

I N D E XCity Council - April 13, 1976

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Adjourned at 10:01 P.M.

# # #

April 13, 1976

MINUTES OF AN ADJOURNED REGULAR  
MEETING OF THE TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL

OPENING CEREMONIES:

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The Torrance City Council convened in an Adjourned Regular Meeting on Tuesday, April 13, 1976, at 6:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers at Torrance City Hall.

2. ROLL CALL:

Present: Councilmembers Armstrong, Brewster, Rossberg, Surber, Wilson and Mayor Miller. Absent: Councilwoman Geissert (vacation).

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

3. FLAG SALUTE:

Mr. Ted Donovan led in the salute to the flag.

4. INVOCATION:

The invocation for the meeting was provided by Reverend Lee Roy Brandes, Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd.

STANDARD MOTIONS:

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilman Armstrong moved to approve the minutes of March 23, 1976, as recorded. His motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilwoman Geissert absent).

6. 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 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 (Councilwoman Geissert absent).

7. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

Ad Hoc Committee - Downtown Torrance:  
Will next meet on April 19th at 7:30 P.M.

1.

City Council  
April 13, 1976

HEARING - OTHER THAN PLANNING:8. APPEAL FROM DISCHARGE - Gary A. Bayless.

The formal statement made by Mayor Miller follows:

This is the time, date and place to hear the appeal of Firefighter Gary A. Bayless. Mr. Bayless was discharged by the City Manager, upon recommendation by the Fire Chief and after an administrative hearing, on December 12, 1975. A written Statement of Charges containing four counts was served on Mr. Bayless, and he filed with the City an answer denying all the charges. Mr. Bayless then requested a hearing before the Civil Service Commission on his discharge in accordance with the provisions of the City Code.

The Civil Service Commission held a hearing in the matter on February 9, 1976. Both the City and Mr. Bayless were represented by counsel. Testimony was taken and the case was argued before the Commission.

Following the hearing, the Commission made its findings on the charges on February 18, 1976. The Commission upheld the charges as to Counts 1, 2, and 3, but not as to Count 4.

The Commission then concluded as follows:

- "CHARGE NO. 1: Firefighter Bayless admitted that he shop-lifted food from Foods Company Market located at 2655 Pacific Coast Highway, while he was on duty and in uniform. His motives for the theft were economic. The Civil Service Commission accepted the admission and found Firefighter Bayless guilty of the acts alleged in Charge No. 1.
- CHARGE NO. 2: Firefighter Bayless admitted that over the prior six months he had stolen certain items from Foods Company -- cheese, lunch meat, toothbrush and cassette tapes. These thefts were committed while in uniform. The Civil Service Commission accepted this admission, and found him guilty of the acts alleged in Charge No. 2.
- CHARGE NO. 3: Firefighter Bayless admitted that on November 12, 1974, he was apprehended for offenses of Penal Code Section 647 (h) and (g) (Peeping Tom) and Health and Safety Code Section 11364 (Possession of Narcotics Paraphenalia) and for that conduct he was suspended. The Civil Service Commission accepted Firefighter Bayless' admission and found him guilty of the acts alleged in Charge No. 3.
- CHARGE NO. 4: On its own motion, the Civil Service Commission deletes Charge No. 4 as being redundant."

The Findings and Conclusions were signed by Commissioners Donaldson, Kelly, Limon, Salling, Tamoush and van Oppen.

On February 18, 1976, Mr. Bayless filed an appeal from the decision of the Commission. The City Code grants the employee the right to appeal his discharge to the City Council and provides that the City Council may, by a majority vote of the entire membership of the Council, modify or reverse such decision. Thus, the Council has the following alternatives:

- a. It may find the employee not guilty on Count 1, Count 2, and Count 3, in which case the decision of the Commission must be reversed and the employee reinstated to duty with full pay and allowances;
- b. It may uphold the action of the Commission finding the employee guilty on one count or more counts, in which case the Council may either:
  1. Affirm the discharge, or
  2. Modify the penalty to suspend the employee for a period not to exceed sixty days.

c. It must return the case to the Civil Service Commission for additional proceedings if, in the judgment of the Council:

1. There is no substantial evidence to support the Commission's decision, or
2. New and substantial evidence has been discovered which, with the use of due diligence, could not reasonably have been presented at the hearing before the Commission.

