

I N D E XCity Council - March 11, 1969 - 7:00 P.M.

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Adjourned at 10:40 P.M.

* * * *

Ava Cripe
Minute Secretary

ii. Council Minutes
March 11, 1969

March 11, 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, March 11, 1969, at 7:00 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. Councilman Beasley left the meeting at 9:10 P.M.

Also present: City Manager Ferraro, Deputy Attorney Smith, City Treasurer Rupert, and City Clerk Coil.

* * *

With four youth groups in attendance, Mayor Isen introduced these young citizens, representing Campfire Girls and Boy Scouts, as well as the leaders: Mrs. Nancy Fisher, Mrs. Stuckey, Mrs. Beattie, and Scoutmaster Harold Ramsey, and extended a warm welcome on behalf of the Council.

* * *

3. FLAG SALUTE:

At the request of Mayor Isen, the flag salute was led by Scout Donald Bales and Campfire Girls Paula Gardner, Christy Fisher, and Carrie Dock.

4. INVOCATION:

Reverend Charles Neigh, Walteria Community Methodist Church, gave the invocation.

* * *

Attention to the St. Patrick's Day Parade on Saturday, March 15th, was called by Mayor Isen -- he urged that all turn out for this gala event.

It was further noted by Mayor Isen that the Campfire Girls 59th birthday will be observed on March 17th, and, at his request, Mrs. Fisher related the interesting statistics regarding this organization with the slogan "Give Service".

PRESENTATION:

8. Presentation of Permaplaque Resolution expressing appreciation for faithful and diligent service to the City of Torrance as a member of the Torrance Safety Council to MRS. ALVA WILSON.

On behalf of the Council, Mayor Isen expressed their gratitude for Mrs. Wilson's outstanding community contribution in serving on the Torrance Safety Council, both as a member and its Chairman.

Introduced as well were the children of Councilman and Mrs. Wilson -- Donna and Mike Wilson -- and all were warmly applauded.

* * *

In view of the large audience, many present for the first time, a detailed explanation of Council procedure was furnished by Mayor Isen. Mayor Isen added that public hearings on this agenda will be held until after 8:00 P.M. in the event interested parties are unacquainted with the new meeting hour of 7:00 P.M.

* * *

STANDARD MOTIONS:

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilman Sciarrotta moved that the minutes of the regular meeting of March 4, 1969 be approved as recorded. His motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and there were no objections.

6. APPROVAL OF DEMANDS:

Councilman Beasley moved that all properly audited demands be paid. His motion was seconded by Councilman Johnson, and 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.

NON-CONTROVERSIAL ITEMS:

(Item #11 considered separately.)

9. CLAIM of Ruth Wilkerson for personal injuries on December 6, 1968, at Cabrillo and El Prado, Torrance, California. Recommendation of City Clerk that said claim be denied and referred to the City Attorney.

10. CLAIM of Mrs. Harry T. Flattery for flood damages on January 20th and 25th, 1969, at 2416 Amsler Street, Torrance, California. Recommendation of City Clerk that said claim be denied and referred to the City Attorney.

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

A. BUDGETED.

1. \$1443.75 to Joslyn Manufacturing and Supply Company for four each of concrete lighting standards and street lighting luminaires requested by the Traffic and Lighting Department for replacement of missing or broken standards on Torrance Boulevard.
2. \$517.13 to Gestetner Corporation for one only Gestetner duplicating machine requested by the Recreation Department as a replacement item.
3. \$1400.19 to Martin Hannum, Inc. for 155 ounces of gold and silver casting requested by the Recreation Department for use in their Arts and Craft classes.
4. \$545.00 to Dependable Trophy Company for 72 basketball trophies requested by the Recreation Department for use as awards for team winners.

B. REIMBURSABLE ITEM:

5. \$523.31 to Torrance Auto Body for repair of a Water Department's Ford Pickup Truck (Unit #814) requested by the City Garage. Billing request to responsible party is in progress.

