

I N D E XCouncil Meeting held Tuesday, July 19, 1966, 4:00 p.m.

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Torrance, California
July 19, 1966

MINUTES OF A REGULARLY ADJOURNED
MEETING OF THE TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL

The Torrance City Council met in regularly adjourned session at 4:00 p.m., on Tuesday, July 19, 1966, the earlier hour having been set for a continuation of the discussion with the Library Commission regarding future Library service in the City of Torrance.

Mayor Isen determined that this being a regularly adjourned meeting, when the Library discussion was finished, it would be proper to take up non-controversial items on the agenda, although the opening ceremonies and standard motions would be held at 5:30 p.m.

Roll call revealed the following Councilmen present: Councilmen Beasley, Miller, Olson, Sciarrotta, Vico and Mayor Isen. Councilman Lyman arrived at 5:30 p.m., the usual meeting time.

These minutes are written in the sequence considered at the meeting. The index is in numerical order by item numbers.

LIBRARY DISCUSSION:

Chairman Kurtz and several members of the Library Commission were present as well as several of the League of Women Voters members. Mayor Isen invited them to continue the discussion from the point at which the pre-council meeting last week ended.

Mayor Isen commented that this should be the day for decision; nothing can be gained by procrastination and suggested that Mr. Rea proceed with his remarks. He mentioned the lease-back method of establishing an independent system, but Mayor Isen said that has been explored in depth in connection with other projects and he did not think it should be considered for the Libraries, although it might work well in other projects. This is a problem not only of the Library Commission and the City Council, but also of the people. No magic will produce a library system, it has to be paid for.

Mr. Rea of the Commission said the amount of money ordinarily paid to the ACO for the County system at the current tax rate is \$132,000 a year and this would be available to establish a library system in the City.

Councilman Olson asked if the Commission had obtained any popular reaction to something like Friends of the Library, as in Inglewood and Mr. Rea said the Commission does not consider that as coming under their jurisdiction.

Chairman Kurtz spoke of the level of service under the independent system and the level of service as projected by the County Librarian if the decision is to go to the County. He also wished to correct a statement made at the last meeting by Mr. Rea to the effect that only a building could be purchased through a general obligation bond. He has inquired and determined that a general obligation bond could include not only the building, but the initial book supply as a capital improvement. From year to year purchases of books could not be from a general obligation bond but the initial purchase could be from the receipts of a general obligation bond if that intention were made clear to the people at the time they voted on it.

Another point Mr. Kurtz wished to bring to the Council's attention is the alternate which he had mentioned as a stop-gap at last week's session, and he asked for comment from the Assistant County Librarian, Mr. Goodwell. Mr. Goodwell said City Manager Ferraro had anticipated the answer - that the tax rate which would be involved would be both the operation expense and the ACO fund. The City now pays the County close to \$400,000. As to future projection, the City Manager's report indicates that if the City goes independent, the tax rate in 1970 would be 24 cents. The County projection for 1970 is a maximum of 21.5 cents.

Mayor Isen did not agree with the City Manager's projection and thought it would be more like 16 cents, figuring a penny on the tax rate is \$25,000, and he believed that 16 cents applied on a unified system would provide a better level of service than with the County. He said there is no reason to postpone the inevitable. Over the last several years, besides paying the County this \$400,000, four new neighborhood libraries have been constructed on a pay-as-you-go basis. The sales tax picture is getting rosier each year and a lot of things which have been needed badly will have been purchased. He believes the Council can find the necessary money and provide a better level by going independent, making the decision and establishing the policy today.

Councilman Miller said he believes the Council has decided which way to go and with that statement Mr. Kurtz said he would conclude his presentation but suggested the Council hear from the members of the League of Women voters who wish to express opinions.