No evidence not previously submitted and received into evidence by the Civil Service Commission may be heard by the City Council. The hearing will be held only on the record on appeal from the Civil Service Commission and on the oral arguments of the attorneys.

In accordance with the City Attorney's recommendation, the Mayor suggested the following procedure for the conduct of the hearing:

1. Mr. Berman, representing the appellant employee, will argue first, in 20 minutes or less.
2. Mr. Scudder, representing the City Manager, will then argue for 20 minutes or less.
3. Mr. Berman will then have 10 minutes to reply to Mr. Scudder.
4. Finally, Mr. Scudder will have 10 minutes to rebut any new arguments raised by Mr. Berman in his reply.

Each of the members of the Council has been furnished with:

1. A Statement of the Charges
2. The Answer to the Charges
3. The minutes of the Civil Service Commission hearing held on February 9, 1976.
4. The reporter's transcript of testimony at the Civil Service Commission held on the above date.

Mayor Miller then inquired if any member of the Council had not read the material, including the transcript. Councilman Rossberg advised that he had <sup>not</sup> completed his reading of the material, and would require 15 minutes to do so. It was stated by Mayor Miller that every member of the Council should be given a chance to read the entire record before commencing the hearing -- and, therefore, MOVED that there be a recess at this time to permit Councilman Rossberg to complete his reading of the hearing material. The motion was seconded by Councilman Armstrong, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Absent: Councilwoman Geissert).

\* \* \* \* \*

(The Council was in recess from 6:15 P.M. to 6:35 P.M.)

\* \* \* \* \*

On resumption of the meeting, Councilman Rossberg confirmed that he had now read all the pertinent material, following which Mayor Miller requested the arguments of Attorney Steve Berman, representing Firefighter Gary A. Bayless.

Errors in the "Statement of Charges" were pointed out by Attorney Berman: Charge No. 1 -- the statement "His motives for the theft were economic" should correctly state "The motives were declared to be economic in the confession", since it has been made clear that Mr. Bayless' motives were not economic. Further, in Charge No. 3, per Mr. Berman, while Mr. Bayless admitted that he was apprehended for these offenses and given a one-day suspension, the charges of Peeping Tom and Possession of Narcotics Paraphenalia were never substantiated; only a previous disciplinary action had been admitted to. (per Page 23 in the transcript).

Continuing, Mr. Berman advised that a further report had been received from Dr. Elaine Lewis, the psychotherapist treating Mr. Bayless, which should be treated as new evidence, and in the event the decision is not reversed by the Council, and the matter returned to the Civil Service Commission.

Mr. Berman then reviewed the emotional problems confronted by Mr. Bayless; the medical relationship; the precedents set by other Fireman involved in similar conduct who were not discharged; the consequences suffered to date by Mr. Bayless, the recognition of his problem, and the unlikely reoccurrence of such an act;

the value of Mr. Bayless' seven years experience as a Fireman; etc. Desired clarification regarding Charge No. 3 and the circumstances which prompted the seeking of psychiatric help by Mr. Bayless was provided the Council by Mr. Berman.

Representing the City Manager, Deputy City Attorney Scudder reaffirmed the appropriateness of the action taken by the City Manager in discharging Firefighter Gary A. Bayless. As to Charge No. 3, Mr. Scudder pointed out the testimony of Police Sergeant Such and Fire Chief Slonecker, contained in the transcript, regarding the facts of the subject incident.

Next reviewed by Mr. Scudder was the history of Mr. Bayless' problems, other theft incidents; the specialized talents of the Civil Service Commission in decisions of this nature; the unique requirements of public safety positions; the "victimized" attitude of Mr. Bayless, as reflected in the transcript; the fact that psychiatric treatment was not sought until suggested by Mr. Berman -- all these factors, and others of record, support the conclusions and findings of the Civil Service Commission, per Mr. Scudder, who urged that the Council uphold that decision.

