

Torrance, California  
April 2, 1957

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL

The City Council of the City of Torrance convened in a regular meeting at 5:30 P. M., Tuesday, April 2, 1957, in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Torrance, California.

Those responding to roll call by Deputy City Clerk Hallanger were: COUNCILMEN: Benstead, Drale, Jahn, Isen. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Blount. City Manager Stevens and City Attorney Remelmeyer were also present.

At the request of Mayor Isen, Mr. Gale Whitacre led the salute to our Flag.

The Reverend Hugh Percy of the St. Andrew's Episcopal Church opened the meeting with an invocation.

Councilman Jahn moved to approve the Minutes of the March 26, 1957, meeting of the Council as written.

Motion seconded by Councilman Benstead, no objections, so ordered.

Mayor Isen announced that during the pre-Council meeting, the Council had been holding a discussion with Mr. Coleman regarding Case No. 437, on the Agenda as Item 10 under Engineering and Planning Commission matters. The Council had inspected a sketch of the proposed Variance, and as a convenience would discuss this matter at this time. Mayor Isen said both Mr. Powell, Planning Director, and Mr. Coleman had said the building proposed by Coleman Engineering would be a \$700,000 building.

CASE NO. 437: Transmittal form from the Planning Commission, recommending approval of request of Del Amo Estate Company for Variance to permit an industrial park for research and development as well as light manufacturing use, in accordance with the M-1 Zone classification and attached private standards of performance on property situated along Torrance Boulevard, between Hawthorne Boulevard and Madrona and a line approximately 840 feet south of Torrance Boulevard, being a portion of Lot 2, Del Amo Estate.

Mayor Isen said with this and similar industries coming into our City, he felt sure in a few years we will be the luckiest people in all Southern California and will have by far the lowest tax rate.

Mr. Coleman told the Council they had made a survey of all their employees, and found the two prime factors in their minds about desirable locations to work were (1) to live out of the smog areas; (2) to avoid heavy traffic congestion. Mr. Coleman said they had surveyed the entire area, and found this City met those requirements very nicely. He said they will build a fine facility here that they and the City will be happy with, because they use trained, creative people who are sensitive to their environments, and they have found they work better in pleasant surroundings; by furnishing such surroundings, they believe the Company gets more for their money. Mr. Coleman said their average payroll check is \$700 a month. They do research and development work, but the items they engineer are usually built by other companies. Their work will not be noisy or a nuisance in any way, as what they do is performed better in quiet.

Mayor Isen referred to the map submitted here, showing the layout of the area where this plant will be. The map shows a possible railroad easement. He asked Mr. Coleman if they would have any objection to striking the railroad easement from the map.

Mr. Coleman said their company did not need the railroad, and would have no objection whatever to it being struck from the map.

Mayor Isen asked if there was a representative from the Del Amo Estates present.

Planning Director Powell suggested this railroad spur be put under the same condition of the 200 feet of land adjoining Hawthorne Blvd., namely, that it not be built for at least a year, and be considered at that time. He said he has checked this with Quinton Engineers, who are the consulting engineers for the Del Amo Estates, and they have said they will be glad to withdraw the request for a railroad spur at this time.

Councilman Benstead moved the railroad spur shown on this map, known as Exhibit A, be stricken, in line with Mr. Coleman's statement that his company will not need it.

Motion seconded by Councilman Drale.

Councilman Drale questioned whether or not this might affect the construction of the new shopping center, and Mr. Powell said it would not affect it adversely.

Councilman Benstead asked Mr. Coleman if there will be any noise or smog in connection with his operation, and Mr. Coleman said there would not.

Mr. Lynn Jackson of Quinton Engineers said this development would be in accord with the new shopping center.

Motion carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Benstead, Drale, Isen. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Jahn. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Blount.

Councilman Drale moved to concur with the recommendation for approval made by the Planning Commission in Case No. 437, with the elimination of the railroad spur shown on Exhibit A.

Motion seconded by Councilman Jahn, who asked if this Case covers only the Coleman development and other proposed developments will come before the Council.

Councilman Jahn asked if this Variance covers the land clear to Hawthorne Boulevard.

Planning Director Powell replied there would be 200 feet of land along Hawthorne Boulevard that would be held to see if there is commercial development on that street; the area runs from Madrona to Hawthorne Blvd., along Torrance Blvd., and about 800' south of Torrance Blvd. The only installation that would be permitted by this action now would be the Coleman development, the only one being considered tonight.

Councilman Jahn asked if Del Amo realizes they will have to provide streets, curbs, gutters, and utilities.

Mr. Jackson of Quinton Engineers replied that they will put in the streets, curbs, gutters, and utilities.

Councilman Drale amended his motion to include that stipulation, and to stipulate that this action covers only the development for Coleman Engineering Co.

Councilman Jahn accepted the amendments in his second to the motion, which carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

Councilman Blount joined the meeting at 5:43 P. M.

#### HEARINGS:

CASE NO. 419: Mayor Isen announced that in order to permit the clarification of the legal description in Case No. 419, this was a second third and final Hearing on it. This is a Petition of the Torrance Planning Commission for a Change of Zone on the south 130 feet of the west half of the northwest quarter of Lot 72, McDonald Tract, from M-1 to R-1; also the northeast quarter of Lot 67, McDonald Tract from A-1 to R-1.

Deputy City Clerk Hallanger presented the Affidavit of Publication. Councilman Benstead moved this be accepted and filed.

There were no objections and it was so ordered.

Mayor Isen asked if anyone present wished to be heard in this Case. No one came forward.

Councilman Jahn moved the Hearing be closed.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Drale moved the Change of Zone be granted in concurrence with the request of the Planning Commission.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Jahn, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:

1. A claim from Mrs. Margaret and Mr. George W. Licht for alleged injuries to Mrs. Margaret Licht occurring as the result of a fall on or about February 3, 1957.

Councilman Drale moved the claim be denied and referred to the City Attorney.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Jahn, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

2. A statement from Richfield Oil Corporation which showed 2% of gross receipts in accordance with the requirements of City of Torrance Franchise Ordinance No. 92, and County of Los Angeles Franchise Ordinance No. 1358-1361, now in the City of Torrance, covering the period from January 1, 1956, to December 31, 1956, inclusive. A check in the amount of \$218.66 to cover payment of the above was enclosed. The letter was dated March 21, 1957, and signed by D. M. Acres, Chief Right of Way Agent.

Councilman Benstead moved the statement be filed as a matter of record and the check be accepted.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Jahn, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

3. A letter dated March 8, 1957, from the North Torrance Civic Improvement Association, signed by John K. Kesson, President, recommended street-level stop lights or an overhead crosswalk be installed in front of Crenshaw Elementary School. A petition bearing approximately 700 signatures supporting the recommendation was attached to the letter.