C. SPECIAL EXPENDITURES - CITY LIBRARY:

6. \$4546.39 to Intermountain Book Company for 12 reference and 600 adult fiction and non-fiction books.
7. \$1392.08 to Western Library Service for 347 juvenile books.
8. \$360.62 to Random House Publishing Company, c/o Harry Rinehimer for 21 juvenile and 44 adult books.
9. \$416.72 to Richard Pexton for 159 juvenile books.
10. \$515.28 to Doubleday & Company, Inc. for six reference, 37 juvenile, and 50 adult books.

MOTION: Councilman Sciarrotta moved for the approval of items 9, 10, and 12, concurring in recommendations therefor. His motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and carried as follows:

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

NOES: COUNCILMEN: None.

11. PRELIMINARY PLANS FOR THE COMPLETION OF THE SECOND FLOOR OF THE POLICE STATION: Recommendation of Building and Safety Director and Chief of Police, with concurrence of the City Manager, that plans be approved, and that payment be made to the firm of Koebig & Koebig in the amount of \$1,794.

At the request of Mayor Isen, Building and Safety Director McKinnon related the details of the original conception for the addition and the hours of deliberation by the Council in arriving at the decision that a basement and first floor, with a shell for the second floor, would prove of greatest advantage in the future in the area of cost. The wisdom of this decision is now apparent -- with the Police facilities expanded beyond the wildest dreams and the completion of the second floor is absolutely essential; had the Council taken other alternatives at the time the decision was made, it would now be necessary to face costs in the neighborhood of \$160,000 to \$170,000.

MOTION: Councilman Uerkwitz moved to concur with the recommendation of the Building and Safety Director and the Chief of Police, that the plans be approved, and that payment be made to the firm of Koebig & Koebig in the amount of \$1,794

The motion was seconded by Councilman Johnson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

PROCLAMATION:

36. PROCLAMATION - ORT DAY (Organization for Rehabilitation through Training) - March 19, 1969.

So proclaimed by Mayor Isen.

HEARINGS (EXCEPT PLANNING AND ZONING):

13. HEARING on RESOLUTION OF INTENTION NO. 69-36 to award to Southern California Edison a Franchise to construct, operate and maintain a system of pipelines and appurtenances for the transportation of hydrocarbon substances in the City of Torrance.

Affidavit of Publication was presented by City Clerk Coil. Councilman Sciarrotta moved that it be received and filed; his motion, seconded by Councilman Beasley, was unanimously approved.

Mayor Isen announced that this is the time and place for the public hearing on the subject Resolution of Intention, if anyone wished to be heard. There was no response. Councilman

Sciarrotta moved that the hearing be closed. His motion was seconded by Councilman Uerkwitz, and there were no objections.

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

ORDINANCE 1955

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE GRANTING TO SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON COMPANY, A CALIFORNIA CORPORATION, A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN A SYSTEM OF PIPELINES AND APPURTENANCES FOR THE TRANSPORTATION OF HYDROCARBON SUBSTANCES IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA.

Councilman Wilson moved for the approval of Ordinance 1955 at its first reading. His motion was seconded by Councilman Beasley, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

14. HEARING on RESOLUTION OF INTENTION NO. 69-37 to award to Standard Gas Company a Franchise to construct, operate and maintain pipelines for the transportation of hydrocarbon substances in the City of Torrance.

The Affidavit of Publication was presented by City Clerk Coil. Councilman Sciarrotta moved that it be received and filed. His motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and there were no objections.

Mayor Isen announced that this is the time and place for the public hearing on the subject Resolution of Intention, if anyone wished to be heard. There was no response. Councilman Miller moved that the hearing be closed. His motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, and there were no objections.

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

ORDINANCE 1956

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE GRANTING TO STANDARD GAS COMPANY, AN IDAHO CORPORATION, A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, OPERATE, AND MAINTAIN PIPELINES FOR THE TRANSPORTATION OF HYDROCARBON SUBSTANCES IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE.

