

I N D E XCity Council Meeting - November 8, 1968, 5:30 PM

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Adjourned at 7:50 P.M.

* * * *

November 8, 1968

MINUTES OF A REGULAR⁶ MEETING
OF THE TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL

OPENING CEREMONIES:

1. CALL TO ORDER:

A regular meeting of the Torrance City Council was held on Friday, November 8, 1968 (Tuesday last having been Election Day) at 5:30 P.M. in the Council Chambers at Torrance 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.

Also present were City Manager Ferraro, City Attorney Remelmeyer, and City Clerk Coil. Absent: City Treasurer Rupert.

3. FLAG SALUTE:

Mr. Jim Burchett, a long time member of the Civil Defense and Disaster Commission, led in the salute to the flag, at Mayor Isen's request.

4. INVOCATION:

Reverend Schultz, South Bay Church of God, opened the meeting with an invocation.

STANDARD MOTIONS:

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilman Sciarrotta moved that the minutes of October 22 and October 29, 1968 be approved as written. His motion was seconded by Councilman Uerkwitz, and there were no objections.

6. APPROVAL OF DEMANDS:

Councilman Beasley moved that all properly audited demands be paid. His motion, seconded by Councilman Johnson, carried as follows:

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

NOES: COUNCILMEN: None.

7. MOTION TO WAIVE FURTHER READING:

Councilman Uerkwitz 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 Sciarrotta, carried by unanimous roll call vote.

9. \$551.90 to Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing for 350 4" letters and 65 yards of special scotchlite reflective sheeting which is requested by the Traffic and Lighting Department in order to make reflective traffic signs for the City using our 3M sign machine.
 10. \$992.25 to Green Thumb Gardens for 400 flats of ivy and various colored gazanias as requested by the Park Department to be used to landscape the center median parkway on Calle Mayor Avenue.
 11. \$640.05 to Decalcomania Manufacturing for 25 sets of pre-spaced letters made from Scotchlite material to read "Torrance Transit System" and 233 numerals for identifying the various unit buses.
- B. REIMBURSABLE ITEMS:
12. \$403.73 to Hersey-Sparling Meter Company for one only 2" Hersey-Sparling all bronze C.T. water meter with check valve on main and intermediate flow lines as requested by the Water Department. Payment from Hiebert-Zukin Service has already been received for this service by the Water Department.
 13. \$1490.91 to Martin Hannum, Inc. for 209 ounces of gold and silver casting materials to be used for jewelry craft classes as conducted by the Recreation Department. Money for these supplies have already been collected from the class fees.
- C. SPECIAL EXPENDITURES - as requested by the City Librarian.
14. \$6461.63 to Mayfair Subscription Agency for subscriptions to approximately 400 periodicals for the five Branch Libraries for periods of from one year for some periodicals to three years for others.
 15. \$624.38 to Doubleday & Company, Inc., c/o John Torne, for 65 juvenile and 50 adult books.
 16. \$872.22 to Random House Publishing Company, c/o Harry Rinehimer, for 157 juvenile, 45 adult books and 157 book processing kits.
 17. \$1489.88 to West State Books for 13 juvenile and 269 adult books.
 18. \$873.45 to Lord Associates for 232 juvenile books and 45 book processing kits.
 19. \$303.50 to Certi-Bond Records for 99 record albums.
 20. \$525.00 to Card Division, c/o Library of Congress, for one only subscription to National Union Catalog 1969.
 21. \$703.50 to J.W. Edwards, Publisher, Inc. for one only set of National Union Catalog 1963-1967 cumulative author list (72 volumes).

some plan for the orderly development of the so called Del Amo Business District is in order and is necessary, and Pacific Mutual will do their share in that regard, with or without an ordinance. Mr. Browning further stated that in order to protect the areas other than their own against adverse development they are very much in favor of the development of a good, reasonably palatable Master Plan, and have indicated their willingness to work with Staff in the development of such a Plan. It was initially felt, Mr. Browning concluded, that this ordinance could only cause roadblocks, confusion, and perhaps even shift some City responsibilities on to the property owners, the ordinance being entirely too vague -- however, they have agreed to support a 90day so called precise plan ordinance in the interest of the orderly development of this area..

