

I N D E XCity Council - January 7, 1969 - 5:30 P.M.

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Adjourned at 7:05 P.M.

Ava Cripe  
Minute SecretaryCouncil Minutes  
January 7, 1969

January 7, 1969

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL

OPENING CEREMONIES:

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The Torrance City Council convened in a regular meeting on Tuesday, January 7, 1969, at 5:30 P.M. in the Council Chambers at Torrance City Hall.

2. ROLL CALL:

Responding to roll call by City Clerk Coil were: Councilmen Beasley, Johnson, Miller, Sciarrotta, Uerkwitz, Wilson, and Mayor Isen. Absent: None.

3. FLAG SALUTE:

At Mayor Isen's request, Daily Breeze reporter John Gilmore, led in the salute to the flag.

4. INVOCATION:

The invocation was presented by the Minister for the Month of January, Reverend Lloyd Newlin, First Baptist Church.

STANDARD MOTIONS:

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

December 30th minutes not yet received.

6. APPROVAL OF DEMANDS:

Councilman Sciarrotta moved that all properly audited demands be paid. His motion, seconded by Councilman Johnson, carried, as follows:

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Johnson, Miller, Sciarrotta,  
Uerkwitz, Wilson, and Mayor Isen.

NOES: COUNCILMEN: None.

7. MOTION TO WAIVE FURTHER READING:

Councilman Uerkwitz 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 Sciarrotta, was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

Personnel Director Donovan at this time introduced recently appointed Personnel Analyst Dennis Wilson, followed by a brief explanation to the audience by Mayor Isen regarding Council procedure.

\* \* \* \*

Considered first, out of order:

22. Request for Executive Session:

RESOLUTION submitted designating certain officials as representatives of City Council pursuant to the provisions of Government Code Sections 3500-3511.

It was the suggestion of Mayor Isen that the subject Executive Session, which is permitted under the Brown Act, be the last order of business, following Oral Communications, so that when the Council returns following the Session no business will be conducted but merely for adjournment. There were no objections to this procedure.

Then, at Mayor Isen's request, City Clerk Coil assigned a number and read title to:

RESOLUTION 69-2

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE DESIGNATING CERTAIN OFFICIALS AS REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CITY COUNCIL PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF GOVERNMENT CODE SECTIONS 3500-3511.

Councilman Wilson moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 69-2. His motion was seconded by Councilman Johnson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

NON-CONTROVERSIAL ITEMS:

(Considered separately: #8, 11, and 12.)

11. RESOLUTION expressing appreciation to Mrs. Alva Wilson for her faithful and diligent service to the City as a member of the Torrance Safety Council.

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

RESOLUTION 69-1

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE EXPRESSING APPRECIATION TO MRS. ALVA WILSON FOR HER FAITHFUL AND DILIGENT SERVICE TO THE CITY OF TORRANCE AS A MEMBER OF THE TORRANCE SAFETY COUNCIL.

Councilman Wilson moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 69-1. His motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

9. CLAIM of Kenneth W. McFarland for property damage on December 24, 1968. Recommendation of City Clerk that said claim be denied and referred to the City Attorney.

10. BUDGETED, REIMBURSABLE AND SPECIAL EXPENDITURES IN EXCESS OF \$300:

A. BUDGETED:

1. \$875.70 to Link Group General Precision Systems, Inc. for six traffic signal detectors requested by the Traffic and Lighting Department to upgrade six City traffic signals.

2. \$370.85 to GMC Truck & Coach of Oakland, California for miscellaneous repair parts needed to overhaul a bus (Unit #337) as requested by the City Garage.

3. \$397.79 to Brooks Products, Inc. for 37 meter boxes and lids requested by the Water Department for stock to be used as needed.

4. \$953.40 to Long Beach Uniform for 12 complete sets of fireman's protective clothing which consist of 12 turnout coats, 12 pairs of turnout pants and 12 pairs of special fireman boots, requested by the Fire Dept. Award is recommended to Long Beach Uniform based on their ability to provide immediate delivery on an "as needed" basis.

5. \$634.69 to Guardian Fence Company for additional materials required to complete fencing of CBS property.

B. SPECIAL EXPENDITURES:

Requested by the City Librarian.

