

## I N D E X

City Council - October 15, 1974

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Adjourned at 6:15 P.M.

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October 15, 1974

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL

OPENING CEREMONIES:

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The Torrance City Council convened in a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, October 15, 1974, at 5:30 P.M. in the Council Chambers at Torrance City Hall.

2. ROLL CALL:

Present: Councilwoman Geissert; Councilmen Armstrong, Brewster, Surber, Uerkwitz, Wilson, and Mayor Miller.  
Absent: None.

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

3. FLAG SALUTE:

Mr. Henry Nowicki led in the salute to the flag.

4. INVOCATION:

The invocation for the meeting was given by Reverend R.W. Kornegay, Church of the Nazarene.

STANDARD MOTIONS:

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilman Uerkwitz moved to approve the minutes of September 24, 1974, as recorded. His motion was seconded by Councilman Brewster, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

6. APPROVAL OF DEMANDS:

Councilman Brewster moved that all regularly audited demands be paid. His motion was seconded by Councilman Armstrong, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

7. MOTION TO WAIVE FURTHER READING:

Councilman Surber 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

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demand the reading of any such resolution or ordinance in regular order. The motion was seconded by Councilman Armstrong, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

8. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

Legislative Liaison:

Met this date to review ballot proposals -- will return with report on October 22nd.

Councilman Armstrong specifically noted the Committee recommendation that the Council endorse Proposition "S", and MOVED that the Council go on record as endorsing Proposition "S". The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Geissert, and carried, as follows:

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS: Armstrong, Brewster, Geissert,  
Surber, Wilson; Mayor Miller.  
NOES: COUNCILMEMBERS: Uerkwitz.

PROCLAMATIONS:

9. National Catholic Daughters of America Day.

So proclaimed by Mayor Miller.

TRANSPORTATION MATTERS:

10. Traffic Signal Installation, Pacific Coast Highway and Plaza Drive.

Assistant City Manager Scharfman advised that agreement has not yet been finalized with Mr. Albert Levitt -- however, he has deposited a check, under protest, for the amount claimed by the City. Mr. Scharfman then requested permission to proceed to advertise for bids on the subject signal, and refer the matter to the Transportation Committee to hear the conflicting claims.

Attorney Alexander Pope, representing Mr. Levitt, was present to record their objections. It was the direction of Mayor Miller that Mr. Pope's October 4, 1974 communication be incorporated in these minutes, as follows:

"At a meeting earlier this week my client and I were unable to resolve with your staff a problem concerning the proper cost allocation between the City and the Rolling Hills Plaza Company of the cost of a traffic signal on Pacific Coast Highway.

"The Plaza Company was billed for \$19,311 representing one-half the total cost of the signal less \$1,500 previously paid by them.

"We are all agreed that the project is badly needed and I am, therefore, enclosing my client's check for the \$19,311 so that the work may proceed as soon as possible. (Also enclosed is a check for \$9,471 covering a similar contribution for the previously completed Crenshaw signal.) The \$19,311 is, however, paid under protest, and we respectfully request that the Council

consider a refund in an appropriate amount for the following two reasons: first, because of the tremendous cost escalation that has occurred on account of delays beyond their control and, second, because they are not being given credit for the contribution of the landowner across the street.

"With respect to delay, this project has been held up for over eight years now with the result that the cost to my client has escalated almost three times from \$7,000 to the current \$20,811 (\$1,500 plus \$19,311).

"The Plaza Company received a letter from the City dated August 24, 1967, recommending the 50-50 cost sharing and estimating the cost to them of \$7,000 (the driveway modification and widening referred to in that letter have since been done by the Plaza Company). In 1968 the Plaza Company made a down-payment and agreed to pay the balance when the contract for the work was let. Since that time they have constantly pleaded for the City to proceed with the work (as, for example, in the 1968 and 1971 letters, copies of which are enclosed). These pleas have, unfortunately, been to no avail until this year.

"Under these circumstances, it does not appear to us to be fair that the Plaza Company be required to pay the \$13,811 in increased costs which have accrued since the original estimate and agreement to pay. Not only has the cost escalated for reasons beyond my client's control; in addition, it has lost, during all the intervening years, a great amount of revenue because of the reduced business done by its tenants in the Rolling Hills Plaza Shopping Center as a result of the inadequate access.

"With respect to the contribution question, the original lease language required the Plaza Company to pay one-half of "the City's share" of the project. Although there were some later misunderstandings about this provision, it has not been superseded by any later written agreement. It is our position, therefore, that the one-quarter contribution being made by the other landowner should be taken into account and that the Plaza Company is only responsible for one-half of the remaining three-quarters (which is, in our view, the City's share).

