

I N D E XCity Council - October 1, 1974

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Adjourned at 8:10 P.M.

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Ava Cripe
Minute SecretaryCity Council
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MINUTES OF AN ADJOURNED
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL

OPENING CEREMONIES:

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The Torrance City Council convened in an Adjourned Regular Meeting on Tuesday, October 1, 1974, at 5:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers at Torrance City Hall.

2. ROLL CALL:

Present: Councilwoman Geissert; Councilmen Surber, Uerkwitz, Wilson, and Mayor Miller. Councilman Armstrong arrived at the meeting at 5:10 P.M. Absent: Councilman Brewster.

3. FLAG SALUTE:

Mr. Bob Warnock led in the salute to the flag.

4. INVOCATION:

Reverend R.W. Kornegay, Church of the Nazarene, provided the invocation for the meeting.

Mayor Miller announced, with mixed emotions, that Reverend Kornegay would be departing from Torrance to establish a new church in Palm Springs in the near future.

STANDARD MOTIONS:

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilman Uerkwitz moved to approve the minutes of September 10, 1974, as recorded. His motion was seconded by Councilwoman Geissert, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Armstrong had not yet arrived at the meeting; Councilman Brewster absent.)

(Note: The September 10th meeting of the Council was a "Regular Meeting" rather than "Adjourned Regular Meeting" as indicated on Page 1.)

6. APPROVAL OF DEMANDS:

Councilman Uerkwitz moved that all regularly audited demands be paid. His motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Armstrong had not yet arrived at the meeting; Councilman Brewster absent.)

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7. MOTION TO WAIVE FURTHER READING:

Councilman Wilson moved that after the City 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 Surber, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Armstrong had not yet arrived at the meeting. Councilman Brewster absent.)

8. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

No reports.

PRESENTATION:

9. Presentation by Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Bob Warnock, on behalf of the Chamber, presented a check in the amount of \$39,000 to Mayor Miller, this being the Chamber's portion of the Lomita Boulevard traffic signal installation at Early and Garnier Streets. There was grateful acceptance, on behalf of the Council and the City, by the Mayor.

COMMISSION MATTERS:

10. Commission Interviews.

Present for interviews were Joseph O'Brien and Roy Carpenter.

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At 5:25 P.M., Councilman Uerkwitz moved to recess for the purpose of an Executive Session re: Commission appointments. The motion was seconded by Councilman Armstrong, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Brewster absent.)

The Council returned at 5:35 P.M. and Mayor Miller announced the following appointments:

Civic Center Authority: Karl Diebel (reappointment); Roy Carpenter.

Public Facilities Building Corporation: Joseph O'Brien, it being noted by Mayor Miller that confirmation of this nomination must be made by the Corporation, per its By-Laws.

PROCLAMATIONS:

11. Torrance P.T.A. Membership Enrollment Week.

12. World Lions Service Day.

So proclaimed by Mayor Miller.

BUILDINGS, STRUCTURES AND SIGNS:

13. RESOLUTION authorizing agreement with the Department of California Highway Patrol establishing an Abandoned Vehicle Abatement (AVA) Program.

RESOLUTION NO. 74-225

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND THE CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE AND ATTEST THAT CERTAIN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY AND THE DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL FOR CONTINUED PARTICIPATION IN THE ABANDONED VEHICLE ABATEMENT PROGRAM.

Councilman Surber moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 74-225. The motion was seconded by Councilman Armstrong, and was unanimously approved by those present (Councilman Brewster absent).

FISCAL MATTERS:

14. AMENDMENT TO BICYCLE LICENSING ORDINANCE regarding the distribution and use of the \$2.00 registration fee.

ORDINANCE NO. 2526

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING SECTION 2 OF ARTICLE 1 OF CHAPTER 30, DIVISION 2, OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE TO REVISE THE PURPOSES FOR WHICH BICYCLE LICENSE FUNDS MAY BE USED.

Councilman Armstrong moved for the approval of Ordinance No. 2526 at its first reading. His motion was seconded by Councilwoman Geissert, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Absent: Councilman Brewster).

PARKS AND RECREATION:

15. DE PORTOLA PARK.

RECOMMENDATION OF PARK, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE:

1. The berm, except at the location of the park, should be as per Exhibit "C" at site, a minimum of 30 feet in height (205' elevation). To the east end of the tract where the existing berm was originally lower, the berm will be at the approximate same height as it was before.
2. The berm at the park will be as per Exhibit "B" at site, at a minimum of 20 feet in height (195' elevation).

3.