Representing Sears, Mr. Robert Owens, 2650 East Olympic Boulevard, Los Angeles, noted that they do have a substantial investment in the Del Amo Center, that they try to be a good citizen and agree with all the normal development that goes on in this type of center -- as a matter of fact, when this center was established Sears was instrumental in its creation, at which time covenants were established and which are guarded very jealously. It is their hope, Mr. Owens stated, that there will not be undue delays in this matter and that it will not be punitive in nature for what has already been developed.

Mr. Bert Witherspoon, associated with Del Amo Financial Center, stated that, in his opinion, it is a fine thing for the City to take positive steps to insure by ordinance that there are standards and control in development; this is mutually of interest to the City and tenants and owners of property in the Del Amo Business District. Mr. Witherspoon added that in meeting with the other property owners there were some reservations about the specific wording of the ordinance; stating, however, that Del Amo does not oppose the ordinance but that there should be a time limit placed on it in order to somewhat spur the preparation of the Master Plan, zoning changes, or whatever may go with the ultimate plans of the City for needed standards and controls for proper development of the area. In conclusion, they would want to encourage the implementation of the Master Plan as rapidly as possible, being agreeable to the requested time limit.

There being no one else who wished to be heard, Councilman Johnson moved that the hearing be closed. His motion was seconded by Councilman Uerkwitz, and there were no objections.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 1929

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE PROHIBITING THE USE OF PROPERTY IN THE DEL AMO BUSINESS DISTRICT UNLESS THERE HAS BEEN APPROVED A PRECISE PLAN OF DEVELOPMENT AND DECLARING THE PRESENCE OF AN EMERGENCY.

Councilman Wilson moved for the adoption of Emergency Ordinance No. 1929. His motion was seconded by Councilman Uerkwitz, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

REAL PROPERTY:

14. Recommendation of City Manager re: request to purchase City property.

It was recommended by City Manager Ferraro that his office be authorized to obtain an appraisal of property adjacent to the Christ the King Lutheran Church, 2706 West 182nd Street and proceed with established land disposal procedures.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved to concur with the recommendation of the City Manager; his motion was seconded by Councilman Beasley, and approval was unanimous.

(Taken out of agenda order, with permission of the Council:)

25. Opinion No. 68-71 re: Claim of Walter Nollac for attorney fees.

Mr. Walter H. Young, 606 South Olive Street, Los Angeles, spoke with respect to the claim of Walter Nollac for reimbursement for attorney fees in defense of the accusation filed against him, such accusation not being sustained.

Pointed out at this time by Mayor Isen was the action taken by the Council on September 16th wherein the claim was denied and referred to the City Attorney -- questioned now was the reason for its return to the Council. City Attorney Remelmeyer clarified, as outlined in Opinion No. 68-71, that the subject claim is unlike the ordinary case of a claim against the City, with a special statute applicable to this case with the Council alone able to make the decision as to whether or not the request be granted. Mayor Isen reiterated the intent of the Council -- that of denial, and questioned the value of any arguments that might be put forth by Mr. Young.

Mr. Young did not agree, and continued, stating that, in the first place, it is the public policy of the State to enable an employee to have a claim financed, and not that he be required to finance the defense of an accusation filed against him; it is within the discretion of the City Council as to whether or not Mr. Nollac will be paid, and a most serious matter for the Council to consider is why the public policy of the State is not followed here. Reasons cited by Mr. Young were: if this policy is good enough for the whole State, why not for the City of Torrance; secondly, the accusations were found to be groundless by a 6-1 vote; further, all the facts in the accusation were found to be true but Mr. Nollac was exonerated - this means it was groundless as a matter of law. Of further importance, according to Mr. Young, is that the employees of this City know that as a matter of policy that when an accusation is filed that is groundless as a matter of law that that employee not be required to finance his own defense, which would have an effect on the morale and spirit of the employees.

Disagreement with City Attorney Remelmeyer that there is no relief was next expressed by Mr. Young, it being his well considered opinion that when an administrative body is granted discretion no one

can attack the exercise of that discretion if it grants the relief that is sought, but if the relief sought is denied it would be subject to test as to whether it is an abusive discretion, particularly on a matter of public policy of the State. Mr. Young, commenting that he will be paid whether or not Mr. Nollac is reimbursed, stated that, in the last analysis, it is basically a matter of simple equity and fairness and justice -- if the City Manager is financed to prosecute with a groundless charge, then it is unjust that Mr. Nollac bear the entire burden himself -- in any event, Mr. Nollac should be reimbursed to the same extent as the cost of the attorney prosecuting the charge.