Mayor Miller invited rebuttal from Mr. Berman.

It was stated by Mr. Berman that the Civil Service Commission decision was not based on any finding that the motives were economic; it is not reasonable that he would have stolen a few dollars worth of cheese, and risk his job in so doing, for the sake of his co-workers food fund.

It was the recommendation of Mr. Berman that the Council acknowledge the constructive steps taken by Mr. Bayless in seeking psychotherapy -- a therapy he will continue whether or not he gets his job back -- Mr. Bayless is deserving of a "second chance", in the opinion of Attorney Berman, particularly in view of past precedents with Firemen in like situations.

Rebuttal by Deputy City Attorney Scudder pointed out Fire Department policies, and the Fire Chief's reference thereto in the transcript -- in the case of Firefighter Bayless the frequency and short period of time between disciplinary actions, his attitude, the total number of thefts committed while on duty, etc. all pointed to the likelihood of reoccurrence, hence the appropriateness of the discharge of Firefighter Gary A. Bayless.

On the conclusion of the presentations by Messrs. Berman and Scudder, it was confirmed by City Attorney Remelmeyer that this matter may properly be considered by the Council in a Personnel Session.

It was the request of City Manager Ferraro that he be excused from participating in the Personnel Session in that

he effected the dismissal of Fireman Bayless, in accordance with established procedures which exclude both the City Manager and the City Attorney from sessions of this nature. The City Attorney advised that he would be available to answer any pertinent questions desired by the Council. There were no objections, and it was so ordered.

The Council thereupon recessed for the subject Personnel Session, the hour being 7:35 P.M., and returned at 8:25 P.M., to take the following action:

In light of the fact that the Council needs time for further review and more information in this matter, Councilman Armstrong MOVED that the dismissal of Firefighter Bayless be taken under advisement, and that the hearing be continued to May 4, 1976, same not to begin before 7:00 P.M. The motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and approval was unanimous (Councilwoman Geissert absent).

Mr. Berman indicated concurrence with the above action.

PRESENTATION:

9. OPERATING PROGRAM STATUS AND PERFORMANCE MEASURES - Library Department.

City Librarian West presented the diversified activities of his department, with the assistance of videotape -- Mr. West's efforts were lauded by the Council.

Considered by the Council, out of order, at this time:

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS:

15. REQUEST OF BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE for appropriation for Float in Armed Forces Day Parade.

RECOMMENDATION OF BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE:

That Council approve an appropriation of \$300 from the General Fund Unappropriated Reserve for the purpose of co-sponsoring a Bicentennial Float in the 1976 Armed Forces Day Parade.

Mr. George Post, Torrance Bicentennial Committee chairman, was present on this matter.

MOTION: Councilman Wilson moved to concur with the request of the Bicentennial Committee, as above stated. The motion was seconded by Councilman Rossberg, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilwoman Geissert absent).

PROCLAMATION:

10. SECRETARIES WEEK - April 18 through 24, 1976.

So proclaimed by Mayor Miller.

COMMISSION MATTERS:

11. CIVIC CENTER AUTHORITY VACANCY.

RECOMMENDATION OF CITY CLERK:

That the City Council fill the vacancy on the Civic Center Authority (term of J. Walker Owens expired April 1, 1976 - Mr. Owens wishes to be reappointed).

MOTION: Councilman Wilson moved to reappoint Mr. J. Walker Owens to the Civic Center Authority. The motion was seconded by Councilman Surber, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilwoman Geissert absent).

