Verdes Estates residents were present to protest barricading of Via Valmonte. Mayor Miller, on behalf of the Council, midway in the hearing, indicated the absence of any intention to close Via Valmonte.

Torrance residents in attendance indicated concerns in the areas of emergency vehicle access, the need for further study, the resultant heavy traffic on Newton Street, the legality of such a barricade or berm arrangement, and the inevitable deterioration of property values.

The following Council action resulted:

MOTION: Councilman Armstrong moved to DENY the subject Appeal. The motion was seconded by Councilman Surber, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

MOTION: Councilman Brewster moved to concur with the recommendation of the Traffic Commission. The motion was seconded by Councilman Armstrong, and carried, with roll call vote as follows:

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

# # #

The hour being 9:07 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 9:07 P.M.

# # #

31. CASE NO. CL 73-6, ROBERT J. FONTES.  
Rental of premises at 2755 Pacific Coast Highway.  
APPEAL OF AIRPORT COMMISSION DECISION TO DENY OCCUPANCY  
OF SUBJECT PREMISES.

RECOMMENDATION OF LAND MANAGEMENT TEAM:

That Council approve the Rental Agreement between the City and Robert J. Fontes, subject to the approval of the City Attorney and other City departments having jurisdiction.

MOTION: Councilman Armstrong moved to concur with the above recommendation of the Land Management Team; the motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta.

Prior to roll call vote on the motion, Councilmen Brewster and Uerkwitz noted the deviation from established policy re: airport leases -- closer correlation between the two groups in the future was requested, perhaps by way of a fast process procedure on short term leases.

Roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

# # #

31A. SIGN APPEAL - LOS VERDES FLOWERS (I.P. ALKANA,  
3760 - 242nd Street)

RECOMMENDATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMISSION:

That Council approve the request in concept but that the size be limited to 3 ft. x 12 ft. (36 sq. ft.)

The proponent, Mr. Alkana, was present to reiterate the need for the desired signing; the unique circumstances of his business location, particularly involving visibility from Pacific Coast Highway and Hawthorne; etc.

Projection of slides of the site followed, and Staff clarification was provided by T.E.Q.C. Executive Secretary Godfrey.

Council discussion ensued. Councilman Armstrong was of the opinion that the wall signing would be more effective than a roof sign, as did Commissioner Berwanger at T.E.Q.C. consideration.

Therefore, Councilman Armstrong MOVED to concur with the recommendation of the SIGN REVIEW TEAM for DENIAL in that "they would prefer a wall sign inasmuch as they could see no justification for a roof sign at this location." The motion was seconded by Councilman Brewster.

Discussion returned to the applicant's desire for exposure, the site location, etc., resulting in:

A SUBSTITUTE MOTION was offered by Councilman Surber: That the Council concur with the recommendation of the Environmental Quality Commission, which allows a 3x12 roof sign. The motion was seconded by Councilman Uerkwitz, and carried, with roll call vote as follows:

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

NOES: COUNCILMEN: Armstrong, Brewster.

It was agreed that the matter of allowable wall signing be worked out with Staff.

# . # #

ROUTINE MATTERS:32. EXPENDITURES OVER \$300:RECOMMENDATION OF FINANCE DIRECTOR:

That Council approve the following purchases:

A. BUDGETED ITEMS:

1. \$628.90 to Communications Development Corporation for one only 30" "No Left Turn" illuminated warning sign requested by the Department of Transportation.
2. \$1663.20 to SESCO Company for 24 neon pedestrian signals requested by the Department of Transportation as replacements.
3. \$1087.80 to Carmel Architectural Company for one only Dwyer kitchen unit (stove, refrigerator, sink and disposal) requested by the Police Department.
4. \$434.70 to Entenmann Rovin Company for 23 police officer badges, requested by the Police Department for issuance to various officers.
5. \$612.36 to Pioneer Flag for 84 U.S. flags and 36 California flags, requested by the Custodial Department for stock.
6. \$419.03 to R.R. Bowker Company for 8 volumes of "Books in Print" requested by the City Librarian.
7. \$930.85 to Needham Book Finders for 214 adult books.
8. \$359.93 to Bro-Dart, Inc. for 61 books.
9. \$3352.59 to Baker & Taylor Company for 526 library books.
10. \$476.57 to West State Books for 137 library books.
11. \$307.81 to Bro-Dart, Inc. for various book processing supplies requested by the City Librarian's office.
12. \$493.34 to Southern California Fence Company for various chain link fencing supplies requested by the Park Services Division for use at Sur La Brea Park.
13. \$345.35 to Diesel Fuel Systems for repairs to seven injector pumps requested by the City Garage.
14. \$521.67 to Dearth Machinery Company for various repair parts requested by the City Garage for stock.
15. \$687.09 to Diesel Service Center for miscellaneous testing and rebuilding services requested by the City Garage.
16. \$577.50 to Hollister, Inc. for 5,000 "indent-a-bands" requested by the Police Department for prisoner processing.