A question was directed to City Manager Ferraro by Councilman Miller as to the absence of information, apart from the initial personnel session, with the exception of what can be gleaned from the newspapers. Councilman Miller requested specific clarification as to what is meant by a recent newspaper article referring to "continuing investigation" of Mr. Nollac -- reviewing as well the cost this has represented for the City not only in legal fees but Staff time and employee morale, with no end in sight.

Exception to Councilman Miller's comments was taken by Mayor Isen who stated that the fundamental question is whether or not the City Manager acted in good faith -- any other aspect of Mr. Miller's questions are for a personnel session as defined by the Brown Act. Further stated by Mayor Isen was the fact that sound discretion has been evident in this matter, there are no wholesale charges filed by the City Manager against employees -- there would never be a sufficiently large pocketbook to pay for defense attorneys should a precedent be set; Mayor Isen cannot conceive of a law or decision in the face of impassionate action and the exercise of sound discretion that it would deem it an obligation to pay the fee as requested. The difficulty of such a situation for a City Manager was pointed out by Mayor Isen - to do other than he has done would be subject to criticism by the Council - and Mr. Ferraro has proceeded on his own logic, without malice, and in good faith felt there were sufficient grounds to justify investigation and a determination.

Councilman Miller requested a response to his question as to the "continuing investigation" -- City Manager Ferraro responded that the investigation is continuing. Councilman Miller next inquired as to the time element involved in bringing this to a head; Mr. Ferraro answered "just as rapidly as possible".

Inasmuch as voting either yes or no on this matter, Councilman Beasley stated, at this time would place the Council in a position which might affect future developments that might occur in this case, and until a personnel session has been held, he MOVED to defer action on this matter for a period of sixty days.

City Attorney Remelmeyer advised the Council that they should not have a personnel session at the present time on the facts yet to be developed inasmuch as the Council, should any charges be filed, would have to sit as a quasi-judicial body on them, and, therefore, should not be a party to such charges at the present time. City Attorney Remelmeyer added, in City Manager Ferraro's defense, that, under like circumstances, the Council would do exactly as he is doing.

There not having been a second to Councilman Beasley's motion to defer action, Councilman Uerkwitz offered a MOTION that the Council DENY payment of the subject attorney fees.

It was the comment of Councilman Uerkwitz, relative to his motion, that it is not his intent to try the case nor is he concerned about the guilty or not guilty aspect, but, rather, his concern is that anyone in the City could go out and hire any lawyer any time at any charge and then return to the Council with the bill for payment -- to do otherwise than deny could be precedent-setting.

The motion to deny was seconded by Councilman Johnson.

Prior to roll call vote, Councilman Wilson questioned why Mr. Nollac had not requested attorneys fees in advance. Councilman Johnson commented that an employee in a high position with sufficient evidence of what appears unwise activity going on has brought it upon himself and should be the one to defend his position -- Mr. Johnson further commented that Mr. Nollac has been exonerated from the charges per se but there was evidence that he did do some of the things which comprised the charges; in view of his high position and a need for good judgment, he brought this on himself and ought not to be paid.

Mr. Young returned to comment further that the Council may pay whatever they want of the bill submitted, reiterating that it is the public policy of the State, and that the employee should be afforded the same amount of money for defense as was used for prosecution.

Roll call vote on Councilman Uerkwitz' motion to deny payment of attorney fees was as follows: ("Yes" being for denial).

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

Comments on their votes were:

In voting "No" Councilman Beasley stated that it was for the reason that he sensed an unfairness in the situation and that the matter should be postponed until a future time when more information would be available.

Councilman Miller voted "yes" stating that apparently he is not entitled at this point for the full information on the case; he feels there is more to it, and, until there is clarification, would not want the City to pay this at the present time. Mr. Miller confirmed from the City Attorney that Mr. Nollac has recourse through the courts; further discussion was attempted on this question from various people, but Mayor Isen would not permit such procedure in the middle of the roll call vote.

Mixed feelings on this matter were acknowledged by Councilman Wilson, since apparently the final information has not yet been furnished -- his question of the City Attorney was as to whether or not Mr. Nollac could return after final action has been taken and re-request payment of attorney fees; Mr. Remelmeyer responded in the affirmative, stating that it could be brought back upon the Council's acquiescence and a motion for reconsideration of the matter.

* * * *

The hour being 6:30 P.M. Councilman Sciarrotta moved to recess as City Council, reconvening as the Redevelopment Agency, followed by a 10-minute general recess at 6:32 P.M.

