

I N D E X

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Adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Edith Shaffer  
Minute Secretary

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Council Minutes  
September 28, 1965

Torrance, California  
September 28, 1965

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL

OPENING CEREMONIES AND PRESENTATIONS:

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

A regular meeting of the Torrance City Council was held on Tuesday, September 28, 1965, at 8:00 p.m., in the Council Chamber of City Hall.

2. ROLL CALL:

Those responding to roll call by City Clerk Coil were: Councilmen Beasley, Lyman, Miller, Olson, Sciarrotta and Mayor Isen. Councilman Vico was absent because of the illness of his mother. City Attorney Remelmeyer and City Manager Ferraro were also present.

As a point of personal privilege, Mayor Isen reported briefly on the meeting of the South Bay Committee to locate the college locally. He was pleased to be able to report the unanimous endorsement of the alternate Torrance site. Dr. Leo Cain, the Dean of the new school indicated that fifty students from South Bay have enrolled and commented on their superior intelligence quotient and attitude. In this connection, Mayor Isen introduced Wallace McGregor, President of the student body of Bishop Montgomery High School who had shown interest in the proceedings of City Council and accepted the invitation of Mayor Isen to attend this evening.

3. FLAG SALUTE:

At the request of Mayor Isen, Wallace McGregor led the salute to the flag.

4. INVOCATION:

Reverend Sippel of First Christian Church of Torrance opened the meeting with an invocation and received from Mayor Isen his certificate in gratitude for the inspiration he has lent the Council as Minister of the Month.

STANDARD MOTIONS:

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilman Sciarrotta moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held September 21, 1965 and his motion, seconded by Councilman Miller, carried, there being no objection.

6. APPROVAL OF DEMANDS:

Councilman Beasley moved all regularly audited bills be paid. His motion was seconded by Councilman Lyman and carried as follows:

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Lyman, Miller, Olson,  
Sciarrotta and Mayor Isen.

NOES: COUNCILMEN: None

ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Vico.

7. MOTION TO WAIVE FURTHER READING:

Councilman Sciarrotta moved that after the Clerk has given 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 councilman the right to demand the reading of any such resolution or ordinance in regular order. The motion was seconded by Councilman Miller and carried by unanimous roll call vote (Councilman Vico absent).

HEARINGS:

8. H. H. ALTSCHULD'S APPEAL FROM DENIAL BY THE PLANNING COMMISSION.

This is an appeal from a decision of the Planning Commission that a license be denied for accounting to be conducted under the name of H. A. Henry from his residence at 23147 South Carlow Road in Torrance.

This being in the nature of a public hearing, Mayor Isen asked if anyone wished to be heard and Mr. Altschuld stated that an eight year old work arrangement with another man had now terminated, leaving five accounts for him to handle. Four of these require quarterly reports and one monthly and they can be more conveniently handled by him through night work at his home. There will be no sign, no visitors, nor any visible evidence of this accounting work being done. In answer to a query by Mayor Isen, City Attorney Remelmeyer said the policy has been to route these requests through the Planning Commission for technical opinion and if the Council feels a different position can be taken, that is their prerogative. In any event the permission would be subject to review annually at the time the license comes up for renewal.

Planning Director Shartle outlined the thinking of the Planning Commission and the belief that Mr. Altschuld should operate from a post office box address. The consensus of the Council was that there was no reason not to make an exception in Mr. Altschuld's case.

Councilman Lyman moved to close the hearing, but it remained open to hear from Mr. William Uerkwitz of 23136 Anza Avenue who said, speaking from the viewpoint of homeowners' associations, that if there had been any neighborhood objection, the Council would certainly have heard of it. Mr. Don McCauley of the particular homeowners association which would be interested, said while he can understand the position of the Planning Commission, there is no objection.

Councilman Miller moved to close the hearing and his motion, seconded by Councilman Beasley, carried, there being no objection.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved that Mr. Altschuld be given the permission to work from his home as requested, with the usual restriction that there be no signs or evidence of a business being conducted at his home address. Councilman Miller seconded and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Vico absent).

9. CASE NO. 65-35, EDITH M. HUNT, VARIANCE OF OFF-STREET PARKING ORDINANCE, to permit 21 parking spaces in lieu of 32 spaces at 23015, 23025 and 23035 Madison Street. Recommended for approval by Planning Commission.

Mayor Isen inquired if anyone wished to be heard on Case No. 65-35 : 1 there was no response.

Councilman Lyman moved to close the hearing. His motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta and carried, there being no objection.