17. \$528.40 to Harley Davidson for repairs to Harley Davidson Sportster involved in accident.
18. \$329.97 to Germain Seed Company for 300 pounds of grass seed requested by the Park Services Division.
19. \$614.25 to James Jones Company for various size service couplings and meter flanges requested by the Water Department.
20. \$1103.77 to Pacific States C.I. for various sized water tees and sleeves requested by the Water Dept.
21. \$1598.63 to Park-Son, Inc. for 12 each 6-inch water valves requested by the Water Department for stock.
22. \$1101.83 to GMC Truck and Coach for one only complete housing assembly, requested by the City Garage as a replacement.
23. \$976.48 to GMC Truck and Coach for one only cylinder block and other supporting repair parts requested by the City Garage as replacements.
24. \$307.65 to Torrance Radiator Service for recoring services on radiator of Unit #9028, requested by the City Garage.
25. \$751.12 to Automatic Printing Company of Torrance for 376,500 transaction slips requested by City Librarian for book sign-out system.
26. \$360.53 to Aaron Envelope for 36,000 special recycled paper licensing envelopes requested by License Division for business license renewal notification.
27. \$841.30 to O.C.R. Business Forms for 11,000 City purchase order forms requested by the Purchasing Division.
28. \$787.50 to Xerox Corporation for 30 cases of Xerox toner, requested by Central Services Division for use on all City Xerox duplicating machines.
29. \$979.02 to Graybar Electric for 12 high power mercury ballasts requested by the Department of Transportation.
30. \$1199.14 to L.F.E. Automatic Signal for 12 self-contained luminaires, requested by the Department of Transportation.
31. \$711.90 to Olivetti Corporation for two electric typewriters, requested by the City Clerk and Police Department as replacement.
32. \$2330.24 to Johnson Stationers of Torrance for seven desks and nine chairs, requested by the Police, Recreation, Water, and Library Departments as required.

B. REIMBURSABLE ITEMS:

33. \$1327.59 to Park-Son, Inc. for various size water adapters, valves and sleeves requested by the Water Department for installation at the Sequoia Pacific and West American Services. Payment already received.
34. \$842.10 to Hersey Products for one only 8-inch Hersey Water Meter requested by the Water Department for the West American Service. Payment already received.

33. RELEASE OF SUBDIVISION BOND - TRACT NO. 31368.

SUBDIVIDER: J.W. York

BONDING CO.: Commercial Standard Insurance Co.

<u>TYPE BOND</u>	<u>BOND NO.</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Performance	115728	\$5500.00
Payment	115728	2750.00
Inspection	115729	1000.00

RECOMMENDATION OF CITY ENGINEER:

That subject bonds be released.

34. RELEASE OF SUBDIVISION BOND - TRACT NO. 29645.

SUBDIVIDER: Frank Sabatasso

Bonding Co. American Motorists Insurance Co.

<u>TYPE BOND</u>	<u>BOND NO.</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Performance	1 SM-162-008	\$4600.00
Payment	1 SM-162-008	2300.00
Inspection	1 SM-162-010	1000.00

RECOMMENDATION OF CITY ENGINEER:

That subject bonds be released.

35. RELEASE OF SUBDIVISION BOND - TRACT NO. 31182.

SUBDIVIDER: Frank Sciarrotta

BONDING CO. Pacific Employers Insurance Co.

<u>TYPE BOND</u>	<u>BOND NO.</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Performance	M-148-158	\$6400.00
Payment	M-148-158	3200.00
Inspection	M-148-159	1000.00

RECOMMENDATION OF CITY ENGINEER:

That subject bonds be released.

36. AWARD OF CONTRACT - Demolition and Site Clearance at 17549 Yukon Avenue - Bid Schedule No. B73-51.RECOMMENDATION OF BUILDING AND SAFETY DIRECTOR:

That Council accept the low bid of Alexander's Excavating and Grading in the amount of \$874 and reject the other bid submitted. Further, that the amount of \$950 be appropriated from the Water Revenue Fund to cover the bid, advertising, and incidentals. (Job No. 73136).

37. NOTICE OF COMPLETION - Demolition and Site Clearance -  
17008 Osage Avenue - Bid Schedule No. B73-46

RECOMMENDATION OF BUILDING AND SAFETY DIRECTOR:

That Council accept the work and final payment be made in the amount of \$749 to Texas House Wrecking Company, 1236 East 7th Street, Los Angeles, California, 90021.

