

I N D E X

Council Meeting held August 13, 1968 at 8:00 P.M.

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Adjourned at 11:30 P.M.

* * * *

Torrance, California
August 13, 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 on Tuesday, August 13, 1968, at 8:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers of City Hall.

2. ROLL CALL:

Responding to roll call by City Clerk Coil were: Councilmen Beasley, Johnson, Miller, Sciarrotta, Uerkwitz, Wilson, and Mayor Isen. Absent: None. (Councilman Sciarrotta left the meeting at 10:40 P.M.). Also present were City Manager Ferraro, Deputy City Attorney Smith, City Treasurer Rupert, and City Clerk Coil.

3. FLAG SALUTE:

Mr. Bert Shelbourn, at Mayor Isen's request, led in the salute to the flag.

4. INVOCATION:

The Reverend J. Augustine O'Gorman, St. James Catholic Church, opened the meeting with an invocation.

STANDARD MOTIONS:

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

None being available, approval was withheld.

6. APPROVAL OF DEMANDS:

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

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Johnson, Miller, Sciarrotta,
Uerkwitz, Wilson, 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, seconded by Councilman Uerkwitz, carried by unanimous roll call vote.

8. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

The meeting of the Council Committee as a Whole on Oil Well Beautification on August 29th was noted.

An enlightening explanation of Council procedure was given by Mayor Isen to the large audience of civic leaders.

APPOINTMENTS:

9. Administration of Oath to Commissioners.

The unfinished business of the appointment of two Commissioners to the Civil Service Commission preceded the ceremony. Councilman Wilson nominated Mr. Jack Salling (for the unexpired term of C.P. Hughes), and a poll of the Council was unanimously favorable. Thereupon Councilman Uerkwitz nominated Mr. Roy E. Hickcox (replacing Fred Mill); a poll of the Council was unanimously favorable.

Congratulations to the newly appointed and reappointed Commissioners were conveyed by Mayor Isen on behalf of the Council. An invitation was extended to these people to come forward for the administration of the oath and the signing of allegiance and each responded as his name was called.

HEARINGS:

10. UNIFORM PLUMBING CODE, 1967 EDITION. Public Hearing on Resolution of Intention No. 68-168 to adopt the said Code. ORDINANCE repealing Articles 1 and 2 of Division 8, Chapter 3, of the Torrance Municipal Code and adding new Articles 1 and 2 which adopt and amend the Uniform Plumbing Code, 1967 Edition.

Mayor Isen announced that this is the time and place for the hearing on the subject Code.

City Clerk Coil presented an Affidavit of Publication. Councilman Sciarrotta moved that it be filed; his motion was seconded by Councilman Uerkwitz, and there were no objections.

Mayor Isen then inquired if anyone wished to be heard on this matter; there was no response.

Mayor Isen asked if the City Clerk has three copies of the Code on file in his office as required by law, and City Clerk Coil answered in the affirmative.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved that the hearing be closed; his motion was seconded by Councilman Johnson, and there were no objections.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 1903

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE REPEALING ARTICLES 1 AND 2 OF DIVISION 8, CHAPTER 3, OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE AND ADDING NEW ARTICLES 1 AND 2 WHICH ADOPT AND AMEND THE UNIFORM PLUMBING CODE, 1967 EDITION.

Councilman Uerkwitz moved to waive further reading of Ordinance No. 1903, His motion, seconded by Councilman Wilson, was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

Councilman Johnson moved for the approval of Ordinance No. 1903 at its first reading. The motion, seconded by Councilman Uerkwitz, was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

PLANNING AND ZONING HEARINGS:

(Because of their interrelationship, the following two items were considered together.)

- 11. ZC 68-9, SUNNYGLEN CONSTRUCTION COMPANY. Third and Final Hearing on Petition for a Change of Zone from A-1 to R-1, C-R and P-U. Property located on the northwest corner of the City between Del Amo Boulevard and Beryl Street from the end of Halison Street to the westerly City Limits. Recommended for approval by the Planning Commission. (Continued from meeting of August 6, 1968).
- 12. TENTATIVE TRACT MAP NO. 22704. SUBDIVIDER, R.A. WATT COMPANY; ENGINEER, LANCO ENGINEERING. This is a 267-lot tract located between Del Amo Boulevard and Beryl Street and from the end of Halison Street to the westerly City Limits. Recommended for approval by the Planning Commission, subject to conditions.

