

## I N D E X

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Torrance, California  
April 3, 1962

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL**

**1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER:**

A regular meeting of the Torrance City Council was held Tuesday, April 3, 1962, at 5:30 p.m., in the Council Chamber of City Hall.

**2. ROLL CALL:**

Those responding to roll call by Deputy City Clerk Whitacre were: **COUNCILMEN:** Beasley, Benstead, Blount, Bradford, Drale, Vico, and Mayor Isen. **Absent:** None. Also present were City Manager Peebles and City Attorney Remelmeyer.

**3. FLAG SALUTE:**

At the request of Mayor Isen, John H. Stroh, formerly Torrance Chief of Police, led the salute to our Flag.

**4. INVOCATION:**

The Reverend Robert B. Dehn of First Baptist Church opened the meeting with an invocation.

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Councilman Benstead moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held March 27, 1962. The motion was seconded by Councilman Beasley and carried, there being no objections.

**6. APPROVAL OF DEMANDS:**

Councilman Benstead moved all bills regularly audited be paid. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried by unanimous roll call vote.

**7. MOTION TO WAIVE FURTHER READING:**

Councilman Benstead moved that after the Clerk has given a number and read title to any resolution or ordinance on tonight's agenda, the further reading thereof be waived; reserving and guaranteeing to each councilman the right to demand the reading of any such resolution or ordinance in regular order. The motion was seconded by Councilman Beasley and carried by unanimous roll call vote.

**8. AWARDS:**

Mayor Isen presented employee service awards to employees having fifteen, twenty, twenty-five and thirty years of service with the City. Those employees having five and ten years of service, respectively, will receive awards from their department heads at a later date.

A brief explanation of Council procedure was given by Mayor Isen for the benefit of the audience.

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Mayor Isen stated City Attorney Remelmeyer had prepared an appropriate and eloquent salutation to Dr. Schweitzer, signed by the Council, to be presented by the Reverend Gilbert S. Zimmerman when he visits in French Equatorial Africa. At the request of Mayor Isen, Deputy City Clerk Whitacre read the greeting in full.

Mayor Isen asked the Council to take notice of the fact that Police Officer Charles Oates saved a child's life several days ago in the course of duty. Officer Oates has also assisted in several child deliveries and Mayor Isen commended him for responding to promptly and ably where help is needed. Councilman Benstead suggested a notation be made in Officer Oates' personnel file.

#### PLANNING MATTERS:

9. CASE NO. 670, Variance. Petitioner, Norma Myers, 3929 West 187th Street. Variance to construct apartment building and duplex at the southerly terminus of Ermanita Street between 172nd and 174th Streets. Recommendation of Planning Commission for approval of six months' extension of time.

Councilman Bradford moved to grant the extension of six months as requested. Councilman Drale described the need for a sewer easement to accommodate several properties and asked that the granting of that easement by Mrs. Myers forthwith be made a condition to granting the extension. Under these circumstances which Councilman Bradford accepted, Councilman Drale seconded.

City Attorney Remelmeyer said it would be preferable to take the matter under submission for two weeks and in the interim obtain the necessary sewer easement. However, roll call on the original motion carried by unanimous roll call vote and the extension is granted with the condition that the easement be obtained forthwith.

#### 10. WAIVERS:

W-273, Beth L. Gray, 4076 Bluff Street. Request for waiver of two feet to construct five foot high masonry retaining wall along front property line;

W-277, James C. Campbell, 4131 West 175th Place, requesting use of more than one-third of required rear yard to complete rumpus room.

No correspondence has been received on these waiver requests and Councilman Drale moved both be granted. Councilman Bradford seconded the motion. Councilman Benstead asked the location of the 5 foot masonry wall on W-273 and Acting Planning Director Cleveland explained it is at the front of the yard where there is a slope. The property next door has a similar wall.

There was no objection and the motion carried.

#### COMMUNICATIONS FROM BUILDING DIVISION:

11. Request of YWCA, 2320 West Carson Street, to make minor structural changes in the building at this address, with comments of Superintendent of Building Inspection Schlens.