Mayor Isen had evolved a plan by which the system could be self-sustaining and he outlined it, as follows: a two cent reduction in taxes which had been proposed, be abandoned; take advantage of the windfall caused by the underestimation of property evaluation; surely, he said the other four cents could be found. There would have to be a bond issue and if this plan, or something similar in policy, would be adopted that sometime in the early part of 1967, the project be presented to the people for a \$2,000,000 bond issue. It might be that the Civic Center Library could not be as large or pretentious as planned, but it could be established with the thought of future expansion. He said the people could be assured if they vote the bond issue, the Council would thereupon reduce the general taxes by four cents so in effect the bond issue would cost them nothing. There is no other way to raise \$2,000,000 immediately. Over twenty years, \$100,000 would pay the interest and reduce a \$2,000,000 bond issue borrowing. There are many things the City needs, but the need for a library system is paramount and must be faced. He suggested that the League of Women Voters and service organizations be very active in promoting the bond issue; that there be some effort toward establishing a Friends of the Library association; and any private contributions of either money or new books would be gratefully accepted.

Councilman Olson's reaction to an independent system was that it would provide more flexibility and if possible the system could be accelerated if more money than anticipated becomes available through sales tax.

Mrs. William Radcliff, President of the League of Women Voters said it had not been possible to stir up community interest in Friends of the Library. The League cannot automatically support a proposed bond issue without knowing exactly what it would consist of. Obviously this will cost the taxpayer, but if there is a possibility of getting some of the money through sales tax revenue, the people would be pleased to know that.

Councilman Beasley mentioned the tax on liquor possibility, but Mayor Isen thought this is not the time to consider it.

Councilman Miller asked what would happen if the people reject the bond issue and Mayor Isen said it would mean that the City would still have an independent system, but without the Civic Center Library. In that event, administrative and processing facilities could be taken up later along with other hurdles.

Mayor Isen proposed also that industry support this project because of the local control, rather than control by the County Board of Supervisors. The Council will furnish the leadership, but Mayor Isen feels that it is up to the League of Women Voters and others interested to shoulder considerable responsibility. He also spoke of possible new neighborhood libraries and enlargement of those now existing to 5,000 square feet. Mrs. Radcliff added that there should be an expanded level of service from the present five days a week. Mayor Isen thought that could be accomplished under flexible home rule.

Chairman Kurtz said Mrs. Foote also had some remarks, but Mayor Isen said he believed the Council is ready to set the policy. Councilman Sciarrotta moved to approve and adopt the proposal outlined by Mayor Isen as a matter of policy, including the independent system. Councilman Beasley seconded and added the instruction that the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors be notified that as of July 1, 1968, the City of Torrance will become independent of the County Library System. Councilman Sciarrotta accepted the addition to his motion and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Lyman absent).

Councilman Miller asked for an analysis from Management, especially dealing with the possibility of defeat of the bond issue, of something which could be really depended on. Chairman Kurtz said this decision covers all that was asked of the Commission; their assignment was to provide a recommendation on whether to go independent or remain with the County. The level of service and the financing is a matter for Council decision.

Mayor Isen thanked the Commission and commended the League of Women Voters, and Councilman Miller asked if they would please work with the City Manager on the ancillary problems. City Manager Ferraro promised a report by September 1st.

Councilman Beasley moved that the library tax be increased by two cents as a means of keeping the money separate and that the reduction of two cents be maintained as originally voted as to general property taxes. Mayor Isen seconded. Chairman Kurtz asked that some thought be given to the possibility of receiving a higher bill from the County if that were done and Councilman Beasley withdrew his motion as did his second, Mayor Isen.

Commissioner Rea asked that the County be made aware this decision in no way reflects on the County people who have worked in the Torrance system.

Councilman Sciarrotta asked if an amicable suit might be filed to determine if Torrance has the power to place a tax on liquor and Mayor Isen said he would prefer only an opinion from the City Attorney as to its legality. The cost of such a suit could better be spent for books. Councilman Olson asked that the opinion also cover the various ramifications of such a tax.

City Manager Ferraro said the Commission did an outstanding job in attacking this problem from every angle, particularly Chairman Kurtz and Commissioner Rea. He also spoke highly of the League of Women Voters' enthusiasm and efforts and assured them there would be no undue sacrifice of level of service. Mr. Ferraro also praised the service of the County library employees who have worked with the Torrance system.