PUBLIC WORKS:

12. RESOLUTIONS (5) authorizing construction of curbs, gutters and sidewalks at various locations.

RESOLUTION NO. 76-67

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 THE NORTH AND SOUTH SIDE OF 237TH STREET, PER THE ATTACHED SKETCHES, ENTITLED (CHAPTER 27, 1911 ACT 76-1) TO CONSTRUCT CERTAIN STREET IMPROVEMENTS AND SETTING A TIME AND PLACE OF HEARING THEREON

RESOLUTION NO. 76-68

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 THE NORTH AND SOUTH SIDE OF 238TH STREET, PER THE ATTACHED SKETCHES, ENTITLED (CHAPTER 27, 1911 ACT 76-2) TO CONSTRUCT CERTAIN STREET IMPROVEMENTS AND SETTING A TIME AND PLACE OF HEARING THEREON

RESOLUTION NO. 76-69

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 THE EAST SIDE OF CRENSHAW, PER THE ATTACHED SKETCHES, ENTITLED (CHAPTER 27, 1911 ACT 76-3) TO CONSTRUCT CERTAIN STREET IMPROVEMENTS AND SETTING A TIME AND PLACE OF HEARING THEREON

RESOLUTION NO. 76-70

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 THE WEST SIDE OF SAMUEL, PER THE ATTACHED SKETCHES, ENTITLED (CHAPTER 27, 1911 ACT 76-4) TO CONSTRUCT CERTAIN STREET IMPROVEMENTS AND SETTING A TIME AND PLACE OF HEARING THEREON

RESOLUTION NO. 76-71

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 THE NORTH SIDE OF SANTA FE AVENUE, PER THE ATTACHED SKETCHES, ENTITLED (CHAPTER 27, 1911 ACT 76-5) TO CONSTRUCT CERTAIN STREET IMPROVEMENTS AND SETTING A TIME AND PLACE OF HEARING THEREON

Councilman Surber moved for the adoption of Resolutions 76-67, 76-68, 76-69, 76-70, and 76-71. The motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilwoman Geissert absent).

13. RESOLUTION authorizing agreement to enter Sears property for Sepulveda Boulevard Improvement Project.

RESOLUTION NO. 76-72

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE AND ATTEST THAT CERTAIN RIGHT OF ENTRY BETWEEN THE CITY AND SEARS, ROEBUCK AND COMPANY FOR ENTRY TO PROPERTY LOCATED AT THE NORTH-EAST CORNER OF SEPULVEDA BOULEVARD AND HAWTHORNE BOULEVARD FOR THE PURPOSE OF WIDENING SEPULVEDA BOULEVARD

Councilman Armstrong moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 76-72. His motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilwoman Geissert absent).

ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS:

14. REQUEST FOR TEMPORARY SIGNS ON PRIVATE PROPERTY.

RECOMMENDATION OF BUILDING AND SAFETY DIRECTOR:

DENIAL of an extension for temporary signs.

Representing the Del Amo Merchants Association, Mr. Gary Sorenson requested a shorter period of time -- 90 days instead of six months -- for the requested extension, limited to use by the Merchants Association. Mr. Sorenson further stated that there would be no future requests for temporary permits.

MOTION: Councilman Armstrong moved to concur with the request of the Del Amo Merchants Association for a 90-day extension. The motion was seconded by Councilman Rossberg, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilwoman Geissert absent).

Councilman Armstrong noted his displeasure at the current carnival setup at the shopping center.

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS:

15. Bicentennial Committee - Armed Forces Day Parade Float.

Heard earlier in the meeting - See Page 6.

16. RESOLUTION re: amendment to Bank of America agreement for low-cost housing improvement loans.

RESOLUTION NO. 76-73

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE THAT CERTAIN AMENDMENT TO THE AGREEMENT FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT LOANS BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY OF TORRANCE AND BANK OF AMERICA NATIONAL TRUST AND SAVINGS ASSOCIATION

Councilman Wilson moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 76-73. His motion was seconded by Councilman Armstrong, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilwoman Geissert absent).

MATTERS NOT OTHERWISE CLASSIFIED:

17. HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM PROCEDURAL GUIDELINES FOR PROCESSING RESIDENTIAL REHABILITATION ASSISTANCE.

RECOMMENDATION OF PLANNING DIRECTOR:

That Council adopt the guidelines, as modified, in concept.

MOTION: Councilman Armstrong moved to concur with the recommendation of the Planning Director on Item #17. The motion was seconded by Mayor Miller, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilwoman Geissert absent).

