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Torrance, California  
December 16, 1958

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, December 16, 1958, in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Torrance, California.

Those responding to roll call by Deputy City Clerk Whitacre were:  
COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Benstead, Blount, Bradford, Drale, Jahn, Isen.  
ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None. City Manager Stevens and City Attorney Remelmeyer were also present.

At the request of Mayor Isen, Administrative Assistant Chapman Bone led the salute to our Flag.

The Reverend Wendell Hook of the Walteria Community Methodist Church opened the meeting with an invocation.

Mayor Isen asked to have a correction made in the Minutes of the December 9, 1958, meeting, as follows: On Page 9, in the first paragraph under "Nominations to Civil Defense & Disaster Commission", in Lines 2 and 3, he had said that the Ordinance was effective, not that it would soon be effective.

Councilman Beasley moved to approve the Minutes of the Adjourned Regular Meeting of December 9, 1958, as corrected, and the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 25, 1958, as written.

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

Mayor Isen welcomed Mrs. Bertleson of the Los Angeles Times to the Press table.

BIDS:

Mayor Isen announced the following Bid openings:

1. Record System for Police Department: Bids will be publicly opened in the Council Chamber of the City Hall at 10:00 A. M. Wednesday, December 17, 1958.
2. 7,900 feet of 16" Concrete Cylinder Pipe, Valves, Fittings, and Tie-ins for Water Main to be installed in Lomita Blvd., between Crenshaw Blvd. and Hawthorne Avenue: Bids will be opened publicly in the Council Chamber of the City Hall at 10:00 A. M. Wednesday, December 17, 1958.

and that the Affidavits of Publication in the respective matters are on file in the Office of the City Clerk.

Councilman Drale asked if Lomita Blvd., newly surfaced, would be torn up to put in the pipe.

The City Manager said it will not.

Mayor Isen explained the Council procedures to the audience, saying that the Council is familiar with the matters before them and to save time these will be briefed into the record. If any Councilman or any person in the audience wished, however, they might ask to have matters read in full and discussed. The order shown in the Agenda is followed in the main, and extra copies of the Agenda are made available for the audience.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:

1. A December 10, 1958, letter from Pacific Group Agencies, Inc., 5410 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, protested the Council action taken on the Group & Health Insurance for employees at the December 9 meeting.

Councilman Blount moved this letter be filed without comment.

Motion seconded by Councilman Drale.

Mayor Isen wished to comment that anyone present on that matter could have been heard at the meeting; if anyone was present this evening who wished to be heard, the Council would hear them.

There was no reply.

Mayor Isen said it should be noted that the floor is open to those wishing to be heard, and that there was no reason why these people could not have been heard when the action was taken if they wished to be.

Mayor Isen ordered the letter filed.

Councilman Jahn asked if it was true that when the Council accepted a bid it was tantamount to a contract, and the City Attorney replied that he would say it is normally.

The City Attorney went on to say that if the Council calls for bids and gets them and accepts one of them that constituted a contract.

Councilman Beasley noted that the motion on this had not been to accept the lowest bid, nor were other bids rejected by the motion. He said the Council had simply agreed with the City's employees.

Councilman Blount withdrew his motion to file this without comment.

Councilman Beasley felt the matter needed some study, as the Council had not asked the Assistant City Manager for his recommendation in the matter.

Assistant City Manager Mansfield said he had not made a recommendation, but that he did think the Council had acted wisely in this.

The City Attorney said he thought that Councilman Blount's motion of last week would be an acceptance of the Blue Cross bid.

Mayor Isen said there had been no withdrawal of the second to the motion to file this without comment.

Councilman Blount withdrew his withdrawal of motion to file this without comment.

Councilman Benstead asked if the City's employees wanted the Blue Cross plan, and Mr. Mansfield said they asked that the Blue Cross plan be accepted.

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

2. A December 4, 1958, letter from James A. Algie, Asst. Administrative Officer and Chairman of Planning Board "Area G", Civil Defense and Disaster Board, City of Inglewood, submitted a revised Agreement for Council approval. Copies of the revised Agreement were submitted to the Council.

Mayor Isen asked if this could be referred to the Civil Defense and Disaster Commission, and he moved that it be.

Motion seconded by Councilman Benstead.

