

I N D E XCity Council - March 16, 1976

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Adjourned at 10:50 P.M.

# # #

Ava Cripe  
Minute Secretary

ii.

City Council  
March 16, 1976

March 16, 1976

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 16, 1976, at 5:30 P.M. in the Council Chambers at Torrance City Hall.

2. ROLL CALL:

Present: Councilmembers Brewster, Geissert, Surber, Rossberg, Wilson and Mayor Miller. Absent: Councilman Armstrong (in Washington, D.C.).

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

3. FLAG SALUTE:

Mr. Jim Wells 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 Surber moved to approve the minutes of February 17, 1976, as recorded. His motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Armstrong absent).

6. 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 Councilmember 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 absent).

7. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

Downtown Torrance Committee:

Will meet on Monday, March 29th, at 7:30 P.M.

PRESENTATIONS:8. TORRANCE AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PRESENTATION OF CITY CONTRACTED SERVICE PERFORMANCE STATUS AND EVALUATION.

On behalf of the Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Adam Moro presented their report regarding City Contracted Service Performance Status and Evaluation. The Council commended Mr. Moro for his most informative presentation.

9. WITHDRAWN.PROCLAMATIONS:

10. INTERNATIONAL DEMOLAY WEEK.  
 11. FAMILY FUN NIGHT AT DISNEYLAND.  
 12. PORT DAY IN TORRANCE.

So proclaimed by Mayor Miller.

PUBLIC WORKS:

13. RESOLUTION authorizing inclusion of Redondo Beach Boulevard in the County Highway System.

RESOLUTION NO. 76-43

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, CONSENTING TO ESTABLISHMENT OF PORTIONS OF REDONDO BEACH BOULEVARD AND CRENSHAW BOULEVARD WITHIN SAID CITY AS A PART OF THE SYSTEM OF HIGHWAYS OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

Councilman Wilson moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 76-43. His motion was seconded by Councilwoman Geissert, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Armstrong absent).

ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS:

14. ORDINANCE amending Oil Code provisions governing temporary fencing of oil well equipment.

ORDINANCE NO. 2642

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING SECTION 97.9.3 AND ADDING SECTION 97.9.34 TO THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE TO CHANGE THE REQUIREMENTS FOR ENCLOSURE AND TEMPORARY FENCING OF OIL WELL SITES

Councilman Surber moved for the approval of Ordinance No. 2642 at its first reading. His motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Absent: Councilman Armstrong).

REAL PROPERTY:

15. RESOLUTION authorizing assignment of Hangar "H",  
2732 Airport Drive.

RECOMMENDATION OF LAND MANAGEMENT TEAM:

Adoption of the subject Resolution, subject to the following conditions:

1. Reimbursement to the City in the amount of \$33.78 for the preparation of the necessary documents.
2. One hour fire wall separation from adjoining hangars, if determined necessary after inspection by the Building Department.

RESOLUTION NO. 76-44

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR  
AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE AND ATTEST A  
CONSENT TO ASSIGNMENT OF AIRPORT HANGAR  
LEASE OF SAMUEL P. SIMMONS TO CAYMAN  
DEVELOPMENT COMPANY

Councilman Surber moved to concur with the above stated recommendation of the Land Management Team and for the adoption of Resolution No. 76-44. His motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Absent: Councilman Armstrong).

TRANSPORTATION MATTERS:

16. REPAIR OF NIKE SITE ELECTRICAL PRIMARIES.

RECOMMENDATION OF DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION/  
AIRPORT COMMISSION:

That \$1800.00 be appropriated from Airport Retained Earnings to undertake the necessary electrical repairs.

MOTION: Councilman Wilson moved to concur with the recommendation of the Department of Transportation and Airport Commission. The motion was seconded by Councilman Surber, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Armstrong absent).

FISCAL MATTERS:

17. REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION for Executive Officer and one Civil Service Commissioner to attend Western Region, International Personnel Conference in Salt Lake City, April 6-9, 1976.

REQUEST OF CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION:

That Council authorize the attendance of Mr. Donovan and one Civil Service Commissioner at the subject conference, with appropriate expenses paid, not to exceed \$400 each.

