

I N D E X

Torrance City Council - October 9, 1990

<u>SUBJECT:</u>	<u>PAGE:</u>
<u>OPENING CEREMONIES:</u>	
1. Call to Order	1
2. Roll Call	1
3. Flag Salute/Invocation	1
4. Approval of Minutes/Motion re Further Reading	2
5. Motion re Posting of Agenda	1
6. Withdrawn or Deferred Items	1
7. Council Committee Meetings	2
<u>8. COMMUNITY MATTERS:</u>	
8a. Introduction of AFS Exchange Students	3
8b. Recognition of Jimmy Yates	1
8c. Proclamation Re "Quality Week"	3
<u>14. PERSONNEL MATTERS:</u>	
14a. TPISA Supplementary Memorandum of Understanding	4
<u>15. HEARINGS:</u>	
15a. Draft Revised Open Space Element	4- 6
15b. Draft Revised Parks and Recreation Element	6- 8
<u>17. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS:</u>	
17a. TT 46125: Dan E. Butcher	9
17b. City-Wide Radio Communications System Contract/Funding	10
<u>18. SECOND READING ORDINANCE</u>	
18a. Ordinance No. 3311 - Violation-Prone Aircraft	10-11
<u>20. CONSENT CALENDAR:</u>	
20a. Amendment Number One to the Torrance Industrial Redevelopment Project	11, 12
20b. Award of Contracts - Automotive Filters	12
20c. Award of Contract - Xerox Machines for Libraries	1
<u>22. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:</u>	
22a. Mayor Geissert re "depot" ceremony	12
22b. Councilman Wirth re Airport information	13
22c. Councilman Wirth re Best Plaza CUP conditions	13
<u>23. EXECUTIVE SESSION:</u>	
23a. Executive Session Matters	13-14
<u>24. ADJOURNMENT:</u>	
10:02 p.m. to Tuesday, October 16, 1990, 5:30 p.m.	14

\* \* \*

Marlene Lewis  
Minute Secretary

City Council  
October 9, 1990

October 9, 1990

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL

OPENING CEREMONIES:

1. CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Torrance City Council was called to order by Mayor Geissert at 7:50 p.m., Tuesday, October 9, 1990, in the Council Chambers at Torrance City Hall.

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  
Department Representatives.

\* \* \*

Mayor Geissert noted with sadness the passing of Lova "Dayle" Saffell, a resident of Lomita who was a leader in senior citizens' affairs in the South Bay and the State. It was the Mayor's request that the meeting be adjourned in Ms. Saffell's memory.

\* \* \*

3. FLAG SALUTE/INVOCATION

The Flag Salute was led by Boy Scout Troop No. 310, Ray Enriquez, Scoutmaster.

Pastor Dean Rutherford, Del Amo Christian Church, provided the invocation for this meeting.

City Council  
October 9, 1990

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES/MOTION TO WAIVE FURTHER READING

MOTION: Councilman Applegate moved to approve the City Council minutes of September 11, 1990, as written. His motion was seconded by Councilwoman Hardison and carried by unanimous roll call vote.

MOTION: Councilman Applegate moved that after the City Clerk has assigned a number and read title to any resolution or ordinance on the agenda for this meeting, 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. His motion was seconded by Councilwoman Hardison, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

5. AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING

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

6. WITHDRAWN OR DEFERRED ITEMS

City Manager Jackson advised of a request for the continuation of City Council Item 20a and the corresponding Redevelopment Agency Item (4a):

Consideration of an Ordinance and Related Resolutions Approving Amendment Number One to the Torrance Industrial Redevelopment Project.

7. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Ad Hoc Legislative Committee

Met Monday, October 8, 1990, regarding November ballot measures -- report forthcoming.

Finance and Governmental Operations

Tuesday, November 13, 1990, 5:30 p.m.  
Subject First Quarter Budget Review

City Council  
October 9, 1990

8. COMMUNITY MATTERS:

8a. INTRODUCTION OF AFS EXCHANGE STUDENTS

Mayor Geissert was joined at the podium by Ms. Patsy Loughboro, co-director, American Field Service, for the introduction of the following students:

Exchange Students

Ingrid Melian-Clemente, Spain  
Anco "Andy" Hasper, The Netherlands

Americans Abroad

West High, Dannelle Shugard, France  
South High, Ben Thacker, Argentina

On behalf of the entire City Council, the Mayor presented plaques to these young people in recognition of their participation in the AFS program and wished them luck in their endeavors.