"In conclusion, my client feels that it should not be responsible for the full amount billed by the City which has almost tripled during the life of this project. We hope that the Council will agree and make an appropriate reduction as we have requested. Alternatively, the Plaza Company is willing, as expressed in my August 7, 1974 letter to Mr. Remelmeyer, to submit the matters in dispute to a neutral arbitrator who would settle the matters in dispute between the parties.

"Thank you for your consideration."

MOTION: Councilman Armstrong moved to concur with the recommendation of Assistant City Manager Scharfman. The motion was seconded by Councilman Surber, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

FISCAL MATTERS:

11. RESOLUTION re: Comprehensive Employment and Training Act.

RESOLUTION NO. 74-231

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE AND ATTEST THOSE CERTAIN SUBGRANTS AND CONTRACT BETWEEN THE CITY OF TORRANCE AND THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA EMPLOYMENT DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT, TORRANCE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, AND MANPOWER DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING CONSULTANTS, INC., TO INITIATE PROGRAMS UNDER TITLE I OF THE COMPREHENSIVE EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ACT.

Councilman Wilson moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 74-231. His motion was seconded by Councilman Armstrong, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

PARK AND RECREATION:

12. DE PORTOLA PARK REVISED SCHEMATIC MASTER PLAN.

RECOMMENDATION OF PARK AND RECREATION DIRECTOR:

The final revised schematic master plan and the grading plan of record are recommended by the Park and Recreation Commission and the Park and Recreation Department for your approval, with the provisions noted in October 11th communication.

MOTION: Councilman Wilson moved to concur with the above recommendation of the Park and Recreation Director. The motion was seconded by Councilman Armstrong, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

PERSONNEL MATTERS:

13. Class Specifications for Clerk, Typist Clerk and Stenographer Clerk.

RECOMMENDATION OF THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION:

That Council adopt the subject class specifications with the changes recommended by the Commission.  
(Concurred in by management and employee organization.)

MOTION: Councilman Uerkwitz moved to concur with the above recommendation of the Civil Service Commission. The motion was seconded by Councilman Armstrong, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

14. Classification Study and recommendation for reallocation of position of Intermediate Typist Clerk in the City Clerk's Office to the class of Senior Typist Clerk.

RECOMMENDATION OF CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION:

That Council approve the subject reallocation.

FINANCE DIRECTOR NOTE:

Approval of this reallocation will require an appropriation of \$500 from the General Fund to finance the increased salary costs during the balance of this fiscal year.

MOTION: Councilman Armstrong moved to concur with the recommendation of the Civil Service Commission, and to approve an appropriation of \$500 from the General Fund to finance the increased salary costs. The motion was seconded by Councilman Brewster, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS:

15. ORDINANCE requiring oil operators to file certain notices regarding operations with the City Clerk.

ORDINANCE NO. 2527

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ADDING SECTION 97.1.5 TO THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE RELATING TO NOTICES OF OIL WELL DRILLING, ABANDONMENT AND OTHER NOTICES AND APPLICATIONS FILED WITH THE STATE DIVISION OF OIL AND GAS.

Councilman Surber moved for the approval of Ordinance No. 2527 at its first reading. His motion, seconded by Councilman Uerkwitz, was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

16. NOISE ORDINANCE - Oil Production Equipment.

ORDINANCE NO. 2528

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING THE PROVISIONS OF CHAPTER 6, DIVISION 4 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE TO ESTABLISH NEW NOISE LEVELS FOR OIL PRODUCTION EQUIPMENT, REGULATING THE HOURS OF OPERATION OF OIL WELL EQUIPMENT, REQUIRING A PERMIT FOR CERTAIN OIL WELL OPERATIONS AND ESTABLISHING STANDARDS FOR ACOUSTICAL BLANKETS FOR DRILLING DERRICKS AND ACCESSORY STRUCTURES.

Councilman Wilson moved for the approval of Ordinance No. 2528 at its first reading. His motion was seconded by Councilwoman Geissert, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

MATTERS NOT OTHERWISE CLASSIFIED:17. EARTHQUAKE DETECTOR MAINTENANCE PROGRAM.RECOMMENDATION OF ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY SERVICES, TORRANCE DISASTER COUNCIL:

That the City Council authorize forwarding a request to the two California Senators and the Congressmen who represent the City of Torrance, asking their help in continuing the Earthquake Detector Maintenance Program now being conducted by the Federal Government.

