

I N D E X

City Council - January 27, 1970

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Ava Cripe
Minute Secretary

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Adjourned at 9:30 P.M.

* * * *

January 27, 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 27, 1970, 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. Absent: None.

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

3. FLAG SALUTE:

Girl Scouts Juanita Kirk and Laura Gamble from Troop 288 led in the salute to the flag.

4. INVOCATION:

Reverend Charles Neigh, Walteria United Methodist Church, gave the invocation for the meeting.

STANDARD MOTIONS:

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilman Sciarrotta moved that the minutes of the regular meeting of January 13, 1970 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, 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

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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 Miller, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

8. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS -- None.

* * * *

Recognition was afforded the Riviera Homeowners' Association, this being the fourth Tuesday Council meeting -- its vintage and valuable community contributions were outlined by Mayor Isen, who in turn introduced its illustrious president, Mr. Scotty Finlay. President Finlay likewise described his Association's activities and the present and past outstanding leadership of this group.

* * * *

NONCONTROVERSIAL ITEMS:

9. EXPENDITURES OVER \$300:

A. BUDGETED:

1. \$346.50 to Zumar Industry for 48 traffic regulatory signs as requested by the Traffic and Lighting Department to be erected on various City streets.
2. \$582.75 to Riccobon & Company for 7,500 sets of City Purchase Order forms as requested by the Purchasing Division.
3. \$790.00 to Century Sandblasting to sandblast street pavement markings on Anza Avenue between Deelane Street and Del Amo Boulevard and "stop" and "stop ahead" legends.

B. SPECIAL ITEMS:

4. \$2216.01 to Campbell & Hall, c/o Harry R. Wilson, for 64 adult and 426 juvenile books.
5. \$815.02 to Californis Book Supply for 114 various books.
6. \$492.51 to Needham Book Finders for 164 adult books.

10. CLAIM of Euel Petty for property damages.

RECOMMENDATION OF CITY CLERK:

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

11. CLAIM of Barbara Dannemann for personal and property damages.

RECOMMENDATION OF CITY CLERK:

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

12. CLAIM of Wanda Podgurski for property damages.

RECOMMENDATION OF CITY CLERK:

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

13. CLAIM of Richard L. Bammes for property damages.

RECOMMENDATION OF CITY CLERK:

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

MOTION: Councilman Sciarrotta moved to concur with the recommendations on agenda items #9,10,11,12, and 13. His motion was seconded by Councilman Beasley, and carried, as follows:

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

13A. Accidents and Claims

The continuing high rate of accidents involving City employees was noted by Councilman Uerkwitz; this was reviewed by the Council, along with other matters involving the City as a defendant, and the merits of periodic reports on same.

City Attorney Remelmeyer and City Clerk Coil advised that they are presently considering the matter of Council policy in this regard; a report will be forthcoming.

HEARINGS - PLANNING AND ZONING:

14. ZC 69-30, FOY E. PRICE.

Change of zone from R-2 to P-1 on property located at 18335 Ashley Avenue and described as a portion of Lot 12 of Tract 10216.

RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL SUBJECT TO A PRECISE PLAN.

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

Mayor Isen inquired if anyone wished to be heard on this matter.

Mr. Sam Fernandez, 18345 Ashley Avenue, voiced his objections, and that of many of his neighbors, to the proposed parking, which parking would be immediately adjacent to his home, and would further represent "spot zoning".

Mr. Jess Mata, 18401 Ashley Avenue, advised of earlier attempted negotiations regarding his property and the advice that he either sell his property or have it condemned by the City -- Mr. Mata has no desire to sell his home, where he has resided since 1956.

Maps of the subject property were reviewed by the Council, as were the existing developments and the parking needs of the proponent. The purchase price for home in this area was discussed as well - the proponent, Mr. Price, advised that he had paid \$18,000 for one home some two months ago and recently purchased another home for \$21,000. Councilman Beasley noted that this is of no concern to the Council -- further, a private individual cannot condemn property; property can only be acquired through a willing seller. Mr. Price added that Mr. Mata had offered his home to him for \$35,000 -- an unbiased appraiser valued these houses at \$21,000, with a 5% leeway either way. Mayor Isen reaffirmed that this type of information is not material to the case.

