

I N D E X

Torrance City Council - May 17, 1990

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Peggy Laverty
Minute Secretary

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MINUTES OF AN ADJOURNED
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL

OPENING CEREMONIES

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Torrance City Council convened in an adjourned regular meeting on Thursday, May 17, 1990, at 5:08 p.m., in the Council Chambers at Torrance City Hall for purposes of conducting the Third Budget Workshop for consideration of the City Manager's Proposed 1990-92 Budget.

2. ROLL CALL:

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

Absent: None.

Also present: City Manager Jackson, City Attorney Nelson, City Clerk Bramhall, and Staff representatives.

3. MOTION RE POSTING OF AGENDA

MOTION: Councilman Applegate moved to accept and file the report of the City Clerk on the posting of the agenda for this meeting. The motion, seconded by Councilwoman Hardison, carried by unanimous roll call vote.

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THIRD BUDGET WORKSHOP

I. INTRODUCTION

During her introductory remarks to this Third Budget Workshop session, Mayor Geissert proposed that straw votes be taken at this meeting in preparation for the adoption of resolutions finalizing the budget at the Second Budget Hearing scheduled for Tuesday, May 22 [see action taken Page 4].

II. PUBLIC INPUT

There was no response to the Mayor's invitation for input from the public.

III. DISCUSSION OF PREVIOUS SPEAKERS' REQUESTS

Mayor Geissert invited Council comments and discussion on the following written requests.

- Visitors Bureau budget increase request from \$63,750 to \$79,500;
- Cable Television Production, Dean Silverstein - Request that the City purchase three Citivision programs for a total of \$2,475;
- Chamber of Commerce comments on revision of business license tax;
- Communication from the Southwood Riviera Home-owners Association.

There were no comments offered on the above requests except for a statement from the Mayor in opposition, at this time, to the Visitors Bureau requested increase in appropriation.

IV. COUNCILMANIC DECISION IN PRINCIPLE

The City Manager's outline of options available for the Council's decision in principle was presented as follows.

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A. BASE BUDGET

Includes:

- Trade offs/fee offset green sheets
- Mandates/commitments green sheets
- Enterprise funds green sheets.

B. RESERVES

(Per Exhibit B, budget document Page A-32).

C. REVENUE MODIFICATIONS

1. Increase Construction Tax

Increase tax on commercial and industrial construction 50% to 1.5%

2. Increase Hazardous Materials Fees

<u>Level</u>	<u>Fee</u>	<u>Category</u>
I	\$ 50	(500-5,000 Lbs.-Solids (55-550 Gal.-Liquids (200-2,000 Cu. Ft.-Gases
II	150	(5,001-25,000 Lbs.-Solids (551-2,750 Gal.-Liquids (2,001-10,000 Cu. Ft.-Gases
III	250	(25,001 & over Lbs.-Solids (2,751 & over Gal.-Liquids (10,001 & over Cu. Ft.-Gases

3. Increase Parking Fines

4. Extend Utility Users Tax to Mobile Phones

5. Extend and Modify Business License Tax

- Surcharge rate of \$.05 per square foot over 5,000 square feet et al

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6. Increase in Refuse Fee

- Increase from \$10.25 to \$11.50 per month for single family residences and from \$20.50 to \$23.00 for a duplex.

The following series of motions was offered.

MOTION: Councilman Wirth moved to approve the Base Budget in concept as submitted by the City Manager. His motion was seconded by Councilman Mock and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

MOTION: Councilman Wirth moved to approve the Reserves [Exhibit B]. The motion, seconded by Councilwoman Hardison, carried by unanimous roll call vote.

MOTION: Councilman Wirth moved for conceptual approval of Revenue Modifications #1, #2, #3, #4 and #6. This motion, seconded by Councilman Mock, was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

Revenue Modification #5 [5-cent per square-foot charge over 5,000 square feet of building] was discussed at length. Substantial written material from staff on this subject was acknowledged, with verbal clarification and expansion provided as requested.

Opposition to the square-foot charge as proposed was voiced by Councilmembers Applegate and Walker, who both indicated a preference for an across-the-board increase in the business license fee.

Discussion continued with opposing views aired.

Councilman Applegate pursued the cost of administering and maintaining the proposed fee, as well as the potential of a significant number of exemptions coming into play.

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Councilman Walker, likewise, seriously questioned the cost of implementing the proposed program, as well as ongoing costs involved. He suggested going forward with an increase in the business license fees and then seeking answers to pertinent questions.

Councilman Nakano indicated a desire for information from cities surveyed by staff [material of record] as to their start-up costs.

The following action was ultimately taken.

MOTION: Councilman Wirth moved to concur, in concept, with the City Manager's proposal for the square-footage surcharge. His motion was seconded by Councilwoman Hardison and carried by way of the following roll call vote.

AYES: Councilmembers Hardison, Mock, Nakano, Wirth and Mayor Geissert.

NOES: Councilmen Applegate and Walker.

V. DISCUSSION AND COMMENT

Councilwoman Hardison, echoed by Mayor Geissert, expressed appreciation for staff's efforts throughout the budgetary process. City Manager Jackson also thanked all involved.

Her earlier request for a timely return of the Park Maintenance Supervisor item was reiterated by Councilwoman Hardison.

Mayor Geissert requested a discussion paper prior to Tuesday's Council meeting addressing questions on the 5-cent tax matter, such as how this procedure would be implemented; estimated start-up and maintenance costs; experience of the City of El Segundo in this regard; etc.

The Mayor requested that a regular Council agenda item regarding city-wide recycling be presented as soon as possible.

Councilman Walker requested that, within the next few years, the concept of an athletic facility, including a swimming pool, be investigated for Wilson Park.

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The on-going pursuit of the Wilson Park Master Plan update which will include the elements mentioned by Councilman Walker, was noted by City Manager Jackson. Mr. Jackson agreed, in the meantime, to reissue a discussion paper relative to currently available financing mechanisms for capital projects. Councilwoman Hardison requested that the City Manager also provide an update of current debt service.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

At 6:11 p.m., this meeting was formally adjourned to Tuesday, May 22, 1990, 6:00 p.m., for purposes of hearing a Civil Service appeal [that portion of the meeting to be in closed session] -- the regular City Council meeting of that date to convene at 7:00 p.m.

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Mayor of the City of Torrance


Clerk of the City of Torrance

Peggy Laverty
Minute Secretary

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