

I N D E XCouncil Meeting held August 15, 1967, 5:30 p.m.

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Adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Torrance, California  
August 15, 1967

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL

OPENING CEREMONIES AND PRESENTATIONS:

1. CALL TO ORDER:

A regular meeting of the Torrance City Council was held at 5:30 p.m., on Tuesday, August 15, 1967, in the Council Chambers of Torrance City Hall.

2. ROLL CALL:

Those responding to roll call by City Clerk Coil were: Councilmen Beasley, Miller, Talbert, Vico and Mayor Isen. Councilman Sciarrotta was out of town on vacation and Councilman Lyman arrived a few minutes late. Also present were City Manager Ferraro, City Attorney Remelmeyer, and City Clerk Coil. City Treasurer Rupert is on vacation.

3. FLAG SALUTE:

A senior at San Diego State College, James Miller, who attended the meeting with J. Walker Owens, Manager of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, led the salute to the flag. Mr. Miller will be working with the Chamber of Commerce for a month as a sort of internship.

Mayor Isen spoke of the deep grief and shock of the whole community as a result of the death of officer David N. Seibert at the hands of an armed robbery suspect, and asked for a moment of silence in his memory following the invocation.

4. INVOCATION:

Reverend David Shultz, Associate Pastor of South Bay Church of God, opened the meeting with an invocation and the entire assembly stood in silence for a moment in memory of Officer Seibert.

Chief Koenig told of the personal qualities of Officer Seibert as well as his outstanding work in the Department and the community. A memorial fund is being administered by the Kiwanis Club and Chief Koenig acknowledged the offers and the assistance of a great many organizations during this sad and difficult period.

(Councilman Lyman joined the meeting at this time.)

30. At the request of Mayor Isen, City Clerk Coil assigned a number and read in full the title and text of

"RESOLUTION NO. 67-191

A MEMORIAL RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY  
OF TORRANCE EXTENDING SYMPATHY TO THE FAMILY OF  
PATROLMAN DAVID N. SEIBERT WHO LOST HIS LIFE IN LINE  
OF DUTY ON AUGUST 10, 1967.

"David N. Seibert joined the Torrance Police Department as a Patrolman in April, 1965. On August 10, 1967 he lost his life in line of duty while apprehending an armed robbery suspect.

"During the two years and four months that "Dave" wore the uniform of a policeman, he distinguished himself by his dedicated service. He consistently endeavored to improve his professional capability. Soon

after he joined the force he was awarded the degree of Bachelor of Science in Police Science by the California State College at Long Beach.

"Officer Seibert won the respect of his fellow officers and the friendship and admiration of the community. He gave unstintingly of his free time to aid his fellow man, being an enthusiastic worker on many civic committees. His family, his friends, and his neighbors knew him as a devoted husband. His loss will be felt keenly by the members of his chosen profession and by everyone who knew him for his fine gentlemanly qualities.

"NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the members of this City Council on behalf of the Torrance Police Department and all the people of Torrance extend their very deepest sympathy to the family of David N. Seibert.

/s/ Albert Isen  
Mayor of the City of Torrance

ATTEST:

/s/ Vernon W. Coil  
City Clerk of the City of Torrance"

Councilman Vico moved to adopt Resolution No. 67-191; Councilman Beasley seconded and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Sciarrotta absent).

Mayor Isen moved that the resolution be prepared in formal parchment scroll design. Councilman Beasley seconded and roll call vote was:

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Lyman, Miller, Talbert,  
Vico, and Mayor Isen

NOES: COUNCILMEN: None

ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Sciarrotta.

STANDARD MOTIONS:

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

On motion of Councilman Vico, seconded by Mayor Isen, the minutes of the August 3rd meeting were approved as written, there being no objection.

6. APPROVAL OF DEMANDS:

Councilman Beasley moved all regularly audited bills be paid. His motion was seconded by Councilman Vico and carried as follows:

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Lyman, Miller, Talbert,  
Vico, and Mayor Isen.

NOES: COUNCILMEN: None

ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Sciarrotta.