Councilman Beasley moved to concur in the recommendation of the Planning Commission subject to all conditions therein listed. His motion was seconded by Councilman Lyman and carried by unanimous roll call vote (Councilman Vico absent).

PLANNING AND ZONING:

10. TENTATIVE TRACT MAP NO. 30357, R & L HARRIS, Subdivider, Lanco Engr. Engineers. 22 lots easterly of Prairie Avenue at 177th Street. Recommended for approval with conditions.

City Manager Ferraro asked permission of the Council to withdraw Item 10 until next week to permit clarification of some confusing points. Councilman Sciarrotta so moved and his motion was seconded by Councilman Beasley after consent by Mr. Clark Leonard, President of Lanco Engineering, representing the proponent. There was no objection.

11. TENTATIVE TRACT MAP NO. 29103, DAN E. BUTCHER, SUBDIVIDER, Lanco Engr., Engineers. 11 lots zoned RPl, located northerly of Spencer Street and easterly of Madison. Recommended for approval with conditions.

Mr. Leonard of Lanco Engineering, 17430 Prairie Avenue, also represents Mr. Butcher, and he mentioned some complaints as to conditions which he said involve improvement and dedication of off-site property over which the developer has no control. Mayor Isen suggested he wait until the consideration of the Final Map. Mr. Leonard explained that approval had been granted a year and a half ago, but it has now expired and in the intervening time the developer has been unable to obtain the dedication and does not wish to place the improvements on the offsite parcels at no benefit to his own.

Comparison was made to another case with somewhat similar circumstances. Councilman Olson mentioned the request for a five foot dedication to widen Spencer Street and Mr. Leonard admitted there is no problem as to that particular strip along the frontage. It appears, therefore, that condition numbered 11 contains the matter objected to - a fifty five foot strip which is not a part of the subdivision. City Engineer Nollac said the only way to require this is by a lot split and ordinarily as a matter of policy the City does require off-site improvements such as this. Councilman Miller did not believe the same conditions obtain here as in the case mentioned as a precedent.

Mayor Isen moved to eliminate condition numbered 11 on the transmittal and his motion was seconded by Councilman Miller. Roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Vico absent).

Mr. Butcher said he would like this cleared up now because it has been ready for recording, but he has not been able to get the required widening. Otherwise, all that is not completed is obtaining the bond. City Engineer Nollac asked that the tentative map be amended to include that five foot dedication within B Street and Mr. Leonard agreed. Mayor Isen asked for a report from Planning at the time of the Final Map.

Councilman Beasley moved for approval of Tentative Tract Map No. 29103, including the condition mentioned by City Engineer Nollac as to the five foot dedication and recognizing that Condition No. 11 has been eliminated. Councilman Miller seconded and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Vico absent).

STREETS AND SIDEWALKS:

12. IMPROVEMENT OF INTERSECTION AT TORRANCE BOULEVARD AND MADRONA AVENUE. NOTICE OF COMPLETION. Recommendation of City Engineer/Street Superintendent, with concurrence of City Manager that (1) no liquidated damages be assessed, (2) that changes in the work be approved by Council, and (3) that the work on the project be accepted by Council.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved to concur in all three phases of the recommendation and his motion was seconded by Councilman Beasley.

Mayor Isen quoted Mr. Bruce Jones, President of the Chamber of Commerce, to the effect that this is the most significant improvement in the history of Torrance, and expressed his opinion that Anza Avenue should come within the same general category.

The motion carried as follows:

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Lyman, Miller, Olson,  
Sciarrotta and Mayor Isen.

NOES: COUNCILMEN: None

ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Vico.

13. SIDEWALKS ON MADRONA AVENUE NORTH OF TORRANCE BOULEVARD. Letter from Torrance Unified School District re sidewalks on Madrona Avenue north of Torrance Boulevard with comments from the City Manager.

Mayor Isen asked if this might be referred to the City Manager for a report next week if possible, informally, as there would not be time to get it on the agenda. Mr. Ferraro said he will certainly attempt to do so.

SEWERS AND DRAINAGE:

14. SEWER REIMBURSEMENT DISTRICT NO. 62. Recommendation of City Engineer/Street Superintendent, with concurrence of City Manager that subject sewer reimbursement district with sewer connection fees indicated be established.

Councilman Beasley moved to concur in the recommendation stated and his motion was seconded by Councilman Miller. Roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Vico absent).