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- In order to change from the 205' grade elevation of the development to the 195' elevation of the park the grade would be contoured so as to provide a natural rolling effect. To provide for the walkway entrance into the park from the north there would be a similar contoured cut in the berm at Tandem Way.
3. From Winlock Road there would be pedestrian access only to the park via Tandem Way. The park would have no on-site parking. The access should accommodate the handicapped.
 4. The park would have a concrete block wall on the north property line adjacent to the homes. The design of the park would provide a 10-foot sight line protection with the erection of a fence either on the crest of the berm or partially down the south side of the berm inside the park. Shrubbery and trees will be planted at the top of the berm to further insure privacy of the residences backing onto the park.
 5. Staff has been requested to explore all possibilities for guaranteeing the maintenance of the downslope and intersector drains behind the homes in the new tract, including the possibility of establishing a maintenance district.
 6. The Committee requests a legal opinion and clarification on the status of the zoning change.

Councilman Wilson elaborated on the above findings of the Committee, noting that there had been homeowner concurrence with these findings. Further clarification regarding the merits of the elimination of on-site parking at the park was provided by Director of Park and Recreation Van Bellehem, following concerns voiced by Councilman Uerkwitz and Mayor Miller in this regard.

Revised wording, as follows, was recommended by Planning Director Shartle:

"The berm along the northerly edge of the Battram Tract shall be replaced to approximately the same height as the existing berm, but shall not exceed 30 feet above the adjacent property line.

"The berm in the park area shall be built to a height of approximately 20 feet above the adjacent property line."

It was the unanimous direction of the Council that the foregoing be incorporated in the conditions of record.

The following action resulted:

MOTION: Councilman Wilson moved to concur with the recommendations of the Park, Recreation, and Community Development Committee, with the modifications above outlined by Planning Director Shartle. The motion was seconded by Councilman Armstrong, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Absent: Councilman Brewster).

Councilman Uerkwitz, at the time of his affirmative vote, indicated that he nonetheless still had objections regarding the absence of parking on the site. Mayor Miller added that his "yes" was a weak one, based primarily on Staff clarification and recommendations.

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PERSONNEL MATTERS:

16. RESOLUTION regarding settlement of claim of Lloyd Kinney and Gerald Galante arising out of accident which resulted in injuries to City Fireman Larry Lindsey.

RESOLUTION NO. 74-226

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE AND ATTEST THAT CERTAIN RELEASE OF ALL CLAIMS, DESIGNATED CLAIM NO. 4C45214, RELEASING LLOYD KINNEY AND GERALD GALANTE FROM ALL LIABILITY TO THE CITY ARISING OUT OF THE ACCIDENT OF JUNE 14, 1971 WHICH RESULTED IN INJURIES TO CITY FIREMAN LARRY LINDSEY, AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY TREASURER TO ACCEPT AND ENDORSE IN FULL SETTLEMENT OF THE CITY'S CLAIM OF \$2,667.30, THAT CERTAIN DRAFT NO. 24 506756 OF ALLSTATE INSURANCE COMPANY, DATED AUGUST 21, 1974 IN AMOUNT OF \$2,400.

Councilman Uerkwitz moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 74-226. His motion was seconded by Councilman Surber, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Brewster absent).

WATER SYSTEM:

17. WATER COMMISSION RESOLUTION regarding Peripheral Canal of California State Water Project.

Held for the Council meeting of October 8th.

PLANNING AND ZONING HEARINGS:

18. ZC 73-26, TOTAL CONCEPTS CORPORATION. Change of zone from A-1 to RTH (PP) on property located at the southerly end of Park Street between Madison Street and Hawthorne Boulevard. RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL BY THE PLANNING COMMISSION.

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 inquired if anyone wished to be heard. There was no response.

Councilman Armstrong moved that the hearing be closed. The motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Brewster absent).

MOTION: Councilman Wilson moved to concur with the recommendation of the Planning Commission for approval of ZC 73-26 to RTH with a Precise Plan Overlay. The motion was seconded by Councilman Surber.

Council discussion ensued prior to roll call vote on the motion. Noted were Planning Commissioners Grippio and Shelbourn's feelings that R-1 PD zoning would be preferable, per General Plan discussions; present day economic demands re: desired condominium development; allowable units in RTH zone; proposed reduced density in subject development; controls of Precise Plan; etc.

Of concern to Councilwoman Geissert was the possibility of future unforeseen financial problems for the present developer which might necessitate sale of the RTH (if so zoned this date) property to another developer who might develop same in a substantially different fashion. Planning Director Shartle noted the Precise Plan requirement attached to the subject recommended rezoning; a further precaution could be taken, per Mr. Shartle, by requiring that the zoning would become effective only at such time as development is actually assured. Mrs. Geissert nevertheless indicated her preference for a procedure whereby the appropriate zone, based on best use, neighborhood compatibility, etc., is first designated by the Council, and then followed by presentation of plans for development.

