

I N D E X

Torrance City Council - April 21, 1992

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Peggy Laverty  
Minute Secretary

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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, April 21, 1992, at 5:37 p.m., in the Council Chambers at Torrance City Hall.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Councilmembers Applegate, Hardison, Lee, Nakano, O'Donnell, Wirth and Mayor Geissert.

Absent: None.

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

2. FLAG SALUTE

Mr. Harry Bartels led in the salute to the flag.

INVOCATION

The invocation for the meeting was provided by Father George Lawlor, S.J., Nativity Catholic Church.

3. MOTION RE FURTHER READING

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 Council-

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member 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.

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. This motion, seconded by Councilwoman Hardison, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

4. WITHDRAWN OR DEFERRED ITEMS

- 6d. RECOGNITION OF WEST HIGH ACADEMIC DECATHLON TEAM - to be rescheduled [see Page 3].
- 9a. DIAL-A-LIFT SERVICES CONTRACT - to be continued to a later date [see Page 5].
- 13a. MOBIL OIL M-70 PIPELINE FRANCHISE - request from Mobil for continuance [see Page 6].

5. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Ad Hoc Rose Float Committee

April 22, 1992, 5:00 p.m.  
Subject: 1993 Rose Float Selection.

Finance Committee

May 12, 1992, 5:30 p.m.  
Subject: Third Quarter Budget Review.

Budget Workshops

May 18, May 20 and June 1 - 5:00 p.m.

6. COMMUNITY MATTERS

- 6a. PROCLAMATION declaring the week of April 26 to May 3, 1992, "Child Passenger Safety Week" in the City of Torrance.

SO PROCLAIMED by Mayor Geissert and presented to Police Captain Nolan Dane.

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6b. RESOLUTION OF COMMENDATION

RESOLUTION NO. 92-61

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF TORRANCE CONGRATULATING THE FIRST  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF TORRANCE IN  
CELEBRATION OF ITS SEVENTIETH ANNIVERSARY

MOTION: Councilman Nakano moved to adopt Resolution No. 92-61. His motion was seconded by Councilwoman Hardison and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

Resolution to be presented at a later date.

6c. DONATION FROM SOUTH TORRANCE LION'S CLUB

Representing the South Torrance Lion's Club, Mr. George Stratos, 2859 229th Street, presented a check in the amount of \$1,000, to Parks and Recreation Director Barnett for the purpose of supporting an after-school program for youth of the community.

There was grateful acceptance by Mr. Barnett on behalf of the Parks and Recreation Department, and by Mayor Geissert on behalf of the entire City.

6d. RECOGNITION OF WEST HIGH SCHOOL ACADEMIC DECATHLON TEAM

This item was withdrawn from this agenda and will be rescheduled at a later date. The following resolutions were adopted at this time and will be presented when the agenda item is returned to Council.

RESOLUTION NO. 92-55

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF TORRANCE HONORING THE WEST HIGH  
SCHOOL ACADEMIC DECATHLON TEAM OF THE  
TORRANCE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

MOTION: Councilman Nakano moved to adopt Resolution No. 92-55. His motion was seconded by Councilwoman Hardison and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

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RESOLUTION NO. 92-56

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF TORRANCE HONORING DOUGLAS KUNZ OF  
WEST HIGH FOR ACHIEVING THE TOP SCORE  
OVERALL AT THE STATE FINALS OF THE ACADEMIC  
DECATHLON

MOTION: Councilman Nakano moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 92-56. This motion, seconded by Councilwoman Hardison, carried by unanimous roll call vote.

7. CONSENT CALENDAR

7a. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - March 24, 1992.

7b. COUNCIL AWARD OF CONTRACT - Re: Purchase of traffic signal equipment parts and related maintenance hardware as a cooperative purchase with Los Angeles County  
Ref: Los Angeles County Contract No. 54191  
Anticipated Annual Expenditure: \$150,000.00.

RECOMMENDATION:

The General Services Department and the Transportation Department recommend that the City Council allow the City of Torrance to participate in this cooperative purchase and authorize the award of a contract for various traffic signal equipment parts and maintenance hardware to Econolite Control Products of Anaheim, California for the anticipated annual amount of \$150,000.00.

7c. AMIE AVENUE RETENTION BASIN REHABILITATION AND FORCE MAIN AGREEMENT FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES

RECOMMENDATION:

The City Engineer recommends that your Honorable Body approve an Agreement with ASL Consulting Engineers to provide professional engineering and geotechnical services for the subject project.

MOTION: Councilman Applegate moved to approve Agenda Items 7a through 7c, inclusive. His motion was seconded by Councilwoman Hardison and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

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9. TRANSPORTATION/PUBLIC WORKS MATTERS

- 9a. COUNCIL AWARD OF TWO-YEAR CONTRACT - To Provide the Management, Technical and Operating Services for Dial-A-Lift Services  
Ref: Bid No. B92-15  
Expenditure: \$565,152.00

Director of Transportation Horkay noted receipt of telephone calls from citizens expressing some concerns with the present contractor for Dial-A-Lift services. It was staff's suggestion that this item be continued to allow further inquiry into the matter.