Mayor Isen announced, in that there was time left before 5:30, matters of routine nature would be taken up on the agenda, starting with:

26. SECOND READING OF ORDINANCES.

At the request of Mayor Isen, City Clerk Coil presented for second reading, and read title to:

ORDINANCE NO. 1703

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE REPEALING SECTION 16.566 OF ARTICLE LIII, CHAPTER 16, OF "THE CODE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, 1954" AND SUBSTITUTING A REVISED SECTION 16.566 THEREFOR TO PROVIDE FOR REVOCATION, SUSPENSION HEARING, NOTICE IN RELATION TO OUTDOOR RESTAURANT PERMITS.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved to adopt Ordinance No. 1703 at its second and final reading. His motion was seconded by Mayor Isen and carried by unanimous roll call vote (Councilman Lyman absent).

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS:

22. PROPOSED RESOLUTION RE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE CONTRACT.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 66-144

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE AND ATTEST THAT CERTAIN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY AND THE TORRANCE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, RELATIVE TO ADVERTISING AND PROMOTING THE CITY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 1966-1967.

Councilman Beasley moved to adopt Resolution No. 66-144 and his motion, seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, carried by unanimous roll call vote (Councilman Lyman absent).

City Manager Ferraro said the City intends to work with the Chamber of Commerce to get a better background on overhead charges. Councilman Olson questioned the \$300 to the Armory and it was explained by Mayor Isen, as were the two sums of \$500 to the Torrance Mounted Police.

21. PROPOSED ORDINANCE RE PLANNING COMMISSION, AIRPORT COMMISSION AND CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION REIMBURSEMENTS.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 1704

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING SECTION 2.15, 2.80 and 2.160 OF "THE CODE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, 1954" IN ORDER TO INCREASE THE AMOUNT OF REIMBURSEMENT FOR ORDINARY AND NECESSARY EXPENSES OF THE PLANNING, AIRPORT AND CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSIONS.

Councilman Olson moved to approve Ordinance No. 1704 at its first reading and his motion, seconded by Councilman Beasley, carried by unanimous roll call vote (Councilman Lyman absent).

Councilman Beasley moved to appropriate the sum of \$3,080 from the General Fund Unappropriated Reserve and \$770 from the Airport Fund Surplus for the purpose set forth in Ordinance No. 1704 and his motion, seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, carried as follows:

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

NOES: COUNCILMEN: None

ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Lyman.

20. BUDGETED EXPENDITURES OF OVER \$300.

Councilman Miller moved to approve the following eleven items of expenditure:

1. \$582.00 to Victor Comptometer Corporation for one only printing calculator to be used by the City Treasurer.
2. \$1,130.33 to Johnson Stationery of Torrance for miscellaneous steel furniture to be used by the Recreation Department at City Hall and at the Recreation Center.
3. \$1,025.07 to Johns-Manville for 1200 ft. of asbestos cement pipe to be used by the Park Department for installing sprinkler system at El Nido Park.
4. \$949.44 to Nees Turf and Supply for one only 30-station automatic sprinkler controller to be installed at El Nido Park by the Park Department.
5. \$664.56 to Nees Turf Supply for 25,000 feet of electric wire to be used in the installation of the sprinkler electrical valve system at El Nido Park.
6. \$2,162.16 to American Sprinkler and Supply Co. for 105 full circle sprinkler heads to be installed at El Nido Park.
7. \$2,129.40 to Oranco Supply Company for 75 part circle sprinkler heads to be installed at El Nido Park.
8. \$353.60 to West Coast Netting, Inc. for one only portable score board to be used by the Recreation Department for sport activities.
9. \$708.45 to J. Jones Co. for miscellaneous copper water pipe materials to be used by the Water Department.
10. \$1,390.48 to Western Water Works for miscellaneous fittings and valves to be used by the Water Department for stock.
11. \$990.08 to Tabery Corp. for vendor's originally designed display panels and racks to be used by the Recreation Department for community and department art shows at Joslyn Center.

Mayor Isen seconded the motion which carried as follows:

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

NOES: COUNCILMEN: None

ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Lyman.

19. REQUEST OF CHIEF KOENIG for travel to attend the 73rd Annual Conference of International Association of Chiefs of Police.

The request is for permission to attend the conference October 1 through 6, 1966 in Philadelphia, Pa., with adequate travel time and appropriate expenses paid in accordance with the rules and procedures for travel as laid down by the Department of Finance.

Councilman Beasley moved to grant the request as stated and his motion was seconded by Councilman Miller. Roll call vote was:

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

NOES: COUNCILMEN: None

ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Lyman.