6. \$718.20 to Carl J. Leibel, Division of Bro-Dart, Inc. for 171 adult books.

MOTION: Councilman Sciarrotta moved to concur with recommendations on Items 9 and 10. His motion was seconded by Councilman Uerkwitz, and carried, as follows:

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Johnson, Miller, Sciarrotta, Uerkwitz, Wilson, and Mayor Isen.

NOES: COUNCILMEN: None.

8. CLAIM of Pate A. Earnest for impound fees incurred as a result of an auto theft on October 7, 1967. Recommendation of City Clerk that said claim be denied and referred to the City Attorney.

Councilman Johnson requested that City Manager Ferraro furnish the Council a confidential report on the circumstances in this matter. Meanwhile, Councilman Beasley MOVED to deny the claim and refer to the City Attorney. His motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, and approval was unanimous.

12. Oral report - Mr. Ben Haggott, Director representing City of Torrance on Metropolitan Water District Board of Directors, on Water Pricing Investigation.

An enlightening progress report was furnished by Mr. Haggott in an oral presentation; Mr. Haggott will provide a written report of this presentation for perusal by the Council, by way of the Water System Manager and Water Commission.

Further reported by Mr. Haggott was the successful tour of the Colorado River Aqueduct participated in by a number of Torrance resident and civic leaders.

Mayor Isen commended Mr. Haggott on his interest, attention, and willingness to report back to the Council; his service in this capacity is very much appreciated.

PLANNING AND ZONING MATTERS:

13. Planning Commission Case 68-38 - OPEN HEARTH.  
Conditional Use Permit to allow the operation of the "Open Hearth" as a cocktail lounge with a general liquor license. RESOLUTION granting the Conditional Use Permit submitted, subject to conditions.

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

RESOLUTION 69-3

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE APPROVING A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT TO ALLOW THE OPERATION OF A COCKTAIL LOUNGE WITH A GENERAL LIQUOR SALES LICENSE AS APPLIED FOR IN PLANNING COMMISSION CASE CUP 68-38 -  
OPEN HEARTH

(Robert E. and Carol A. Daly).

Councilman Beasley moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 69-3. His motion was seconded by Councilman Miller, and carried, as follows:

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Johnson, Miller, Sciarrotta, Uerkwitz, and Mayor Isen.  
NOES: COUNCILMEN: None.  
ABSTAIN: COUNCILMEN: Wilson.

14. Planning Commission Case 68-36 - PACIFIC OUTDOOR ADVERTISING.  
Conditional Use Permit to allow the construction and maintenance of a billboard on the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe right-of-way on the west side of Crenshaw Boulevard northerly of Del Amo Boulevard.  
RESOLUTION granting the Conditional Use Permit, subject to conditions.

City Manager Ferraro referred to Section 2., item #2, regarding planter and low maintenance landscaping, and advised that a stipulated

agreement has been entered into with Pacific Outdoor Advertising Company that such landscaping may be postponed until Del Amo Boulevard is extended.

A needed date correction on page 2 was noted as well. (1969 instead of 1970).

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

RESOLUTION 69-4

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE APPROVING A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT TO ALLOW THE CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE OF A BILLBOARD ON THE ATCHISON, TOPEKA AND SANTA FE RIGHT-OF-WAY AS APPLIED FOR IN PLANNING COMMISSION CASE CUP 68-36 - PACIFIC OUTDOOR ADVERTISING COMPANY.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 69-4. His motion was seconded by Councilman Uerkwitz, and carried, as follows:

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Johnson, Miller, Sciarrotta,  
Uerkwitz, and Wilson.  
NOES: COUNCILMEN: Mayor Isen.

Regarding his "no" vote, Mayor Isen stated that he so voted because this increases the number of billboards in the City by one -- he would have voted for it if the company were willing to give up a billboard and replace it by this one.

15. TENTATIVE TRACT MAP NO. 30661 - Subdivider, Spraker & Halstead; Engineer, South Bay Engineering Corporation. This is a two-lot tract located south of Newton Street between Vista Largo and Vista Montana. Recommended for approval by the Planning Commission, subject to conditions.

There was no one present who wished to be heard.