Mayor Isen announced that this is the time and place for the public hearing on the above two items, it being noted that there has been a change of ownership in that the entire tract is now owned by the R.A. Watt Company and a new request is herewith submitted.

Visual information was furnished by Planning Director Shartle, including proposed freeway routes.

Mr. John Grindle, R.A. Watt Company, 16901 South Western, Gardena, was present to review the conditions imposed on the subject tentative tract map -- requesting, specifically, that the average lot size for the tract be 5600 sq. ft. with a minimum lot size of 5000 sq. ft., that the park bed fee be waived -- stating that, without going into the economics of an undertaking such as this, that the dedication of a 5½ acre park justified the above requests. Mr. Grindle then volunteered to stipulate to either paying \$27,500 bed tax for the development of the park in this community in this tract provided that the improvements this \$27,500 would buy would be so put in and approved on the site so that at the time of their first occupancy the people in the neighborhood would have a going park. At Councilman Miller's alternate suggestion, Mr. Grindle then agreed to bank this sum until the City is in a position to develop such a park, if the City would take the earnings of that money and apply it further to the improvement of the park, entering into a joint bank account arrangement between the City and the proponent.

At Councilman Uerkwitz's question pertaining to the high and low footage for the proposed lots, Mr. Grindle advised that a hurried tabulation indicated that there are approximately 119 lots under the 5600 ft. average, with none under 5000 sq. ft. -- 25 at 5000, 4 at 5100, 7 at 5200, etc. Councilman Wilson was of the opinion that to consider lots less than 5600 sq. ft. was undermining Planning Commission and Staff recommendations, feeling these recommendations are based on sound judgment and for good reason. Councilman Beasley commented on the dump/hog farm past on this property which has resulted in very little solid foundation which makes it an expensive problem for a subdivider to fill houses up to Torrance standards -- it being a matter of economics to obtain as many homes as possible. Mr. Grindle outlined his professional background in determining the salability of homes, and this expertise has been applied to this development, as to all other Ray Watt developments.

APPROXIMATELY Mr. Grindle went on to describe the proposed development, the setbacks, layouts, etc. -- stating that the house on a 5000 sq. ft. lot would probably be a 2-story home ranging from 1700 to 2100 sq. ft. with overall dimensions of approximately 40 ft. wide and 55 to 60 ft. in length, with the required front, rear and side yard setbacks. Service Commission Councilman Wilson nominated Mr. Jack [redacted] as the representative of C.P. In order to ascertain the thinking of the Council to this point, Councilman Miller MOVED to approve the 5600 sq. ft. average lot size, as well as the banking recommendation in reference to the park. This informal action was seconded by Councilman Johnson, and there were no objections. Councilman Uerkwitz commented that he is not in agreement with the lot size less than 5600 sq. ft., but he will bow to the majority.

the administration of the [redacted] each. The proposed freeway was next considered. Councilman Beasley related the latest status of the routes, with a decision in the not too immediate future and one that can only be made in Sacramento. The responsibility of the City in this regard is to notify the State Highway Department concerning this tract, it being their problem from that point on.

ORDINANCE repealing

Mayor Isen referred to Staff condition #2 regarding the withholding of construction until some decision has been reached on the freeway, with traffic circulation problems as well, and recommended a two-week continuance for additional information on this crucial problem. Discussion followed, and Planning Director Shartle suggested that the Council could approve the "yellow section", and hold the rest in abeyance until these determinations are made. Mr. Grindle expressed their agreement to wait for six months on the balance outside of the yellow area, but requested that there be approval on the entire tentative tract map, pointing out the financing factor the [redacted] matter; there was no [redacted].

Mayor Isen asked if there was anyone else who wished to be heard in this public hearing on Item #11, a change of zone, R.A. Watt Company. There was no response - Councilman Sciarrotta moved that the hearing be closed. His motion was seconded by Councilman Johnson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

Councilman Sciarrotta [redacted] his MOTION: as Commissioner Beasley moved to concur with the recommendations of the Planning Commission on ZC 68-9. The motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable. The request [redacted] and presented for [redacted].

Turning now to Item #12, the president of the Homeowners Association was invited to speak by Mayor Isen.

