

I N D E XCity Council - January 20, 1970

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Ava Cripe  
Minute Secretary

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Adjourned at 9:00 P.M.

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January 20, 1970

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 20, 1970, 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. (It was necessary for Councilman Beasley to leave the meeting at 7:40 P.M.)

Also present: City Manager Ferraro, Assistant City Manager Scharfman, City Attorney Remelmeyer, City Clerk Coil, and City Treasurer Rupert.

3. FLAG SALUTE:

The entire membership of Girl Scout Troop #953, at the request of Mayor Isen, led in the salute to the flag.

11. Presentation of California flag to Girl Scout Troop #953.

It was with considerable pleasure that Mr. Art Reeves, Dominguez Water Corporation, and Mr. Keith Pischel, Imperial Bank, presented an elegant California Flag to Troop #953 -- much gratitude was reflected by many smiling Girl Scout faces and a vocal "thank you very much".

4. INVOCATION:

The invocation was given by Reverend Charles Neigh, Walteria United Methodist Church.

\* \* \* \*

Introduced at this time by Councilman Wilson were students from Carr Elementary School watching government in action, accompanied by their teacher, Mrs. Bradshaw, and principal, Mr. Lettunich.

\* \* \* \*

PRESENTATIONS:

10. Tile Plaque to commend John Powell for his bravery in rescuing Danny Evans from drowning in Entradero Sump on May 8, 1969.

Acknowledgment of John's heroic efforts was made by Councilman Sciarrotta, on behalf of the Council, with gracious acceptance by both him and his father, Torrance Fireman Gregory Powell.

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STANDARD MOTIONS:5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilman Sciarrotta moved that the minutes of the regular meeting of January 6, 1970 be approved as recorded. His motion was seconded by Councilman Uerkwitz, and there were no objections.

6. APPROVAL OF DEMANDS:

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

8. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS - Noted.COMMENDATION:

## 9. RESOLUTION commending Bob Herendeed, winner of the 1969 National Aerobatic championship held in Fort Worth, Texas.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 70-10

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF TORRANCE COMMENDING BOB HERENDEEN,  
WINNER OF THE 1969 NATIONAL AEROBATIC  
CHAMPIONSHIP HELD IN FORT WORTH, TEXAS.

Councilman Uerkwitz moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 70-10, to be permaplaqued. His motion was seconded by Councilman Johnson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

\* \* \* \*

Council procedure was described by Mayor Isen for the benefit of those at a Council meeting for the first time.

\* \* \* \*

NONCONTROVERSIAL ITEMS:12. EXPENDITURES OVER \$300:RECOMMENDATION OF FINANCE DIRECTOR:

That Council approve the following purchases:

A. BUDGETED.

1. \$758.63 to Golden State Paint for 250 gallons of white street-marking paint with glass beads as requested by the Traffic and Lighting Department.

2. \$359.79 to American Sprinkler for 777 feet of galvanized pipe and 24 miscellaneous pipe fittings as requested by the Park Department to be used on Pacific Coast Highway slope areas west of Calle Mayor.

3. \$319.99 to Johnson Stationers for 50 boxes of file folders as requested by the Police Department for use in their record-keeping system.

4. \$902.14 to Certain-Teed Products Corporation for 51 lengths 6-inch pipe complete with coupling and rings as requested by the Water Department for the Torrance Airport job.

B. SPECIAL ITEM:

5. \$2066.82 to Campbell & Hall, c/o Harry R. Wilson, for 122 adult and 323 juvenile books.

13. CLAIM of Anna McCall for personal damages.RECOMMENDATION OF CITY CLERK:

That said claim be denied and referred to the City Attorney.

14. CLAIM of Robert V. Wadden for property damages.RECOMMENDATION OF CITY CLERK:

That said claim be denied and referred to the City Attorney.

15. CLAIM of Bank of America for property damages.RECOMMENDATION OF CITY CLERK:

That said claim be denied and referred to the City Attorney.

## 16. Request for termination of Oil Bond #716663.

RECOMMENDATION OF LICENSE SUPERVISOR:

That Oil Well Bond #716663 be terminated.

## 17. Request from Walter O. Lindley for time extension on Tract No. 28020.

RECOMMENDATION OF ACTING CITY ENGINEER:

That request be granted.

18. PARTIAL REFUND OF SEWER CHARGES.RECOMMENDATIONS OF ACTING CITY ENGINEER:

1. That Atlantic Richfield Company be refunded \$441.06, and Union Oil Company be refunded \$744.06 due to intentional overcharge of connection fee for Sewer Reimbursement District No. 83 (vicinity of 190th Street and Western Avenue); and
2. That Goodyear Tire Company be refunded \$458.74 due to intentional overcharge of connection fee for Sewer Reimbursement District No. 86 (vicinity of Madrona Avenue south of Carson Street).

