

I N D E X

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Adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Torrance, California
October 31, 1967

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 held at 5:30 p.m., on Tuesday, October 31, 1967, in the Council Chambers of Torrance City Hall.

2. ROLL CALL:

Those responding to roll call by City Clerk Coil were: Councilmen Beasley, Lyman, Miller, Sciarrotta, Talbert, Vico and Mayor Isen. Also present were City Manager Ferraro, City Attorney Remelmeyer, City Clerk Coil and City Treasurer Rupert.

3. FLAG SALUTE:

Mayor Isen commented that the work of the various City departments goes on, unpraised, and, pointing out the fine work of the Building Department and the efficient administration of Building and Safety Director Jack McKinnon, he called upon him to lead the salute to the flag.

4. INVOCATION:

Minister of the Month, the Reverend Hugh R. Percy of St. Andrew Episcopal Church, opened the meeting with an invocation.

STANDARD MOTIONS:

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilman Sciarrotta moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held October 24, 1967, as written. His motion was seconded by Councilman Beasley and carried, there being no objection.

* * * * *

At this point in the meeting, a man appeared and announced he had some papers to serve on the councilmen. He did so and Mayor Isen commented for the record that the case is numbered 920612 in the Superior Court in and for the County of Los Angeles, Velma Shelbourn on behalf of herself and all of the taxpayers of the City of Torrance, and John Mosley on behalf of himself and all the members of the Meadow Park Homeowners Association and all of the property owners in the Meadow Park Redevelopment area, Plaintiffs, vs. the City of Torrance, a municipal corporation, et al (including councilmen, City Treasurer and City Clerk and City Manager). Mayor Isen read in full the Order to Show Cause and Temporary Restraining Order, hearing on which is set for November 10th, 1967.

6. APPROVAL OF DEMANDS:

Councilman Beasley moved all regularly audited bills be paid and his motion, seconded by Councilman Lyman, carried as follows:

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

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 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, seconded by Councilman Lyman, carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Mayor Isen suggested a motion to adjourn to private session under the Brown Act, to get advice from the City Attorney with respect to the legal proceedings in which documents were served this evening. Councilman Sciarrotta so moved; Councilman Lyman seconded and there was no objection. There was a recess for the session at which all councilmen and defendants named were present. The Council returned to its regular meeting about ten minutes later, at 5:55 p.m.

After returning from the closed session, Mayor Isen gave a brief explanation of Council procedure for the benefit of the audience. At his request, City Attorney Remelmeyer repeated the advice he had given the persons present at the session, in effect, as follows:

Judge Nutter, Department 65 of the Superior Court of Los Angeles County, has issued a restraining order which prohibits the Council from taking any action to place the proposed ordinance to deactivate the urban redevelopment agency on the ballot until after November 10th of this year, at which time, at 9:30 a.m., there will be a hearing on an order to Show Cause to determine whether or not his restraining order shall be made permanent. At that hearing an opportunity will be given all parties interested, to argue before the court the merits of the legality of the Council placing that particular ordinance on the ballot, and Judge Nutter may then either make it a permanent restraining order, or he may direct that the ordinance be placed on the ballot if he finds it is proper for the voters to vote on it; or, he may decide that he is unable to make any determination on the merits at that time and order it to go on the ballot at a later time. The net result is that the Council may take no action to place that particular ordinance on the ballot. There is, however, no order to restrain the Council from repealing the city's Housing Code. The ordinance referred to is the proposed ordinance embodied in the petition.

Mayor Isen asked for any interested members of the audience to speak, or ask any pertinent questions of the City Attorney.

Mr. Jim Ford who lives on Paseo de Gracia, asked if it would be possible for the Council prior to November 10th to reverse their previous action and Mr. Remelmeyer answered affirmatively.

Mr. Steven Allen, 4307 Newton Street, asked in what capacity the City and City Attorney would appear at the November 10th hearing. Mr. Remelmeyer replied that the three persons who circulated the petition, Mrs. Altermatt, Mrs. Rivera and Mrs. Sewell were served and made parties to the action, so they are the real parties in interest. They will be permitted to hire their own attorney and argue against the restraining order and for placement of the proposed ordinance on the ballot. The position of the City Attorney is a difficult one and he will probably appear as a friend of the Court.

