

I N D E XCity Council - May 31, 1977

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Adjourned at 8:05 P.M.

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Ava Cripe
Minute SecretaryCity Council
May 31, 1977

May 31, 1977

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, May 31, 1977, at 5:30 P.M. in the Council Chambers at Torrance City Hall.

2. ROLL CALL:

Present: Councilmembers Armstrong, Brewster, Brown, Geissert, Rossberg, 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:

Captain Hammond led in the salute to the flag.

4. INVOCATION:

Reverend Al Mace, First Baptist Church of Torrance, gave the invocation.

STANDARD MOTIONS:

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilman Armstrong moved for the approval of the minutes of May 17, 1977, as recorded. His motion was seconded by Councilman Brown, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

6. MOTION TO WAIVE FURTHER READING:

Councilman Armstrong 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 Wilson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

7. COUNCIL COMMITTEES:

Ad Hoc Committee - Downtown Torrance:
Will meet on June 22nd at 5:30 P.M.

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Ad Hoc Oil Committee:

Will next meet on June 23rd at 5:30 P.M. re: oil well fencing.

PRESENTATIONS:

8. RESOLUTION commending Officer Richard C. Augenstein.

RESOLUTION NO. 77-74

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE COMMENDING OFFICER RICHARD C. AUGENSTEIN OF THE TORRANCE POLICE DEPARTMENT FOR HIS HEROIC ACTION IN THE FACE OF GRAVE DANGER INCURRED IN THE PERFORMANCE OF HIS DUTIES

Councilman Armstrong moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 77-74. His motion, seconded by Councilman Rossberg, was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

9. RESOLUTION commending Firefighter Douglas K. Matson.

RESOLUTION NO. 77-84

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE RECOGNIZING THE VALIANT ACTIONS OF TORRANCE FIREFIGHTER DOUGLAS MATSON

Councilman Armstrong moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 77-84. His motion was seconded by Councilman Rossberg, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

10. RESOLUTION commending Firefighter James Eldon Kennedy.

RESOLUTION NO. 77-85

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE RECOGNIZING THE HEROIC ACTIONS OF TORRANCE FIREFIGHTER JAMES ELDON KENNEDY

Councilman Armstrong moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 77-85. His motion was seconded by Councilman Rossberg; roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

Following the adoption of the above resolutions, Mayor Miller presented appropriate plaques to Messrs. Augenstein, Matson and Kennedy, with praise for their heroic actions.

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ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS:

11. REVISED ORDINANCE re: fence requirements on oil well sites.

ORDINANCE NO. 2748

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING SECTION 97.9.10 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE WHICH REGULATES THE REQUIREMENTS FOR EXISTING FENCES ON OIL WELL SITES, AND ADDING TO SAID CODE SECTION 97.9.36 ESTABLISHING FENCE TEST REQUIREMENTS

Councilman Wilson moved for the approval of Ordinance No. 2748 at its first reading. His motion was seconded by Councilman Brown, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

12. REGULAR ORDINANCE re: dust and mud generated by unimproved lots.

ORDINANCE NO. 2749

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ADDING ARTICLE 10 TO CHAPTER 5 OF DIVISION 4 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE RELATING TO DUST AND MUD GENERATED BY UNIMPROVED LOTS AND REPEALING EMERGENCY ORDINANCE NO. 2557 RELATING TO THE SAME MATTER

Councilman Wilson moved for the approval of Ordinance No. 2749 at its first reading. His motion, seconded by Councilman Armstrong, was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

13. ORDINANCE re: terms of Oil Board members.

ORDINANCE NO. 2750

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING SECTION 13.14.2 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE TO EXTEND THE TERMS OF THE MEMBERS OF THE OIL BOARD

Councilwoman Geissert moved for the approval of Ordinance No. 2750 at its first reading. Her motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson; roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

TRANSPORTATION MATTERS:

14. MODIFICATION OF AVIGATION EASEMENT LANGUAGE.

RECOMMENDATION OF TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE:

That the following language be included in the City's avigation easement forms:

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"Provided, however, that nothing contained herein shall be deemed to create in the City any right to cause an intensity of use or a level of noise in the airspace subject to this easement which is substantially in excess of that which was normally associated with aircraft overflights in said airspace at the time this easement was granted."