MOTION: Councilman Sciarrotta moved to concur with the recommendations on agenda items #12,13,14,15,16,17, and #18. 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.

HEARINGS - PLANNING AND ZONING:19. ORDINANCES ON FOAM EXTINGUISHING SYSTEMS AND OIL ORDINANCE B.

This item held, at the request of Mrs. Ponsford, pending the arrival of other interested parties.

PLANNING AND ZONING MATTERS:

20. APPEAL of Planning Commission Case No. W 70-1, GEORGE AND MARIANNE ALLEMANN. Request for approval of a waiver of the open space requirements for the addition of four units to an existing 4-unit apartment building on property located at 346 Palos Verdes Boulevard. DENIED BY THE PLANNING COMMISSION.

Representing the proponents, Mr. Don Hitchcock, 21515 Hawthorne Boulevard, related the circumstances surrounding the building permit originally obtained in 1968, the subsequent financing difficulties, and cancellation of the permit; Mr. Allemann was able to secure financing in December, 1969, only to learn on reapplication for the building permit that the apartment house standards had been revised, and his project did not now meet the open space requirements.

Photographs and renderings were displayed by Mr. Hitchcock indicating the existing development and what is proposed. Mr. Hitchcock expressed agreement with the conditions recommended by Staff, it being noted that Condition #5 states "That Deck #3 not be constructed." Mr. Hitchcock confirmed his understanding of this condition.

MOTION: Councilman Uerkwitz moved to approve W 70-1, subject to Staff conditions. The motion was seconded by Councilman Beasley.

Prior to roll call vote on the motion, it was pointed out by Mayor Isen that this whole plan was approved by the Riviera Art Jury; further, since it dated back prior to the stringent restrictions, it would seem to him that approval ought to be automatic, rather than all the "ring around the rosy" -- in the Mayor's opinion there is just as much open space here as any of the apartments on the street, and the subject request will even up the street and improve its appearance.

In concurrence was Councilman Sciarrotta, who added that this will serve to upgrade the area -- it is beautiful, in fact.

Noted by Councilman Uerkwitz was the communication from the Riviera Community Association, signed by Stanley Dunn, voicing approval, which was a factor in his motion for approval.

Roll call vote on Councilman Uerkwitz' motion was unanimously favorable.

21. ORDINANCE reclassifying property described in Zone Change Case 69-28, Torrance Planning Commission. Change of Zone from A-1 to C-3 PP and C-R on property located at the southeast corner of Artesia Boulevard and Prairie Avenue.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2053

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING DIVISION 9 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE TO RECLASSIFY THAT CERTAIN PROPERTY WHICH IS LOCATED AT THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF ARTESIA BOULEVARD AND PRAIRIE AVENUE, AND DESCRIBED IN ZONE CHANGE 69-28.

(Flavio Rodriguez, William Morrison, and Peninsula Enterprises, Inc.)

Councilman Wilson moved for the approval of Ordinance No. 2053 at its first reading. His motion was seconded by Councilman Uerkwitz, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

22. ORDINANCE reclassifying property described in Zone Change Case 69-29, Torrance Planning Commission. Change of zone from M-2 "O" and M-2-"O-1" to M-2 "O-1" and M-1 "O-2" on property located at the southeast corner of Maple Avenue and Monterey Avenue and property located on Vine Avenue, north of Sepulveda Boulevard, east of Crenshaw Boulevard.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2054

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING DIVISION 9 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE TO RECLASSIFY THAT CERTAIN PROPERTY WHICH IS LOCATED AT THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF MAPLE AND MONTEREY AND THAT CERTAIN PROPERTY WHICH IS LOCATED ON VINE AVENUE, NORTH OF SEPULVEDA BOULEVARD, EAST OF CRENSHAW BOULEVARD, AND DESCRIBED IN ZONE CHANGE 69-29.  
(Chanslor-Western Oil and Development Company.)

Councilman Sciarrotta moved for the approval of Ordinance No. 2054 at its first reading. His motion was seconded by Councilman Beasley, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

PERSONNEL MATTERS:

## 23. Civil Service Rules and Regulations - Nepotism Rule.

Mayor Isen stated that he had never felt that seasonal or temporary employees should bar another from permanent employment, someone who passes the Civil Service examination and is otherwise qualified. It was the consensus of the Council that to do so would be "reaching out", and the following action resulted:

MOTION: Councilman Uerkwitz moved that the Council instruct the City Manager that the intended policy is that the nepotism policy will apply to permanent employees only. The motion was seconded by Councilman Johnson.

