

I N D E XCouncil Meeting held March 26, 1963, 8:00 p.m.

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Edith Shaffer  
Minute Secretary

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Adjourned at 10:15 pm

Torrance, California  
March 26, 1963

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL

1. CALL TO ORDER:

A regular meeting of the Torrance City Council was held at 8:00 p.m., on Tuesday, March 26, 1963, in the Council Chambers of City Hall.

2. ROLL CALL:

Those responding to roll call by City Clerk Coil were:  
COUNCILMEN: Benstead, Drale, Miller, Sciarrotta, Vico, and Mayor Isen. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Beasley. City Manager Peebles and City Attorney Remelmeyer were also present.

3. FLAG SALUTE:

At the request of Mayor Isen, Mr. Dick Pyle led the salute to our Flag.

4. INVOCATION:

Assistant City Manager Johnson opened the meeting with an invocation.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilman Drale moved the minutes of the regular meeting held March 19, 1963, be approved as written. His motion was seconded by Councilman Benstead and carried, there being no objection.

6. APPROVAL OF DEMANDS:

Councilman Benstead moved all bills regularly audited be paid. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried as follows:

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Benstead, Drale, Miller, Sciarrotta,  
Vico, and Mayor Isen.

NOES: None

ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Beasley.

7. MOTION TO WAIVE FURTHER READING:

Councilman Drale 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 Benstead and carried by unanimous roll call vote of those present (Councilman Beasley absent).

AWARDS:

8. At the request of Mayor Isen, Councilman Drale presented a perma plaque resolution of appreciation to Dr. Don G. Cortum for his services to the community as a member of the Torrance Committee for Decent Literature, and read portions thereof aloud.

## HEARINGS:

9. Case No. 831 - Change of Zone - Petitioner, Jack P. Rummel. Third and final hearing for a change of zone from R-2 to R-3 on property described as a portion of Lot 47, McDonald Tract situated at the northwest corner of 170th Street and Crenshaw Boulevard. Recommended for approval. Planning Director Shartle's letter of transmittal submitting location sketch, Planning Department recommendations to Planning Commission dated February 20, 1963, excerpt from Planning Commission minutes of February 20, 1963, copy of letter of approval.

Mayor Isen asked if anyone wished to be heard on Case No. 831; there was no response.

Councilman Benstead moved to close the hearing. Motion, seconded by Councilman Miller, carried, there being no objection.

Councilman Drale moved to concur in the recommendation of approval. Motion, seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, carried by unanimous roll call vote (Councilman Beasley absent).

10. Case No. 63-4 - Change of Zone - Petitioner Hilda Moen. Third and final hearing for a change of zone on property described as a portion of Lot 52, McDonald Tract, located on the north side of 182nd Street, 150 feet east of Crenshaw from R-2 to R-3. Recommended for approval. Planning Director Shartle's letter of transmittal submitting location sketch, Planning Department recommendations to Planning Commission dated February 20, 1963.

Mayor Isen asked if anyone wished to be heard on Case No. 63-4; there was no response.

Councilman Miller moved to close the hearing. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried by unanimous roll call vote (Councilman Beasley absent).

Councilman Drale moved to concur in the recommendation of approval. Councilman Benstead seconded the motion which carried by unanimous roll call vote (Councilman Beasley absent).

Councilman Drale commented that the Moens have been long time residents of the City and asked if they might consider dedicating the land necessary to help widen and eliminate a bad condition at this point on the Crenshaw Boulevard frontage of their property. Mayor Isen asked Traffic Engineer Whitmer to secure the necessary information from the daughter of Mrs. Moen who was present, in order to follow through. Her address is 3040 Harding, Long Beach, and telephone ME 0-2794.

Affidavit of publication on each of the above cases was presented and there being no objection, ordered filed.

11. South Torrance Sewer Assessment District No. 4. A'11 61-1 Resolution of Intention No. 63-30 - Hearing on proposed changes.

Mayor Isen announced this is the time and place fixed for the holding of a public hearing with respect to proposed changes of work for South Torrance Sewer Assessment District No. 4 as set forth in Resolution No. 63-30 of this City Council, and called upon City Clerk Coil to produce affidavit of publication of notice of hearing. Mr. Coil presented the affidavit and on motion of Councilman Drale, seconded by Councilman Benstead and carried by unanimous roll call vote of those present (Beasley absent) it was ordered filed.

