

I N D E XCity Council - January 3, 1984

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Ava Cripe  
Minute SecretaryCity Council  
January 3, 1984

January 3, 1984

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, January 3, 1984, at 5:30 P.M. in the Council Chambers at Torrance City Hall.

2. ROLL CALL:

Present: Councilmembers Applegate, Geissert, Rossberg, Walker, Wilson, Wirth and Mayor Armstrong.

Absent: None.

Also present: City Manager Jackson and Staff representatives.

3. FLAG SALUTE:

A student member of the audience led in the salute to the flag.

4. INVOCATION:

Reverend Ray Lambert, First Christian Church, provided the invocation.

STANDARD MOTIONS:

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

None available.

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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 Walker, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

7. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

None scheduled.

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Mayor Armstrong announced, with deep regret, the death of Mrs. Ora Bishop, mother of City Attorney Stanley Remelmeyer, and directed that this meeting be adjourned in her memory.

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8. COMMUNITY MATTERS:

8a. RESOLUTION commending Dr. Howard A. "Hod" Wood.

RESOLUTION NO. 84-1

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE COMMENDING DR. HOWARD A. "HOD" WOOD FOR HIS YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE RESIDENTS OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

Councilman Wilson moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 84-1. His motion, seconded by Councilman Wirth, was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

8b. RESOLUTION honoring Walter E. Garrison.

RESOLUTION NO. 84-2

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE HONORING WALTER E. GARRISON FOR HIS YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES AS CHIEF ENGINEER AND GENERAL MANAGER OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICTS

Councilman Wilson moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 84-2. His motion was seconded by Councilman Applegate, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

10. TRANSPORTATION/PUBLIC WORKS MATTERS:

- 10a. MADRONA AVENUE SOUTH OF DEL AMO BOULEVARD - Appropriation Request to Repair Pavement Subsidence and Construct a Left-Turn Pocket to served the remodeled City Yard Facilities.

RECOMMENDATION OF CITY ENGINEER:

That \$25,000 be appropriated from Gas Tax Funds for design and construction of roadway repairs and a left-turn pocket to serve the remodeled City Yard facility on Madrona Avenue south of Del Amo Boulevard.

MOTION: Councilman Applegate moved to concur with the above stated recommendation of the City Engineer. His motion was seconded by Councilman Rossberg, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

14. PERSONNEL MATTERS:

- 14a. RESOLUTION re: Amendment to Contract between the City of Torrance and Control Data Institute.

RESOLUTION NO. 84-3

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE AND ATTEST AN AMENDMENT TO THE CONTRACT BETWEEN THE CITY AND CONTROL DATA INSTITUTE OF LOS ANGELES UNDER TITLES II AND III OF THE JOB TRAINING PARTNERSHIP ACT

Councilman Wilson moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 84-3. His motion was seconded by Councilman Rossberg, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

- 14b. RESOLUTION re: JTPA Fiscal Year 1984 Subcontract.

RESOLUTION NO. 84-4

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE AND ATTEST THIS CONTRACT BETWEEN THE CITY OF TORRANCE AND DIAMOND AMERICAN DATALOG UNDER TITLES II-A AND III OF THE JOB TRAINING PARTNERSHIP ACT

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Councilman Wilson moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 84-4. His motion was seconded by Councilman Rossberg; roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

- 14c. RESOLUTION re: Supplemental MOU - Torrance Fire Fighters' Association.

RESOLUTION NO. 84-5

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 FIRE FIGHTERS' ASSOCIATION AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 83-220

Councilman Wilson moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 84-5. His motion was seconded by Councilwoman Geissert, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

15. HEARINGS:

- 15a. CONFLICT OF INTEREST CODES.

Proof of Publication was presented by City Clerk Babb, 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 inquired if anyone wished to be heard. There was no response.

Councilman Wilson moved that the hearing be closed. His motion was seconded by Councilman Applegate, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

MOTION: Councilwoman Geissert moved to approve the revisions to the Conflict of Interest Code as set forth by additions within City departments. The motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

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At 5:40 P.M. the Council recessed and reconvened as the Redevelopment Agency, returning to its agenda at 5:41 P.M.

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- 15b. CUP 83-18, WALDER DEVELOPMENT COMPANY, INC.  
 City Council consideration of an appeal of a Planning Commission denial of a Conditional Use Permit to allow construction of a 16,368 square foot commercial office building in the C-2 zone located at Crenshaw Boulevard and Sierra Avenue. THE PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDS DENIAL OF THE APPLICATION. THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT ALSO RECOMMENDS DENIAL OF CUP 83-18.