MOTION: Councilman Brown moved to concur with the above stated recommendation of the Transportation Committee. His motion was seconded by Councilman Armstrong, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

15. AIRPORT RATES AND CHARGES.

Comments from the audience were invited by Mayor Miller.

Mr. David Pierson, 4 Lariat Lane, Rolling Hills Estates, owner of property abutting the west fence of the Airport on Madison Street, stated his understanding at the time of purchase of this Redevelopment property that he had access to the Airport; further, that he would be given 66 parking spaces in the "free zone" parking lot. It was Mr. Pierson's understanding that he would have to pay for the parking spaces, but nothing was ever said about access charges. In the opinion of Mr. Pierson it is very unfair to charge a fee to run an airplane through his own fence on his own property. Further, per Mr. Pierson, it is not fair for the City to use the term "inflation" to increase the rates in that the Airport is one of the most revenue producing agencies that the City has; why penalize pilots and Airport properties and businesses?

It was clarified by Director of Transportation Horkay that the access charge is basically for the use of the field -- maintenance, security, lighting, etc.

Discussion ensued, it being the unanimous consensus of the Council that there was need for further rationale and input regarding the matter of access fees (aircraft access gates/ pedestrian access gates), and that this matter should be referred to the Transportation Committee.

Mrs. Betty Sanders, 1441 West 215th Street, protested the proposed rate increases at the Airport, and reviewed the present overall Airport revenue and the sources thereof. Comments of other pilots, also in protest, were presented by Mrs. Sanders.

Mr. Dale Rodman, 23950 Madison, indicated concurrence with the foregoing remarks made by Mr. Pierson.

MOTION: Councilman Armstrong moved to refer agenda item #15 to the Transportation Committee. The motion was seconded by Councilman Rossberg, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

The date of June 8th at 4:30 P.M. was set for the Transportation Committee meeting on this matter.

FISCAL MATTERS:

16. RESOLUTION re: Skypark Redevelopment Project.

RESOLUTION NO. 77-98

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ADVANCING AN ADDITIONAL SUM OF SEVENTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS TO THE REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE FOR USE IN CONNECTION WITH THE SKYPARK REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT

Councilman Wilson moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 77-98. His motion was seconded by Councilwoman Geissert, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

17. WATER CONSERVATION EFFORTS.

RECOMMENDATION OF WATER COMMISSION/WATER DEPARTMENT:

1. That the consideration of the Metropolitan Water District's proposed model ordinance be deferred until the joint Ad Hoc Committee of the Torrance Water Commission and Torrance Disaster Council have opportunity to formulate specific recommendations regarding this matter.
2. That the City Council authorize an appropriation from the Water Revenue Fund in the amount of \$3,000 to procure 5,000 heavy water bag conservation kits to be distributed free of charge to interested customers in the Water Department's service area.

Staff presentation was provided by Water System Manager Borgwat.

MOTION: Councilman Armstrong moved to concur with the above stated recommendation of the Water Commission and Water Department. The motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

18. BUDGET WORKSHOP SESSIONS.

It was the consensus of the Council that Budget Workshop Sessions be scheduled for June 9, June 10, and June 20th.

MANPOWER MATTERS:

19. RESOLUTION re: On-The-Job Training.

RESOLUTION NO. 77-99

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 FOR ON-THE-JOB TRAINING BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY OF TORRANCE AND BARRINGTON MANUFACTURING, INC.; CAL STEREO, INC.; HALBERT'S LUMBER COMPANY; AND LARRY REED, INC.