City Attorney Remelmeyer confirmed that it would be necessary to so amend the ordinance, a mechanical thing but which will serve to furnish complete clarification in the event someone wished to contest it.

Roll call vote was unanimously favorable on Councilman Uerkwitz' motion.

## 24. Executive Session, TPOA Salary and Wage Request.

Held later in the meeting.

## 25. Council Committee's Report regarding Longevity Pay - Exempt Employees.

RECOMMENDATION OF COUNCIL CIVIL SERVICE COMMITTEE:

That no change be made to the salary resolution and that funds held in abeyance by the City Manager until a decision was to be made by this Council be paid to the respective employees. (The vote on this matter was two to one, with Councilman Johnson in the minority.)

MOTION: Councilman Beasley moved to concur with the above recommendation. His motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson.

It was the comment of Councilman Uerkwitz that he is not in agreement that longevity was ever intended to be used in the way that has been recommended. Councilman Uerkwitz then made a SUBSTITUTE MOTION: That the Council concur with the minority report and deny the longevity pay to exempt employees, with the ordinance to be amended accordingly. The motion was seconded by Councilman Johnson.

Discussion followed. First to comment was Mayor Isen who stated that he was in disagreement with Assistant City Manager Scharfman's interpretation to the effect that "in Torrance the personnel situation is dynamic, with many opportunities for promotion readily available, or this office would have opposed longevity for all." -- the original arguments, recalled by Mayor Isen, were that employees, particularly Policemen and Firemen, had so much competition that promotions were infrequent, and there was a need for the longevity. The Mayor does not feel that it applies at all to non-Civil Service employees, and it has been voted down informally in the past, and, through error, was included in the lengthy ordinance. Mayor Isen then requested that the amounts be spelled out. -- Councilman Johnson obliged, concluding that in the case of the City Manager longevity would represent an approximate annual increase of \$750.00.

The effect of longevity for elected officials was questioned by Councilman Uerkwitz. Councilman Sciarrotta was of the opinion that elected officials should be treated as everyone else -- if he is continuously reelected by the people, it is obvious he is desired in that office, and, consequently, should derive the same benefits as everyone else.

Longevity, according to Councilman Johnson, is fundamentally an incentive-type program for the benefit of people who might otherwise be stalemated in a position or salary class. It also tends to perpetuate long term service by employees, which is most important and valuable to the City. In the case of the City Manager and his Staff, Mr. Johnson continued, <sup>they</sup> are literally here at the will and pleasure of the Council; the Clerk and Treasurer are here at the will of the people -- he can see no purpose in longevity so far as they are concerned.

Councilman Wilson objected to the discrimination against management -- the purposes and aims of longevity should apply to top management people as well, it being of great importance that fine employees be attracted to the City of Torrance and that they be retained.

Normally sympathetic with management, commented Councilman Miller, relative to raises at budget time, he takes into consideration the salary that the City Manager, for instance, would command in private enterprise -- however, he does not feel that longevity should apply to that high level in the City; it is not applicable here since it is taken care of by way of salaries.

Speaking at this time, City Treasurer Rupert stated that he is involved and that he is in agreement with what obviously appears to be a 4-3 vote forthcoming -- the classes of City Manager, City Attorney, City Clerk, and City Treasurer should probably be

considered exempt employees and not receive longevity, but he would not apply the same rule to the Assistant City Manager and Administrative Assistants in the City Manager's office inasmuch as these people are not at that high a level and it is desirable that they be retained to furnish back-up in that office. Mr. Rupert sincerely requested that the Council take another look at at least those three classes in the City Manager's office. It was the consensus of the Council that this was a matter for review at budget time.

Roll call vote on Councilman Uerkwitz' SUBSTITUTE MOTION was as follows, "yes" being to deny longevity pay to exempt employees:

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Johnson, Miller, Uerkwitz, and  
Mayor Isen.

NOES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Sciarrotta, Wilson.

MOTION: Councilman Beasley moved that the problem of the Assistant City Manager and Administrative Assistants be referred to the City Manager for study at budget time. The motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson; there were no objections, and it was so ordered.

The Council now returned to:

HEARINGS - PLANNING AND ZONING:

19. ORDINANCES ON FOAM EXTINGUISHING SYSTEMS AND OIL ORDINANCE B. ORDINANCE NO. 2047 adding to Municipal Code Section 85.2.19, adopting Publication No. 11 of the National Fire Protection Association, entitled "Standard for Foam Extinguishing Systems," 1969 Edition.  
REVISED ORDINANCE C adding Section 85.2.18 to the Municipal Code to amend Section 13.50, Article XIII, Division III, of the Uniform Fire Code providing for fire fighting protection.  
ORDINANCE NO. 2028 amending Section 97.9.13 of the Torrance Municipal Code to provide for the relocation or removal of oil storage tanks which violate Section 15.202 of the Uniform Fire Code.  
REVISED ORDINANCE B amending Section 97.9.13 of the Torrance Municipal Code to provide for the relocation or removal of oil storage tanks which violate Section 15.202 of the Uniform Fire Code.

