

## I N D E X

City Council - January 13, 1970

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Ava Cripe  
Minute Secretary

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Adjourned at 11:30 P.M.

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January 13, 1970

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL

OPENING CEREMONIES:

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The Torrance City Council convened in a regular meeting on Tuesday, January 13, 1970, at 7:00 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: City Manager Ferraro, City Attorney Remelmeyer, City Clerk Coil, and City Treasurer Rupert.

3. FLAG SALUTE:

At Mayor Isen's request, Torrance High School student, Miss Cindy Green, led in the salute to the flag.

4. INVOCATION:

Reverend Charles Neigh, Walteria Community Methodist Church, gave the invocation.

STANDARD MOTIONS:

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilman Sciarrotta moved that the minutes of the regular meeting of December 30, 1969 be approved as recorded. His motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, 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 was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

8. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS -- Noted.

\* \* \* \*

An informative explanation of Council procedure was given by Mayor Isen to the many people in the audience at a Council meeting for the first time.

\* \* \* \*

PRESENTATION:

9. Permaplaque commending Navy Lieutenant Robert F. Frishman for his outstanding courage and heroism while a prisoner of war in North VietNam and for his efforts to help preserve our freedoms.

An eloquent presentation of the permaplaque was made by Councilman Sciarrotta who deemed it a pleasure and privilege to publicly acknowledge the heroic efforts of Lieutenant Robert Frishman, his former student, and a great American. At the same time Councilman Sciarrotta extended an invitation to Lieutenant Frishman to ride with him in the Armed Forces Day Parade in May.

Graciously accepting the permaplaque on behalf of his son (now in a San Diego hospital) Mr. Frishman conveyed his gratitude to the Council for this recognition, and further related his son's statement that of all the teachers who contributed to the philosophy which sustained him through this grueling experience, the most outstanding would have to be Mr. Ross Sciarrotta.

PROCLAMATIONS:

10. Jaycee Week - January 18-24, 1970.

President James Burger was present and introduced the Jaycees in attendance, and, an added attraction, "Miss Torrance", Susan Hawk.

So proclaimed by Mayor Isen.

11. World Religion Day - Sunday, January 18, 1970.

So proclaimed by Mayor Isen, along with introduction of Mrs. Walter F. Rose who extended a cordial invitation to all to attend the World Religion Day services on Sunday, January 18th, at 3:00 P.M. at the YMCA.

NONCONTROVERSIAL ITEMS:

12. EXPENDITURES OVER \$300:

RECOMMENDATION OF FINANCE DIRECTOR/PURCHASING SUPERVISOR:

That Council approve the following purchases:

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A. BUDGETED:

1. \$624.65 to Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing Company for 100 sign face blanks and other parts needed to fabricate new signs on a City owned sign making machine as requested by the Traffic & Lighting Department.
2. \$842.73 to Golden State Paint for 250 gallons of yellow pre-mix (with glass beads) paint as requested by the Traffic & Lighting Department to mark City streets.

B. SPECIAL ITEMS:

3. \$472.50 to New York Times - Library Services and Information Division for copies of the 1969 N.Y. Times on microfilm and the complete current index and annual volumes.
  4. \$303.35 to Random House Publishing Company, c/o Mr. Joe Grecnik, for 64 adult books.
  5. \$735.00 to Oscar B. Stiskin for 67 adult and 6 juvenile books.
  6. \$2171.97 to Campbell & Hall, c/o Harry R. Wilson, for 322 adult books.
  7. \$3376.68 to the Franklin Square Subscription Agency for a complete set of listed periodicals.
13. AWARD OF CONTRACT - Construction of a 12-inch Water Main at Torrance Airport - Reference Bid #B69-76.

RECOMMENDATION OF FINANCE DIRECTOR/PURCHASING SUPERVISOR/WATER SYSTEM MANAGER: That Council accept the low bid submitted by the M.E. Fridrich Company and award them the contract in the total amount of \$41,989.50.