Councilman Johnson moved for the approval of Ordinance No. 1956 at its first reading. His motion was seconded by Councilman Beasley, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

STREETS AND SIDEWALKS:

18. IMPROVEMENT OF CRENSHAW BLVD. - FROM DEL AMO BLVD. TO 190TH STREET AND OF DEL AMO BLVD. EAST AND WEST OF CRENSHAW BOULEVARD.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF ACTING CITY ENGINEER:

1. That \$185,00 in 2106 Gas Tax Funds be appropriated for the above improvement; and
2. That subject resolution requesting County Highway-Through-Cities Funds in the amount of \$150,000 for the subject project be adopted.

MOTION: Councilman Beasley moved to concur with the above recommendations of the Acting City Engineer, with \$185,000 in 2106 Gas Tax Funds to be appropriated. The motion was seconded by Councilman Miller, and carried as follows:

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

NOES: COUNCILMEN: None.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 69-45

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE REQUESTING THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY TO MAKE ALLOCATION OF FUNDS FROM "HIGHWAY-THROUGH-CITIES SPECIAL PROJECTS" FUND FOR STREET IMPROVEMENTS ON CRENSHAW BOULEVARD BETWEEN DEL AMO BOULEVARD AND 190TH STREET AND ON DEL AMO BOULEVARD IN THE VICINITY OF CRENSHAW BOULEVARD.

Councilman Johnson moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 69-45. His motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

It was called to the attention of the Traffic Department by Councilman Uerkwitz that there is a need for illumination on the newly installed concrete strip at the San Diego Freeway off-ramp on Crenshaw Boulevard.

19. TRACT NO. 27763: Request of Don Wilson Builders for a six-month extension in which to replace overhead utilities with underground utilities. Recommendation of Acting City Engineer that request be granted.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved to concur with the recommendation of the Acting City Engineer that the subject request be granted. His motion was seconded by Councilman Miller, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

City Manager Ferraro took this opportunity to express the appreciation of the City for Mr. Wilson's valuable assistance during the rain storm in supplying a pump for a problem sump. Mayor Isen added the gratitude of the Council for this civic enterprise.

20. IMPROVEMENT OF CRENSHAW BOULEVARD FROM SIERRA STREET TO DEL AMO BOULEVARD (B68-62). Change Order No. 1 (Job #66093).

RECOMMENDATIONS OF ACTING CITY ENGINEER:

1. That the referenced change order be approved, and
2. That \$5,000 be appropriated from Section 2106 Gas Tax Funds to cover costs.

MOTION: Councilman Miller moved to concur with the above recommendations of the Acting City Engineer, and that \$5,000 be appropriated from Section 2106 Gas Tax Funds to cover costs. His motion was seconded by Councilman Uerkwitz, and carried:

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

21. PROPOSED VACATION OF PORTIONS OF 223RD STREET AND BORDER AVENUE: (Beneficiary: Grant and Popovich and City of Torrance. City-initiated vacation).

RECOMMENDATION OF ACTING CITY ENGINEER: That the City Council waive the required \$100 fee and adopt the attached Resolution declaring its intention to vacate portions of 223rd Street and Border Avenue, and setting a date for a public hearing thereon.

MOTION: Councilman Beasley moved to concur with the recommendation of the Acting City Engineer that the required \$100 fee be waived. His motion was seconded by Councilman Johnson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 69-46

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE DECLARING ITS INTENTION TO VACATE PORTIONS OF 223RD STREET AND BORDER AVENUE IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE; FIXING A TIME AND PLACE FOR A HEARING THEREON AND PROVIDING FOR THE PUBLICATION OF THIS RESOLUTION:

Councilman Wilson moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 69-46. His motion, seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

REAL PROPERTY:

22. AGREEMENT between the City of Torrance and Mrs. Bessie Briggs Martner for the purchase of a right-of-way easement on Sepulveda Boulevard between Arlington Avenue and Crenshaw Boulevard for the sum of \$9,550.

MOTION: Councilman Uerkwitz moved to concur with the recommendation of the City Manager that the Mayor be authorized to execute and the City Clerk to attest the subject agreement on behalf of the City, and that the City Manager and the City Attorney be authorized to execute all other necessary documents on behalf of the City to purchase this easement. The motion was seconded by Councilman Beasley, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

23. RIVIERA PARK: Request for appropriation of additional sum for improvements and construction re: Joint Powers Agreement with City of Redondo Beach.