Affidavit of Publication was presented by City Clerk Coil; it was ordered filed, there being no objection.

Noted by Mayor Isen, and incorporated in the material of record, was a petition signed by Mr. and Mrs. Arnold S. Johnson.

Councilman Johnson advised that he had been requested by interested parties to release the oil tank study conducted by the Fire Chief some time ago, which was furnished the Council as private material. Mr. Johnson requested concurrence from the Council to do so

There were no objections by the Council -- quite to the contrary, lest it have a "sweeping under the rug" quality, which was certainly not the intent. Pointed out by Battalion Chief Agapito was the fact that this was a cursory inspection and the distances are not accurate; further, there were many facilities which were inaccessible. City Attorney Remelmeyer stated that it should be considered a public document. Mr. George Kurtz specifically requested a copy of the subject report, and it was reiterated that it will be furnished to all interested parties.

Mayor Isen announced that this is a public hearing on the entire matter of oil tanks, and invited those wishing to be heard to come forward at this time.

Representing the Southeast Torrance Homeowners Association, Mr. Al Overholtzer, 2044 West 235th Place, stated that their organization has been observing the proceedings of the Council and the Planning Commission in connection with the oil tank-fire hazard problems in their area. Further, they are in favor of the proposed legislation to require foam fire protection for all tanks in Torrance until such time as they are all removed. It is requested, however, that provision be made now for the removal or relocation of those tanks in violation of Section 15.202 of the Uniform Fire Code -- Ordinance B (No. 2028) should be enacted at this time after it is amended in strict accordance with the provisions and intent of the Uniform Fire Code as adopted by the City of Torrance.

Continuing, Mr. Overholtzer advised that SETHA has recommended the following amendment to Ordinance B: "Section 2 (b) - No person shall own, operate, or maintain any tank for the storage of crude petroleum which is located closer to the line of adjoining property which may be built upon or which is located closer to the line of improved property." It is their feeling, Mr. Overholtzer concluded, that the owners of property should not be barred from having a building on it by reason of either the violation of the Fire Code or by reason of the fact that the tank is empty.

Councilman Beasley commented that the reference to "improved property" in this section of the ordinance automatically excluded any future building - deletion of the word "improved" will take care of the problem.

The lengthy study by this Council over a long period of time was recalled by Mayor Isen, as was the fact that the process seemed completely backwards -- it seems that an oil operator would have his tank and his unit on a large parcel of property, then it would be sold off to someone who unwittingly did not know the rules thereby penalizing the purchaser who could not use the property because of the tank -- there has long been a need for protection for the purchaser in these situations, and it is appropriate in the interest of safety to life and limb that action be taken.

Mr. Overholtzer added that SETHA is also requesting the abatement of oil tank fire hazards which constitute public nuisances in the City streets, acknowledging that it is a difficult problem, but that the streets cannot be finished without removal of the tanks.

Further, according to Mr. Overholtzer, on October 7th the Council ordered that the Planning Commission begin proceedings for the removal of all oil storage tanks in the Southeast Torrance area as a non-conforming use; their membership supports this action and would like to see visible results. Planning Director Shartle advised that the problems involved are being investigated -- some amendments to the ordinances will be necessary in order to accomplish what is desired, and they are working with the City Attorney's office in this regard, also with the City Manager's office to set up a team to resolve some of these problems.

City Attorney Remelmeyer advised that a tentative amendment to the Code has been drafted but requires further study inasmuch as this is not an easy problem from a legal standpoint, but it is hoped to present some ordinances to the Planning Commission and the Council within the next six weeks.

Continuing, Mr. Remelmeyer stated that since Ordinance B was written, he has done a considerable amount of investigation in an attempt to accomplish what the Council desires and what the people in the area obviously want, and, in his opinion, the non-conforming use approach, plus several other things that have been discussed, offer a better prospect of success than Ordinance B.

Discussion ensued on the legal aspects and attendant problems in this situation, as well as the lengthy period of time dedicated to the solutions thereof.

Introduced at this time by Mr. George Kurtz was Mr. Jim Hill, labelled by him an expert in the field hired by the petroleum people and who has worked with the Fire Department, adding that what is proposed by Ordinance C is the accumulation of work both on the part of the Fire Department and considerations given by the petroleum people through their representative, Mr. Hill.