Further, it was recalled by Councilwoman Geissert that, at the time of General Plan discussions, property in this general area had been recommended for low density by the Planning Commission -- now the Commission has taken an action contrary to this recommendation. Mrs. Geissert then stated her opinion that the subject area is a prime R-1 area, and she would favor R-1 zoning, or leaving it A-1.

Council discussion resumed, and it was again directed to matters of density, traffic, zoning, etc., and the following action resulted:

Councilman Wilson AMENDED HIS ABOVE MOTION to state: "Further, that the ordinance in this matter not be brought back to the Council until the subject development is assured." The amended motion was seconded by Councilman Surber, and carried, with roll call vote as follows:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Armstrong, Surber, Uerkwitz,
Wilson; Mayor Miller.
NOES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Geissert (for above stated reasons).
ABSENT: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Brewster.

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APPEALS - PLANNING AND ZONING:

19. D 74-16, CHARLES AND BEVERLIE HARRIS. Appeal of Planning Commission action on a division of lot request to divide land into two parcels in the R-1 zone between Matfield Drive and Crest Road approximately 200 feet south of Nearcliff Street. DENIED BY THE PLANNING COMMISSION.

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, inquired if anyone wished to be heard in this matter.

The applicant, Mr. Hank Moore, stated that he had purchased this property for the purpose of building a small home (1000 sq. ft.) with a view and surrounding land -- he then elaborated on his proposed plan of development, and urged Council approval.

Next to speak was Mr. Latham Pulliam (?), 25807 Matfield, who protested the request because of the resultant traffic impact on Crest Road -- he further reported that there have been threats by Mr. Moore in the neighborhood, and that Mrs. Harris had stated to him "unless I signed, or if I fought this, and I'm fighting it more now than ever, she said she would sell to blacks."

Mrs. Beverlie Harris responded to the above comments advising that she had not made such a statement, and unless same is not retracted, court action will be pursued.

The effect of the proposed development on Crest Road -- an extremely narrow, heavily travelled street -- was pointed out by Mr. L.A. Morgan, 25816 Matfield Drive.

Mr. Bob Sanders, 25815 Matfield Drive, concurred in the traffic problems which would be presented and which would be an extreme hazard for the school children in the area.

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

With the comment that the case has been made by the Planning Commission and Planning Department -- with particular note of the inevitable Crest Road problems were such development permitted, along with the precedent of inviting more such development -- Councilman Armstrong MOVED to concur with the Planning Commission and Planning Department for DENIAL of D74-16. The motion was seconded by Councilman Surber, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable, "yes" being for denial. (Absent: Councilman Brewster).

ROUTINE MATTERS:20. EXPENDITURES OVER \$300:RECOMMENDATION OF FINANCE DIRECTOR:

That Council approve the following purchases:

A. BUDGETED ITEMS:

1. \$3,362.32 to Inglewood Stationers for various quantities of 90 different stationery items as required for stocking City departments by the Central Services Division.
2. \$815.67 to Mine Safety Appliance Company for the purchase of two complete self-contained breathing apparatus units with spare air cylinders as requested by Fire Department for new Paramedic unit.
3. \$501.38 to Halprin Supply Company for one only rescue saw and one only aluminized rescue blanket as requested by the Fire Department for new Paramedic rescue unit.
4. \$302.10 to Kingsley Library Equipment Company for one only book drop station with a cart as requested by the City Librarian for the El Retiro Branch Library.
5. \$643.48 to Zumar Industries for 74 various traffic control signs as requested by the Department of Transportation.
6. \$1,010.18 to LaSalle Paper Company for 50 cases of bond paper required by the Central Services Division for City printing and copying work.
7. \$1,902.88 to Neptune Meter Company for 24 only 1-inch water meters as requested by the Water Department, required as replacements.
8. \$557.03 to Proctor and Gamble for 50 cases of "Tide" soap as requested by the Custodian for use by both the Police and Fire Departments.
9. \$1,114.04 to Industrial Electronics for the purchase of 72 each 1,000-watt long-life lamps as requested by the Department of Transportation for replacements of City park playfield lighting lamps.
10. \$483.36 to Jamison Inc. for 24 only replacement bucket type swing seats as requested by the Recreation Department.
11. \$954.00 to Capital Fire Equipment Company for the purchase of replacement firefighting "turn out" coats and pants as requested by the Fire Department.
12. \$8,427.00 to McNaughton Book Service for the renewal of an annual contract for book rental services for the City's six branch libraries.