MOTION: Councilman Sciarrotta moved to concur with the recommendation of the City Manager that an additional sum of \$4,000 be appropriated from the General Fund unappropriated reserve for the Riviera Park Project. His motion was seconded by Councilman Johnson, and carried as follows:

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

TRAFFIC AND LIGHTING:

24. MOBILE RADIO TELEPHONE IN UNIT #200.

RECOMMENDATION OF TRAFFIC ENGINEER:

Approval of appropriation of \$465 out of the General Fund unappropriated surplus to replace the mobile radio telephone in Unit #200 with a used mobile radio.

The inefficiency of the mobile telephone, and need for remedial action by the Telephone Company, was noted by Councilman Beasley, with his MOTION to concur with the recommendation of the Traffic Engineer as above stated, with the request that information regarding this be furnished by the Telephone Company. The motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, and carried, as follows:

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Johnson, Miller, Sciarrotta,
Uerkwitz, and Mayor Isen.
NOES: COUNCILMEN: Mayor Isen. (In support of his
original negative vote, feeling
the telephone an affectation
and not needed.)

FISCAL MATTERS:

25. STORM EMERGENCY COSTS AND GARAGE DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS.
Recommendation of Finance Director, with concurrence of City Manager, for appropriations to cover.

At Mayor Isen's request, for the benefit of the large audience to enlighten them regarding the services rendered and the cost thereof during the recent storm emergency, Finance Director Dundore gave a detailed report on the financial aspect of this emergency, with further clarification by City Manager Ferraro of the necessary measures taken at the time of this disaster.

MOTION: Councilman Uerkwitz moved to concur with the recommendation of the Finance Director that the amount of \$75,990 be appropriated from the General Fund Unappropriated Surplus to cover storm emergency expenditures and estimated amounts for the balance of the 1968-69 fiscal year as outlined in the subject communication. His motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and carried as follows:

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

AIRPORT MATTERS:

26. FOUR OFFERS TO LEASE HANGAR A-20: (Now leased to McCulloch Aircraft Corporation). Airport Manager and Airport Commission submitting their recommendations.

MOTION: Councilman Sciarrotta moved to concur with the recommendation of the Airport Manager that the City make a Letter Agreement with Mr. Lester Leonard along the same lines as with McCulloch Aircraft Corporation. His motion was seconded by Councilman Miller, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

27. RESOLUTION authorizing the Airport Manager to offer the Control Tower for sale to the Federal Aviation Administration. Recommendation submitted by Airport Manager and Airport Commission for approval of sale.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 69-47

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE AIRPORT MANAGER TO OFFER FOR SALE TO THE FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION THE CONTROL TOWER BUILDING AT THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL AIRPORT AND THE AIRPORT NEGOTIATING TEAM TO NEGOTIATE ANY SALE AND RELATED AGREEMENTS.

Councilman Miller moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 69-47. His motion, seconded by Councilman Wilson, was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

* * * *

A 10-minute recess was ordered at this time by Mayor Isen, the hour being 7:55 P.M.

* * * *

PLANNING AND ZONING HEARINGS:

16. ZC 68-30, CALOIL CORPORATION (John W. Brooks, Vice President). Change of zone from R-3 to C-1 on property located on the southeast corner of the intersection of Pacific Coast Highway and Vista del Parque. Recommended for denial by Planning Commission.
- 16A. 13 letters of protest re: ZC 68-30 from local residents.

Before undertaking the hearing on ZC 68-30, Mayor Isen explained the procedures which necessitate at least three hearings on zone changes and the legal requirements therefor, in view of protests received at the number of hearings on this matter.

Affidavit of Publication on ZC 68-30 was presented by City Clerk Coil, and it was ordered filed, there being no objections.

Mayor Isen announced that this is the time and place for the public hearing, and inquired if anyone wished to be heard.