Councilman Blount moved to grant the request and his motion was seconded by Councilman Benstead and carried by unanimous roll call vote.

12. Request of Art Craft Neon Company, by Raymond Murphy, to erect a globe-type illuminated sign at 2625 Pacific Coast Highway for Norge Laundromat, with recommendation of Superintendent of Building Inspection Schlens.

Councilman Bradford moved to grant the request. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried, there being no objection.

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM ENGINEERING DIVISION:**

13. Award of Contract - Improvement of Amapola Avenue from 200 feet northerly of Torrance Boulevard to 185 feet southerly of Torrance Boulevard. Recommendation of City Engineer Nollac dated March 28, 1962 that the low bid of Contractors Asphalt Sales Company in the amount of \$6,577.50 for alternate "B" be accepted and all other bids be rejected. Bid summary attached.

Councilman Drale moved to concur in the recommendation of the Engineering Department. Motion, seconded by Councilman Beasley, carried by unanimous roll call vote.

14. Sewers in Carol Drive, Earl Street, Emerald Street, and Mansel Avenue. Expenditures from Sewer Revolving Fund. Recommendation of City Engineer Nollac, approved by City Manager Peebles, that \$20,500 be appropriated from the Sewer Revolving Fund for the construction of sanitary sewers. Location sketches attached.

Councilman Drale moved to concur in the recommendation of the City Engineer, approved by City Manager. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried by unanimous roll call vote. City Engineer Nollac explained the street is a two-level affair which requires some duplication of sewerage.

15. Improvement of Cabrillo Avenue from Sepulveda Boulevard to Lincoln Avenue. Recommendation dated March 28, 1962 of City Engineer Nollac, approved by City Manager Peebles that \$656 be appropriated from our budgeted County Aid-to-Cities money for relocation of railroad crossing signals by the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway Company.

Councilman Beasley moved to concur in the recommendation of the City Engineer, approved by City Manager. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried by unanimous roll call vote.

16. Intention to Vacate interest in portion of Lot 10, Block 5, Tract No. 15213. Recommendation of City Engineer Nollac, approved by City Manager Peebles, that the easterly four feet of Lot 10, Block 5, Tract No. 15213, be vacated, with resolution to cover.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 62-56

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE DECLARING ITS INTENTION TO VACATE WHATEVER INTEREST THE CITY MAY HAVE ACQUIRED IN A PORTION OF LOT 10, BLOCK 5, TRACT NO. 15213, IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE; FIXING A TIME AND PLACE FOR A HEARING THEREON AND PROVIDING FOR THE PUBLICATION OF THIS RESOLUTION.

Councilman Benstead moved to adopt Resolution No. 62-56. Motion, seconded by Councilman Bradford, carried by unanimous roll call vote.

17. Transmittal of easements to City Council for Acceptance.

Councilman Benstead moved to accept the following eight easement deeds:

1. Street easement deed dated January 17, 1962 for the widening of Spencer Street over a portion of Lot 38, Tract No. 3218, given by Fred C. King and Cake Corp.
2. Street easement deed dated January 17, 1962 for the widening of Spencer Street and to provide a corner radius at the southwesterly corner of Spencer Street and Hawthorne Avenue over a portion of Lot 37, Tract No. 3218, given by Fred C. King and Cake Corp.
3. Street easement deed dated February 1, 1962 for the widening of Sepulveda Boulevard over a portion of Lot F, Rancho Palos Verdes, given by Anna M. Kettler Blanchard and Emil Kettler, Jr.
4. Street easement deed dated March 27, 1962 for the construction of Ladeene Avenue and 240th Street over a portion of Lot 8, Meadow Park Tract, given by Redondo Land Co. and D.S.W., Inc.
5. Storm drain easement deed dated March 27, 1962 over a portion of Lot 8, Meadow Park Tract, given by Redondo Land Co. and D.S.W., Inc.
6. Sanitary sewer easement deed dated March 27, 1962 over a portion of Lot 8, Meadow Park Tract, given by Redondo Land Co. and D. S.W., Inc.
7. Street easement deed dated March 23, 1962 for the widening of Crenshaw Boulevard over a portion of Lot 49, McDonald Tract, given by Fred Chasan, Harold Drapkin, and Samuel J. Paltin.
8. Street easement deed dated March 27, 1962 for the widening of 230th Place over a portion of Lot 85, Tract No. 639, given by Io Cornelius Bailey.

Councilman Drale seconded the motion and it carried, there being no objection.

#### COMMUNICATIONS FROM WATER DEPARTMENT:

18. Water Superintendent McVicar, requesting permission to attend A.W.W.A. conference in Yosemite, April 27-28, 1962, together with Asst. Water Superintendent Powell, with appropriate expenses paid. Comment of City Manager Peebles appended.

Councilman Benstead moved to grant the permission. Motion, seconded by Councilman Vico, carried by unanimous roll call vote.

19. Memo from Water Superintendent McVicar dated March 23, 1962, requesting permission to install pipe line in Gramercy Place from 171st Street to 166th Street.

Councilman Beasley moved to grant the permission requested. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried by unanimous roll call vote.

#### AIRPORT MATTERS:

20. City Attorney Remelmeyer's opinion regarding Airport funds.

Councilman Benstead moved this matter be held for two weeks. Motion, seconded by Councilman Vico. Councilman Drale asked for some discussion on this item, stating he believes the City should

allocate the revenues from the Airport to Airport use in order to build a first class airport. Mayor Isen said the matter is one to be considered along with other budget items.

Councilman Benstead rephrased his motion: to table the item. Motion, seconded by Councilman Beasley, carried, there being no objection.

**RESOLUTIONS:**

21. At the request of Mayor Isen, Deputy City Clerk Whitacre assigned a number and read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 62-57

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, OBJECTING TO THE PROPOSED SCHEDULE OF FEES FOR THE SAFETY AND SPECIAL RADIO SERVICES AS OUTLINED IN DOCKET NO. 14507 OF THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION.

Councilman Benstead moved to adopt Resolution No. 62-57. Motion, seconded by Councilman Bradford, carried by unanimous roll call vote.

**ORDINANCES:**

22. At the request of Mayor Isen, Deputy City Clerk Whitacre presented for its second reading and read title to:

ORDINANCE NO. 1302

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING SECTIONS 9 (C), 10 (B), AND 15 I (d) OF APPENDIX I OF "THE CODE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, 1954" (OFFICIAL LAND USE ORDINANCE) REGULATING THE BUILDING HEIGHT LIMIT OF STRUCTURES IN ZONES C-1 AND C-2, AND PROVIDING OFF-STREET PARKING REQUIREMENTS FOR APARTMENT HOUSES IN ALL ZONES.

Councilman Benstead moved to adopt Ordinance No. 1302 at its second and final reading. Motion, seconded by Councilman Beasley, carried by unanimous roll call vote.

23. Councilman Beasley moved the ordinances declaring moratoriums on changes of zone be held three weeks so that they may be considered by the new Council. However, Mayor Isen said this Council is obligated to present the first reading of the ordinances. There was no second to Councilman Beasley's motion and, at the request of Mayor Isen, Deputy City Clerk Whitacre assigned a number and read title to:

ORDINANCE NO. 1303

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE DECLARING A MORATORIUM ON CHANGES OF ZONES AND VARIANCES ON ALL LANDS IN THE PROPERTY KNOWN AS THE VICTOR PRECINCT (WEST OF HAWTHORNE AVENUE, EAST OF THE CITY OF REDONDO BEACH BOUNDARY, NORTH OF TORRANCE BOULEVARD AND SOUTH OF DEL AMO BOULEVARD) FOR A PERIOD NOT TO EXTEND BEYOND NOVEMBER 1, 1962; DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO HAVE A SURVEY CONDUCTED AND TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING A ZONING PLAN FOR SAID LAND; AND DECLARING THE PRESENCE OF AN EMERGENCY.

It was noted the word "industrial" in C-1 of Ordinance No. 1303 should be changed to "residential". That change will be made.