This letter had been held over from the last meeting of the Council to give the Lions Club an opportunity to speak on this subject.

Mr. Kesson was present, and spoke in support of the recommendation. He said they had been given an estimate of \$40,000 for the overhead cross-walk, and they feel that street-level signals would be the most feasible solution.

Mayor Isen suggested this be referred to the budget hearings.

Councilman Benstead asked Mr. Kesson if there was not a crossing guard at the walkway under discussion.

Mr. Kesson said there is, but the traffic from the north comes on so swiftly there that it cannot be controlled. He reported to the Council on discussions he had held with the Traffic Commission and City Manager Stevens on this subject.

Councilman Drale felt this problem should be given to the Traffic Commission and they should have a recommendation at the next regular meeting of the Council. He described to Acting Chief of Police Bennett a school signal which Redondo Beach has installed at Beryl and 190th Streets. He said it is a very practical signal and not too expensive. Councilman Drale said he felt the overhead crosswalk to be too expensive, but that a signal is necessary.

Mayor Isen suggested a special meeting of the Traffic Commission be set up to consider this and make a recommendation to the Council.

Mrs. Richards of 18919 Patronella told the Council that the 15-mile speed limit sign which is posted there north of the walkway is not observed, and that a child was hit there last year.

Acting Chief of Police Bennett set a special meeting of the Traffic Commission for 8:30 A. M. Wednesday, April 3, 1957, if this met approval of Councilman Blount.

Councilman Blount said that would be too early for him.

There were no objections, and the Special Meeting of the Traffic Commission was set for 9:30 A. M. Wednesday, April 3, 1957, in the Council Room at the City Hall.

57

Mayor Isen told Acting Chief of Police Bennett to send a copy of the recommendation made by the Traffic Commission to the North Torrance Civic Improvement Association, attention of Mr. Kesson, and to have the recommendation on the Agenda of the next meeting of the Council.

There were no objections and it was so ordered.

4. A letter dated March 25, 1957, signed by John K. Kesson, President of the North Torrance Civic Improvement Association, gave the Council that groups endorsement of the Council Resolution requesting the Board of Supervisors to speed up construction and fencing of Dominguez Channel in North Torrance, and the Council action requesting the State to expedite construction of the San Diego Freeway.

There were no objections, and the letter was ordered filed.

5. A letter dated March 4, 1957, from E. Arnold Oppenheim, 215 W. Fifth St., Los Angeles 13, California, was addressed to City Manager Stevens and referred to a map supplied to him by Barclay Engineering Co. and outlining a proposed exchange of properties owned by himself, Mr. Henry Griswold of Ambassador Construction Co., Inc., and the City of Torrance. Mr. Oppenheim suggested exchanges which would make his property more useful to him and to the Ambassador Construction Co., and would serve in street construction. He stated that the map explained the proposal in detail.

Councilman Drale moved this be referred to the Engineering Department.

Mayor Isen asked the City Engineer if Mr. Griswold has paid the City for improvements made on a tract, and Mr. Bishop replied that if so he did not know about it.

Councilman Jahn said he had been confused by reading the letter; he asked exactly what service this exchange would do the City.

The City Manager Stevens said they propose to give us the deed to lands which are mainly used as a public road and which have been so used for many years.

Councilman Drale amended his motion to ask the Engineering Department to prepare a map showing exactly what benefits this would accrue to the City, which lands are involved, etc.

Motion, as amended, seconded by Councilman Blount.

There were no objections and it was so ordered.

6. A letter dated March 22, 1957, from the J. B. Hanauer Co., 140 S. Beverly Drive, Beverly Hills, signed by N. R. Dann, offering their services as financial consultants in the preparation of bond issues for the City.

Councilman Drale moved this be tabled for study.

Motion seconded by Councilman Blount.

Councilman Drale said he did not think we have any immediate bond issues where we will need these services, and until we do he did not believe we would need any counsel.

There were no objections, and the letter was ordered tabled.

7. A letter dated March 14, 1957, from the Southern California Edison Co., Redondo Beach, California, signed by G. L. Blanchard, District Manager; this transmitted in duplicate the bill-of-sale for underground facilities installed for service to the new Torrance Civic Center. This letter also requested that if the bill-of-sale meets with the approval of the City, it be executed and the original returned to them for their files.

There were no objections, and this was referred to the City Attorney for approval and the necessary action.

Councilman Benstead asked the City Attorney to discuss with them the charges they make to the City when they ask the City for free considerations.

8. A letter from the Palos Verdes Riviera Homeowners Assn., dated March 21, 1957, and signed by Eugene Pinski, President, asking for a stop sign and street light at the intersection of Newton and Vista Montana.

Councilman Drale moved this request be referred to the Special Meeting of the Traffic Commission to be held April 3, 1957, for study and recommendation.

There were no objections and it was so ordered.

9. A letter dated March 20, 1957, from Sherman Miller, Secretary-Treasurer of the Local #1135 of the AFSCME requested a meeting with the City Council in regard to pay increases, fringe benefits and working conditions for the coming year. This letter was addressed to City Manager Stevens.

Councilman Drale said it has always been the practice for them to meet and negotiate with the City Manager, and then discuss the results of the meeting with Mr. Stevens with the Council at a meeting set up by City Manager Stevens.

There were no objections, and it was so ordered, with the City Manager to set up the meeting with the Council after he has met and negotiated with the Local.

10. A letter dated March 23, 1957, from Earle Sumpter, President of the Torrance Branch No. 2207 of the National Association of Letter Carriers, requested that the old City Hall be used as a Service Center for the City.

There were no objections, and this was referred to the City Manager for consideration with other letters of the same tenor.

11. A letter dated March 28, 1957, from Lucille W. Randolph, City Clerk of the City of Gardena, advised that their City Council has adopted a Resolution requesting the Board of Supervisors of Los Angeles County to fence Dominguez Channel. A Certified Copy of the Resolution was enclosed, and the letter stated copies were going to the Board of Supervisors and the Board of Education of the City of Los Angeles.

There were no objections, and the letter was ordered filed.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER:

1. TRANSFER OF FUNDS:

The City Manager submitted the following recommendations for Council consideration and approval:

1. That \$14,000 be transferred to the Park & Recreation Fee Fund from the General Fund.
2. That \$6,640.28 be transferred from the Park & Recreation Fee Fund to the 1954 Bond Construction Fund.

Councilman Jahn moved to concur with the City Manager's recommendations under Transfer of Funds, Items 1 and 2.