Responding, Mr. Harold Thomasian, 3555 Torrance Boulevard, representing the proponents, outlined the proposed plan for the development of a service station on the subject property, if the zone change is granted. It is their feeling that this would be a good location for a service station, there being nothing immoral about the sale of property for a profit and the conducting of a lawful business. At Councilman Miller's question pertaining deed restrictions on the property, Mr. Thomasian acknowledged his awareness of this fact, terming this a legal matter not the concern of this Council.

An additional letter of protest, from Mr. Paul A. Snyder, was reported at this point in the meeting by City Clerk Coil.

Mr. Stanley Dunn, 505 Via la Selva, on behalf of the Riveria Homeowners Association, stated that the subject application violates every principle of good planning, along with objections on the basis of aesthetics and the completely unattractive atmosphere of service stations; the inevitable noise; the need for added policing, etc.

Mayor Isen commented on the recent denial of a request for an architect's office on this same property, and referred to the general policy that this is a strictly residential area

and that the integrity be respected. Mr. Dunn added, for the information of the Council, that last October plans were submitted to the Art Jury for approval of an 18-unit apartment at this area, indicating that there is no hardship represented to the interested parties in denying this request. Mr. Dunn pointed out the obvious pride in their homes of residents in this area; approval of the requested zone change would destroy this pride.

At Mr. Dunn's request, all those present in opposition to the zone change were asked to stand, and the majority of the room rose.

There being no one else who wished to be heard, Councilman Beasley moved that the hearing be closed. His motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, and there were no objections.

MOTION: Councilman Sciarrotta moved to concur with the recommendation of the Planning Commission in the DENIAL of ZC 68-30. The motion was seconded by Councilman Johnson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable, "yes" being for denial.

15. READVERTISED HEARING, ZC 68-29, MERVIN BOLL AND MARGUERITE MELVILLE. Change of Zone from R-2 to C-2 on property located at 2517-19-21 West Carson Street, and described as the south 152 feet of Lot 11, Block 2, Tract 2761. The Planning Commission recommends approval of C-1 zoning subject to a precise plan of development.

The Affidavit of Publication was presented by the City Clerk, and it was ordered filed, there being no objections.

Mayor Isen announced that this was the time and place for public hearing on ZC 68-29. There was no response; Councilman Sciarrotta moved that the hearing be closed. His motion was seconded by Councilman Beasley, and there were no objections.

MOTION: Councilman Johnson moved to reaffirm previous Council action for rezoning from R-2 to C-1, subject to a precise plan of development, providing that the applicant stipulates to a dedication for widening of Carson for the frontage of their property and that the actual dedication be made at the time of application for a building permit. The motion was seconded by Councilman Beasley.

Prior to roll call vote on the motion, Planning Director Shartle pointed out the most recent Planning Commission recommendation at their March 5th meeting. Mayor Isen pointed out the circumstances surrounding the necessity for readvertising, and the fact that the entire matter would not again be before the Council except for a clerical error, and to impose additional conditions is completely out of order.

Roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

17. Letter from George Kurtz re: Cul-de-sac at the westerly end of 235th Place between Crenshaw Boulevard and Pennsylvania Avenue, with recommendation from City Manager.

City Manager Ferraro advised that in a telephone conversation this date with Mr. Kurtz, it was learned that the cul-de-sac will be included in the easement deed. Mr. George Kurtz was present and confirmed that all easement deeds submitted by the City are now executed.

The precise plan of development was discussed. Mr. Kurtz advised that they will accept such a condition; what they would like is to establish the cul-de-sac at this time without conditions with the understanding that a precise plan would be submitted before any building permits are issued.

MOTION: Councilman Beasley moved to concur with the recommendation of the City Manager that the request be granted, with the condition, because the property is zoned C-5, that a precise plan of development a prerequisite to obtaining any permits from the City for the use of this property. The motion was seconded by Councilman Uerkwitz, and carried as follows:

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Miller, Sciarrotta,
Uerkwitz, Wilson, and Mayor Isen.
NOES: COUNCILMEN: None.
ABSTAIN: COUNCILMEN: Johnson (may have a financial
interest).