14. CLAIM of Clara M. Gibilaro for the replacement of a tire.

RECOMMENDATION OF CITY CLERK:

That the above claim be denied and referred to the City Attorney.

15. CLAIM of Bina Nance for damages to vehicle and personal injury.

RECOMMENDATION OF CITY CLERK:

That above claim be denied and referred to the City Attorney.

MOTION: Councilman Uerkwitz moved to concur with the recommendations on agenda items #12, #13, #14, and #15. His motion was seconded by Councilman Beasley, and carried as follows:

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

(Considered, out of order, at this time:)

HEARINGS - PLANNING AND ZONING:

17. ZC 69-16, ARIAS, IRVINE, ROTH AND WAGNER.  
Change of zone from M-1 to R-3 or R-4 or R-5 on property located at the northeast corner of Earl and Spencer Streets and described as Lot 30 and a portion of Lot 29, Tract 2895. PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDS DENIAL. SEPARATE PLANNING DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION.
18. ZC 69-27, ESTOL HUMAN ET AL.  
Change of zone from M-1 to R-3, R-4 or R-5 on property located on the east side of Earl Street, south of Del Amo Boulevard, and described as portions of Lots 35 and 36, Tract 2895. PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDS DENIAL. SEPARATE PLANNING DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION.
19. AMENDMENT TO THE MASTER PLAN FOR THE VICTOR PRECINCT.  
Proposed revision in the Master Plan for the Victor Precinct to change the use from industrial to residential on property located on the east side of Earl Street, south of Del Amo Boulevard, and described as portions of Lots 29, 30, 35, and 36, Tract 2895. RECOMMENDED FOR DENIAL BY THE PLANNING COMMISSION. PLANNING DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION FOR APPROVAL.

Attorney Don Hitchcock was present to request postponement of Items #17 and #18, which would automatically include Item #19; his clients being the parties presently in escrow purchasing the subject property, and a continuance of two or three months was requested by Mr. Hitchcock. Mr. Hitchcock also indicated that they would take care of any readvertising costs.

Mayor Isen noted that there are certain facets of this matter not yet resolved by the Planning Commission, i.e. granting of easements, rights, streets, etc. Planning Director Shartle confirmed that in the event the property is rezoned further considerations will be necessary, particularly as to the street pattern. In the Mayor's opinion, this matter should be returned to the Planning Commission, with appropriate recommendations spelled out -- recommendations that do not appear to be before the Council at this time.

MOTION: Councilman Beasley moved that agenda items #17, #18, and #19 be referred back to the Planning Commission. His motion was seconded by Councilman Johnson, and there were no objections.

Noted by Councilman Miller was the fact that in cases where the Planning Commission recommends denial it is without further comment -- the Commission does not indicate any recommended conditions in the event the Council overrules their denial, as does Staff. This represents a flaw in the system to him inasmuch as some of the conditions might be debatable by the public.

Councilman Uerkwitz was concerned that there be no unreasonable delay and thereby delaying a decision on this area. The problem of the proposed freeway was noted by Councilman Wilson -- Mayor Isen urged that the freeway not be the whipping boy to the detriment of the property owners paying taxes on property in this area or any area in the City.

In complete concurrence with Councilman Miller, Mayor Isen requested that as a matter of Planning Commission policy, in matters where there is denial on their part, that in addition to the Planning Director's recommendations, that there be alternatives from the Planning Commission. Planning Director Shartle was directed to formulate in writing some sort of policy along these lines, to be submitted to the Planning Commission for their approval first, and then to the Council; there were no objections.

Further action was taken in a MOTION by Councilman Johnson that an analysis of the streets also be conducted and returned to the Council at the same time, or before, if possible, the subject considerations. His motion was seconded by Mayor Isen, and there were no objections.

HEARING - TRAFFIC AND LIGHTING:

16. CORDARY BARRICADE.

Appeal of Howard Friedman for the permanent removal of a street barricade with recommendation from City Traffic Engineer that barricade be installed until shopping center makes certain changes regarding access from Cordary Avenue to shopping center parking lot.