Mr. Robert E. McNulty, 19705 Ronald Avenue, related the many events which have taken place since the first Planning Commission hearing on this matter -- a new homeowners group has emerged, with over 200 names, urging approval, having been submitted; it is their hope that regardless of what happens with the freeway, the tract will be started, that an equitable solution has been arrived at between the present homeowners and the developer, and they highly endorse this project. A notice [redacted] approved by roll call vote.

MOTION: Councilman Beasley moved for the approval of Tentative Tract Map No. 22704 (per "Exhibit B") with the 5600 sq. ft. average lots, with the further conditions that the payment of the park fee of \$27,500 for the improvement of a 5½ acre park shall be held for the development exclusively with this sum to be placed in a bank and include interest earned; that there be rough grading of the park; that development start in the northwest corner of the tract and keep to the

west of the proposed freeway route for a period of six months, all subject to Staff review and approval. The motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta.

Prior to roll call vote, it was clarified by Mayor Isen that the above action represents approval of the entire tentative tract map, with a gentleman's agreement for the six months period pertaining to the pending freeway route - further, in the event the freeway is not determined within six months (per Exhibit B), then the tentative tract map will revert to "Exhibit 1". Mr. Grindle had some reservations on the action, but expressed confidence in working the problems out with Staff.

The motion carried, with roll call vote as follows:

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Johnson, Miller, Sciarrotta,
Wilson, and Mayor Isen.
NOES: COUNCILMEN: Uerkwitz.

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A recess was ordered at 9:15 P.M. for the City Council, reconvening as the Redevelopment Agency, followed by a general 10-minute recess.

* * * * *

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS:

13. Delegation of Riviera Homeowners concerning median strip on Calle Mayor in Hollywood Riviera section.

Mr. Stanley Dunn, 505 Via la Selva, vice president of the Riviera Homeowners Association, referred to his communication of August 8th regarding the need for repair and beautification of the Calle Mayor median strip, such disorder being the result of recent County construction of a storm drain at this location.

Introduced by Mr. Dunn, Mr. Richard Cook, a resident on Calle Mayor, reported on the neighborhood feeling pertaining to the need for beautification, supported by a petition bearing 102 signatures. It is their request that the City (1) upgrade the soil; (2) provide some type of sprinkling system; (3) restoration of the missing trees and shrubs; and (4) grass or some type of ground cover.

It was agreed to refer this matter to City Manager Ferraro who in turn will work with Messrs. Dunn and Cook, and report back to the Council.

Assorted communications pertaining to assorted problems from Riviera residents, entrusted to Councilman Miller, were turned over to City Manager Ferraro as well.

PLANNING AND ZONING MATTERS:

14. FIRST READING ORDINANCE requiring Conditional Use Permit for refuse and sewage disposal plants and refuse dumps and relocation of refuse dumps; and requiring Los Angeles County Regional Water Control Board approval for operation of such plant or dump prior to filing application for variance to operate such plant or dump.

Certain revisions appeared necessary, with particular reference to the effect of the proposed ordinance on the tract approved earlier in the meeting. Councilman Beasley moved that the subject ordinance

be held for thirty days, to permit necessary revisions. His motion was seconded by Councilman Uerkwitz, and there were no objections.

15. FIRST READING ORDINANCE requiring only newspaper advertising for rezoning of public properties to P-U Zone.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 1904

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE REPEALING SECTION 96.1.3 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE AND SUBSTITUTING A NEW SECTION 96.1.3 THEREFOR WHICH ADDS SUBSECTION c) THERETO, PROVIDING THAT NOTICE OF A CHANGE OF ZONE OF ANY ZONE TO A PUBLIC USE ZONE NEED BE GIVEN ONLY BY NOTICE IN A NEWSPAPER OF GENERAL CIRCULATION WITHIN THE CITY.

Prior to the motion on this, Councilman Uerkwitz expressed his concern as to whether this might be done a temporary basis -- while he is in accord with what is being done and understands the intent -- for the reason that some time in the future public property might be treated differently than other property and perhaps deny people the opportunity of knowing of proposed building. It was explained by Deputy City Attorney Smith that control could be accomplished by future review of the ordinance and repealing or revising, if desired, and that Staff be put on notice to this effect.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved for the approval of Ordinance No. 1904 at its first reading. The motion, seconded by Councilman Johnson, carried as follows:

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Johnson, Miller, Sciarrotta, Uerkwitz,
Wilson, and Mayor Isen.