CITY MANAGER'S NOTE:

There is no budget provision for attendance of conferences for City Commissioners in the current year although the Council has previously authorized Civil Service Commissioners

to attend in-state conferences on two separate occasions during this year. The City Council travel policy also stipulates that City Commissioners are allowed to attend in-state conferences only. If your Honorable Body approves this request, \$800 should be appropriated from the General Fund Unappropriated Reserve.

Councilman Wilson indicated his support of the request in view of the pertinent subject matter -- Employee/Employer Negotiations -- to be covered at the conference. Dr. Wilson then MOVED to grant the request of the Civil Service Commission. The motion died for lack of a second.

Council discussion ensued, it being the general consensus that the conference subject matter was more appropriately in the realm of personnel administration, noting that the Personnel Manager will be in attendance; with particular note of Council policy regarding in-state conferences only.

MOTION: Councilman Brewster moved to DENY the request. The motion was seconded by Mayor Miller, and carried, with roll call vote as follows, "yes" being for denial:

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

PARK AND RECREATION MATTERS:

18. SPANISH GALLEON - DE PORTOLA PARK.

RECOMMENDATION OF PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION:

That the Council approve the project of the Torrance Bicentennial Committee to raise funds toward the construction of a model Spanish Galleon for de Portola Park as part of the children's playground area.

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

PERSONNEL MATTERS:

19. EXECUTIVE SESSION re: Hours, Wages and Working Conditions.

See Page 12.

20. ORDINANCE - Memorandum of Understanding with TLEA, providing for sub-classification and classification report of Personnel Department re: class of Librarian.

ORDINANCE NO. 2643

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ADDING A NEW SECTION TO ARTICLE 6, OF CHAPTER 7, DIVISION 1 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE RELATING TO WORKING CONDITIONS

Councilman Wilson moved for the approval of Ordinance No. 2643 at its first reading. His motion was seconded by Councilman Surber, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Armstrong absent).

MOTION: Councilwoman Geissert moved to concur in the proposed new class specifications for Librarian and give continued standing to the current incumbents. The motion was seconded by Councilman Surber, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Armstrong absent).

MATTERS NOT OTHERWISE CLASSIFIED:

21. RESOLUTION authorizing replacement of Airport Revenue Bonds of Nina Anderton and requiring a surety bond to indemnify the City and its agents.

RESOLUTION NO. 76-45

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING REPLACEMENT  
OF LOST BONDS AND REQUIRING A SURETY BOND  
TO INDEMNIFY THE CITY AND ITS AGENTS

Councilwoman Geissert moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 76-45. Her motion, seconded by Councilman Wilson, was unanimously approved by roll call vote (Councilman Armstrong absent).

22. PROPOSED EVALUATION CRITERIA for Non-Profit Service Units requesting funding from Torrance Housing and Community Development Block Grant Funds for 1976-77 Program Year.

RECOMMENDATION OF PLANNING DIRECTOR:

That the following action be taken by Council for the 1976-77 HCD budget year:

1. Review the subject criteria.
2. Approve the list of criteria, subject to any amendments by Council, as the basis for funding non-profit service units in the City of Torrance.
3. Direct Staff and the Human Resources Commission to apply the criteria to the non-profit units and to generate a list of priorities for funding those units that have applications on file.
4. Direct Staff and the Human Resources Commission to report the results to Council for final determination of allocations from Block Grant Funds to specific non-profit service units.

Staff presentation, and desired clarification, was provided by Planning Director Shartle.

MOTION: Councilman Surber moved to concur with the above stated recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Absent: Councilman Armstrong).

SECOND READING ORDINANCE:23. ORDINANCE NO. 2641.ORDINANCE NO. 2641

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING SECTION 17.103.1  
OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE

Councilman Wilson moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 2641 at its second and final reading. His motion was seconded by Councilwoman Geissert, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Armstrong absent).

PLANNING AND ZONING MATTERS:24. LOT SIZE FOR OIL WELL SITES.RECOMMENDATION OF OIL BOARD/PLANNING COMMISSION:

Re: lot size for oil well sites: "That no future new wells be drilled closer than 75 feet from any property line; new wells to be drilled from existing drill sites are exempted from this distance requirement. Any variance from this distance requirement shall require prior approval of the Oil Board."

