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Torrance, California  
January 5, 1965

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL

OPENING CEREMONIES AND PRESENTATIONS:

1. Call Meeting to order:

A regular meeting of the Torrance City Council was held on Tuesday, January 5, 1965, at 5:30 p.m., in the Council Chamber of City Hall.

2. Roll Call:

Those responding to roll call by City Clerk Coil were:  
COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Lyman, Miller, Olson, Sciarrotta, Vico, and Mayor Isen. Absent: None. City Manager Ferraro and City Attorney Remelmeyer were also present.

3. Flag Salute:

At the request of Mayor Isen, Mr. Tom Coons, newly elected President of the Victor Knolls Homeowners Association, led the salute to our Flag.

4. INVOCATION:

Reverend Leslie C. Ashford of Del Amo Christian Church opened the meeting with an invocation.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Because of the holidays, the minutes of the December 29, 1964 meeting will be approved at the next meeting.

6. APPROVAL OF DEMANDS:

Councilman Beasley moved that all bills regularly audited be paid and his motion, seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, carried as follows:

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Lyman, Miller, Olson,  
Sciarrotta, Vico, and Mayor Isen.  
NOES: COUNCILMEN: None.

7. MOTION TO WAIVE FURTHER READING:

Councilman Sciarrotta 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 Vico and carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Mayor Isen gave a brief explanation of Council procedure for the benefit of the audience and displayed a gift of six small Turkish flags from Torrance's sister city, Konya, which were delivered to Councilman Sciarrotta for use by the Sister-City Committee. In return and as a gesture of appreciation to Konya, Mayor Isen suggested a number of small American flags be sent with the compliments of the Torrance City Council, and offered to pay for one personally.

HEARINGS:

8. UNIFORM HOUSING CODE. Formal hearing on Uniform Housing Code - 1964 Edition. Ordinance No. 1567 for second reading and adoption.

City Clerk Coil presented Affidavit of Publication and, there being no objection, it was ordered filed.

Mayor Isen asked if anyone wished to be heard at this public hearing and there was no response.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved to close the hearing. His motion was seconded by Councilman Vico and carried by unanimous roll call vote.

At the request of Mayor Isen, City Clerk Coil presented for second reading, and read title to:

ORDINANCE NO. 1567

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ADOPTING THE PROVISIONS OF "THE UNIFORM HOUSING CODE" 1964 EDITION.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved to dispense with further reading of Ordinance No. 1567 and his motion, seconded by Councilman Beasley, carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Councilman Beasley moved to adopt Ordinance No. 1567 at its second and final reading and his motion, seconded by Councilman Lyman, carried by unanimous roll call vote.

PLANNING AND ZONING HEARINGS:

9. CASE NO. 64-91 - VARIANCE - CARL W. METZLER, 3920 W. 182nd Street. Formal hearing on a variance to construct a three unit apartment building in addition to existing R-1 residence in zones R-2 and A-1. Recommended for approval by Planning Commission and for denial by the Planning Department.

Affidavit of Publication was presented by the City Clerk and there being no objection, ordered filed. Mayor Isen remarked that if there were no objections, in cases where legal publication is required and the affidavit is presented, it would be ordered filed as a matter of routine procedure. There was no objection.

The Planning Department believed this is not the type of case for requesting a variance and Mayor Isen summarized the question as a case where in four or five months a change of zone would be possible into which the variance would merge. He saw no reason to make Mr. Metzler wait that four or five months and in the meantime pay interest on his loan. Mr. Metzler said he would be willing to attach the addition to his house if R-3 is desired.

Planning Director Shartle was not present at this point in the Council meeting and Planning was represented by Mr. Stanley Swarts.

Mr. Metzler said he would not remove his home; if necessary, he would put another residence on the back of the property as it is necessary to get more income because of the large tax bill. Mayor Isen felt he should be given the variance provided he ties the back units into the front residence, by use of a common wall, so long as there is entry into the new building from the old. Councilman Beasley said he would move to that effect and Mayor Isen seconded.