The City Manager said the Cities in Area G are trying to put this into effect on January 1, 1959, and that we had planned for this in the Budget and he thought we should go ahead with it.

Councilman Benstead asked when the Civil Defense & Disaster Commission would be meeting, or if they could have a Special Meeting about this.

The City Manager said they have not held a meeting, but he thought the first one was planned for immediately after the first of the year.

There were no objections, and this was ordered referred to the Civil Defense & Disaster Commission.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER:

1. With a letter dated December 12, 1958, the City Manager submitted the following recommendations for consideration and approval:

PERSONNEL:

- a. That Mr. Casper Clemmer, Park Superintendent, be authorized to attend the Conference of American Institute of Park Executives at Redwood City on January 18-21, 1959, with appropriate expenses paid.
- b. Some time ago the City Council referred to me the matter of increasing the salary of the City Treasurer in the amount of \$50 per month. Such an increase would have to be for additional duties, as the basic job compensation is fixed at \$350 per month. In view of the fact that other City employees have received a salary increase and the duties of the City Treasurer are continuing to mount, I feel that it is reasonable and just that the City Treasurer be granted a pay raise of \$50 per month.

Councilman Drale moved to concur with the recommendation "a" of the City Manager under Personnel.  
Motion seconded by Councilman Jahn, and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Jahn moved to concur with recommendation "b" of the City Manager under Personnel.  
Motion seconded by Councilman Drale and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

APPROPRIATIONS:

- a. For purchase of an IBM standard electric typewriter for the City Clerk's office, the sum of \$450 plus sales tax; a budget item. Copy of the requisition submitted to Council.
- b. For purchase of heavy parts for Caterpillar road grader, the sum of \$906.43, including sales tax. A budget item, and copy of request submitted to the Council.
- c. For rental of 8" Wellpoint Pump for flood water control during the winter season, the sum of \$1,038 for a 90-day period. (From unappropriated Reserve Fund.)
- d. To McAmis & Baker, the sum of \$850 for grading, preparation of base and paving on Garnet St. and Madrona Ave. This work was performed concurrently with the work on Tract 24229, at a substantial saving to the City.

Councilman Benstead moved to concur with the four recommendations of the City Manager under Appropriations.  
Motion seconded by Councilman Beasley, and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CIVIL SERVICE BOARD:

1. A December 5, 1958, letter from the Civil Service Board, signed by W. C. Bradford, Secretary, transmitted their approval of a request from Street Supt. Perkins to reclassify R. A. Marion from Truck Driver to Electrician's Helper, since he has been performing the duties of an Electrician's Helper for the past two years. This request meets with the approval of B. C. Wendt, Electrical Foreman, and would not involve any change in salary. This requires approval of the Council. The effective date will be December 1, 1958, if approved.

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

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

2. In a letter dated December 8, 1958, the Civil Service Board transmitted their concurrect with a recommendation from City Clerk Bartlett that Mrs. Betty Schroeder receive move-up pay for the period from August 25th to September 9th, inclusive, during the absence of both Mrs. Marjorie Moss, who was away on vacation, and of Mr. Bartlett, due to illness, which left Betty Schroeder in charge of the office during this period. The letter was signed by W. C. Bradford, Secretary.

Councilman Drale moved to concur with the recommendation of the City Clerk and Civil Service Board.

Motion seconded by Councilman Beasley, and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

#### COMMUNICATIONS FROM ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT:

1. With a letter dated December 12, 1958, John R. Patrick, Asst. to the City Engineer, submitted an easement deed from Vickers, Inc., covering a 20' strip along the northerly side of Lomita Blvd., the easement needed for the improvement of said street.

The letter from Mr. Patrick bore the approval of the City Attorney and the City Manager.

Councilman Jahn moved to accept the easement.

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

#### COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT:

1. With a letter dated December 11, 1958, Planning Director Powell reported that new Tract Maps have been prepared noting the building restrictions on Tent. Tract Map No. 24599 and resubmitted to the Council for consideration.

Mayor Isen recalled that the Council had asked to have the maps corrected to show the correct dimensions of the lots in this Tract and the 30' street requested by the City.

Planning Director Powell presented the Map and discussed it with the Council, saying the Variances are now on the map and will be made a matter of record.