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 Beasley moved to concur with the recommendation of the Planning Commission and Planning Department for approval of ZC 69-30, subject to a Precise Plan. The motion was seconded by Councilman Uerkwitz.

Prior to roll call vote, there was further discussion regarding the fire loss on this property, the desired second floor addition, and the resultant required parking.

It was the comment of Mayor Isen that were this happening in any other section of the City, there would be insufficient space in the Council Chambers to accomodate all the people who would be present in protest; it is regrettable, in the Mayor's opinion, that the earlier rezoning to P-1 was permitted.

Councilman Miller stated that there should be willing sellers to accomplish what is desired in this case; otherwise it is encroaching into a residential neighborhood to permit one person greater profit from his property.

Added by Mayor Isen was the comment that here is a situation where two families living next to each other in harmony - at a time when are homes are difficult to acquire, prices are up, building costs are up, interest rates are up, etc. - and he would not vote to put a parking lot on either side of them.

The motion failed, with roll call vote as follows:

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

Councilman Johnson commented, relative to his "no" vote, that it is a case of getting the people together, getting the

block done, and when that is accomplished, there might be something going, but not until that time.

15. VARIANCE 69-7, WILLIAM AND MARY O. IRWIN.

Request for a variance from the provisions of the R-2 zone to permit construction of a 3-unit apartment development on property located at 24435 Ward Street, described as Lot 45 and the north half of Lot 46, Tract 7955. RECOMMENDED FOR DENIAL.

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

Mayor Isen inquired if anyone wished to be heard.

Responding was attorney for and friend of the proponents, Mr. John Foley, who described the subject property and the 3-unit apartment development proposed -- it is not their desire to overburden the zoning, but, rather, to do with their lot exactly what has been done by their neighbors. Mr. Foley then reviewed the conclusions of the Planning Commission and Planning Department, as well as other cases of multi-residential development in the area, pointing out that the subject property is a unique piece of property and the need for a variance from the norm in cases of this nature.

In conclusion, Mr. Foley commented that duplexes can now be put on any lot on the street; should Mr. Irwin be allowed to do what he chooses to do, the adjacent like piece of property with another ownership could make a similar request -- the end result being that there are three lots with 120 ft. frontage and the equivalent of six units and a lesser density than would be represented by rezoning to R-3.

Mr. Clarence Hoyt, 24409 Park Street, and owner of property at 24409, 24413, and 24448 Park Street, recalled his objections approximately five years ago to the construction of duplexes in this area, as he did to Mr. Irwin's request originally. However, after viewing the proponent's plans and learning the size of the lot -- Mr. Hoyt having built a duplex on a 25 ft. lot -- it is his opinion that Mr. Irwin's proposed development is much more beneficial to the neighborhood. Mr. Hoyt requested favorable consideration by the Council and approval of V 69-7.

Next to speak was Mr. Paul Slonecker, 24430 Neece Avenue, who urged that the Council support the recommendations of men who know what they are doing in recommending denial of the request.

Mr. Coates at 24431 Park Street, next door to the subject property, stated that, in his opinion, the proposed development would improve the area; further, there are duplexes across the street which have served to improve the block as well.

Mrs. Carl Cramer, 24426 Ward Street, commented on the eyesore quality of the subject property and that what is proposed will make the property an asset to the neighborhood.

The proponent, Mr. Irwin, stated that he proposes to live in the development -- they favor the neighborhood and the schools -- and expect to be a credit to the neighborhood. The parking and landscaping arrangements were discussed, and Mr. Irwin indicated his desire to cooperate.

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

Councilman Miller MOVED to grant V 69-7, subject to Staff conditions, overruling the former findings of the Planning Commission. His motion was seconded by Councilman Beasley.