15. RESOLUTION RE AGREEMENT BETWEEN REDONDO BEACH AND TORRANCE FOR CONNECTION TO PRE-EXISTING TORRANCE SEWER SYSTEM.

At the request of Mayor Isen, City Clerk Coil assigned a number and read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 65-194

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE EXECUTION OF THAT CERTAIN AGREEMENT BETWEEN REDONDO BEACH AND TORRANCE, DATED SEPTEMBER 13, 1965, FOR THE CONNECTION OF A SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM BY REDONDO BEACH TO A PRE-EXISTING TORRANCE SEWER SYSTEM AT RUBY STREET IN TORRANCE.

Councilman Beasley moved to adopt Resolution No. 65-194 and his motion, seconded by Councilman Olson, carried by unanimous roll call vote (Councilman Vico absent).

16. AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR INSTALLATION OF STORM DRAINS EASTERLY OF ARLINGTON AVENUE IN 233RD STREET AND EASEMENTS (DRAINAGE DISTRICT 8A) Recommendation of City Engineer/Street Superintendent, with concurrence of City Manager to award the contract to Haines Construction Co. under proposal No. 2.

City Manager Ferraro said there is some problem because of absence of certain property owners, as to obtaining immediate possession. He asked that if the Council gives this favorable consideration, a condition be added that approval is subject to Haines Construction Co. making no additional charge for delays caused by lack of easements. Mayor Isen said that should be in the contract as a reasonable provision.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved to so award the contract, with the inclusion of the provision just above mentioned, and reject all other bids. His motion was seconded by Councilman Beasley and carried as follows:

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Lyman, Miller, Olson,  
Sciarrotta, and Mayor Isen.

NOES: COUNCILMEN: None

ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Vico.

FISCAL MATTERS:

17. B. F. GOODRICH TIRE AGREEMENT: Recommendation of Bus Superintendent, with concurrence of City Manager, that the Goodrich Tire Agreement be renewed for one year.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved to concur in the recommendation as stated. His motion was seconded by Councilman Lyman and carried by unanimous roll call vote (Councilman Vico absent).

18. PROPOSED ORDINANCE AND RESOLUTION RE REDUCTION OF DRAINAGE FEES, REFUND, ETC.

City Manager Ferraro called attention to his note on the letter of transmittal which reads:

"In total this represents an approximate 33% or \$70,000 refund of fees paid in under the present schedule. Refunds would be made as funds became available."

and added that special refunds were set aside for each Drainage District and reimbursement should not be made until the funds are available.

At the request of Mayor Isen, City Clerk Coil assigned a number, presented for first reading, and read title to:

ORDINANCE NO. 1621

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE REPEALING SECTION 34.151 OF ARTICLE VII, SECTION 34.176 OF ARTICLE VIII, SECTION 34.201 OF ARTICLE IX AND SECTION 34.226 OF ARTICLE X OF "THE CODE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, 1954" IN ORDER TO LOWER THE DRAINAGE FEES FOR DRAINAGE DISTRICTS 5-E, 8-A, 8-B and 8-C AND SUBSTITUTING NEW SECTIONS THEREFOR.

Councilman Beasley moved to approve Ordinance No. 1621 at its first reading. His motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta and carried by unanimous roll call vote (Councilman Vico absent).

At the request of Mayor Isen, City Clerk Coil assigned a number and read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 65-195

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING REFUND OF DRAINAGE FEES COLLECTED IN DRAINAGE DISTRICTS 5E, 8A, 8B AND 8C.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved to adopt Resolution No. 65-195 and his motion, seconded by Councilman Miller, carried by unanimous roll call vote (Councilman Vico absent).

## 19. EXPENDITURES OF OVER \$300.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved to approve the following four items of budgeted and reimbursable expenditures:

1. \$311.48 to Johnson Stationery for office furniture to be used by the Building and Safety Department as regular budget items.
2. \$900 to IBM for two electric typewriters to be used by the Building and Safety and Finance Departments, as regular budget items.
3. \$8,268 to Diebold Inc. for one Power Card File installation to be used by the Police Department as a regular budget item.
4. \$389.46 to Dieterich-Post Company for two Hamilton drafting table units to be used by Engineering as a regular budget item.

Councilman Olson seconded and roll call vote was;

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Lyman, Miller, Olson,  
Sciarrotta, and Mayor Isen.

NOES: COUNCILMEN: None

ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Vico.

PARK AND RECREATION:20. PROPOSED RESOLUTION TO REPLACE RESOLUTION NO. 65-79.

This resolution is recommended to make the matter set forth in Resolution No. 65-79 more specific and thus receive more favorable consideration by the County Board of Supervisors on October 1, 1965. The City Manager has concurred in the recommendation.