Deputy Attorney Smith advised that a Resolution would be required to so amend the Master Plan.

Mayor Isen referred to the lack of clarity still surrounding the precise plan of development requirements, and requested further investigation by Deputy Attorney Smith.

28. AIRPORT HANGARKEEPER'S LIABILITY INSURANCE -
Additional coverage in the form of Excess Limits Insurance.

City Clerk Coil noted a correction in item #2 of the Airport Manager's recommendation: "That the Council appropriate \$1450 for the first annual premium....." (instead of \$1800.)

MOTION: Councilman Beasley moved to concur with the recommendation of the Airport Manager: (1) That the Lund Company be instructed to proceed with the excess liability insurance coverage noted in March 5th memo at an annual premium of \$1800; and (2) That the Council appropriate \$1450 for the first annual premium from the Airport Unappropriated Surplus to Account 80-9576-5220 to cover the above expense. The motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

PARK AND RECREATION:

29. CULTURAL ARTS COUNCIL: Report and recommendation from Director of Recreation re: a Cultural Arts Council in the City of Torrance.

In attendance on this matter was Mr. Tom Wilson, 141 Paseo de las Delicias, representing the Southwest Los Angeles County

Arts Council, who spoke in favor of the establishment of a Torrance Fine Arts Commission which will sponsor cultural activities in the City, adding that improvement in the cultural climate will serve as an aid in attracting people to Torrance. Mr. Wilson then outlined the needs for the establishment of such a commission -- a staff secretary who could guide volunteer workers, for one thing -- as well as the efforts in this direction in other communities.

Discussion followed by the Council, it being the general consensus that the cause has merit, and the need is evident, but that it could be appropriately incorporated in an assignment to existing Commissions initially.

Dissenting was Councilman Wilson who stated that, in his opinion, the City would be abdicating its leadership role in cultural affairs by assigning this matter to existing Commissions -- Council support is needed, which does not imply a big budget.

A MOTION was offered by Councilman Johnson that the matter of a Cultural Arts Council be referred back to the City Manager for study and a report back to Council.

Councilman Sciarrotta made a SUBSTITUTE MOTION: That there be assignments of two people from the Park and Recreation Commission, two people from Torrance Beautiful, two people from the Library Commission, and one representative from management to study the matter and present their recommendations to the Council as to how best to create a Cultural Arts Council. The motion was seconded by Councilman Beasley, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

Mayor Isen requested that Mr. Wilson advise the interested parties to contact the City Manager's office, which would serve to indicate the community interest in such an undertaking.

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS:

30. HELICOPTER PATROL: Citizen Jim Thompson's proposal for use of helicopter patrol for disaster situations in the City of Torrance. Civil Defense and Disaster Commission recommendation for denial.

MOTION: Mayor Isen moved that the subject communication be filed. His motion was seconded by Councilman Miller, and there were no objections.

* * * *

At 9:05 P.M. Councilman Uerkwitz moved to recess as City Council and reconvene as Redevelopment Agency. His motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, and approval was unanimous. A 10-minute recess followed at 9:06 P.M.

* * * *

(Councilman Beasley left the meeting at 9:10 P.M.)

On resumption of the meeting, Mayor Isen introduced the Civil Defense and Disaster Commissioners in attendance: Chairman Cohen and Commissioners Burchett, Grippo, and Schoonover.

31. EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN. (EOP Manual). Report to the Council on additions and changes to the EOP Manual for the City of Torrance.

City Manager Ferraro commended the Commission on what he termed an outstanding analysis and representative of many hours of study.

MOTION: Councilman Uerkwitz moved to refer the EOP Report to the City Manager for analysis. The motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta.

Prior to taking action on the motion, Councilman Uerkwitz added that it should be kept in mind that the emergency operating center should have a priority and handled as soon as possible.

The motion was unanimously approved, following a lengthy discussion regarding the last ten years in Torrance and the progress made.