TRAFFIC AND PARKING:

16. LEFT TURN SIGNALS ON TORRANCE BOULEVARD AT HAWTHORNE BOULEVARD.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 66-145

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE REPEALING RESOLUTION NO. 66-65 WHICH APPROVED A COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT FOR WORK TO BE ACCOMPLISHED ON A STATE HIGHWAY UNDER TERMS SET FORTH IN CITY-STATE PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT NO. 1980 AND ESTABLISHING A REVISED RESOLUTION UNDER SAID AGREEMENT NO. 1980.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved to adopt Resolution No. 66-145 and his motion, seconded by Councilman Beasley, carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved to appropriate the necessary additional money, \$575.00 from the 186.1 Gas Tax Fund and his motion, seconded by Councilman Beasley, carried as follows:

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

NOES: COUNCILMEN: None

ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Lyman.

25. RE. MASTER PLAN OF CITY HALL COMPLEX - Recommendation of City Manager.

Councilman Beasley moved to refer the selection of the architectural firm to the Public Buildings Committee of the City Council for study and recommendation. Councilman Sciarrotta seconded and discussion followed.

City Manager Ferraro outlined the problem; there has been a change of concept as to the planned expansion and all possibilities should be explored for providing needed space.

Roll call on the motion was unanimously favorable (Councilman Lyman absent).

Mayor Isen added the thought of remodeling so as to bring the buildings into a more compatible appearance with each other and with the new Courthouse. Assistant City Manager Scharfman said there is an ever-increasing parking problem at the City Hall complex and there may have to be underground parking. Also some fueling facilities will be needed for the Police Department. Councilman Beasley said the Public Buildings Committee has never met on this subject.

15. BUILDING AND SAFETY DIRECTOR recommendation, with concurrence of City Manager, that the Police Station Addition be completed per original contract.

City Manager Ferraro stated this communication is informational only and, there being no objection, it was ordered filed.

23. REQUEST OF TELO KOLETOS RE early acquisition of properties.

The recommendation of the City Manager is to authorize engaging two additional appraisers, one of whom to be paid by Mr. Koletos. After the three appraisals have been received, the recommendation is that the City Manager and City Attorney meet with the Finance Committee of the City Council to discuss the matter before proceeding further.

Mrs. Koletos spoke on behalf of herself and husband. Councilman Miller thought there might possibly be a lower appraisal because the property has been vacant and has not been kept up. Mrs. Koletos did not think a lower appraisal could be made inasmuch as the value lays in the real estate, not the improvements. Mayor Isen said Mrs. Koletos' letter of July 14th offers a good solution to sell at a price set by appraisal by Mr. Morgan.

Councilman Beasley favored opening an escrow with a price left blank, the figure to be supplied by an appraiser to be picked by the Koletoses, who would confer with Mr. Morgan and reach a sale figure. This transaction is likened to the one with a Mr. Pusich about a year ago. Mr. Koletos should pay for the second appraiser, Councilman Beasley said.

Mayor Isen said the procedure is for the City to pay for the two appraisals.

City Attorney Remelmeyer suggested there be a gentleman's agreement to enter into an escrow after the price has been set provided the City agrees it is a proper price to pay, rather than commit the City to pay an unknown price. It will be impossible to get back from the Government any sum of money that cannot be justified to them. He asked that judgment be reserved until the appraisal has been made. Otherwise the City would be binding itself to buy property at an undetermined price. Mr. Remelmeyer concurred with Mr. Ferraro that Mr. Morgan bring his appraisal up to date and have it checked by another appraiser. There will be no mass purchase of property until after a second appraisal. After the second appraisal on the Koletos property, it would come back to the Council for approval, and if the Koletoses want to sell at that figure, for cash, that would be the transaction.

Mr. Ferraro thought Mr. Koletos should pay for the second appraisal but Mayor Isen did not. The seller would pay for a policy of title in the usual manner.

There was no formal action, but an agreement seemed to have been reached with Mr. and Mrs. Koletos.

At 5:28 p.m., a recess was declared from which the Council returned at 5:40.

The opening ceremonies and standard motions which were not held at the opening of this meeting were now in order. Those responding to roll call by City Clerk Coil were: Councilmen Beasley, Lyman, Miller, Olson, Sciarrotta, Vico, and Mayor Isen. Absent: None.

3. FLAG SALUTE:

A group of girl scouts, Troop 840, South Torrance, were present with their leader, Mrs. C. W. Burks, and at the request of Mayor Isen one of them led the salute to the flag.

4. INVOCATION:

Reverend Fred Shiveley, Assistant Minister of the South Bay Church of God, opened the meeting with an invocation.

Mayor Isen introduced Hal Lowe, the new reporter of the Press-Telegram who will be present at Council meetings and recognized Alan Byrd from the Daily Breeze.

STANDARD MOTIONS:5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilman Sciarrotta moved to approve the minutes of the meeting of July 12, 1966, as written. His motion was seconded by Councilman Beasley and carried by unanimous roll call vote.

6. APPROVAL OF DEMANDS:

Councilman Beasley moved all bills regularly audited be paid. His motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta and carried by unanimous roll call vote:

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Lyman, Miller, Olson,
Sciarrotta, Vico, and Mayor Isen.
NOES: COUNCILMEN: None

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 and that this motion apply to the matters which have already been heard this evening. The motion, seconded by Councilman Beasley, carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Mayor Isen gave a brief explanation of Council procedure for the benefit of the audience.

HEARINGS:8. WEED ABATEMENT HEARING NO. 1:

Mayor Isen announced this is the time and place for the hearing on Resolution of Intention No. 66-139, declaring parcels listed on pages 1 through 4 inclusive, described in said resolution to be a public nuisance and providing for the abatement thereof, excepting any parcels which are designated. It was noted there are no exceptions.

Affidavit of Posting and Mailing was presented by City Clerk and, there being no objection, ordered filed.

No one responded to the invitation of Mayor Isen to be heard on the proposed abatement of weeds.

On motion of Councilman Beasley, seconded by Councilman Miller, the hearing was ordered closed, there being no objection.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 66-146

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND INSTRUCTING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS TO ABATE THE NUISANCE LOCATED ON OR IN FRONT OF PROPERTY IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE AS DESCRIBED IN RESOLUTION NO. 66-139.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved to adopt Resolution No. 66-146 and his motion, seconded by Councilman Beasley, carried by unanimous roll call vote.

24. WEED ABATEMENT PROGRAM - SPRING AND FALL 1966. Resolution of Intention to abate weeds on certain private properties in the City of Torrance.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 66-147

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE DECLARING THAT WEEDS GROWING UPON AND IN FRONT OF CERTAIN PRIVATE PROPERTY IN THE CITY ARE A PUBLIC NUISANCE, AND DECLARING ITS INTENTION TO PROVIDE FOR THE ABATEMENT THEREOF.

Councilman Beasley moved to adopt Resolution No. 66-147 and his motion, seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, carried by unanimous roll call vote.

PLANNING AND ZONING MATTERS:

9. TENTATIVE TRACT NO. 30060, Subdivider, Charles Middleton. Engineer, Lanco Engineering. Tract located west of Cabrillo Avenue between 236th Place and 237th Street in R-1 zone. Recommended for approval with conditions, by the Planning Commission.

Mayor Isen confirmed that this is a previously approved Tentative Tract Map on which the final tract map was not recorded within the necessary time limit and the original tentative approval expired.

Councilman Beasley moved to approve Tentative Tract No. 30060, subject to all conditions. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vico and carried by unanimous roll call vote.

STREETS AND SIDEWALKS:

10. PROPOSED CITY POLICY ON SIDEWALK CONSTRUCTION. The recommendation of the Director of Public Works is to adopt the attached statement as official City policy. This is a collection of years of Council action on various policy matters.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved to concur in the recommendation to adopt the policy. His motion was seconded by Councilman Beasley. Roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

Mayor Isen inquired of the City Manager what has been done about compiling the policy manual and was told it is being revised and brought up to date. City Clerk Coil stated these policies are kept up to date automatically by the filing system in his office.

The request of the City Manager to sift the minutes of past meetings and compile these policies into a permanent volume, showing the actual policy, what the vote was and how it was established, was reiterated by Mayor Isen.