Mr. Metzler stated his understanding of the motion - that he be permitted to leave the house as is and have a "filler piece of another bedroom" and Mayor Isen assented on condition of Building Department approval. Roll call vote was:

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Lyman, Olson, Sciarrotta,  
Mayor Isen.

NOES: COUNCILMEN: Miller and Vico.

Mayor Isen recommended this area be further studied and Councilman Olson suggested the study be expedited as much as possible. Parcels A and B are to be considered and Councilman Olson moved to refer Parcels A and B to the Planning Commission for further study. Mayor Isen seconded and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

The Planning Commission will hold hearings and make a recommendation to the Council.

PLANNING AND ZONING MATTERS:

10. FINAL TRACT MAP NO. 23200 - George Mallery Co., Subdivider. Jennings Engineering, Engineer. 16 lots located between Newton and Dalemead Streets and between Loytan Avenue and Weston Road. C-2 zone (proposed R-3 per case No. 64-80) Recommended for approval.

Councilman Beasley moved to concur in the recommendation of approval. His motion was seconded by Councilman Lyman and carried by unanimous roll call vote.

11. RESOLUTION in Case No. 64-89, George Schechter granting variance.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 65-1

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE GRANTING A VARIANCE FROM THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 15I OF APPENDIX I OF "THE CODE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, 1954" AS APPLIED FOR IN PLANNING COMMISSION CASE NO. 64-89 - GEORGE SHECTER.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved to adopt Resolution No. 65-1 and his motion, seconded by Councilman Beasley, carried by unanimous roll call vote.

STREETS AND SIDEWALKS:

12. EASEMENT FROM STANDARD OIL CO. OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE WIDENING OF LOMITA BOULEVARD. City Engineer/Street Superintendent, with concurrence of City Manager, submitting for approval and adoption resolution authorizing the execution of that certain easement deed to be granted by Standard Oil Company of California.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 65-2

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING EXECUTION ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF THAT CERTAIN EASEMENT DEED TO BE GRANTED BY STANDARD OIL COMPANY OF CALIFORNIA.

Councilman Beasley moved to adopt Resolution No. 65-2 and his motion, seconded by Councilman Lyman, carried by unanimous roll call vote.

13. AGREEMENT AND EASEMENTS FROM BETHLEHEM STEEL CO. FOR THE WIDENING OF 190TH STREET. City Engineer/Street Superintendent, with concurrence of City Manager, submitting for approval and adoption resolution accepting that certain agreement and grant of easements from Bethlehem Steel Company.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 65-3

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ACCEPTING ON BEHALF OF THE CITY THAT CERTAIN AGREEMENT AND GRANT OF EASEMENTS FROM BETHLEHEM STEEL COMPANY.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved to adopt Resolution No. 65-3 and his motion, seconded by Councilman Olson, carried by unanimous roll call vote.

SEWERS AND DRAINAGE:

14. CONSTRUCTION OF SANITARY SEWER EXTENSION IN MARICOPA STREET WEST OF AVIS AVENUE - NOTICE OF COMPLETION. Recommendation of City Engineer/Street Superintendent, with concurrence of City Manager, that Council accept the work on the subject improvement.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved to concur in approval of accepting the work and his motion, seconded by Councilman Vico, carried by unanimous roll call vote.

15. SEWER REIMBURSEMENT DISTRICT NO. 59. Recommendation from City Engineer/Street Superintendent, with concurrence of City Manager, that subject sewer reimbursement district with sewer connection fees indicated in cover letter be established.

Councilman Beasley moved to concur in the recommendation stated and his motion, seconded by Councilman Vico, carried by unanimous roll call vote.

\* \* \* \*

The hour of six o'clock having arrived, the Mayor declared a recess in the Council meeting to permit a meeting of the Redevelopment Agency of the City of Torrance.

At 6:45 p.m. the members of the Council reconvened as the City Council's regular meeting and proceeded with the agenda items.