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

HEARINGS - OTHER THAN PLANNING AND ZONING:18. ORDINANCE granting to Standard Gas Company a franchise to construct, operate and maintain pipelines for the transportation of hydrocarbon substances in the City of Torrance.

It was the request of City Attorney Remelmeyer that this item be held for two weeks, and the proponent has been so notified.

Mayor Miller ascertained that there was no one present who wished to speak on this matter.

MOTION: Councilman Armstrong moved to continue Item #18 to October 29, 1974, at 5:30 P.M. The motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

ROUTINE MATTERS:19. EXPENDITURES OVER \$300:RECOMMENDATION OF FINANCE DIRECTOR:

That Council approve the following purchases:

BUDGETED ITEMS:

1. \$442.70 to Moore Business Forms, Inc. for printing 20,000 receipt forms requested by the Park and Recreation Department for use at the Joslyn Center.
2. \$547.98 to Sears Roebuck, Inc. for 144 mattress slip-covers as requested by the Police Department for covering jail mattresses as required by O.S.H.A. \*\*See Comments on Page 6.
3. \$335.49 to G.K. Hall & Company for 30 library books.
4. \$1,297.92 to Needham Book Finders for 264 library books.
5. \$449.79 to Torrance Camera for miscellaneous photographic supplies as requested by the Police Dept.
6. \$1,099.47 to Inglewood Stationers for 3,300 heavy duty file folders as requested by Central Services for inventory stock.

7. \$412.39 to Inglewood Stationers for miscellaneous stationery supplies as requested by Central Services for inventory stock.
8. \$1,046.80 to B&H Carpet to furnish and install replacement curtains in the Pueblo, Walteria and El Nido Park buildings as requested by the Park and Recreation Department.
20. AWARD OF CONTRACT - Federal Energy Office assignment of a wholesale gasoline supplier - Police Vehicles. (Expenditure: \$62,000 per year).

RECOMMENDATION OF FINANCE DIRECTOR:

That Council approve of the awarding of a contract to the Standard Oil Company for our wholesale Police gasoline requirements (as assigned by the Federal Energy Office) for the required 144,000 gallons of gasoline in the total amount of \$62,000 (including freight and applicable taxes).

21. CLAIM of Glen Palmer for property damage.

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 Wilson moved to concur with the recommendations on Items #19, 20, and #21. The motion was seconded by Councilman Surber, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable, with the following observation:

\*\* Item #19, (2) - It was the expressed opinion of Councilman Armstrong that there is need for cooperation by this company relative to trash containers and ordinance requirements, when participating in the bidding process for other City requirements.

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At 6:00 P.M., Councilman Uerkwitz 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 6:01 P.M.

# # #

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

22. Councilman Armstrong commended Street Superintendent Kirkruff and his Staff for the analysis of refuse disposal alternatives -- a job well done! Mr. Armstrong also requested an updated report on the effectiveness of the trash container program.
23. It was the request of Councilman Armstrong that there be a report on the status of the seismic monitoring station in the City.
24. The hazards presented by decorative wrought iron security bars was noted by Councilman Armstrong, with the request that Staff review same.

25. Approval of Civil Service Commissioner Donaldson's attendance at a training program put on by the UCLA Department of Industrial Relations at Lake Arrowhead was recommended by Councilman Armstrong -- he so MOVED, and the motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson.

Discussion followed regarding the pros and cons of the request -- objections were voiced by Councilman Surber who noted the many like conferences at a local level.

The motion carried, with roll call vote as follows:

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS: Armstrong, Brewster, Geissert,  
Wilson.

NOES: COUNCILMEMBERS: Surber, Uerkwitz; Mayor  
Miller. (Not prepared to  
vote on such a walk-in  
item.)

26. Councilwoman Geissert recommended that 5:30 P.M. Council meetings be eliminated, and that, from the standpoint of convenience to all, all meetings be held at 7:00 P.M.

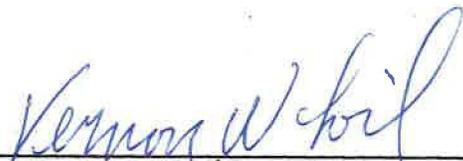
Strong disagreement was expressed by Mayor Miller -- concurrence with the present arrangement was generally indicated by the rest of the Council, and no formal action was taken.

27. The marriage of his son on October 19th was announced, with much pride, by Councilman Surber.

28. Mayor Miller revised the October 23rd date for the Chamber of Commerce meeting with industrial representatives to November 20th.

The meeting was regularly adjourned at 6:15 P.M.

# # #

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

APPROVED:

  
Mayor of the City of Torrance