MOTION: Councilman Wilson moved to concur with the above stated recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilman Surber, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Absent: Councilman Armstrong).

APPEALS - OTHER THAN PLANNING:

25. APPEAL OF TRAFFIC COMMISSION AND DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION RECOMMENDATIONS to deny petition request for three-way stop on Nadine Circle at 229th Place.

Present, to reaffirm comments of record, was Mrs. Peggy Hollander, representing New Horizons residents -- their concerns regarding the subject intersection were pointed out, as was the need for the three-way stop signs.

Mr. John LaResche, 3634 West 228th Street, presented communications from the Torrance Heights Civic Association and the Sam Levy P-T-A recommending the installation of three-way stop signs.

It was the consensus of the Council that the subject area presented traffic hazards to both vehicular and pedestrian traffic, and that the desired signing would alleviate such problems.

MOTION: Councilman Surber moved to grant the subject appeal, to direct installation of the three-way stop signs, and three crosswalks, with a report back to Council in March, 1977. The motion was seconded by Councilman Rossberg, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Armstrong absent).

ROUTINE MATTERS:26. EXPENDITURES IN EXCESS OF \$300:RECOMMENDATION OF FINANCE DIRECTOR:

That Council approve the following purchases:

1. \$1458.22 to Dearth Machinery Company for the purchase of replacement factory parts for Wayne Street Sweepers.
2. \$349.80 to William Brose Productions for the purchase of a training film for the Police Department.
3. \$496.88 to Utility Industrial Supply Company for the purchase of 75 30-gallon metal trash cans as requested by the Park Division.
4. \$359.98 to Yates Products for "Cherry-Mate" sign mounting fasteners as requested by the Transportation Department.
5. \$330.72 to First Company for the purchase of "Kim" paper towels requested by the Garage Department.
6. \$747.74 to Automatic Printing Company for the printing of library book transaction slips as requested by the Library Department.
7. \$404.92 to Airmark Company for the purchase of reflective letters stating "Torrance Police" as requested by the Police Department to mount on Police vehicles.
8. \$317.13 to Sudduth Tire Company for the purchase of two 14.9-24 6-ply tractor tires and tubes as required by the Garage Department.
9. \$375.78 to Bolstad Sales and Service Company for the purchase of miscellaneous hydraulic fittings and hose to be used for conversion work of Fire Engines #7 and #2.
10. \$330.01 to Southwest Printing & Litho for the printing of required City letterhead for various City departments and officials.
11. \$2199.50 to American Rubber Manufacturing Company for the purchase of 500 ft. of replacement 3½" fire hose as requested by the Fire Department.
12. \$3048.24 to Target Chemical Company for the purchase of four chemicals omitted from our formal bid for chemicals.

27. REVISED CLASS SPECIFICATION FOR SENIOR LIFEGUARD.RECOMMENDATION OF PERSONNEL MANAGER/CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION:

That Council adopt the revised seasonal/recurrent job description for Senior Lifeguard.

28. AWARD OF CONTRACTS - Insecticides, Weed Killers, Top Dressings and Fertilizers - Ref. Bid #B76-10.  
Annual Expenditure: \$43,013.09

RECOMMENDATION OF FINANCE DIRECTOR/BUYER:

That Council approve of awarding the following contracts for the items (of record) stated:

1. An award in the amount of \$4,757.33 to Los Angeles Chemical Company for bid items #1,3,20,35 and 36 (including tax).
2. An award in the amount of \$2,336.24, including tax, to Robinson Fertilizer Company for bid items #15,26, 28, and 38.
3. An award in the amount of \$18,550.00, including tax, to Norwalk Fertilizer Company for bid item #33 -- 3500 cubic yards steer fertilizer.
4. An award in the amount of \$1,834.44, including tax, to Kellogg Supply, Inc. for bid items #10,21,22 and 30.
5. An award in the amount of \$13,236.85, including tax, to Eagle Chemical Company for bid items #2,4,8,9,12, 14,16,17,5-7,23,24,27,29,31,34 and 37.

