

## I N D E X

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Torrance, California  
March 5, 1968

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., Tuesday, March 5, 1968, in the Council Chambers of 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. Absent: None. Also present were City Manager Ferraro, City Treasurer Rupert, City Attorney Remelmeyer and City Clerk Coil.

3. FLAG SALUTE:

At the request of Mayor Isen, Mrs. Owen Griffith led the salute to the flag.

4. INVOCATION:

Reverend Thomas Griffith of the Church of God opened the meeting with an invocation. He introduced his associate, Reverend Benny Burton, who was welcomed to Torrance by Mayor Isen.

STANDARD MOTIONS:

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilman Sciarrotta moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held February 27, 1968, as written. His motion was seconded by Councilman Vico and there was no objection.

6. APPROVAL OF DEMANDS:

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

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Lyman, Miller, Sciarrotta,  
Talbert, 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. 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.

PLANNING AND ZONING MATTERS:8. TENTATIVE TRACT MAP NO. 19645; SUBDIVIDER: DON WILSON BUILDERS.

This is a five-lot tract located on the south side of Calle Mayor east of Carlow Road and is zoned R-3. The Planning Commission recommends approval subject to conditions.

Mayor Isen asked if anyone wished to speak on this matter but no one responded.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved to concur in approval as recommended by the Planning Commission and his motion, seconded by Councilman Talbert, carried by unanimous roll call vote.

9. RE WITHDRAWAL OF TENTATIVE TRACT NO. 29124, Subdivider, R. A. Watt Company; Engineers, Lanco Engineering. Communication from Planning Director Shartle.

Irene (Mrs. Owen) Griffith, 3432 West 229th Place, said Mr. Watt has indicated he would leave the last lot where Maple would go through for the last house to be built and he would be willing to sell or make some arrangement with the City as to this lot. Mrs. Griffith proposed that Maple Avenue be continued on beyond 235th where it ends now, have it curve over to meet where Madrona would come up from Lomita Boulevard. This is all vacant land and it would be a means of obtaining a north/south arterial in a short space of time. Such an arterial would materially alleviate the congestion on Hawthorne Boulevard. She had prepared a rough sketch of the proposed route and at the suggestion of Mayor Isen, it was delivered to Public Works Director Nollac to be considered by the committee which is working on the subject. Mr. Nollac is to report back to Mrs. Griffith when he has studied the feasibility of her proposal.

As to Mr. Watt's request to withdraw the application for Tentative Tract 29124, Councilman Beasley moved it be granted; Councilman Vico seconded and there was no objection. It was agreed Mr. Watt has such a right and this is merely notification of withdrawal.

Discussion continued and Councilman Sciarrotta spoke of the advisability of good approaches to the shopping centers from the standpoint of sales tax revenue to the City.

Councilman Miller brought out the fact that there is really nothing to keep Mr. Watt from starting to build at any time. Mr. Nollac recalled however, that Mr. Shrock had agreed on behalf of Mr. Watt, not to build on the last two lots until it could be determined if the City would wish to go through at either place. This is tied into the Golf Course study and other factors. City Manager Ferraro stated the City could and would administratively delay the issuing of any permit until the matter could be brought before the City Council. Mayor Isen said a letter to Mr. Watt (with a copy to Mr. Shrock) would be in order, reminding him of the agreement.

A recommendation by the Public Works Committee should be made shortly, Councilman Miller said and the Chairman, Councilman Lyman said that would be forthcoming two weeks from tonight.

10. PROPOSED RESOLUTION approving Variance No. 67-27 as applied for by Amigos Restaurants, Inc.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 68-43

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE APPROVING A VARIANCE FROM THE PROVISIONS OF DIVISION 9, CHAPTER 3, ARTICLE 4 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE, AS APPLIED FOR IN PLANNING COMMISSION CASE NO. V 67-27 - AMIGOS RESTAURANTS, INC.

Councilman Miller moved to adopt Resolution No. 68-43 and his motion, seconded by Councilman Vico, failed, as follows:

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Lyman, Miller, Vico and Mayor Isen.

