

I N D E XCity Council - December 17, 1974

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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 17, 1974, at 5:30 P.M. in the Council Chambers at Torrance City Hall.

2. ROLL CALL:

Present: Councilwoman Geissert; Councilmen Armstrong, Uerkwitz, Wilson, and Mayor Miller. Councilman Brewster arrived at 6:20 P.M. Absent: Councilman Surber.

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

3. FLAG SALUTE:

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

4. INVOCATION:

The invocation was given by Reverend Lloyd Warneke, Ascension Lutheran Church.

STANDARD MOTIONS:

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilman Armstrong moved to approve the minutes of November 19, 1974, as recorded. His motion was seconded by Councilwoman Geissert, and carried, with roll call vote as follows:

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS: Armstrong, Geissert, Wilson;  
Mayor Miller.

NOES: COUNCILMEMBERS: None.

ABSTAIN: COUNCILMEMBERS: Uerkwitz (not received by him).

ABSENT: COUNCILMEMBERS: Brewster (had not yet arrived at the meeting); Surber.

6. APPROVAL OF DEMANDS:

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

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7. MOTION TO WAIVE FURTHER READING:

Councilman Uerkwitz 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 Armstrong, and was unanimously approved by roll call vote (Councilman Brewster had not yet arrived at the meeting; Councilman Surber absent).

8. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS:Legislative Liaison Committee:

Will be in Sacramento on December 18th to meet with officials to discuss general programs and objectives of the City in State legislation.

PROCLAMATIONS:9. DAY OF HOPE AND UNIFICATION - December 23, 1974.

So proclaimed by Mayor Miller.

STREETS AND SIDEWALKS:10. REPORT OF COST OF CONSTRUCTION, CURB, GUTTER, SIDEWALK AND DRIVEWAYS PER CHAPTER 27, 1911 ACT (73-7, 74-1, 74-2).RECOMMENDATION OF CITY ENGINEER:

That the City Council set 6:00 P.M. on January 7, 1975 in the Council Chambers, Torrance City Hall, as the time and place for the hearing on the Report of Construction Costs for the referenced project.

MOTION: Councilman Uerkwitz moved to concur with the above recommendation of the City Engineer. His motion was seconded by Councilman Armstrong, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Brewster had not yet arrived at the meeting; Councilman Surber absent).

Items 11, 25, and 30 were considered together, in the following order:

ROUTINE MATTERS:30. FINAL TRACT NO. 31331 (1st Unit of Tract 26507)

Subdivider: Rolling Hills Vista (K. Battram and R.A. Watt)  
 Engineer: Lanco Engineering  
 Location: South of Winlock Road between Hawthorne Blvd.  
 and Crenshaw Blvd.  
 No. of Lots: 73

RECOMMENDATION OF CITY ENGINEER/PLANNING DIRECTOR:

That subject final tract map be approved as amended.

MOTION: Councilman Wilson moved to concur with the recommendation of the City Engineer and Planning Director. The motion was seconded by Councilman Armstrong, and roll vote was as follows:

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS: Armstrong, Uerkwitz, Wilson;  
Mayor Miller.  
NOES: COUNCILMEMBERS: None at this time. \*\*  
ABSTAIN: COUNCILMEMBERS: Geissert (was not a member of the  
Council when preliminary tract  
map and zone change was approved).  
ABSENT: COUNCILMEMBERS: Brewster--had not yet arrived at  
the meeting\*\*;  
Surber.

(\*\*Later in the meeting, on his arrival, Councilman Brewster cast a "NO" vote on this item -- See Page 11.

STREETS AND SIDEWALKS:

11. RESOLUTION authorizing the vacation of Madison Street in Block 12, Walteria.

RESOLUTION NO. 74-272

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF TORRANCE ORDERING THE VACATION  
OF THOSE CERTAIN EASEMENTS FOR STREET  
AND HIGHWAY PURPOSES BEING A PORTION OF  
BLOCK 12, WALTERIA, IN THE CITY OF  
TORRANCE.

Councilman Armstrong moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 74-272. His motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and carried, with roll call vote as follows:

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS: Armstrong, Uerkwitz, Wilson;  
Mayor Miller.  
NOES: COUNCILMEMBERS: None at this time.\*\*  
ABSTAIN: COUNCILMEMBERS: Geissert (for above stated reason).  
ABSENT: COUNCILMEMBERS: Brewster--had not yet arrived at  
the meeting\*\*;  
Surber.