(There were no acceptable bids on items #11,13,18, 19, 25 and 32.)

29. WITHDRAWN.

30. FINAL TRACT MAP NO. 28035 - (6th Phase - Tentative Tract 26507).

Subdivider: Watt Industries.

Location: N/W Corner of Rolling Hills Road and  
Crenshaw Boulevard)

No. of Lots: 1 (Commercial)

RECOMMENDATION OF CITY ENGINEER/PLANNING DIRECTOR:

That Final Tract Map No. 28035 be approved.

31. FINAL TRACT MAP NO. 31334 - (5th Phase - Tentative Tract 26507)

Subdivider: Sunnyglen Construction Company (Kenneth Battram)

Location: Southwest Corner of Rolling Hills Way and  
Windmill Road

No. of Lots: 74

RECOMMENDATION OF CITY ENGINEER/PLANNING DIRECTOR:

That Final Tract Map No. 31334 be approved.

32. REDUCTION OF SUBDIVISION BONDS - Tract No. 31333

Subdivider: Watt Industries, Inc.

Bonding Co.: Covenant Mutual Insurance Company

| <u>TYPE BOND</u> | <u>BOND NO.</u> | <u>AMOUNT</u> |
|------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Performance      | 002044          | \$378,000.00  |
| Payment          | 002044          | 189,000.00    |
| Inspection       | 002045          | 9,560.00      |

RECOMMENDATION OF CITY ENGINEER:

That subdivision bonds be reduced as follows:

Performance Bond from \$378,000 to \$70,000.

Payment Bond from \$189,000 to \$35,000.

Inspection Bond from \$9,560 to \$2,700.

33. REDUCTION OF SUBDIVISION BONDS - Tract No. 31331.  
 Subdivider: Rolling Hills Vista (Watt Industries, Inc.)  
 Bonding Company: Commercial Union Insurance Company

| <u>TYPE BOND</u> | <u>BOND NO.</u> | <u>AMOUNT</u> |
|------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Performance      | CA71084-69      | \$539,000     |
| Payment          | CA71084-69      | 269,500       |
| Inspection       | CA71084-70      | 12,780        |

RECOMMENDATION OF CITY ENGINEER:

That subdivision bonds be reduced as follows:

Performance Bond from \$539,000 to \$60,000.

Payment Bond from \$269,500 to \$30,000.

Inspection Bond from \$12,780 to \$2,400.

MOTION: Councilman Wilson moved to concur with Staff recommendations on agenda items #26, 27, 28, 30, 31, 32, and #33. The motion was seconded by Councilman Surber, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Armstrong absent).

ADDENDUM ITEM:

34. REQUEST FOR WAIVER OF REQUIREMENTS ON TEMPORARY SIGN ON PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY.  
 (Ladies Auxiliary of the Torrance Fire Department)

RECOMMENDATION OF BUILDING DEPARTMENT:

DENIAL of the waiving of the LIABILITY INSURANCE. This department does RECOMMEND APPROVAL of waiving the \$500 bond for removal of the sign at this location, as this department now holds a bond for the removal of the sign at any location.

Staff clarification was provided by Building and Safety Director McKinnon and Assistant to the City Manager Jackson, it being acknowledged that, in the past, Council had waived both the requirements for liability insurance and bonding, and that such funds would otherwise be directed to the Burn Unit.

MOTION: Councilwoman Geissert moved to grant the request of the Torrance Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary to locate the subject temporary sign at the intersection of Hawthorne and Sepulveda, and that the bond and liability insurance fees be waived. The motion was seconded by Councilman Surber, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Armstrong absent).

It was the request of Councilman Rossberg that Staff investigate the matter of the acquiring of appropriate insurance for like situations, perhaps a "blanket" arrangement, etc. Mrs. Geissert requested information as to the cost of such insurance on a one-time basis with an outside insurance company. Mr. Jackson indicated that he would explore what policies might be available for such groups.

# # #

The hour being 6:45 P.M., Councilman Wilson moved to recess as the City Council, and reconvene as the Redevelopment Agency. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Geissert, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Armstrong absent).