SECOND READING ORDINANCES:

18. ORDINANCE NO. 2639.

ORDINANCE NO. 2639

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 ON THE EAST SIDE OF OCEAN AVENUE BETWEEN 230TH AND 227TH STREETS AND DESCRIBED IN ZONE CHANGE 75-13  
(Torrance Planning Commission)

Councilman Surber moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 2639 at its second and final reading. His motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilwoman Geissert absent).

19. ORDINANCE NO. 2645.

ORDINANCE NO. 2645

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, AND DESCRIBED IN TT 26507 AND ZC 72-10  
(Phillip Nicholson)

Councilman Wilson moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 2645 at its second and final reading. His motion, seconded by Councilman Armstrong, carried, with roll call vote as follows:

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

PLANNING AND ZONING MATTERS:

20. RESOLUTION granting V 76-2, John and Sheila Eichar.

RESOLUTION NO. 76-74

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE GRANTING A VARIANCE FROM THE OFF-STREET PARKING REQUIREMENTS, AS APPLIED FOR BY JOHN AND SHEILA EICHAR, IN PLANNING COMMISSION CASE NO. V 76-2

Councilman Wilson moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 76-74. His motion was seconded by Councilman Surber, and carried, with roll call vote as follows:

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS: Armstrong, Brewster, Rossberg,  
Surber, Wilson;  
NOES: COUNCILMEMBERS: None.  
ABSTAIN: COUNCILMEMBERS: Mayor Miller (for previously  
stated reasons).  
ABSENT: COUNCILMEMBERS: Geissert.

ROUTINE MATTERS:

21. BUDGETED AND REIMBURSABLE ITEMS IN EXCESS OF \$300:

RECOMMENDATION OF FINANCE DIRECTOR:

That Council approve the following purchases:

1. \$1688.03 to A-1 Chemical Company for additional required janitorial supplies as requested by the Custodial Dept.
2. \$318.00 to State of California Department of Motor Vehicles for 5000 bicycle license stickers as requested by the License Division.
3. \$860.72 to Western Water Works Supply for required water meter box lids requested by the Water Dept.
4. \$3268.66 to Crown Coach for necessary repainting and body rework to Torrance Fire Engine #7 (a 1961 American LaFrance) as requested by the Fire Department.
5. \$301.04 to Hersey Products, Inc. for one only 2-inch Hersey water meter as requested by the Water Department for installation at Rolling Hills Vista. Payment has already been received.
6. \$306.62 to One-Day Paint and Body Center for necessary repairs to City vehicle #7190 involved in an accident.
7. \$418.86 to Dearth Machinery Company for necessary Wayne Sweeper repair parts as requested by the City Garage.
8. \$620.09 to Sound Music Sales for miscellaneous phonograph records requested by the Library Department.
9. \$485.49 to Baker and Taylor Company for library books requested by the Library Department.
10. \$616.26 to Johnny Gillettee for necessary tire repair and recapping services, as requested by the City Garage.
11. \$4411.93 to Norton Electric Wholesale Mart for award of an annual contract to supply a variety of batteries, as requested by City departments.

22. PURCHASE OF LEASED IBM MTST/SC EQUIPMENT.  
Expenditure: \$13,515.00

RECOMMENDATION OF FINANCE DIRECTOR/PURCHASING SUPERVISOR:

That Council approve of the purchase of IBM MTST/SC equipment now being leased by the City, and appropriate \$13,515.00 from the General Fund. (Although the purchase price is \$15,136.80, previously budgeted lease payments can be applied against the cost.)

23. AWARD OF CONTRACT - 2 Mini-Buses  
Bid No. B76-9 Expenditure: \$48,715.48

RECOMMENDATION OF FINANCE DIRECTOR/PURCHASING SUPERVISOR/  
DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION:

That Council accept the low bid from Walters Auto Sales for two only transit type Mercedes Benz Coaches, and approve of awarding them this contract in the total amount of \$48,715.48, including tax.

