

I N D E X

City Council - March 17, 1981

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Ava Cripe
Minute SecretaryCity Council
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MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE TORRANCE CITY COUNCILOPENING CEREMONIES:1. CALL TO ORDER:

The Torrance City Council convened in a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, March 17, 1981, at 5:30 P.M. in the Council Chambers at Torrance City Hall.

2. ROLL CALL:

Present: Councilmembers Applegate, Geissert, Rossberg, Walker, Wilson and Mayor Armstrong. Councilman Brown arrived at 5:45 P.M. Absent: None.

Also present: City Manager Ferraro and Staff representatives.

3. FLAG SALUTE:

Miss McCormick led in the salute to the flag.

4. INVOCATION:

Reverend Carroll Parker, First United Methodist Church, gave the invocation.

STANDARD MOTIONS:5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilman Applegate moved to approve the minutes of February 17 and February 24, 1981, as recorded. His motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson; roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Brown had not yet arrived at the meeting).

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6. MOTION TO WAIVE FURTHER READING:

Councilman Applegate moved that after the City Clerk has assigned 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 Rossberg, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Brown had not yet arrived at the meeting).

7. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS.

None scheduled.

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Mayor Armstrong noted the cancellation of the erroneously scheduled public hearing on March 17, 1981 re: Dominguez Water Corporation, per communication from City Attorney Remelmeyer, of official record.

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8. COMMUNITY MATTERS:

8a. PROCLAMATION - "1736 Projects Day" - March 21, 1981.

So proclaimed by Mayor Armstrong.

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10. TRANSPORTATION/PUBLIC WORKS MATTERS:10a. FY 82-86 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AND SHORT RANGE TRANSIT PLAN.RECOMMENDATION OF DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION:

That your Honorable Body approve the subject FY 82-86 Transportation Improvement Program and Short Range Transit Plan for submittal to the LACTC and SCAG.

Staff presentation, and desired clarification, were provided by Transportation Administrator Schmidt and Administrative Analyst Hildebrand.

MOTION: Councilman Wilson moved to concur with the above stated recommendation of the Department of Transportation. His motion, seconded by Councilman Brown, was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

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12. PLANNING AND ZONING MATTERS:12a. RESOLUTION re: Revised Contract with Ultrasystems, Inc. - EIR for Dominguez Properties Oil Overlay Zone.RESOLUTION NO. 81-35

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE THAT CERTAIN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY AND ULTRASYSTEMS, INC. FOR PREPARATION OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

Councilman Wilson moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 81-35. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Geissert, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

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13. ENVIRONMENTAL/BUILDING AND SAFETY MATTERS:13a. ENERGY RETROFIT CITY HALL AND MAIN LIBRARY.RECOMMENDATION OF BUILDING AND SAFETY DIRECTOR:

That the City of Torrance enter into a contract with William R. Ishii and Associates, Inc., low bidder, to prepare the plans and specifications for the economizer systems in the City Hall and Main Library and that payment be taken from the appropriated Federal funds previously set aside for this work.

MOTION: Councilman Wilson moved to concur with the above stated recommendation of the Building and Safety Director. His motion was seconded by Councilwoman Geissert, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

13b. RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING THE AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT PLAN AND THE VEHICLE INSPECTION PROGRAM, PER COUNCIL'S REQUEST.RECOMMENDATIONS OF STAFF:

That your Honorable Body reaffirm your position on the AQMD Plan expressed in Resolution No. 79-5. This position provided a local program which is acceptable to the community and based upon reasonable measures which can be facilitated by available staff and monies.

That your Honorable Body support a vehicle/maintenance program as a reasonable measure to mitigate air pollution but that you not support SB 33 as amended. Because this measure is considered one of the most cost-effective measures in the AQMD to mitigate air pollution and because it has such potential impact on each motorist, Staff recommends that you refer the matter to a Council Ad Hoc Committee so that all issues may be reviewed and discussed and the interested public may have an opportunity to share their views. This should be accomplished at the earliest possible time since concerted effort is being made by many groups to get a program legislated.

Staff presentation was provided by Environmental Quality Administrator McElroy, noting the modified position of Staff in that re: the vehicle/maintenance legislation it is felt a better decision could be arrived at via Council Committee consideration in view of current recommendations re: SB 33.

MOTION: Councilwoman Geissert moved that the Council reaffirm its position on the AQMD Plan as expressed in Resolution No. 79-5. Her motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and carried, with roll call vote as follows:

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS: Brown, Geissert, Rossberg,
Wilson; Mayor Armstrong.
NOES: COUNCILMEMBERS: Applegate, Walker.

MOTION: Councilman Brown moved that the balance of the Staff recommendation re: the vehicle/maintenance program be referred to the Council Public Safety Committee. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Geissert, and carried, with roll call vote as follows:

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS: Brown, Geissert, Rossberg,
Wilson; Mayor Armstrong.
NOES: COUNCILMEMBERS: Applegate, Walker.

14. PERSONNEL MATTERS:

14a. EXECUTIVE SESSION re: Wages, Hours Working Conditions and Litigations.