Councilmen Wirth and Nakano also noted receipt of telephone calls expressing dissatisfaction with the present service.

Councilwoman Hardison requested detailed information regarding the current contract and statistics regarding the number of citizens registered for the service, as well as utilization of the service on a monthly basis.

Mayor Geissert requested that the problem of unjustifiably long delays be addressed.

There were no objections to the request for continuance.

12. PERSONNEL MATTERS

- 12a. CHANGE OF REPRESENTATION UNIT - CENTRAL SERVICES COORDINATORS

SUPPLEMENTAL #4

RESOLUTION NO. 92-52

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING RESOLUTION  
NO. 91-100 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 92-52. His motion, seconded by Councilwoman Hardison, carried by unanimous roll call vote.

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13. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

13a. MOBIL OIL PIPELINE FRANCHISE

Mayor Geissert's announced that this matter was first considered by Council on April 7, 1992, at which time the Council approved the pipeline franchise in concept and directed that the related ordinance be returned this date.

City Attorney Nelson advised that a number of inquiries related to safety matters have been received subsequent to the April 7th consideration, and that in a conversation this date with Mobil Oil representatives it was agreed that all would be better served if this matter were continued to the Council meeting of May 12, 1992, in order that answers might be prepared to the questions raised.

Councilmembers then voiced their personal concerns and requested additional information and clarification of specific issues, as follows:

Councilman Wirth requested information regarding the manner in which the amount of oil coming through the pipeline will be monitored; how the impact of the high tension power lines over the pipeline will be dealt with; the issue of automatic control valves; double-casing of the line; and the question of pipe welds being examined by an independent firm. Mr. Wirth requested that the Council be provided with a monthly report on the throughput of the line.

Councilman Lee stated that his concern regarding the maximum amount of crude oil brought to the refinery on a daily basis has not been satisfactorily dealt with.

Councilwoman Hardison requested specific information as to factors governing the refinery capacity -- whether they are structural in nature; are controlled by AQMD regulations and air pollutants; etc. Mrs. Hardison also inquired regarding any problems which might result from the installation of a 12-inch pipeline within the City of Torrance, rather than the 16-inch line proposed. An estimate of the number of coke trucks to be going out daily from the refinery was also requested by this Councilmember.

Councilman Nakano expressed his concern that the throughput of the line be monitored by an independent source and that it be reported on a more frequent basis than annually as is proposed. He also requested technical information regarding safety hazards which might be created by the installation of a 12-inch pipeline in the City of Torrance.

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Councilwoman O'Donnell voiced concerns that the Mobil Refinery not become a petroleum distribution center, and concurred with comments of her colleagues regarding independent monitoring and reporting.

There being no objection, Mayor Geissert directed that this matter be returned to the Council on May 12, 1992, with information requested.

13b. WAIVER OF REQUIREMENT THAT CATERER SERVE FOOD IN COMMUNITY MEETING HALL OF CULTURAL ARTS CENTER

RECOMMENDATION:

The Torrance Youth Council and the Parks and Recreation Director recommend that the City Council waive the requirement that a caterer must serve food in the Community Hall of the Cultural Arts Center.

MOTION: Councilman Lee moved to concur with the above staff recommendation on Agenda Item 13b. His motion was seconded by Councilman Wirth.

Prior to roll call vote, Parks and Recreation Director Barnett responded to Council questions regarding related guidelines, flexibility of certain policies, fees, controls, need for long-term evaluation, etc.

Roll call vote on the above motion was unanimously favorable.

13c. SUPPORT OF 1992 AYSO NATIONAL GAMES

RECOMMENDATION:

The Council's Citizen Development and Enrichment Committee recommends that the City Council approve support services to the 1992 AYSO National Games in Torrance at the same level as was provided in 1990, and that City staff follow up with the Committee suggestions to improve the games.

During his presentation of the Citizen Development and Enrichment Committee's report, Councilman Applegate drew particular attention to the recommendations [per agenda material of record] that a committee be formed from the community to

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evaluate and critique the 1992 games and that the provision of bus transportation linking key locations during the games be explored.

MOTION: Councilman Applegate moved to concur with the above stated committee report. His motion was seconded by Councilman Nakano and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

16. SECOND READING ORDINANCES

16a. ORDINANCE NO. 3352

ORDINANCE NO. 3352

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF TORRANCE REPEALING SECTION 76.4.10  
OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE DEALING  
WITH WATER FEE REBATES

MOTION: Councilman Nakano moved to adopt Ordinance No. 3352 at its second and final reading. His motion, seconded by Councilman Lee, carried by unanimous roll call vote.

\* \* \*

At 6:17 p.m., the City Council recessed and reconvened as the Redevelopment Agency of the City of Torrance. The meeting of the Redevelopment Agency was adjourned at 6:18 p.m., and the regular City Council agenda order was resumed.

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19. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

19a. Councilman Applegate commented on the extensive length of time represented by the Carson Street improvement project and related citizens' concerns in that regard.

19b. Councilwoman Hardison related citizens' favorable comments relative to the new playground equipment at Lago Seco Park.

