

I N D E X

Council Meeting held Tuesday, February 20, 1968, 5:30 PM

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Ava Cripe
Minute Secretary

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Torrance, California
February 20, 1968

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL

OPENING CEREMONIES:

1. CALL TO ORDER:

A regular meeting of the Torrance City Council was held at 5:30 P.M. on Tuesday, February 20, 1968, in the Council Chambers of City Hall.

2. ROLL CALL:

Those responding to roll call by City Clerk Coil were:
Councilmen: Beasley, Miller, Sciarrotta, Talbert, Vico, and Mayor Isen. Councilman Lyman arrived at 5:45 P.M. Absent: None. Also present: City Manager Ferraro, City Treasurer Rupert, City Attorney Remelmeyer, and City Clerk Coil.

3. FLAG SALUTE:

At the request of Mayor Isen, and on the basis of his elegant Hawaiian coat, Mr. Tom Zaharis led in the salute to the flag.

4. INVOCATION:

Reverend Wally Kornegay, First Nazarene Church, opened the meeting with the invocation.

STANDARD MOTIONS:

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilman Sciarrotta moved that the minutes of the February 13th meeting be approved as written. Councilman Miller seconded and there was no objection.

6. APPROVAL OF DEMANDS:

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

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Miller, Olson, Sciarrotta,
Vico, and Mayor Isen.

NOES: COUNCILMEN: None.

ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Lyman.

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, seconded by Councilman Vico, carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Before directing attention to the regular agenda, Mayor Isen advised that two announcements were in order.

First, City Attorney Remelmeyer advised that the judge in the City's law suit on the initiative petition to dissolve the urban renewal agency awarded judgment to the City, granting the City's motion for summary judgement which means, in effect, that the case will be dismissed.

Mr. Remelmeyer further stated that Mr. Duke, attorney for ACT, had advised him that he did not intend to appeal. In view of this it will facilitate the obtaining of the lower interest rate through private financing. Also noted by Mr. Remelmeyer was the statement, first, of the judge that he thought the matter had been preempted by the State so that it was not a municipal affair; further, the State Code does not permit the Agency to be dissolved except by unanimous consent of the Agency members. Secondly, that this was not an advisory opinion; it was an ordinance. Mayor Isen commended the City Attorney and his staff for a difficult job well done; the stakes were monumental, but it is now full speed ahead.

The second announcement was made by Mayor Isen in offering congratulations to J. Walker Owens on being made President-elect of the California Association of Chamber of Commerce executives. City Manager Ferraro was directed to prepare a letter to be sent to the Board of Directors, as well as formal written congratulations to Mr. Owens.

BUILDINGS, STRUCTURES AND SIGNS

8. Recommendation of Building and Safety Director, that the low bid be accepted and the contract be awarded to Sealtight Construction Company for the sandblasting, guniting, recaulking and plastering of the Victor E. Benstead Plunge.

Councilman Beasley moved to concur with the recommendation of the Building and Safety Director that the low bid be accepted and the contract awarded to Sealtight Construction Company, and that all other bids be rejected. His motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Absent: Councilman Lyman).

TRAFFIC AND PARKING

9. RESOLUTION establishing a 40 MPH prima facie speed limit on Maple Avenue between Sepulveda Boulevard and Monterey Street.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 68-31

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING ARTICLE IV OF RESOLUTION NO. 61-157 WHICH ESTABLISHES 40 MILES PER HOUR PRIMA FACIE SPEED LIMITS BY ADDING A CERTAIN LOCATION THERETO.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 68-31. His motion was seconded by Councilman Beasley, and unanimously approved by roll call vote (Absent: Councilman Lyman).

10. RESOLUTION authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to execute an agreement with the State of California to install left turn signals on Hawthorne Boulevard at Pacific Coast Highway.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 68-32

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE APPROVING A COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT PROVIDING FOR WORK TO BE ACCOMPLISHED ON A STATE HIGHWAY UNDER TERMS SET FORTH IN CITY-STATE PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT NO. 2245.

Councilman Talbert moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 68-32, and that \$10,000 be appropriated from Section 2106 Gas Tax Funds to cover the City's share of the cost of the project. His motion was seconded by Councilman Beasley, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Absent: Councilman Lyman).

PERSONNEL MATTERS:

11. RESOLUTION authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to execute and attest that certain contract between the City and the Public Employees' Retirement System for a Special Valuation.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 68-33

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE AND ATTEST THAT CERTAIN CONTRACT BETWEEN THE CITY AND THE PUBLIC EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM FOR A SPECIAL VALUATION.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 68-33. His motion was seconded by Councilman Talbert, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Absent: Councilman Lyman).

12.

13. A. ORDINANCE of the City Council of the City of Torrance increasing the salary of the City Clerk.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 1850

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING SECTION 1 OF ORDINANCE NO. 1779 ESTABLISHING THE SALARY OF THE CITY CLERK.

Councilman Beasley moved to approve Ordinance No. 1850 at its first reading. His motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, and unanimously approved by roll call vote (Absent: Councilman Lyman).

- B. ORDINANCE of the City Council of the City of Torrance establishing the salary of the City Treasurer.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 1851

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING SECTION 1 OF ORDINANCE NO. 1652 ESTABLISHING THE SALARY OF THE CITY TREASURER.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved to approve Ordinance No. 1851 at its first reading, and his motion seconded by Councilman Vico was unanimously approved by roll call vote (Councilman Lyman absent).

FISCAL MATTERS

14. CLAIM of Mrs. Ruth Kail for damages sustained as the result of assault and battery that took place on December 17, 1967, on Abalone Street near Carson Street.

Councilman Beasley moved to concur in the recommendation of the City Clerk to deny the claim and refer it to the City Attorney. His motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, and there was no objection.

15. CLAIM of Victor D. Magar for damages allegedly sustained as the result of a traffic accident on Hawthorne Boulevard, November 6, 1967.

Councilman Beasley moved to concur in the recommendation of the City Clerk to deny the claim and refer it to the City Attorney. His motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, and there was no objection.

16. CLAIM of Mrs. Martha Sumner for damages allegedly sustained as the result of an automobile accident at Sepulveda and Crenshaw Boulevards, December 18, 1967.

Councilman Beasley moved to concur in the recommendation of the City Clerk to deny the claim and refer it to the City Attorney. His motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, and there was no objection.

17. NATIONAL SUPPLY PIPELINE FRANCHISE

Recommendation of the Finance Director for approval of National Supply Division's proposal that Pipeline Franchise Ordinance 878 be considered paid in full to date and that prior fees due the City be waived as an offset against certain relocation costs.

Removed from agenda for further study by City Attorney.

18. BUDGETED AND SPECIAL EXPENDITURES IN EXCESS OF \$300

Councilman Sciarrotta moved to concur in recommendation of Finance Director for approval of Items 1 through 8:

A. BUDGETED:

1. \$664.43 to California Metal Enameling Company (CAMEO) for 79 street name signs, porcelain on aluminum, requested by the Traffic & Lighting Department to identify City streets.

2. \$924.11 to Econolite Corporation for two (2) only vehicle loop detectors, pedestrian signal equipment, and miscellaneous assembly parts, requested by the Traffic & Lighting Department to upgrade the signal at Torrance Boulevard and Madrona Avenue and replacement parts for the signal at 190th Street and Crenshaw Boulevard.

3. \$4699.41 to Motorola Communications and Electronics Co. for equipment as follows:

a. \$1434.46 for two (2) radio frequency station monitors requested by the Communications Division of the Traffic and Lighting Department to monitor mobile radios' frequency accuracy.

b. \$1995.20 for two (2) motorcycle radios which are required as part of equipment necessary for the Police motor officer additions recently approved by Council on January 30, 1968.

c. \$1269.75 for three (3) factory-renewed vehicle radios requested by the Traffic & Lighting Department and appropriated for by Council action on Jan. 30, 1968.

4. \$1549.28 to Keenan Pipe and Supply Company for 2200 feet of 4-inch and 3-inch water pipe, miscellaneous valves, fittings, etc. required for the waterline requirement for the Little League on the Edison-Lomita substation lease. This project was approved by Council on January 30, 1968.

5. \$1139.25 to Green Thumb Gardens for landscaping plants for La Carretera Park.

6. \$996.82 to Hersey-Sparling Meter Company for one (1) only 3-inch CT meter - all bronze - with check valves on main and intermediate flow lines and one (1) only 3-inch all bronze VC valve assembly required for the Little League water service at the Edison-Lomita substation.

B. SPECIAL CATEGORY - POLICE MOTORCYCLES:

7. \$4297.34 to Harley-Davidson, c/o Rich Budelier Company, for two (2) only 1968 Harley-Davidson Sportster motorcycles required by the Police Department.