MOTION: Councilman Uerkwitz moved to concur with the recommendation of the Planning Commission for approval, subject to conditions. His motion was seconded by Councilman Miller, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

16. TENTATIVE TRACT MAP NO. 30691: Subdivider, Anne B. Gooley; Engineer, Lanco Engineering. This is a six-lot subdivision located between 234th Street and 235th Street, easterly of Crenshaw Boulevard. Recommended for approval by the Planning Commission, subject to conditions.

There was no one present who wished to be heard.

At Councilman Uerkwitz' question, Acting City Engineer Weaver described the procedures with the Flood Control District, relative to drainage; further, that preliminary soil investigation is required.

MOTION: Councilman Sciarrotta moved to concur with the recommendation of the Planning Commission, Planning and Engineering Departments, as well as the Fire Department, for approval, subject to conditions. His motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

SEWERS AND DRAINAGE:

17. AWARD OF CONTRACT - Construction of Sanitary Sewers in Sepulveda Boulevard from Maple Avenue to Madrona Avenue and in Madrona Avenue from Sepulveda Boulevard to Carson Street (B68-53) Job #68064. Recommendation of Acting City Engineer that contract be awarded to Graham & Company and all other bids be rejected.

MOTION: Councilman Beasley moved to concur with the recommendation of the Acting City Engineer, and reject all other bids. His motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

18. 1964 BOND ISSUE PROJECT 1105 (Tunnel Project). Cooperative Agreement for increased design fees by and between Los Angeles County Flood Control District and Cities of Hermosa Beach, Redondo Beach, and Torrance. RESOLUTION approving agreement and authorizing execution submitted by Acting City Engineer.

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

RESOLUTION 69-5

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE AND ATTEST AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT AND THE CITIES OF HERMOSA BEACH, REDONDO BEACH AND TORRANCE RELATING TO ADDITIONAL DESIGN WORK FOR 1964 STORM DRAIN BOND ISSUE PROJECT 1105.

Councilman Johnson moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 69-5. His motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

REAL PROPERTY

19. EXTENSION OF ANZA AVENUE.

Withdrawn.

FISCAL MATTERS:

20. RESOLUTION authorizing execution of agreement between Torrance Junior Chamber of Commerce and City re: Miss Torrance Pageant.

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

RESOLUTION 69-6

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE AND ATTEST THAT CERTAIN AGREEMENT DATED JANUARY 7, 1969, BETWEEN THE CITY AND THE TORRANCE JUNIOR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE RELATIVE TO THE MISS TORRANCE PAGEANT.

Councilman Uerkwitz moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 69-6. His motion was seconded by Councilman Johnson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

ITEMS NOT OTHERWISE CLASSIFIED:

21. RESOLUTION submitted adopting ratifying and confirming Memo of Understanding for settlement of West Coast Pipe Cases between Plaintiffs and American Pipe and Construction Company, etc.

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

RESOLUTION 69-7

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ADOPTING, RATIFYING AND CONFIRMING THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR SETTLEMENT OF WEST COAST PIPE CASES BETWEEN ALL PLAINTIFFS AND AMERICAN PIPE AND CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, AUTHORIZING THE RELEASE OF CLAIMS AGAINST SAID DEFENDANT AND AUTHORIZING THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA TO TAKE ANY AND ALL ACTION REQUIRED UNDER SAID MEMORANDUM, RELEASE, AND THE WAPPO COMPACT OF JULY 14, 1967.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 69-7; his motion, seconded by Councilman Beasley, was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

22. Request for Executive Session.

Heard earlier in the meeting.

23. WEED ABATEMENT PROGRAM FOR 1969. Recommendation of Acting City Engineer that Council authorize the preparation and opening of bids for 1969 Weed Abatement Program.

Councilman Beasley moved to concur with the above recommendation of the Acting City Engineer, authorizing the preparation and opening of bids for 1969 Weed Abatement Program.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

24. Joint Powers Agreement - Riviera Village Park (Information Item A): City Attorney Remelmeyer stated that the subject Agreement, previously adopted, is now in need of an additional appropriation in the amount of \$554. Councilman Johnson MOVED that an additional appropriation from the General Fund unappropriated surplus in the

amount of \$554 be made re: Joint Powers Agreement - Riviera Village Park. His motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

25. Acting City Engineer Weaver advised that a street failure has been discovered in the vicinity of 235th and Juniper with investigation underway at this time to determine the cause of the failure and the best method of repair; a report will be forthcoming to Council as soon as the information can be compiled.

26. The darkness at night in front of City Hall was introduced again by Councilman Beasley, and some report on how this might be alleviated would be appreciated.

27. Councilman Johnson referred to the meeting requested in early December with the State legislators relative to unproductive oil wells, and recommended that such a meeting be scheduled in Sacramento, with the Council, the City Manager, and City Attorney in attendance, in view of the difficulties in arranging such a meeting locally. There were no objections, and Councilman Johnson MOVED that the Council, as a Committee as a whole, authorize Staff to set a meeting time, if such can be arranged, preferably on a one-day basis. The motion was seconded by Councilman Beasley, and approval was unanimous by roll call vote.

Mayor Isen suggested that, if such a meeting can be arranged, that an agenda of other items of City interest be prepared to take to Sacramento -- with particular interest in "home rule" and the rights of cities to legislate in the moral field.

28. Further noted by Councilman Johnson was the fact that the Torrance-Lomita Board of Realtors has placed their resolution on non-paying oil wells on the CREA agenda for their general meeting in the very near future.

Also, in the area of meetings, the Independent Cities meeting will be held in Torrance on January 22nd at Latitude 20, according to Councilman Johnson.

29. The abundant landscaping at Sonoma and Madrid has been called to the attention of Councilman Miller -- so lush, in fact, it is crowding the intersection and impairing visibility -- he requested that this situation be corrected.

30. Mayor Isen inquired as to the status of the Anza Avenue dedication and the agreement by proponents to pay \$15,000, as noted by Councilman Miller at the December 30th Council meeting. City Attorney Remelmeyer advised that the report has been prepared, but the serious illness of the attorney for J.F. & B. Development Company, Mr. Alvin F. Howard, has brought about his request for postponement. It was agreed that previous action of the Council in this matter should be rescinded. Councilman Miller MOVED to rescind the previous offer and not authorize payment at this time. (Note: per Council minutes of December 17, 1968 - \$2.00 per sq. ft. for approximately 18,000 sq. ft.) The motion was seconded by Councilman Beasley, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

31. The Airport Commission meeting for January 9th at the Airport Manager's office was questioned, location-wise, by Mayor Isen. City Attorney Remelmeyer advised that Council policy over the years has been that Commissions meet at City Hall. Airport Manager Egan stated that this was one of those occasions where the Airport Commission desired to have a workshop session; the agenda was relatively light; and since the materials are at the Airport it was deemed most convenient to meet there.

Mayor Isen then stated that he feels any Commission that meets in offices, etc. discourages the general public to attend and be pointed out as to their particular business. It is his feeling that the Council ought to have a firm policy that all Commission meetings - with exceptions reported to the Council in advance and proper resolution therefor - be held at Civic Center and in City Hall premises; this will insure proper government and be in line with the Brown Act.

It was ascertained by Councilman Wilson that the proposed meeting place was an exception to the usual meeting place at City Hall -- he then took exception to the matter even being raised as a serious indictment against the Commission, stating that there are times when materials are available in other places. Councilman Wilson can see no reason why a Commission, on occasion, cannot meet wherever it would be most appropriate, provided there is proper notification.

Meetings of other Commissions at unique locations were recalled, but Councilman Uerkwitz pointed out that in every case they have come to the Council to so arrange such meetings; since the Council already has an established policy that meetings be held at Civic Center, Councilman Uerkwitz added, the policy should also state that any deviation from that must have Council approval.

Mayor Isen reiterated his concern that this practice would open the door for great abuse -- indictment of the Airport Commission is not intended, this was done in good faith -- but since all Commissions are responsible to the Council, the feelings and intent of the Council should be made clear to them.

The assumption that there is a light agenda, Councilman Miller commented, sometimes is in error since it could happen that a serious problem <sup>might occur</sup> involving many people who wish to speak under Orals. Councilman Miller concurred that the matter can best be resolved by obtaining Council approval prior to scheduling such meetings.

As an afterthought, Mayor Isen added his aversion to the term "workshop", feeling that it serves as an invitation to stay away, that a private discussion is desired.

MOTION: Councilman Johnson moved to reaffirm the Council's policy that all meetings, Council and Commissions, be held at Civic Center at a predesignated place, and that any Commission wishing to deviate from this policy seek and obtain Council approval and properly advertise. The motion was seconded by Councilman Uerkwitz, and there were no objections.

32. The problem of uniform mailing was reviewed by Mayor Isen who expressed the hope that this could be achieved in 1969 to the benefit of the City. Discussions with Postmaster Backlund and retired Postmaster Connors and their willingness to assist in this endeavor were reported by Mayor Isen. Statistics furnished by Mr. Backlund reveal the following residences which are located within the boundaries of Torrance served by outside post offices: 2750 Redondo Beach (Riviera); El Nido post office, 250; 201 Lomita; and 1037 Gardena. Past unsuccessful efforts to bring this about were recited by Mayor Isen; it is his opinion that if the Council concurs with him that this is a worthwhile endeavor that the Council spearhead such a movement - the only recent efforts having been the resolution passed with the City of Carson requesting revision of the postal service areas; there has never been a resolution indicating the wish or affirming the Council's position for uniform mailing in the City of Torrance.

Suggested by Mayor Isen was the following procedure: That the Council instruct City Attorney Remelmeyer to prepare a resolution reciting the benefits to be derived by uniform mailing for the City, and affirming the Council's position favoring uniform mailing; secondly, that a working steering committee be appointed by the Council to go to work on the project, such steering committee to be representative particularly of the affected areas and the homeowners associations contained therein, plus the the Chamber of Commerce and any other interested agencies to organize, get in the field, get appropriate petitions and obtain 51% or more of the affected residents desiring Torrance mailing. It is his conviction that with the cooperation of government representatives in Washington, along with the Carson movement for their uniform mailing, that this could truly be accomplished in 1969.

To start this off, Mayor Isen MOVED that the resolution as above indicated, be prepared by the City Attorney. His motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta.

Prior to action on the motion, Councilman Miller inquired of Mr. Stanley Dunn, in the audience, as to the feeling of Riviera residents. Mr. Dunn reported on the lukewarm response received some three years ago when approximately 15 people (with a total of 20 replies received out of a mailing of 350 cards) indicated interest in changing their mailing address. Discussion followed on the Riviera area in particular, the problems and confusions that are wrought by the absence of the proper mailing address.

The above motion carried, there being no objections.

33. Mr. Stanley Dunn, 505 Via la Selva, speaking as Chairman of the Youth Welfare Commission, stated that both the Youth Welfare Commission and the Torrance Youth Council have considered the concept advanced by Mayor Isen that the Chairman of the Torrance Youth Council should be an active and participating member of the Youth Welfare Commission. It is agreed that this is a very excellent idea, and it is requested that the necessary ordinance

be prepared amending the structure of the Youth Welfare Commission to include as a member thereof the Chairman of the Torrance Youth Council with all the rights, benefits, and responsibilities as a member of the Youth Welfare Commission.

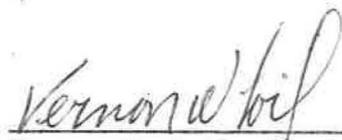
Mr. Dunn then commended Mayor Isen on what basically may appear to be a very simple idea, and yet it is one that the Youth Welfare Commission feels will greatly improve the relationship and operation of the two respective groups. Mayor Isen reexpressed his belief in the unlimited possibilities of this group and the value of involvement of young people.

MOTION: Councilman Johnson moved that the proper amendment to the ordinance be prepared by the City Attorney. His motion was seconded by Councilman Uerkwitz, and approval was unanimous.

The hour being 6:40 P.M. Councilman Sciarrotta moved that the Council recess at this time and reconvene as the Redevelopment Agency. The motion was seconded by Councilman Beasley, and there were no objections. Reconvening as City Council at 6:41 P.M. Councilman Johnson then MOVED to recess to an Executive Session, which was seconded by Councilman Uerkwitz, and approved unanimously.

At 7:05 P.M., following the Executive Session, the Council returned to formally adjourn the meeting.

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

APPROVED:

  
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 Mayor of the City of Torrance

Ava Cripe  
 Minute Secretary

11.

Council Minutes  
 January 7 1969