

I N D E XTorrance City Council - June 16, 1986

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Adjournment was at 6:42 p.m. to Tuesday, June 17, 1986,
at 5:30 p.m.

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Peggy Laverty
Minute Secretary

City Council
Second Budget Workshop
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MINUTES OF AN ADJOURNED REGULAR
MEETING OF THE TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The Torrance City Council convened in an Adjourned Regular Meeting on Monday, June 16, 1986, at 4:30 p.m., in the Council Chambers at Torrance City Hall for the purpose of the Second Budget Workshop Session.

2. ROLL CALL:

Present: Councilmembers Applegate, Hardison, Mock, Nakano, Walker, Wirth and Mayor Geissert.

Absent: None.

Also present: City Manager Jackson and Staff representatives.

SECOND BUDGET WORKSHOP:

I. INTRODUCTION:

Mayor Geissert announced that the Council had convened for purposes of the Second Budget Workshop for the 1986-87 Fiscal Year, and extended a warm welcome to all present.

II. OLD BUSINESS:

City Manager Jackson advised that packets of information, as requested, have been provided to members of the Council.

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1.

E. League of Women Voters:

Ms. Frances Tandy, 4038 177th Street, read aloud a League statement recommending that a percentage of the budget be designated for future buy-back or retention of vacated public lands, and urging immediate attention to traffic congestion and transportation problems.

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F. Other Groups and Individuals:

The following members of the audience then provided comments as indicated.

Mr. Peter Lacombe, 3848 Carson Street, representing Major Employers Council Budget Review Committee of the Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce, referenced their correspondence (of record) dated June 13, 1986, and pledged substantial and significant input to next year's budget.

* * *

Mr. James F. Roberts, Jr., 759 Marine Avenue, Manhattan Beach, an employee of Hughes Aircraft Company, read aloud their correspondence of record recommending retention of the employee cap and increase in employee tax from \$30.00 to \$31.00.

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Ms. Frances Marshall, 18002 Haas Avenue, teacher of a Stroke Class given at Torrance Adult Schools, concurred with expanded hours for Dial-A-Lift service.

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Mr. Rick Baumgard, First Vice-President, Torrance Firefighters Association, noted opposition to deferring putting Rescue 96 into service.

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Ms. Joanne Panavich, 2971 Toledo, #207, President of the Torrance Library Employees Association, distributed a written statement and photographs substantiating the need to fill two half-time Page positions at the Civic Center Library.

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Mr. Ron Littlefair, 5512 Calle de Ricardo, requested approval of a half-time Administrative Assistant for the Torrance Farmers' Market (funds to be supplied by the market).

* * *

Mr. John Donald, 30364 Camino Bordinaire, Rancho Palos Verdes, General Manager of Marriot Hotel, opposed an increase from 8% to 9% in the transient bed tax, and requested, if that increase is implemented, that a percentage of those funds be set aside for a Visitors Bureau.

* * *

Ms. Gudren Kimmel, 22704 Elm Avenue, member of the Torrance Library Commission, expressed concerns regarding the need for Library Pages and also the current freeze on book acquisitions. It was further urged by Ms. Kimmel that \$75,000 from SB 358 funds NOT be used for book acquisition (Page 9, Volume 1).

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Ms. Cheryl Little 3400 Torrance Boulevard, read aloud a position statement presented by the Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce recording opposition to the elimination of the employee cap and an increase in the business license portion paid per employee.

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Mr. Robert Alderman, 23103 Cerise, Vice-Chairman of the Torrance Library Commission, reviewed concerns regarding the use of SB 358 funds as proposed in this year's budget (Page 161, Volume 1).

It was requested by Mayor Geissert that the City Manager provide further clarification and expansion in that regard.

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IV. QUESTIONS, COMMENTS AND DISCUSSION:

Mayor Geissert invited Council comments at this time.

Councilman Applegate voiced his concerns and strong opposition to the practice which results in previously approved personnel and equipment requisitions being held to provide for budgetary carryover for the following year.

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Councilman Walker requested clarification regarding the monetary considerations involved in the City Clerk's request for a one-half Minute Secretary position (Page 37, Volume 2). Staff to provide prior to the next meeting.

Councilman Walker also indicated his concurrence with --

Having the Paramedic Unit in place upon opening of Station 6;

One percent increase in the transient occupancy tax;

Increase in minimum business license fee from \$100 to \$105.

Keeping the North Torrance Engine Company in tact.

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Councilwoman Hardison noted receipt of a telephone call from a concerned citizen (Mrs. Bishop) regarding Dial-A-Ride.

Mrs. Hardison expressed concerns that some green sheets have not been implemented over a period of several years, and requested that the City Manager provide specific information in that regard. An overall computer plan update was also requested by Councilwoman Hardison, as well as a report on the effectiveness of the communications system. Installation of the Paramedic Unit upon the opening of Station 6 was likewise recommended and a breakout on Priority #1 under Possible Program Modifications (Hazardous Materials Response Unit) was requested by this speaker.

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Councilman Wirth concurred with Councilman Applegate's earlier expressed concerns and requested that the Council be advised in the future of any restriction of Council ordered actions. Implementation of the Station 6 Paramedic Unit was urged by Mr. Wirth -- an increase in the transient occupancy tax and business license fee was suggested, as was full use of the new City Yard facility.

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Councilman Applegate reiterated his concerns regarding the overall budget process and the carryover involved with the resultant potential for cutting City services previously approved by the Council.

Mr. Applegate urged that the new Transit Facility be properly manned; and requested that the Hospitality Committee of the Chamber of Commerce return at the next workshop with specific input regarding a Visitors' Information Pamphlet.

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Mayor Geissert favored the immediate start up of the Station 6 Paramedic Unit; favored the request for a Farmers' Market assistant; and indicated approval of raising the employee cap from 1500 to 2000.

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A series of motions was then offered as follows.

MOTION: Councilman Walker moved that the City Council, by straw vote, indicate favor of not delaying the installation of the Paramedic Rescue Unit at Fire Station 6. His motion, seconded by Councilman Wirth, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

MOTION: Councilman Walker moved for approval of City Clerk Priorities #11 and #12 (Pages 27 and 28) for three computer terminals at a total expenditure of \$33000. This motion was seconded by Councilman Mock, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

Councilman Walker requested some backup information from the City Manager and the Police Chief prior to the next meeting regarding the viability and various alternatives of implementing the Identification and Information Section Sergeant's position (Page 34).

MOTION: Councilman Wirth moved to direct the City Manager not to use the \$75,000 from SB 358 Funds as proposed, and to also keep fully in tact the Library Budget as shown. His motion was seconded by Councilman Mock.

Council discussion developed regarding the effect of such action. Councilman Applegate indicated his preference for action on this question at the next Budget Workshop Session, thus giving the City Manager an opportunity to address the overall impact.

Councilman Wirth thereupon WITHDREW HIS MOTION; Councilman Mock withdrew his second.

MOTION: Councilwoman Hardison moved that an Assistant Manager be authorized for the Farmers' Market, with funding to be provided by farmers' donations. This motion, seconded by Councilman Applegate, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

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22. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

22a. Mayor Geissert noted with sadness the recent passing of long-time City Manager Jerry Scharfman.

22b. Mayor Geissert announced the formation of a Council Committee on Executive Salaries to be chaired by Councilman Nakano; Councilmen Applegate and Mock to serve as members.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 6:42 p.m., the meeting was formally adjourned to Tuesday, June 17, 1986, at 5:30 p.m.

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Katy Geissert

Mayor of the City of Torrance

Donald E. Wilson

Clerk of the City of Torrance

Peggy Laverty
Minute Secretary

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