The Council returned to its agenda at 6:46 P.M.

# # #

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

35. City Manager Ferraro reviewed the problems confronted by him in the matter of the horse relocation, with the abatement of the horse stables, (per Council action on January 27, 1976) -- a study is underway regarding possible alternative sites, but there are now concerns regarding neighborhood feeling at such relocation sites.

A lengthy discussion ensued -- the impractical aspects of horse relocation in any area which would affect neighborhoods were stressed; the very limited areas available; the City's possible role in sponsoring such activity as a recreation program; the "dollar and cents" aspect; etc.

36. Councilman Wilson discussed the use of Reeves Field as a commuter field or for touch-and-go flights, noted the concern of numerous homeowner organizations, and urged that the City of Torrance take some stand in this matter. Director of Transportation Horkay reported on activities to date in this matter.

37. Clarification regarding U.M.T.A. bus line funds was provided by Director of Transportation Horkay, at the request of Councilman Wilson.

38. Councilman Wilson noted the need for Staff review of the possible need for red curb painting and crosswalk installation in the vicinity of Carr Elementary School on 169th Street between Yukon and Faysmith.

39. Mayor Miller reviewed his recent meeting with Supervisor Hayes regarding the construction funding priority of County Highway projects in the South Bay area. The Mayor reviewed the status of the Prospect/Flagler; Inglewood Boulevard; and 190th/Hawthorne projects; the community feelings of the affected cities; etc.

The Mayor noted the likely request for renewed evaluation by the City of Torrance of the Prospect/Flagler project and the need for an Ad Hoc Committee, with specific note of the desire that the EIR process be reopened. These matters will be reviewed further at a later date, as more information is forthcoming.

40. Mr. Bill Wells, Fujita Corporation, provided the Council with his March 16, 1976 communication, of record, wherein it is charged that the City has demonstrated "bad faith" and a "flagrant abuse of power", with particular criticism directed to City Attorney Remelmeyer.

City Manager Ferraro protested this presentation by Mr. Wells -- in the absence of City Attorney Remelmeyer at this meeting, there is no way of responding to the validity of any statements made by Mr. Wells.

It was further stated by City Manager Ferraro that if Mr. Wells has a personal charge against the City Attorney, such complaint should be filed with the Bar Association -- or, in the event Mr. Wells has a complaint regarding any criminal activities within the City, and he does not wish to meet with the City Manager regarding such charge, then he is encouraged to go before the Grand Jury.

41. HDR HOMES, Inc. - Pending Litigation:

Representing the Riviera Homeowners Association, its new president, Mr. Spencer Willens reported regarding apparent discrepancies in open space computations in the current plans which have been submitted for the subject condominium development. It was the request of the Association that Staff be directed to use the strictest interpretation thereof in this regard. Further noted by Mr. Willens was the apparent fact that the developer has not yet submitted the final construction plans.

Calculation methods used by Staff were graphically described by Building and Safety Director McKinnon and Planning Associate Ferren, with specific note of the Staff finding that the developer is still short on open space requirements and that the court will be so informed.

Also present on this matter were Mr. Jerry Galuhn who urged strict interpretation of the Code, and Mr. Nathan Kurtz who reviewed the open space figures and his overall concerns in this regard.

A lengthy discussion ensued regarding the substantial and complex considerations faced in this matter in the forthcoming court presentation. It was the direction of the Council that Staff do the very best job possible, based on established precedents and the facts at hand -- it was their further direction that Staff continue to work very closely with the homeowners, serving as an advocate for them and the community as a whole.

# # #

ITEM #19 - EXECUTIVE SESSION:

The hour being 8:20 P.M., Councilman Wilson moved to recess for the purpose of an Executive Session regarding hours, wages and working conditions (a proper subject matter, per Deputy City Attorney Freeman). The motion was seconded by Councilman Surber, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Armstrong absent).

The meeting was regularly adjourned at 10:50 P.M.

# # #

Ava Cripe  
Minute Secretary

12.

City Council  
March 16, 1976

APPROVED:

*Ken Miller*

Mayor of the City of Torrance

*Vernon W. Coil*

Vernon W. Coil, Clerk of the  
City of Torrance