At the request of Mayor Isen, City Engineer Nollac briefly described the proposed changes as being due to a lot split which changed the location slightly and caused a reduction in the amount of \$88.20.

Mayor Isen asked the City Clerk to read all written protests; there were none.

Mayor Isen asked whether any interested person wished to make an oral protest; there was no response.

Councilman Benstead moved to close the hearing. His motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta and carried by unanimous roll call vote of those present (Councilman Beasley absent).

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

RESOLUTION NO. 63-45

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, MAKING FINDINGS, OVER-RULING PROTESTS AND OBJECTIONS AND ORDERING CHANGES IN THE PROCEEDINGS UNDER RESOLUTION OF INTENTION, RESOLUTION NO. 62-236.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved to waive further reading of Resolution No. 63-45. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried by unanimous roll call vote (Councilman Beasley absent).

Councilman Sciarrotta moved to adopt Resolution No. 63-45. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried by unanimous roll call vote (Councilman Beasley absent).

**PLANNING MATTERS:**

12. Waiver 63-5 - Robert L. June, 3934 Thornburgh Place, waiver for 5' rear yard to permit addition to existing house at above address, R-1 zone. Recommended for approval. Planning Director Shartle letter of transmittal submitting Planning Department recommendations to Planning Commission dated March 6, 1963, excerpt from Planning Commission minutes of March 6, 1963, location sketch and plot plan for Council use.

Councilman Miller moved to concur in the recommendation of approval set forth. Motion, seconded by Councilman Vico, carried by unanimous roll call vote, although Councilman Benstead questioned the need for the waiver and thought it might establish an untoward precedent in R-1. Mayor Isen agreed the Planning Department should furnish more information on such an item.

13. Ordinance - Master Plan - Portion of Tract 2200.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 1373

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 MASTER PLAN STUDY NO. 1, STUDY AREA "B".

Councilman Sciarrotta moved to approve Ordinance No. 1373 at its first reading. Motion, seconded by Councilman Miller, carried by unanimous roll call vote of those present (Councilman Beasley absent).

14. Parking Assessment District (Downtown) Act of 1943. City Clerk's Certificate of Sufficiency and proposed resolution.

Mayor Isen on behalf of himself and the council lauded the efforts of the downtown merchants, several of whom were present, in successfully processing the petitions for this assessment district and City Manager Peebles said the city will be advertising for bids on the street work Thursday of this week.

In order to meet the requirements of O'Melveny & Myers, the third paragraph of Item 14, page 4 of the minutes of the March 26th meeting should be changed to read:

"The petition signed by the property owners within the proposed assessment district, along with the City Clerk's Certificate of Sufficiency was presented by City Clerk Coil and, on motion of Councilman Miller, seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta and carried by unanimous roll call vote (Councilman Beasley absent), received and ordered filed."

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, ORDERING A REPORT UNDER THE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT INVESTIGATION, LIMITATION AND MAJORITY PROTEST ACT OF 1931. (Vehicle Parking District No. 1)

Councilman Drale moved to dispense with further reading of Resolution No. 63-46. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried by unanimous roll call vote (Councilman Beasley absent).

Councilman Drale moved to adopt Resolution No. 63-46. Motion, seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta.

Mr. Abe Robinson, spokesman of the downtown group, said the results accomplished have been through the combined efforts of all concerned. Councilman Drale expressed the hope that the work can be done with such proper timing as not to interfere with any holiday business in the downtown area.

Roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Beasley absent).

City Manager Peebles made a brief report on what is contemplated in widening streets and making sidewalks more narrow but more attractive and effective. There will be a redesign of two inter-sections, addition of high fidelity music and a system for public announcements, as well as about 26% increase in on-street parking facilities. Bids will be advertised on March 28th and opened April 17th and city forces will be used to some extent to facilitate the work in an expeditious manner.

#### WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:

15. Mr. Robert H. Vroman requesting permission to hold Ranchero Days Committee meeting in Council Chamber April 22, 1963.

Councilman Benstead moved to approve and grant this request subject to availability. Mayor Isen announced if there were no objections, the request would be considered granted; there were none.

EXCERPT FROM  
COUNCIL MINUTES  
4-2-63

16. Torrance Chamber of Commerce requesting assistance from the City Attorney in preparation of brief in appeal before the Interstate Commerce Commission.

City Attorney Remelmeyer qualified his recommendation to grant, by saying he might not have time to do much in the way of assistance but will call for help if he needs it. The City Attorney of Long Beach is carrying most of the load at present. City Manager Peebles stressed the importance of this litigation to Torrance in the future. More equitable distribution of these surcharges, he said, would help to obtain more industries in the City. City Attorney Remelmeyer and City Manager Peebles concurred in the necessity of the work being done by the City Attorney and Councilman Sciarrotta moved to concur. Councilman Drale seconded the motion and there was no objection.

17. Claim submitted by Allen G. Bird, Esq. representing 18 clients, for alleged water damage sustained February 9 and 10.

Councilman Miller moved to reject and refer the claim to the Legal Department. Motion, seconded by Councilman Vico, carried by unanimous roll call vote (Councilman Beasley absent).

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT:**

18. Proposed 1911 Act Assessment District for the improvement of 236th Place between Arlington Avenue and Eshelman Avenue, with recommendation that 1. Council instruct the City Engineer to prepare plans and specifications for constructing curb, gutter, sidewalks, drainage facilities and sewers in the subject area, and 2. that water lines within the proposed district be installed by means other than 1911 act proceedings, and submitting location sketch.

City Manager Peebles asked that a correction be made in his recommendation to show inclusion of water lines under the 1911 proceedings in subitem 2. As now amended that recommendation is 2. that water lines within the district be installed by means of the 1911 Act assessment proceedings.

Councilman Benstead moved to concur in the recommendation as amended. Motion, seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, carried by unanimous roll call vote of those present (Councilman Beasley absent).

19. Councilman Benstead moved to accept easement deeds:

1. Street easement deed dated March 18, 1963 for the widening of 229th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue over portions of Lot 52, Tract No. 639, given by Anthony H. and Irene Bracken.
2. Street easement deed dated March 13, 1963 for the widening of 236th Place and 237th Street over portions of Lot 8, Tract No. 847, given by Alfred W. Mobra.
3. Street easement deed dated March 13, 1963 for the widening of 230th Place over a portion of Lot 92, Tract No. 639, given by Ralph H. and Sally A. Bezanson.
4. Street easement deed dated March 9, 1963 for the widening of Ocean Avenue over a portion of Lot 9, Meadow Park Tract, given by Robert H. Dunn, et al.

5.

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There being no objection, Mayor Isen announced the motion carried.

20. Improvement of portions of Streets in accordance with City makeup policy. City Engineer Nollac, with concurrence of City Manager Peebles, recommending appropriation of funds for the improvement of City streets, dedication for the widening thereof having been granted by property owners and submitting copies of letters from property owners.

Councilman Drale thought priority should be given to such places as Sartori from Torrance Boulevard along Dominguez Street to Crenshaw Boulevard which is urgent and has been under discussion for a long time. The City Manager said this is now being worked on through negotiation with Pacific Electric.

Also, Councilman Drale mentioned Prairie Avenue from 190th Street to 182nd Street, and Carson from Crenshaw west to Madrona Avenue. As to Carson, City Manager Peebles said there is a problem in getting the easements. He has asked Street Superintendent Perkins to get to the Prairie Avenue improvement as soon as possible.

Mayor Isen agreed with the theory that the old streets which have long needed attention should be given priority. Dedication of property does not automatically give property owners priority at the expense of other long-existing problems.

Councilman Benstead moved to concur and Councilman Drale seconded his motion. The recommendation is that Items 1 through 4 be approved for construction in this fiscal year and Items 5 through 7 be allocated for 1963-64 fiscal year, as listed on the City Engineer's letter dated March 21, 1963. Mayor Isen asked to be permitted to make a substitute motion and Councilman Benstead withdrew his.

Mayor Isen moved a substitute that Items 1, 2, 3 and 4 be approved and the others be considered along with other improvements on streets in the 1963-64 budget. His motion was seconded by Councilman Miller and carried by unanimous roll call vote (Councilman Beasley absent).

#### COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY CLERK:

21. Recommendations on fire insurance bids. City Clerk Coil, with concurrence of City Manager Peebles, recommendation on fire insurance bids, with bid summary attached to agenda.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved to concur in the recommendation of the City Clerk and City Manager. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead.