\* \* \* \*

FISCAL MATTERS:

16. Claim of Darby N. Silverberg, Attorney at Law, on behalf of Consuela Estiamba for personal injuries and damages allegedly sustained as a result of an accident involving City vehicle and her 1956 Chevrolet on November 2, 1964 in the vicinity of City parking lot 3131 Torrance Boulevard.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved to deny and refer the claim to the Legal Department. His motion was seconded by Councilman Vico and carried by unanimous roll call vote.

17. ACCEPTANCE OF BID - TWO PACKER BODY 25 YARD UNITS - B-64-88. Recommendation of Garage Superintendent, with concurrence of City Manager, that bid of A. M. Donaher in the amount of \$19,726.72 be accepted.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved to concur in the recommendation to accept the bid of A. M. Donaher, the lowest bidder and the only one. His motion was seconded by Councilman Vico and carried by unanimous roll call vote.

18. PURCHASE OF TWO PICKUP TRUCKS. Recommendation for purchase of two pickup trucks for the Building Department at same price as on previous bid scheduled 64-75, Item 6 in place of one car from bid schedule 64-80, Item 7, for new 1965 autos.

Councilman Beasley moved to concur in the recommendation as stated to purchase two pickups from Vel's Ford at \$1754.43 each, including tax. His motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta and carried by unanimous roll call vote, except for Councilman Vico who abstained from voting.

19. PUBLIC EMPLOYEES HONESTY BLANKET POSITION BOND. Recommendation of City Clerk, with concurrence of City Manager, that the proposal of Insurance Company of North America, Albert C. Bilson, Agent, in the total amount of \$668.48 for the renewal of the Public Employees Honesty Blanket Position Bond for the three year period beginning January 1, 196~~8~~<sup>5</sup>, be accepted, and all other proposals be rejected.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved to concur in the recommendation as set forth and his motion was seconded by Councilman Miller. Roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

20. EXPENDITURES OF OVER \$300.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved to approve the expenditure for one Victor Calculating machine, Model No. 73-85-54, from Victor Adding Machine Company, \$408.32 for the Finance Department. His motion was seconded by Councilman Vico and carried as follows:

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Lyman, Miller, Olson,  
Sciarrotta, Vico, and Mayor Isen.  
NOES: COUNCILMEN: None.

AIRPORT MATTERS:

21. AIRPORT REVENUE BONDS.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 65-4

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$400,000 AIRPORT REVENUE BONDS, ELECTION 1962, SERIES B, OF SAID CITY AND PROVIDING THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR THE ISSUANCE OF SAID BONDS.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved to adopt Resolution No. 65-4 and his motion, seconded by Councilman Beasley, carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Mr. William Uerkwitz, 23136 Anza Avenue, asked how much of the \$400,000 would be used for extension of airport runways and Airport Manager Egan answered there would be none. Mayor Isen confirmed Mr. Egan's statement.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 65-5

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, DECLARING ITS INTENTION TO SELL \$400,000 AIRPORT REVENUE BONDS, ELECTION 1962, SERIES B, AND FIXING TIME AND PLACE FOR TAKING BIDS AND DIRECTING PUBLICATION OF NOTICE INVITING BIDS.

Councilman Beasley moved to adopt Resolution No. 65-5 and his motion, seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, carried by unanimous roll call vote.

22. AIRPORT COMMISSION REQUEST RE URBAN RENEWAL. Airport Commission President submitting request made by Airport Commission at its meeting on December 10, 1964, with Airport Manager's comments.

It is noted that the request has been granted and Councilman Beasley moved to file the communication. His motion was seconded by Mayor Isen and there was no objection.

23. AIRPORT COMMISSION REQUEST FOR MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORTS ON ALL LEASE NEGOTIATIONS. Airport Commission President submitting Commission's recommendation with Airport Manager's comments added.

Mayor Isen remarked that the statement is a reasonable one and moved the communication be filed. Councilman Sciarrotta seconded the motion which carried, there being no objection.

24. MATTER OF AIRPORT MANAGER'S REQUEST FOR RELEASE NIKE AREA FOR T-HANGAR USES. Commission President submitting Commission's recommendation that copies of letters be filed for information.

Airport Manager Egan said this matter is on the next Commission agenda and Mayor Isen moved the communication be filed. There was no objection.

25. AIRPORT MANAGER RECOMMENDATION FLYING FISHERMEN LEASE NEGOTIATIONS BE REMOVED FROM CALENDAR. Airport Commission President submitting Airport Commission's recommendation of approval in Airport Manager's recommendation.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved to concur in the recommendation to remove the lease negotiations from the calendar and Councilman Beasley seconded; there was no objection. Mayor Isen commented that the removal would be without prejudice.

The President of the Airport Commission, Joe Doss, was in the audience and he was asked for any comment. He said the matters are mostly informational as to the Commission's progress.

SECOND READING ORDINANCES:

26. ORDINANCE NO. 1568 adding Section 158 to Appendix I of "The Code" to prohibit the unauthorized sale of vehicles on vacant lots.

A newer version of the ordinance had been distributed as an addendum to the agenda and it was considered. Mayor Isen did not approve of this latest revision and Councilman Beasley thought subparagraph "b" should be stricken therefrom. Councilman Lyman remarked that what he first considered to be opening of "Pandora's box" now has gone far beyond and will apply to matters which were not originally intended. The original problem involved a couple of lots on Hawthorne Avenue and has now wandered far afield. City Attorney Remelmeyer's opinion was asked and he said the latest revision is far superior to any suggestion yet made, with one exception and he suggested the words "conducted on said premises" be added following the words "lawful business" in the next to last line of subparagraph (b) of S., Section 1 of the ordinance.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 1570

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ADDING SECTION 15S ENTITLED "UNAUTHORIZED SALE OF VEHICLES ON VACANT LOTS" TO APPENDIX I OF "THE CODE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, 1954" TO PROHIBIT THE UNAUTHORIZED SALE OF VEHICLES ON VACANT LOTS.

Councilman Vico moved to approve Ordinance No. 1570 at its first reading, including the added words suggested by City Attorney Remelmeyer. Mayor Isen asked that (b) be deleted entirely and that it be provided that "it be unlawful without permission of the owner of the lot".

Councilman Beasley moved a substitute to adopt, or approve at first reading, Ordinance No. 1570, eliminating "(b)". Councilman Miller seconded and Councilman Vico called for the question. Roll call vote was:

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Miller, Vico.

NOES: COUNCILMEN: Lyman, Olson, Sciarrotta, Mayor Isen.

Planning Director Shartle pointed out that subparagraph (b) liberalizes, rather than restricts, the effect of the ordinance.

Councilman Beasley moved to approve Ordinance No. 1570 at its first reading and Councilman Sciarrotta seconded. This motion included the words added by City Attorney Remelmeyer.

Mayor Isen moved to provide that it be unlawful without the permission of the owner of the Lot, in Section 1, S. 1., the wording to be:

"It shall be unlawful to sell, contract to sell, offer to sell, display for the purpose of sale, or to permit sales of any vehicle upon premises without the permission of the owner."

Councilman Beasley stated he would not go for that, but Councilman Lyman seconded Mayor Isen's amendment. Roll call vote was:

AYES: Lyman and Mayor Isen.

NOES: Beasley, Miller, Olson, Sciarrotta, Vico.

The amendment failed.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved for approval of Ordinance No. 1570 at its first reading - the motion had already been made by Councilman Beasley and seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta. Roll call vote was:

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Miller, Olson, Sciarrotta, Vico.

NOES: COUNCILMEN: Lyman and Mayor Isen.

27. ORDINANCE NO. 1569 reclassifying that certain property described in Planning Commission Case No. 64-82, C. L. Newman, et al.

At the request of Mayor Isen, City Clerk Coil presented for second reading, and read title to:

ORDINANCE NO. 1569

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. 64-82. (C. L. Newman, et al).