Discussion returned to the circular driveway and the landscaping proposed -- it was the comment of Councilman Uerkwitz that the oval driveway has some merit in that it would relieve congestion on the street, and that it apparently will not interfere with the front landscaping.

The architect, Mr. Jack Remington, advised that the mounded landscaping will hide the concrete, and the driveway would prove a definite asset for off-street parking, and could be used to advantage in view of the 60 ft. lot.

It was the consensus of the Council that the arrangement proposed by the proponent would work to the advantage of the street.

An AMENDED MOTION was then offered by Councilman Miller: That V 69-7 be approved, subject to Staff conditions, eliminating condition #2 - instead that the driveway be permitted and that it be fully landscaped, with the landscape plan subject to the approval of the Planning Department. The motion was seconded by Councilman Beasley, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

* * * *

At 8:05 P.M. Councilman Sciarrotta moved to recess as City Council and reconvene as the Redevelopment Agency. His motion was seconded by Councilman Uerkwitz, and there were no objections. A 10-minute recess followed at 8:10 P.M.

* * * *

16. CUP 69-51, BAYCO ENTERPRISES (Robert Collins and Francis P. Torino). Request for approval of a Conditional Use Permit to allow the construction of an apartment house in the C-2 zone on property located on the east side of Ocean Avenue midway between 226th and 230th Streets and described as a portion of Lots 21 and 22 of the Meadow Park Tract. DENIED BY THE PLANNING COMMISSION. RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL BY PLANNING DEPARTMENT.

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

Mayor Isen announced that this is the time and place for the public hearing on CUP 69-51.

Representing Bayco Enterprises, Mr. Arthur Valdez, 3855 Pacific Coast Highway, advised that certain Engineering conditions in connection with a lot split of the subject property necessitate redesign of the project -- in addition, there is still some uncertainty as to the north and south boundary lines through errors in survey. In view of these problems, Mr. Valdez requested that the hearing on this matter be delayed until they can be resolved.

The date selected was February 24th, after Mayor Isen ascertained there were no objections from those present on this matter.

MOTION: Councilman Sciarrotta moved that the hearing for CUP 69-51 be continued to February 24, 1970, a 7:00 P.M. meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Johnson, and there were no objections.

(Heard, out of order, at this time:)

29. APPEAL OF W 70-1, GEORGES AND MARIANNE ALLEMANN.

Mr. Roy Robinson, owner of property at 350 Palos Verdes Boulevard, was present with his request for reconsideration of approval of W 70-1, per his communication of January 23, 1970, reiterating the objections voiced therein - detrimental effect on view, automobile noise, carbon monoxide fumes, etc. Mr. Robinson also advised that 9 of his units - with rentals ranging from \$175 to \$250 - would be affected by the proposed construction.

Representing Mr. and Mrs. Allemann, Attorney Don Hitchcock maintained that the spirit of the new Code has been complied with in this request -- it will be a beautiful building and will be an asset to the street. A letter of approval from the Lutheran Church on Palos Verdes Boulevard was submitted for the record by Mr. Hitchcock. In reference to this approval, it was the comment of Mr. Robinson that the church has a parking lot on the side of the proposed construction; any new building will, of course, look much nicer to the church than the existing property, but he is not interested in decorating the church's parking lot, his concern is his tenants.

Councilman Beasley commented that there was no assurance to Mr. Robinson when he purchased the property that there would not be building on that lot - views cannot be guaranteed.

Next to speak was Mr. Keith Clock, 337 Camino de las Colinas, who presented a letter from his neighbor at 341 Camino de las Colinas requesting that this variance of the building code not be permitted -- they are believers in open space, and the more density allowed, the less open space there will be for future children. Mr. Clock added that the code is to be obeyed by all people -- if a variance is granted to one, it should be given to all.

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

MOTION: Councilman Johnson moved to reaffirm the previous decision of the Council -- approval of W 70-1. His motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta.