ITEMS NOT OTHERWISE CLASSIFIED:

32. ORDINANCE to repeal Emergency Ordinance No. 1898 re: restricted manufacturing permits - downtown Torrance.

Reviewed at some length was the blight condition descending on downtown Torrance, and the need for relief thereof, as well as the feasibility of approval or denial by the Planning Director and the avenues of appeal.

MOTION: Councilman Sciarrotta moved that Ordinance No. 1898 not be rescinded. His motion was seconded by Mayor Isen.

Representing the Citizens' Advisory Committee, Mr. Bill Roberts reported their role in submitting the recommendation in their letter of February 3rd, which was at the request of the City Attorney, and resulted in their recommendation that the ordinance be rescinded because of the responsibility placed on the Planning Director.

Complete disagreement with Mr. Roberts' report was expressed by Mayor Isen. Councilman Wilson suggested that it is the responsibility of the Council to make a study of the best uses to be made of the downtown area.

Councilmen Sciarrotta and Miller outlined efforts to date on behalf of downtown Torrance, reiterating the obvious need for relief. Planning Director Shartle confirmed, at Councilman Miller's question, that due process would be afforded under the ordinance with appeal to both the Planning Commission and the Council.

Councilman Sciarrotta restated his MOTION: That Ordinance No. 1898 not be rescinded; that the communication be filed. The motion was seconded by Mayor Isen, and approval was unanimous. (Councilman Beasley absent.)

33. PROPERTY, SOUTHWEST RETARDED CHILDREN'S ASSOCIATION: Feasibility report on possibility of City purchasing land owned by Association, submitted by City Manager.

Director of Recreation Van Bellehem referred to the third paragraph of the March 3rd communication, noting that the total development costs for the Association land should be \$126,000.

Discussion followed. Councilman Wilson was of the opinion that the acquisition of such land for a park would be premature in view of the pending Columbia Park negotiations. Councilman Johnson reiterated his strong feeling, expressed in the past, that small parcels of land should be acquired whenever possible for neighborhood "vest pocket" parks.

The financial statistics were then reviewed, as were the pros and cons of such an investment.

Councilman Johnson moved to purchase the Southwest Retarded Children's Association property now in escrow, and request that the City Manager determine the means of financing. The motion died for lack of a second.

Mr. Richard Oliver, 4129 West 180th Street, stated that it was he who had circulated the petition requesting a park -- it being the desire of the neighborhood that a small park be constructed on City property that was formerly a sump; more elaborate arrangements are unnecessary, particularly in view of access problems.

MOTION: Councilman Uerkwitz moved to concur with the recommendation of the City Manager against the acquisition or development of the Southwest Retarded Children's Association's property as a park. The motion was seconded by Councilman Miller, and carried as follows:

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

NOES: COUNCILMEN: Johnson.

ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Beasley.

Mayor Isen then recommended that Staff proceed with the development of the City-owned property. Councilman Miller so moved; the motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Beasley absent). Staff was requested to report back on any problems that might develop, particularly as to the access.

34. DISPOSITION OF LOST ARTICLES: Recommendation for preparation of additions to the City Code to govern disposition of said articles submitted by City Manager.

It was the opinion of Mayor Isen that the City is preempted by State law on the matter of lost articles, and recommended that this matter be referred back to the City Attorney's office. There were no objections.

35. RESOLUTION supporting Evelle Younger's effort to have proposals affecting criminal justice passed by the State Legislature. Cover letter and endorsement submitted by Police Chief.

Councilman Johnson requested that the Gun Control legislation be excluded from the Resolution. It was agreed to adopt the Resolution with the understanding that this would be deleted.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 69-48

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE REGARDING LEGISLATION AFFECTING CRIMINAL JUSTICE.

MOTION: Councilman Johnson moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 69-48, with the requested revision. His motion was seconded by Councilman Uerkwitz, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Beasley absent).