At the request of Mayor Isen, City Clerk Coil assigned a number and read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 65-196

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE REQUESTING THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO RECOGNIZE THE INTENT OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE TO ACQUIRE AND DEVELOP A REGIONAL PARK WITHIN ITS BOUNDARIES AND TO RESERVE AN APPROPRIATION OF STATE BOND MONEY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$197,069 UNTIL SUCH DATE AS THE CITY MAY APPLY FOR THE FUNDS FOR PURPOSES OF ACQUIRING OR DEVELOPING THE PROPERTY, OR UNTIL JANUARY 1, 1968, WHICHEVER IS THE EARLIER.

Councilman Miller moved to adopt Resolution No. 65-196 and his motion, seconded by Councilman Olson, carried by unanimous roll call vote (Councilman Vico absent).

Mayor Isen commented, particularly to Recreation Director Van Bellehem and City Attorney Remelmeyer that he learned at the Independent Cities Convention in Palm Springs recently that there is a model ordinance the League has enacted to take care of fees for parks. Mr. Remelmeyer said he has a copy. Also, Mayor Isen said under State law there is a provision that if there are more than fifty lots in a subdivision, a City may pick a park site which must go into the area. Mr. Remelmeyer said he is aware of the whole subject, but does not recommend the ordinance because of the difficulty to operate under it. The parks have to be made with reference to particular subdivisions and Torrance has no more large subdivisions to develop. He believes the method of taxing the building units is superior.

Mayor Isen complimented both the Legal and the Park and Recreation Departments for their awareness and said in order to save time, he would suggest the ordinances be referred to Park and Recreation Commission for study. If it were not for the large sums the subdividers have paid into the park fund, Torrance would not have the neighborhood parks which it enjoys and the subdividers deserve great credit for not challenging the constitutionality of that contribution.

21. RECOMMENDATION OF CIVIL DEFENSE COMMISSION RELATIVE TO ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING APPROVAL OF COUNTY ORDINANCE NO. 5582.

City Attorney Remelmeyer said he had not studied this material and it was referred to him.

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On motion of Councilman Lyman, seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, the Council recessed for the purpose of holding the meeting of the Redevelopment Agency, there being no objection. The Council reconvened as such at 8:45 p.m.

22. LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS REQUESTING WAIVER OF FEE FOR CHARTERING CITY BUS, to transport prospective deputy registrars to a class of instruction at the office of the County Registrar of Voters, 808 North Spring Street, Los Angeles, with recommendation of the City Clerk, that the request be granted for free transportation via City bus provided that each passenger sign a waiver holding the City harmless from any liability. The date of the class is Saturday, October 16, 1965.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved that the request be granted. His motion was seconded by Councilman Beasley and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

Mayor Isen said there should be a great deal of publicity given the fact that voters can register at the Libraries.

23. MONTHLY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE REPORT.

The President of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Bruce Jones read in full the many items accomplished and in progress by the Chamber of Commerce during September, 1965. Copies were distributed to the Councilmen and Press.

24. OPINION NO. 65-51 RE EFFECT OF THE HOUR OF MIDNIGHT WHILE COUNCIL IS IN SESSION.

This opinion had been requested of the City Attorney and Mayor Isen said if there was no objection, the Council would concur in the opinion set forth and the communication would be filed. There was no objection.

25. RELEASE OF SUBDIVISION BONDS FOR TRACT NO. 17330. These are bonds which have been overlooked in old subdivision files and the recommendation is to release Bond No. 985947 in the amount of \$132,000; Bond No. 985909 in the amount of \$500, for Tract No. 17330, the subdivider being Bowles & Company.

Councilman Beasley moved to concur and his motion was seconded by Councilman Lyman. Roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Vico absent).

26. PROCLAMATION:

Mayor Isen proclaimed the week of October 3 - 9, 1965, as NATIONAL EMPLOY THE PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED WEEK.

27. REPORT OF THE CITY COUNCIL FINANCE COMMITTEE RE CITY TREASURER AND CITY CLERK - ADDITIONAL DUTIES AND HIGHER COMPENSATION.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved to hold this report for a week and Councilman Beasley seconded, stating there is some additional information which merits consideration by the Finance Committee of the Council. A meeting was scheduled of that Committee for Wednesday, September 29, 1965, at 10 a.m. There was no objection.

28. City Manager Ferraro addressed questions to his guest for this meeting, Wallace McGregor, President of the Bishop Montgomery High School student body, which brought out facts relating to his active and distinguished school participation and ambitions for the future, including the hope of an appointment to West Point Military Academy.

29. City Manager Ferraro stated a resignation had been received from Mrs. Evelyn Radford from the Torrance Safety Council. She had not, however, served a full four-year term and Mr. Ferraro recommended that the letter of commendation be written to her. Councilman Beasley so moved; his motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta and there was no objection.