Motion seconded by Councilman Drale.

Councilman Benstead asked the City Manager what he meant in Item 2. The City Manager explained that the 1954 Bond Construction Fund covered two items; one, the Fire Department buildings, are completed and paid for; the second item, the Park and Playground improvements are now completed, but there was not enough money to pay for them in the Fund, so this recommendation is made to pay for them out of the Park & Recreation Fee Fund set up for improving Parks and Playgrounds.

The motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

2. The City Manager moved to concur with the recommendation of the Recreation Director as hereby indicated:

"After analyzing the bid I recommend that we purchase the 200 folding chairs from the School Days Equipment Co., 2917 N. Main St., Los Angeles 31, California. They bid on an alternate chair, a Norcor #331. I recommend we purchase their chairs as it is the lowest bid and also appears to be equal to or even superior, in manner of construction.

"I also recommend that we purchase the 40 tables from Barrett Robinson Co., 1622 Tenth Ave., Arcadia, California. The table, Cal. No. 181, although 50 cents apiece higher than the specified Virco table, is much stronger in construction and appears, upon study, to be more durable and better engineered. Purchasing the 40 tables from Robinson will result in an expenditure of \$20 more than if we purchase them from Virco. But if there is no strong objection to this additional cost, I think it would be the wiser buy. If this is impractical, the Virco Manufacturing Corp'n. of \$33 each for their #626 table will be acceptable.

"I personally examined the chairs and tables as recommended above."

Councilman Drale moved to concur with the recommendation of the City Manager and the Recreation Director.

Motion seconded by Councilman Jahn.

Mayor Isen asked if everyone was in accord that the Council was accepting the recommendation to buy the tables from Barrett Robinson Co. which is 50 cents higher than the specified Virco table, and all the Councilmen agreed on this.

Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

3. A letter dated March 29, 1957, from City Manager Stevens, reported as follows:

"Calshire Investors, Inc., have submitted an option to purchase the old City Hall property for the sum of \$77,500, payable as follows: 10% of the purchase price to be paid in cash through escrow, except for the above consideration which applies to the sales price in event the option is exercised, and the balance to be on First Deed of Trust payable to seller at \$425 or more per month, including interest at 5%. Said note to be fully paid on or before ten years from the closing date of escrow. First payment on this note to be approximately thirty days after close of escrow.

"A check in the amount of \$600 was submitted by Calshire Investors, Inc."

Mayor Isen asked the City Manager if he had any more information on this.

City Manager Stevens said they do not intend to use it for medical offices, but for such things as engineering offices, architects' offices, accountants' offices, etc. The City Manager replied to a further question by saying he felt the building and property to be worth at least a hundred thousand dollars.

Councilman Jahn moved the bid be rejected and the deposit of \$600 be refunded and that the City Manager be instructed not to consider any bid of less than a hundred thousand dollars for the property in question, and that not be considered a minimum price.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Drale said he felt any balance above and beyond a down payment made on this property at the time of sale should be set up on regular bank terms, i.e., not less than 29% cashdown payment, interest rates, etc.

Mayor Isen felt sure that City Manager Stevens would use good judgment in considering any bid received for the property. He believed such matters could be negotiated at the time of sale.

4. A letter dated March 29, 1957, re RETIREMENT, advised the Council that the miscellaneous employees have expressed a desire to have our State Retirement Pension System supplemented with O.A.S.I. If adopted this supplementary insurance would be paid equally by employees and the City in the amount of 2-1/4% on the first \$4,200 per year salary of each employee. It is estimated that the cost of the additional pension provisions would add approximately 2-1/2¢ to the tax rate. This matter should be considered in the preparation of the 1957-58 budget.'

There were no objections, and this was referred to the City Manager for consideration with the 1957-58 budget.

Councilman Drale said the magazine "Western City" had an article

about the City of Long Beach and their plan in this matter.

Councilman Drale moved the City Manager give this consideration in the 1957-58 budget hearings.

Motion seconded by Councilman Benstead and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE LICENSE DEPARTMENT:

1. A memorandum dated March 29, 1957, from G. Whitacre, License Inspector, recommended a refund of \$16.00 for a Solicitor's License fee to Ferraro Accordion Center, 1339 Post Avenue, with main offices located at 1933 W. Manchester, Los Angeles.

The License Inspector said this license was denied by Assistant Chief of Police Percy Bennett in accordance with Soliciting Ordinance No. 846.

Councilman Benstead moved to concur with the recommendation of the License Inspector.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

2. A memorandum, not dated, from G. Whitacre, License Inspector, reported an application from the Nativity School Civic Club, 2371 W. Carson St., signed by Sister M. Rosalia, supported by an additional letter signed by 52 students of the 8th grade of that school, requesting permission to solicit from house to house during the month of April to wash automobiles. The funds raised will go to the Little Company of Mary Hospital Campaign. The memorandum reported the application has the approval of Assistant Chief of Police, Percy Bennett, and the License Inspector recommended approval as well.

Councilman Blount moved the request be granted.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CIVIL SERVICE BOARD:

1. A letter from the Torrance Civil Service Board, dated March 22, 1957 and signed by W. C. Bradford, Secretary, contained their recommendations with regard to grievances submitted by the Fire Department personnel.

Jerry Holloman of the Fire Department, representing Local No. 1138 of the International Association of Fire Fighters, came forward.

The City Attorney, in answer to a question from Mayor Isen, said he would have his recommendation on Item A of that letter before the Council next week.

Mayor Isen said Item A could not be considered before the Attorney's opinion is received, saying Item A dealt with a requested adjustment in days 'off duty' preceeding annual vacations.

Mr. Holloman read the Civil Service Board's recommendation B, as follows:

"Recommended by the Civil Service Board that a comprehensive library should be maintained in the Central Station; and that the Fire Department personnel be permitted to check the books out (one book at a time) for a two-week period, subject to recall on 24 hours notice; and, further, that certain essential reference books and current periodicals be available at each station; that provision be made in the budget for the purchase of books each year, in order that the Firemen may keep informed and up to date on fire prevention methods."

Councilman Drale moved the City Manager be instructed to set up a library after July 1, 1957 at the main station, and then consider setting up the others later. He thought it would serve the interests of the City to educate the firemen.

Councilman Benstead seconded the motion, and asked Fire Chief Benner if he has money enough to establish this library now.

Fire Chief Benner said there is such a library established now at the

Central Station, but that he cannot purchase more books this year.

Mr. Holloman reported the Local has purchased over \$100 worth of books, and he did not know the exact cost of those purchased by the Department. He said the library is not complete. The Firemen would be pleased to have this set up after the budget is set up.

There were no objections and it was so ordered.

