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Edith Shaffer
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Torrance, California
June 6, 1960

MINUTES OF AN ADJOURNED MEETING
OF THE TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL

The City Council of the City of Torrance convened in an adjourned regular meeting at 5:30 P.M., June 6, 1960, in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Torrance, California.

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

At the request of Mayor Isen, Mr. Ross Sciarrotta led the salute to our Flag.

Mayor Isen stated that if there were no objections, the Council would dispense with the regular order of business and consider this to be a workshop type of session. Mayor Isen said it would seem to be proper first to dispose of the formal public type of business and then adjourn to a closed personnel meeting as the last order of business. There were no objections, and the items on the agenda were considered, as follows:

WALTERIA LAKE APPRAISALS:

City Manager Stevens presented a map which was examined and discussed at length by the members of the Council, City Manager Stevens and City Attorney Remelmeyer.

Councilman Vico joined the meeting at 5:35 P.M.

It was the consensus of the Council that Site B is the most desirable site and that the appraisal indicates this site is not the most costly one. It was agreed that the Council should advise the Board of County Supervisors of their choice.

RESOLUTIONS:

The Assistant City Attorney, Robert K. Dower, drew a rough sketch on the blackboard of the territory under discussion and as he made the presentation, illustrated the various areas being considered.

Mr. Dower explained that Torrance proposes three new moves for the annexation to Torrance of uninhabited territory. A proceeding under the Uninhabited Act of 1939 of the California Government Code is more expeditious than a proceeding under the Inhabited Annexation Act of 1913. The Uninhabited Act is usable where the defined boundaries contain less than 12 permanent residents. The first move pursuant to the proposed resolutions would be designated as the Torrance Alondra Park annexation. This would embrace the exact boundaries of Alondra Park. Ownership and maintenance of the park would remain with the County. This move would preserve contiguity from the Torrance boundary line to the larger area between Prairie Avenue, Manhattan Beach Boulevard, Van Ness Avenue and Compton Boulevard which is now the subject of litigation with the City of Gardena in a writ of mandate suit.

The second move would be designated as the Crenshaw El Camino annexation. This would proceed from the Torrance boundary up a narrow stem of about 300 feet width to a so-called "cork" and Manhattan Beach Boulevard. This so called "cork" is a completed annexation of about 400 x 500 feet by Gardena which would serve to block contiguity or access by Torrance to the aforesaid Prairie, Manhattan Beach Boulevard, Van Ness Avenue and Compton Boulevard area now in litigation because Torrance claims to be in that larger area first.

The third move would be designated as the North Crenshaw Boulevard annexation and was scheduled as an alternative should Torrance lose out on its writ of mandate suit for the larger area. This area would proceed in a narrow strip from the Torrance boundary along Crenshaw Boulevard north as far as at least 154th Street.

During May, Gardena reactivated boundary description for the so-called "cork" in case they lose the quo warranto suit and also reactivated boundary description on the area from Compton to Van Ness to Manhattan Beach Boulevard, to Crenshaw Boulevard in the event they lose the writ of mandate suit. The City of Torrance will forthwith seek an injunction against Gardena to stop all further proceedings until there is a final court determination defining the rights of the two cities.

The City of Lawndale has also made two moves against the best interests of the City of Torrance and the territory they are seeking to protect by the two lawsuits against Gardena. First, Lawndale is attempting to take almost everything from Rosecrans down to Redondo Beach Boulevard between Prairie Avenue and Van Ness Avenue, including Alondra Park and El Camino College, under the Inhabited Act.

Next, Lawndale is attempting to take under the Uninhabited Act, the Alondra Park territory along with El Camino College and along with a narrow strip between the Torrance Boundary up to the "cork". The City of Torrance will forthwith seek a writ of mandate against Lawndale asking the court to enjoin them from these two moves on the basis of the possible illegality of attempting to take the El Camino Junior College and the fact that Torrance has already pre-empted part of the territory above the Park and College which is now pending for adjudication by the courts. Obviously, Lawndale is also seeking to block the necessary contiguity of Torrance getting beyond its own present northern boundary.

Deputy City Clerk Whitacre assigned a number and read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 3980

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE DECLARING THAT PROCEEDINGS HAVE BEEN INITIATED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE TO ANNEX TO SAID CITY UNINHABITED TERRITORY DESCRIBED HEREIN AND DESIGNATED AS "CRENSHAW EL CAMINO" ANNEXATION, AND GIVING NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED ANNEXATION AND OF THE TIME AND PLACE FOR HEARING PROTESTS THERETO.

1273

Councilman Benstead moved to dispense with further reading of Resolution No. 3980. Motion, seconded by Councilman Bradford, carried by unanimous roll call vote of those present (Councilman Drale absent).

Councilman Benstead moved to adopt Resolution No. 3980. Motion, seconded by Councilman Bradford, carried by unanimous roll call vote of those present (Councilman Drale absent).

Deputy City Clerk Whitacre assigned a number and read title to:

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RESOLUTION NO. 3981

1274
A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE DECLARING THAT PROCEEDINGS HAVE BEEN INITIATED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE TO ANNEX TO SAID CITY CERTAIN UNINHABITED TERRITORY DESCRIBED HEREIN AND DESIGNATED AS "TORRANCE ALONDRA PARK" ANNEXATION, AND GIVING NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED ANNEXATION AND OF THE TIME AND PLACE FOR HEARING PROTESTS THERETO.

Councilman Bradford moved to dispense with further reading of Resolution No. 3981. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried by unanimous roll call vote of those present (Councilman Drale absent).

Councilman Bradford moved to adopt Resolution No. 3981. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried by unanimous roll call vote of those present (Councilman Drale absent).

Deputy City Clerk Whitacre assigned a number and read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 3982

1275
A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE DECLARING THAT PROCEEDINGS HAVE BEEN INITIATED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE TO ANNEX TO SAID CITY CERTAIN UNINHABITED TERRITORY DESCRIBED HEREIN AND DESIGNATED AS "NORTH CRENSHAW BOULEVARD" ANNEXATION, AND GIVING NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED ANNEXATION AND OF THE TIME AND PLACE FOR HEARING PROTESTS THERETO.

Councilman Benstead moved to dispense with further reading of Resolution No. 3982. Motion, seconded by Councilman Beasley, carried by unanimous roll call vote of those present (Councilman Drale absent).

Councilman Benstead moved to adopt Resolution No. 3982. Motion, seconded by Councilman Bradford, carried by unanimous roll call vote of those present (Councilman Drale absent).

Mayor Isen stated for the information of the Council that there has been contact made by civic leaders in the El Camino area that an avenue be kept open because they do not want to connect with Gardena and that we should take this initiative in order that all doors will not be closed to them. He also stated that over seven years ago an act of the Legislature was enacted that made El Camino College not subject to annexation proceedings, except with their consent. Any Junior College formed prior to June 1952 is absolutely immunized from annexation. In all of Torrance's proceedings, the integrity of the College boundaries have been respected. Mr. Dower suggested that some of the administrative personnel of El Camino College be contacted to see if they want to file a written protest to Lawndale's action.

City Attorney Remelmeyer asked that the record show that the proposed annexation is not intended to overrule the previous annexation, but will become effective only in case the other annexation is not allowed to proceed. These three moves are only to protect Torrance's original position. Torrance does have a previous annexation on file and if the judge grants our writ of quo warranto petition and annuls Gardena's annexation in the court then our prior annexation will go forward under the Inhabited act. Mr. Dower stated there is campaign work to be done in this area looking forward to the election on the question. Mayor Isen asked if Mr. Dower

meant this to apply to the Uninhabited Act proceeding against Alondra Park and the answer was that this is a separate proceeding and would not apply.

1960-1961 BUDGET:

There was some explanation of the tabulations of salary and fringe benefit requests by the employees by City Manager Stevens and the estimated cost thereof. It was agreed that any formal motions would await the budget hearings to be held on June 8th and 14th.

Next was discussed the list of classifications and the present salary range, together with a proposed change which would make uniform all salaries within classification and eliminate inequities which have existed. All items listed on the agenda under Salaries, New Personnel, New Equipment and Capital Improvement Program will be discussed at the budget hearings at which employees, citizens and various other groups may be heard.

Councilman Benstead moved the meeting be adjourned to Wednesday, June 8th at 5:30 P.M. in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Torrance, California. Motion, seconded by Councilman Bradford, carried by unanimous roll call vote of those present (Councilman Drale absent).

At 7:00 P.M., Councilman Beasley moved the present meeting be adjourned to a closed personnel meeting.



City Clerk of the City of Torrance,
California

APPROVED:



Mayor of the City of Torrance

Edith Shaffer
Secretary

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