NOES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley.

NON-CONTROVERSIAL ITEMS:

16. BUDGETED ITEMS IN EXCESS OF \$300:

1. \$307.75 to Brown's Freeway Truck Parts for emergency repair of the transmission of a downed City packer (Vehicle #682) as requested by the City Garage.
2. \$661.50 to Pacific Toro Company, Inc. for one only sod cutter as requested by the Park Department.
3. \$2193.45 to Wenger Corporation for one only portable stage as requested by the Recreation Department.
4. \$1039.50 to Addressograph-Multigraph Company for one only power paper cutter requested by Central Services.
5. \$603.86 to Johnson Stationers for one sofa, two club chairs and two settees requested by the Recreation Department for use at the Senior Citizens' Bartlett Center.
6. \$770.07 to Lewellen Press for 100,000 library and registration cards for use in the City Library System.
7. \$424.56 to Bro-Dart Industries for miscellaneous Library materials.

17. Request of Danalou, Inc. (R.G. Garland) for the release of Sub-division Bond No. 152-08-73 in the amount of \$98,750, covering

Tract No. 26835, issued by Great American Insurance Company.

18. Request of Mrs. Gertrude Schreiber, developer of Tract No. 23099, for reduction of cash bond. RECOMMENDATION of Assistant City Engineer that bond be reduced to \$2,100.
19. Request of Don Wilson Builders for a one-year extension within which to complete Public Works Improvements in Tract No. 28414. Recommendation of Assistant City Engineer that request be approved.
21. NOTICE OF COMPLETION - IMPROVEMENT OF CRENSHAW BOULEVARD FROM MONTEREY STREET TO SEPULVEDA BOULEVARD - CONTRACTOR: ALLCON CONSTRUCTION COMPANY (B68-15).
Recommendations of Assistant City Engineer that (1) Council approve and authorize the additional work; (2) Council accept the work; and (3) That final payment be made to the contractor.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved for the approval of the above agenda items, #16 through #21 with the exception of Item #20. His motion was seconded by Councilman Uerkwitz, and carried, with roll call vote as follows:

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Johnson, Miller, Sciarrotta,
Uerkwitz, Wilson, and Mayor Isen.
NOES: COUNCILMEN: None.

20. NOTICE OF COMPLETION - CLEARING AND GRUBBING AIRPORT CLEAR ZONE - CONTRACTOR: ALLEN EXCAVATING. FAAP-03 (B68-25) JOB #51003. Assistant City Engineer and Airport Manager recommending (1) that Council accept the work; and (2) that final payment be made to the contractor.

Councilman Uerkwitz requested that Assistant City Engineer Weaver advise him regarding the individual bid amounts for the cesspools, without delaying action at this time.

Councilman Miller moved to concur with the above recommendations of the Assistant City Engineer and Airport Manager. The motion was seconded by Councilman Uerkwitz, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

STREETS AND SIDEWALKS:

22. AWARD OF CONTRACT - IMPROVEMENT OF CRENSHAW BOULEVARD FROM 182ND STREET TO 190TH STREET (B68-41).
Recommendation of Assistant City Engineer that contract be awarded on basis of City Attorney's determination.

Deputy City Attorney Smith advised that in their opinion the list as set forth in this item is proper, explaining that in this instance the question of mistake came up after the deadline for submission of bids - at that time they had all become irrevocable offers - and attempts to withdraw the offer were of no avail,

Councilman Beasley moved that the subject contract be awarded Rush Engineering Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$203,332.39, and that all other bids be rejected. The motion was seconded by Councilman Johnson.

Prior to roll call vote, Mr. Fred K. Wong, attorney representing Allcon Construction, 2456 Huntington Drive, San Marino, stated that the image and reputation of the City of Torrance is at stake in the area of bidding practices. This was contradicted and clarified by the Council members who outlined established bidding procedures employed by the City.

Roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

REAL PROPERTY:

23. Offer to purchase Lot 1, Block 2, Torrance Tract, presently used as public parking lot in downtown Torrance, submitted by Nick Drale on behalf of clients, Messrs. Theodore Georges and Antonios Doukas.