Councilman Vico asked an explanation of this recommendation and City Manager Peebles stated there is a saving of \$5,400 involved. The motion carried as follows:

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Benstead, Drale, Miller, Sciarrotta,  
and Mayor Isen.

NOES: COUNCILMEN: Vico

ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Beasley.

#### COMMUNICATIONS FROM FINANCE DEPARTMENT:

22. Statement of J. B. Hanauer & Co. Director of Finance Scharfman with concurrence of City Manager Peebles' recommendation that offer of Hanauer & Co. re payment of fee be accepted and submitting letter of Hanauer dated March 18, 1963.

In answer to a question by Councilman Benstead, Director of Finance Scharfman said there will be no interest charged on the \$2500 deferred payment and Councilman Miller moved to concur in his recommendation. The motion, seconded by Councilman Vico, carried as follows:

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Benstead, Drale, Miller, Sciarrotta, Vico, and Mayor Isen.

ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Beasley.

23. Memorandum from Director of Finance to City Manager regarding cost of payroll deductions.

Councilman Drale moved this be filed as an informational item and there was no objection.

24. Policy re Payroll Deductions, with proposed resolution.

City Manager Peebles said there is a tremendous demand for deductions and it is the plan to keep them to a minimum.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 63-47

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ESTABLISHING A POLICY GOVERNING PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS.

Councilman Drale moved to adopt Resolution No. 63-47. Motion, seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, carried by unanimous roll call vote (Councilman Beasley absent).

COMMUNICATIONS FROM PARK DEPARTMENT:

25. Bid for Sprinkler system Palms Verdes Parkway between Calle Miramar and Paseo de la Playa, Torrance, California. Park Superintendent Clemmer, with concurrence of City Manager Peebles, recommendation that bid for sprinkler system be awarded to Jackson Supply Company.

Councilman Benstead moved to concur in awarding the bid to the low bidder, Jackson Supply Co. in the amount of \$3,369.64 and rejecting all other bids. His motion was seconded by Councilman Vico and carried by unanimous roll call vote of those present (Councilman Beasley absent). Mayor Isen asked City Manager Peebles to inform the Hollywood Riviera Homeowners Association that the bid was let.

26. Recommendations of Traffic Commission for approval: Secretary Whitmer, with concurrence of City Manager Peebles, submitting recommendations as follows:

- A. That STOP signs be installed on Via Buena Ventura at Camino del Campo and submitting proposed resolution.
- B. That NO PARKING ANYTIME be installed on the east side of Border Avenue from Plaza Del Amo to 22nd Street and submitting proposed resolution. 222 md

The two items were considered together and on motion of Councilman Sciarrotta, seconded by Councilman Miller approved, there being no objection.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 63-48

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING ARTICLE III OF RESOLUTION NO. 63-35 WHICH ESTABLISHES THROUGH STREETS IN THE CITY BY ADDING CERTAIN LOCATIONS THERETO.

Councilman Benstead moved to adopt Resolution No. 63-48. Motion, seconded by Councilman Miller, carried by unanimous roll call vote (Councilman Beasley absent).

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

RESOLUTION NO. 63-49

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING ARTICLE III OF RESOLUTION NO. 63-33 WHICH ESTABLISHES NO PARKING ANYTIME IN THE CITY BY ADDING CERTAIN LOCATIONS THERETO.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved to adopt Resolution No. 63-49. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried by unanimous roll call vote (Councilman Beasley absent).

COMMUNICATIONS FROM TORRANCE TRAFFIC SAFETY COUNCIL:

27. Chairman Reverend Percy submitting breakdown of money to be expended relative to the proposed vehicle safety check for approval.

Councilman Drale moved to give the proposed vehicle safety check the Council's wholehearted support. Councilman Benstead questioned one phase of the project: the litterbags and whether or not they are being received gratis, in that they bear advertising copy. Mayor Isen, as a substitute, moved to approve the material which does not carry advertising (the litterbags, specifically, do) and eliminate such as does have imprinted advertising copy. In other words, no money should be paid for material which bears an ad. Councilman Drale seconded the motion which carried by unanimous roll call vote (Councilman Beasley absent).