* * * * *

TRAFFIC AND LIGHTING:

15. Traffic Engineer recommending approval of Change Order No. 1, Improvement of the intersection of Hawthorne Blvd. and Bluff Street (B68-36).

Additional information was needed on this item. Councilman Johnson MOVED to hold for the November 12th Council meeting. His motion was seconded by Councilman Uerkwitz, and there were no objections.

PERSONNEL MATTERS:

16. Ordinance amending Civil Service Rules and Regulations re: Move-up Assignment and Pay.

It was the recommendation of Councilman Johnson there be three names to select from but that the rotation be down the line -- first highest, second highest, etc., with any deviation from this order accompanied by an explanation by the department head. Personnel Director Donovan added, by way of clarification, that the latitude was extended because in some departments with different work locations the #2 or #3 man on the list might be the logical one to move up - i.e. the Fire Department.

Mr. Sam Hunegs stated that the intent is to give the top man on the list, whenever a temporary vacancy occurs, the first chance at the job, but that does not preclude that the next time there is a vacancy that the next man be given an opportunity to perform the duties -- that, in fact, being the idea -- followed by the third man, etc. which would serve as training ground and furnish an opportunity to observe the three men, or whatever the number, on the job.

City Manager Ferraro called specific attention to Page 2 of the yellow ordinance which defines the above discussed procedure.

Further remarks of Councilman Johnson were in reference to Page 3 of the yellow ordinance - Section 14.31.11 Move Up Pay for Training Purposes - he does not agree that an employee moved up and being trained should get the salary of the move up position, since this is purely for the purpose of training. Councilman Uerkwitz pointed out the section wherein the department head underwrites the trainee, that he is performing the duties, that he is productive, then he is entitled to the move up pay, otherwise he is not. Mr. Hunegs added that there was no intent to pay anybody unless, after the training program, the employee had been certified as qualified to perform that job, but until that time he would be on the training program and not receiving any extra money. This then was satisfactory to Councilman Johnson.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 1930

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ADDING ARTICLE 31 TO CHAPTER 4, DIVISION 1 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE GOVERNING MOVE

UP ASSIGNMENT AND MOVE UP PAY FOR EMPLOYEES OF
THE CITY; AND REPEALING RULE XXIII OF THE CIVIL
SERVICE RULES AND REGULATIONS RELATING TO THE
SAME SUBJECT.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved for the approval of Ordinance No. 1930 at its first reading. His motion was seconded by Councilman Johnson.

Prior to roll call vote, John Kirkpatrick, Torrance City Employees' Association, called attention to Section 14.31.12 (Page 3) - Acting Department Heads - and their feeling that there should be some sort of time limit as to how long an assistant department head should serve as Acting Department Head without additional compensation. The Council did not desire to make an amendment in this respect; any possible inequities could be reviewed by the Council.

Approval and support of the subject ordinance was expressed by Lieutenant Oates, Torrance Police Department, and Fire Captain De Armitt.

Roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

17. ORDINANCE adding Article 38 to the Torrance Code to provide a Grievance Procedure.

Mr. Sam Hunegs, Local #1117, reported on the many meetings in reference to the establishment of a Grievance Procedure which resulted in a modern, updated procedure by way of the pink ordinance. Mr. Hunegs then reported on the complications represented by the fact that the uniformed employees of the City currently do not have access and punitive action to the Civil Service Commission, which is a serious inequity, it being Mr. Hunegs' understanding that an ordinance to alleviate this is in the process of being prepared. The yellow ordinance on Grievance Procedure added a few words which made it possible for uniformed personnel to reach the Civil Service Commission by using the grievance procedure; that, Mr. Hunegs stated, destroys the intent of a grievance procedure. There are two separate items, in Mr. Hunegs opinion, one is that the uniformed personnel need the right to go to the Civil Service Commission with punitive action and the right to appeal which they do not currently possess -- two, the grievance procedure, were it adopted in the pink form, would do exactly what it is hoped to do; it would be a modern grievance procedure and an effective one. Agreement with further remodelling, if needed, of the pink version in some six months or so after having had some experience was expressed by Mr. Hunegs. In conclusion, Mr. Hunegs requested that Council direct City Attorney Remelmeyer, if not already done, to draft an ordinance which would provide the same rights to uniformed personnel as to the other classified employees; and that the Council adopt the pink ordinance.