Mr. Holloman read the Civil Service Board's recommendation on Item C, as follows: "Recommended by the Civil Service Board that all General and Special Orders be written and signed by the issuing Officer; that they be posted for thirty days, and thereafter filed for record."

Councilman Benstead moved to concur with the Civil Service Board's recommendation.

Motion seconded by Mayor Isen, no objections, so ordered.

Mr. Holloman read the Civil Service Board's recommendation on Item D, as follows: "That these (Personnel Requests) be processed as quickly as possible; and that they be made in quadruplicate, the triplicate copy to be returned to the individual originating the request, with a written and signed reply."

Councilman Jahn moved to concur with this recommendation of the Civil Service Board.

Motion seconded by Councilman Benstead, no objection, so ordered.

Mr. Holloman read the Civil Service Board's recommendation on Item E, as follows: "Recommended that a thorough, comprehensive and uniform training program be instituted in the Fire Department at the earliest possible date, as suggested by Chief Benner."

Councilman Jahn moved to concur with Item E as recommended by the Civil Service Board.

Motion seconded by Councilman Benstead, who asked Fire Chief Benner if he has the money to handle such a program.

Chief Benner said there is money for setting up such a program.

The motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Mr. Holloman said with reference to Item F as recommended by the Civil Service Board, as follows: "Recommended by the Civil Service Board that in the future, the employees either be paid time and one-half overtime, or be given comparable time off for the hours worked in excess of the required 66 hours per week," the employees at present average 66.96 hours per week. This amounts to 48 hours of extra time per year. The Firemen realize they do not have the manpower to do away with the necessity for this extra time, but feel if there is no alternative, they should be paid for the time.

Councilman Drale reminded Mr. Holloman the Council had compensated for this some years ago by giving them an extra day off each month.

Mr. Holloman said that was done in 1949; the Firemen want to work only 66 hours a week.

City Manager Stevens was questioned by the Council, and said he felt the three working shifts off per month was done in the spirit of the Ordinance. They have always had the three working shifts off per month under this ordinance, and they had only two off before.

Mr. Holloman agreed that they get the three working shifts off per month, but said they still work 66.96 hours per week.

Councilman Jahn asked City Manager Stevens for his recommendation.

City Manager Stevens said to pay this overtime would cost the City \$10,000 per year which he did not think they should pay. The City had granted the Firemen three shifts off instead of two to bring them down to a 66-hour week. Some Cities do give 4 days off a month, he said, but then some give only 2, and 3 is about average.

The City Manager recommended the Ordinance be amended to strike out the mention of hours worked per week but keep the essence of the Ordinance which is that the Firemen get three working shifts off per month.

Councilman Jahn moved to concur with the City Manager's recommendation.

Councilman Drale seconded the motion, but said he did not think it necessary to amend the Ordinance. He said he would like to study it first.

Mr. Holloman said in other cities that have three shifts off, they take every 5th shift off. In that way the overage is eliminated.

Mayor Isen asked Fire Chief Benner if there is a way this can be worked out, and Chief Benner replied the Ordinance would have to be changed.

Chief Benner said he agreed with the City Manager; there must be a balance here. He said his Department does not have the personnel to work out exactly 66-hour weeks.

Mr. Holloman said the County has a wonderful system on this.

Councilman Benstead asked if anyone but the County had this, and Mr. Holloman said Long Beach has it. Mr. Holloman added the Fire Department is trying to compare our City with larger cities every time.

Mayor Isen asked if the Firemen don't prefer the 24-hour shifts, and Mr. Holloman said they do.

Councilman Drale moved the previous question.

Motion seconded by Councilman Jahn, no objection, so ordered.

Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Mr. Holloman asked if the Firemen can sit in on the meeting to amend the Ordinance.

Mayor Isen said there would be no objection.

Councilman Jahn said if the City is going to consider taking a part of the County Ordinance, perhaps they should take it all.

Mr. Holloman said the Firemen will go strictly by Torrance from now on.

Councilman Blount moved to concur with the Civil Service Board's recommendation Item G, as follows: "Recommended by the Civil Service Board that the Firemen be given the privilege of a reasonable exchange of shifts, but that it be limited to emergency, or other justifiable reasons."

Motion seconded by Councilman Jahn, no objection, so ordered.

Mr. Holloman asked to introduce Mr. Randall of the AFL-CIO Central Labor Council.

Mr. Randall thanked the Council for the consideration given the Firemen tonight in concurring with the recommendations of the Civil Service Board, each of which had been acceptable to the Firemen. He went on record as saying the Council is taking the proper action to protect the City. He suggested that it would be worthwhile to investigate the conditions at the Fire Dept. thoroughly, saying there could be steps taken to improve the conditions and morale. As an All American City, he said, Torrance should improve those situations.

Mayor Isen said the Council is doing the best it can to make good working conditions for all City employees.

Councilman Jahn asked if all this should have come through Mr. Stevens as Personnel Officer of the City.

Mayor Isen said he thought all such matters should clear through the Personnel Department.

Councilman Jahn felt it should have cleared through Mr. Stevens.

Councilman Jahn moved further questions of this nature be cleared through the City Manager before coming here.

Motion seconded by Mayor Isen, no objection, so ordered.

Councilman Drale thought the Civil Service Board should hear the grievances.

Mayor Isen agreed, but said the City Manager could act to sift a lot of this off the agenda since he is Personnel Director of the City.

Councilman Jahn asked the City Attorney if that is not one of the rules of the City.

The City Attorney replied he would have to check each question before deciding.

Councilman Drale said he is not opposed to having these questions come before City Manager Stevens, but he did not believe Mr. Stevens

should have to be the sole person hearing such matters.

Mayor Isen said the motion was ordered carried, and it will be the policy to bring such matters before City Manager Stevens and have the opinion of the City Attorney from now on.

Mr. Holloman reported they had gone to Mr. Stevens, and he had told them he would recognize them as individuals but not as a group. They feel that is the only reason for their being here. He stated that 61 of the 68 men in the Department are represented here.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION:

1. A letter dated March 29, 1957, from the Parks & Recreation Commission, signed by Herma Tillim, Chairman, contained their recommendations regarding the manner in which the final Kroeger report should be made.

Councilman Jahn moved this be done in accord with his former motion, i.e., the report be made in writing a short time before the oral discussion.

Mayor Isen seconded the motion, and ordered this communication to be returned to the Parks and Recreation Commission with the request they conform to that motion. Mayor Isen went on to say the Council would like to have the written report as soon as possible, and then about 10 days later have the meeting and have the oral report.

There were no objections and it was so ordered.

The City Manager reported Mr. Gold had told him today the written report would be ready about April 15.