COMMUNICATIONS FROM YOUTH WELFARE COMMISSION:

28. Acting Chairman Babbitt submitting request to City Council to draft letter to President Kennedy re indecent literature.

Councilman Miller moved to concur in writing the described letter. Councilman Drale seconded the motion and it was informally agreed the letter would be drafted by City Manager Peebles within a week, for the signature of Mayor Isen.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM TORRANCE BEAUTIFUL COMMISSION:

29. Chairman Mrs. Roy Apsey, with concurrence of City Manager Peebles, re judging essay contest awards and invitation to City Council and other guests.

Mayor Isen moved to concur in the recommendation, to approve. Councilman Drale seconded the motion and there was no objection.

## AIRPORT MATTERS:

30. Lancer Engineering request for approval of change in partnership. Airport Commission President Herrick, with concurrence of City Manager Peebles, submitting Airport Commission's recommendation of approval, subject to approval of Tom Chester, original leaseholder, and submitting his approval and Lancer Engineering letter of request dated March 1, 1963 with Airport Manager Egan's comments dated March 7, 1963.

Councilman Benstead moved to concur in approval. Councilman Drale seconded the motion and there was no objection.

31. Airport Height Limit Ordinance.

In answer to a question by Mayor Isen, City Attorney Remelmeyer stated this is an emergency ordinance as an interim measure; the regular ordinance will be before the Council in about six weeks.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 1374

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ADDING ARTICLE II TO CHAPTER 3 OF "THE CODE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, 1954" ESTABLISHING AIRPORT HAZARD ZONING RESTRICTIONS FOR THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL AIRPORT; ADOPTING AIRPORT ZONING REGULATIONS LIMITING THE HEIGHT OF BUILDINGS, STRUCTURES OR OTHER OBSTRUCTIONS AFFECTING THE SAFETY OF AIRCRAFT OPERATION WITHIN THE AREA ESTABLISHED HEREIN; AND DECLARING THE PRESENCE OF AN EMERGENCY.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved to adopt Ordinance No. 1374 as an emergency measure and his motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried by unanimous roll call vote of those present (Councilman Beasley absent). Mayor Isen, on behalf of the Council moved to instruct the Planning Commission and Planning Director to flag every petition involving property in the airport flight pattern so that such aireasement can be obtained. Councilman Drale seconded the motion which carried by unanimous roll call vote of those present (Councilman Beasley absent).

32. Report re clear zone acquisition at the Airport.

Councilman Benstead asked if there is any reason why the people cannot be asked to put a price on their property before starting this; he felt it would be good public relations and perhaps no more expensive. City Attorney Remelmeyer agreed it could be done although usually the asking price is more than what is expected to be paid. Councilman Drale asked if a letter has been sent to these 31 property owners stating the City's intention and City Attorney Remelmeyer answered negatively. Mayor Isen recommended paragraph 6 on the second page of the subject communication be changed to read:

"Upon receipt of the money from the FAA:

a. The property owner shall be visited and if possible information received from him as to the price placed on his property, and at such time he will be advised of the informal appraisal price; that thereafter the Council shall be notified and thereafter, if necessary, the condemnation complaint will be filed and served."

in line with Councilmen Benstead and Drale's conversation, it being noted the order of exchange of price tags would be left to the discretion of the person making the visit. Councilman Sciarrotta moved to concur in approval of the two changes suggested by Mayor Isen and his motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried, there being no objections.

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY ATTORNEY:**

33. Assembly Bill No. 889. City Attorney Remelmeyer letter of transmittal submitting resolution opposing Assembly Bill No. 889.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 63-50

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE OPPOSING ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 889 (AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 24505 OF THE PUBLIC UTILITIES CODE RELATING TO TRANSIT DISTRICTS IN ALAMEDA OR CONTRA COSTA COUNTIES)

Councilman Miller moved to adopt Resolution No. 63-50. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried as follows:

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Benstead, Drale, Miller, Sciarrotta,  
Mayor Isen.

NOES: COUNCILMEN: Vico

ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Beasley.

City Attorney Remelmeyer said he and Assistant City Manager Ferraro had discussed such resolutions and reached the conclusion that in these matters where the council wishes to express either approval or protest of certain legislation, letters are more expeditious and effective, partly because of the time element in drafting the resolution and re-presenting it, or there could be a follow-up by resolution.