As previously indicated, Mayor Isen reaffirmed his close relationship with one of the owners of the subject property, and that his vote would not be proper in this particular matter, and that he will, accordingly, abstain. He thereupon turned the meeting over to Mayor Pro-tem Uerkwitz, and absented himself from the chair.

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

City Clerk Coil also advised that no additional written communications had been received.

At the request of Councilman Miller regarding the legal status of this situation, Sr. Deputy Attorney Smith advised that the only question here of whether the access may be closed relates to whether there is a police power purpose for the preservation of public health, safety, and welfare, but there must be an overriding public interest in closing the street, and is a matter of judgment by this Council. Mr. Smith added that the courts have by and large been very stringent in the protection of the property rights of the individual.

Traffic Engineering Assistant Carothers then reviewed the history of this case, and presented the various plans evolved in an attempt to resolve this situation -- detailing the most recent plan - Plan F - a compromise plan acceptable to the majority, including the shopping center representatives, the residents, and the Traffic and Lighting Department.

Acting Mayor Uerkwitz invited those who wished to speak to come forward at this time.

First to speak was Mr. Bob Decker, 3903 West 170th, who advised that he spoke to approximately 6 people in his neighborhood with a 50/50 response -- a few felt it alright, some were violently opposed. In view of the divided group, he backed out because of his personal feeling that the proposed arrangement is satisfactory.

Mr. Floyd Chisam, 3838 West 170th, stated that there had been an original agreement that a planter would be built -- the present plan is exactly as it was then, minus the planter -- and the obligation of the shopping center has not been fulfilled within the last 7 or 8 years. In his opinion it never should have been reopened at all inasmuch as the original obligation was not met -- this has been reviewed with the owner; further, this plan should not be called a compromise in view of the similarity to the original. Mr. Chisam added that it is desired by those on the street that there be limited access to this parking lot, and they do not want through traffic -- he pointed out that this market is open 24 hours per day, two buildings have been added, one of which is a bar, which tend to generate additional traffic and represent hazard to the children on the street.

Referring to the development of this neighborhood in the early 1950s, Mr. Warren Stauffer, 3939 West 170th Street, as a residential area, pointed out that in recent years many apartment developments have come in and there is a much higher volume of traffic. Because of the exceptionally long signal at Ainsworth and Redondo Beach Boulevard cars are finding it more convenient to go through this makeshift intersection, according to Mr. Stauffer -- further complicated by the freeway at Prairie and 171st; a suggested third lane on Prairie, left turn only, might prove helpful.

At Councilman Wilson's question <sup>to</sup> Traffic Engineering Associate Glass re: the Ainsworth and Redondo Beach Boulevard signal, it was learned that the City and County share in the maintenance of same. Mr. Glass will check with the County relative to the long length of time of this particular signal.

In conclusion, Mr. Stauffer stated that while the barricade was up the traffic volume was cut drastically; he is, therefore, opposed to the so-called compromise, which is simply rebuilding the barricade as it was ten years ago and the neglect thereof that followed.

Mr. Bill Roberts, 3937 West 188th Street, acknowledged the need for concern regarding safety, but it was noted during the time the barricade was up the traffic backed up on Prairie and just south of the store is a curve where the freeway overpass is located and is a blind spot which presented a hazard.

Next to speak was Mr. Michael Koomer, 6380 Wilshire Boulevard, representing the shopping center and its tenants, who presented a petition with 296 signatures favoring "Plan F". Mr. Koomer then summarized the report of their traffic engineer which indicated that during the average week day only two vehicles each hour entered the Co. ar entrance without stopping to shop and passed through; only 3 vehicles per hour during the week days entered from the arterial and exited through Cordary without stopping -- on Saturday the figures are reversed, 3 vehicles enter from Cordary without stopping, and 2 vehicles per hour enter on the arterial and pass through. Mr. Koomer added that these figures were all computed at prime volume time, based upon tabulations from 8:30 A.M. to 5:30 P.M., and dramatically illustrate that passing through is not the serious problem that the people have suggested.