Mayor Isen said that can be determined later; in any event the City Attorney acts in accordance with the direction of the Council. The only difference in opinion among the councilmen is as to whether or not the matter should be placed on the ballot. Councilman Talbert asked for time to consider this before expressing opinions and Councilman Beasley remarked along the lines of Mayor Isen's opinion, that the City Attorney acts at the direction of the City Council.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 67-241

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, SUBMITTING TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF SAID CITY AT THE GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, APRIL 9, 1968, A PROPOSED ORDINANCE REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 1567 ENTITLED "AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ADDING ARTICLE V, TO CHAPTER 6, OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, 1954, ADOPTING THE PROVISIONS OF THE UNIFORM HOUSING CODE, 1964 EDITION".

Mr. Coil proceeded to read the entire resolution at the suggestion of Mayor Isen and Councilman Sciarrotta moved to adopt Resolution No. 67-241. His motion was seconded by Councilman Beasley and carried by unanimous roll call vote. The wording in the resolution, Mayor Isen said, is identical to that in the petition, except a date is set for the election.

City Manager Ferraro was instructed to hold the list he had prepared of possible areas of cutting and freezing capital improvements, etc. until it is determined if it will be necessary.

Starting now with the regularly listed agenda items, Mayor Isen called attention to:

PLANNING AND ZONING MATTERS:

8. TENTATIVE TRACT MAP NO. 23526, Subdivider, Sunnyglen Construction. Eighteen lots, R-1 zone, located between 233rd and 234th Streets, westerly of Arlington Avenue. Recommendation for approval by the Planning Commission, subject to conditions.

Councilman Beasley moved to concur in the recommendation of the Planning Commission and his motion, seconded by Councilman Lyman, carried by unanimous roll call vote.

9. TENTATIVE TRACT MAP NO. 23517, Subdivider, Sunnyglen Construction. Fourteen lots, R-1 zone, located on the east side of Perkins Avenue at Michelle Drive. Recommendation for approval by the Planning Commission, subject to conditions.

Mr. Ferraro has talked with the subdivider and he wants to continue this matter until November 7th, a 5:30 meeting; in fact, he has filed a written request to this effect and Mr. Remelmeyer said it is considered to be a waiver. The Tentative Tract Map No. 23517 will be continued to November 7, 1967, at 5:30 p.m., at the request of the subdivider.

STREETS AND SIDEWALKS:

10. REQUEST FROM MEINE CONSTRUCTION CO. FOR RELEASE OF STREET IMPROVEMENT BOND UPON PAYMENT TO CITY FOR SAID IMPROVEMENTS. Recommendation of the Public Works Director that request be approved, upon payment of \$673.95.

Councilman Beasley moved to concur in the request and recommendation and his motion, seconded by Councilman Vico, carried by unanimous roll call vote.

11. REQUEST OF DR. J. RALPH BLACK TO UTILIZE DEDICATED PORTIONS OF 190th Street easterly of Hawthorne Boulevard. Recommendation of Public Works Director Nollac that the City Attorney be instructed to prepare a license agreement allowing use of subject property temporarily as outlined.

Councilman Talbert pointed out portions of the transmittal letter which did not exactly agree with what Dr. Black evidently expects. He asked if the "agreement to remove all facilities within the licensed area upon demand" could take effect during the seven year period recommended. Dr. Black in his letter mentioned a seven year guarantee.

Public Works Director Nollac explained that because of lack of funds, nothing can be done with this corner for at least seven years; it is not within the six-year program. In view of the unpredictable future, Mayor Isen said he believed five years would be more reasonable and then, terminable on notice.

Councilman Beasley moved to instruct the City Attorney to prepare a five year license agreement with Dr. Black to utilize the property. Councilman Sciarrotta seconded, with the option of renewal for three years, to which Mr. Beasley agreed.

Roll call vote was:

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Vico.

NOES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Lyman and Mayor Isen

ABSTAIN: COUNCILMEN: Miller, Sciarrotta, Talbert.

The motion failed and a great deal of discussion followed.

Councilman Beasley moved to refer the matter back to the City Attorney and City Manager - to find out exactly how much land is involved and what its valuation is. Councilman Miller seconded. There was no objection. Councilman Lyman had made some suggestions which Mr. Miller hoped Staff would consider: Seven years, with the right of cancellation at four years, so that amortization could be worked out; this is a standard way of handling improvements.