13. \$726.10 to Halprin Supply Company for the purchase of an Extractor Unit as requested by the Fire Department for the new Paramedic unit.
14. \$564.98 to Page Western Company for the printing of 10,000 copies of "Notices of Improper Containers" required by the City's new Refuse Container Ordinance.
15. \$1,135.26 to Pacific States Cast Iron for the purchase of 22 only 4", 6" and 8" pipe fittings as requested by the Water Department.
16. \$1,992.59 to Park-Son, Inc. for the purchase of 12 only 6" water valves as requested by the Water Department.
17. \$360.19 from Melrose Equipment Company for necessary repairs to a Ford tractor torque converter, as requested by the City Garage.

B. REIMBURSABLE ITEMS:

18. \$535.30 to Hersey Products Inc. for the purchase of 1 only 2" Hersey water meter, as requested by the Water Department for the Specialty Plumbing Company service. Payment has already been received for this service.
19. \$807.05 to Meeder Equipment Company for necessary repair services to our 30,000 gallon propane installation. These were essential repair services to our installation which will be billed back to the company who did the installation.

21. CEMENT IMPROVEMENTS IN THREE LOCATIONS (B74-51)

RECOMMENDATION OF CITY ENGINEER:

That both bids be rejected and the project readvertised for bids.

22. AWARD OF CONTRACT - Construction of Catch Basins in Earl Street south of Maricopa Street and south of Spencer Street (B74-50).

RECOMMENDATION OF CITY ENGINEER:

That the contract be awarded to S&S Construction and the other bid be rejected.

MOTION: Councilman Uerkwitz moved to concur with the recommendations on agenda items #20, 21, and #22. The motion was seconded by Councilman Surber, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Brewster absent).

23. PETITION AND LETTERS FROM HOMEOWNERS REGARDING DOGS ON GREVILLEA AVENUE.

CITY MANAGER'S NOTE:

Refer to City Manager for study, evaluation and report.

Mr. Ron Shuler, 20022 Grevillea, was present to elaborate on the problems presented his neighborhood by German Shepard dogs, per correspondence of record.

Mayor Miller directed that this matter be referred to City Manager Ferraro; there were no objections, and it was so ordered.

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The hour being 7:20 P.M., Councilman Uerkwitz moved to recess as the City Council, and reconvene as the Redevelopment Agency. The motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Brewster absent).

The Council returned to its agenda at 7:21 P.M.

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ADDENDUM ITEM:

24. REFUND OF BID DEPOSIT MADE BY ALVIN J. COSMAN.

RECOMMENDATION OF CITY ATTORNEY:

That the Council accept Mr. Cosman's written request for withdrawal of his bid and a refund of his deposit be made in the amount of \$591.00.

Following verbal clarification by City Attorney Remelmeyer, Councilman Surber MOVED to concur with the above recommendation of the City Attorney. The motion was seconded by Councilman Armstrong, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Brewster absent).

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

25. Council policy re: "dark nights" on Election dates was noted by City Manager Ferraro, which resulted in the following action:

MOTION: Councilman Surber moved that Council be "dark" on November 5th, 1974. The motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Absent: Councilman Brewster).

26. The date of November 5th, at 7:30 A.M., has been set for the annual Ministerial Breakfast, per City Manager Ferraro.

27. Councilman Armstrong commended Mrs. Claire Crain for her appointment as Regional Vice President, Historical Groups of Southern California, and noted that a meeting of the Association of Historical Groups of Los Angeles County will be held on October 10th at the Post Avenue Library.

28. Appropriate recognition for Mr. John Bramhall for his services on the Civic Center Authority was requested by Councilman Armstrong.
29. An aged City Flag was displayed by Councilman Armstrong, with the request that same be referred to the Fine Arts Commission for appraisal and recommendation.
30. The passing of Dr. J.H. Hull, former Superintendent of Schools, was regrettably noted by Councilman Armstrong. Also noted was the Memorial Service for Dr. Hull on October 8th at the First Christian Church.
31. Mr. Mark Sherbacher, County Department of Community Services, requested Council support of a petition regarding prevention and treatment of alcoholism funds for the South Bay area. This matter was referred to City Manager Ferraro for appropriate follow-through.
32. Traffic Commissioner McMullen requested clarification regarding the status of previously approved bicycle routes in the General Plan, and why the now indicated need for public hearings? Director of Transportation Horkay will report back in this regard.

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At 7:40 P.M., Councilman Uerkwitz moved to recess for an Executive Session to discuss litigation -- City Attorney Remelmeyer having deemed this appropriate subject matter for such session. The motion was seconded by Councilman Surber, and approval was unanimous (Councilman Brewster absent).

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The meeting was regularly adjourned at 8:10 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.

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