Of concern to Councilman Johnson was the fact that under the pink ordinance employees would not have recourse to the Civil Service Commission -- he agreed that the committee route would be a long step forward and the decisions undoubtedly would be good, but there are those rare cases where disagreement will continue and then the employee ought to have recourse to the Commission.

It was pointed out by City Attorney Remelmeyer that the Charter of the City of Torrance makes it impossible for the Civil Service Commission to hear most of these matters; they can only hear the matters that would come as far as the Employee Appeals Board which are within their own jurisdiction according to the Charter - anything within the jurisdiction of the City Manager cannot go to the Commission,

which would necessitate a ruling from the City Attorney's office as to jurisdiction.

Discussion ensued on the pink version vs the yellow one, with John Kirkpatrick (in favor of yellow) citing experiences of other agencies with such an arrangement, and outlining the need for Civil Service Commission appeal.

Mr. Hunegs returned to urge that the pink version at least be given a trial. Councilman Johnson agreed to yield his objections for a trial period, and the Council concurred on the pink version.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 1931

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ADDING ARTICLE 38 TO CHAPTER 4, DIVISION 1 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE AMENDING THE CIVIL SERVICE RULES OF THE CITY TO PROVIDE A GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE FOR EMPLOYEES.

Councilman Johnson moved for the approval of Ordinance No. 1931 at its first reading. His motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

18. Recommendation of Personnel Director re: reclassification of Laborer Position in the Street Department.

Councilman Beasley moved to concur in the recommendation of the Personnel Director. His motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson.

Prior to a vote on the motion, Councilman Uerkwitz questioned the real need of such a position.

The motion carried, with roll call vote as follows:

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

19. Opinion No. 68-29 re: Time off for Employee Association Work.

MOTION: Councilman Uerkwitz moved to concur with the recommendation that the City Manager and City Attorney confer with employee organization representatives on this matter. The motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, and there were no objections.

AIRPORT MATTERS:

20. RESOLUTION commending Mr. Francis Fox on his outstanding work in the field of aviation.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 68-258

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE COMMENDING FRANCIS FOX ON HIS OUTSTANDING WORK IN THE FIELD OF AIRPORT ADMINISTRATION.

Mayor Isen moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 68-258. His motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

21. Airport Commission submitting request for excused absence of Commissioner Doss.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved to concur with the request of the Airport Commission. His motion was seconded by Councilman Johnson, and there were no objections.

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS:

22. RESOLUTION commemorating the 28th annual Bill of Rights Week - December 9th through December 15th, 1968.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 68-259

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE COMMEMORATING THE TWENTY EIGHTH ANNUAL BILL OF RIGHTS WEEK - DECEMBER 9TH THROUGH DECEMBER 15TH.

Councilman Wilson moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 68-259. His motion was seconded by Councilman Uerkwitz, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

ITEMS NOT OTHERWISE CLASSIFIED:

23. License Tax for Coin Operated Washing Machines.
Withdrawn by City Manager Ferraro.
24. License Tax for vending and service machines.
Withdrawn by City Manager.
25. Claim of Walter Nollac for attorney fees.
Heard earlier in the meeting.
26. Letter to Council re: Franchises, Standard Gas Company and Southern California Edison Company.

Mr. John Salvinger, Superintendent, Southern California Edison Company, was present to request that this matter be held for thirty days to permit further review. It was agreed by the Council to hold until December 17th.

27. Recommendation of City Clerk with reference to 1968-69 Microfilming program.

It is the recommendation of the City Clerk that the quote for all sizes of records with corresponding charges for microfilming and other services as submitted by Orco Microfilming Service, Inc. be approved. \$5000 has been allocated for the microfilming program in the 1968-69 budget.

Councilman Miller moved to concur with the above recommendation of the City Clerk. His motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

PROCLAMATIONS:

28. POSTAL SERVICE DAY - NOVEMBER 15, 1968.

Mayor Isen so proclaimed.

28A. DANNY THOMAS - TEENAGERS MARCH MONTH.

So proclaimed.

SECOND READING ORDINANCES:

29. ORDINANCE 1927.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 1927

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 AT 2814 WEST 182ND STREET, AND DESCRIBED IN ZONE CHANGE 68-19.