2. A March 29, 1957, communication from the Parks & Recreation Commission, signed by Herma Tillim, recommending that the Council have a ceremony for the dedication of the bronze plaque on the Victor E. Benstead plunge which was donated by the architect, engineer, and contractor.

Councilman Blount objected, saying the City Treasurer's name was left off that plaque.

Councilman Blount moved another plaque be procured with the names of each elective official of the City on it before such ceremonies are planned.

Motion seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

3. March 29, 1957, recommendation from the Parks & Recreation Commission, signed by Herma Tillim, Chairman, that all requests for use of the Civic Auditorium be sent to that Commission for approval.

Councilman Jahn moved to concur with this recommendation.

Motion seconded by Mayor Isen, no objections, so ordered.

4. A letter from the Parks & Recreation Commission dated March 29, 1957, signed by Herma Tillim, Chairman, containing that Commission's recommendation that "the City Council approve an appropriation of funds for the year-round operation of the Victor E. Benstead Plunge in the 1957-58 budget of the Recreation Department, and that the City Council consider negotiations with the School Board regarding financial aid in said year-round program. Also, that a copy of the data sent to Mr. Van Bellehem from the City of Oakland accompany this recommendation." The following recommendation was also contained in the letter: "That the construction of a windbreak on the west side of the pool should be taken into consideration".

Mayor Isen said he felt this should be referred to the City Manager for consideration in the budget hearings.

Councilman Benstead said he has asked to have a plan drawn by the Engineering Department on the windbreak, and it is being prepared now. When it is done, he offered to take it to the Parks & Recreation Commission himself. Councilman Benstead also felt that the schools should help financially with the operation of the pool if they use it in their programs.

Councilman Drale suggested this be set up in the budget hearings. There were no objections, and it was so ordered.

At 6:35 P. M., Mayor Isen declared a recess, with the Council reconvening at 6:50 P. M.

ENGINEERING AND PLANNING COMMISSION MATTERS:

1. A letter dated March 29, 1957, from the City Engineer, contained the report requested by the City Council on the release of the Harry Kissel Bonds in Tracts 20772, 20773, 22024 and 22025.

Mr. Kissel was present, and said he had just received a copy of the report.

Mayor Isen said this matter would be delayed until later on in the meeting as a courtesy to Mr. Kissel to allow him to read the report.

2. A letter dated March 29, 1957, from John R. Patrick, Asst. to the City Engineer, submitted an easement from Max Hebert, Cyril John Roch and Miriam S. Roch along the southerly 27 feet of Lot 52 in Tract 588, to be used for street purposes, being a portion of proposed 235th Place. A location sketch was attached.

Deputy City Clerk Hallanger read:

RESOLUTION NO. 3160

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE  
ACCEPTING, ON BEHALF OF THE CITY, THAT CERTAIN EASEMENT  
DEED FROM MAX HEBERT ET AL.

Councilman Benstead moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Mayor Isen begged the indulgence of the Council on a matter which he felt should be considered now. He said that Mr. Mosely had written a letter to him some time ago for this Agenda on behalf of the Foreign Exchange Students, requesting free use of the Civic Auditorium soon to raise money for these students.

Mr. Mosely said they would like to have the Auditorium on Sunday, April 28, 1957.

Councilman Benstead said they would have to take that up with the Parks & Recreation Commission.

Councilman Drale moved the fees be waived for such use of the Auditorium subject to the approval of the Parks & Recreation Commission of the date and the usual custodial fees.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Jahn, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Mr. Mosely thanked the Council, and said the matter of fees was the question he was here about. He said he would clear the date with the Parks & Recreation Commission.

Councilman Benstead asked Planning Director Powell about the easement accepted in Resolution No. 3160.

Planning Director Powell explained this is in one of the very old tracts in the 'Oil Well District', where the lots are very large and deep. He said these lots are being split and developed now, and it is the feeling of the Planning Commission that streets will be necessary through there some day, and as they come in for lot splits on these lots, the Planning Commission would like to get the easements. The time will then come when the City can put streets or alleys through there.

Councilman Benstead protested this easement is only across the north portion of that one lot, and asked what good it will do.

Mr. Powell said more and more of these lot split requests are now coming in, and the lot owners have been pleased to see the planning under

way for future streets. He said this is for future street purposes.

Councilman Benstead said it takes in only one lot.

Planning Director Powell explained that the tract is over 20 years old; as the neighboring lots are split, the easements will be obtained so the street can eventually go through. He said if the Council will back the Planning Commission in this, we can eventually get the streets that will be needed. He said the land will be available little by little without condemnation being necessary.

Councilman Jahn moved for adoption of Resolution No. 3160.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

3. A letter dated March 29, 1957, from J. R. Patrick, Asst. to the City Engineer, submitting an easement from Narbonne Homes, Inc., for the southerly 2 feet and the northerly 27 feet of the easterly 165 feet of Lot 92, Tract 639, for proposed 230th Place and the widening of 231st St. A location sketch was attached.

Deputy City Clerk Hallanger read:

RESOLUTION NO. 3161

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE  
ACCEPTING, ON BEHALF OF THE CITY, THAT CERTAIN EASEMENT  
DEED FROM NARBONNE HOMES, INC.

Councilman Jahn moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution.

Motion, seconded by Mayor Isen, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Jahn moved for adoption of Resolution No. 3161.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

4. A March 29, 1957, letter from John R. Patrick, Asst. to the City Engineer, submitted an easement from A. M. Klum, W. R. May, and T. Aquini for a 10-foot widening along Crenshaw Boulevard and a 2-foot widening along 239th St., being the westerly and northerly portions of Lot 16, Tract 397. A location sketch was attached.

Deputy City Clerk Hallanger read:

RESOLUTION NO. 3162

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE  
ACCEPTING, ON BEHALF OF THE CITY, THAT CERTAIN EASEMENT  
DEED FROM A. M. KLUM ET AL.

Councilman Benstead moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Jahn, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

Councilman Jahn moved for adoption of Resolution No. 3162.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Jahn asked if this street work could be done before too long.

City Engineer Bishop replied the Street Department should do the work as quickly as they can.

5. A March 29, 1957, letter from J. R. Patrick, Asst. to the City Engr., submitted a grant deed from Axel Niska and Sallie Niska for the easterly 20 feet of Lot 58 of LaFresa Tract, to be used for widening along Fonthill Avenue. It was explained the home owners on the westerly side of proposed Fonthill Avenue are planning to construct curbs, gutters, and sidewalks to match the improvements being constructed under Tract 22795. A location sketch was attached.

City Engineer Bishop said the Gas Co. has a prior easement in this land. They have a gas line there, and it will have to be lowered, which will cost about \$850.00. They will expect the City to lower the line. He asked if the Resolution should be re-worded to eliminate that possibility.

Councilman Blount thought a discussion with the Gas Co. might produce results. He said perhaps the City Attorney or himself could talk with them, but said he felt this had nothing to do with the Resolution.

The City Engineer said this line was put in before the grade was established.

Councilman Blount asked the City Engineer if there was any urgency in this matter, and Mr. Bishop said no.

Councilman Blount moved to refer this whole matter to the City Attorney for discussion with the Gas Co. and a report at his convenience. There were no objections and it was so ordered.

- 6. TENTATIVE TRACT MAP NO. 18363: Transmittal form from Planning Commission and Engineering Department recommending approval of tentative tract map no. 18363, located at the southwesterly corner of 174th St. and Ainsworth Ave., containing 29 lots, presented by James Norris. Attached were:
  - a. Excerpt from Planning Commission Minutes of March 20, 1957;
  - b. Excerpt from Planning Commission Minutes dated Feb. 6, 1957;
  - c. L. A. County Flood Control letter of March 13, 1957;
  - d. Letter of J. R. Patrick, Asst. to City Engr., dated Jan. 2, 1957;
  - e. Location sketch;
  - f. Letter from Water Dept. dated January 18, 1957.

Councilman Benstead pointed out that the lot sizes do not conform to our ordinance.

Planning Director Powell, in answer to a question on this, said the Committee of the Planning Commission had seen fit to make this particular recommendation to the Council because this conforms to the adjacent area.

Councilman Jahn said this hinges on another Case, and asked where it was.

Mayor Isen directed that Case be taken up next; it was Case 438, Item 11 on this Agenda. Mayor Isen commented that it should have been put on the Agenda immediately ahead of this Tract No. 18363.

- 11. CASE NO. 438: Transmittal form from the Planning Commission recommending approval of application of the Norris Construction Company for a Variance to permit construction of triplexes between Ainsworth and Prairie, legally described as Lots 26, 27, 29 and 29, Tract 18363, in Land Use Zone R-1.

Councilman Jahn asked what is across the street from these triplexes, and Planning Director Powell said single-family residences.

Councilman Drale moved to concur with the recommendation of the Planning Commission in Case No. 438.

Motion seconded by Councilman Blount.

Councilman Jahn said he is opposed to this because there will be single-family residences on a major thoroughfare and the triplexes will be surrounded by single-family residences and the alley there dead-ends at single family residences on 174th St.

The City Attorney recommended that because of the time element involved, if this is sent back it be denied.

Councilman Jahn moved a substitute motion to refer Case 438 and Tentative Tract No. 18363 back to the Planning Commission for restudy regarding the triplex variance and the alley dead-ending between the triplexes and single-family residences.

Councilman Benstead said the matter of drainage mentioned in Mr. Patrick's letter should be taken into consideration.

Councilman Jahn included that in his motion.

Motion seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Benstead, Drale, Jahn, Isen. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Blount. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

7. A letter dated March 29, 1957, from Geo. C. Powell, Planning Director, containing the Planning Commission's recommendation for approval of the request of Mr. Harry T. Green to extend his existing garage along his property line to allow access from the alley. An excerpt from the Planning Commission Minutes of March 20, 1957, was attached.

Councilman Blount moved to concur with the recommendation of the Planning Commission.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Jahn, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

8. A letter dated March 29, 1957, from Geo. C. Powell, Planning Director, transmitted to the Council the views of the Planning Commission of actions that should be taken by Longren Aircraft Co. at their Carson Street Plant, and if these conditions are not fulfilled, they recommend the Variance be revoked. A copy of the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Council on January 24, 1952, when the Case was approved by the Council was attached.

Planning Director Powell told the Council he had received a letter today from Mr. Cogan, Treasurer of Longren, saying Mr. Wentworth is out of the City and could not be here tonight. Mr. Cogan had suggested in his letter that the Council might like to go to the plant and see what is going on and what has been done there to conform to the Variance. Mr. Cogan asked that any action on this be deferred until Mr. Wentworth is in the City.

Mr. Cogan was in the audience, and in reply to a question from the Council said Mr. Wentworth would be back in the City tomorrow. He said they did not receive the letter of notification until Monday.

Councilman Blount said they have had five years to conform and should have done it.

Mr. Cogan said they do not own the property. They feel the owner of the property should also be informed of this.

Councilman Benstead said he would suggest that if these conditions are not fulfilled by a certain date set by the Council, the Variance be taken away. He agreed with Councilman Blount they have had ample time to correct the conditions mentioned. He felt a 30-day limit should be set.

Councilman Jahn asked if a completion date for the improvements should be specified.

Councilman Blount said he felt the Variance should be taken away.

Councilman Drale thought that would require Court action.

Councilman Benstead said if they are in violation, let them take it to Court. He feels the City is within its rights here.

Mayor Isen felt the owner of the property should be told of this possibility.

Councilman Blount said the variance was granted with certain conditions; the Council grants Variances in good faith that the conditions go with them and run with the land. The man who got this variance has had 5 years and has shown bad faith the entire time.

Mr. Cogan asked to have that discussion at a later date when Mr. Wentworth and the property owner could be present.

Mr. Cogan suggested a Committee composed of members of the Council, members of the Planning Commission, residents of the area, and representatives of Longren and the property owner get together to work on this problem.

Councilman Blount asked why; he said anyone could go over there up to ten o'clock at night and realize how this bothered the neighbors.

Councilman Benstead agreed with Councilman Blount, and said he felt action should be taken soon.

Councilman Blount asked Mr. Cogan where he lives, and Mr. Cogan said in Hollywood-Riviera. Mr. Blount said then it would be easy for him to meet with such a group as he has suggested at any time.

Councilman Jahn asked what such a meeting would determine.  
Councilman Drale said the meeting could determine both sides of this.  
Councilman Benstead said these and similar charges have been made  
time after time.

Councilman Blount said they have had 5 years to conform; he suggested  
finding out just where this all stands and then doing something about it.

Mayor Isen suggested such a meeting could be set for Monday, April  
8, 1957.

Mr. Cogan suggested that it be a morning meeting.

Councilman Blount asked who would be at the meeting.

Mayor Isen said two of the Councilmen, two of the Planning Commission-  
ers and representatives of Longren and the owner of the property.

Councilman Benstead asked that three Councilmen and three of the  
Planning Commissioners be present.

Councilman Blount asked that some of the residents of the area  
should be present.