There was further elaboration by Mr. Koomer on the traffic report and traffic conditions in general at the shopping center and the nearby area; Mr. Koomer reiterated that "Plan F" seems the most acceptable compromise. At Councilman Johnson's question, Mr. Koomer stated that, in the event of Council approval, there will be proper maintenance; that the concept is a good one and that he will cooperate with Staff in working out the details.

Next to speak was Mrs. Robert Church, 3638 West 169th Street, who acknowledged authorship of the petition against the barricades -- it having developed that many of the people who originally favored the barricades have now signed her petition, after first hand observance of what has happened.

Mrs. Angel Slater, 3909 West 170th, stated that it appears to her that an accident is inevitable with the plan proposed; further complications will be presented in the morning hours when trucks are making deliveries.

There being no one else who wished to be heard, Councilman Miller moved that the hearing be closed. His motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable. (Mayor Isen abstaining).

MOTION: Councilman Wilson moved that the Council approve "Plan F", subject to the condition that the parking lot requirements as stipulated by Traffic and Lighting be maintained, and, further, that there be beautification by landscaping along the guard rail, including a sprinkling system. The motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Abstain: Mayor Isen).

It was the comment of Councilman Johnson that he will be watching this development very closely; should it not be maintained he would like to be informed.

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The hour being 8:35 P.M., Acting Mayor Uerkwitz ordered a 10-minute recess.

\* \* \* \*

PLANNING AND ZONING HEARINGS:

20. ZC 69-26, TORRANCE PLANNING COMMISSION.

Change of zone from R-3 to R-1 on property located on the east side of Crenshaw Boulevard south of Dalemead Street, and described as Lots 115, 116, 117, and 118 of Tract 18416.  
RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL.

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

Mayor Isen announced that this is a continued public hearing, and requested that those in favor of rezoning to R-1 speak first on this matter.

First to speak was Mr. Ed Fields, 2634 Brian Avenue, who is in favor of the Planning Commission recommendation for R-1 zoning -- he feels that the Planning Commission's recommendation is sufficient due to the past history and controversy surrounding the subject property. Mr. Fields further commented that most of the development in this area is R-1 and like rezoning would insure that the area would remain the same; there would be access problems to Crenshaw were there apartment or commercial development.

Mr. Herman Wilson, 2614 Brian Avenue, concurred with the above comments of Mr. Fields, adding that he feels the decision should be for what is best for the neighborhood and what is most desired by the people there, this being R-1 zoning. At his request those in attendance favoring R-1 zoning stood up; some 15 people so indicated.

The narrowness of Brian Avenue was pointed out by Mr. Richard Loebel, 2638 Brian, who requested that consideration be given to the hazard to children represented by additional traffic.

Mr. John Osmond, 2621 Brian Avenue, stated that he is particularly concerned that Lot 115 be rezoned, noting that the owner of Lot 115 also owns 114 and problems are presented each time it is put up for sale.

Mayor Isen invited those who wish to speak in favor of the present zoning to come forward at this time.

Mrs. Alice Petrell, 25506 Crenshaw Boulevard, owner of Lot 117, protested any zone change in view of the fact that she already has an existing commercial building (a beauty shop) erected on the property, and a variance on same without a time limit. Mrs. Petrell added that the property was R-3 prior to the tract development and faces property which is zoned R-3, C-2, and P-1 PP. To change the zone at this time would be unconstitutional, according to Mrs. Petrell -- can the Council now renege on its decision of seven years ago? It was further stated by Mrs. Petrell that all properties on Crenshaw in Torrance have various zones but there is not any R-1 zoned property.

The owner of Lot 114, Mr. John Dougherty, concurred with Mrs. Petrell's statements, adding that inasmuch as this was originally zoned R-3 it seems unfair to him that the value of the property be reduced by the proposed zone change.

Mrs. Elda Hynes, owner of Lot #116, voiced her objections to the proposed zone change -- the property has always been R-3 and it should remain so.

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

MOTION: Councilman Beasley moved to concur with the recommendation of the Planning Commission, that the subject property be rezoned to R-1, with the provision that there be no curb cuts on Crenshaw Boulevard. The motion was seconded by Councilman

Wilson, and carried as follows:

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Johnson, Sciarrotta, Uerkwitz,  
Wilson, and Mayor Isen.  
NOES: COUNCILMEN: None.  
ABSTAIN: COUNCILMEN: Miller (owns property in the area).

21. CUP 69-44, DR. ELEANORE Z. THILL RUDVIN.

Appeal of Planning Commission decision on a petition for approval of a conditional use permit to convert a residential structure for commercial use on property located at 24411 Hawthorne Boulevard, described as Lots 19 and 20, Block B of Tract 7506. DENIED BY PLANNING COMMISSION.

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

Mr. Knut Rudvin, 4433 Vista Largo, outlined their desire to rent the subject property out as a business, adding that the antique shop deal had not materialized, but that it could be used as a real estate office perhaps or a small type business -- true, it is a house but it is in a commercial district.

The purpose of the conditional use permit was described by Planning Director Shartle. Discussion followed on the impossibility of granting a conditional use permit until it is known what business is intended -- approval of an antique shop, subject to the Staff conditions, would be the only avenue available to the Council, assuming such approval would be forthcoming.

Mr. Emil Kaye, 5002 Marion, commented that the adjacent properties (houses) are used for commercial purposes. Mayor Isen explained that these commercial uses apparently went in before the conditional use permit requirement.

Mr. Paul Slonecker, 24430 Neece Avenue, voiced his strong objections to another antique shop at this location -- there being 4 others in the area; further, in view of the denial by the Planning Commission, it would be an imposition for Council to now approve the request.

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

MOTION: Councilman Beasley moved that the Council grant CUP 69-44 for the antique shop, subject to Staff conditions. The motion was discussed by Mayor Isen, with the comment that a "red barn effect" could be creditably achieved; it is a mess right now, but the people are entitled to get an economic use of the property as a holding operation until the proper time arrives to either improve it with a proper building or to sell it to someone else who can raze it for such a building. It was the Mayor's further comment that the conditions imposed were insufficient, and he recommended that the matter be deferred until a regular set of agreed-upon conditions between the petitioner and Planning Department Staff (going into aesthetics, landscaping, etc.) could be achieved, to be returned to Council at that time.

Objections were voiced by Councilman Wilson -- this would represent operating on a very false premise and not acting in good faith as to the intent of the conditional use permit. Dr. Wilson further stated that, in his opinion, such action would be completely out of order; there is no client, and it is questionable whether this building can be brought up to an attractive structure. He would, therefore, oppose referring this matter back to the Planning Department until there is a client or use and be properly before the Council.

Councilman Uerkwitz was of the opinion that the Council has been put in the position of "buying a pig in a poke" under the conditions proposed in this case. He would agree that this totally defeats the entire concept on the conditional use permit relative to commercial use of residential properties.

There having been no second to Councilman Beasley's earlier motion, Councilman Uerkwitz then MOVED to concur with the Planning Commission recommendation for DENIAL. His motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and carried, with roll call vote as follows, "yes" being for denial:

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Miller, Sciarrotta, Uerkwitz, and  
Wilson.

NOES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Johnson; Mayor Isen.

It was then MOVED by Councilman Beasley that the fee paid in the subject case be returned. The motion died for lack of a second.

Councilman Uerkwitz commented on the apparent red tape and time consuming process in getting matters of this nature before the Council, and suggested that some short cut method be studied by the Planning Director. Planning Director Shartle explained the time necessary involving public hearing matters, and the fact that very little can be done to speed up the process.

22. V 69-8, CONNOR EVERTS.

Request for a variance from the provisions of the R-3 zone to permit the use of an existing vacant commercial building as an artist's studio on property located at 1521 Madrid Avenue, described as Lots 9 and 10, Block 56 of the Torrance Tract except the westerly 88 feet thereof.  
RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL SUBJECT TO CONDITIONS.

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

The proponent, Mr. Connor Everts, was present and stated that he objected to Planning Commission condition #8: "That V 69-3 have a life of ten years." Mr. Everts commented that he had been at his present studio for 20 years, and he did not relish returning in ten years and pay a fee for continued use of the building. Mayor Isen elaborated on the particularly satisfactory use of this building as a studio for Mr. Everts, in view of the many other less desirable uses that might have developed.

Councilman Miller stated that the use of this historical building as a studio is extremely fortunate, particularly in view of the beautification efforts put forth to date by Mr. Everts, and the many obnoxious uses that might have loomed up.

At Mayor Isen's question as to the structural soundness of the building, Building and Safety Director McKinnon responded, a la City Attorney language, "compared to the rest of the area, the structure is standard."

MOTION: Councilman Sciarrotta moved to delete Planning Commission condition #8. His motion was seconded by Councilman Uerkwitz, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

MOTION: Councilman Uerkwitz moved to concur with the recommendation of the Planning Commission, subject to conditions #1 through #7. The motion was seconded by Councilman Beasley, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

\* \* \* \*

At 9:30 P.M. Councilman Sciarrotta moved to recess as City Council, and reconvene as the Redevelopment Agency. His motion was seconded by Councilman Johnson, and there were no objections. The Council returned to its agenda at 9:31 P.M.

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PERSONNEL MATTERS:

23. Recommendation of Police and Fire Committee on Pledge of Employees Attending Training Sessions.

Councilman Uerkwitz moved to concur with the Council Police and Fire Committee recommendations. His motion was seconded by Councilman Beasley.

Questioned by Mayor Isen was the form title - "Out of State Educational Assignment Agreement" - why the "Out of State"? - suppose they went to Berkeley or another college within the State? It was the consensus of the Council that the point was well taken, and that the form title should read "Educational Assignment Agreement".

It was the comment of City Manager Ferraro that he does not believe it the intent of the Committee that this be applicable to every educational assignment, only those representing significant sums of money -- not assignments of short duration.

Councilman Miller, as Chairman of the Committee, added that this was not discussed by the Committee -- their attention was mainly directed to the expenditure of money for training which might not be recouped without the agreement proposed here.

Mayor Isen asked that City Manager Ferraro give an administrative order in connection with this that it is not the intent of the Council that this apply to any overnight sessions or even a matter of a few days, such directive to be approved by the Council.

Prior to roll call vote on Councilman Uerkwitz' motion, City Attorney Remelmeyer noted that the obligation to repay to the City has nothing to do with the period of time that the employee must stay in the service of the City -- Item A on the form states that he agrees to stay in the service of the City for the period equal to twice the time of his training, but in Item B he doesn't have to repay anything to the City unless he quits prior to the completion of training.

City Attorney Remelmeyer recommended that the Council adopt only the intent at this point. It was agreed that this be referred back to the City Attorney at this time, rather than taking any action, so that the problems might be ironed out.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

39A. Officer Phillip Joseph, Torrance Police Officers Association, reported an apparent misunderstanding relative to the Transfer and Reassignment Ordinance and the insertion of the word "reassignment" in 14.41.5. b. It was clarified that that was deleted from the ordinance that was passed at the second reading, after Sr. Administrative Assistant Jackson explained that on December 30th a letter was presented to the Council describing the situation, and indicated that when Mr. Joseph spoke before the Council that the wording proposed was the original wording of the Council Committee -- on investigation it was found that this was not true, so it was recommended that the wording proposed by Officer Joseph be left out and the Council so voted at the second reading of the ordinance.