NOES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Sciarrotta, Talbert

Councilman Lyman then changed his vote to "No" and the motion failed by 4 to 3 vote. (See later in these minutes where reconsideration changes the action on this resolution)

There was a good deal of uncertainty on the part of Councilman Sciarrotta as to how he had voted on this matter when it came before the Council initially. Mayor Isen felt the representative of the proponent would have a right to assume that the resolution would pass by the same vote as had the original motion.

11. PROPOSED RESOLUTION approving Variance No. 67-26 as applied for by Charles Kerhart and Ernest Smith.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 68-44

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE APPROVING A VARIANCE FROM THE PROVISIONS OF DIVISION 9, CHAPTER 3, ARTICLE 4 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE, AS APPLIED FOR IN PLANNING COMMISSION CASE NO. V 67-26, CHARLES KERHART AND ERNEST SMITH.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved to adopt Resolution No. 68-44 and his motion, seconded by Councilman Vico, carried by unanimous roll call vote.

12. PROPOSED ORDINANCE repealing Section 95.2.4 of the Code, etc. respecting procedure for appeal on conditional use permits.

Mayor Isen had some comments on this and quoted from the proposed ordinance "within 14 days from the date of the oral action on the conditional use permit". He said the councilmen would have no way of knowing of such action until they get their Planning Commission minutes and this would not be in time. The 14 days should not start until there is some definite notification.

City Attorney Remelmeyer suggested a couple of ways this might be handled and Mayor Isen asked that the item be sent back to the Planning Commission pending decision on some sort of definite procedure. There was no objection.

13. PROPOSED ORDINANCE RE REAR-YARD REGULATIONS:

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

ORDINANCE NO. 1852

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING SECTION 91.4.6 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE WHICH SETS FORTH THE REAR YARD REQUIRED IN THE R-1 SINGLE FAMILY DISTRICTS AND SUBSTITUTING NEW PROVISIONS THEREFOR RELATING TO THE SAME REQUIREMENTS; AND AMENDING SECTION 92.5.1 (b) OF SAID CODE TO REQUIRE A MINIMUM DISTANCE BETWEEN EAVES ON SEPARATE BUILDINGS.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved to approve Ordinance No. 1852 at its first reading. His motion was seconded by Councilman Beasley and carried by unanimous roll call vote.

\* \* \* \* \*

Mayor Isen harked back to Item 10 (Amigos Restaurants Inc.) and commented that the petitioner could have started to prepare plans in reliance on the preliminary vote. City Attorney Remelmeyer pointed out that the variance would not take effect until the passage of the resolution. The preliminary vote will be checked by Planning Director Shartle and reported to the Council a little later this evening.

\* \* \* \* \*

14. PROPOSED ORDINANCE RE HELICOPTER LANDING FACILITIES. This item was withdrawn prior to the meeting.

STREETS AND SIDEWALKS:

15. REQUEST OF DR. J. RALPH BLACK to utilize dedicated portions of 190th Street at Hawthorne Boulevard.

Mayor Isen proposed that this matter be held for two weeks so that a traffic study might be made as to whether Dr. Black's proposed use of the land would increase the perils of traffic. Dr. Black was present and came forward and explained that he had an agreement with the City Engineering office to use the land for a low traffic type of business - a used car lot in this case. A tentative plan of egress and ingress has been prepared, depending on the Highway Division's approval. He hoped not to have to wait another two weeks; this has been pending since October, at which time it was sent back to work out a four (instead of seven) year arrangement. Councilman Miller could see no purpose in holding up Mr. Black's plans further.

Councilman Vico moved to concur in the recommendation as set forth in the communication from the City Manager dated February 28, 1968. Councilman Talbert seconded.

There is no present plan to develop 190th through here and City Manager Ferraro confirmed that the lead time on such a project would be fantastic.

Roll call vote was:

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

NOES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley.

The motion carried. Mayor Isen commented that he hopes the City will not have reason to be sorry, because of traffic.

16. PROPOSED RESOLUTION re naming the future freeway through the City "Torrance Freeway".

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

RESOLUTION NO. 68-45

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE RECOMMENDING TO THE STATE DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS THAT THE PROPOSED FUTURE FREEWAY THROUGH THE CITY OF TORRANCE BE NAMED "TORRANCE FREEWAY".

Councilman Sciarrotta moved to adopt Resolution No. 68-45 and his motion, seconded by Councilman Beasley, carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Mayor Isen asked that some information be compiled to answer various questions which are asked about the routing of future freeways. City Manager Ferraro stated that the Traffic Engineer, Mr. Horkay has just completed such a compilation and it will be on the next Council agenda.

17. PROPOSED VACATION OF ALLEY BETWEEN BLOCKS 121 AND 124 IN TRACT NO. 2807; BENEFICIARIES: REMCO AND ADJACENT PROPERTY OWNERS. Proposed resolution attached.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 68-46

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE DECLARING ITS INTENTION TO VACATE THE ALLEY BETWEEN BLOCK 121 AND BLOCK 124 IN TRACT NO. 2807 IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE; FIXING A TIME AND PLACE FOR A HEARING THEREON AND PROVIDING FOR THE PUBLICATION OF THIS RESOLUTION.

Councilman Beasley moved to adopt Resolution No. 68-46 and his motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta. Roll call vote was un-  
animously favorable.

City Manager Ferraro said Director of Public Works Nollac wanted the Council to know that there is an agreement between Remco and the adjacent property owners whereby the property owners would pay Remco for their underlying fee.

18. PROPOSED VACATION OF FIVE FOOT WALK IN BLOCK 2, TRACT NO. 13901 BENEFICIARIES: FOUR ADJACENT PROPERTY OWNERS. Recommendation of Public Works Director that Council adopt proposed resolution and that fee be waived.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 68-47

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE DECLARING ITS INTENTION TO VACATE THAT CERTAIN 5-FOOT WALK IN BLOCK 2, Tract No. 13901 IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE; FIXING A TIME AND PLACE FOR A HEARING THEREON AND PROVIDING FOR THE PUBLICATION OF THIS RESOLUTION.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved to adopt Resolution No. 68-47 and his motion, seconded by Councilman Vico, carried by unanimous roll call vote.

SEWERS AND DRAINAGE:

19. DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENT AT 169th PLACE AND WILTON PLACE: Recommendation of Public Works Director that Council appropriate \$2,900 from City's drainage improvement fund and authorize the proposed construction.

Councilman Beasley moved to concur in the recommendation of the Public Works Director as stated. His motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta and carried as follows:

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

NOES: COUNCILMEN: None.

FISCAL MATTERS:

20. EXPENDITURES OF OVER \$300.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved to approve the following eight listed expenditures:

A. BUDGETED:

1. \$480.80 to Johnson Stationers of Torrance for 10 file cabinets requested by the City Clerk for the city's record keeping system.

2. \$423.36 to Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing Company for reflective sign making materials requested by the Traffic and Lighting Department.

3. \$340.00 to A. A. Fence Company to install aluminum glare strips on the fencing at La Romeria Park tennis court, which serves to minimize bright lighting which shines on neighboring houses.

4. \$749.30 to Van Lingen Body Shop to repair a City black and white police car Unit No. 52 involved in an accident. Billing is in progress to the responsible party for reimbursement of damages.

5. \$912.83 to Econolite Corporation for one only complete traffic signal and standard to replace a knockdown at Crenshaw and Sepulveda; one signal standard knocked down at Plaza del Amo and Washington and eight Haydon signal timers and relays requested by the Traffic and Lighting Department for upgrading signals at six intersections. The latter items are gas tax projects.

B. SPECIAL ITEMS - LIBRARY BOOKS:

6. \$5,122.50 to Carl J. Leibel, Inc. c/o A. C. McClurg and Company for 1409 juvenile books.

7. \$587.14 to Bacon Pamphlet Service for 535 special topic pamphlets.

8. \$829.86 to Herweg and Romine for 255 adult reference books.

Councilman Vico seconded and the motion carried as follows:

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

NOES: COUNCILMEN: None.

AIRPORT MATTERS:21. RECOMMENDATION OF AIRPORT MANAGER RE TEMPORARY CHANNELIZATION and landscaping of Bellanca Way at Pacific Coast Highway.

There are two recommendations: 1. That the Airport Manager be authorized and directed to temporarily channelize and landscape Bellanca Way at Pacific Coast Highway, using forces of the applicable City departments. 2. That the Finance Director be instructed to transfer \$1,250 from Airport Unappropriated Surplus to Airport Operating Fund Account 80-9561-0400 for reimbursement of City departments performing the work.

Councilman Miller moved to concur in the two recommendations stated above and his motion, seconded by Councilman Vico, carried as follows:

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

NOES: COUNCILMEN: None.

WATER SYSTEM:22. CONSTRUCTION OF CEMENT BLOCK WALL AT WATER DEPARTMENT YARD:

This item is withdrawn and will appear on next week's agenda, Mr. Ferraro said.

LIBRARY OPERATIONS:23. MEMO TO MAYOR ISEN AND CITY COUNCIL RE SOUTHEAST TORRANCE BRANCH LIBRARY, from City Manager.

City Manager Ferraro's recommendations are:

1. That the City Manager and City Attorney be authorized to negotiate for a joint appraisal of the properties with the appraiser selected in a manner approved by Council, 2. begin negotiations with the School District for sale of the properties.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved to concur in those recommendations and his motion, seconded by Councilman Miller, carried by unanimous roll call vote.

PROCLAMATIONS:

24. Mayor Isen proclaimed March 3 - 9, 1968, as SAVE YOUR VISION WEEK. A formalized copy of the proclamation will be sent to Dr. Kline.

WEED ABATEMENT:

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

RESOLUTION NO. 68-48

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 Talbert moved to adopt Resolution No. 68-48 and his motion, seconded by Councilman Vico, carried by unanimous roll call vote.

26. CLAIM OF SOUTH BAY VIETNAM SUMMER, PEACE ACTION COUNCIL AND SOUTH BAY CENTINELA WOMEN STRIKE FOR PEACE, etc., c/o Darby N. Silverberg, for \$500 reimbursement of fee paid for parade and assembly permit.

Mayor Isen moved to deny and refer the claim to the Legal Department. Councilman Sciarrotta seconded and there was no objection.

27. Chief Koenig announced the first training film for which the Council granted permission in November has been completed and Mr. Mays has offered to give a preview showing next week. Chief Koenig proposed that the film be shown to the Council at 7:30 March 12th, immediately preceding the regular Council meeting. A Fireworks Committee meeting previously set for 7:00 that evening will be rescheduled.

10. Going back again to Item 10, Amigos Restaurants, Inc. and resolution on Variance No. 67-27, Mr. Shartle had checked and determined the vote at the preliminary Council decision to be AYES: Miller, Sciarrotta, Vico, Miller and Mayor Isen.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved to reconsider the resolution dealing with Amigos Restaurants, Inc., Variance 67-27 and Councilman Miller seconded. Roll call vote was:

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Miller, Sciarrotta, Vico, Mayor Isen.

NOES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Lyman, Talbert.

The vote on Resolution No. 68-43 was retaken, as follows:

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Miller, Sciarrotta, Vico, Mayor Isen.

NOES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Lyman, Talbert

and the resolution was thus adopted.

Councilman Lyman repeated that he does not believe any petitioner should take for granted that the final action will follow the initial vote, especially where there is such a close vote. Mayor Isen's belief is that the applicant should be notified of when the matter comes to Council for final action. He asked that Mr. Shartle make some study of the advisability of this and also that the vote on each of these items be included in the agenda material when it comes back for final action.

28. City Clerk Coil reminded the Council that April 9th, election day, is also a Tuesday and Councilman Sciarrotta moved to dispense with the Council meeting which ordinarily would be held at 8 p.m., April 9th, 1968 for this reason. Councilman Vico seconded and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

29. Public Works Director Nollac commented with respect to weed abatement, that the program is about three months ahead of what it was at this time last year and it is probable that there will be two cuttings and a better job done as a result.

30. Chief Lucas said the Fire Department will be starting their hot drills and burning some houses in the airport clear zone area next week, on smog-green days only. The Council was invited to view the procedure. City Manager Ferraro spoke of new techniques which the Fire Department is using and experimenting with. Mayor Isen, too, recalled that there have been many new ideas put into effect by Chief Lucas and he would like to see a list of them for Council information.