Mayor Isen said the Planning Commission has suggested that a  
Committee from the Council consider this. He asked Councilman Benstead  
to name a Committee, saying he wished to remain neutral in this matter.

Councilman Benstead said he would serve on the Committee, and named  
Councilmen Blount and Jahn to serve with him, setting the meeting for  
9:30 A. M. Monday morning at the Longren offices.

Mayor Isen directed George Powell to see that three Planning Commis-  
sion members and three residents of the area were present.

Planning Director Powell said he would do so.

Mayor Isen ordered this matter back on the Agenda of the next regular  
meeting of the Council, and told Mr. Cogan it would be up to him to have  
a representative of the owners of the property present at the meeting on  
Monday.

Mayor Isen asked that Planning Director Powell be in attendance at  
the meeting, and Mr. Powell said he would be.

- 9. CASE NO. 439: Transmittal form from the Planning Commission  
recommending denial of a request of J. R. Klink for a Variance  
to permit an automatic laundry at 2157 Torrance Boulevard.

Councilman Benstead moved the Variance be denied in concurrence  
with the recommendation of the Planning Commission.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll  
call vote of those present.

Items 10 and 11 had been disposed of earlier in this meeting.

- 12. CASE NO. 432: Transmittal form from Planning Commission,  
recommending approval of Change of Zone from A-1 to C-2 on  
property described as 805.32 feet by 170.14 feet on the  
northwest corner of Arlington Avenue and 174th Street in  
the McDonald Tract, applicant: Betty Carlin Redmon, Agent  
for owners. This case was here for the setting of the time  
and date for the Third and Final Hearing on the petition.

Mayor Isen set the date of April 23, 1957, and time of 8:00 P. M.  
for the Third and Final Hearing on this Case.

- 13. CASE NO. 431: Transmittal form from Planning Commission,  
recommending approval of request of Planning Commission  
for a Change of Zone from A-1 to M-1 on Parcel A and  
Parcel B, to be rezoned from M-1 to R-2 on 600 feet  
located north of 182nd Street and west of Western Avenue.  
This Case was here for the time and date of the Third and  
Final Hearing on the petition.

Mayor Isen set the date of April 23, 1957, and the time of 8:00 P. M.  
for the Third and Final Hearing on this Case.

Mayor Isen said he would prefer to have the Agenda show when a Case was here for a Hearing date to be set, and with the concurrence of the Council, it was so ordered.

At 7:35 P. M., Mayor Isen declared a recess, with the Council reconvening at 7:42 P. M.

1. A letter dated March 29, 1957, from the City Engineer, R. W. Bishop, reported on the release of the Harry Kissel Bonds in Tracts 20772, 20773, 22024 and 22025.

Mayor Isen said this had been continued and this 3-page report prepared at the request of Councilman Drale.

Councilman Drale said he thought there should be a recommendation in this report on the various items in the tracts which the City Engineer had brought up two weeks ago.

Mayor Isen thought the only thing the Council could do, if they did not release these bonds, was to rescind the action taken about the park site on the grounds of misrepresentation. He doubted that the Council wanted to do that.

Councilman Jahn pointed out that according to the report, the trees in one tract do not conform to the present ordinance, but did conform to the ordinance in effect at the time they were planted; outside of that item, the most important point here is the 2300' of sidewalk along the southerly side of Vista Montana down the hill to Newton Street, and Mr. Kissel has said he intends to develop that area. When he does develop it, it is likely that he will either have to put in the sidewalk anyway or would have to take out a walk put in now. He pointed out that the report from the Engineer has said if the planting above the park was done, it would require so much care that it is doubtful if the planting would live, and that it is well covered now by natural grasses and bushes. One of the items involved here is a wall, which it is estimated would cost about \$200.00.

Mayor Isen said he would like to know about what the value of the park site given to the City in this instance would be, and asked the City Manager if he knew.

City Manager Stevens said it is hard to estimate the value of 6.1 acres in the park site proper and one of the largest lots in any of the tracts where the water tank is; he said this lot was not considered in the original negotiations but Mr. Kissel had included it later and deeded it to the City. He said the park site would be about the size of around 15 lots, and the lot with the water tower on it would make about three lots, so perhaps that would give some idea of the value of the land.

Councilman Jahn asked what the City paid for this land.

City Manager Stevens said we had not paid anything for it, but had waived the Park fees. The total of the park fees would have been about \$43,000.00.

Mayor Isen said the building lots would have undoubtedly sold for about \$4,000.00 each, so the value of the land given to the City in this exchange was high.

The City Attorney told the Council that he believed if they wished they could release the bonds now but with the proviso that they are not waiving their requirement that these improvements be installed.

Councilman Jahn moved the bonds be released to Mr. Kissel in Tracts #20772, 20773, 22024 and 22025.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Blount, Drale, Jahn, Isen. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSTAIN: COUNCILMEN: Benstead. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

#### COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY ATTORNEY:

1. As directed by the City Council at their meeting of February 5, 1957, the City Attorney, under date of March 22, 1957, gave a written opinion on the subject of: AGNEW V. CITY OF CULVER CITY.

The City Attorney reported he believed the City will receive claims for refunds from state-licensed contractors for fees already paid as a result of this case, and that some contractors in the future will refuse to pay the city license tax on the same grounds. He believed that such claims ought to be denied and the ordinance fully enforced, and gave his reasons for that. The City Attorney stated our licensing ordinance (Chapter 16 of "The Code of the City of Torrance, 1954") does not contain any provision whatsoever for the regulation of state-licensed contractors. However, to obviate any suggestion that such construction may be implied in our ordinance, he had drafted a proposed amendment to the business license ordinance, which was attached to the report for study by the Council. Mr. Remelmeyer further suggested that if the Council agreed that all claims for such refunds ought to be denied, that the License Inspector be authorized to send denials to all contractors making such application. He added that he would cooperate with the License Inspector in this matter.

Councilman Benstead moved to concur with the letter from the City Attorney.

Motion seconded by Councilman Jahn and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Deputy City Clerk Hallanger, at the direction of the Council, read:

ORDINANCE NO. 866

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING SECTIONS NO. 16.11 AND NO. 16.14 OF CHAPTER 16 OF "THE CODE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, 1954", RELATING TO THE ISSUANCE OF CITY BUSINESS LICENSES.

Councilman Jahn moved to dispense with further reading of the Ordinance.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Jahn moved for adoption of Ordinance No. 866 at its first reading.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

REPORTS:

The office of the City Clerk reported that the State Board of Equalization has released its report of March distributions of Sales Taxes and Use Taxes collected from fourth-quarter sales; also its report dated March 27, 1957 of Gross Revenues derived from gasoline and motor vehicle fuel taxes. These reports are on file in the office of the City Clerk.