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Councilman Wilson moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 77-99. His motion was seconded by Councilman Rossberg, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

PARK AND RECREATION MATTERS:

- 20. RESOLUTION re: railroad easement deed - Naval Annex property. (Madrona Spur)

RESOLUTION NO. 77-100

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE AND DELIVER AN EASEMENT DEED GRANTING THE ATCHISON, TOPEKA AND SANTA FE RAILWAY COMPANY A RAILROAD EASEMENT OVER A PORTION OF THAT PROPERTY FORMERLY POPULARLY DESCRIBED AS THE TORRANCE ANNEX, NAVAL SUPPLY STATION

Councilman Armstrong moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 77-100. His motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

- 21. TORRANCE COMMISSIONER'S PICNIC.

RECOMMENDATION OF YOUTH COUNCIL:

That the First Annual Torrance Commissioner's Picnic be established and that the Youth Council host the event.

Further, the Youth Council recommends that City Council approve the expenditure of budgeted Youth Council funds in the amount of \$100 for the implementation of this activity. Expenditures will provide paper goods and the punch for the day.

Youth Council president, Laurie Anderson, was present to provide desired clarification regarding this event. City Attorney Remelmeyer specifically noted the imperative requirement that no City business be conducted, due to the Brown Act.

MOTION: Councilman Wilson moved to concur with the above stated recommendation of the Youth Council. His motion was seconded by Councilman Armstrong, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

PERSONNEL MATTERS:

- 22. ORDINANCE re: criminal history information.

This item was withdrawn at the request of City Attorney Remelmeyer who advised that it must first go to the Civil Service Commission. Councilman Armstrong MOVED to concur with the request of the City Attorney; the motion was seconded by Councilman Rossberg; roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

SECOND READING ORDINANCES:23. ORDINANCE NO. 2743.ORDINANCE NO. 2743

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING SECTION 61.8.1 AND ADDING SECTION 61.6.30 AND CHAPTER 9, DIVISION 3 TO THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE ESTABLISHING A LICENSING PROCEDURE AND REGULATIONS FOR TEMPORARY STREET CLOSURES

Councilwoman Geissert moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 2743 at its second and final reading. Her motion, seconded by Councilman Brown, was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

24. ORDINANCE NO. 2744 re: requirement of a Conditional Use Permit for secondary recovery oil operations.

Councilwoman Geissert noted communication from Mr. Henry Nowicki regarding a companion ordinance which would insert the Oil Code into the Land Use Ordinance. City Attorney Remelmeyer commented that the placement of oil sites for secondary recovery onto the zoning map desired by Mr. Nowicki is now in progress in the Planning Department. Further, per Mr. Remelmeyer, an ordinance specifically providing for this was tabled by the Oil Board --however, it is now planned to present this ordinance to the Ad Hoc Oil Committee at its next meeting.

Speaking at this time, Mr. Peter Lacombe, representing Great Lakes Carbon, requested that this second reading be postponed for two weeks in view of the acute need for further clarification regarding the contents of Ordinance No. 2744. It was affirmed by Mr. Lacombe that Great Lakes Carbon would not come in with any requests for well permits or conditional use permits until this ordinance has been passed, nor would Chanslor-Western Oil and Development come in with such requests. Oil Board review has been scheduled for June 8th, per Mr. Lacombe.

MOTION: Councilman Armstrong moved to concur with the requested two-week continuance, and referred Item #24 back to the Oil Board. The motion was seconded by Councilman Rossberg, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

25. ORDINANCE NO. 2746.ORDINANCE NO. 2746

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING THE PROVISIONS OF SECTIONS 216.2.1 AND 216.2.6 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE RELATING TO THE APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS AND MANNER OF DRAWING FUNDS

Councilman Wilson moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 2746 at its second and final reading. His motion was seconded by Councilman Rossberg, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

APPEALS - PLANNING:

26. CUP 77-19, JUANITA RUTHERFORD. Appeal of request for approval of a Conditional Use Permit to reestablish the on-premise sale and consumption of beer and wine with hot sandwiches and live entertainment and dancing in an existing building in the C-2 zone on property located at 1327 Cabrillo Avenue. DENIED BY THE PLANNING COMMISSION.