Mr. Hill spoke, stating, to qualify as an expert, that he is a Cal-Tech graduate, a registered chemical engineer, and was in the petroleum industry for approximately 41 years, retiring as Chief Fire Protection Engineer for one of the major oil companies; since that time Mr. Hill has been in consulting work.

Then described by Mr. Hill were the efforts put forth, in conjunction with Battalion Chief Agapito, to get some standard type of modern effective equipment to handle the hazard in the oil field area. The largest manufacturers of foam fire fighting equipment were contacted -- the National Foam Systems Company -- and it was learned that the smallest type of trailer that can be supplied is a 100 gallon trailer, the Fire Department could pull that to a particular location, hook it up in a few moments, and could produce foam which would be greatly in excess of what would be needed on a 16 or 20 ft. diameter tank. Mr. Hill added that the ability to handle a tank fire has been well known in the industry for 50 years, backed by substantial experience, with most of the fire fighting problems directed to the large tanks, not the small ones as in this case. The type of engineering equipment that could be secured would be very good, in Mr. Hill's opinion, such equipment having been ordered at a cost of approximately \$2400 for the trailer with the foam liquid; in addition

to that, the oil people, according to the present ordinance, would have to install a line to the bottom of the tank for sub-surface application -- actually for a small tank, with the modern type of foam, it could be accomplished with over the top application as well as sub-surface. Mr. Hill then stated that it had been a pleasure to work with the Fire Department and a very good plan is anticipated.

Following clarification by Battalion Chief Agapito and City Attorney Remelmeyer as to their recommended action, the following resulted:

At the request of Mayor Isen, City Clerk Coil read title for Ordinance No. 2047:

ORDINANCE NO. 2047

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ADDING TO THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 85.2.19, ADOPTING PUBLICATION NO. 11 OF THE NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION, ENTITLED "STANDARD FOR FOAM EXTINGUISHING SYSTEMS", 1969 EDITION.

Councilman Miller moved to waive further reading of Ordinance No. 2047. His motion was seconded by Councilman Uerkwitz, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

Councilman Uerkwitz moved for the approval of Ordinance No. 2047 at its first reading. The motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

At the request of Mayor Isen, City Clerk Coil assigned a number and read title to: (Revised Ordinance C)

ORDINANCE NO. 2055

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ADDING SECTION 85.2.18 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE TO AMEND SECTION 13.50, ARTICLE XIII, DIVISION III, OF THE UNIFORM FIRE CODE PROVIDING FOR FIRE FIGHTING PROTECTION.

Councilman Uerkwitz moved to waive further reading of Ordinance No. 2055. His motion, seconded by Councilman Beasley, was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved for the approval of Ordinance No. 2055 at its first reading. His motion was seconded by Councilman Johnson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

In reference to Revised Ordinance B, it was the comment of Mayor Isen that in view of the problems presented, that it would be his suggestion that the Council merely indicate a policy of trying

to conform to the intent of this ordinance, that it go back to the City Attorney, Administration, and a committee of interested parties to act rapidly on this matter, to the end that there might be a presentation with greater appeal to all. There were no objections to this procedure, and it was requested that the City Attorney furnish a progress report on the accomplishments of the committee at the February 10th Council meeting.

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The hour being 6:55 P.M. Councilman Sciarrotta moved to recess as City Council and reconvene as the Redevelopment Agency. The motion was seconded by Councilman Beasley, and there were no objections.

The Council reconvened at 6:57 P.M. at which time Mayor Isen announced that there would be an Executive Session regarding Torrance Police Officers Association Salary and Wage Request (agenda item #24) following a 10-minute recess.

The Council returned to its agenda at 7:40 P.M.

(Councilman Beasley left the meeting at 7:40 P.M.)

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PERSONNEL MATTERS:

26. Civil Service Committee Report on Leave of Absence.  
ORDINANCE NO. 2043.

Representing the Torrance City Employees Assn. and Engineers, John Kirkpatrick pointed out a need for language clarification in the subject ordinance and a further need to "meet and confer". Phillip Joseph, Torrance Police Officers Association, joined in urging that there be further review of this matter.

MOTION: Councilman Miller moved that the subject matter be referred back to management, for "meet and confer" purposes, and, further, that it be sent to the Council Committee prior to return to Council agenda. The motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, and there were no objections.

27. Residence Requirement - Ordering of Exams

Councilman Sciarrotta MOVED that the subject matter be referred to the Civil Service Committee of the Council. The motion was seconded by Councilman Miller, and there were no objections.