(\*\*On his arrival at the meeting, Councilman Brewster recorded a "NO" vote on Item #11 -- See Page 11.

MOTION: Councilman Wilson moved to concur with the recommendation of the City Engineer that the City Council initiate the vacation and waive the fee. The motion was seconded by Councilman Armstrong, and carried, as follows:

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS: Armstrong, Uerkwitz, Wilson;  
Mayor Miller.  
NOES: COUNCILMEMBERS: None at this time.\*\*  
ABSTAIN: COUNCILMEMBERS: Geissert (for above stated reason).  
ABSENT: COUNCILMEMBERS: Brewster--had not yet arrived at  
the meeting\*\*;  
Surber.

(A "NO" vote was recorded by Councilman Brewster on his arrival at the meeting - - See Page 11.

PLANNING AND ZONING MATTERS:

25. ORDINANCE re: ZC 72-10, Phillip Nicholson.

ORDINANCE NO. 2536

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 NORTH OF ROLLING HILLS ESTATES BOUNDARY BETWEEN HAWTHORNE BOULEVARD AND CRENSHAW BOULEVARD, ALSO IDENTIFIED AS PHASE I OF TT 26507 AND ZC 72-10 (Phillip Nicholson).

Councilman Wilson moved for the approval of Ordinance No. 2536 at its first reading. His motion was seconded by Councilman Armstrong, and carried, with roll call vote as follows:

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS: Armstrong, Uerkwitz, Wilson;  
Mayor Miller.  
NOES: COUNCILMEMBERS: None at this time.\*\*  
ABSTAIN: COUNCILMEMBERS: Geissert (for above stated reason).  
ABSENT: COUNCILMEMBERS: Brewster--had not yet arrived  
at the meeting\*\*;  
Surber.

(\*\*On his arrival at the meeting, Councilman Brewster recorded a "NO" vote on Item #25 -- See Page 11.

# # #

REAL PROPERTY:

12. DONATION OF LAND BY HARRY KISSEL, SR.

LAND MANAGEMENT TEAM RECOMMENDATION:

That Council accept the donation of Parcels A and B from Harry Kissel, Sr., and direct the City Manager to give Mr. Kissel a letter stating the estimated market value of the donated parcels.

MOTION: Councilman Uerkwitz moved to concur with the above recommendation of the Land Management Team. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Geissert, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Brewster had not yet arrived at the meeting; Councilman Surber absent).

It was the recommendation of Councilman Armstrong who so MOVED: That it be the policy of this Council that the subject parcels be maintained as Public Open Space. The motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Brewster had not yet arrived at the meeting; Councilman Surber absent).

TRANSPORTATION MATTERS:13. BUS TASK SYSTEM FORCE REPORT.TRAFFIC COMMISSION/DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
RECOMMENDATION:

That the City Council adopt the following recommendations:

1. That the Department work toward the goals of: system improvement and increased efficiency for the Torrance Transit System.
2. That the Department submit a semi-annual progress report to the Traffic Commission, with copies for the Council.
3. That each member of the Bus System Task Force be given recognition of their unselfish efforts to improve our community. After consultation with the City Clerk, Staff recommends that this recognition be in the form of the official "Certificate of Appreciation".

MOTION: Councilman Armstrong moved to concur with the above stated recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Brewster had not yet arrived at the meeting; Councilman Surber absent.)

It was the request of Councilman Uerkwitz that the matter of the use of mini-buses within the City of Torrance be reopened, in view of their success in the Los Angeles area. Concurrence was voiced by Councilwoman Geissert; hopefully, future Community Development funds could be used for this and like purposes.

FISCAL MATTERS:14. RESOLUTION authorizing the appointment of an independent auditor.RESOLUTION NO. 74-273

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF  
THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND  
DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO  
EXECUTE AND ATTEST THAT CERTAIN AGREE-  
MENT BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY OF  
TORRANCE AND DIEHL, EVANS & COMPANY  
FOR AUDITING SERVICES.

Councilwoman Geissert moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 74-273. Her motion was seconded by Councilman Uerkwitz, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Brewster had not yet arrived at the meeting; Councilman Surber absent).