Councilman Miller moved to adopt such a policy and Mayor Isen seconded. The City Manager is to compose and send the letter and the City Attorney prepare appropriate resolution.

34. SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 1372 providing for creation of a conditional commercial district (C-5).

Mayor Isen stated Ordinance No. 1372 should await consideration by a full council and Councilman Sciarrotta moved it be back on the agenda for next week. Mayor Isen seconded the motion and there was no objection.

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY MANAGER:**

35. Policy regarding employment in the City of Torrance of close relatives.

Councilman Vico thought is a very poor time to make such a policy. City Manager Peebles said such a policy in any event would not be retroactive and the department head would have the right to choose one of the top three on any eligible list. Mr. George Morehart of the Civil Service Board stated this is not a new idea, it has been discussed for a long time. Mayor Isen asked what the policy would be with respect to marriage of two employees after their employment has been established.

Councilman Benstead complained that the modern Civil Service ordinance has not been presented and City Manager Peebles said it is now on his desk, awaiting review. Councilman Benstead does not favor any changes until this ordinance is completed and accused the Board and the City Attorney's office of dragging their feet. On the contrary, Councilman Sciarrotta blamed the Council for not appropriating the requisite sum to permit assistance in drafting the ordinance as requested.

Councilman Drale contended Civil Service should be open to anyone who passes the examination and stands high on the eligible list; it is up to the department head to establish the qualifications of the person during the probation period. He moved the Council do not concur. Councilman Benstead said the purpose of Civil Service is to take the employee out of politics and seconded Councilman Drale's motion.

City Attorney Remelmeyer is to add the changes here suggested to the Civil Service ordinance which will soon be presented to Council for consideration. He would like to have a committee of the council consider the ordinance after which it would go to the employees and then to the Civil Service Board and back to the Council.

Roll call vote on the motion not to concur was:  
 AYES: COUNCILMEN: Benstead, Drale.  
 NOES: COUNCILMEN: Miller, Sciarrotta, Vico, Mayor Isen.  
 ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Beasley.

Thus, the assumption is that the Council concurs in the recommendation regarding non-employment of close relatives. Mayor Isen advised City Attorney Remelmeyer to include several alternatives; this policy not to apply to marriages contracted by persons under Civil Service rules, and in accordance with Fair Employment practices. When it has been reviewed by the City Manager, there will be the public hearings, etc.

36. Report on drainage problem at 238th Street and Hüber Avenue.

Mayor Isen stated this is merely informational and Mr. Nechvatal has been notified it will be on next week's agenda.

37. Report re Police Addition with attached resolution.

Mayor Isen expressed pleasure that half the cost will be supplied and City Manager Peebles said it has taken so long because of the slow processing through the Federal Government.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 63-51

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE AND ATTEST AN AGREEMENT DATED APRIL 1, 1963, WITH KOEBIG AND KOEBIG, INC., FOR ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT FACILITIES.

Councilman Benstead moved to dispense with further reading of Resolution No. 63-51. Motion, seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, carried by unanimous roll call vote (Councilman Beasley absent).

Councilman Sciarrotta moved to adopt Resolution No. 63-51. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried by unanimous roll call vote of those present (Councilman Beasley absent).

38. Miscellaneous Recommendations:

- Personnel:
1. That City Engineer Walter Nollac be authorized to attend the League of California Cities Public Works Institute May 5 to 7, 1963, at Salinas, California, with appropriate expenses paid.
  2. That Bus Superintendent Marshall Chamberlain be authorized to attend the Western Division Conference of the American Transit Association, April 22 to 24, 1963, in San Francisco, California, with appropriate expenses paid.

- Expenditures:
1. \$3,912.15 to General Pump Service, Inc., for repairs to Wells #2 and #3, a budget item.

Councilman Benstead moved to concur in approval of items listed under Personnel and Expenditures. His motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta and carried by unanimous roll call vote of those present (Councilman Beasley absent).

39. With respect to a booklet on City government prepared by the City Clerk, Mayor Isen moved approval be granted and the printing item will be considered later. His motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta and there was no objection, Wide distribution was recommended, especially in the schools.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

40. City Manager Peebles said he had received a call from Jay Michael of the League of California Cities requesting reconsideration of the Council's stand on the gasoline tax and had told Mr. Michael he would present the request to the Council. Mayor Isen stated the Council is not interested in granting the request.