C. SPECIAL CATEGORY - LIBRARY BOOKS:

8. The following books have been requested by the City Librarian for the Torrance Library System:

a. \$612.68 to G.P. Putnam's Sons, Coward-McCann, Inc. - John Day Company, Inc., c/o Henry C. Channing, for 778 juvenile fiction and non-fiction books.

b. \$2019.20 to Grosset and Dunlap, Inc. for four (4) major book series consisting of 695 total books.

c. \$332.85 to Associated Libraries, Inc. for 100 juvenile books and book processing kits.

d. \$1190.25 to Grolier Educational Corp., c/o Tom Brown, for 5 sets of 20 volumes of "The New Book of Knowledge"; 1 set of 20 volumes of "Encyclopedia International" and 5 sets of 10 volumes of "The Book of Popular Science".

e. \$367.24 to Mailmart Company for 5 sets of 14 volumes of the series "Above and Beyond".

f. \$381.94 to Taylor Publishing Company for 5 copies of Taylor's Encyclopedia of Government Officials: Federal and State, and 5 copies of the 3 series set of "Your World".

g. \$757.31 to Benefic Press for 5 copies each of 5 major book series.

The motion was seconded by Councilman Miller, and carried with roll call vote as follows:

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

NOES: COUNCILMEN: None.

ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Lyman.

PARK AND RECREATION MATTERS

19. RESOLUTION authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to execute a contract for landscape design of Alta Loma Park, and appropriate \$1,000 from the General Fund to finance the work.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 68-34

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE AND ATTEST AN AGREEMENT FOR THE LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN OF ALTA LOMA PARK BETWEEN THE CITY AND RICHARD P. GAWNE, LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT

Councilman Beasley moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 68-34 and a maximum appropriation of \$1,000 from general funds. His motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta and unanimously approved by roll call vote as follows:

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

20. RESOLUTION authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to execute a contract for landscape design of Sur La Brea Park.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 68-35

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE AND ATTEST AN AGREEMENT FOR THE LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN OF SUR LA BREA PARK BETWEEN THE CITY AND RICHARD P. GAWNE, LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT

Councilman Sciarrotta moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 68-35 and a maximum appropriation of \$1,000 from the capital improvement project funds. His motion was seconded by Councilman Talbert and unanimously approved by roll call vote as follows:

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

(Councilman Lyman arrived at this point in the meeting - 5:45 P.M.)

ITEMS NOT OTHERWISE CLASSIFIED:

21. AWARD OF CONTRACT - CONSTRUCTION OF CURB AND GUTTERS ON REDONDO BEACH BOULEVARD WEST OF ILLINOIS COURT. Recommendation of Public Works Director that (1) contract for subject improvement be awarded to Don R. Hess Construction Company and all other bids be rejected, and (2) that \$2,000 be appropriated from 2106 Gas Tax Funds for this project.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved to concur with the above recommendation of the Director of Public Works, and that \$2,000 be appropriated from 2106 Gas Tax Funds for this project. His motion was seconded by Councilman Vico, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

22. PROPOSED SOILS TESTING LABORATORY AT THE CITY YARD
Recommendation of Public Works Director that \$400 be appropriated from Engineering Department excess salary savings to set up soils testing laboratory at the City Yard.

Councilman Beasley moved to concur with the above recommendation of the Public Works Director, and that \$400 be appropriated from Engineering Department excess salary savings. The motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

23. REFUSE DISPOSAL

Recommendation of the City Manager that the Public Works Director be granted permission to present testimony before the Assembly Committee on Natural Resources, Planning, and Public Works.

Councilman Beasley moved to concur with the recommendation of the City Manager; his motion was seconded by Councilman Vico, and there was no objection.

24. REQUEST OF DEL AMO PROPERTIES COMPANY FOR A ONE-YEAR EXTENSION IN WHICH TO COMPLETE PUBLIC WORKS IMPROVEMENTS IN TRACT NO. 26425.

Recommendation of Public Works Director that the request be approved.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved that the subject time extension be granted. His motion was seconded by Councilman Talbert, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

PROCLAMATIONS25. PROCLAMATION - NATIONAL ENGINEERS' WEEK - FEBRUARY 18-25, 1968.

Mayor Isen so proclaimed.

SECOND READING ORDINANCES26. ORDINANCE 1849 amending Ordinance No. 1765 to add a new class specification to the position classification plan.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 1849

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 1765 TO ADD A NEW CLASS SPECIFICATION TO THE POSITION CLASSIFICATION PLAN.

Councilman Beasley moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 1849 at its second and final reading. Councilman Talbert seconded the motion, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

27. Names submitted to serve on the Golf Course Feasibility Study Committee, in line with action taken at the February 13th Council meeting, were as follows: Councilman Beasley, Robert G. McIntosh; Councilman Lyman, Harry Gorman; Councilman Miller, William Posner; Councilman Sciarrotta, Reverend Hugh Percy; Councilman Talbert, Bill Parsons; Councilman Vico, Tommy Zaharis; and Mayor Isen, O.P. Johnson.