15. RESOLUTION re: Comprehensive Employment and Training Act.RESOLUTION NO. 74-274

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF TORRANCE ACCEPTING FUNDING FROM  
THE FEDERAL DEPARTMENT OF LABOR UNDER

TITLE I AND TITLE II OF THE COMPRE-  
HENSIVE EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ACT.

Councilman Wilson moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 74-274. His motion, seconded by Councilman Armstrong, was unanimously approved by roll call vote (Councilman Brewster had not yet arrived at the meeting; Councilman Surber absent).

16. RESOLUTION re: Comprehensive Employment and Training Act - On-the-Job Training Programs.

RESOLUTION NO. 74-275

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE AND ATTEST THAT CERTAIN CONTRACT BETWEEN THE CITY OF TORRANCE AND TEXLON CORPORATION AND EXCELLON INDUSTRIES TO INITIATE ON-THE-JOB TRAINING PROGRAMS.

Councilman Uerkwitz moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 74-275. His motion was seconded by Councilwoman Geissert, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Brewster had not yet arrived at the meeting; Councilman Surber absent).

AIRPORT MATTERS:

17. RESOLUTION authorizing an easement grant to Southern California Edison Company on Torrance Airport property.

RESOLUTION NO. 74-276

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE AND ATTEST A GRANT OF EASEMENT (UNDERGROUND) TO SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON COMPANY FOR PLACEMENT OF FACILITIES ON TORRANCE AIRPORT PROPERTY.

Councilman Wilson moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 74-276; his motion was seconded by Councilwoman Geissert, and carried, with roll call vote as follows:

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS: Armstrong, Geissert, Wilson;  
Mayor Miller.  
NOES: COUNCILMEMBERS: None.  
ABSTAIN: COUNCILMEMBERS: Uerkwitz (this matter not clear  
to him).  
ABSENT: COUNCILMEMBERS: Brewster (had not yet arrived  
at the meeting);  
Surber.

PARK AND RECREATION:

18. Resolution authorizing withdrawal of application for 1974 State Park Bond Funds originally planned to be used for land acquisition in connection with the Madrona Wildlife Park and authorizing the reapplication for the funds to be used for the planning and first phase development of the Charles H. Wilson Community Park.

Staff presentations were made by Park and Recreation Director Van Bellehem and City Manager Ferraro, elaborating on the December 5th communication which outlined the basis for this decision.

There was general Council review of the two worthy projects, the availability of Wilson Park, funding pressures, time elements, the status of revenue sharing funds, projections for Community Development funds, etc.

(Councilman Brewster arrived at this point in the meeting, the hour being 6:20 P.M.)

Comments from the audience were invited by Mayor Miller.

First to speak was Mr. Sam Suitt, 1745 Maple Avenue, representing Friends of Madrona Marsh, who reviewed forthcoming legislation which might benefit their cause, the efforts which have gone into this project, etc. Mr. Suitt stated that "to withdraw our application for the bond act allocations at this point is to announce to the world that the City of Torrance and the Department of Park and Recreation do not, in fact, back the project as advertised, and thus virtually destroy any hope of saving the Marsh and insures its destruction."

Mr. Max Grabelja, 25829 Appian Way, suggested that the Marsh property be used as a State park.

Representing New Horizons, Mr. Bill Fillio stated that the transfer of funds to another project, however worthy it may appear, will diminish the prospects for a unique facility like Madrona Marsh.

The president of the League of Women Voters, Mrs. Janet Pryor stated their opinion that the withdrawing of the 1974 State Bond funds from the Madrona Wildlife Park project at this time would be a very damaging move to the hopes of the Park's reality. Mrs. Pryor acknowledged the City's "funding dilemma" -- however, it is felt that the Madrona Wildlife Park should be at least given a chance for success. It was further noted by her that the withdrawal of these funds will imply to those interested in the project that there is no hope for it.

Continuing, Mrs. Pryor stated that the League does not feel that the City should give up the application for the Federal Land and Water Conservation Funds with only one try, it being recommended by them that the application should be resubmitted next year which would coincide with the timing of the City study of this area. In conclusion, "give the Madrona Wildlife Park a chance during the coming year while the study is being completed."

Mrs. Eileen Kurtz, 5105 Carol Drive, concurred with the foregoing comments by Mrs. Pryor -- it is not a good idea to change the application at this time; give them a year.