It was the comment of Councilman Johnson, prior to roll call vote on the motion, that, in a sense, Mr. Robinson "gambled and lost" in the purchase of his view property; Mr. Johnson fails to see how a man can be kept from developing his property to its highest and best use.

Roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

(Note: Further comment, page 13.)

PLANNING AND ZONING MATTERS:

17. ORDINANCE amending Section 77.3.6 of the Municipal Code providing for waivers of requirements for the undergrounding of utility wires and cables. Submitted by Planning Director, City Engineer, Building and Safety Director and City Attorney.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2056

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING SECTION 77.3.6 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE PROVIDING FOR WAIVERS OF REQUIREMENTS FOR THE UNDERGROUNDING OF UTILITY WIRES AND CABLES.

Councilman Wilson moved for the approval of Ordinance No. 2056 at its first reading. The motion was seconded by Councilman Beasley, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

STREETS AND SIDEWALKS:

18. RESOLUTION authorizing execution of encroachment permit for United California Bank to install an underground facility within a public street (north of Via Valencia between Elena Avenue and Palos Verdes Boulevard.)

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

RESOLUTION NO. 70-16

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY ENGINEER TO EXECUTE AND ATTEST THAT CERTAIN ENCROACHMENT PERMIT BETWEEN THE CITY AND UNITED CALIFORNIA BANK.

Councilman Miller moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 70-16. His motion was seconded by Councilman Beasley, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

19. REQUEST OF WEST AMERICA CORPORATION FOR TIME EXTENSION - TRACT NO. 26076.

RECOMMENDATION OF CITY ENGINEER:

That an extension of one year be granted, extending the agreement to February 20, 1971.

MOTION: Councilman Sciarrotta moved that the subject request be granted, concurring with the recommendation of the City Engineer. His motion was seconded by Councilman Beasley, and there were no objections.

BUILDINGS, STRUCTURES, AND SIGNS:

20. Communication regarding Petition of 4 residents in the Sandy Knolls Tract on 233rd Street between Arlington and Pennsylvania protesting oil well equipment storage building on their properties.

The status of negotiations was questioned by Councilman Uerkwitz. Sr. Deputy Attorney Smith responded, stating that the property under discussion is involved in right-of-way acquisition for 232nd Street (owned by Mr. Robinett) -- it has been discussed with Mr. Robinett the possibility of acquiring the right-of-way in exchange for City payment based on the cost of fencing and landscaping his oil well property. Councilman Johnson voiced strong opposition to this.

Continuing, Mr. Smith stated that Mr. Robinett has a building on the property which is a single family residence converted to storage use; he has agreed to take the building out on the proviso that the City pay for the cost of the fencing, cost of the landscaping, and put up a shed on the property -- in contrast with the cost of acquisition of the property it's probably half of what it would cost to buy the property, with some 1800 sq. ft. involved.

It was the request of Mayor Isen that this item be held for two weeks in order that there might be a written report whether or not, in the opinion of the Building and Safety Director and the Sr. Deputy City Attorney, this can be abated as a public nuisance; if not, the remedy available by way of bargaining; and, in the event abatement is possible, which is the cheaper route to go? There were no objections.

REAL PROPERTY:

21. RESOLUTION authorizing the execution of that certain encroachment permit between the City and Pioneer Theatres, Inc. (Roadium Drive-In).

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

RESOLUTION NO. 70-17

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE AND ATTEST THAT CERTAIN ENCROACHMENT PERMIT BETWEEN THE CITY AND PIONEER THEATERS, INC.

Councilman Beasley moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 70-17. His motion was seconded by Councilman Uerkwitz, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

ITEMS NOT OTHERWISE CLASSIFIED:

22.. Underground Utility District: Torrance Boulevard.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 70-18

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING SECTION 2 OF RESOLUTION NO. 69-70 TO ALLOW ADDITIONAL TIME FOR REMOVAL AND UNDERGROUND INSTALLATION OF UTILITIES IN UNDERGROUND DISTRICT #1.