38. NOTICE OF COMPLETION - Improvement of Carson Street from Crenshaw Boulevard to Western Avenue - Job No. 70035.

RECOMMENDATION OF CITY ENGINEER:

1. That the work be accepted and final payment be made to the contractor, Vernon Paving Company.
2. That \$35,000 be appropriated from the 2106 Gas Tax Funds to cover costs

39. LOSS OF RENTAL INCOME - AIRPORT PROPERTY RENEWAL.

RECOMMENDATION OF CITY CLERK:

That the City Council approve the change to a Reporting Form Policy, thus saving premium costs and raising limit of coverage when needed.

MOTION: Councilman Sciarrotta moved to concur with the recommendations on agenda items #32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, and #39. The motion was seconded by Councilman Armstrong, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

ADDENDUM ITEM:

40. ORDINANCE re: Memorandum of Understanding, Torrance City Attorneys Association.

See Page 21.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

41. City Manager Ferraro reported on the progress of Park and Recreation Director Van Bellehem, now, happily, transferred to a private room at Torrance Memorial Hospital and showing substantial improvement.

42. In view of the public hearing/re: <sup>on December 18th</sup> the League of Women Voters recommended moratorium on building, it was the recommendation of City Manager Ferraro that this meeting be adjourned to 4:30 P.M. on that date in order that the routine business may be disposed of at the earlier hour. There were no objections, and it was so ordered.

43. It was the request of City Attorney Remelmeyer that the scheduled hearings for this date on the CWOD and Shell Oil Company franchises be continued to December 18th, in order that all necessary information may be obtained. Councilman Sciarrotta so MOVED; the motion was seconded by Councilman Surber, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

44. The recently publicized difficulties of obtaining spaces for car pool parking was noted by Councilman Armstrong, with the request that Staff investigate whether or not there might be some City land which might be used as a "car pool resource". Added by Councilman Brewster was the request that the City's liabilities likewise be checked.

45. Councilman Armstrong made the following prepared report:

"The problem of the traffic tangle in Torrance always seems with us, but as severe as our traffic problems are throughout the year, they seem to reach their greatest intensity during the holiday shopping season. Recently, the Chamber of Commerce pegged our retail sales volume at third highest in the County. Maximum traffic volumes annually seem to go hand in hand with December. Judging from the crowded scenes in the parking lots of our major shopping centers, this year would seem to be no exception; and this year there is the added dimension of the fuel and energy crises.

"I have two proposals which I believe, if implemented successfully, could serve to ease some traffic tension, and provide a meaningful service to people throughout the City.

"First, there is substantial acreage at each of our high schools devoted, while school is in session, to on-campus parking. I propose that with the cooperation of the School District, we designate each high school parking area (at Torrance, North, South, and West) as a satellite parking lot for holiday shoppers. Then a shuttle bus run should be established from each campus, on a scheduled round trip basis of regular trips both morning and afternoon. This program should run from December 19, when these parking areas are available, through December 24; specific details of schedule should be determined by the Transportation Staff. This 'Shoppers Satellite Flight' should be publicized and promoted by both the City and the shopping centers as soon as details of the scheduled times can be affirmed.

"Second, working more directly with our major shopping centers along the Hawthorne traffic artery -- I propose we establish a special shuttle bus on continuous run from the Del Amo Center to Fashion Square, or to Old Towne, or to South Bay Center, depending upon which Centers choose to take part.

"Using the shuttle, shoppers could move from one major commercial area to another and return without using their passenger cars to go from Center to Center. For such a shuttle run as this, I propose no passenger fare.

"My understanding is that currently we are suffering the constraint of short supplies of fuel. In fact, while we have rolling stock and drivers for such a program, without fuel, even if all other conditions are favorable, the program would not be possible.

"Therefore, I propose that the City offer to provide the bus, the driver, and free passage, and that the participating Hawthorne Boulevard commercial centers provide necessary diesel fuel from a local commercial source.

"For these proposals, details of schedules, stops and terminal points should be coordinated by Transportation Department Staff working with the School District and shopping centers.

"For these proposals, the commercial centers involved should be invited and encouraged to assume major responsibility for promoting and publicizing the activity.

"I think that these programs of 'Satellite Shopper Specials' and 'Shopper Shuttles' have the potential of providing meaningful service to people in every corner of the community and meaningful relief to holiday traffic tension.

"I would ask for endorsement and implementation of both proposals, but I recognize there are constraints of calendar. It seems to me that if a choice is to be made, the commercial area shuttle should be given first priority.

"I MOVE that Staff be directed to contact School District and commercial area officials to develop these two proposals and to implement the program with all possible speed.