Councilman Jahn said he wanted it clear that he had noted a 30' easement runs across the backs of all those lots, beginning with Lots 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10.

Mr. Powell said they will be over 100' deep.

Councilman Drale moved to concur with the recommendation of the Planning Commission, with all conditions set.

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

Councilman Benstead wished the record to show that he had voted against this because it does not conform to the existing ordinances.

2. With a letter dated December 11, 1958, Planning Director Powell reported that Tentative Tract No. 24633 had been recommended for approval by the Planning Commission at their meeting of October 15, 1958. A Change of Zone (Case No. 544) has been instituted, and the first Hearing completed without any protests, the request being to change the zone from A-1 to R-1, to permit the property to be used for residential use.

Mr. Jack Spahn of Barclay Engineering, representing the petitioner, spoke to the Council. Mr. Spahn explained that they were here at this time because of the fact that they plan to have the drainage to the north of the tract. The State is putting dirt in there for the freeway, which they plan to build up at least 15'. The State is bringing dirt

in now, and every day they are delaying the construction of this drain is costing money. They would appreciate an indication from the City Council as to whether or not this could be approved so they can go ahead with the drainage.

Councilman Drale asked if provisions are being made for on-off ramps from Arlington, and Mr. Spahn said there are, and for that reason vehicular access to Lot 1 of this tract is restricted.

Mayor Isen asked if anyone objected to considering this now.

Councilman Beasley proposed that the Council approve this tentative tract map, with the stipulations a, b, c, d, e, and f.

Mayor Isen said as he heard no objections, the Council could consider this now.

Councilman Benstead asked about the streets in this tract, and Mr. Spahn said there are two 'stub' streets in the tract south of this and that the names will be submitted to the Engineering Department, which is customary; the streets do not go clear through the tract because of the freeway.

Mr. Spahn said the concrete flume which Mr. Patrick has recommended they repair is not on their tract, but it is in bad shape and they probably will repair it as the water will be carried on north through this subdivision.

City Engineer Bishop thought it might be wise to have that flume removed instead of repairing it; because it is not needed any more. It is on a City-owned easement. He recommended this be considered.

Mayor Isen asked if Mr. Spahn's client would accept that as a condition of approval.

Mr. Spahn thought they would do this when their own improvements are going in.

Mr. Spahn said the easements for street widening and the street improvements would be governed by the City's ordinances.

The City Attorney asked who would serve the tract with water, but Mr. Spahn did not know the answer to this.

Mr. McVicar's letter about water service to this tract was discussed, and Councilman Jahn asked if the subdivider would accept as a condition of the motion for approval that the City should be given easements for water service, saying if this were done he would second Councilman Beasley's motion.

Mr. Spahn said he had no authority to say the subdivider would give the City the easement, but he could not see why that should not be a condition of approval.

The City Engineer said the Tentative Map does not show the drainage to the north of the freeway, and he would like to ask that be shown on the Final Tract Map.

Mr. Spahn said that would show.

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

Councilman Benstead said he had voted against this because it does not conform.

3. CASE 540: A December 11, 1958, letter from Planning Director Powell transmitted the Planning Commission's recommendation for approval of Case 540, and requested that a date be set for the Third and Final Hearing before the Council.

There were no objections, and Mayor Isen set the following time and date for the Third and Final Hearing on Case 540: 5:30 P. M. Tuesday, January 6, 1959, in the Council Chamber.

4. Mayor Isen announced this was the time and place for the final hearing on:

CASE NO. 546 - VARIANCE - R. W. Jessup, 3480 Del Amo Blvd.  
The transmittal from the Planning Commission recommended approval of this request for a Variance to relocate a 1-family, 1-story dwelling on Lots 45 and 46, Tract 3458, between Hawthorne Ave. and Amie. Submitted with this were excerpts from Planning Commission Minutes of

November 19, 1958, and a location sketch of the property in question. Mayor Isen commented that the Planning Commission had considered this very fully, and he had been interested in their Minutes covering it.

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

Motion seconded by Councilman Beasley, and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

5. Mayor Isen announced this was the time and place for the final hearing on:

CASE NO. 548 - VARIANCE - Cambridge Investments, Inc.,  
4200 Atlantic Ave., Long Beach.