(Theodore C. Buzanis)

Councilman Uerkwitz moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 1927 at its second and final reading. His motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

30. ORDINANCE 1928.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 1928

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 EAST SIDE OF PRAIRIE AVENUE FROM HICKMAN DRIVE TO 183RD STREET AND BOTH SIDES OF 182ND STREET FROM PRAIRIE AVENUE EAST TO DOTY AVENUE AND DESCRIBED IN ZONE CHANGE 68-14.

(TORRANCE PLANNING COMMISSION)

Councilman Wilson moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 1928 at its second and final reading. His motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

31. EMERGENCY AND REGULAR ORDINANCE RE: OIL WELL SITES.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 1932

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING THE PROVISIONS OF THE OIL CODE (CHAPTER 7, DIVISION 9 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE) RELATING TO CHAIN LINK FENCE REQUIREMENTS AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR OIL WELL SITES: AND DECLARING THE PRESENCE OF AN EMERGENCY.

Councilman Johnson moved for the adoption of Emergency Ordinance No. 1932. His motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 1933

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING THE PROVISIONS OF THE OIL CODE (CHAPTER 7, DIVISION 9 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE) RELATING TO CHAIN LINK FENCE REQUIREMENTS AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR OIL WELL SITES AND REPEALING EMERGENCY ORDINANCE NO. 1932 RELATING TO THE SAME MATTER.

Councilman Uerkwitz moved for the approval of Ordinance No. 1933 at its first reading. His motion, seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

32. Assistant City Manager Scharfman introduced Acting Bus Superintendent William Muecke to the Council.

33. Councilman Johnson commended Building and Safety Director McKinnon for his outstanding report on the oil wells.

34. Noted by Councilman Johnson was the fact that nominations for Mayor Pro-tem are in order - accordingly, he nominated Councilman Uerkwitz as Mayor Pro-tem for the ensuing six months period. The background of this practice, innovated by Councilman Sciarrotta, was explained by him: the procedure being that the Councilmen with the most seniority would be selected first, followed by new Councilmen in the order of number of votes received - hence, Councilman Miller should become Mayor Pro-tem as of November 15th through May 15th, to be followed by Councilmen Wilson, Uerkwitz, and Johnson, in that order; then start all over again. Councilman Wilson then nominated Councilman Miller as Mayor Pro-tem. MOTION: Councilman Uerkwitz moved that Councilman Miller be appointed Mayor Pro-tem. His motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and carried as follows:

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

NOES: COUNCILMEN: Johnson (not on the man but the system)
ABSTAIN: COUNCILMEN: Miller.

35. Halloween activities in the Hickory Park area were described by Councilman Sciarrotta who pointed out the noteworthy "policing" activities of people in the neighborhood which contributed in great part to reduced vandalism. It was then recommended by Mr. Sciarrotta that consideration be given to the forming of neighborhood groups to assist the police on this holiday; a report on the feasibility of this from the City Manager and Chief Koenig was requested by Councilman Sciarrotta.

36. Councilman Sciarrotta reported that the permaplaque for Don Walker for his outstanding service on the Torrance Beautiful Commission has not yet been prepared. City Attorney Remelmeyer will see that this is done.

37. Mayor Isen referred to the recent ballot measure #7 regarding State funds for public projects within a City and requested that some thought be given to start the wheels turning, enabling legislation to be investigated as to possibilities, in any event.

38. Uniform mailing for the City of Torrance which was referred to the Citizens' Advisory Committee was discussed by Mayor Isen -- it having been the intent of the Council that the Citizens' Advisory Committee spearhead a movement to generate interest and effectively bring this about. There now is apparently a need for clarification - it having been dismissed by the Committee as an "information item" whereas action was requested. Mrs. Genevieve Burchfield, in the audience and a member of the Citizens' Advisory Committee, reported that their understanding had been that they were to "monitor" such a move. Mayor Isen reiterated that this is an assignment for the Citizens' Advisory Committee, and in the event they are successful it will be a monumental accomplishment for the City.

39. Rapid Transit was next discussed by Mayor Isen, it being his recommendation that RTD first stop trying to compete with the City of Torrance in the interest of goodwill and cooperation; secondly, in requesting money that there be some allocation to Torrance's expanded lines to the effect that the money would be used as a subsidy for the Torrance lines rather than subsidizing the big system.

40. Councilman Wilson advised that a report from the Goals Committee will be forthcoming at the next Council meeting.

The meeting was regularly adjourned at 7:50 P.M.

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

APPROVED:

