

I N D E X

City Council - March 18, 1975

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Adjourned at 10:30 P.M.

# # #

March 18, 1975

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, March 18, 1975, 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: City Manager Ferraro, Assistant City Manager Scharfman, City Attorney Remelmeyer, City Clerk Coil, and City Treasurer Rupert.

3. FLAG SALUTE:

The flag salute was led by the members of Girl Scout Troop #1082.

4. INVOCATION:

Reverend LeRoy Brandes, Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, provided the invocation for the meeting.

STANDARD MOTIONS:

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilman Uerkwitz moved for the approval of the minutes of February 25, 1975, as recorded. His motion was seconded by Councilwoman Geissert, 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 Brewster, was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

7. MOTION TO WAIVE FURTHER READING:

Councilman Brewster 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 Councilmember the right to 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.

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8. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS.

Ad Hoc Committee on Appointed Groups:  
Met this date - report forthcoming to Council.

Police, Fire and Public Safety:  
Will next meet on March 25th at 6:00 P.M. re: theater license ordinance.

Transportation Committee:  
Will meet on April 3rd at 5:00 P.M. re: speed zone on Anza Avenue.

Ad Hoc Committee re: Oil Well Safety, Sur La Brea Park Area: In view of revised recommendations from SETHA, another meeting will be held for review of same -- also noted was the pending recommendation from the Oil Board.

Finance Committee:  
Met on March 14th re: self-insurance -- report forthcoming to the Council.

PRESENTATIONS:9. COMMISSIONERS' SERVICE TO THE CITY.

Mayor Miller expressed appreciation for the dedicated service of the following former Commissioners, with presentations by him and Councilman Surber as follows:

Certificates of Appreciation: Clifford Brown, Jeff Tasker, Ralph Grippo, Charles Fulton, Fred Mill, and Eunice Hargrove.

Tile Plaques: Ellen Ruzek, James Rea, and James Latteri.

10. RESOLUTION EXPRESSING GRATITUDE TO THE FRIENDS OF SHERRY BREEDLOVE.

Mayor Miller conveyed the Council's appreciation to all those people who displayed meaningful acts of humanitarianism in the care and concern for the late Sherry Breedlove by way of a perma-plaques resolution extolling these deeds. There was grateful acceptance by Mrs. Sandy Frankenberg.

COMMENDATIONS:11. RESOLUTION commending Torrance Firefighter/Paramedic Ronald A. Power for creation of Emergency Burn Treatment Kit.RESOLUTION NO. 75-44

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF  
THE CITY OF TORRANCE COMMENDING  
TORRANCE FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDIC  
RONALD A. POWER FOR CREATION OF  
EMERGENCY BURN TREATMENT KIT.

Councilman Uerkwitz moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 75-44. His motion was seconded by Councilman Surber, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

It was the request of Councilman Uerkwitz that Staff investigate the possibility of reimbursement to Firefighter/Paramedic Power for his out-of-pocket expenses in the development of this kit.

STREETS AND SIDEWALKS:

12. RESOLUTIONS re: Construction of curbs, gutters, sidewalks and driveways at various locations - Short Form 1911 Act, 75-1, 75-2.

RESOLUTION NO. 75-45

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE DIRECTING THE CITY ENGINEER TO GIVE NOTICE TO THE OWNERS OF THE PROPERTY AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS ON 182ND STREET, AS SHOWN ON ATTACHED SKETCH, ENTITLED CHAPTER 27, 1911 ACT (75-1) TO CONSTRUCT CERTAIN STREET IMPROVEMENTS AND SETTING A TIME AND PLACE OF HEARING THEREON.

Councilman Surber moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 75-45. His motion, seconded by Councilman Wilson, was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 75-46

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE DIRECTING THE CITY ENGINEER TO GIVE NOTICE TO THE OWNERS OF THE PROPERTY AT 3446 171ST STREET, AS SHOWN ON THE ATTACHED SKETCH, ENTITLED CHAPTER 27, 1911 ACT (75-2) TO CONSTRUCT CERTAIN STREET IMPROVEMENTS AND SETTING A TIME AND PLACE OF HEARING THEREON.

Councilman Armstrong moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 75-46. His motion was seconded by Councilwoman Geissert, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

BUILDINGS, STRUCTURES AND SIGNS:

13. REQUEST TO DISPLAY BANNER ON PEDESTRIAN OVERPASS.  
("ARTS AND CRAFTS FAIR")

MOTION: Councilman Uerkwitz moved to concur with the request of the Newton Middle School P.T.A. to display a banner on the pedestrian overpass on Pacific Coast Highway from April 1st through April 20th, 1975. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Geissert, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

FISCAL MATTERS:

14. RESOLUTION re: On-The-Job Training Programs with Regal Precision, Inc.; I X L Printing Service; Torrance Brake and Wheel Alignment Company; and KAAG of California, a Division of AVNET Corporation.

RESOLUTION NO. 75-47

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 CONTRACTS BETWEEN THE CITY OF TORRANCE AND REGAL PRECISION, INC.; I X L PRINTING SERVICE; TORRANCE BRAKE AND WHEEL ALIGNMENT COMPANY; AND KAAG OF CALIFORNIA, A DIVISION OF AVNET CORPORATION.

Councilwoman Geissert moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 75-47. Her motion was seconded by Councilman Armstrong, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

AIRPORT MATTERS:

15. CASE NO. M74-3 - Torrance Mounted Posse application for Rodeo Site.

RECOMMENDATION OF DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION/  
AIRPORT COMMISSION:

That the request of the Torrance Mounted Posse for use of Airport land for its 1975 Rodeo be approved, subject to:

1. Airport operational and agricultural conditions.
2. Other City departments having jurisdiction.
3. City Attorney's approval as to form.
4. The conditions as to the conduct of the Rodeo on City premises (Airport) as may be set forth by the Director of Transportation.

FINANCE NOTE:

Past Council approval has included waiving the land rental, a \$590 business license carnival fee, and a \$1,000 cleaning deposit.

MOTION: Councilman Surber moved to concur with the above stated recommendations of the Department of Transportation, Airport Commission, and Finance Director. The motion was seconded by Councilman Uerkwitz, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

PERSONNEL MATTERS:

16. CIVIL SERVICE COMMITTEE REPORT ON NEPOTISM.

SUMMARY OF COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

"The Civil Service Committee finds on the basis of input it received from the departments, employee groups, and Civil Service Commission, that there is insufficient justification to

eliminate the current anti-nepotism rule. The Committee feels that while they can be sympathetic to Police Officer eligible, John Marsden, he has been properly treated under our current anti-nepotism rule and the particulars related to his case also fail to justify a large modification in the anti-nepotism rule.

"The Committee finally believes that there are certain inequities in the definition of relatives, where it involves step relationships, and would, therefore, recommend that the City Attorney be instructed to draft a modification in this rule to allow for exception when the step relative does not involve members of the same household.

"Finally, the Committee recommends that after this ordinance is drafted, it be submitted to the various employee groups so that they may meet and consult with management before submittal to the Civil Service Commission for its recommendations and on to the City Council for its approval."

MOTION: Councilman Armstrong moved to concur with the above stated findings of the Committee. The motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson.

Prior to roll call vote on the motion, Councilman Surber indicated disagreement with the recommendation, it being his opinion that the best possible people should be hired by the City, regardless of family ties. A SUBSTITUTE MOTION (which later failed to carry) was offered by Councilman Surber: That there be approval of a rule in support of nepotism. The substitute motion was seconded by Councilman Uerkwitz.

Recalled by Mayor Miller were the problems in past years involving nepotism, but, in his opinion, situations change and such problems would be non-existent in the present Police Department operation. The Mayor indicated that he would be in favor of doing away with the anti-nepotism ordinance -- this would open the door to professional police officers and police-oriented families.

Mr. Ted Donovan, Executive Officer, Civil Service Commission, stated that the Commission supports the continuance of the anti-nepotism rule. Mr. Donovan added that "you are opening the door to abuses in the future if you do away with the rule".

Representing the Torrance Police Officers Association, Phil Joseph stated that this organization is opposed to changing the anti-nepotism ordinance.

Roll call vote on Councilman Surber's substitute motion was as follows:

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

The main motion to concur with Committee findings carried, with roll call vote as follows:

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

17. EXECUTIVE SESSION re: hours, wages and working conditions of certain employee representation units.

Held for later in the meeting - See Page 11.

MATTERS NOT OTHERWISE CLASSIFIED:

18. HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, TITLE II  
(Assisted Housing for the Elderly)

RECOMMENDATION OF PLANNING DIRECTOR:

1. That the H.C.D. application as currently approved by the City Council be submitted without amending it.
2. That the City Council direct the City Manager to fully assess the complete housing assistance needs of the City of Torrance through surveys and other research and report these findings back to the City Council by September 30, 1975.

Staff presentations were made by Assistant City Manager Scharfman and Planning Director Shartle.

Council discussion was directed to the Staff-recommended housing assistance needs survey. Concern was voiced by Councilman Surber in that the City seems to be "getting in deeper and deeper and deeper; pretty soon we get to the point where we can't turn back"-- Mr. Surber reiterated his opposition, of record, to the entire program, and requested that there be resident notification regarding the September 30th hearing via the water/trash billings, along with newspaper advertising. Concurrence was indicated by Councilman Uerkwitz who added that the majority of people in Torrance are opposed to this program and would so indicate given an opportunity to express themselves.

It was confirmed by Planning Director Shartle, at Councilwoman Geissert's question, that if the City made no application for Housing and Community Development funds that a housing assistance program in the City would still be instituted by HUD. Mrs. Geissert then stated that the proposed action permits possible use of the City's option to determine our own housing needs and to make our own plans.

Continuing discussion was directed to the preparation and contents of a housing assistance plan, the administration thereof; the time element, etc.

MOTION: Councilman Armstrong moved to concur with the above stated recommendations of Staff. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Geissert.

Prior to roll call vote on the motion, Mayor Miller invited comments from the audience.

Mrs. Rachel Meyer, 21233 Kent Avenue, representing the Southwood Homeowners Association, requested that all homeowner groups be provided with any and all material regarding the subject study in order that they may provide public input for Council presentation.

A resident (name unintelligible) at 16704 Glenburn Avenue stated that he is opposed to any governmental agency "taking money

just to spend it" -- the use of Federal money will result in their telling the City what to do, in the opinion of this speaker.

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

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

PLANNING AND ZONING HEARING:

19. RESOLUTION re: Noise Element of the General Plan

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. 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.

At the request of Mayor Miller, City Clerk Coil assigned a number and read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 75-48

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF  
THE CITY OF TORRANCE ADOPTING THE  
NOISE ELEMENT OF THE GENERAL PLAN.

Councilman Wilson moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 75-48. His motion was seconded by Councilman Uerkwitz, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

# # #

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ROUTINE MATTERS:20. BUDGETED EXPENDITURES IN EXCESS OF \$300:RECOMMENDATION OF FINANCE DIRECTOR:

That Council approve the following purchases:

1. \$416.58 to California Electronics and Police Equipment for 2000 rounds of .223 caliber ammunition and six pairs of hearing protectors requested by the Police Department.
2. \$1036.21 to American Wholesale Hardware for 2000 rounds of .270 caliber and 2000 rounds of 30-30 caliber ammunition as requested by the Police Department.
3. \$417.85 to Kebco for 14 cases of 2-ply teletype paper as requested by the Police Department.
4. \$639.66 to Lanco Engine Services to overhaul a City gas engine as requested by City Garage for Unit #8609.
5. \$1110.72 to Diesel Service Center, Inc. to overhaul a City Detroit Diesel Engine as requested by the City Garage for Unit #352.
6. \$636.55 to Bender Machine Inc. for two rebuilt conveyor valves for Garwood rubbish trucks as requested by the City Garage.
7. \$5657.40 to Contact Cleaning Company to renew an annual contract for window cleaning services (done 6 times annually) for all City Buildings, as requested by the Custodial Department.
8. \$433.76 to Oranco Supply Company for miscellaneous sprinkler system plumbing requested by the Park Services Division for use on the Madrona Avenue Project and Recreation Center Parkway.
9. \$1138.89 to Inglewood Stationers for miscellaneous stationery items as requested by Central Services.
10. \$2346.16 to Teledyne Post Company for the City's annual requirements for engineering reproduction paper.

21. AWARD FOR ANNUAL CONTRACTS TO FURNISH INSECTICIDES, WEED KILLERS, TOP DRESSING AND FERTILIZERS (Ref. Bid #B75-4)  
Total Expenditures: \$47,161.68

RECOMMENDED AWARDS: (Per communication of record)

1. \$13,228.72 to Target Chemical Company for Items #8,11, 16,18,19,21,30,35 and 42.
2. \$13,425.35 to Foster Gardner, Inc. for Items #1,3,4,6, 9, 12,14,15,22,23,24,33,40,43 and 45.

3. \$6,369.54 to Robinson Fertilizer Company for Items #10,20 34,46,48,49 and 50.
  4. \$5,807.74 to Kellogg Supply, Inc. for Items #29,44 and 54.
  5. \$8,330.33 to Los Angeles Chemical Company for Items #2,5,7,13,25,26,28,31,32,39,47,53 and 55.
- Above award amounts include sales tax. There were No Bids on Items #17,27,36,37,38,41,51 and 52.

RECOMMENDATION OF FINANCE DIRECTOR/BUYER:

That Council accept the low bids submitted by the above listed companies with delivery of these chemicals to be "as requested". Award annual contracts in the total amount of \$47,161.68.

22. AWARD OF CONTRACTS FOR SEVEN BUDGETED LEASED VEHICLES FOR POLICE DEPARTMENT (Bid #74-5) Expenditure: \$13,785.72

RECOMMENDATION OF PURCHASING SUPERVISOR/CHIEF OF POLICE:

That Council approve of the renewing of the present contract for another 12-month period to Southwest Leasing Corporation in the total amount of \$13,785.72 including tax.

MOTION: Councilman Uerkwitz moved to concur with Staff recommendations on agenda items #20,21, and #22. The motion was seconded by Councilman Armstrong, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

# # #

The hour being 7:00 P.M., Councilman Uerkwitz moved to recess as City Council, and reconvene as the Redevelopment Agency. His motion was seconded by Councilman Armstrong, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable. The Council returned to its agenda at 7:01 P.M.

# # #

ADDENDUM ITEM:

23. PROPOSED CHANGE IN SERVICE AREA BOUNDARIES FOR THE COASTAL HEALTH SERVICE REGION AND LOS ANGELES COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

See Page 10.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

24. Councilman Armstrong reported, via Congressman Wilson's office, that the deed for transfer of the Naval Annex property should be at hand this week. It was the suggestion of Mr. Armstrong that appropriate ceremonies be arranged for such delivery and acceptance, in conjunction with the Armed Forces Day ceremonies this year.

25. Councilwoman Geissert referred to earlier action adopting the Noise Element of the General Plan (Item #19), the final element of the General Plan, and expressed appreciation for the quality of work and intensity of dedication shown by Staff in the development of this document.

26. Councilman Surber reported on the concerns voiced to him by residents in the vicinity of the Del Amo Executive Plaza on Carson Street regarding the Planning Commission action of March 5th which approved a restaurant in this complex -- a restaurant which will be serving liquor with hours of operation "from 8:00 A.M. until business warrants closing" -- and requested that this case be appealed to Council. It was further reported to Mr. Surber that while some 509 parking spaces are required, only 356 spaces have been provided.

City Manager Ferraro advised that he would arrange for the appeal of this matter, as requested by Councilman Surber.

27. Praise for City Manager's secretary, Viah Johnston, in the seemingly impossible task of unearthing a 1965 memorandum pertaining to Councilmanic Districts, was expressed by Councilman Uerkwitz, along with his gratitude for this information.

28. Mayor Miller noted that he and City Manager Ferraro will attend the PUC hearing on March 19th regarding the intersection of 190th and Hawthorne.

ADDENDUM ITEM:

23. PROPOSED CHANGE IN SERVICE AREA BOUNDARIES FOR THE COASTAL HEALTH SERVICE REGION AND LOS ANGELES COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT:

RECOMMENDATION OF CITY MANAGER:

That the City Council vigorously oppose the proposal by the Director of the Los Angeles County Health Service to include a portion of Torrance within the South East Health Services Region, and that the following actions be taken:

1. Adopt a formal motion opposing the Health Department district boundary change. Said motion to be presented at the March 19th County hearing on this matter.
2. Direct that the City Manager prepare and the Mayor sign a letter of opposition to be forwarded to all members of the Los Angeles County Hospital Commission, Public Health Commission, and the Mental Health Advisory Board.
3. Lodge a vigorous formal protest with Supervisor James Hayes indicating our total opposition to the proposed bifurcation of Torrance.

Following clarification by City Manager Ferraro, and confirmation by Mr. Bob McCaman, Deputy for Supervisor Hayes, that the City of Torrance's position has been made known to appropriate officials, the following action resulted:

MOTION: Councilman Armstrong moved that the Council formally oppose the proposed district boundary change which would include a portion of Torrance within the South East Health Services Region; said motion to be presented at the March 19th County hearing on this matter. Further, that the City Manager be directed to prepare and the Mayor to sign a letter of opposition to be forwarded to all members of the Los Angeles County Hospital Commission, Public Health Commission, and the Mental Health Advisory Board -- and that a vigorous formal protest be lodged with Supervisor James Hayes indicating this Council's total opposition to the proposed bifurcation of Torrance.

The motion was seconded by Councilman Surber, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS (Cont.):

29. Mrs. Joan Pacina, 21701 Ocean Avenue, reiterated the concerns earlier expressed by Councilman Surber (Item #26) regarding the shortage of parking spaces at the Del Amo Executive Plaza development in that there are considerably less spaces than the required 509. This matter will be checked out by Staff.

PERSONNEL MATTERS:

17. EXECUTIVE SESSION.

City Attorney Remelmeyer advised that it is proper for the Council to convene in Executive Session regarding hours, wages, and working conditions. Councilman Surber MOVED to recess for this purpose. The motion was seconded by Councilman Armstrong, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable. (The hour was 7:20 P.M.)

The meeting was formally adjourned at 10:30 P.M.

# # #

APPROVED:

*Ken Miller*

Mayor of the City of Torrance

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

Ava Cripe  
Minute Secretary

11.

City Council  
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