Deputy City Clerk Hallanger read:

RESOLUTION NO. 3163

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE REQUESTING THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AND THE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY ESTABLISH A SPORTS CENTER IN TORRANCE.

Councilman Jahn moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution.

Motion, seconded by Mayor Isen, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Benstead moved for adoption of Resolution No. 3163.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Jahn, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Mayor Isen instructed Don Mansfield to prepare a proper letter to submit copies of this Resolution to the pertinent people, and, with the permission of the Council, said he would sign that letter.

Mayor Isen said he thought in cases such as the Resolution just passed, he thought it best if each of the individuals on these Boards get letters, as well as the Board of Supervisors and Regional Planning Commission as bodies, adding that the Council feels in this way they get more attention.

RESOLUTION NO. 3164

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE REQUESTING THAT THE "PROPOSED FORMULA FOR ALLOCATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR COMMUNITY RECREATION AGREEMENTS" BE ADOPTED FOR THE 1957-1958 FISCAL YEAR.

Councilman Benstead moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Jahn, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Benstead moved for adoption of Resolution No. 3164.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Jahn, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Mayor Isen directed Mr. Mansfield to write appropriate letters of transmittal to go with this Resolution to the individual Supervisors and the Board as well, saying that with the permission of the Council, he would sign the letters.

RESOLUTION NO. 3165

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE WELCOMING THE SEARS STORE TO THE CITY OF TORRANCE.

Councilman Jahn moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Jahn moved for adoption of Resolution No. 3165.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Mayor Isen directed Mr. Mansfield to prepare a letter of transmittal for this Resolution, saying that with the consent of the Council, he would sign the letter.

RESOLUTION NO. 3166

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE WELCOMING THE BROADWAY STORE TO THE CITY OF TORRANCE.

Councilman Jahn moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Jahn moved for adoption of Resolution No. 3166.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Mayor Isen directed Mr. Mansfield to prepare a letter of transmittal for this Resolution, saying that with the consent of the Council, he would sign the letter.

ORDINANCE NO. 865

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ESTABLISHING A CERTAIN TRAFFIC CONTROL MEASURE PURSUANT TO ARTICLE IV, SECTION 17.35 OF "THE CODE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, 1954".

Councilman Jahn moved to dispense with further reading of Ordinance No. 865.

Motion, seconded by Mayor Isen, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Benstead moved for adoption of Ordinance No. 865 as an Urgency measure at its first and final reading.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Jahn, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

Mr. West of the Fire Department filed an oral protest against the method of promotion in the Fire Department. He wished the Council to know the men feel the No. 1 man on the list should get the promotion, and said to bypass that man disqualifies the principle of Civil Service. He informed the Council this practice of bypassing the first man on a list has continued even after an attempt made here a year ago to stop it.

Mayor Isen told Mr. West that the Council's policy had been that a man could not be bypassed more than twice, but the Council finds it has no jurisdiction in matters of this kind.

Mr. West explained that if a list lasts only two years, as ours do, and a man is continually bypassed, it meant he must continue to take the examinations and pass with high grades to remain on the promotional list.

Upon being questioned by Mayor Isen, City Attorney Remelmeyer said he would have to study the rules and regulations to give an opinion on this, and he did not have a copy with him. He believed, however, this should be within the jurisdiction of Mr. Stevens and the Civil Service Board.

City Manager Stevens replied to a question by saying that the rule of three is used, meaning that a list comprised of the names of the top three men on a list is presented to a Department Head, who must make a selection from that list. He said that to always take the No. 1 man would undermine the rule of three.

Mayor Isen asked if the Department Head bypassing a man on a list must give a reason.

Mr. Stevens said he would not have to because he has his choice of the top three people on the list.

Mayor Isen told Mr. West there is nothing the Council can do in this case.

Councilman Benstead did not believe the Council would be out of order in asking that they be notified why a man is bypassed.

Mayor Isen and Councilman Jahn both felt this is entirely out of the hands of the Council.

Councilman Blount felt the Council to be a body politic, and said he was in favor of keeping Civil Service matters away from the Council.

Mr. Holloman of the Fire Dept. asked if the morale of the Department is under the jurisdiction of the Council, saying the morale of their Department is very low.

Mayor Isen told the men the City Manager, as Personnel Officer of the City, has complete control on that score.

Mr. Holloman said the Fire Department feels the rule of three is being abused.

Councilman Jahn told the firemen that the Council's consideration of the Civil Service Board's recommendations tonight was, in his opinion, wrong; if the Fire Department and City Manager act according to the opinion of the Council in those matters, he said, they do it out of courtesy. Their action has no bearing whatever, he added, unless the law is changed. He did not feel the Council has a right to hear these things.

Mr. Cecil Johnson, Secretary of the Central Labor Council, speaking on behalf of the fireman, said he had been here about a year ago when the Council dealt with the problems of the Fire Department. At that time the policy was the rule of three, which he said is usual. He added that one man has been bypassed many times. He asked that people who are bypassed on a list be given the reason.

Mayor Isen explained the Council can do nothing in this case; they cannot tell the Chief what to do.

Mr. Langum of the Fire Department, Chairman of the grievance committee, said they would like to have the man given a reason why he is bypassed, and said the Council has ordered that in the past.

Mayor Isen asked the City Attorney to give the Council a copy of those Minutes.

Mr. Langum suggested the committee meet with the City Manager to try to find out why the appointment in question was made the way it was.

Councilman Jahn asked if this grievance has been taken up with the Fire Chief.

Mr. Langum said they had tried to contact him but could not.

Councilman Jahn thought this should have been taken up with the Fire Chief first, and then the City Manager and Civil Service Board before it came here.

Mayor Isen asked which man from the list was chosen, and Mr. Langum said the No. 2 man on the list.

Councilman Blount asked for what job he was chosen, and Mr. Langum said Battalion Chief.

Mayor Isen said the Council is staying neutral in this, although they have taken the side of the firemen in the past; he did not see why the head of the Department should have to explain his actions when they fulfill the law.

Mr. Langum said they feel an effort should be made to resolve this case.

Mayor Isen asked Fire Chief Benner if he wanted to say anything.

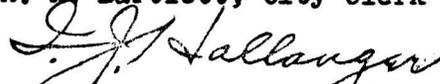
Fire Chief Benner said if the individual in question would come in to see him in his office, he would discuss this with him.

Councilman Jahn moved all bills properly audited be paid.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 P. M.

A. H. Bartlett, City Clerk



By I. J. Hallanger, Deputy City Clerk  
of the City of Torrance

APPROVED;



Mayor of the City of Torrance