Mr. Drale was present to reiterate the information regarding the desired purchase of the subject property, as outlined in his letter of July 18th, adding that this parking lot is used primarily by apartment house tenants rather than people who do business in the City of Torrance.

Discussion followed on downtown land in general, and it was MOVED by Councilman Johnson that this matter be referred to the Downtown Torrance Association, to the attention of Mr. Babcock, for one week. The motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, and there were no objections.

24. CIVIC CENTER LAND EXCHANGE. QUITCLAIM DEEDS AND LEASE AGREEMENT WITH COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES. (3 Resolutions)

(1) RESOLUTION authorizing execution of that certain Quitclaim Deed to the County of Los Angeles, conveying to said County certain land located on the Torrance Civic Center in exchange for certain land and a building also located thereon.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 68-186

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 THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, CONVEYING TO SAID COUNTY CERTAIN LAND LOCATED ON THE TORRANCE CIVIC CENTER IN EXCHANGE FOR CERTAIN LAND AND A BUILDING ALSO LOCATED THEREON.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 68-186. His motion was seconded by Councilman Miller, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable. Mayor Isen commented that his "yes" vote is with the understanding that there will be no problems pertaining to easements, access, etc.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 68-187

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE AND ATTEST THAT CERTAIN LEASE AGREEMENT FOR THE COURTHOUSE AND PUBLIC DEFENDER'S OFFICE BUILDING LOCATED ON THE TORRANCE CIVIC CENTER.

Councilman Wilson moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 68-187. His motion, seconded by Councilman Miller, was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 68-188

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ACCEPTING THAT CERTAIN QUITCLAIM DEED EXECUTED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ON JUNE 19, 1968, GRANTING TO THE CITY OF TORRANCE THAT CERTAIN LAND AND BUILDING LOCATED IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE IN EXCHANGE FOR CERTAIN LAND ALSO LOCATED ON THE TORRANCE CIVIC CENTER.

Councilman Uerkwitz moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 68-188. His motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

TRAFFIC AND LIGHTING:

25. Traffic and Lighting Division, submitting recommendation that City enter into contract with Laurence J. Thompson, Inc., to perform assessment services in conjunction with Street Lighting District No. 14.

Councilman Beasley moved to concur with the recommendation of the City Traffic Engineer. His motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

PERSONNEL MATTERS:

26. RESOLUTION authorizing the County of Los Angeles to perform Personnel Services, and repealing Resolution No. 68-163 relating to the same matter.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 68-189

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND REQUESTING THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES TO PERFORM PERSONNEL SERVICES AND REPEALING RESOLUTION NO. 68-163 RELATING TO THE SAME MATTER.

(July 1, 1968 - June 30, 1969)

Councilman Sciarrotta moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 68-189. His motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

27. ORDINANCE amending the contract between the City and the Board of Administration of the California Public Employees' Retirement System to increase retirement allowance for employees retired prior to January 1, 1962.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 1905

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AN AMENDMENT TO THE CONTRACT BETWEEN THE CITY COUNCIL AND THE BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION OF THE CALIFORNIA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM.

Councilman Wilson moved for the approval of Ordinance No. 1905 at its first reading. The motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

ITEMS NOT OTHERWISE CLASSIFIED:

(Taken out of order).

30. ORDINANCE adding Article 2 to Chapter 7 of Division 7 of the Municipal Code, establishing the Underground Utilities Committee, and delineating its powers and duties.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 1906

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ADDING ARTICLE 2 TO CHAPTER 7 OF DIVISION 7 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE ESTABLISHING THE UNDERGROUND UTILITIES COMMITTEE AND DELINEATING ITS POWERS AND DUTIES.

Councilman Wilson moved for the approval of Ordinance No. 1906 at its first reading. His motion, seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

SECOND READING ORDINANCES:

31. ORDINANCE NO. 1902.

At the request of Mayor Isen, City Clerk Coil presented for its second and final reading:

ORDINANCE NO. 1902

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING SECTIONS 93.6.2 AND 93.6.4 AND ADDING SECTIONS 93.6.5, 93.6.6 AND 93.6.7 TO DIVISION 9 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE TO PROVIDE FOR INCREASED LANDSCAPING OF PARKING LOTS.