30. City Manager Ferraro stated a tentative date has been set for dedication of the Probation Building on Civic Center, for October 8, a Friday and asked authorization to spend \$425 to also sponsor a luncheon following the dedication. It is estimated there will be fifty or sixty people. Councilman Beasley moved to grant the request and his motion, seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, carried as follows:

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Lyman, Miller, Olson,  
Sciarrotta and Mayor Isen.

NOES: COUNCILMEN: None

ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Vico.

31. City Manager Ferraro is planning a meeting with the City Administrator of the City of Lomita to discuss various problems connected with the southern boundary of Torrance, particularly along Crenshaw Boulevard and the annexation made just prior to the incorporation of the City of Lomita. Also to be discussed are some problems with respect to blocker streets on the further development of the Airport. The proposal is to attend the Council meeting on October 5th and then to dinner on a no host basis. There seemed to be no conflict as to October 5th.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

32. Councilman Sciarrotta said he is frequently asked by Torrance citizens about all this Federal aid for various projects. He would like to have the definite pros and cons as to what money is available and what strings are attached to its use. Mr. Ferraro told him Mr. Scharfman is preparing such a paper at this time and it will probably be available next week.

33. Mayor Isen said he is very pleased to see the downtown parking lot project coming toward completion as a result of the Assessment District. It should do a lot toward stimulating downtown business. Councilmen Miller and Olson and the Torrance Beautiful Commission are working on the beautification of the east entrance to the City and Mayor Isen asked that this be made a first priority project.

Councilman Miller agreed except to state that the comments are somewhat premature. Negotiations are quietly progressing toward some help from the Southern Pacific and a letter has been sent toward setting up a meeting, hoping they will accept some of the responsibility. He asked Mr. Ferraro if there had been any reply from the railroad company. While there has not been a reply, Mr. Ferraro said he has talked with someone at the railroad company and there is a tentative meeting set up with the pertinent people and the two councilmen as well as Mrs. Frank Sciarrotta of the Torrance Beautiful Commission.

Mayor Isen did not believe his request was premature and asked that the Council indicate to management that this should hold top priority. Councilman Sciarrotta so moved and his motion, seconded by Mayor Isen, carried, there being no objection.

34. Mayor Isen referred to the groundbreaking for Bill Hopkins Lincoln Mercury dealership which was reported by Mr. Bruce Jones in his Chamber of Commerce report and estimated the revenue to the City on even this one of a long and fast growing list of business and industries which will be beneficial to the City.

35. Tomorrow the City Council and Chamber of Commerce will attend the ground breaking for Volvo Western Distributing, near 190th and Arlington. He wished to remind everyone that the argument had been made that no one would ever use this land industrially. The Council turned down a condominium development and an R-1 development and these decisions are now justified by the advent of this tremendous project which will bring financial benefit and publicity to the area.

36. Mr. Elmo Sherer of 1616 Madrid Avenue said in criticizing the railroad, the City should first consider their own responsibilities. The street sweeping responsibility, for instance, is not taken care of and there are tumbleweeds growing out into the street and nothing down to remove them. City Manager Ferraro said this condition will be corrected.

37. Mr. Barney Cropper, representing Tallyho Apartments, 3922 Emerald Street of which he is manager, asked for some information as to when the street behind Little Company of Mary Hospital will be put through - Maricopa Street. He gave his telephone number as 370-1063 and Mayor Isen advised him to talk with the City Manager after this meeting.

38. Mr. N. O. Drale said there is to be a meeting of the Board of College Trustees October 14th and 15th in Long Beach and the matter of the location of the South Bay college will be on the agenda, as to the alternate site in Torrance. He strongly urged that some concerted effort be made to have a great many people attend to show the Board of Trustees that Torrance wants this college.

Mayor Isen, Councilmen Lyman, Miller, Beasley, and Sciarrotta each expressed themselves as believing a soft sell might be more appropriate at this point. A very fine report has gone in; there is no doubt in the minds of the Board or anyone that Torrance wants the college and now the decision should be left to them.

Councilman Olson said in that there are three weeks remaining, it might be well to check with the Planning Committee on the subject as to the advisability of sending a delegation. Mr. Ferraro will report to the Council on this aspect at the next Council meeting. It was agreed the Committee is well chosen and their decision should be followed in complete cooperation and without any civic jealousy.

The meeting was regularly adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Vernon W. Coil  
Vernon W. Coil, Clerk of the  
City of Torrance, California

APPROVED:

Albert J. ...  
Mayor of the City of Torrance