Councilman Johnson moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 70-18. His motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

23. RESOLUTION of record destruction (Duplicates less than 5 years old) authorizing the City Clerk to destroy certain City records, pursuant to Section 34090.7 of the Government Code.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 70-19

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY CLERK TO DESTROY CERTAIN CITY RECORDS AND DOCUMENTS PURSUANT TO THE GOVERNMENT CODE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 70-19. His motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

24. RESOLUTION regarding Air Pollution and City Manager's Report on same.

As per Council instructions, the question of air pollution was taken up at the South Bay Councilmen's Association, according to Councilman Uerkwitz -- a committee to carry this study forward was selected, and he will report back as they progress.

Councilman Wilson expressed his concern as to what is actually being done in Torrance relative to control -- what reports can be expected from the Air Pollution Control Board and their findings?

It was the comment of Mayor Isen that it is time the "passing of the buck" ceased --and the generality that the L.A. County Air Pollution Control District will take care of it -- it should be determined who the offenders are and a direct request for action be made. Further, in the Mayor's opinion, the responsible entities within Torrance's municipal boundary lines should be identified, and telephone contact made, urging remedial action.

As to the subject resolution, Mayor Isen felt that it was lacking in strength, and should be rewritten in a forceful manner. It was his recommendation that it be rewritten, and there were no objections.

Councilman Beasley suggested that Administration write to the Pollution Control District and inquire as to their findings in the City of Torrance -- then rewrite the resolution, based upon this report.

A further suggestion came from Councilman Miller -- that either a committee of the Council or Staff meet with representatives of the offending industries to determine what might be accomplished, with a report back to Council on the outcome. The Council generally concurred with this, it being agreed that this would be a matter for the Noise, Smell and Glare Committee, with the necessary leg work done by Administration.

SECOND READING ORDINANCES:

25. ORDINANCE NO. 2047.

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

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 Beasley moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 2047 at its second and final reading. His motion was seconded by Councilman Johnson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

Speaking at this time, Mr. Don Dailey, president of the Southeast Torrance Homeowners Association, presented a communication from this group to the Council outlining their concerns regarding the oil tanks and like problems in this area.

26. ORDINANCE NO. 2053.

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

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, & Peninsula Enterprises, Inc.)

Councilman Sciarrotta moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 2053 at its second and final reading. His motion was seconded by Councilman Beasley, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

27. ORDINANCE NO. 2054.

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

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 & Development Company)

Councilman Beasley moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2054 at its second and final reading. His motion was seconded by Councilman Johnson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

28. ORDINANCE NO. 2055.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2055

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ADDING SECTION 85.2.18 TO 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 for the adoption of Ordinance No. 2055 at its second and final reading. His motion was seconded by Councilman Johnson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

* * * *

Re: Item #29, Appeal of W 70-1.

Mr. Don Marousek, 326 Camino del Campo, arrived at the meeting at this time, and was warmly greeted. Mayor Isen advised him that the previous Council action had been reaffirmed. Mr. Marousek stated that the Lutheran Church Council, of which he is a member, met on this matter, it being unanimously agreed that they had no objection to the development proposed for this property; he has been a good neighbor and extremely cooperative.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

30. City Manager Ferraro announced that the new City Engineer is Mr. Glenn Weaver - overwhelming applause followed this announcement.

31. Councilman Johnson referred to the Staff study underway in the West Torrance area regarding streets; he is particularly concerned about the width of streets where there are industrial developments or multi-residential developments. Mr. Johnson asked that consideration be given to adding a few feet to the width of the streets, perhaps leading toward a new standard or concept.

32. The narcotics problem was reviewed by Councilman Sciarrotta, and the bleak aspect presented by the young addict under the influence of dangerous drugs who is deprived of schooling -- it is the recommendation of Mr. Sciarrotta that the City officials, the schools, the parents should work together in establishing a learning center whose goal would be to keep such excluded students in an active, academic study program which will allow them to obtain credit during this period.