8b. RECOGNITION OF JIMMY YATES

Jimmy Yates' accomplishments as a water skier were reviewed by Mayor Geissert, who recognized this Torrance eighth grader for winning the National Junior Boys Slalom Water-Skiing Championship in August, 1990. The honored champion presented "AWSA" pins to members of the City Council.

8c. PROCLAMATION RE "QUALITY WEEK"

Mayor Geissert proclaimed the week of October 15 through October 19, 1990, as "Quality Week" in the City of Torrance.

Mr. Bob Haag, Executive Director of the El Camino Community College Foundation, was present to accept this proclamation on behalf of the Foundation and the Community Alliance for Total Quality. All persons present were invited to attend the "Q-Fest '90" on Tuesday, October 16, 1990 at the Torrance Holiday Inn where, it was noted, Mayor Geissert would be making the opening presentation.

City Council  
October 9, 1990

14. PERSONNEL MATTERS:

14a. TPSA SUPPLEMENTARY MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

City Clerk Bramhall read number and title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 90-207

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 90-141 SETTING FORTH CERTAIN CHANGES REGARDING HOURS, WAGES, AND WORKING CONDITIONS FOR EMPLOYEES REPRESENTED BY THE TORRANCE PROFESSIONAL AND SUPERVISORY ASSOCIATION

MOTION: Councilman Nakano moved to adopt Resolution No. 90-207. Councilman Applegate seconded his motion, which carried by unanimous roll call vote.

15. HEARINGS:

15a. DRAFT REVISED OPEN SPACE ELEMENT OF THE GENERAL PLAN

Mayor Geissert announced that this was the time and place for City Council consideration of the Draft Revised Open Space Element of the General Plan.

Proof of publication, as provided by the City Clerk, was received and filed without comment.

The staff report (agenda material of record) was reviewed by Principal Planner Bluman, who advised that this document was prepared by the Planning Department in cooperation with the Parks and Recreation Department for the purpose of documenting existing open areas within the City and to establish goals, objectives, policies and programs to achieve the preservation of these vital areas. In keeping with its importance to the City, Ms. Bluman advised of the creation of a separate Parks and Recreation Element dealing with the topic of recreational open space.

During her presentation, Ms. Bluman reported that the draft element was reviewed by both the Planning Commission and Parks and Recreation Commission and that the public input received was incorporated into this draft. The Planning and Parks and Recreation Commission's recommendation for approval of the revised element was noted by Principal Planner Bluman, as was the following staff recommendation.

City Council  
October 9, 1990

RECOMMENDATION:

The Planning Department recommends that the City Council approve the draft revised Open Space Element as to intent and content, awaiting final adoption upon receipt of the Environmental Impact Report for the General Plan.

Councilwoman Hardison encouraged expanded use of the P-1 (planting and parking) zone as a buffer to development.

Referring to the "Utilization of Sumps for Land Bank" (Page 11 of the draft, Page 17 of agenda material), Ms. Hardison stated her understanding that proceeds derived from the sale of sump land do not go exclusively toward Parks and Recreation uses as this section implies. In agreement with this observation, Principal Planner Bluman said the language would be modified to correctly reflect that only a portion of the funds go for Parks and Recreation uses.

Mayor Geissert asked that the language in this Element be "strengthened" to make it clear that sump property is not sold until a comparable amount of replacement public open space has been found. Further, the Mayor felt a statement should be included in the Open Space Element regarding the preservation of agricultural open space.

Members of the audience were invited to speak.

Speaking on behalf of the Friends of the Madrona Marsh, Box 5078, Ms. Adrian Stevenson advised of that organization's support of an interpretive center, hiking trails and educational opportunities within Madrona Marsh, and support of the policy "that cities shall seek and promote cooperation with neighboring communities to secure natural resources." The presence of wildlife at some sump locations in the City was noted by this speaker, and she suggested that consideration be given to the use of abandoned sump sites for their "natural resources" as well as for recreational purposes.

Next to speak was Ms. Lynitta Schaffer, president of the Torrance League of Women Voters, 1632 Torrance Boulevard, who related the League's support of the Planning Commission's recommendation:

PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION

The Planning Commission recommends adoption of the Draft revised Open Space Element of the General Plan.

City Council  
October 9, 1990

The Commission also recommends that open space be required in employment centers and that sump acreage be saved as open space when feasible. The motion to approve also included adoption of the standard of recreational open space of 7.5 acres local land and 2.5 acres regional land to 1,000 persons. Although this standard is addressed in the Parks and Recreation Element, the Commission chose to reiterate its intent in the recommendation on the Open Space Element.

As no one else in the audience wished to speak, Councilman Applegate, seconded by Councilman Wirth, moved to close the public hearing. The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

MOTION: Councilwoman Hardison moved to approve the Open Space Element as to intent and content, inclusive of comments made during this hearing. Councilman Walker seconded the motion and roll call vote reflected unanimous approval.

15b. DRAFT REVISED PARKS AND RECREATION ELEMENT OF THE GENERAL PLAN

The Mayor announced that this was the time and the place for City Council consideration of the Draft Revised Parks and Recreation Element of the General Plan.

Proof of publication, as provided by the City Clerk's Office, was received and filed without comment.

Background information was provided by Principal Planner Bluman, who explained that the City of Torrance chose to expand this topic into a full-scale element in recognition of the importance of parks and recreation facilities in an urban environment. Ms. Bluman advised that this draft revision was prepared by the Planning and Parks and Recreation departments and includes an inventory and analysis of the existing facilities, recommendations for improving the City's parks and recreation resources, and standards for measuring the adequacy of the City's facilities. It was noted by Ms. Bluman that this document was reviewed and recommended for approval by the Planning Commission, the Parks and Recreation Commission, and the Planning Department.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

Planning staff recommends approval of the Draft Revised Parks and Recreation Element of the General Plan as to intent and content pending the adoption of the General Plan Environmental Impact Report.

City Council  
October 9, 1990

Councilman Nakano observed the League of Women Voters' preference for a standard of 7 acres of local recreational area per 1,000 residents and the Planning Commission's recommendation (below) for a standard of 7.5 acres of local recreation area per 1,000 residents.

#### PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION

The Planning Commission recommends approval, as to intent and content, of the revised Parks and Recreation Element. However, the Planning Commission recommends a standard of 7.5 acres of local recreation area per 1,000 residents, in keeping with the standard adopted for the 1974 General Plan. The Commission also would encourage the development of private recreational areas, and would support the aggressive pursuit of whatever public open space becomes available through other government entities.

Parks and Recreation Director Barnett explained that the National Parks and Recreation Association's revised guidelines suggest that communities establish their own "realistic and obtainable" standards. On that basis, he said the Parks and Recreation staff and Parks and Recreation Commission concluded that 5 acres of local recreation area and 5 acres of regional recreational area (within an hour's drive of the City), for a total of 10 acres per 1,000 people, would be realistic and obtainable. Mr. Barnett stressed that this figure would only be realistic and obtainable if the City is successful in retaining all of the existing open space now provided in the form of public school sites and park land, both developed and undeveloped.

With certain changes in usage, it was Councilman Nakano's opinion 7.5 acres per 1,000 people could be achieved.

In support of the need for more public swimming pools in the City, Councilman Walker suggested looking at school sites as they become available with a future commitment in mind.

Councilwoman Hardison voiced her support for the ratio of 7.5 acres of local parkland per 1,000 people; the use of available lineal strips of land, such as using abandoned railroad right-of-ways for trails; the development of vest-pocket parks; and the development of indoor recreational facilities. She suggested the City strive for an indoor pool and gymnasium and address these needs in the element.

City Council  
October 9, 1990

The possible interim use of designated right-of-way areas was entertained by Mayor Geissert. Councilman Applegate suggested staff investigate available options for the use of property designated for roadway purposes:

It was Councilman Walker's recommendation that a policy be created whereby R-1 lots could be donated for the development of vest-pocket parks with the donor's name to be placed on a plaque. This councilmember concurred with the goal of 7.5 acres per 1,000 people; agreed that there is a need for public swimming pools in the City and that joint use, such as with a high school, would be appropriate; and noted the handicapped community's desire that therapeutic pool equipment be installed at a public pool.

Public input was invited at this time.

Mr. Dick Johnson, 23059(A) Nadine Circle, suggested the interim installation of playground equipment on property south of New Horizons (22727 Maple), pending a determination regarding the abandonment of this former well site.

Deeming the draft revised Parks and Recreation Element an excellent report, Ms. Lynitta Schaffer, League of Woman Voters, 1632 Torrance Boulevard, advised of the League's general agreement with the intent and content of this document, the League's concern about possible loss of open space through the sale of school sites, and the League's support of the Planning Commission's recommendation (7.5 acres of local recreational area per 1,000 residents).

It was the consensus of the Council that a gymnasium and swimming pool or pools should be included in this Element as part of the goals.

Councilman Applegate moved to close the public hearing.

Dick Johnson, 23059(A) Nadine Circle, returned to comment on the New Horizons gymnasium refurbishment.

Councilman Walker seconded the motion to close the public hearing and roll call vote reflected unanimous approval.

MOTION: Councilman Applegate moved to concur with the Planning Department recommendation (to approve as to intent and content the draft revised Parks and Recreation Element), including the comments made during this hearing. His motion, seconded by Councilman Walker, carried by unanimous roll call vote.

City Council  
October 9, 1990

17. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS:

17a. TT 46125: DAN E. BUTCHER

Mayor Geissert advised that Item 17a involved Council reconsideration of an approval of a tentative tract to allow a 15-lot subdivision in the R-1 zone at the northwest corner of 238th Street and Walnut Avenue, TT 46125, Dan E. Butcher.

In requesting reconsideration of this item, Councilman Wirth explained that he contacted the developers subsequent to the Council's consideration of this matter and found that they would be willing to be flexible regarding lot lines.

MOTION: Councilman Wirth moved to reconsider TT 46125. The motion was seconded by Councilman Walker. This motion was ultimately denied by a 4:3 vote (see below).

Recalling that the applicant was given every opportunity to modify his proposal prior to denial of the project Councilwoman Hardison said she would not be in favor of the motion.

Councilman Nakano expressed his dismay that items were being returned for reconsideration. He stood behind his previous comments on this project, stating his opinion that ample opportunity for input had been afforded at the time this matter was originally considered and that nothing new had been brought forward to justify a reconsideration.

Reiterating her support of a 15-lot subdivision, Mayor Geissert requested clarification of the developer's proposal. Councilman Wirth indicated that modifications to conditions and lot lines had been discussed.

Members of the audience were invited to speak.

Sue Herbers, 2264 West 230th Street, speaking for SETHA, was not in favor of reconsideration inasmuch as the proponent had not been in contact with Southeast Torrance homeowners. For the record, she noted that SETHA was not advised by the City staff that this matter was being returned for reconsideration.

Roll call vote on the motion for reconsideration failed to carry by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Councilmen Mock, Walker, and Wirth.

NOES: Councilmembers Applegate, Hardison, Nakano, and Mayor Geissert.

City Council  
October 9, 1990

17b. INCREASED FUNDING AND AWARD OF CONTRACT - CITY-WIDE RADIO COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM

RECOMMENDATION:

It is the recommendation of the Public Safety Committee that the City Council as a whole concur with the City-Wide Radio Communications Plan, increase the amount budgeted for the radio system by \$1,174,122.97, including \$474,122.97 from the General Fund and \$700,000 in asset forfeiture funds, and award the contract to Motorola Communications & Electronics, Inc.

Councilman Mock, Public Safety Committee chairman, and Katherine Peyton-Jenno, Information Systems Director, were present to respond to inquiries. The latter staff member advised Councilwoman Hardison that additional purchases in connection with the system would be returned as separate items.

The efforts of Police Captain Dane and Lieutenant Cobbs (now retired) in conjunction with providing this communications system were commended by Councilman Applegate, who noted that equipment would be paid for, in part, by asset forfeiture funds.

As Committee chairman, Councilman Mock advised of staff's finding, through the bidding process of the City of Glendale, that Motorola is the best equipment available for this use.

MOTION: Councilman Applegate moved to concur with the Public Safety Committee's report. His motion was seconded by Councilman Walker and roll call vote reflected unanimous approval.

18. SECOND READING ORDINANCE

18a. ORDINANCE NO. 3311

City Clerk Bramhall read number and title to:

ORDINANCE NO. 3311

ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING SECTION 51.7.3. OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE RELATING TO THE EXCLUSION OF VIOLATION-PRONE AIRCRAFT FROM THE AIRPORT

City Council  
October 9, 1990

MOTION: Councilman Applegate moved to adopt Ordinance No. 3311 at its second and final reading.

Councilman Nakano advised that the agenda item should correctly reflect: that Mr. Walker seconded Mr. Applegate's motion to approve Ordinance No. 3311; that Councilmembers Applegate, Hardison, Mock and Walker voted aye; and that Councilmen Nakano and Wirth and Mayor Geissert voted no. City Clerk Bramhall acknowledged this correction.

Councilwoman Hardison seconded the motion for adoption of Ordinance 3311. Roll call vote reflected majority approval.

AYES: Councilmembers Applegate, Hardison, Mock, and Walker.

NOES: Councilmen Nakano and Wirth and Mayor Geissert.

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At 9:15 p.m. the City Council convened as the Redevelopment Agency of the City of Torrance. The minutes of that meeting are printed under separate cover. Upon the conclusion of Agency business at 9:17 p.m., the City Council reconvened and proceeded in regular agenda order.

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20. CONSENT CALENDAR

20a. AMENDMENT NUMBER ONE TO THE TORRANCE INDUSTRIAL REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT

RECOMMENDATION:

The Planning Director recommends that the City Council continue to October 23, 1990, consideration of an ordinance and related resolutions approving Amendment Number One to the Torrance Industrial Redevelopment Project.

City Council  
October 9, 1990

20b. COUNCIL AWARD OF CONTRACTS - for annual requirements of miscellaneous automotive filters

Reference: Bid No. B90-33.

Expenditure: \$35,948.49, including sales tax.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Purchasing Division, the Warehouse Division and Fleet Services Department request that Your Honorable Body award contracts for the annual requirements of two hundred and forty-five (245) automotive filters to American Fleet Parts, Placentia, CA, in the total amount of \$35,733.15 and Jaros Distributing of Los Angeles, CA for one (1) item, in the total amount of \$215.34.

20c. COUNCIL AWARD OF CONTRACT - for the lease/purchase of nine (9) replacement Xerox 5042 coin-operated copiers and one (1) replacement Xerox 5042 non-coin-operated copier for use in the City's libraries

Annual Expenditure: \$31,771.11 (with total estimated annual revenues of \$33,000.00)

RECOMMENDATION:

The Purchasing Division and the Library recommend the Your Honorable Body award an annual contract to the Xerox Corporation, Long Beach, in the total amount of \$31,771.11. This contract will be renewed on an annual basis for the next forty-eight (48) months.

MOTION: Councilman Applegate moved to approve Consent Calendar Item Nos. 20a through 20c. His motion was seconded by Councilman Mock. Roll call vote reflected unanimous approval of Items 20b and 20c and majority approval of Item 20a, with Councilman Nakano abstaining on Item 20a, only.

22. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

22a. There was an announcement by Mayor Geissert that the Historical Society would hold an "unveiling" ceremony at the refurbished Southern Pacific Railroad depot in Downtown Torrance on Saturday, October 13, 1990 at 9:30 a.m., followed by a homes tour.

City Council  
October 9, 1990

22b. In connection with the recent distribution of misinformation regarding Torrance Airport operations, Councilman Wirth requested information relative to the Federal Aviation Agency's authority versus the City's rights in connection with Torrance Airport and the FAA's involvement with the takeover and/or closure of other general aviation airports.

22c. It being his recollection that rear ingress/egress to the health club was one of the conditions of approval for the Conditional Use Permit issued for Best Plaza, Councilman Wirth requested that staff review the conditions of approval for this center and determine if there is compliance.

23. EXECUTIVE SESSION

23a. EXECUTIVE SESSION MATTERS

Mayor Geissert announced that the City Council would recess to closed session to confer with the City Manager and/or the City Attorney on the following subjects pursuant to the authority contained in Government Code Sections 54957.6(a), 54956.9(a), and 54956.8:

- Pending litigation entitled People of the State of California vs. Mobil Oil Corporation, et al., Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. C 719953;
- Pending litigation entitled Patrick Coyle and Nancy Coyle vs. City of Torrance, et al., Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. SWC 102305;
- Update on lease development at Madison Park; and
- Salaries, salary schedules and compensation for certain unrepresented employees and represented employee groups as well as certain other personnel matters; and pending litigation;

At 9:25 p.m. the City Council took a brief recess, going into closed executive session for the above noted purposes at 9:37 p.m.

City Council  
October 9, 1990

Upon returning to Council Chambers at 10:02 p.m., City Manager Jackson requested that the City Council take action to concur in principle with setting the effective date of October 7, 1990, for the compensation of the classifications represented by TPOA (Torrance Police Officers Association) subject to final approval of the Memorandum of Understanding. Councilman Applegate SO MOVED, seconded by Councilwoman Hardison, and roll call vote reflected unanimous approval.

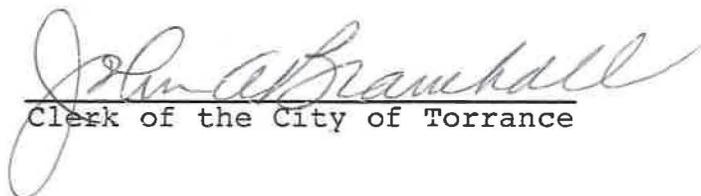
24. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: At 10:03 p.m., Councilman Applegate moved to adjourn this meeting of the Torrance City Council to Tuesday, October 16, 1990, at 5:30 p.m. The motion was seconded by Councilman Mock. Hearing no objections, it was so ordered by Mayor Geissert.

Adjournment was dedicated to the memory of:

Lova "Dayle" Saffell.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor of the City of Torrance

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk of the City of Torrance

Marlene Lewis  
Minute Secretary

City Council  
October 9, 1990