The trasmittal from the Planning Commission recommended approval per Exhibit "A" from Cambridge Investment for a Variance and Conditional Permit to construct a service station and commercial development on Lot 1, La Fresa Tract, situated at the NE corner of 174th St. and Prairie Ave., in Zone R-3.

Councilman Jahn moved to concur with the recommendation of the Planning Commission for approval, with all stipulations.

Motion seconded by Councilman Benstead.

Planning Director Powell reported he had received the easements for the widening of Prairie Avenue.

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

Councilman Bradford asked to change his vote, saying he had thought this was another matter, and so the final vote was: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Benstead, Bradford, Drale, Jahn, Isen. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Blount. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

#### COMMUNICATIONS FROM LICENSE DEPARTMENT:

1. A letter from Mrs. Lucille Anderson, 1915 Callison St., Lomita, reported that she had mistakenly bought a Torrance dog license, and asked that the fee be refunded to her.

A memo from the License Inspector was appended, and approved and recommended the refund.

Councilman Jahn moved to concur with the License Inspector.

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

#### COMMUNICATIONS FROM RECREATION DEPARTMENT:

1. A December 8, 1958, letter from H. B. Van Bellehem, requested approval of payment of \$628 to install 60' of fence behind hole #4 at the Sea-Aire Park. This was the lowest bid received for the necessary fencing.

Attached to the letter from Mr. Van Bellehem was a letter from John V. Russell, Director of Public Works, recommended that the contract for this protective fencing be let to Hutchinson Fence Co. of Redondo Beach, who bid \$628.42, the lowest responsible bid.

Councilman Beasley moved to concur with the recommendation of the Director of Recreation and the Public Works Director.

Motion seconded by Councilman Benstead.

Councilman Jahn asked if this will slow up the other work there, and the City Manager said it will not.

Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

2. With a cover letter dated December 10, 1958, Director of Recreation H. B. Van Bellehem submitted a proposed agreement between the City and the Torrance Unified School District, saying this is the same as other past agreements on the Joint Recreation Program.

Councilman Jahn asked if this was all they would pay, and was told that it was.

Councilman Jahn moved to accept the agreement.  
Motion seconded by Mayor Isen, and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Jahn moved that after the Clerk had given a number and read the title to any ordinance or resolution on tonight's agenda, the further reading thereof be waived; reserving and guaranteeing to each Councilman the right to demand the reading of any such ordinance or resolution in regular order.

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

Deputy City Clerk Whitacre read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 3606

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE  
AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO  
EXECUTE THAT CERTAIN JOINT RECREATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN  
THE CITY OF TORRANCE AND THE TORRANCE UNIFIED SCHOOL  
DISTRICT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 1958-1959.

Councilman Benstead moved for adoption of Resolution No. 3606.  
Motion seconded by Councilman Bradford, and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM WATER DEPARTMENT:

1. Under date of December 9, 1958, A. E. McVicar, Supt. of the Water Dept., submitted the following letter:

"Robert B. Jahn, a building contractor, has made application for a main extension in a proposed street to be located east of Crenshaw Blvd. between 233rd St. and 235th St. This is in the service area of the Narbonne Ranch Water Co. #3.

"As you know, we are now making a survey of the cost of servicing the entire area from the City's water system and, inasmuch as a water main will eventually have to be installed on the east side of Crenshaw Blvd. under any plan of acquisition, we propose that this line be installed at City expense from our existing line in 235th St. and the contractor be charged only for the main in his tract. The cost to the City is estimated at \$1,500, which would eventually be recovered when financing is arranged for the whole area. It will also avoid having to make an eventually useless connection to our 24-inch main in Crenshaw Blvd.

"May we have your permission to install this line with District crews?"

Councilman Drale moved to concur with the request.

Mayor Isen seconded the motion, saying the Council would treat any other contractor the same way.

Councilman Jahn pointed out that he would be paying for this.

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

COMMUNICATIONS FROM WATER COMMISSION:

1. In a letter dated December 12, 1958, concerning the FUTURE USE OF OLD CITY HALL, Mr. Pat Hogue, President of the Water Commission, submitted their unanimous agreement that there must be a definite expansion of our present water system, and they presented the idea of future use of the old City Hall by the water department, and possibly using it as a central office building for utility company offices in the city. The idea was presented to the Council for consideration.

Mayor Isen said the Council had considered this, and that a very thorough study had been made and it had been found that the utility

companies are not interested.

Councilman Drale thought this should go to Mr. McVicar to see what his reaction to the suggestion would be. He thought the Water Dept. might move into this building and we could dispose of the building they now have, as there is much more parking space at the old City Hall building.

The City Manager suggested that all of this was something to be decided in the future.

Councilman Jahn moved to refer this to the City Manager.

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

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE LEGAL DEPARTMENT:

1. The City Attorney submitted a proposed Agreement to Arbitrate, in connection with Superior Court Case No. 704938, City vs. Denbo, et al, to condemn a right-of-way easement over property located at the intersection of Pacific Coast Highway and Newton Street. A motion of the Council was required for approval of this Agreement.

Mayor Isen moved to approve the Agreement.

Motion seconded by Councilman Beasley.

The City Attorney, in reply to a question, explained this was for the corner across the street from the Jump 'N' Jack Restaurant. Our appraiser had appraised the corner at \$200, but Mr. Denbo is a realtor and he had felt the land to be worth \$1,000. The City Attorney felt we had a choice of arbitration or going to court, and it seemed better to him to arbitrate. He felt this would save the City money in the long haul.

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

Mayor Isen asked if there were not supposed to be sidewalks in front of the Jump 'N' Jack restaurant when the curbs were put in.

Director of Public Works John V. Russell said the entire improvement would be discussed this coming week, and several matters would be clarified.

Councilman Jahn said that because of the pending discussion and meeting with State personnel, it might be well to let the sidewalks rest for a couple of weeks.

Councilman Jahn asked about the meeting with the State personnel, and Mr. Russell said he was trying to arrange the meeting, but the man in question is on vacation at this time.

RESOLUTIONS:

1. Deputy City Clerk Whitacre read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 3607

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 LEASE BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY OF TORRANCE AND EL RANCHO ROLLING HILLS, INC., DATED JANUARY 1, 1959.

The City Attorney told the Council that they already have a lease on 150' at \$150 per month, and that the Council had given them an additional 50' to the west of the 150' at \$150 a month. He had combined these into one lease. With regard to the building, he pointed out that they have until December 31, 1959, to decide whether to construct a building, and that they will be paying the rental on the land all that time. If they do decide to build, the building must be completed by September 30, 1950. The Council had not mentioned this particular provision.

Councilman Jahn moved for adoption of Resolution No. 3607.  
 Motion seconded by Councilman Beasley, and carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Bradford, Drale, Jahn, Isen. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Benstead, Blount. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

ORDINANCES:

1. With a cover letter dated December 11, 1958, the City Clerk submitted for its second reading Ordinance No. 1050, unanimously approved by those Councilmen present (Benstead absent) when first read at the meeting of December 9, 1958.

Deputy City Clerk Whitacre read title to:

ORDINANCE NO. 1050

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING APPENDIX I OF "THE CODE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, 1954" (ADOPTED BY ORDINANCE NO. 791), RECLASSIFYING THAT CERTAIN PROPERTY DESCRIBED IN PLANNING COMMISSION CASE NO. 543.

Councilman Benstead moved to adopt Ordinance No. 1050 at its second and final reading.

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

2. With a cover letter dated December 11, 1958, the City Clerk submitted for its second reading Ordinance No. 1051, approved by the following roll call vote when first read at the Council meeting of December 9, 1958: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Blount, Bradford, Jahn, Isen. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Drale. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Benstead.

Deputy City Clerk Whitacre read title to:

ORDINANCE NO. 1051

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING THE POSITION CLASSIFICATION PLAN AND SALARY SCHEDULE ADOPTED BY ORDINANCE NO. 1037 BY ADDING CERTAIN POSITIONS TO THE POSITION CLASSIFICATION PLAN.

Councilman Jahn moved to adopt Ordinance No. 1051 at its second and final reading.

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

3. With a cover letter dated December 11, 1958, the City Clerk submitted for its second reading Ordinance No. 1052, approved by the following roll call vote at the first reading on December 9, 1958: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Blount, Bradford, Drale, Jahn, Isen. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Benstead.

Deputy City Clerk Whitacre read title to:

ORDINANCE NO. 1052

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE REPEALING ARTICLE III OF CHAPTER 25 OF "THE CODE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, 1954" REGULATING THE MOVING OF BUILDINGS AND TANKS OVER STREETS AND OTHER PUBLIC PLACES AND REQUIRING A PERMIT THEREFOR AND SUBSTITUTING THEREFOR A NEW ARTICLE V RELATING TO THE SAME SUBJECT AND ADDING THERETO PROVISIONS FOR THE ISSUANCE OF PERMITS FOR MOVING CERTAIN VEHICLES OVER CITY STREETS.

Councilman Blount moved for adoption of Ordinance 1052 at its second and final reading.

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

4. Deputy City Clerk Whitacre read title to:

ORDINANCE NO. 1053

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ESTABLISHING CERTAIN TRAFFIC CONTROL MEASURES PURSUANT TO ARTICLE IV, SECTION 17.35 AND 17.42 OF "THE CODE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, 1954".

Councilman Jahn moved to approve Ordinance No. 1053 at its first reading.

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

RE DON WILSON PARK FEES:

Mayor Isen said he had received a letter from Don Wilson, 2918 W. Compton Blvd., concerning the park fees for Tract 22228; in the letter, Mr. Wilson amended his proposal of November 12, 1958.

Mr. Wilson came forward, saying he had proposed to grant in fee to the City the percolation basin in Tract 22228, which is approximately 7.1 acres in size, and to grant in fee to the City either the Bishop Montgomery percolation basin or the Ocean Avenue percolation basin. He agreed also to pay in cash a park fee in the amount of \$100 per net acre subdivided, and said this would represent a cash payment of \$7,647.00.

At 6:15 P. M., Mayor Isen declared a recess, with the Council re-convening at 6:25 P. M.

Mayor Isen expressed himself as being in a quandary, saying Mr. Wilson was building a tract here with 360-odd installations of water service, which the City will eventually have to pay for.

Councilman Jahn said he was not too interested in the offer of only two of these sumps.

Mr. Wilson said he had agreed to attempt to negotiate with the Kauffman estate, and he would grant his own sump to the City. He can assure the Council he would get either the Bishop Montgomery or the Ocean Avenue sump, but he was reasonably sure he could get one of them. He would give that one in fee to the City.

Mayor Isen asked what Mr. Wilson had told the Park & Recreation Commission the taxes on one of these sumps amounted to, and Mr. Wilson said he had said one of the sumps in question had an assessed valuation of \$14,000.00.

Mr. Wilson said he would do everything in his power to get the sump he could not acquire for the City. He added that he had no idea of the value the beneficiaries of the estate put on the sumps. He did feel almost certain they would want to be compensated for the sump.

Councilman Jahn asked if Mr. Wilson would maintain the Ocean Avenue sump if he deeded it to the City.

Mr. Wilson said the City has an easement in which they agree to maintain that sump.

The City Attorney agreed that this is the City's responsibility.

Councilman Jahn asked Mr. Wilson if he pays the taxes on it, and Mr. Wilson said he does.

Councilman Jahn asked Mr. Wilson if he would have an answer from

the Kauffman estate by the time the map comes before the Council.

Mr. Wilson said the map will be before the Planning Commission tomorrow night, and before the Council probably next week. He could only assure the Council that the park fee would be paid or the land transferred and he would post a cash bond with the City guaranteeing such performance within 60 days.

Councilman Benstead asked if it would not be best to hold this and consider it before giving Mr. Wilson an answer.

Mr. Wilson said he would get the land as soon as he could, but there are two beneficiaries to this estate, two attorneys, and two trust deeds. It will take some time.

Mayor Isen wanted extra time to consider this.

Councilman Beasley asked if the Council could not consider the Tentative Map before approving the park fee.

Mayor Isen said the tentative map has been approved. He would like to hold this a week for study.

Mr. Wilson said this will be before the Council next Tuesday. He wished to assure the Council he would get either the land or the land and cash and would post a bond with the City which will provide that if he does not, he would pay the cash.

Mr. Wilson said he was afraid that holding this until next week would mean he was not conforming to the Ordinance. He said he was willing to post the bond to pay the whole amount if he does not deliver the land. He asked if he could not give the Council a choice, and then as a matter of expediency, have 60 days to perform, and if an extension is required, it could be considered at that time.