Councilman Sciarrotta moved to adopt Ordinance No. 1569 at its second and final reading. His motion was seconded by Councilman Beasley and carried by unanimous roll call vote.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

28. Mayor Isen announced there was present a group of people interested in the small park in North Torrance at 186th and Illinois Court. The spokesman for the group came forward, Mr. Wilton J. LeBlanc, 18737 Haas Avenue, telephone 324-1088, and thanked the council for reactivating the matter. He offered on behalf of the homeowners of the area whatever assistance possible. At the request of Mayor Isen, Recreation Director Van Bellehem gave an oral report on the status of the proposed purchase from the State, which has been authorized by the Council and is awaiting appraisal before formal negotiations start.

City Manager Ferraro said a citizens' committee would be helpful in consummating the details of the purchase. Mayor Isen asked Mr. LeBlanc to act as chairman of a committee of not to exceed seven members of the homeowners group to help plan the park.

29. City Manager Ferraro said all indications are for a good year for Torrance. He thanked those who had inquired of the progress of his small son who recently had a serious surgical operation, but is now recuperating nicely. Mr. Ferraro reminded the councilmen of the Advisory Group for the Auditorium and asked those who had not done so to make nominations by January 12th.

30. Mr. Ferraro reminded the council of Government Night for City Fathers and Department Heads at the Elks Club January 13th.

31. City Attorney Remelmeyer asked a 30 day extension of time to report on the Santa Fe problem. Mayor Isen said he had received several phone calls and asked that when the opinion does come forth, that a copy be sent to Mrs. Young who had spoken at Council meeting on the subject. He suggested also that a citizens' committee work with administration on this tremendous problem. The thirty day extension was granted to Mr. Remelmeyer.

32. Councilman Olson said he had asked about a traffic light at Torrance Boulevard and Madrona Avenue. The main problem seems to be during two short periods of the day, 7:45 to 8:15 a.m. and 4:15 to 4:45 p.m. He asked if the City Manager would investigate the merits of using a police officer to direct traffic at this intersection during those two half hour periods, or when deemed most necessary.

33. Councilman Vico referred to the council having appointed seven men to the Civil Service Commission and said he believed some of the members of other commissions should be replaced because they are not doing a good job. Mayor Isen disagreed and asked Mr. Vico to state names specifically, if he believed some commissioners were not performing their duties.

34. Mayor Isen agreed with Mr. Ferraro that this will be an outstanding year for Torrance and wished all present a Happy New Year.

35. City Manager Ferraro reminded the Council of the meeting of the Redevelopment Agency Advisory Committee on Thursday of this week, 7:45 p.m., at the Recreation Center.

36. Mr. John F. Mulvihill of 3765 West 171st Street, called attention to an article in the South Bay Daily Breeze and asked about the \$2.00 sewer tax mentioned in it. City Manager Ferraro explained what had occurred. This type of charge was approved in principle at the last budget sessions as a means of collecting from the persons directly benefited rather than placing some services on the general taxpayer's bill. A letter to the School Board had indirectly caused this newspaper article. Councilman Olson said he would like to receive copies of such courtesy letters so as to be informed when citizens ask questions of himself and other councilmen. Mr. Ferraro assured him when the proposed matter has come to the point of being considered by the Council, it will come before a council meeting on a general agenda item. Councilman Miller agreed with Mr. Ferraro that it is not always possible to predict the reaction to correspondence and it would not be practical to load the councilmen with a copy of all correspondence from the City Manager's office.

Mayor Isen explained in some detail the purpose of the proposed sewer maintenance charge and other charges which have been imposed to meet City expenses without increase in taxes, such as increase in cigarette tax, bed tax, increased rubbish collection fee, etc. These do not affect the real property tax rate, but place the charge against the person who actually benefits.

No decision has been made by the Council on a proposed sewer maintenance charge and it will be studied logically and coolly and probably public hearings will be held if the Council decides to go further with the proposed charge.

37. Mr. Wm. Uerkwitz explained that due to an organizational meeting of the Southwood Riviera Homeowners Association, its president could not attend this Council meeting. He thanked the Mayor for attending the association's Christmas party and was sorry the invitations did not reach the other councilmen in time.

The Council meeting was regularly adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

APPROVED:

  
 Mayor of the City of Torrance

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

Edith Shaffer  
 Minute Secretary

9.

Council Minutes  
 January 5, 1965