The last speaker was Mr. James Van Oppen, 23648 Susanna Avenue, who stated his opinion that the Madrona Marsh concept is an extremely worthy project and one that should receive the utmost attention of the Council.

At the request of Mayor Miller, City Clerk Coil read title to the subject resolution:

RESOLUTION NO. 74-277

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING THE WITHDRAWAL OF AN APPLICATION OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE FOR 1974 STATE PARK BOND FUNDS ORIGINALLY PLANNED TO BE USED FOR LAND ACQUISITION IN CONNECTION WITH THE MADRONA WILDLIFE PARK AND AUTHORIZING THE REAPPLICATION FOR THE FUNDS TO BE USED FOR THE PLANNING AND FIRST PHASE DEVELOPMENT OF THE CHARLES H. WILSON COMMUNITY PARK.

Council discussion ensued, prior to taking action on the above resolution. It was the opinion of Councilman Armstrong that the choice to use the money in the above stated direction necessarily means that the other project is doomed -- Mr. Armstrong stated that he would support the recommendation of Staff, and he will continue to support maximum efforts in other directions to bring the Marsh into reality.

Action at this time was deemed premature by Councilman Wilson in view of decisions yet to be made regarding the Community Development Act funds -- it was his recommendation that this matter be held for three weeks. Concurrence was voiced by Councilman Brewster who felt that the wisest course would be additional time when certain things would occur and result in "better visibility".

Mayor Miller reaffirmed his strong feelings regarding the Charles H. Wilson Park, deeming it his No. 1 Priority, and that what is proposed is the inevitable route which must be taken. The long range aspects of Madrona Marsh were pointed out by the Mayor, as was the "here and now" aspect of Wilson Park.

The substantial financial needs surrounding Madrona Marsh were noted by Councilman Uerkwitz who likewise deemed Wilson Park a No. 1 Priority for the citizens of Torrance and of far more value than Madrona Marsh with "bird watching" and like activities. Mr. Uerkwitz acknowledged that he is not too fond of the funding arrangement of either project, but "the wise thing for the City of Torrance to do is to move on the one that we have."

It was the further comment of Councilman Wilson that this is a critical time insofar as Madrona Marsh is concerned -- to act on the subject resolution at this time would not only deflate

those individuals who have worked so hard to this point but could affect future funding.

Council discussion ensued on the varied considerations of this proposed action, and the following action resulted.

MOTION: Councilman Uerkwitz moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 74-277. His motion was seconded by Councilman Armstrong.

A SUBSTITUTE MOTION was offered by Councilman Wilson: That this matter be held for at least three weeks. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Geissert, but failed to carry, with a tie vote as follows:

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

Roll call vote on the main motion, which likewise failed to carry because of a tie vote, was as follows:

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

In order to break the tie, Mayor Miller MOVED that this item be held for three weeks. The motion was seconded by Councilman Armstrong, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Absent: Councilman Surber).

POLICE OPERATIONS:

19. RESOLUTION re: Funding for South Bay Regional (Anti) Burglary Team.

RESOLUTION NO. 74-277

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF  
 THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA,  
 AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF AN APPLICA-  
 TION ON BEHALF OF THE SOUTH BAY  
 REGIONAL BURGLARY TEAM.

Councilman Uerkwitz moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 74-277. His motion, seconded by Councilman Wilson, was unanimously approved by roll call vote (Councilman Surber absent).

FIRE OPERATIONS:

20. RE-POWERING OF VEHICLE #108 WITH A DIESEL ENGINE.

RECOMMENDATION OF FIRE CHIEF:

That Council approve an appropriation of \$13,783.00 from the Federal Revenue Sharing Fund Reserve, as a one time expenditure, for the purpose of re-powering Vehicle #108 (1961 LaFrance Pumper) with a diesel engine.

MOTION: Councilman Armstrong moved to concur with the above recommendation of Fire Chief Slonecker. The motion was seconded by Councilman Uerkwitz, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Surber absent).

WATER SYSTEM:

21. AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR WALTERIA PRESSURE ZONE IMPROVEMENTS PER ASSESSMENT DISTRICT 11-72-1.

RESOLUTION NO. 74-278

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL AWARDING THE CONTRACT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF CERTAIN IMPROVEMENTS IN ASSESSMENT DISTRICT 11-72-1 (WALTERIA PRESSURE ZONE IMPROVEMENTS).

Councilman Wilson moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 74-278. His motion, seconded by Councilman Uerkwitz, was unanimously approved by roll call vote (Councilman Surber absent).

MOTION: Councilman Wilson moved to concur with the recommendation of the Water System Manager that the contract be awarded to Sully-Miller Contracting Company and all other bids rejected. The motion was seconded by Councilman Armstrong, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Surber absent).

PERSONNEL MATTERS:

22. ORDINANCE removing residence requirement for City Code.

ORDINANCE NO. 2537

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE REPEALING SECTION 14.1.4 OF CHAPTER 4, DIVISION 1 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE AND SECTION 1 OF RULE V OF THE CIVIL SERVICE RULES AND REGULATIONS AND ADDING A NEW SECTION 14.1.4.

Councilman Armstrong moved for the approval of Ordinance No. 2537 at its first reading. His motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable\*\*\* (Councilman Surber absent).

(\*\*\*Councilman Uerkwitz later changed his vote to "no"; see Page 12.)

23. PROPOSED REVISION OF MEDICAL STANDARDS FOR POLICE OFFICER.

RECOMMENDATION OF CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION.

That Council adopt the revised Medical Standards for Police Officer.

MOTION: Councilman Armstrong moved to concur with the recommendation of the Civil Service Commission. His motion, seconded by Councilman Wilson, was unanimously approved by roll call vote (Councilman Surber absent).

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PLANNING AND ZONING MATTERS:

24. RESOLUTION granting CUP 74-53, JIM STEWART ENTERPRISES, INC.

RESOLUTION NO. 74-279

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE GRANTING A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT TO ALLOW THE OPERATION OF A MOTORCYCLE SALES AND REPAIR FACILITY ON PROPERTY LOCATED IN THE C-2 ZONE ON THE WEST SIDE OF HAWTHORNE BOULEVARD APPROXIMATELY 150 FEET SOUTH OF 182ND STREET (18225 HAWTHORNE BOULEVARD) (CUP 74-53 (EA 74-116) - JIM STEWART ENTERPRISES.

Councilman Uerkwitz moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 74-279. His motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Surber absent).

25. ORDINANCE re: ZC 72-10, Phillip Nicholson.

Heard earlier in the meeting -- See Page 4.

HEARINGS - PLANNING AND ZONING:

26. V66-17, SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF SEVENTH DAY ADVENTISTS (SOUTH BAY JUNIOR ACADEMY). Request for a modification of a Variance to allow the expansion of an existing school, located at 4400 Del Amo 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. His motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Surber absent).

MOTION: Councilman Wilson moved to concur with the recommendation of the Planning Commission for approval of the requested modification, subject to certain conditions. The motion was seconded by Councilman Armstrong, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Surber absent).

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Re: Items 11, 25 and 30:

Councilman Brewster requested that the record reflect a "NO" vote for him on Items 11, 25, and 30.

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Consideration returned to:

ITEM #22 - ORDINANCE re: residence requirement. (Reference Page 10)

City Attorney Remelmeyer clarified that Proposition 5 does not mandate repeal of the durational residence requirement -- Proposition 5 states that employees cannot be required to be residents of the City, but it does not say that you cannot require residence as a pre-condition of employment. It was further noted by Mr. Remelmeyer that the cover letter on this item indicates that one necessarily follows the other, and such is not the case.

Following the above clarification, Councilman Uerkwitz requested that his vote on Ordinance No. 2537 be changed to "NO".

# # #

The hour being 7:10 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 Surber absent). The Council returned to its agenda at 7:11 P.M.

# # #

Taken at this time, out of order:

ROUTINE MATTERS:

28. EXPENDITURES OVER \$300:

RECOMMENDATION OF FINANCE DIRECTOR:

That Council approve the following purchases:

A. BUDGETED ITEMS:

1. \$599.10 to Tell Steel Company for various size and shape steel as requested by the City Garage for necessary repairs to the paint booth. This requirement was a request from Los Angeles County Air Pollution Control Agency.
2. \$757.90 to Western Highway Products for 100 traffic sign posts as requested by the Department of Transportation for stock.
3. \$742.00 to Sandler Brother for 1,000 pounds of first grade quality "wiping rags" as requested by the City Custodian for stock.
4. \$757.45 to Oranco Supply for various sprinkler parts as requested by the Park and Recreation Department for use at the Civic Center Plunge area.
5. \$333.30 to South Bay Business Forms for 11,000 fire reporting forms as requested by the Fire Department.
6. \$395.21 to Johnny Gillette Tire Company for tire services as requested by the City Garage.