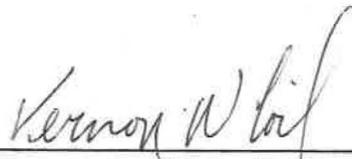
28. City Manager Ferraro advised that Torrance has been rated the second best in the United States as a safe city by the National Safety Council, an accomplishment of great merit.

29. The ballot arguments pertaining to the initiative ordinance repealing the City's Housing Code and pay increases for the Mayor and Councilmen were presented by City Manager Ferraro for the study and review of the Council. Mayor Isen recommended that the word go out that the "no" votes on this matter were for the reason that those Councilmen thought it an inopportune time but in policy are in favor of raises. Urged by Councilman Sciarrotta was the organization of a "Friends of the Council" group.

30. A request for permission to be absent from the City starting February 21st through February 25th was made by City Attorney Remelmeyer, to permit him to attend a conference in Washington, D.C. of military officers. Mayor Isen moved to concur with the request; his motion was seconded by Councilman Beasley, and there were no objections. Mr. Remelmeyer will also take advantage of this trip to conduct some City business in Washington.
31. Director of Public Works Nollac advised that Thursday and Friday rubbish will be one day late because of the holiday.
32. It was reported by Councilman Beasley that a disturbing situation exists on the vacant property at the Del Amo Center on Sundays in the racing of little cars and bikes in this area, accompanied by a shrill, piercing noise, and he requested that it be investigated. City Manager Ferraro will do so and report back.
33. Councilman Lyman added to Councilman Beasley's complaint; however, he has experienced similar activity through his back yard!
34. A press release on the merits of the pay increase for Councilmen and the Mayor, composed by Councilman Sciarrotta, was read by him.
35. Councilman Talbert reported on a citizen request received by him on the need for a crosswalk for school children in the vicinity of Anza and Cathann. Traffic Engineer Horkay will follow through.
36. Councilman Talbert next referred to the Police Department report for January, 1968 and the paragraph under the vice and narcotics section which states that "the inability of the Sheriff's crime lab to process narcotic evidence in time for court presentation continues to be a problem. Seven narcotic cases were dismissed by the courts for this reason." Councilman Talbert deplored such a situation in view of the magnitude of the narcotic situation as well as the fruitless efforts of policemen who, for lack of such a report, must see their cases dismissed. It was Mr. Talbert's recommendation that consideration be given to the possibility of establishing a South Bay Crime Lab, supported by cities in the area, in an attempt to alleviate this frustrating situation. Chief Koenig responded, acknowledging that there is such a problem, but that the Sheriff's department has been extremely cooperative -- it is a case of too much work and too few people. Remedies have been explored, Chief Koenig advised, and it would seem to be most practical to train a policeman as a chemist to make these highly technical analyses. It was the suggestion of Mayor Isen that perhaps the assigning of a Torrance police officer to the Sheriff's lab to assist in the expediting of the Torrance material might be of value. City Manager Ferraro advised that he will explore the various possibilities and report back to the Council.
37. It was pointed out by Councilman Vico that the car selling activity has resumed at the corner of Sepulveda and Hawthorne, and he requested that some action be taken.
38. Officer Philip Joseph, Torrance Police Officers Association, requested clarification regarding notification to employee groups on meetings pertaining to the civil service ordinance, reading from the Council minutes of August 8, 1967 -- the reference to "the City Attorney, at his discretion...." was deemed the answer.
39. Chief Koenig alluded to the earlier recognition of Torrance as a "Safe City" to bestow proper praise to the Torrance Safety Council, the traffic engineer, the schools, and the many, many groups in the City who are interested in traffic safety, in addition, of course, to the Police Department. Noted also by Chief Koenig was the Traffic Safety Forum conducted by Torrance high school students slated for February 21st, an example of outstanding community effort for safety.

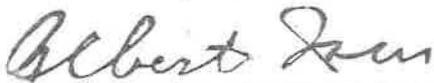
40. Mr. Paul Janova, 22835 Ocean Avenue, President of the Torrance American Little League, referred to their field at the Edison site and the development thereof; he requested that the City plant grass to assist in this development. Discussion followed on such an undertaking, cost, etc., with Little League furnishing the labor. Mayor Isen commented that the request seems justified, and moved that the City furnish the items and supervision necessary, provided Little League furnishes the manual labor, in an amount not to exceed \$500 for such materials and supervision. The motion was seconded by Councilman Beasley. Prior to roll call vote Director of Recreation Van Bellehem pointed out the precedent setting nature of this action, with some seven teams eventually using this field; it was the consensus that that bridge could be crossed later. Roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

The meeting was regularly adjourned at 6:30 P.M.



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

APPROVED:



Mayor of the City of Torrance

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