Mayor Isen said that was satisfactory with him. He asked if Mr. Wilson meant he would give the Council the opportunity to choose between one of these methods of payment or the park fee.

Mr. Wilson said he was, and was willing to allow the Council 30 days to decide but he would want 60 days to perform.

Mayor Isen said this would leave the matter open for negotiation.

Councilman Bradford moved we accept a letter and a bond be posted by Mr. Wilson that the Council has the prerogative of choosing the \$500 park fee or the property, consisting of two tracts of about 18 acres and \$100 per acre fee.

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

#### ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

The City Attorney had the information requested by the Council as to how much we had paid the firm of Newlin, Tackabury & Johnston. He told the Council that to date we have paid them about \$9,608.27; the present payment requested is \$3,043.28.

Councilman Jahn moved that the bill as presented be paid.

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

Councilman Drale asked what is holding this up, and the Mayor said the matter has to go through an orderly procedure.

Councilman Blount said we have a copy of a Resolution from the City of Hawthorne under 'Information'; he moved our City Attorney be instructed to prepare a similar Resolution for consideration by this Council.

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

Councilman Blount said the Sunday papers had quoted Mr. Hogue, the President of our new Water Commission, about the use of the old City Hall which the Water Commission had suggested. Mr. Hogue had been quoted by those same papers as saying it would take about \$500,000 to acquire a water company which our own water company said has no value.

Councilman Blount said he did not want the Commission to be quoted as setting values.

Mr. Hogue was present and came forward. He said he had not made such a statement. The statement about \$5,000 or \$500,000 was on a survey on a different water company entirely. The Lomita company has no value.

Councilman Blount moved that as a matter of policy, this Council instruct the Building Department to issue no building permits in the area where this extreme low water pressure is until further notice.

Councilman Jahn asked if the motion could be amended to specify that this would not apply if the builder made provisions for ample water, saying if so he would second the motion.

The City Attorney suggested that this was an instance where the 'Hazard Ordinance' would apply.

Councilman Blount said he did not care how this was done, just so it was done.

There were no objections, and the motion was ordered carried.

Councilman Bradford moved to dispense with the parking meters in downtown Torrance and the Hollywood Riviera section of the City from Thursday morning, December 18, until midnight December 24, to try to get more shopping in the area; he felt that we would get more income from sales tax than we do from the meters.

Motion seconded by Councilman Drale.

Councilman Benstead asked if Councilman Bradford thought the meters are driving business out of Torrance.

Councilman Bradford thought so, and said he knew people could go to nearby centers to shop without paying meter fees.

Councilman Benstead thought if this were passed, the merchants might want the meters removed permanently, and asked who they would expect to pay for off-street parking lots if this does come about.

Mayor Isen had heard this discussed, but said if the meters are removed, we run into the problem of the merchants and their employees who park in front of stores all day long and make it impossible for shoppers to park. The meters were put in to insure that traffic would circulate and make parking spaces available. He wondered if the meters on Sartori and El Prado could not be kept working, and just the others be dispensed with, saying this would only mean a little longer walk for shoppers who wish to take advantage of the free parking.

Councilman Drale suggested that the meterettes still police the area.

Mayor Isen thought if the meters were not to be enforced there would be no purpose in that.

Councilman Beasley thought the Mayor's suggestion might be considered discriminatory.

Councilman Jahn thought if this was done, we should do away with the meters entirely. His belief is that the parking meters do serve the purpose of maintaining orderly traffic movement. They make parking convenient and people will either move their cars when their time is up or put more money in the meter or use one of the City's free storage lots. He is opposed to doing away with the meters for any specified time such as this.

Councilman Bradford said he was only trying to stimulate business in the downtown area.

Councilman Beasley was not sure this would have that result, but if it does he would feel very badly if he did not go along with it. He felt the Council should do everything possible to bring business to Torrance.

Councilman Bradford said the cities of Redondo Beach, Hermosa, and other neighboring cities are doing this.

Councilman Blount moved a substitute motion, that if this is a good theory that all parking meters be removed.

Motion lost for lack of a second.