SEWERS AND DRAINAGE:

12. ESTABLISHMENT OF SEWER REIMBURSEMENT DISTRICT NO. 75: Recommendation of Public Works Director Nollac that Sewer Reimbursement District No. 75, with connection charge of \$9.50 per front foot be established to recover cost of sewer construction.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved to cencur in the recommendation as stated. His motion was seconded by Councilman Talbert and carried by unanimous roll call vote.

TRAFFIC AND PARKING:

13. PROPOSED RESOLUTION establishing a 35 MPH speed limit on Hawthorne Boulevard between Pacific Coast Highway and Newton Street.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 67-242

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING ARTICLE III, OF RESOLUTION NO. 61-157 WHICH ESTABLISHES 35 MPH PRIMA FACIE SPEED LIMITS BY ADDING A CERTAIN LOCATION THERETO.

Councilman Beasley moved to adopt Resolution No. 67-242 and his motion, seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, carried by unanimous roll call vote.

FISCAL MATTERS:

14. BUDGETED EXPENDITURES OF OVER \$300.

Councilman Miller moved to approve the following seven listed items:

- 1. \$761.50 to Bill Lange, Inc. to install a 1,000 gallon underground gasoline tank at Fire Station No. 4 requested by the Fire Department.
- 2. \$1,146.60 to Consolidated Electric Distributors for four security lights for Los Arboles Park requested by Traffic and Lighting Department.
- 3. \$491.40 to IBM for one electric typewriter for new personnel requested by the City Librarian.
- 4. \$6,615 to The Gilsabind Corp. for 10,000 gallons of "gilsonite" asphalt seal coating material requested by the Street Department.
- 5. \$356.96 to Bearing Specialty Co. for 36 self aligning bearings requested by the Garage Department for vehicle maintenance work.
- 6. \$456.24 to Graybar Electric Co. for 260 feet of 1½" rigid conduit; 780 feet of No. 1 TW wire; 20 circuit breakers; and other miscellaneous items requested by the Traffic and Lighting Department for upgrading and adding additional lighting in the City Garage.

REIMBURSABLE:

- 7. \$403.73 to Hersey-Sparling Meter Co. for one 2 inch all bronze meter with check valves on main and intermediate flow lines requested by the Water Department for the Southern California Edison service.

Councilman Beasley seconded and roll call vote was:

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

NOES: COUNCILMEN: None

WATER SYSTEM:

- 15. QUITCLAIM OF EASEMENT FOR WATER LINE, PORTION OF LOT 25, MEADOW PARK TRACT: Recommendation of Public Works Director Nollac that attached proposed resolution be adopted.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 67-243

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND THE CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE AND ATTEST A QUITCLAIM DEED FOR EASEMENTS FOR WATER LINES IN A PORTION OF LOT 25 OF THE MEADOW PARK TRACT.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved to adopt Resolution No. 67-243 and his motion, seconded by Councilman Lyman, carried by unanimous roll call vote.

ITEMS NOT OTHERWISE CLASSIFIED:

16. Recommendation of License Supervisor Moss re Citizens inquiry about license tax for toothbrush dispensing machines.

Councilman Beasley moved to refer this inquiry to the Finance Committee and his motion seconded by Councilman Lyman, carried, there being no objection. Mayor Isen commented that this would not be a proper activity for the City to share in and would establish a bad precedent.

Mayor Isen asked City Manager Ferraro to try to devise some method whereby these inquiries and protests as to vending machines could be handled by some review board, rather than coming to Council. There was no objection from the Council to amending the regulations as to what comes before the License Review Board to include this type of matter. A recommendation will be prepared by the City Manager.

17. PROPOSED RESOLUTION declaring November 28, 1967, as Junior Citizens' Day.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 67-244

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE DECLARING NOVEMBER 28, 1967, AS "JUNIOR CITIZENS' DAY".

Councilman Beasley moved to adopt Resolution No. 67-244 and his motion, seconded by Councilman Lyman, carried by unanimous roll call vote.

It was noted that this should be a 5:30 meeting instead of, as would ordinarily be true, an 8:00 o'clock meeting. Mayor Isen so moved and Councilman Talbert seconded. Roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

18. REQUEST OF HARRY GORMAN RE BOY SCOUT PARADE, with recommendation by the City Manager.

This item had been withdrawn from the agenda.