11. CODE REQUIREMENTS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF CURBS AND GUTTERS. Recommendation of Director of Public Works with concurrence of City Manager that City Attorney be instructed to prepare an ordinance incorporating certain suggested Code amendments.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved that the City Attorney prepare an ordinance as recommended for consideration by the Council. Councilman Beasley seconded and there was no objection.

12. REQUEST TO VACATE A PORTION OF ATKINSON AVENUE: Recommendation of Director of Public Works, with concurrence of City Manager to deny.

The request is from Foods Company Markets, Inc. 17500 Crenshaw Boulevard and Mr. A. Schwartz, President, repeated his outline of what has occurred here, starting approximately 12 years ago when the market was built. The store has been using about eight feet of City property for all that time. He could see no reason for widening Atkinson Avenue.

Mayor Isen said he could see no reason to go through the Edison right of way or becoming competitive with Crenshaw, one block to the west, and did not think the homeowners on Atkinson should have their peace and quiet disturbed. He would like to have Atkinson not empty into 182nd Street. This problem needs solving along with the Foods Company problem

Councilman Miller asked the Director of Public Works what need there is for the continuation of Atkinson across the utility line and Mr. Nollac said that need was established by the City Council four or five years ago when the City requested and received the right of way for that road. Mayor Isen said in that event, he would like to reverse that action. Mr. Nollac said there are no streets between Crenshaw and Van Ness which connect north and south. Two were proposed: one Casimir and the other Atkinson. This has nothing to do with whether or not Atkinson is continued to 182nd Street; it would merely provide north and south access across the Edison right of way.

Mayor Isen said there should be a recommendation from the Council committee regarding Atkinson and determining a solution of this particular problem. He appointed Councilmen Beasley (Chairman), Lyman and Olson to study this matter and research the minutes and make a recommendation on this request for vacation. More is involved than a clear-cut denial or approval.

Mr. Schwartz displayed before and after pictures showing the proposed improvement of the market. He is not particularly pressed for time. There was no objection to the action proposed by Mayor Isen.

At 6:03 p.m., Mayor Isen declared a recess for the purpose of holding the meeting of the Redevelopment Agency of the City of Torrance, on motion of Councilman Sciarrotta, seconded by Councilman Miller, there being no objection. The council returned to its agenda at 6:05.

13. ELIMINATION OF CROSS GUTTER ON CALLE MAYOR AT CALLE MAYOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATION OF 186.1 GAS TAX FUNDS. Recommendation of Director of Public Works with concurrence of City Manager that \$9,000 be appropriated from 186.1 Gas Tax Funds for the subject purpose.

Councilman Beasley moved to concur in the recommendation as stated and appropriate \$9,000 from the 186.1 Gas Tax Funds for the purpose. His motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta and carried as follows:

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Lyman, Miller, Olson,
Sciarrotta, Vico, and Mayor Isen.
NOES: COUNCILMEN: None

14. BUILDING RESTRICTION ZONE - DRAINAGE DISTRICT 8A.

City Manager Ferraro asked that this item be withdrawn for a more detailed summary and there was no objection.

PERSONNEL MATTERS:

17. PROPOSED ORDINANCE re Police and Fire Chiefs, qualification and rank.

This ordinance was requested by Councilman Vico last week and Mayor Isen invited discussion by the council, remarking that the problems of 2½ years ago are clear in the minds of the councilmen.

Councilman Vico cited the example of replacement from the Department of Chief Parker who died a few days ago, although as Mayor Isen pointed out his appointment is only as Acting Chief, pending a regular replacement.

Councilman Vico moved to approve the policy set forth in the ordinance and Councilman Sciarrotta said he would second in order to place the question before the Council. Councilman Miller saw no reason to change the decision made a couple of years ago. An eligibility list of promotionals could be called for.

Councilman Beasley expressed approval of the way this matter will be covered in the new Civil Service ordinance by permitting the Civil Service Commission to determine if the examination would be open or promotional.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 1705

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE REPEALING SECTIONS 11.3 AND 22.3 OF "THE CODE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, 1954" WHICH SET FORTH THE QUALIFICATIONS AND RANK OF APPLICANTS FOR CHIEFS OF THE FIRE AND POLICE DEPARTMENT AND SUBSTITUTING NEW SECTIONS THEREFOR RELATING TO THE SAME SUBJECT MATTER.