See Page 11.

15. HEARINGS:

15a. APPEAL OF PLANNING COMMISSION APPROVAL of PP 80-41 to allow a first and second story addition to a single-family residence in the Hillside Overlay District with Planning Commission recommendation to approve the subject request with the condition that #6 "the roofline height be reduced by 2 feet to the satisfaction of Staff," and the Planning Department recommendation to approve the project and deny the subject appeal.

An Affidavit of Publication was presented by City Clerk Nelson, and it was ordered filed, there being no objection.

Mayor Armstrong announced that this was the time and place for the subject public hearing, and, following Staff presentation by Planning Associate Woodward, invited comments from the audience.

First to speak was the proponent, Mr. Peter Yu, who, on behalf of Mr. and Mrs. Victor Sun, outlined efforts made to reduce the addition to make it acceptable to the neighborhood, and expressed his opinion that the proposed addition would not block views any more than existing trees, etc.

Representing the neighbors opposed to the addition was Mr. Edward Bernardo, 4921 Bindewald Road -- there are no objections to a one-story addition; however, Council denial of a two-story addition was requested because of the substantial detrimental impact to views in this area. Noted as well by Mr. Bernardo was the precedent-setting aspect of the addition as proposed.

Mrs. Victor Sun urged Council approval of their request -- she deemed the addition an improvement for the community. Mrs. Sun also explained that the quarters are planned for her elderly in-laws who do not drive and will not present problems to the neighborhood.

Speaking in support of the addition were Mr. Ed Thomas, 2644 Via Alivera, Palos Verdes Estates; and Mr. Mitch Mitsky, 5502 Vanderhill Road.

Opposed to the addition were: Mr. Dean Fisher, 5006 Vanderhill Road; Alan and Caroline Yee, 4922 Bindewald Road.

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

It was the comment of Councilwoman Geissert that while she commends the care of parents by children in their homes, this addition, as designed, does deprive the people to the rear of the property of a substantial part of their view and definitely diminishes the value of their property -- accordingly, Councilwoman Geissert MOVED to uphold the appeal in this case. The motion was seconded by Councilman Brown.

A SUBSTITUTE MOTION was offered by Councilman Wilson: That the subject appeal be DENIED. There is minimum view blockage, per Dr. Wilson, and this plan would be preferable to building onto the rear of the house. The substitute motion was seconded by Councilman Walker, and carried, with roll call vote as follows:

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS: Applegate, Rossberg, Walker,
Wilson.
NOES: COUNCILMEMBERS: Brown, Geissert; Mayor Armstrong.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 81-36

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING A PRECISE PLAN OF DEVELOPMENT TO ALLOW CONSTRUCTION OF A FIRST AND SECOND-STORY ADDITION TO A ONE-STORY SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENCE IN THE HILLSIDE OVERLAY DISTRICT IN THE R-1 ZONE AT 4921 VANDERHILL ROAD PP 80-41, PETER YU

Councilman Wilson moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 81-36. His motion was seconded by Councilman Applegate, and carried, with roll call vote as follows:

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS: Applegate, Rossberg, Walker,
Wilson.
NOES: COUNCILMEMBERS: Brown, Geissert; Mayor Armstrong.

Mayor Armstrong indicated that his negative vote was based on the matter of the design itself.

15b. APPEAL OF PLANNING COMMISSION APPROVAL of PP 80-43 for a second story addition to a single-family residence in the Hillside Overlay District. PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDS APPROVAL OF THE REQUESTED PROJECT AND THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDS DENIAL OF THIS PROJECT ON THE BASIS OF VIEW IMPAIRMENT AND LOSS OF PRIVACY OF ADJACENT NEIGHBORS.

An Affidavit of Publication was presented by City Clerk Nelson, and it was ordered filed, there being no objection.

Mayor Armstrong announced that this was the time and place for the subject hearing, and, following presentation by Planning Associate Woodward, invited comments from the audience.

Representing the proponent, Mr. Phillip Edwards, Pacific Builders, 3845 Pacific Coast Highway, requested Council approval of the proposed addition; reviewed the status of the several trees in the proponent's yard for the purpose of serving as buffers, noting Mr. McCue's agreement to top one of the taller trees.

Speaking in opposition to the proposed addition were: Mr. William Flanagan, 250 Via Linda Vista; Mr. Al Delisseo; and Mr. Lee Olson, 276 Via Linda Vista.

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The proponent, Mr. Kevin McCue, described his acute need for additional room and the various alternatives that were considered -- he deemed the proposed addition would be a credit to the neighborhood, and requested approval by the Council.

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

Councilman Walker reviewed the merits of a "tree topping agreement" by Mr. McCue, based on his own experience in a like situation. Mr. McCue, at Councilman Walker's question, agreed to having the tall tree topped at this time, with topping to occur on a regular basis, with the cost to be borne by the individual desiring the topping.

Formal action taken by the Council is reflected below:

MOTION: Councilwoman Geissert moved to concur with the recommendation of the Planning Department which is for DENIAL of PP 80-43 and granting of the appeal. The motion was seconded by Councilman Brown.