7. \$1,431.00 to Doberman Press of Torrance for the printing of 300 copies of the "Housing Element" as requested by the Planning Department.
8. \$352.55 to GMC Truck and Coach for various GMC repair parts as requested by the City Garage.
9. Omitted.
10. \$1,664.70 to Doubleday and Company for 43 subscription renewals.
11. \$309.94 to Random House for 41 library books.
12. \$538.28 to Institute of Business Planning, Inc. for renewal of various financial planning subscriptions.
13. \$1,511.19 to Baker & Taylor Company for 144 library books.

29. NOTICE OF COMPLETION - Construction of Catch Basins and Laterals in Earl Street south of Maricopa Street and south of Spencer Street (B74-50).

RECOMMENDATION OF CITY ENGINEER:

That the work be accepted and final payment be made to the contractor, S&S Construction.

30. Final Tract No. 31331 (1st Unit of Tract 26507).

Heard earlier in the meeting -- See Page 2.

31. RELEASE OF OIL WELL BOND NO. 400 CU 5978

RECOMMENDATION OF LICENSE SUPERVISOR:

That Oil Well Bond No. 400 CU 5978 be terminated.

32. CLAIM of Emily Roselli for property damages.

33. CLAIM of John H. Ostopoulos for property damages.

RECOMMENDATION OF CITY CLERK:

That the above claims on Items 32 and 33 be DENIED and referred to the City Attorney. The insurance carrier concurs with the above action.

MOTION: Councilman Wilson moved to concur with Staff recommendations on agenda items #28, 29, 31, 32, and #33. The motion was seconded by Councilman Armstrong, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Surber absent).

At 7:15 P.M., Councilman Uerkwitz moved to recess for the purpose of an Executive Session to discuss hours, wages, 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 (Councilman Surber absent).

The Council returned at 7:45 P.M., and took the following action:

ADDENDUM ITEM:

34. ORDINANCE re: Employment Compensation, Torrance Fire Fighters Association, Local 1138 IAFF.

ORDINANCE NO. 2535

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE REPEALING PART II OF THE CHAPTER 7, DIVISION 1 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE GOVERNING EMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION PROVISIONS FOR EMPLOYEES REPRESENTED BY THE TORRANCE FIRE FIGHTERS ASSOCIATION, LOCAL 1138 IAFF, AND ADDING A NEW PART II TO CHAPTER 7, DIVISION 1 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE RELATING TO THE SAME SUBJECT.

Councilman Uerkwitz moved for the approval of Ordinance No. 2535 at its first reading. His motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Absent: Councilman Surber).

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HEARINGS OTHER THAN PLANNING AND ZONING:

27. 1974 HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ACT.

Mayor Miller stated that this is the time and place for the hearing on the 1974 Housing and Community Development Act. City Clerk Coil presented the Affidavit of Publication, and it was ordered filed, there being no objection.

At the request of Mayor Miller, the following presentations were made by Team Members:

1. Historical Summary - Mr. Meyer.
2. Housing Assistance - Mr. Warot
3. General Plan - Mr. Gomez.
4. General Plan - expressing needs - Mr. Karcic.

Mayor Miller then announced that the hearing is open to the public, and invited those persons who wished to speak, urging that the City not participate in the 1974 Housing and Community Development Program, do so at this time. These speakers, and the general highlights of their comments, were as follows:

Mr. Arthur Nelson, 3013 Antonio Street: The problems of record with HUD should discourage participation in this program -- "we are getting in a quagmire that we can't get out of."

Mr. Lowell Lyle, 17016 Atkinson Avenue: Torrance does not need the money, and the program will only serve to increase taxes both nationally and locally. Further, the Housing Act is completely discriminatory, in his opinion.

Mrs. Rachel Meyer, 21233 Kent Avenue: Excessive government spending is the cause of present economic ills, and "this is not the time to be scratching our heads, finding new ways to spend our money." Hopefully, this Council, as elected officials, will turn over a new leaf and start showing some fiscal responsibility to the citizens they serve, thereby encouraging others in far away governmental places to do the same.

Mr. Virgil Badlich, 2516 Cabrillo: He is opposed to the program for the reason that "before the Federal Government can give, it has to take -- what the Federal Government finances today, the Federal Government owns tomorrow."

Mr. Dick Rossburg, president, Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce: The Board is opposed to the proposed type of grant with Federal funds, particularly in this period of national financial stress, unprecedented inflation, unbearable tax burdens, and the largest national debt in history. If the City does seek the funds, per Mr. Rossburg, then the Board urged that there be consideration for the Charles H. Wilson Park.

There being no further speakers in opposition to the program, Mayor Miller invited comments from those who support the program.

Mr. David Rankin, representing the Park and Recreation Commission: It is the recommendation of the Commission (1) that the City participate in the 1974 Housing and Community Development Act; (2) that a "fair share" of the monies and resources obtained under this Act be allocated the Park and Recreation Department; and (3) that monies be used for the development of existing park land, such as: 20 acres undeveloped land at Entradero; needed community buildings at Hickory, Lago Seco, La Romeria Parks; a senior citizens center at McMaster Park, along with use of the fire station as an auxiliary building; second phase development for Sur La Brea Park; and necessary refurbishing of Torrance Park.

Mr. James Burger, representing the Human Resources Commission: There was reaffirmation of their position on needed child care centers, the use of Title II funds for housing assistance for the handicapped and elderly, and the funding of a Human Resources Coordinator in the City.

Mr. Albert Posner, representing the Historical Society: In order to preserve both past and contemporary history of the City of Torrance, it is requested that consideration be given an oral history project via tape recording the voices of citizens who can contribute to this history.

Mr. Frank Macey, 343 Palos Verdes Boulevard, representing the South Bay Childrens Health Center: The acute need for child guidance and care in the community was pointed out; hopefully, there can be funding in this area.

Father O'Gorman, St. James Church: There should be thought given housing assistance for the elderly.

Mr. Tom Wilson, representing Fine Arts Commission: It is their recommendation that consideration be given completion of the Joslyn Center and the use of vacant school sites which might be used for fine arts purposes.

Mrs. Janet Pryor, president, Torrance League of Women Voters: The League favors acceptance of the funds, which funds will take care of locally determined needs. Mrs. Pryor added their findings that the Housing Assistance Plan should include a referral service; there should be concern for young families, as well as the elderly; there should be development of a Public Social Services program; etc. It was the League's further recommendation that the summary of projects be referred to an appropriate Council Committee.

Mrs. Janet Switzer, Switzer Center for Educational Therapy: Their need to expand and upgrade their building was reaffirmed; also noted were the financial difficulties faced by this non-profit Center.

Mrs. Dee Hardison, representing SETHA: Their concern surrounds the development of neighborhood parks, particularly Sur La Brea Park.

Mr. Ellery Adams, 2808 West 232nd Street, president, Marble Estates Homeowners Association: There should be additional emphasis on parks and open space in the recommended first priority projects.

Mrs. Vivienne Jay, 205 Vista del Sol: She would favor park development, and recommended review of figures quoted in that they seem in excess of what is needed.

Mrs. Barbara Mitchell, 5525 Wilma Street: It was her recommendation that the funds be accepted and used to upgrade the deplorable deterioration of downtown Torrance, with specific note of needed upgrading for the Switzer Center in light of its value to the community, based on her personal experience.

Mr. John LeResche, president, Torrance Heights Civic Association: It was their request that the south side of Sepulveda (opposite the Del Amo Shopping Center) be added to the residential buffering item under Public Works Projects, and that it be made a first priority.

Mr. Ed Brown, Torrance Unified School District: They are interested in developing a program for the older adults within the Torrance community; hopefully, working cooperatively with and through the City, a comprehensive program can be developed.

Ms. Tommy Hiatt, president, Board of Directors, YWCA: Assistance for their extended day care services and the pre-school day care center was requested -- the need is very real, per Ms. Hiatt.

Ms. Janice Lingren, child development director, YWCA: Child care needs were described by her, with specific note of the need for a bus for children at the YWCA facilities, and a pre-school child care program.