31. Councilman Lyman spoke of the shift of business center of Torrance from downtown to the vicinity of Hawthorne Boulevard and Carson Street and expressed his belief that there is a prime responsibility on the City to develop a master plan for the whole area. He proposed that the Council create as soon as possible a Del Amo Business District and the Planning Commission study the area and determine what development should be made.

of its various sections. An overlay zoning should be imposed which could require special treatment of utilities, landscaping, beautification and other items. He set the boundaries of such a district, in his opinion, as being: Start at the north on Hawthorne by taking in the Union Carbide frontage; extend to include the Hawthorne frontage on both sides of Torrance Boulevard; go west on Torrance Boulevard taking in the property on the north side of Torrance Boulevard to Ocean Avenue and it should then go south on Ocean and cross Sepulveda and then go east taking in all the property on the south side of Sepulveda to Crenshaw; then north on Crenshaw to Monterey Street and then west on Monterey Street to Madrona and north on Madrona to Torrance Boulevard, taking in the property on the north of Torrance Boulevard westerly to the point of beginning, Hawthorne Boulevard.

Mr. Lyman outlined the various reasons for such a business district and set forth the acreage under various ownerships. He stated the following five steps should be taken:

1. That the Planning Commission study the area to determine what the boundaries of the proposed district should be (as compared with the boundaries he had set out here.
2. The Planning Commission should also go into an in-depth study as to what overriding zoning requirements could be imposed in this area.
3. That Torrance Beautiful Commission work with the Planning Commission to develop an over-all plan of beautification of the area which would include a program to correct the ugliness created by the indiscriminate hanging of wires of all types.
4. That Torrance Beautiful Commission be instructed to work out a plan of beautification for Hawthorne Boulevard, initially from Del Amo Boulevard to Sepulveda, to include a plan for landscaping the center divider, for landscaping on either side of the boulevard and for either the undergrounding of the utilities or a combination of undergrounding those utilities which can be undergrounded and relocating any transmission lines that cannot be undergrounded.
5. That a committee be formed to be composed of various representatives of city commissions, the general public, and representatives of various interests in this Del Amo Center Business District - the committee to have the job of selling the various groups on the soundness of the program.

32. Councilman Sciarrotta called attention to an unattractive portion of Dominguez Street east of Crenshaw and where it crosses the tracks near Reynolds Aluminum. It is likely the railroad's permission would be needed but Mr. Sciarrotta thought it would not be too expensive, to improve its appearance. He asked that Management look into this and make a report. Mr. Ferraro said he would do so.

33. Councilman Talbert made a follow-up oral communication on one he made a couple of weeks ago dealing with the crime laboratory problem with the Los Angeles Sheriff's office. North American Aviation has expressed an interest and there is to be a meeting within a week or so with North American representatives. There are also other possibilities. An approach to the Chamber of Commerce is being considered in the hope that they will consider sponsoring a no-host luncheon for various police and other interested authorities in the area.

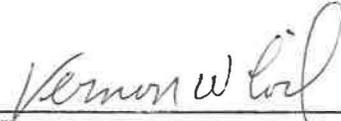
34. In a second oral communication, Councilman Talbert expressed interest in what had been proposed by Councilman Lyman. He suggested that Mr. Lyman's recommendation be conveyed to the Planning Commission to get their reaction and to initiate some studies along those lines. Councilman Beasley seconded the motion of Councilman Talbert and roll call vote was:

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

Mayor Isen commented that the timing of this oral communication so close before election time colors his opinion of the proposal; this is something which could well wait until after April 9th. He considers it a flamboyant oral communication only.

35. From the audience, Mr. Wm. Uerkwitz, relayed the grateful appreciation of Bishop Haskell of the Mormon Church located on Cabrillo near downtown Torrance, for their response at the time of a fire early Friday morning. Had it not been for their excellent handling of the situation there would have been a great deal more damage than the \$10,000 smoke damage which resulted. Bishop Haskell will write appropriate letters but wanted this oral communication to be made at the earliest possible opportunity.

The Council meeting was regularly adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

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

APPROVED:

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