Councilman Benstead moved to adopt Ordinance No. 1303 as an emergency measure. Motion, seconded by Councilman Bradford, carried by unanimous roll call vote.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 1304

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE DECLARING A MORATORIUM ON CHANGES OF ZONES AND VARIANCES ON LANDS PRESENTLY ZONED FOR INDUSTRIAL USES (ZONES M-1 AND M-2) FOR A PERIOD NOT TO EXTEND BEYOND NOVEMBER 1, 1962; DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO HAVE A SURVEY CONDUCTED AND TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING A ZONING PLAN FOR SAID LAND; AND DECLARING THE PRESENCE OF AN EMERGENCY.

Councilman Benstead moved to adopt Ordinance No. 1304 as an emergency measure. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried by unanimous roll call vote.

24. At the request of Mayor Isen, Deputy City Clerk Whitacre assigned a number and read title to:

ORDINANCE NO. 1305

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE EXEMPTING CERTAIN PROPERTY HEREIN DESCRIBED FROM THE PROVISIONS OF ORDINANCE NO. 716, PROHIBITING BUILDING IN THE AREA KNOWN AS WALTERIA LAKE.

Councilman Drale moved to approve Ordinance No. 1305 at its first reading. Motion was seconded by Councilman Vico.

Mayor Isen stated there have been two very good articles about Torrance in the Real Estate Section of the Los Angeles Times, one of which dealt with "Ex-ump high and dry during storm" and complimented Don Wilson highly on what he has accomplished, not only in this respect, but on his reputation for reliability as a builder. Included in the commendation was Engineering Service Corporation and especially Nick Harrison. Mayor Isen placed the article on the table at the front of the Council chamber so that anyone who wished might read it.

Roll call vote was favorable, as follows:

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Blount, Bradford, Drale,  
Vico, Mayor Isen.  
NOES: COUNCILMEN: Benstead.

25. At the request of Mayor Isen, Deputy City Clerk Whitacre assigned a number and read title to:

ORDINANCE NO. 1306

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING SECTION 4.20 ENTITLED "FEES FOR IMPOUNDING AND KEEPING ANIMALS" OF "THE CODE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, 1954" TO ESTABLISH ONE FEE FOR IMPOUNDED DOGS.

Councilman Benstead moved to approve Ordinance No. 1306 at its first reading. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried by unanimous roll call vote.

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY MANAGER:**

**26. Miscellaneous recommendations:**

**A. Expenditures:**

1. \$481.50 plus tax to Victor Adding Machine Company for one printing calculator with automatic multiplier and automatic divider for Finance Department.
2. \$355.50 plus tax to Monroe Calculating Machine Company for one printing calculator with automatic multiplier for Finance Department.

Councilman Beasley moved to concur in the recommendation of the City Manager to approve the above two expenditures. Motion, seconded by Councilman Vico, carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Councilman Bradford questioned the purchase of two machines from different companies and City Manager Peebles said Director of Finance Scharfman had made extensive studies and found the two most beneficial for the particular use.

**PROCLAMATIONS:**

27. Mayor Isen proclaimed Saturday, April 28, 1962, **BASEBALL DAY** and instructed Deputy City Clerk Whitacre to send copies thereof to those who requested them.

28. Mayor Isen proclaimed the month of April, 1962, as **TEACHING CAREER MONTH**.

29. Applications for mechanical amusement rides (carnivals).

1. Krafts Twenty Big Show, Inc., to be located at 2655 Pacific Coast Highway, Torrance, (Airport property) Foods Co. area; to be held April 18, 19, 20 and 21, 1962.

The application has been approved by Planning, Fire, Building and Police Departments, plus City Manager and Staff. The recommendation of the License Inspector is to grant the license subject to required insurance being filed with License Department, together with a letter from the lessee of the Airport property granting permission for the show.

2. Kemsley Kiddie Karnival, Inc., to be located on Bishop Montgomery High School football field, 5430 Torrance Boulevard, to be held April 27, 28, 29, 1962.

The application has been approved by Planning, Fire Building and Police Departments and Staff. The recommendation of the License Inspector is to grant the license subject to filing of required insurance.

On inquiry by Mayor Isen, License Inspector Whitacre said the applications are in good order, approved by all departments, and orally recommended they be granted, subject to the stipulations set forth.