Mr. Henry Nowicki, chairman, Torrance Oil Board: It was the unanimous recommendation of the Oil Board that the City participate in the 1974 Housing and Community Development Act.

Mr. Ray Ragsdale, Human Needs Center, 1437 El Prado: Upgrading of downtown Torrance was recommended -- specifically requested was support of the Center's "Meals-on-Wheels" program and like humanitarian activities.

Mr. Andy Meyer, 4347 West 177th Street: The need for improved traffic arteries in the City was of concern to Mr. Meyer.

Mrs. Meri Jo McMullen, 23725 Cabrillo: Rather than the "scatter gun approach" for these funds, the criteria for the 1974 Housing and Community Development Act can be completely met by the downtown Torrance area -- an area in dire need of the assistance provided by this Act. It can begin, per Mrs. McMullen, with the creation of a modern, pedestrian-oriented shopping mall in the commercial area; renewed public facilities such as water mains, sewers, sidewalks, etc.; upgrading the streets and re-channeling traffic; etc. -- a total revitalization of the entire downtown Torrance area.

Mrs. Betty Shapiro, 4610 Avenue C, representing California Association for the Physically Handicapped, and the "Indoor Sports": Reviewed by her were the architectural barriers for the physically handicapped, with the request that these needs be met with funds made available.

Mr. Richard DeArmitt, 5102 Pacific Coast Highway: Support of City participation -- and accomplishment of the many worthwhile projects enumerated at this meeting -- was expressed by Mr. DeArmitt.

Mr. Stanley Dunn, 505 Via La Selva: Mr. Dunn urged that the City make application for the Community Development funds, it being his recommendation that the funds be spent primarily for major capital improvements, rather than for on-going programs.

Fire Chief Slonecker: Projects submitted to the Council having to do with public safety for the City of Torrance were outlined: Fire Detection Alarm Devices to be installed in the homes of senior citizens and physically handicapped people; a public fire safety education program; and improvement of the emergency Paramedic service in the City.

Police Chief Nash: It is hoped to expand existing programs -- Youth Services Center, Police Community Relations Program for the elderly and underprivileged, and Diversion Program to include adults in addition to juveniles.

Building and Safety Director McKinnon: Concurrence with the need for Fire Detection Alarm Devices was indicated by Mr. McKinnon who deemed it the most beneficial thing which could be done for the elderly and the handicapped. It was his further recommendation that the City join in a Seismic Monitoring Station which will provide

valuable scientific evidence which, hopefully, can be used to predict earthquakes. Further desired use of the funds would be for the identification of high risk structures, particularly directed to the downtown Torrance area. Mr. McKinnon also acknowledged the need for attention to the matter of architectural barriers in City buildings.

City Manager Ferraro reviewed the proceedings to date and those to follow, it being recommended that specific Councilmanic action pertaining to the Grant Application and the filing thereof if that be the decision -- if yes, a determination regarding the projects and the type of Housing Assistance Plan -- should transpire at the Council meeting of December 23rd.

It was the further recommendation of City Manager Ferraro that the Team will be directed to analyze the suggestions presented this date, rework those projects which have been already suggested, and then prepare a balanced budget within the six program areas. There were no objections, and it was so ordered.

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

MOTION: Councilman Armstrong moved to continue the subject matter until Monday, December 23, 1974, a 6:00 P.M. meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Uerkwitz, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Surber absent).

Mayor Miller commended the audience for their courteous, patient participation in these lengthy deliberations, and thanked all present for this display, on behalf of the entire Council.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

35. City Manager Ferraro expressed appreciation to the Team for their hard work and dedicated efforts in the presentation of the 1974 Housing and Community Development Act.

36. A petition from 50 property owners in the vicinity of Yukon and 171st Street who desire a sidewalk was referred to Staff by Councilman Wilson.

37. Mr. Neal Aronson, 16718 Ermanita, returned with yet another complaint regarding his trash pickup -- Staff was directed to continue to try to resolve this matter, "BAG IT" being the informal consensus of the Council.

At 10:35 P.M., Councilman Uerkwitz moved to adjourn to Monday, December 23, 1974, at 6:00 P.M. The motion was seconded by Councilman Armstrong, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Surber absent).

# # #

Ava Cripe  
Minute Secretary

18. City Council  
December 17, 1974

APPROVED:

Ken Miller  
Mayor of the City of Torrance

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