36. PROCLAMATION - Heard earlier in the meeting.

SECOND READING - ORDINANCE

37. ORDINANCE NO. 1954.

At the request of Mayor Isen, City Clerk Coil presented for second reading:

ORDINANCE NO. 1954

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING THE PROVISIONS OF CHAPTER 7 (THE OIL CODE) DIVISION 9 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE RELATING TO DEFINITION OF OIL WELL SITE, ENCLOSURE OF SITE, FENCE SPACING, DEBRIS, AND LANDSCAPING REQUIRED.

Councilman Johnson moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 1954 at its second and final reading. The motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Beasley absent).

38. RESOLUTION Re: Assembly Bill No. 61. (Topless, Bottomless Legislation)

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

RESOLUTION NO. 69-49

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, REQUESTING THE STATE LEGISLATURE TO ADOPT ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 61.

Mayor Isen moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 69-49. His motion was seconded by Councilman Uerkwitz, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Beasley absent).

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

39. City Manager Ferraro reported that City Attorney Remelmeyer is recuperating very nicely from his recent serious operation, and will be receiving visitors very shortly.

40. Councilman Johnson requested that attention now be directed to the opening of the remainder of 232nd Street, the initial mechanics having now been accomplished. The status of the street opening was reported by Deputy Attorney Smith -- the urgency and need for action in this matter was pointed out by Councilman Johnson who requested that the Resolution of Intention on the part approved be returned to Council as soon as possible, with a later amendment on the extension.

Mrs. Arnold Johnson, 2227 West 233rd Street, was present, and questioned the length of time an appraisal is good, outlining past actions and the appraisals made on subject properties. Deputy Attorney Smith will research and report back on the length of time an appraisal is in effect.

Mayor Isen requested that these matters be expedited and returned to the Council at the earliest possible date.

41. Councilman Miller requested that Eshelman, between 235th and 236th, be investigated -- this has developed into a storage area of unsightly car bodies, pipes, etc., and several complaints have been made to him.

42. Councilman Sciarrotta recommended that there be a meeting of the Council in reference to the establishment of Council Committees on March 25th at 6:00 P.M. There were no objections.

43. It was noted by Councilman Uerkwitz that there will be a League of California Cities meeting in Sacramento on April 15th; it was his recommendation that Council be dark on that evening, in order that the Councilmen may attend this valuable meeting. Mr. Uerkwitz thereupon MOVED that the Council be dark on Tuesday, April 15th, a 5:30 P.M. meeting. His motion was seconded by Mayor Isen, and approval was unanimously favorable by roll call vote (Councilman Beasley absent).

44. Councilman Uerkwitz inquired as to the material on the annexation of the L.A. Strip; City Manager Ferraro advised that Staff is working on this. Reservations as to the merits of becoming involved were expressed by Mayor Isen. Councilman

Uerkwitz requested that all the pros and cons be contained in the Staff report.

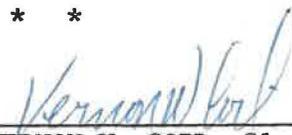
45. A request by the City Manager for volunteers to serve on two committees for the League of California Cities was noted by Councilman Wilson -- he indicated his willingness to serve on the Urban Problems committee, and there were no objections. Councilman Uerkwitz, in turn, agreed to serve on the Flood Control committee; there were no objections.

46. Councilman Wilson referred to Assembly Bill 492 and the information from Fire Chief Lucas that the passage of this bill will prove very costly, feeling that it might be in order for the Council to lodge a protest against its passage. Fire Chief Lucas described the contents of the Bill and its effect on the level of fire service. Mayor Isen requested Deputy Attorney Smith prepare an appropriate Resolution opposing A.B. 492.

47. Mrs. Stella Billings, 4129 West 178th Street, reported on the unfortunate circumstances of a Pueblo resident whose home was destroyed some two years ago, there not yet being a solution to her problem. Mrs. Billings was referred to Mr. Irwin of the Redevelopment Agency, as well as to Assistant City Manager Scharfman for assistance.

The meeting was regularly adjourned at 10:40 P.M.

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 VERNON W. COIL, Clerk of the
 City of Torrance, California

APPROVED:


 Mayor of the City of Torrance

Ava Cripe
 Minute Secretary

18.

Council Minutes
 March 11, 1969