19. PAINTING HOUSE NUMBERS ON CURBS - recommendation of City Manager that the City Manager and Traffic and Lighting Department be authorized to prepare standards and specifications for painting house numbers on curbs and that licenses be issued to any individual or organization wishing to do this type of work in accordance with such standards and specifications.

There is a considerable difference of opinion as to how this should be handled and the manner in which the project is accomplished is not satisfactory.

Mrs. Dale Cushman, from the audience, asked what is being done with the fund composed of \$2 from each resident at whose curb numbers were painted. It was to have gone toward the Rose Parade entry, but there was no such entry the last year. She was told it will be used for that purpose the next time Torrance enters a float. The funds are intact, according to J. Walker Owens, Manager of the Chamber of Commerce.

Councilman Vico moved to let the Order of Demolay members paint the house numbers on the curbs as agreed and asked the City Manager about the solicitors' permits for the work. This motion did not seem to meet the requirements of the situation and Mayor Isen asked, if there be no objection, that it be referred back to the City Manager to see what can be done toward cooperation from the interested agencies. There was no objection.

20. REQUEST OF GOLD'S FURNITURE AND APPLIANCE STORE to conduct a parking lot sale.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved to grant the request; Councilman Lyman seconded and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

PROCLAMATIONS:

21. Mayor Isen proclaimed the week of November 12 through 19, 1967, as ANNUAL DIABETES DETECTION WEEK.

SECOND READING ORDINANCES:

22. ORDINANCE NO. 1821.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 1821

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 1765 TO ADD A NEW CLASS SPECIFICATION TO THE POSITION CLASSIFICATION PLAN.

Councilman Beasley moved to adopt Ordinance No. 1821 at its second and final reading. His motion was seconded by Councilman Talbert and carried as follows:

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

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

23. EXTENSION OF MADRONA AVENUE THROUGH THE PROPERTY NORTH OF DEL AMO BOULEVARD.

City Manager Ferraro said an appraisal has been made and some assistance is needed from an expert in the field of geology, Dr. Frank Lockhart, regarding severance damages. Councilman Vico asked what Mobil Oil's attitude is and what the cost of going through the property will be. These are matters which are to be determined, Mr. Ferraro said. Mobil has asked that the City carefully examine the severance damages factor and if the City would calculate as an alternative, any difference as to putting the highway above ground. Their decision will be based on what they learn from the City. This through street is vitally needed because of the congested condition of Hawthorne Boulevard.

Councilman Beasley moved that \$1,000 be appropriated from the gas tax fund and that Dr. Lockhart be employed. Councilman Talbert seconded and roll call vote was unanimously favorable:

- AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Lyman, Miller, Sciarrotta, Talbert and Mayor Isen.
- NOES: COUNCILMEN: None.

At 6:35 p.m., on motion of Councilman Lyman, seconded by Councilman Beasley, a recess was declared in order to hold the meeting of the Redevelopment Agency. The Council returned to its agenda at 6:38 p.m.

24. City Attorney Remelmeyer said Mr. Darby Silberberg of the American Civil Liberties Association had a communication to make, but Mayor Isen suggested that he write a letter and get the matter on the regular Council agenda.

25. Mr. Don Ackley, owner and manager of an apartment house at 22620 Ocean Avenue, recalled the action taken at the last meeting with respect to parking on Ocean Avenue, specifically "NO PARKING ANYTIME" between Sepulveda Boulevard and 227th Street. He said if the parking between 226th and 227th is restricted it will cause great hardship to his tenants. There seems to be no safety factor involved in that block on the east side of Ocean Avenue where there are many apartments. Mayor Isen advised Mr. Ackley to talk with Traffic Engineer Horkay.

Mr. Horkay said this matter has been heard by the Traffic Commission twice and Mr. Ackley has been present at those meetings with letters from other property owners.

Mayor Isen asked what the feeling of the Council is and Councilman Miller moved to reconsider the matter of NO PARKING ANYTIME on the east side of Ocean Avenue between Sepulveda and 227th Street. Councilman Lyman seconded. In effect, this matter is now back before the Traffic Commission, and Mr. Horkay was instructed to advise the neighborhood people that it will be reconsidered there. The Commission's recommendation is to be back before the Council on November 14th, an eight o'clock meeting.

The meeting was regularly adjourned at 6:50 p.m.



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

APPROVED:



 Mayor of the City of Torrance

Edith Shaffer
 Minute Secretary