Proof of Publication was presented by City Clerk Babb, and it was ordered filed, there being no objection.

Mayor Armstrong announced that this was the time and place for the advertised hearing on CUP 83-18. Staff presentation was provided by Planning Associate Bihn. Desired clarification was provided the Council.

Mayor Armstrong then invited comments from the audience.

Representing the proponent, Mr. William Beverly, 21515 Hawthorne Boulevard, reviewed the extensive efforts of the developer to work with the City throughout the entire process, the significant reductions which have been made, and noted the continuing desire of the proponent to resolve the concerns expressed.

The project architect, Mr. Randolph Jones, elaborated on the substantial effort put forth in the evolution of the design of the building, the reductions which have been made, with note of the benefit to the City represented by the proposed building.

Mr. Lawrence Gitschier, 1303 Acacia Avenue, stated the proposed project would greatly improve the appearance of Crenshaw Boulevard.

Speaking in opposition to the proposed project were: David Faust, 1019 Beech Avenue; Dave Rankin, 1011 Beech Avenue; Ms. Ann Coustich (?), 915 Beech Avenue; Dave Russell, 1014 Beech Avenue; Ms. Mary Lou Manley, 1020 Beech Avenue; Ms. Alice Rankin, 1011 Beech Avenue; Gil Geyer, 1016 Beech Avenue; and Dick Kidwell, 917 Beech Avenue.

Mr. Eriel Harrington, 916 Crenshaw Boulevard, stated his opinion that "a two-story building, level with Crenshaw, would be a good idea."

The last speaker was the proponent, Mr. Jules Walder, reviewed the history of his project and noted compromises effected by him to make it an acceptable development.

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

Council discussion ensued and encompassed concerns  
 related to all aspects of traffic considerations, including  
 proposed signalization; access problems; the bulk of the  
 project; overall development of Crenshaw Boulevard; etc.

MOTION: Councilwoman Geissert moved to continue  
 the subject hearing to January 31, 1984, at 5:30 P.M.,  
 so that the developers and appropriate City departments  
 can come back with revised plans, based on above noted  
 concerns. The motion was seconded by Councilman Wirth,  
 and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

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The hour being 7:30 P.M., Mayor Armstrong ordered  
 a 5-minute recess.

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17. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS:

- 17a.
- TRANSFER OF THE KEWMARS TABATABAY LEASE AT THE AIRPORT TO DR. GEORGE MAGRE (AMERICAN FUEL AND MAINTENANCE).

RECOMMENDATION:

The Transportation Committee recommends that the Kewmars Tabatabay lease be assigned to Dr. George Magre (American Fuel and Maintenance Corporation) and that the City Attorney be directed to prepare the necessary documents, incorporating the changes outlined in this item (of record).

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

21. ADDENDUM ITEM:

- 21a.
- EMERGENCY ORDINANCE re: Fortune-Telling.

ORDINANCE NO. 3084

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE REPEALING SECTION 45.6.1 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE AND ENACTING A NEW SECTION 45.6.1 DEALING WITH FORTUNE-TELLING, AND DECLARING THE PRESENCE OF AN EMERGENCY

Councilman Wilson moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 3084 at its first and only reading. His motion was seconded by Councilman Rossberg, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

22. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

22a. Councilman Applegate extended best wishes for a Happy New Year to all present -- a wish unanimously concurred in by the entire Council.

22b. Councilman Rossberg commended Torrance's float in the Tournament of Roses Parade -- "it was one of the better ones."

22c. Councilman Walker added his praise for the City's Rose Parade Float, and expressed appreciation to all who contributed to it.

22d. Councilman Wilson requested appropriate recognition for the forthcoming birthday (February 16th) of Mrs. Peggy Doll -- she will be 82 years old. There were no objections, and it was so ordered.

22e. Councilman Wirth requested Staff investigation of problems surrounding Sea-Aire Golf Course and golf balls landing on adjacent residential properties.

22f. Councilman Wirth discussed the matter of the Utility Users' Tax Exemption and age requirements, and requested further Staff input in this regard.

22g. Councilwoman Geissert asked that Staff review the possibility of license fee exemptions for dogs who assist the handicapped.

22h. Mayor Armstrong made the following formal message for the New Year:

"Let me begin with a wish for a great 1984 for you and your families, for the City forces and their families, and for the City and its people -- and then with a nod to 1983 I want to offer some thoughts on the year ahead.

"I think that far and away the most significant achievement of the past year was our decision to step up our commitment to Downtown with the establishment of the Downtown and Eastside Redevelopment Projects. I trust we will continue with a firm steady pace -- with government and the private sector in partnership toward the fulfillment of the goals of Redevelopment and Downtown Renewal we have established.

"This past year has been marked with other achievements as well, such as the establishment of our Cable System, and the resolution of the difficult question of the Park Del Amo Project. In that connection, I am delighted that we have preserved for future generations the natural wildlife acreage.

"Much has been accomplished, and not surprisingly, the most dramatic issues have been those often on a 'one-at-a-time' basis that have involved the nature and character of land use.

"We have continued policies of fiscal responsibility, the wise use of the tax dollar. The preservation of our balanced economic base has helped save us from the urban traumas that have affected so many cities.

"That, of course, must continue in the year now before us. So too must the manner and dignity and intellectual honesty with which we approach our agenda and in which we relate to one another. I think we all agree that is a vital strength in the character of our government. We will miss old comrades in 1984 and will see new faces on this dais. These, whomever they may be, must be encouraged in the same tradition.

"I hope we can step up the pace of Airport Master Plan implementation, and that we can make effective progress in the elusive goal of Senior Citizen Housing.

"As major capital improvements at City Yard and Transit Facilities move forward from 1983 I hope we will see water reservoirs and Joslyn Center expansion of theater as major capital project for 1984, and while I would never hope to see such important proposals as political fodder, I would encourage every candidate to examine these major issues honestly and thoughtfully and to make major commitments in an early declaration.

"Additionally, I hope we can sit down with members of the School Board and plan creatively for new community use of school sites which in their judgment must be excised. Closure and sale of school sites has significant implications for our concern.

"There is much to do, and we have the best resources in City Hall and the community to be about the work of the City and its people.

"There is another theme I want to touch on tonight -- it is historical; I hope we will always want to demonstrate our respect of the past which has helped shape our future. We have, as a matter of record, resolved that Senior Citizen Housing on the Cravens/El Prado site will honor Leo Coleman. We have, as a matter of record, resolved that the Joslyn Center Expansion will honor Erika Grubb, and that West Annex of City Hall will honor Ed Ferraro and his career achievements.

"I would like to propose tonight that the East Annex, which served as the core of City Hall from 1956 to 1975, be renamed 'George Stevens Annex' in tribute to the Torrance service and career of our first City Manager. It was his foresight and leadership that led to the establishment of this Civic Center site at a time when few believed it feasible -- some thought it insane. Mr. Stevens is living in retirement nearby, and since my first term as Mayor has been

a reviewing stand guest at our Armed Forces Day Parade.

"Secondly, I would like to propose our new Transit Center be designated 'Albert Isen Transportation Center'. Mayor Isen, our first Mayor elected at large, presided in our City during the years of turbulent growth. He was certainly a colorful leader and a moving force in our City in those times. It was he, more than any other single person, who in a vigorous exercise of leadership saved our Torrance Transit System from abandonment and sale, and thus paved the way for our system to become the essential public service we know today.

"And I expect to submit for your consideration at the earliest possible time yet another public facility for dedication honoring former Mayor Ken Miller and his service.

"Finally, I want to propose a new program of honoring distinguished citizens whose contributions to our community are truly beyond measure. I propose we create an appropriate award -- perhaps something in the manner of our ceramic key -- to be designated the "Jared Sydney Torrance Award of Merit." Recipients will be announced at the first January meeting and awards presented at a subsequent meeting or under other appropriate circumstances. To inaugurate this program tonight, I propose Dr. Howard A. Wood, Harvel Guttenfelder and Miss Evelyn Carr. Dr. Wood, of course, needs no introduction; he was an early leader in interest of the community, to be honored this month later on the occasion of his 90th birthday. Harvel Guttenfelder is a pioneer businessman, a community leader, and has contributed significantly to the growth and development of our City throughout his lifetime. Evelyn Carr, a lifelong Torrance resident, who led the great campaign of the late 1940's and 50's to make Torrance a Charter city -- and thus opened the door to our growth and expansion in later years.

"I believe that these three distinguished citizens have, by their commitment to this City and its people, contributed immeasurably to our greatness, our aims and achievements.

"I should like to ask Council concurrence in these proposals and this program."

MOTION: Councilman Rossberg moved to concur with the above stated request of Mayor Armstrong. His motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson. There were no objections, and it was so ordered.

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The meeting was regularly adjourned at 8:00 P.M. -- adjournment was dedicated to the memory of Mrs. Ora Bishop.

10.

City Council  
January 3, 1984

  
Mayor of the City of Torrance

  
City Clerk of the City of Torrance