19c. Councilwoman Hardison requested that Council provide staff with direction regarding the Hawthorne/Newton/Vista Montana traffic matter [options provided in March 16, memorandum

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from Director of Transportation Horkay to Council]. It was the general consensus of the Council that a follow-up informational letter be transmitted to residents at this time.

19d. Councilman Lee commented on the proliferation of non-permitted political, as well as non-political, signs in evidence throughout the City. Mr. Lee suggested that the City explore the possibility of requiring that such signs contain a telephone number for contact in the event of a problem.

19e. Councilman Lee commented on a memorandum dated March 28, from General Services Director White to Councilmembers regarding the feasibility of a local business preference for the purchase of required goods. City Manager Jackson indicated that there will be staff follow-up, with a report to Council.

19f. Councilman Nakano commented on recent events involving the prosecuting of young people for graffiti vandalism, and urged a concerted effort to implement programs in the City's schools which will address this problem. Police Chief De Ladurantey advised that a more comprehensive plan is presently being formulated and will be returned to Council at a later date.

Councilwoman Hardison and Councilman Applegate indicated their support of an expanded City/school program involving graffiti.

19g. Councilwoman O'Donnell suggested that citizens annoyed by the appearance of uninvited campaign signs on their property register a complaint with the candidate involved.

19h. Councilman Wirth commented on the efforts of Building Regulations Administrator Isomoto which were beneficial in assisting a local industry to remain in Torrance.

19i. Mayor Geissert commended the Engineering Department for the manner in which a water meter problem was recently handled for a local industry.

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19j. Mr. Charlie Oates, representing the Torrance Retired Police Officers' Association, referenced past City Council action relative to a matter involving Public Employees Retirement System funds [see Council minutes of February 11, 1992, Item 13a, Pages 7-9].

Mr. Oates requested that the City of Torrance act as plaintiff in a lawsuit regarding the State's recent legislative action relating to funds within the Public Employees Retirement System. He proposed that special set-aside moneys be utilized for the attorney's fees in this case, with the Torrance Retired Police Officers' Association to return those funds as this becomes possible.

An extensive discussion ensued.

Concerns expressed by individual members of Council included the desire for a general agreement from other employee associations [correspondence was in the hands of Council from the Torrance Firefighters' Association] -- the need for clarification regarding the City's position and ultimate financial obligation; possible support from other agencies; guarantees for repayment of the set-aside funds, including collateral; etc.

City Attorney Nelson indicated that questions involving utilization of the requested funds would have to be researched from a legal point of view. City Manager Jackson suggested that the League of California Cities be contacted regarding a possible action by other agencies.

There being no objection, Mayor Geissert directed that this subject be returned as an agenda item on May 12, 1992, with the various available options presented for Council consideration.

19k. Ms. Eileen Hawkins, 1303 Date Avenue, requested clarification regarding the procedure followed by the City of Torrance in making Commission/Committee appointments. This information was provided by the Mayor, particularly as it related to the recently-formed Blue Ribbon Committee on Charter Review which was of particular concern to Ms. Hawkins.

Responding to an additional matter discussed by Ms. Hawkins, City Manager Jackson offered to share a report regarding the City of Torrance historically holding local elections in March, rather than April.

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20. EXECUTIVE SESSION

20a. EXECUTIVE SESSION MATTERS

Mayor Geissert read the following statement into the record.

The City Council will now recess to closed session to confer with the City Manager and/or the City Attorney on the following subjects.

- Salaries, salary schedules and compensation for certain unrepresented employees and represented employee groups as well as certain other personnel matters.
- Litigation entitled Securities and Exchange Commission vs. Institutional Treasury Management, Inc., United States District Court, Central District of California Civil Action Case No. 91-6715RG (Ex) .
- Pending litigation entitled Artistic Landscape and Engineering, Inc. vs. City of Torrance, et al., Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. C 750048.
- Pending litigation entitled City of Torrance vs. Walter J. Egan, Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. C 013630.
- Pending litigation entitled Tom Eric Bowlin vs. Peter Cordato and the City of Torrance, Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. SWC 110221.
- Pending litigation entitled Terri A. Carter vs. City of Torrance, et al., Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. SWC 99475.
- Pending litigation entitled Derrick Anderson, et al. vs. City of Torrance, et al., United States District Court Case No. 91 3473 HLH (JRx) .

Authority to hold an executive session for these purposes is contained in Government Code Sections 54957.6 (a) and 54956.9 (a) .

At 7:25 p.m., Mayor Geissert called a brief recess which was followed immediately by the executive session as announced above.

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NOTE: Councilman Wirth departed at 8:00 p.m.

The City Council, absent Councilman Wirth, reconvened at 8:03 p.m. No action was taken as a result of the executive session.

21. ADJOURNMENT

At 8:03 p.m., this meeting of the City Council was formally adjourned to Tuesday, April 28, 1992, 5:30 p.m. in the West Annex Meeting Room, for purposes of a joint meeting with the Torrance Youth Council. The regular City Council meeting of that date is scheduled for 7:00 p.m.

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Mayor of the City of Torrance

  
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Clerk of the City of Torrance

Peggy Laverty  
Minute Secretary

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