"If neither proposal can be effected, then I request there be analysis and evaluation."

It was the consensus of the Council that Staff should review the foregoing recommendations and report back at the December 18th meeting.

46. Torrance High School activities -- the winning of the annual Pacific Shores basketball tournament and the Alumni Game scheduled for January 4th -- were noted by Councilman Armstrong.

47. Congratulations to Planning Commissioner Uyeda for his nomination as President of the Southern California Planning Congress were extended by Councilman Brewster.

48. Recent reports pertaining to water revenue and expenses, and likely trends, were noted by Councilman Brewster -- reports in this regard will be forthcoming from Water System Manager Borgwat and Finance Director Dundore.

49. It was the request of Councilman Sciarrotta that resolutions go forward to appropriate legislators urging that horsepower rather than just vehicle allotment be the factor of consideration in any gas rationing program.

50. Councilman Surber noted the assistance of Police Cadets at this meeting and their usual good job.

51. Councilman Surber further noted, with pleasure, the Supreme Court ruling which would permit full search of persons lawfully arrested.

52. Councilman Surber noted his inability to attend the TOPIC meeting on December 13th, per invitation extended at a recent Council meeting, and requested that any Councilman attending indicate that he is voicing his own opinion, and that same is not representative of this Council's feeling.

53. Councilman Uerkwitz reported on additional monitoring of smog in Torrance proposed by the State Air Resources Board -- a report on their studies will be provided.

54. A Torrance Unified School District recommended Charter amendment pertaining to the filling of Board and City Council vacancies was reported by Councilman Wilson. City Attorney Remelmeyer indicated that he would follow through on this matter, with an eye to the June election.

55. Representing the New Horizons Board of Governors, Mr. Sherman Ware presented petitions bearing 1014 signatures titled: "WE, THE UNDERSIGNED, DO HEREBY PETITION THE MEMBERS OF THE TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL AND THE TORRANCE PLANNING COMMISSION TO MAKE USE OF M2-PP ZONING ORDINANCE AND REQUIRE THE DEVELOPER OF TENTATIVE TRACT 28795 TO UTILIZE THE 100-FOOT STRIP DESIGNATED EXCLUSIVELY FOR PLANTING AND LANDSCAPING AS RECOMMENDED IN THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT."

Planning Director Shartle reviewed and clarified past and pending considerations of the subject area. Council discussion was directed to the varied areas of concern with the present Fujita development and that proposed for the adjacent vacant parcel. The following action resulted:

MOTION: Councilman Brewster moved that the City institute Precise Plan Overlay Zoning on the subject "second parcel". The motion was seconded by Councilman Armstrong, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

Mr. Bernie Hollander spoke at this time, and stressed the desire of New Horizons residents that the developer provide the 100 ft. setback on every unit that he puts in on the entire property. City Attorney Remelmeyer advised that this could not be done; that it would be necessary to wait for the proceedings to come before the Council via the proper channels. The appeal procedure was pointed out by Mayor Miller, following the public hearing process. It was then the request of the speaker that an explicit map be provided for subsequent hearings, and Planning Director Shartle indicated that he would arrange for the preparation of such a map.

Messrs. Bob Stevens and Van Webb reiterated the concerns of New Horizons residents.

# # #

At 10:50 P.M. Councilman Sciarrotta moved to recess as City Council for the purpose of an Executive Session to discuss wages, hours and working conditions. City Attorney Remelmeyer confirmed that this is proper subject matter for an Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Councilman Armstrong, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

The Council returned at 11:00 P.M., and took the following action:

ADDENDUM ITEM:

40. ORDINANCE re: Memorandum of Understanding, Torrance  
City Attorneys Association

ORDINANCE NO. 2446

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF  
THE CITY OF TORRANCE REPEALING PART XII  
OF CHAPTER 7, DIVISION 1 OF THE TORRANCE  
MUNICIPAL CODE GOVERNMENT EMPLOYMENT  
COMPENSATION PROVISIONS FOR EMPLOYEES  
REPRESENTED BY THE TORRANCE CITY  
ATTORNEYS ASSOCIATION, AND ADDING A  
NEW PART XII TO CHAPTER 7, DIVISION 1  
OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE RELATING  
TO THE SAME SUBJECT.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved for the approval of Ordinance No. 2446 at its first reading. His motion was seconded by Councilman Armstrong, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

# # #

At 11:05 P.M., Councilman Uerkwitz moved to adjourn to Tuesday, December 18, 1973, at 4:30 P.M. His motion was seconded by Councilman Surber, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

# # #

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

APPROVED:

  
Mayor of the City of Torrance

Ava Cripe  
Minute Secretary

21.

City Council  
December 11, 1973