

I N D E XCity Council - June 20, 1977BUDGET WORKSHOP SESSION

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Ava Cripe
Minute Secretary

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MINUTES OF AN ADJOURNED REGULAR
MEETING OF THE TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL
(THIRD BUDGET WORKSHOP SESSION)

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The Torrance City Council convened in an Adjourned Regular Meeting (Budget Workshop Session) on Monday, June 20, 1977, at 4:30 P.M. in the Council Chambers at Torrance City Hall.

Present: Councilmembers Armstrong, Brewster, Geissert, Rossberg and Mayor Miller. Councilman Wilson arrived at 5:15 P.M. Absent: Councilman Brown.

Also present: City Manager Ferraro, Assistant City Manager Scharfman, City Attorney Remelmeyer, Deputy City Clerk Moss, City Treasurer Rupert, Finance Director Dundore, Budget Officer Ng and Assistant Finance Director Rankin.

II. PRESENTATION BY CITY COMMISSIONS:

A. LIBRARY COMMISSION:

Proposed Library Programs.

Mr. James Pierson, Chairman, Library Commission, presented the request of the Commission that an appropriate sub-account be budgeted specifically for the purpose of purchasing 16MM films, per communication of June 20, 1977, of record. Mr. Pierson indicated the overall satisfaction of the Commission with the Library budget.

B. CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION:

Proposed Commission Budget.

Representing the Civil Service Commission, Mr. Jack Salling expressed their concerns pertaining to the Senior Secretary position and the need for further review by the new Civil Service Administrator and the Council Civil Service Committee. The forthcoming Committee meeting on this matter was noted by its chairman, Councilman Rossberg.

III. PRESENTATION BY COMMUNITY GROUPS:

A. TORRANCE AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE:

Budget Review Committee:

Mr. John Rice presented the Budget Review Committee findings (of official record) -- the 1977-78 budget was commended, and he offered the assistance of the Budget Review Committee, if desired. Further, it was recommended that the utility tax rate be reduced from 5½% to 5% for all users. Clarification pertaining to several aspects of the budget was requested, and this will be provided by Finance Director Dundore.

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B. LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS.
Proposed City Budget.

The president of the Torrance League of Women Voters, Mrs. Ruth Vogel, presented their comments regarding the budget (per June 20, 1977 communication, of record) -- of specific concern was the continued transfer of Water Department funds to the General Fund; the trend of augmenting user fees in order to maintain a low tax rate.

C. SOUTHWOOD HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION.
Proposed City Budget.

Mrs. Rachel Meyer, representing the Southwood Homeowners Association, spoke on the following three issues: the need for more visible policemen and police cars; the use of Revenue Sharing Funds for the proposed Police Facility; and the importance of "holding the line" on the amount of money taken by the Utility Users Tax. (Prepared statement of record).

D. SOUTHWOOD LITTLE LEAGUE.
Little League Field on Sunnyglen Park Site.

Little League president, Mr. Don Patcheak, expressed their concerns at the loss of the Sunnyglen park site -- hopefully, they can have at least one more year at this location.

The park development time schedule was reviewed by City Manager Ferraro -- Mr. Ferraro also indicated that every effort will be made to find another location for the Southwood Little League.

E. TORRANCE AREA YOUTH BAND.
Increase City contribution.

Mr. Ernest Prevost, and other Torrance Area Youth Band representatives, urged Council approval of their request for an increase in their contract fee. (June 14, 1977 communication of record).

F. SOUTH BAY TORRANCE HUMAN SERVICE CENTER.
Request Allocation of Federal Revenue Sharing Funds.

Representing the South Bay Torrance Human Service Center, Mr. Steven Schreiner, Executive Director, requested that the City of Torrance provide revenue sharing funds for the operation of a one year juvenile services program (per communication of June 20, 1977, of record).

G. TORRANCE YWCA.
Request allocation of Federal Revenue Sharing Funds for Youth Programs.

No one was present on this item.

IV. PRESENTATION BY CITY EMPLOYEE ORGANIZATIONS.A. TORRANCE CITY EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION.

Mrs. Barbara Ziegler, president, TCEA, voiced this organization's strong objections to the proposed reorganization in the Finance Department whereby a "Revenue Supervisor" will perform the functions of both the License Supervisor and the Customer Service Supervisor. (Prepared statement of record). A report on this matter will be forthcoming from the City Manager.

B. TORRANCE FIRE FIGHTERS ASSOCIATION.

Representing TFFA, Mr. Richard DeArmitt reviewed the acute need for an arrangement at Pacific Coast Highway and Douglas Way which will permit control of the signal at this intersection by turning it red when fire engines are responding to emergency situations. This item has been deleted from the budget and its restoration was requested by Mr. DeArmitt. A report in this regard will likewise be forthcoming from the City Manager.

V. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

A. Councilman Wilson requested Staff review re: the request that the City join the L.A. County Independent Cities organization.

B. Assistant to the City Manager Scharfman discussed pertinent facts regarding salary negotiations, the budgetary impact thereof, and the impossibility of granting additional requests for funds without increasing revenues or reducing already recommended expenditures. Deferment of action on these requests was recommended by Mr. Scharfman.

Discussion followed regarding the varied and complicated considerations surrounding the preparation of the 1977-78 budget, as well as the need for possible financial adjustments, and it was ultimately agreed to have a further presentation in this matter. The date selected for the next Budget Workshop Session was Thursday, June 23, 1977, at 4:30 P.M.

VI. ADJOURNMENT.

At 6:30 P.M. the meeting was regularly adjourned to Tuesday, June 21, 1977, at 5:30 P.M.

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APPROVED:



Mayor of the City of Torrance



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

Ava Cripe
Minute Secretary

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