Councilman Beasley moved to approve Ordinance No. 1705 at its first reading. His motion was seconded by Councilman Vico and the motion failed (5/7 vote needed), as follows:

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

Councilman Miller added that he would like to see credits given to the department members who take an examination - he would prefer that an appointment be made from the ranks, if possible.

City Manager Ferraro said he would order an examination for Fire Chief under the current ordinance.

18. PROGRESS REPORT ON PROTESTED POSITIONS IN RE CLASSIFICATIONS SUGGESTED IN JACOBS REPORT.

Mayor Isen asked that there be an added phrase to the last paragraph of the report, so that it will read:

"This committee informally has acted as an Appeals Board in a quasi-judicial capacity, and it is urged that the Council accept its recommendations without further hearings or testimony, providing said recommendations are unanimous by the Committee.

Councilman Miller believed, for many reasons, that there should be some sort of appeal beyond the committee; the entire Council should participate. Mayor Isen maintained they do have an appeal from the Management decision to this Committee of the Council and if this is not satisfactory, he suggested that the other four members listen to any further appeal. Councilman Miller did not think the intent of the Council had been to give this committee final authority; rather, that it should submit a recommendation. If it is necessary in order to be fair, for all the councilmen to spend time on this, he favored doing so.

Councilman Olson said he had hoped after spending many hours in committee session, these would not have to be re-heard. Because he had found it necessary to leave the July 14th session early, the last two or three cases had not had a full committee hearing and he thought it might be well to rehear those at the coming Friday meeting.

There were various opinions expressed and various suggestions for procedure, all of which culminated in the decision to adjourn - when this meeting's business has been completed - to 7 p.m., on Monday to hear the remainder of these personnel cases. If any of the employees whose protests were heard on July 14th, wish to have further hearings, they can arrange through the City Manager to appear before the four members of the council who have not served on this committee. Mayor Isen said there are six cases still to be heard.

John Kirkpatrick, representing the Association, said there are twelve more to be considered and he doubted a full hearing could be had on them in one evening. Mayor Isen said the only employees who will need to attend Monday will be those whose cases were not heard before the Committee on July 14th.

Councilman Beasley moved to concur in the recommendation of the Committee on the Progress Report and give them authority to hear the balance of the cases and make the decisions. Mayor Isen and Councilman Olson were against such a motion.

City Manager Ferraro suggested the cases be referred to the Civil Service Commission and that the Council act as an appellate body only and not as the original board; in other words, start all over under a new procedure. Mayor Isen did not agree with this as a solution in that it would still be necessary for the Council to hear all these cases. He said if there was no objection, he would favor making p li the July 14th decisions of the committee at the Tuesday, July 2 h Council meeting.

Councilman Olson moved the Committee be dissolved and that the Council hear all the cases. Councilman Sciarrotta seconded the motion Councilman Olson asked for a vote on this motion. None was taken.

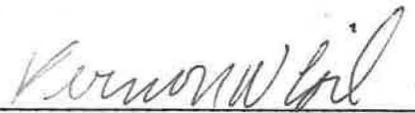
Mr. Sam Hunegs asked if there is any reason why the subcommittee of the Council cannot reveal its recommendations as to those which were heard on July 14th and Mayor Isen said that is his intention: to hear the balance of the cases on Monday evening and then at Tuesday's meeting reveal the recommendations as to all.

If, after Tuesday night's revelation, there are employees who wish to appeal further, the Council can then decide on the further procedure as to those.

Mr. Kirkpatrick repeated there are twelve more to be heard.

Mr. Ferraro asked clarification: Is the salary committee meeting originally scheduled for Friday afternoon cancelled? Mayor Isen's answer was "Yes". There will be adjournment from this meeting to Monday, July 25th at 7 p.m., and those employees whose protests have not been heard should be present. Those whose cases have been heard will be notified as soon as possible of the recommendation made and any further appeal from them will be before the four members of the Council who are not members of the Committee.

On motion of Mayor Isen, seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, at 6:45 p.m., this meeting was adjourned to 7 p.m., on Monday, July 25th, by unanimous vote.



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

APPROVED:



Mayor of the City of Torrance