7. MOTION TO WAIVE FURTHER READING:

Councilman Miller 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, seconded by Councilman Vico, carried by unanimous roll call vote (Councilman Sciarrotta absent).

COMMENDATIONS:8. PROPOSED RESOLUTION in appreciation to H. Ted Olson, Jr.

Mayor Isen suggested that the words "as far as is possible" be deleted from the NOW, THEREFORE, paragraph and at his request, City Clerk Coil assigned a number and read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 67-190

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE EXPRESSING APPRECIATION TO H. THEODORE OLSON, JR., FOR HIS FAITHFUL AND DILIGENT SERVICE TO THE CITY OF TORRANCE AS A MEMBER OF THE CITY COUNCIL.

With the change above noted, Councilman Beasley seconded the motion of Mayor Isen to adopt and prepare in perma plaque format, Resolution No. 67-190, for presentation to Mr. Olson. Roll call vote was:

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Lyman, Miller, Talbert,  
Vico and Mayor Isen.

NOES: COUNCILMEN: None

ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Sciarrotta.

HEARINGS:9. WEED ABATEMENT PROGRAM FOR 1967: Formal hearing on Resolution No. 67-182 declaring intention to abate weeds in front of certain properties.

Mayor Isen announced this is the time and place for the hearing on the resolution of intention declaring parcels described in said resolution to be a public nuisance, and providing for the abatement thereof, excepting the following parcels: No exceptions.

City Clerk Coil presented Affidavit of Posting and Affidavit of Mailing and on motion of Councilman Beasley, seconded by Councilman Miller, they were ordered filed.

Mayor Isen asked if anyone wished to be heard and there was no response.

Councilman Miller moved to close the hearing; Councilman Lyman seconded and the motion carried, there being no objection.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 67-192

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND INSTRUCTING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS TO ABATE THE NUISANCE LOCATED ON OR IN FRONT OF PROPERTY IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE AS DESCRIBED IN RESOLUTION NO. 67-182.

Councilman Beasley moved to adopt Resolution No. 67-192. His motion was seconded by Councilman Talbert and carried by unanimous roll call vote (Councilman Sciarrotta absent).

PLANNING AND ZONING MATTERS:10. TENTATIVE TRACT MAP NO. 22526, SUBDIVIDER: FINANCIAL SAVINGS AND LOAN, Engineer, Lanco Engineering. A nine lot subdivision located on 228th St.

Mayor Isen asked if anyone wished to speak on the subject of this tract map and there was no response. Councilman Miller moved to close the hearing; Councilman Vico seconded and there was no objection.

Councilman Beasley moved to concur in the recommendation of approval, with the conditions imposed. Councilman Miller seconded and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Sciarrotta absent).

11. PROPOSED ORDINANCE reclassifying Case ZC67-5:

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

ORDINANCE NO. 1794

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING DIVISION 9 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE TO RECLASSIFY THAT CERTAIN PROPERTY WHICH IS LOCATED ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF REDONDO BEACH BOULEVARD WEST OF THE ROADIUM THEATRE TO A POINT APPROXIMATELY 100 FEET WESTERLY OF ATKINSON AVENUE AND DESCRIBED IN ZONE CHANGE 67-5. (Torrance Planning Commission).

Councilman Miller moved to approve Ordinance No. 1794 at its first reading. Councilman Beasley seconded and roll call vote was:

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Miller, Talbert,  
Vico, and Mayor Isen.

NOES: COUNCILMEN: Lyman

ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Sciarrotta.

12. PROPOSED ORDINANCE AMENDING LAND USE ORDINANCE:

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

ORDINANCE NO. 1795

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING ARTICLE 18, CHAPTER 2, DIVISION 9 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE ENTITLED "BUSINESSES IN RESIDENCES" AND SUBSTITUTING THEREFOR A NEW ARTICLE ENTITLED "HOME OCCUPATIONS" PROVIDING FOR THE PROCESSING OF APPLICATIONS THEREFOR THROUGH THE PLANNING COMMISSION AND SETTING FORTH REGULATIONS GOVERNING AND CONTROLLING HOME OCCUPATIONS.

Mayor Isen expressed some concern that the City had been operating without this regulation. City Attorney Remelmeyer requested a deletion to Section 92.18.4 - Mandatory conditions - (1) starting at the bottom of page 2. Mayor Isen was of the belief that this should be an emergency ordinance but neither City Attorney Remelmeyer nor Planning Director Shartle agreed it was of such urgency.

Councilman Beasley moved to approve Ordinance No. 1795 at its first reading. Councilman Miller seconded and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Sciarrotta absent).

13. PROPOSED ORDINANCE RE ZC67-3.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 1796

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING DIVISION 9 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE, TO RECLASSIFY THAT CERTAIN PROPERTY WHICH IS LOCATED ON THE NORTH SIDE OF ARTESIA BOULEVARD BETWEEN VAN NESS AND CASIMIR AVENUES, AND DESCRIBED IN ZC67-3 - TORRANCE PLANNING COMMISSION.

Councilman Beasley moved to approve Ordinance No. 1796 at its first reading. His motion was seconded by Councilman Vico.

Mr. Courtland Selvage of 2210 West 173rd Street came forward and said he would like to have in the record that the North Torrance Property and Homeowners organization is strictly against this ordinance or the reclassifying of this property to C-3 zoning.

Roll call vote was:

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Lyman, Talbert, Vico,  
and Mayor Isen.

NOES: COUNCILMEN: Miller

ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Sciarrotta.

STREETS AND SIDEWALKS:

14. QUITCLAIM OF EASEMENT TO LEFFLER: Recommendation of Public Works Director, with concurrence of City Manager, that attached resolution authorizing and directing execution of subject quitclaim deed be approved and adopted.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 67-193

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE AND ATTEST THAT CERTAIN QUITCLAIM DEED TO JAMES D. LEFFLER AND BETH M. LEFFLER FOR A PORTION OF LOT 30, BLOCK 16, WALTERIA.

Councilman Beasley moved to adopt Resolution No. 67-193 and his motion, seconded by Councilman Miller, carried by unanimous roll call vote (Councilman Sciarrotta absent).

15. REQUEST OF HENRY AND EMMA SPECHT FOR TIME EXTENSION TO ALLOW ENCROACHMENT OF STRUCTURE IN PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY AT 18115 PRAIRIE AVENUE. Recommendation of Public Works Director, with concurrence of City Manager that request be denied.

City Manager Ferraro remarked that the Spechts are on vacation and he would recommend carrying the matter over for thirty days. Councilman Vico moved in accordance with Mr. Ferraro's suggestion; Councilman Beasley seconded and there was no objection. September 12, 1967 was set as the time. It is an eight o'clock meeting.

16. COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT FOR WESTERN AVENUE AS STATE HIGHWAY: Recommendation of Public Works Director that Council adopt attached resolution authorizing and directing the Mayor and City Clerk to execute subject agreement.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 67-194

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE AND ATTEST A COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA, AND THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, CITY OF LOS ANGELES, CITY OF TORRANCE AND CITY OF LOMITA FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF WESTERN AVENUE FROM THE SAN DIEGO FREEWAY TO 25TH STREET IN SAN PEDRO.

Councilman Lyman moved to adopt Resolution No. 67-194 and his motion, seconded by Councilman Miller, carried by unanimous roll call vote (Councilman Sciarrotta absent).

BUILDINGS, STRUCTURES AND SIGNS:

17. TEMPORARY BILLBOARDS: Recommendation of Building and Safety Director that the request of Home Savings and Loan for permission to erect two temporary billboards be denied.

There is presently a moratorium on billboards pending presentation of the new sign and billboard legislation and City Attorney Remelmeyer said it is not possible to enforce the moratorium less than completely. If this type of billboard advertising a small subdivision is to be permitted there should be an exception written into the moratorium ordinance. Building and Safety Director defined billboards according to Torrance ordinance, as any sign which advertises a product not sold on the property where the sign is displayed. Mr. McKinnon would like to see the new sign and billboard legislation speeded up so his department could have a tool to work with. The ordinance which provides the moratorium could be amended to provide the necessary relief and Mayor Isen and Councilman Beasley asked that there be such an amendment prepared for consideration at the next Council meeting.

The ordinance which is now being considered by various commissions and committees, Mayor Isen said should be divided so as to separate the sign portion from the billboard provisions and this division has been requested previously. He moved that the Planning Commission, within thirty days send the Council the billboard portion of the contemplated sign ordinance, with or without their recommendation. Councilman Beasley seconded and there was no objection. For the time being, the moratorium is in effect.

\* \* \* \* \*

At 6:20 a recess was declared in order to hold the Redevelopment Agency meeting and the Council returned to its agenda at 6:25 p.m.

\* \* \* \* \*

Mayor Isen recognized Tom Letcher, Director of Plant Protection Services at Harvey Aluminum, in the audience and extended the courtesy of the floor to him. On behalf of Harvey Aluminum Company, Mr. Letcher presented a check in the amount of \$500 to the David N. Seibert Memorial Fund, as a token of the gratitude the Company feels as a part of the community.

City Manager Ferraro said letters are being written to approximately 200 people and organizations who have offered and extended assistance in many ways.

TRAFFIC AND PARKING:

18. CLOSING OF WARD STREET - Recommendation of Traffic Engineer for closing of Ward Street between 238th and 240th Streets from 1 to 4 p.m. for the purpose of conducting a recreation program on August 8, 10, 15, 17 and 22, 1967.

City Manager Ferraro said this is really a matter of obtaining Council confirmation of something which has already been done so that the approval will be a matter of record. Councilman Lyman moved to concur in the recommendation; Councilman Beasley seconded and there was no objection.

19. RECOMMENDATION TO RESTRICT PARKING ON HAWTHORNE BOULEVARD FROM CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE: The recommendation is that parking on Hawthorne Boulevard from Torrance Boulevard to the north city limits be prohibited between the hours of 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. and from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., to aid in the promotion of circulation of traffic.

Traffic Engineer Horkay was not present at this meeting and Mayor Isen suggested that the matter be referred to him, commenting that perhaps this would be helpful on the east side of Hawthorne, but as far as the west side of the street is concerned between 182nd and Torrance, it is not built up and there is a tremendous problem between Norm's Restaurant and the Trailer Court which would indicate that parking on the west side of Hawthorne Boulevard should be prohibited - and as to the 7 to 9 and 4 to 6 prohibition that it be considered as to the east side of Hawthorne. If this were put into effect before further development, people who plan to build would know what to expect. That would obtain as to Hawthorne all the way through Torrance.

Councilman Beasley reported that the highway and traffic people of the State Division have indicated that within the next year they will ask Torrance to eliminate all parking on Hawthorne because of the need for an extra lane of traffic. This would be an effective means of starting toward such a goal.

Mayor Isen moved to refer the problem to Mr. Horkay along the lines of the comments here made. Councilman Beasley seconded and there was no objection.

FISCAL MATTERS:

20. REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE NEW CHECK SIGNING EQUIPMENT for the City Treasurer. The recommendation is that the Council authorize the purchase of new check signing equipment for signature control and appropriate \$385.00 plus tax from the General Fund unappropriated surplus.

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

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Lyman, Miller, Talbert,  
Vico and Mayor Isen.

NOES: COUNCILMEN: None

ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Sciarrotta.

21. EXPENDITURES OF OVER \$300.

Councilman Beasley moved to approve the following eleven listed expenditures:

A. BUDGETED:

1. \$1,200.15 to Noland Paper Co. for 49 cases, (1225 packages) of construction paper of various colors to be used and delivered

to the Recreation Department "as requested".

2. \$464.10 to Blake Moffitt & Towne for 155 boxes of crepe paper and 25 rolls of butcher paper of various colors to be used and delivered to the Recreation Department as requested.
3. \$556.42 to Michaels Artists & Engineering Supplies for 92 dozen cans of powder paint of various colors to be used and delivered to the Recreation Department, as requested.
4. \$483.00 to Walters Wholesale Electric for 20,000 feet of various sizes of traffic wire to be used by the Traffic and Lighting Department.
5. \$564.38 to Western Highway Products for 250 signs (NO PARKING) to be placed in various locations by the Traffic & Lighting Department.
6. \$303.24 to Power Drive and Chain Co. for four chain sprockets to be used on City sweepers as replacement parts.
7. \$982.80 to IBM for two electric typewriters required by the Police Department.
8. \$3,230.43 to Mail-Well Envelope Co. for the annual envelope supply to be used by the Customer Service Division for refuse and water bills.
9. \$414.82 to Hersey-Sparling Meter Co. for special screws, nuts and miscellaneous parts needed by the Water Department for use in repair work.

B. SPECIAL CATEGORY - LIBRARY BOOKS:

10. \$651.42 to Lukather's Book Shop for 346 assorted adult titles requested by the City Librarian.
11. \$390.03 to Needham Book Finders for 136 assorted adult titles requested by the City Librarian.

Councilman Lyman seconded and roll call vote was:

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Lyman, Miller, Talbert,  
Vico and Mayor Isen.

NOES: COUNCILMEN: None

ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Sciarrotta.

22. SARTORI AVENUE LANDSCAPING: Request of Park Superintendent for an additional \$500 to construct eight diamond shaped planters, with appropriate plants to upgrade the landscaping of Sartori Avenue, Job No. 67055.

Mayor Isen moved to grant the request; Councilman Miller seconded a roll call vote was:

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Lyman, Miller, Vico, Mayor Isen.

NOES: COUNCILMEN: Talbert

ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Sciarrotta.

PARK AND RECREATION:

23. PROPOSED RESOLUTION maintaining present operating charges, policies and regulations at the Sea-Aire Golf Course.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 67-195

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE PRESCRIBING RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE USE OF THE SEA-AIRE GOLF COURSE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AND ESTABLISHING A SCHEDULE OF FEES TO BE CHARGED FOR SUCH USE.

Councilman Vico moved to adopt Resolution No. 67-195 and his motion, seconded by Councilman Miller, carried by unanimous roll call vote (Councilman Sciarrotta absent).

POLICE OPERATIONS:

24. REQUEST FOR SPECIAL RECOGNITION for Police Officers Paul Lembke and Nolan Dane (City Code, Section 14.5.9)

The request is for an additional five days off with pay for each of these officers, endorsed by the Chief of Police and the City Manager, under the special circumstances set forth in the letter to the City Manager dated August 10, 1967.

Councilman Beasley moved to concur in approval of the request. Councilman Vico seconded and roll call vote was:

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Lyman, Miller, Talbert,  
Vico, and Mayor Isen.

NOES: COUNCILMEN: None

ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Sciarrotta.

ITEMS NOT OTHERWISE CLASSIFIED:

25. REQUEST OF LANCO ENGINEERING FOR TWELVE MONTH EXTENSION IN WHICH TO RECORD TRACT NO. 30060; Developer, Charles Middleton. The Director of Public Works recommends approval.

Councilman Lyman moved to concur in approval; Councilman Vico seconded and there was no objection.

26. RECOMMENDATION FROM CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE RE overlapping land uses in Torrance Land Use Code.

City Manager Ferraro suggested this be referred to the Planning Commission for a recommendation. Mayor Isen said if there was no objection, it would be so referred; there was none.

27. CITIZENS' PETITION RE 234th STREET - Communication from City Manager.

Mayor Isen said he had looked at this area with its bad drainage situation and was shocked. He asked for an approximate cost per lot to take care of this problem, plus widening the street, taking care of the abutment, plus curbs, gutters, sidewalks, etc.

Mr. John Rempert, representing Engineering, spoke regarding the estimates and the feasibility of an assessment district. To remove the 660 feet of earth on the side side of the fence, relocate the oil lines, move the tanks, fully pave the street, install curbs, gutters and sidewalks, is a total of \$90,000. Lawrence J. Thompson, Assessment Engineer, said the question of how to spread such an assessment would be academic because the bonds would not sell. There is approximately 2,000 feet of frontage involved and the cost would be about \$800 per single family residential lot; a gross of \$16,900 per acre frontage of 165 feet. The lots here

are 55 feet wide. The debt could be spread over ten years if the bonds could be sold, but he thought they would represent too large a lien on each of these lots. This neighborhood is paying off a municipal water bond and a sewer bond. The \$90,000, however, he said would not be for drainage, it would be for many other benefits to improve the street on the south side: installation of 660 feet of curbs, gutters, and sidewalk, acquisition of property, removal of oil lines. The amount could be reduced by \$6,000 if the City paved the street. The developed lots have already made a contribution into a drainage fund and have received no benefit from that contribution.

Mayor Isen said the "abutment" into the street has no reflectors no red lights; there is no lighting on the street and it is a very dangerous condition. Councilman Miller outlined the conditions which would result in the property owners having paid for alleviation of a problem but with no resulting alleviation.

Mr. Rempert said the flood hazard in this area has been substantially reduced. Mr. McNamara, 2012 West 234th Street who presented the petition, said all that kept the street from flooding last year was the fact that someone opened up the County storm drain. Project 8101 is held up awaiting decision on a downstream regional bond issue, No. 1104, and has been for about a year.

The operator of the oil wells is involved as well as the owner of the property and each has certain rights. Mayor Isen favors a condemnation action to get rid of that abutment which he says is an absolute menace to public safety, life and limb. He took no great stock in Mr. Nollac's statement that there are some 200 similar situations in the city.

Mr. George Peckham, land owner in the neighborhood, was present and was asked by Councilman Vico about the ownership of the wells. He owns the land and the wells in fee. The tanks are only eleven feet back from the middle of the street - in the right of way. The abutment comes out 27 feet. He has not dedicated any land, but said he would be willing to give it some thought.

Mayor Isen said it would be in order to have a neighborhood committee work with Engineering to see what can be accomplished by cooperative measures. He recalled a similar bad situation in North Torrance years ago, and asked Mr. McNamara to pick two neighbors and meet with George Peckham and arrange a meeting with Engineering.

A specific time limit was asked for by City Manager Ferraro and it was named as September 26th (an eight o'clock meeting), or earlier if some agreement is reached, for this to be back on Council's agenda.

Out of regular sequence, but because it bears on this subject, Mayor Isen presented an oral communication instigated by a question from Mr. McNamara as to what is going to be done about fencing the tanks in this area. About twelve years ago when other parts of Southern California had encountered problems as a result of oil wells and sumps which had not been filled, Torrance passed a number of regulatory ordinances and the Planning enforcement division put them into effect; it was a strict ordinance and there was compliance. An area of attractive nuisance to children which was evidently overlooked is these tanks with the ladder which is attached to the side. If the ordinance is not adequate to take care of this particular situation, he asked that it be amended to provide good and enforceable protection.

Councilman Lyman mentioned one place where an old large tank is lying on its side in an area used as a storage yard. The Planning Department made considerable study of the whole oil field problem, Mr. Remelmeyer said, and it might be well to bring that report to the Council at the next meeting, together with the proposed amendments. Mr. McKinnon said

the Code allows these yards to be used as they have been used, regardless of appearance, which has nothing to do with hazard. Councilman Lyman thinks there is also a distinct difference between use as a storage place, or as a dump. This is the problem which arose with respect to the gypsum slag pile near the Pueblo.

City Attorney Remelmeyer said he understands what is expected of his office.

28. REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF OIL WELL BOND No. 105423, Luck Oil Company, \$1,250, on Gloria No. 1 located on Lot 37, Tract 437.

Councilman Beasley moved to grant the request. Councilman Vico seconded and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Sciarrotta absent).

29. RECOMMENDATION OF CITY CLERK re combined comprehensive bodily injury and property damage liability insurance, that the quotation of Pacific Indemnity Company in the amount of \$59,987 annually be accepted for the policy to be issued effective September 1, 1967 and to expire July 1, 1970, the pro rata premium for the period September 1, 1967 to July 1, 1968 being \$49,789.

Councilman Miller moved to concur in the recommendation stated. His motion was seconded by Councilman Beasley and carried as follows:

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Lyman, Miller, Talbert,  
Vico, and Mayor Isen.

NOES: COUNCILMEN: None

ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Sciarrotta.

Councilman Beasley pointed out that the City Clerk and the Finance Committee saved the City about \$6,000 on this.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

30. Councilman Beasley noted that there are still about eighty cars for sale at the corner of Hawthorne and Sepulveda.

31. Councilman Talbert asked why in the weed abatement program, the weeds are allowed to go through their whole growth cycle before they are removed. Could they not be more effectively eliminated? City Manager Ferraro explained that normally they are abated twice a year but the spring cutting was cancelled last year because of the rain. There will be a spring cutting in 1968.

32. Another question by Councilman Talbert was whether some other means might better control the dissemination of the weed seeds - perhaps chemically. Mr. Ferraro explained that the land development will help considerably and there is also a problem regarding use of chemical sterilization of soil on other owners' property. Cutting has seemed to be the best compromise between chemicals and burning.

33. Councilman Talbert told of some plan put into effect by the Chamber of Commerce of El Monte to reduce or at least retard burglaries by enforcement of building legislation requiring certain types of hardware, adequate lighting, and such. City Manager Ferraro said it would be investigated with a report back to the Council.

34. Mayor Isen recalled the tragedy in which Sgt. Lewis was killed in a motorcycle accident some years ago and thinking also of Officer Seibert, suggested a bronze memorial tablet with appropriate inscription to be placed in the Police Building. Chief Koenig said there is a plaque with the name of Sgt. Lewis. In general, he said police personnel take a realistic view of their responsibilities and probability of accidents. Mayor Isen said he would inspect the tablet which is now there.

35. Mayor Isen addressed a further oral communication to Chief Koenig on the subject of Police Reserves. At one time there was quite a number of reserves in Torrance and many business men like to volunteer for Commission and other work to help the City. Los Angeles is working on some such a program and he asked Chief Koenig for his ideas.

Chief Koenig said he would make a more in depth report, but spoke at some length of the obvious difficulties which Los Angeles and any other police department encounters in placing volunteer citizens in jeopardy. However the program is being studied.

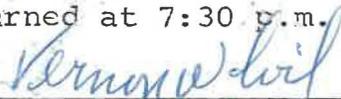
36. Another oral communication from Mayor Isen was addressed to City Attorney Remelmeyer, with respect to the probationary period of heads of departments in the City. It is six months except as to Police and Fire, where it is twelve. Mayor Isen referred to the widely publicized comments of City Manager Ferraro before the Charter Review Committee recently, and disagreed with his statement regarding department heads being appointed. He said they should have the protection of Civil Service. It may be a long time before the entire new civil service ordinance is adopted. The Council extracted the portion regarding examinations for Fire Chief some time ago. Mayor Isen believes the heads of departments should have a one year probationary period and then have the protection of civil service. He would like to have the portion of the new ordinance dealing with department heads pulled out and placed before the Council with an amendment calling for a year, for study by the Council, realizing it takes a 5 - 7 vote. If there is no objection, he asked that the City Attorney prepare such an amendment for study by the Council. There was no objection.

36. Mrs. Billie Hayes, 3115 Merrill Drive, spoke representing the Del Amo Cooperative, asking for a six months extension for FOR SALE signs to remain on Carson Street. Councilman Beasley said he had advised Mrs. Hayes to come to the Council with this request because this is a similar request as that of New Horizons. Del Amo has a number of unsold apartments and about the only way to sell them is to thus indicate they are available.

Mr. McKinnon said her request was denied by the Planning Commission as there is a difference between a residential zone and a commercial zone in this respect.

Councilman Beasley moved that they be allowed to continue their signs there for another six months. Councilman Vico seconded. There was no objection. City Attorney Remelmeyer said he believed if the signs were legal to start with, they would be considered as existing signs. Mr. McKinnon said the signs are there as the result of a waiver.

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

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

APPROVED:

  
Mayor of the City of Torrance

Edith Shaffer  
Minute Secretary