Mayor Miller announced that this was the time and place for the continued public hearing in the matter of CUP 77-19, and first invited comments from Staff. City Manager Ferraro elaborated on his communication of May 31, 1977 regarding Staff errors in this matter; Planning Director Shartle and Planning Assistant Woodward provided further input, as did Police Lieutenant Armstrong.

The Mayor next asked for comments from the audience.

Mr. Frank Daugherty, attorney for the applicant, pointed out that Mrs. Rutherford has owned and operated a general on-sale license in the City of Long Beach for approximately five years, with no police involvement whatever. It was further noted by Mr. Daugherty that adjacent property had been granted a license minus any Police Department objection. (It was clarified by Planning Assistant Woodward that this establishment had changed an existing liquor license in a bona fide restaurant.)

The attorney for the property owners, Mr. John Shiffler, Jr., reviewed the history of the subject property since its purchase in 1967 by Mr. and Mrs. Frank Kredel; the experiences with the most recent lessee; costly renovations to the building; the limited use of the property due to location, parking, etc.; the misleading aspects of the police report; etc.

The property owner, Mr. Frank Kredel, 2721 Via Anita, Palos Verdes Estates, likewise related the history of the Hitching Post Bar, and recent efforts to improve the property to the end that a suitable tenant could be found.

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

Council discussion ensued. It was the comment of Councilman Armstrong that in view of the abundance of existing on-sale establishments in the subject area, he would MOVE TO DENY the appeal, and sustain the Planning Commission action. The motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson.

Prior to roll call vote on the motion, it was noted by Councilman Wilson that many of the crimes committed in the City of Torrance are committed in the subject area, some 1½ square miles in a 22-mile city, which represents a substantial cost for police protection. Councilman Brown was of the opinion that there simply are too many bars in this area, by any definition; the addition of yet another one would only aggravate the situation.

Somewhere along the line, per Mayor Miller, this Council has to take a new direction for an area that has gone nowhere but down -- there is now a certain kind of transient tenant in the downtown area, and that fact combined with the numerous bars which have been allowed to go in, has caused some serious problems. Ultimately, with Council redirection, the value of this property will escalate dramatically -- such redirection could be by way of a redevelopment project or a tightening of controls, according to the Mayor.

Concurrence with the above comments was indicated by Councilmembers Rossberg, Geissert and Brewster.

Roll call vote on Councilman Armstrong's motion to deny the appeal on CUP 77-19 was unanimously favorable, "yes" being for denial.

ROUTINE MATTERS:

27. AUTOMATIC DOORS FOR THE HANDICAPPED - Recreation Center and Joslyn Center.

RECOMMENDATION OF BUILDING AND SAFETY DIRECTOR/PLANNING DEPARTMENT, HCD DIVISION:

That the firm of Don La Force Associates, Inc. be accepted as the responsible contractor to do the work of the installation of the automatic doors for the following locations in the amount of \$10,389:

- (1) Recreation Center, 3341 Torrance Boulevard.
- (2) Joslyn Center, 3335 Torrance Boulevard.

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

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The hour being 7:55 P.M. the Council recessed and reconvened as the Redevelopment Agency, and returned to its agenda at 7:59 P.M.

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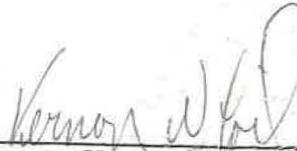
ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

28. Councilman Wilson requested that Staff prepare a formal reply to the recent communication re: Southwood National Little League.

29. Appropriate recognition for Paramedics and Firefighters for their lifesaving efforts in behalf of Mrs. Older (per communication of record) was requested by Councilman Wilson.

The meeting was regularly adjourned at 8:05 P.M.

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

APPROVED:



Mayor of the City of Torrance

Ava Cripe
Minute Secretary

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