Councilman Beasley moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 1902 at its second and final reading. The motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

(The Council now returned to the regular agenda order.)

28. SALARIES OF EXECUTIVE EMPLOYEES.

Councilman Miller, as chairman of the ad hoc committee on this matter, reported the findings of his committee, as outlined in their letter of July 31st. The majority opinion was a recommendation that the executive employees receive a 5% general salary increase effective June 30, 1968, and a 5% general salary increase effective October 6, 1968 -- a percentage relationship was established as well -- and longevity was not granted.

Councilman Uerkwitz, as the minority, reaffirmed his feeling that a 5% general increase was adequate at this particular salary level, adding that he was agreeable to the percentage concept -- further noting that a 5% increase would match the other employee down-the-line increases.

Discussion followed. Councilman Johnson was of the opinion that a 5% increase would have been adequate in view of the sizeable amount of money represented thereby.

MOTION: Councilman Miller moved to concur with the findings of the majority of the committee re: executive salaries. His motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta.

Prior to the vote on the motion, Councilman Beasley commented that in a city of this size, with several hundred employees, the man hired to carry out the administrative policies of this Council should be capable and should be paid accordingly in order to retain his services, and he is heartily in favor of the committee's recommendations. Mr. Beasley added that the total salary of the City Manager at the present time, including the increase, will be one of the lowest for cities this size in the State of California.

Councilman Wilson concurred with Mr. Beasley's remarks, adding that a look at business and industry with responsible executives will indicate that these salaries proposed for the City's executives are low; he joins in concurring with the committee's recommendations.

The motion carried, with a 4-3 vote, as follows:

- AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Miller, Sciarrotta, and Wilson.
- NOES: COUNCILMEN: Johnson, Uerkwitz, and Mayor Isen.

LIBRARY OPERATIONS:

29. Recommendations of Library Commission and City Librarian with reference to basement for proposed Central Library and re-allocation of Bond funds.

City Librarian West related the background history on the Central Library basement, which has now culminated in dissimilar recommendations -- that of the City Librarian and the architect for a 5,000 sq. ft. addition, while the Library Commission has recommended 14,160 sq. ft. for the proposed basement.

At Councilman Sciarrotta's question, Mr. West advised that there is money available for either version; in reference to the effect of the larger basement on the branch libraries, Mr. West advised that the Southeast Branch funds are inviolate, but that the branch expansion money would be depleted.

The Chairman of the Library Commission, Mrs. Claire Crain, acknowledged the extensive efforts of the City Librarian in this matter; however, it is the consensus of the Library Commission that they favor a full basement for the Central Library, recalling past experiences of fast-disappearing space, along with their feeling of responsibility as a Commission of getting the most for the tax dollar for Torrance residents. Specifically pointed out by Mrs. Crain was the fact that the Commission is not asking that the basement be completed but only made available for use as needed, and is a decision that cannot be made later.

MOTION: Councilman Johnson moved to concur with the recommendation of the Library Commission that a full (unfinished) basement be provided for the Central Library. His motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta.

Roll call vote was unanimously favorable, with Councilman Uerkwitz commenting at the time of his vote that he would like to inform City Librarian West that his comments on this are appreciated and represent a real good job; the only reason he is voting "yes"

is because there is an indication people are willing to give up the expansion on the other libraries. Mayor Isen's "yes" vote was predicated on the overwhelming arguments.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

32. A public hearing on the Torrance Freeway by the State Division of Highways was announced by City Manager Ferraro. The date is October 10th, at 10:00 A.M., at Torrance High School.

(Councilman Sciarrotta left the meeting at this time - 10:40 P.M.)

33. Director of Recreation Van Bellehem advised that they would like to readvertise for the construction of picnic shelters, since no bids were received. Councilman Uerkwitz so moved; his motion was seconded by Mayor Isen; there were no objections, and it was so ordered.

34. Councilman Johnson stated that there appears to be misunderstanding and confusion relative to Columbia Park, the kind of acreage, and the different programs discussed. It is unlikely there is a Councilman here, Mr. Johnson continued, who is not for Columbia Park, other parks, and for additional park land, but it should be made very clear that reference to the Regional Park, the 53 acres in Columbia Park, refers to applying for Federal and State funds. Mr. Johnson had earlier recommended a plan for acquiring additional park sites, and stated that the 35 acre Columbia Park site would be 18 acres short of the 53 acres, but 35 acres represents a large park; further, the City should acquire, while still possible, some 11 or 12 additional 5-acre sites scattered throughout the City of Torrance to continue the very good neighborhood park system; this not to preclude the acquirement of "vest pocket" size parcels which may become available. In conclusion, Councilman Johnson stated that it is his recommendation that there be some 90 acres as opposed to the 53 acres, plus the additional park sites above outlined.