STREETS AND SIDEWALKS:

28. Letter to Council regarding request of Standard Gas Company for approval of cancellation of bond and insurance as required by Ord. No. 789 (superseded by Ord. No. 1956).

RECOMMENDATION OF CITY ATTORNEY:

That Council approve the cancellation of the franchise

bond and insurance as required by Ordinance No. 789.

MOTION: Councilman Sciarrotta moved to concur with the above recommendation. His motion was seconded by Councilman Uerkwitz, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable. (Absent: Councilman Beasley).

29. RELEASE OF SUBDIVISION BOND - TRACT NO. 23526  
 Subdivider: Sunnyglen Construction  
 Bonding Co.: United Pacific Insurance Co.  
 Bond No. B-559976 - Amount: \$28,200.00

RECOMMENDATION OF ACTING CITY ENGINEER:  
 That subject bond be released.

MOTION: Councilman Sciarrotta moved to concur with the above recommendation of the Acting City Engineer. His motion was seconded by Councilman Uerkwitz, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable. (Councilman Beasley absent).

At City Attorney Remelmeyer's suggestion in the interest of expediting Council business, it was agreed by the Council that Release of Subdivision Bond items henceforth be listed with the Noncontroversial Items.

30. RELEASE OF SUBDIVISION BOND - TRACT NO. 25836  
 Subdivider: Dan Butcher  
 Bonding Co.: Pacific Indemnity Company  
 Bond No. 267661 - \$1,000  
 Bond No. 267662 - \$9,800

RECOMMENDATION OF ACTING CITY ENGINEER:  
 That subject bonds be released.

MOTION: Councilman Sciarrotta moved to concur with the above recommendation of the Acting City Engineer. His motion was seconded by Councilman Uerkwitz, and carried as follows:

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

SEWERS AND DRAINAGE:

31. SANITARY SEWER IN EASEMENTS NORTH OF LOMITA BOULEVARD, AND EAST OF HAWTHORNE BOULEVARD. (B69-68) Job #70018.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF ACTING CITY ENGINEER:  
 1. That Council accept the work; and  
 2. That final payment be made to the contractor.

Councilman Wilson MOVED to concur with the above recommendations of the Acting City Engineer. His motion, seconded by Mayor Isen, was unanimously approved by roll call vote (Councilman Beasley absent).

32. STORM DRAIN IN LOMITA BOULEVARD FROM MADISON STREET  
EASTERLY (B69-06) Job #68059. NOTICE OF COMPLETION.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF ACTING CITY ENGINEER:

1. That Council approve and authorize the additional work as described herein;
2. That Council accept the work on the subject improvement; and
3. That an additional \$400 of State Gas Tax Funds be appropriated to cover costs.

MOTION: Councilman Sciarrotta moved to concur with the above recommendations of the Acting City Engineer. His motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Beasley absent).

REAL PROPERTY:

33. RAY VANE REQUEST FOR APPROVAL NEW LEASE INCORPORATING  
PRESENT LEASE AS WELL AS ADDITIONAL PROPERTY.  
City Attorney, Airport Manager, and Airport Commission submitting their recommendation for approval.

Mr. Bruce Fuller, attorney for Mr. Ray Vane, was present and confirmed that the modifications on Page 25 of the lease, rewritten to include all the standard FAA provisions were acceptable to Mr. Vane.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 70-11

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION  
OF THAT CERTAIN AIRPORT LEASE DATED  
JANUARY 1, 1970, BETWEEN THE CITY OF  
TORRANCE AND RAY VANE.

Councilman Uerkwitz moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 70-11. His motion was seconded by Councilman Miller, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Beasley absent).

TRAFFIC AND LIGHTING.

34. Proposed South Bay Signal System.

RECOMMENDATION OF CITY MANAGER:

1. That Arthur Horkay, City Traffic Engineer, be appointed to work with the Road Commissioner, representing the City of Torrance in this matter, and
2. That the City Council concur in the concept of the proposals for design and installation of a South Bay Signal System at no cost to the City.

MOTION: Councilman Johnson moved to concur with the recommendations of the City Manager. His motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Beasley absent).

35. RESOLUTION authorizing the execution of an agreement for the purchase of Parcel No. 5 for the widening of Sepulveda Boulevard from Arlington Avenue to Crenshaw Boulevard (Raid).

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

RESOLUTION NO. 70-12

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE AND ATTEST THAT CERTAIN AGREEMENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF PARCEL NO. 5 FOR THE WIDENING OF SEPULVEDA BOULEVARD.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 70-12. His motion, seconded by Councilman Johnson, was unanimously approved by roll call vote (Councilman Beasley absent).