It was suggested by Councilman Sciarrotta that both the Youth Welfare Commission and the Torrance Youth Council research the above approach to this problem. Copies of his remarks will be furnished both these groups, as well as to the School Board.

33. The efforts of the Torrance Junior Woman's Club in the dedication of a bronze plaque to the memory of Torrance Servicemen who have lost their lives in VietNam, a very patriotic, praiseworthy project, was noted by Councilman Uerkwitz.

It was then MOVED by Councilman Uerkwitz that a permaplaque be prepared in recognition of this effort by the Torrance Junior Woman's Club, commending them on their activity in this respect. The motion was seconded by Mayor Isen, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

34. A need to fill the pot-holes at the Cordary Barricade was pointed out by Councilman Wilson.

35. Newcomer to Torrance, Mr. Ken Raveling, 4632 Talisman Street, observing a City Council in action, was introduced by Mayor Isen, who deemed his interest most commendable and expressed the hope that he is typical of the silent majority in Torrance.

36. The downward trend of crime in Torrance - 10% in the month of December - was noted by Mayor Isen and labelled "great!" by him. The Mayor then deplored the highway deaths within the City, and requested that there be an analysis on this situation as to the contributing factor.

37. Recalled by Mayor Isen was the Berkeley method regarding their budget and a new approach -- i.e. that a figure be established: the figure of the previous year, figuring out the approximate increase of the assessed valuation, with the City Manager to bring in a balanced budget which shall not exceed the established figure. Mayor Isen then requested that this suggestion be referred to the Council Finance Committee for their review and recommendation.

38. Mrs. Miriam Hawthorne, 1204 Felbar, presented a thank you letter from the Girl Scouts in attendance at this Council meeting. Excessive noise in the rear of the Council Chambers was pointed out by Mrs. Hawthorne with the hope that it would be remedied. Mayor Isen advised her that this would gladly be accomplished were it brought to his attention during the meeting; it obviously not being apparent from the chair.

39. Mr. Jerry Butts, 8624 Melrose Avenue, Los Angeles, representing Mr. and Mrs. Richard Camou, 2126 Del Amo, advised of the problem involving the subject property -- a loan has been secured, and a building permit is needed -- Mr. Butts stated that the plans have been adjusted so that there is a 20 ft. setback in the front, but there is need for a 2'3" rear yard waiver.

Building and Safety Director McKinnon referred to the Council direction that, in the case of these Del Amo properties, that each and every one be considered, with a blanket, quick remedy method to be devised -- this is the first request of many such requests, and there is a need for guidelines.

Mayor Isen reaffirmed the indication of the Council that these cases involving this area will receive every cooperation -- there is no question regarding the granting of the setback -- the building permit is needed to effectuate the loan, and a gentleman's agreement by Mr. Butts that no building in any manner would be started until such time as the orderly process had been completed would solve the problem.

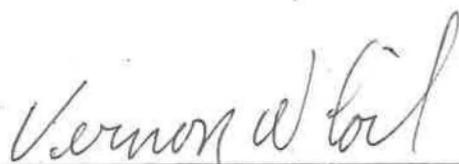
MOTION: Councilman Johnson moved that the subject building permit be granted, with the condition that the building not start until appropriate procedures are completed, and Planning Commission action. The motion was seconded by Councilman Beasley, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

Mr. Butts confirmed his understanding that the building permit to be issued to him is not be used for purposes other than securing a loan, until such time as the waiver has been processed.

40. Mr. Lou Sismondo, 1974 West 234th Place, referred to the earlier action regarding pollution (agenda item #24) and inquired as to present City controls -- he was referred to the City Attorney and City Manager for this information.

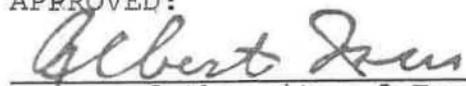
The meeting was regularly adjourned at 9:30 P.M.

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

APPROVED:


Albert Isaac
Mayor of the City of Torrance

Ava Cripe
Minute Secretary

15. Council Minutes
January 27, 1970