At Councilman Miller's question, City Manager Ferraro advised that the acquirement of sumps for park purposes has been underway for some time, with a potential of some 70 acres eventually being put to this use.

35. Clarification on Information Item B was requested by Councilman Uerkwitz regarding the detachment of Henry No. 2 from the Consolidated Fire Protection District of Los Angeles County, which was furnished by City Manager Ferraro, who confirmed that the City boundaries were not affected.

36. A petition bearing 50 signatures, submitted by Mr. Bearclaw on Burin Avenue, protesting the "testing ground" atmosphere at 182nd and Hawthorne involving Hondas, etc., was introduced by Councilman Wilson. Councilman Uerkwitz, who had also been contacted in this matter, outlined parking problems in evidence. It was agreed that this be referred to Staff to investigate and report back.

37. Mayor Isen inquired as to the status of the report from the City Attorney's office pertaining to the resolution re: contract with the State of California and Columbia Park and the binding effects, if any, thereof. Deputy City Attorney Smith advised that this item will appear on the August 20th agenda, the information having been delayed.

38. Keen disappointment was expressed by Mayor Isen in reference to Information Item C which related that Senate Bill 425 (Home Rule) had been killed in committee.

39. Mr. Bob Schimmick, 2735 Arlington Avenue, reported on the difficulties encountered by him in attempting to install a canopy at his gas station on Sepulveda Boulevard, reviewing the considerable past deliberations before the City Council and the Planning Commission in obtaining C-3 zoning on this property, all of which included a dedication of some 12,000 sq. ft. on Sepulveda Boulevard. The enactment of the conditional use permit ordinance, subsequent to the above, now necessitates further application, public hearings, etc.

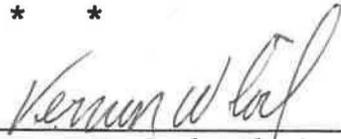
Planning Director Shartle advised that the records confirm the 1965-66 hearings on this matter, along with the complications of widening Sepulveda Boulevard -- with the adoption of conditional use permit procedures evolving around the same period of time, resulting in Mr. Schimmick being caught in the middle.

It was generally agreed that Mr. Schimmick was deserving of relief in view of these extenuating circumstances, and his sizeable donation of land -- recommended was emergency legislation containing a clause to the effect that donation of land on major highways over 10,000 sq. ft. (this case, 12,000 sq. ft.) that waiver of fees for conditional use permits or exceptions thereto would be acceptable. Appearance before the Planning Commission by Mr. Schimmick, however, was deemed mandatory, and he was advised to get with Planning Director Shartle to expedite the matter.

40. Mr. Robert E. Daly, 2422 West 185th Street, advised that he has purchased the "Open Hearth" at 23863 Hawthorne Boulevard, with this transaction presently in escrow. Mr. Daly has already taken over the operation of this business, and there are now complications pertaining to the entertainment permit; License Supervisor Moss pointed out the Code requirements for advertised public hearings, and strongly recommended against any deviation from the public hearing procedure. Discussion followed on the fact that the entertainment is the identical entertainment provided by the former owner, the suspended state of ownership represented by the escrow status, as well as the intricacies of ABC liquor licenses, types 47 and 48, and transfer of same. It was finally agreed that the business be deemed a co-owner arrangement until the close of escrow, that the entertainment continue, with the further recommendation by Mayor Isen that there be review of these requirements for future considerations by Mr. Moss and City Attorney Remelmeyer.

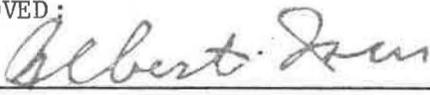
There being no further business, the meeting was regularly adjourned at 11:30 P.M.

* * * * *



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

APPROVED:



 Mayor of the City of Torrance

Ava Cripe
 Minute Secretary

13.

Council Minutes
 August 13, 1968