36. AGREEMENT between Southern California Edison Company and City of Torrance for their services in Torrance Street Lighting District #15. Submitted for approval by Traffic & Lighting.

MOTION: Councilman Johnson moved to approve the subject Agreement. His motion was seconded by Councilman Miller, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Beasley absent).

37. RESOLUTION authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the City-State Participation Agreement for the installation of a progressive signal system on Hawthorne Boulevard - Lomita Boulevard to 190th Street, and appropriate \$80,000 out of State Gas Tax Funds to cover the City's share of the improvement. Submitted for approval by Traffic and Lighting.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 70-13

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE APPROVING AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY AND THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DESIGNATED AS DISTRICT AGREEMENT NO. 2406 FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO BE INSTALLED ON HAWTHORNE BOULEVARD BETWEEN 190TH STREET AND LOMITA BOULEVARD.

Councilman Johnson moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 70-13. His motion, seconded by Councilman Miller, was unanimously approved by roll call vote (Councilman Beasley absent).

MOTION: Councilman Johnson moved to approve an appropriation of \$80,000 out of State Gas Tax Funds to cover the City's share of the improvement. His motion was seconded by Councilman Uerkwitz, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

ELECTION MATTERS:

- 38. RESOLUTION requesting the Board of Supervisors to permit the Registrar of Voters to render services relating to the conduct of the General Municipal Election to be held April 14, 1970. (A budget item).

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

RESOLUTION NO. 70-14

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE REQUESTING THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES TO PERMIT THE REGISTRAR OF VOTERS OF SAID COUNTY TO RENDER SPECIFIED SERVICES TO THE CITY OF TORRANCE, RELATING TO THE CONDUCT OF A GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION TO BE HELD IN SAID CITY ON APRIL 14, 1970.

Councilman Wilson moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 70-14. His motion was seconded by Councilman Uerkwitz, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Beasley absent).

PARK AND RECREATION:

- 39. NOTICE OF COMPLETION - GAME COURTS IN LA CARRETERA AND HICKORY PARKS - B69-39 Job Nos. 69019 and 69020.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF ACTING CITY ENGINEER/RECREATION DIRECTOR:

- 1. That Council accept the work;
- 2. That final payment be made to the contractor; and
- 3. That an additional \$200 be appropriated from the Park and Recreation Facilities Fund to cover these costs.

MOTION: Councilman Uerkwitz moved to concur with the above recommendations of the Acting City Engineer and Recreation Director. His motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Beasley absent).

LIBRARY OPERATIONS:

- 40. Printing of Master Catalog.

RECOMMENDATION OF CITY LIBRARIAN:

That Council accept George Lithograph Company as the service bureau to print the master catalog and subsequent quarterly cumulatives.

Councilman Miller moved to concur with the above recommendation of the City Library. His motion was seconded by Councilman Uerkwitz.

Mr. Ron Caulkins, Computer Micrographics, was present to protest the manner in which this matter was handled -- it was ascertained that this was not a sealed bid procedure; the use of the word "bid" is a misnomer; rather, it was an informal service contract proposal.

Roll call vote on Councilman Miller's motion was unanimously favorable (Councilman Beasley absent.)

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS:

41. TORRANCE ARTS COUNCIL

RECOMMENDATION FROM COUNCIL RECREATION, CULTURAL, AND PARKS COMMITTEE: That informal public hearings be set for the purpose of determining community interest in establishing a Torrance Cultural Arts Council.

MOTION: Councilman Uerkwitz moved to concur with the recommendation of the Committee and that the date of March 2, 1970 be set for such hearing. The motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and there were no objections.

SECOND READING ORDINANCE:

42. ORDINANCE NO. 2052

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2052

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING SECTION 224.1.5  
OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE RE: REAL  
PROPERTY TRANSFER TAX.

Councilman Uerkwitz moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 2052 at its second and final reading. His motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Beasley absent).

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

43. An increased interest in tennis by Torrance residents, and the need for more courts, was reported by Councilman Johnson. It was his suggestion that the possibility of cooperation between the City and the schools be investigated by the Recreation Department -- perhaps with the City putting in night lights and participating in the maintenance of the courts.

City Manager Ferraro advised that meetings with the School Board are being arranged relative to the entire matter of recreation facilities.

Councilman Johnson requested that this matter be investigated by Management, to be directed to the Park and Recreation Commission, and then returned to Council in the usual recommendation manner.

44. Councilman Miller reported on the commendable achievement of five South High students as a cross-country team in winning the Western Regional Finals, and MOVED that an appropriate commendation resolution be prepared for presentation to these boys at a later date. The motion was seconded by Councilman Uerkwitz, and there were no objections.