Motion to dispense with the parking meters in downtown Torrance from Thursday morning, December 18, until midnight December 24 carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Bradford, Drale, Isen. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Benstead, Blount, Jahn. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

The City Attorney asked if the Council wished the 1-hour parking ordinance to be enforced, saying if they did not this should be clarified.

Councilman Drale moved that where the parking meters are suspended and during the time specified, that ordinance be suspended.

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

Councilman Jahn asked how the people will know of this moratorium, and Mayor Isen thought the newspapers would relay this to the people.

Mrs. Herma Tillim, speaking from the audience, suggested that paper sacks be put over the meters, bearing the following legend: "MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM THE CITY COUNCIL".

Councilman Jahn said he would like to have an answer to his question.

Councilman Bradford thought we had permitted a merchant to put sacks over the meters some time ago, and he thought the police department should carry out this function.

Councilman Benstead suggested that the Meterettes be let off for this period of time, with full pay.

It was explained to him that the Police Department could use these girls for other duties during this time.

Councilman Jahn said that some time ago, 1-way traffic in the downtown area was requested by the downtown business men. The suggestion was sent to the Traffic Commission for consideration. The Commission made a thorough study of the plan, from every angle. It was their considered opinion, after the report from the Engineering Department as to how much parking would be lost by changing to parallel parking that the loss of parking space would be too great to institute the plan at this time. The change to parallel parking would have to be made if the 1-way traffic plan should become effective. No action was taken on the plan, therefore, except to hold the material until the parking meters funds can buy more parking lots so parking changes will not cause great loss.

He stated this report was made because the matter can be revived if it is not felt that the Commission's action was well taken.

Mayor Isen directed a query to the City Attorney, saying matters are referred to the Traffic Commission, and the favorable recommendations come back to the Council. He thought both the favorable and the unfavorable recommendation should come here, not only from that Commission but from all others. He asked how this could be effectuated.

The City Attorney thought an informal agreement between the Council and Commissions would be sufficient.

The Mayor thought all matters, together with the Commission's recommendations on them, should come to this Council.

Councilman Beasley asked if this meant all Commissions, and Councilman Jahn thought it should.

Mayor Isen agreed that all advisory Commissions should refer everything here, and so moved.

Councilman Jahn seconded the motion, and as there were no objections, it was so ordered.

Mayor Isen said the Ed Murrow radio show on Station KNX at 9:30 P. M. December 18 would be the report garnered by his reporter here in Torrance several weeks ago, and that we will get national coverage and recognition from this. He hoped everyone would hear that program.

Mayor Isen said that Mr. Bert Lynn, President of our Planning Commission has been elected to the post of First Vice President of the Southern California Planning Congress, and the Council should go on record as congratulating him on this honor.

There were no objections and it was so ordered.

Mayor Isen referred to the vacancy now existing on the Airport Commission, caused by the resignation of Malcolm B. Neal.

To fill this vacancy, Mayor Isen offered the name of Ted Carrol of 4301 Paseo de las Tortugas, saying he would ask that this nomination be voted on next week. Mayor Isen outlined Mr. Carrol's education and experience for the Council, saying he is with Coleman Engineering at this time.

Mayor Isen said we have had a lot of discussion in the past and have sent many resolutions and so forth to the Board of Supervisors because we have felt that we did not get back the taxes which are taken out of Torrance. At one time the suggestion was made that we form a separate County.

He had himself questioned whether the new Court House would fit the architecture of the Civic Center.

He wanted to go on record as saying now that the Court House is taking shape, it is a beautiful building, and the name "Torrance County Building" is admirably suited.

Councilman Drale said some time ago Councilman Blount had asked for a list of leases in arrears, and the Council should have that.

Mayor Isen asked who would have such a list, and this was briefly discussed.

It was agreed that the City Attorney, the City Manager, and the City's Finance Officer should work on this and present it to the Council.

Councilman Beasley asked what is being done about the plan to realign Newton Street, and Planning Director Powell said that is in Planning now, and in all probability there would be a report on it at the meeting Wednesday, December 17.

Councilman Benstead moved all bills properly audited be paid.

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 P. M.

A. H. Bartlett, City Clerk of the City of  
Torrance, California

By *John Whitacre*  
Deputy City Clerk

APPROVED:

*Albert Isen*  
Mayor of the City of Torrance