24. AWARD OF CONTRACT - 2½" Fire Hose.  
Expenditure: \$3,498.00

RECOMMENDATION OF FINANCE DIRECTOR/PURCHASING SUPERVISOR/  
FIRE CHIEF:

That Council approve awarding the contract for the required fire hose to the American Rubber Manufacturing Company in the total amount of \$3,498.00, including tax.

MOTION: Councilman Surber moved to approve Staff recommendations on agenda items #21, 22, 23, and #24. His motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilwoman Geissert absent).

# # #

The hour being 9:10 P.M., Councilman Wilson 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 (Councilwoman Geissert absent). The Council returned to its agenda at 9:11 P.M.

# # #

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

25. City Attorney Remelmeyer announced the need for an Executive Session re: pending litigation at the conclusion of this meeting; action by the Council will be necessary.

26. Councilman Rossberg commended the Police Department and its Special Weapons and Tactics Team in its recent apprehension of a dangerous, disturbed person who ultimately surrendered peaceably and who is now confined at the Metropolitan State Hospital. "The objectives of this Special Team are the protection of life -- including officers, citizens and suspects. In this case, the objectives were met without injury to anyone," per Mr. Rossberg.

Also commended by Councilman Rossberg was the special assistance in this strenuous situation provided by citizen Phillip Copeland.

27. The efficient actions of Custodial Supervisor Willett in extinguishing an early morning fire in the City Hall basement were commended by Councilman Surber, with specific note of the fact that Mr. Willett had arrived at work some forty-five minutes early thereby averting substantial destruction to this building. It was the request of Councilman Surber that the Council's appreciation be conveyed to Mr. Willett.

28. Councilman Wilson inquired as to the status of City employee service recognition -- a report will be provided by City Manager Ferraro.

29. Mr. Chuck Ryan, 16815 Casimir, reported on the lighting problems at Torrance Park, particularly as they affect the Slo-Pitch Team.

Mayor Miller referred this matter to Park and Recreation Director Van Bellehem for review and recommendation, to be returned to the Council at a later date, with appropriate information and notification to Mr. Ryan.

30. Ms. Joyce Foley, Promotion Advertising Director, Old Towne Mall, reported on their desire to hold a Dance Marathon for Muscular Dystrophy on May 7-8 -- the Code prohibition of same -- with the request that an exception be made in this case in view of the unique, charitable aspects of the proposed event.

It was the opinion of City Attorney Remelmeyer that the Code likely should be amended, that restriction dating back a number of years, with reference to dance marathons of an entirely different nature.

Ms. Martha Kemper, 24706 South Marbella, Carson, District Director for Muscular Dystrophy, suggested that the event be called "A Dance for Those Who Can't" rather than "Dance Marathon".

City Attorney Remelmeyer indicated his desire for additional information, and also noted the possible need for License Review Board consideration.

MOTION: Councilman Surber moved to grant the subject request, subject to the approval of the City Attorney and the License Review Board, if necessary. The motion was seconded by Councilman Armstrong, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilwoman Geissert absent).

# # #

13.

City Council  
April 13, 1976

ITEM #31 - EXECUTIVE SESSION - Fujita Litigation:

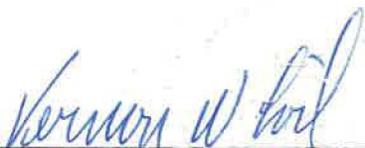
At 9:40 P.M., Councilman Wilson moved to recess for the purpose of an Executive Session to discuss pending litigation (a proper subject matter, per City Attorney Remelmeyer). The motion was seconded by Councilman Armstrong, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilwoman Geissert absent).

The Council returned at 10:00 P.M., and took the following action:

MOTION: Councilman Armstrong moved to concur with the recommendation of the City Attorney regarding Fujita litigation. The motion was seconded by Councilman Armstrong, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Absent: Councilwoman Geissert).

The meeting was regularly adjourned at 10:01 P.M.

# # #

  
Vernon W. Coil, Clerk of the  
City of Torrance

APPROVED:

  
Mayor of the City of Torrance