41. Attached as an addendum was a resolution governing the fees for use of the Recreation Building. Mayor Isen asked that it be considered next week as the Council has not had an opportunity to study the supporting material.

42. Councilman Drale again mentioned a matter he brought up several weeks ago regarding protective type headgear for boxers and moved a resolution be adopted to go to the Governor and State Athletic Board. His motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta and there ensued an expression of various opinions on the subject of this and other sports. Councilman Drale called for the question and roll call vote was:

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Drale, Sciarrotta.

NOES: COUNCILMEN: Benstead, Miller, Vico, Mayor Isen.

ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Beasley.

43. Councilman Drale reported a meeting with the owner of a piece of property on 233rd and Arlington, approximately 1½ acres, 63,000 square feet. There are two residences on the property and the asking price is \$70,000: \$1,000 down and 29% on January 1, 1964 and 29% each year thereafter until fully paid. She would wish to remain on the property rent free for six months, and would charge no interest. The Committee, which consists of Mr. Drale, Mr. Sciarrotta and Mr. Beasley (who was unable to attend the meeting) recommends acquiring the property as a start toward a sump location and that the City enter into an escrow with Miss Thelma Russell to

acquire the property. It would be necessary to also acquire probably two other parcels. Councilman Drale moved in accordance with the statements above made. Councilman Miller seconded and the Council proceeded to discuss the matter.

Mayor Isen felt there should be some assurance that the other land could be obtained before consummating any deal with Miss Russell; also that it be strictly understood the amount paid would only be a loan to the Assessment District from the City. Mayor Isen favored friendly condemnation of all the property required and said he would not favor Councilman Drale's motion until the attitude of the other owners is determined. The owner of a third parcel has definitely said condemnation would be necessary. Mayor Isen said again he wants a package before any agreement is entered into. The appraisal of Howard Martin on the Russell property was approximately \$65,000. City Attorney Remelmeyer said there should be a resolution in order to initiate condemnation proceedings if that is determined to be the course the council wishes to take. The appraiser's figures should not be released if condemnation is contemplated.

Mayor Isen stated there should be two restrictions to the motion as outlined above: that it be determined the other parcels can be obtained and so provided in the escrow; and that the money paid would be an advance to the Assessment District to be formed. Councilmen Drale and Miller agreed to these two conditions.

City Attorney Remelmeyer said it would be far simpler if determined to be necessary to file a condemnation suit on all three parcels and acquire them by friendly condemnation suit.

Roll call vote on the motion was unanimously favorable (Councilman Beasley absent).

City Attorney Remelmeyer said he would prepare a resolution as the first step and an escrow will be started with Miss Russell. Mayor Isen instructed him to prepare a memorandum agreement to take the place of the escrow agreement and to pay Miss Russell the token payment of \$1,000. The terms of a stipulated judgment in the condemnation suit will recite the terms set forth in the offer as to price and time of payment.

44. Councilman Drale moved a letter be written to the Board of Trustees regarding the college site selection, requesting that the decision on the South Bay College not be considered at the meeting in Arcata, or as an alternative that a special meeting be held in the South Bay area rather than in Humboldt County. The motion was seconded by Councilman Benstead. Copies of that letter should be sent to all other South Bay cities with the suggestion that they make a like request, and to all in the political arena, including Speaker of the Assembly, Jesse M. Unruh.

Mayor Isen mentioned the remarks allegedly made by Vice Chancellor Don Muchmore, the gist of which was that the college would be located in the Fox Hills regardless of any other factors and felt this attitude of "the public be damned" should be censured. He moved to write a letter of censure to Mr. Muchmore asking an explanation of his improper remarks. It was decided informally that such a letter be written for the signature of the City Clerk.

44. Mayor Isen said the postings are being made as to the change of name of certain streets to "Van Ness" and in order to save business people the trouble and expense of changing stationery, he asked that the License Department so advise any persons applying for business licenses or any changes of ownership on the affected streets, retroactive to January 1st of this year.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 p.m.

*Vernon W. Coil*

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

APPROVED:

*Albert Isen*

Mayor of the City of Torrance

Edith Shaffer  
Minute Secretary

Council Minutes  
March 26, 1963