A SUBSTITUTE MOTION was offered by Councilman Walker: That the Council concur with the Planning Commission recommendation for approval of PP 80-43 and denial of the appeal. The motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, BUT FAILED TO CARRY, with roll call vote as follows:

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS: Applegate, Walker, Wilson.
NOES: COUNCILMEMBERS: Brown, Geissert, Rossberg;
Mayor Armstrong.

The MAIN MOTION for denial of PP 80-43 carried, with roll call vote as follows:

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS: Brown, Geissert, Rossberg;
Mayor Armstrong.
NOES: COUNCILMEMBERS: Applegate, Walker, Wilson.

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20. CONSENT CALENDAR:

- 20a.
- NOTICE OF COMPLETION.
- Storm Drain in Intersection of Plaza Del Amo, Washington Avenue and Arlington Avenue.

RECOMMENDATION OF ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT:

1. That the work be accepted and final payment be made to the contractor, S and S Construction; and
2. That the distribution of the original appropriation be amended to increase the allotment for this project by \$1,500 to cover costs.

- 20b.
- AWARD OF CONTRACT
- Sanitary Sewer in Bluff Court south of Newton Street (B81-19).

RECOMMENDATION OF ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT:

That the contract be awarded to Holstrom Construction Corporation and all other bids be rejected.

- 20c.
- MONTE D'ORO STREET LIGHTING SYSTEM.

RECOMMENDATION OF DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION:

That the project be accepted as completed and final payment be made to Grißsom & Johnson, Inc.

- 20d.
- TEMPORARY SIGN ON PUBLIC PROPERTY
- Triangle at Intersection of Hawthorne and Sepulveda Boulevards - Annual Armed Forces Day Parade - May 16, 1981.

RECOMMENDATION OF BUILDING AND SAFETY DIRECTOR/
ACTING CITY ENGINEER:

Since this is a Torrance civic function we recommend that the temporary sign be approved and that the fees and insurance be waived as in past approvals by the City of Torrance Rodeo, Lion's Football Game, P.T.A., etc., provided that it will be so located as not to impede traffic visibility and will be removed at the end of the stated date.

(It was noted by Councilman Rossberg that the reference to the "Torrance Exchange Club" in the Staff material should be deleted in that this group is no longer part of the overall operation of the Armed Forces Day Parade.)

MOTION: Councilman Applegate moved to concur with Staff recommendations on agenda items 20a, 20b, 20c and 20d. His motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

22. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

22a. Councilman Applegate noted recent communication from Mr. Al Levitt regarding an "express lane" concept -- it was the request of Mr. Applegate, concurred in by the Council, that this letter be referred to the Planning Commission.

22b. Councilman Applegate indicated his concern regarding Airport Commission oral communications at a recent meeting expressing considerable criticism of the Council -- review by the Transportation Committee was recommended, and this course of action met with the approval of the Council who indicated like concern.

Councilman Brown, chairman of the Transportation Committee, advised that such a meeting is being scheduled, and that an ad hoc committee from the Airport Commission will be invited to air the apparent problems.

22c. Councilwoman Geissert discussed the "Madrona Marsh Paper" prepared by Park and Recreation Director Barnett -- City Attorney Remelmeyer reviewed his concerns regarding possible prejudicial aspects of Council review of same prior to EIR considerations of the proposed development. It was the direction of Mayor Armstrong that the City Attorney study same, and if legally advisable, forward to the Council for information pertaining to various concepts, etc.

22d. Councilman Rossberg requested Staff investigation re: numerous cars and disorder at 5312 Bindewald Road and at the house between 5237 and 5229 Vanderhill Road.

22e. Councilman Rossberg advised that the Grand Marshal for the Armed Forces Day Parade will be a General from March Air Force Base.

22f. At the request of Mayor Armstrong, Park and Recreation Director Barnett reported on recent trip to Sacramento re: Madrona Marsh funding -- a written report will be provided the Council.

22g. Mrs. Georgean Griswold reaffirmed the merits of preserving Madrona Marsh, the only wildlife area left in the City of Torrance.

Mr. Bill Arasmith, 2019 West 231st Street, reviewed the long standing plans and financial efforts in behalf of Madrona Marsh.

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ITEM 14a.

At 8:10 P.M. the Council recessed for an Executive Session re: Wages, Hours, Working Conditions and Litigations.

On its return at 9:00 P.M., formal Council action was as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 81-37

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE SETTING FORTH CERTAIN CHANGES REGARDING WAGES, HOURS AND WORKING CONDITIONS FOR EMPLOYEES REPRESENTED BY THE TORRANCE PROFESSIONAL AND SUPERVISORY ASSOCIATION AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 80-176

Councilwoman Geissert moved to adopt the subject Memorandum of Understanding and Resolution No. 81-37. Her motion, seconded by Councilman Walker, was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

The meeting was regularly adjourned at 9:05 P.M.

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Ava Cripe
Minute Secretary

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City Clerk of the City of Torrance


Mayor of the City of Torrance