45. The Independent Cities meeting in Santa Monica on January 28th was announced by Councilman Johnson. Mayor Isen congratulated Mr. Johnson on his election as Treasurer of this group.

46. The serious traffic flow problem was reaffirmed by Councilman Sciarrotta, along with the recommendation that the cooperation of neighboring cities be sought to the end that the problem can be alleviated. Mr. Sciarrotta requested that management look into the most pressing routes that need to be opened and that meetings be held with the appropriate officials in these cities before considering the widening of streets within Torrance's boundaries.

Councilman Uerkwitz reported on the improved communication between cities now with the South Bay Councilmen's Association; Councilman Sciarrotta's excellent suggestion should be explored with this group.

47. Concurring in the magnitude of the traffic problem, and the recognition thereof, Mayor Isen reiterated his recommendation that there be a Streets and Highways Commission, composed of citizens who can watchdog the entire problem. The Mayor thereupon MOVED that the City Attorney explore the matter of setting up a 7-man commission, <sup>with</sup> a proper ordinance therefor, to be presented to the Council for study. The motion was seconded by Councilman Johnson, and there were no objections.

48. Councilman Uerkwitz requested information re: the abatement of a public nuisance of the property near the intersection of Newton and Hawthorne, at the top of the hill. City Attorney Remelmeyer will report back.

49. Further hazards, according to Councilman Uerkwitz, are represented by houses in the Pueblo section. (There were people present on this matter, and it was reviewed later in the meeting. Item 53.)

50. Councilman Uerkwitz commended Sr. Administrative Assistant Jackson on the Policy Manual, deeming it an excellent document which will prove of great value.

51. A communication from Mr. Carl Pearlston regarding needed City beautification was commended by Councilman Wilson who urged that his suggestions be pursued. Past efforts by the Torrance Beautiful Commission in this regard were noted by Councilman Uerkwitz, along with efforts by many civic groups, and it is certainly not new to the City of Torrance. Councilman Wilson reiterated his appreciation for the interest shown by Mr. Pearlston, and <sup>that</sup> the situation should be of concern to the Council.

52. A meeting for a progress report between the Advisory Committee and the Community Planning and Development Committee was requested by Councilman Wilson, with a satisfactory date, within the next two weeks, to be set.

53. Mayor Isen referred to Mr. Pearlston's letter, outlining beautification efforts to date, adding that it would have been more becoming to have first determined what was going on from the City Manager's office or via the Torrance Beautiful Commission, but, as a citizen, he should be commended, although there is nothing original in the suggestions made.

54. Sr. Administrative Assistant Jackson was likewise commended by Mayor Isen for the Policy Manual, with the suggestion that as he continues to bring it up to date that a flyer be pasted over the same page, or some manner to tie them together, would be helpful. City Clerk Coil stated that the Policy Manual will be a project of his office; also, it was recommended that a meeting be held some time in the near future for study and comment on the policies contained therein.

55. An earlier statement by Governor Reagan to the effect that there would be cooperation between the State and the cities regarding surplus freeway land, parkettes, etc. was recalled by Mayor Isen, as were the purchases of the barrow pit, the small La Carretera parkway, etc. by the City of Torrance. Mayor Isen then MOVED that in line with above remarks that wheels be set into operation to apply to the State, as per Governor Reagan's statement, to see whether or not refund is possible. The motion was seconded by Councilman Johnson, and there were no objections.

56. A permaplaque resolution for Mr. J. Walker Owens on the completion of his term as president of the California Association of Chamber of Commerce executives, for presentation at his retirement dinner on February 12th was recommended by Mayor Isen, who so MOVED. His motion was seconded by Councilman Uerkwitz, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Beasley absent).

57. Mr. Louis Sismondo, 1974 West 235th Place, advised that a storm drain is to be installed on his half street which will render this street impassable if emergency vehicles are needed. Discussion followed, with Councilman Johnson vigorously protesting the proposed arrangement and its inconvenience to the residents; it was agreed that Acting City Engineer Weaver would contact the appropriate County representatives regarding this matter, with a report back to Council.

58. Mrs. Rachel Acosta, 2111 Del Amo Boulevard, inquired as to the demolition date of four houses in the Pueblo area; Mrs. Acosta described the problems presented by fire hazards and unlawful activities in these vacant houses, as did Mrs. Toby Angus (?). After frenzied review of the situation, it was ascertained that contracts have been signed and the subject demolition will be underway on January 22nd on the four structures located at 2215 and 2217 Del Amo Boulevard.

The meeting was regularly adjourned at 9:00 P.M.

\* \* \* \*

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

APPROVED:

*Albert J. ...*  
Mayor of the City of Torrance