Councilman Drale moved to concur in the recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Vico, carried, there being no objection.

30. City Manager Peebles asked when the Council would meet again in view of the election on Tuesday, April 10th. Mayor Isen said it would be on April 17th. Councilman Drale recalled the custom to be meeting on the next consecutive day after the election Tuesday, in this case, Wednesday, April 11th at 8:00 p.m., and moved adjournment this evening be to that time.

Roll call vote was favorable, as follows:

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Benstead, Blount, Bradford, Drale,  
Vico, Mayor Isen.

NOES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley.

31. City Attorney Remelmeyer said he has received word that the District Court of Appeal has vacated the annexation of Alondra Park by the City of Lawndale. Lawndale has the right to appeal to the Supreme Court but, failing that, the decision of the District Court will stand. Mayor Isen complimented Mr. Remelmeyer who stated credit should be given to the County Counsel. Mayor Isen asked that a letter be prepared for his signature, thanking the County Counsel for his aid, as well as one to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors.

32. City Attorney Remelmeyer reported he and City Prosecutor Catterlin had checked into the Charles Deck matter and determined no section of the Elections Code or the Penal Code had been violated. Mr. Deck was present and talked at some length. However, the Councilmen believed his presentation to be in the nature of an election speech which is not encouraged at Council meetings.

33. Deputy City Clerk Whitacre reported receipt of a petition in the office of the City Clerk this afternoon signed by 850 members of Lomita Property Owners and Registered Voters Assn, Inc., protesting installation of additional facilities at Torrance Airport. Mayor Isen asked that a suitable letter be written to the Association, explaining that the facilities will not interfere with their enjoyment, but would make a safer and better airport.

Councilman Drale moved to file the petition. Motion, seconded by Councilman Beasley, carried, there being no objection.

34. Councilman Benstead asked City Engineer Nollac if the contractor has finished the Torrance Boulevard repavement of the sewer trench. Mr. Nollac said not yet.

35. Councilman Bradford said he had studied the proposed solution of the Walteria Lake east side problem and congratulated City Engineer Nollac on a good job. While Councilman Bradford will not be on the Council when this matter comes up again, he stated he believes it a workable plan by which commercial property along Hawthorne Avenue will be opened up and a lot of barren land will become productive of revenue to the City. The ultimate solution, however, Councilman Bradford believes will be a tunnel to the sea.

36. Secondly, Councilman Bradford wished the candidates lots of luck. Municipal elective posts are hard jobs which require devoted people and a great deal of time.

37. Mayor Isen again commented on the Los Angeles Times story about the Wilson tract and the publicity given the increased building permits. He stated Stanley Home Products is building a three-acre warehouse facility on our industrial center. He felt gratified that Torrance is moving along industrially and the metropolitan newspapers are taking note of it.

38. Mayor Isen mentioned the copy of letter from Mr. and Mrs. Penney (an information only item) and their comments regarding helpfulness of Airport personnel.

39. Councilman Drale asked if it would be possible to place some proper scroll in the City Hall lobby recognizing the people who received awards tonight for long service. Mayor Isen asked the City Manager to check into the possibility.

40. City Engineer Nollac thanked the Council for their complimentary remarks on his report, but asked that credit be given to his whole department as it was a joint effort.

41. Mrs. Gertrude Tooker of 20545 Madrona Avenue asked for some answers regarding what is being done on Civil Defense organization. She doubted the effectiveness of the present Civil Defense and Disaster Commission and did not think enough information is reaching the people of the City. Mayor Isen advised her that while the answers are not immediately available at this meeting, they will be obtained in time and she will be made aware of them. He thanked Mrs. Tooker for the time and effort she has expended in teaching the Civil Defense class and hoped the Council would soon be in a position to answer her questions.

Councilman Bradford moved to adjourn the meeting to April 11, 1962, at 8:00 p.m. The motion was seconded by Councilman Drale and carried by unanimous roll call vote.

*Vernon W. Coil*  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Vernon W. Coil, City Clerk  
 City of Torrance, California

APPROVED:

*Albert Isen*  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mayor of the City of Torrance

Edith Shaffer  
 Minute Secretary

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