SEWERS AND DRAINAGE:

24. COUNCIL APPROVAL OF CONSTRUCTION OF 1964 BOND ISSUE PROJECT NO. 6701, UNIT 3.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 70-4

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE APPROVING THE 1964 BOND ISSUE PROJECT 6701, UNIT 3, AND GRANTING PERMISSION TO THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT TO CONSTRUCT AND MAINTAIN SAID STORM DRAINS WITHIN THE PUBLIC STREETS IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 70-4. His motion was seconded by Councilman Johnson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

25. NOTICE OF COMPLETION - STORM DRAIN IN CARSON STREET FROM ANZA TO OCEAN AVENUE SUMP (B69-23) Job #67029.

RECOMMENDATION OF ACTING CITY ENGINEER:

1. That Council accept the work;
2. That liquidated damages not be assessed; and
3. That final payment be made to the contractor on the basis of as-built quantities.

MOTION: Councilman Miller moved to concur with the above recommendations of the Acting City Engineer. His motion was seconded by Councilman Johnson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

REAL PROPERTY:

26. LICENSE AGREEMENT, BINDEWALD EASEMENT, AND RESOLUTION REGARDING THE LATTER.

Present on this matter was Mr. Bolles (?), 4921 Bindewald, who presented a petition from the neighbors in this area asking that the City consider converting this property into a small neighborhood park, rather than the proposed license agreement with the Murillos.

There was discussion on the subject property -- the unusual terrain, the license agreement itself, and the problems presented. and Mrs.

Mr./Murillo were in attendance -- Mayor Isen stated that in view of these signatures of protest, this properly should be a matter for the Park and Recreation Commission.

MOTION: Councilman Beasley moved that the subject matter be referred to the Park and Recreation Commission for recommendation to Council. The motion was seconded by Councilman Johnson, and there were no objections.

27. BID OPENING - SALE OF EXCESS CITY PROPERTY (Portion Lot 2, Tract 16099).

RECOMMENDATION OF ACTING CITY ENGINEER:

That Council accept the highest offer over the established minimum bid (\$3,500) for the subject property.

City Clerk Coil read aloud the bid of Mr. Ralph H. Lawson, 4807 Darien Street, on the subject property in the amount of \$3500, contingent upon the City delivering clear title free and clear of all assessments and liens; a deposit check in the amount of \$700 was enclosed.

It was pointed out by City Attorney Remelmeyer that the property must go to one of the adjacent property owners -- Mr. Lawson or Mohawk Petroleum Corporation, Mohawk Petroleum having expressed no interest in bidding.

MOTION: Councilman Beasley moved to accept the bid of \$3500, subject to all conditions and subject to the City being able to deliver title satisfactory to the purchaser. The motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, and unanimously approved by roll call vote.

There was a 5-minute recess at 9:55 P.M.

TRAFFIC AND LIGHTING:

28. Mayor Isen's Oral regarding back-up of traffic on Lomita Boulevard and overload on Crenshaw Boulevard.

RECOMMENDATION OF FINANCE DIRECTOR AND CITY MANAGER:

That this project be deferred.

Needling by the Traffic Engineer was detected by Mayor Isen in his suggestion that \$7000 be spent on a six month temporary deal -- Mayor Isen certainly would not favor any such expenditure of funds. The uncostly recommended red curb, "right turn only" lane for northbound Crenshaw traffic, and two eastbound through lanes on the east side of the interesection, certainly have merit, in Mayor Isen's opinion.

City Manager Ferraro advised that successful negotiations with Supervisor Chace have been completed to obtain funds for the construction of Crenshaw from 235th to Pacific Coast Highway. Further noted was the meeting scheduled early next week with Lomita and Torrance officials in regard to this matter.

Permission from Lomita to paint the curbs red was reported by Traffic Engineering Associate Glass. Mayor Isen recommended that they proceed with painting the curb, and there were no objections.

A further recommendation by the Mayor, in view of the time consuming process involved, was that application be made at this time to the State for green arrows on Hawthorne and Lomita Boulevards.

29. TRAFFIC SIGNALS, STREET LIGHTING, TRAFFIC SIGNING, AND MARKINGS, AND OPTICOM SYSTEM - Crenshaw Blvd. at Toledo-Jefferson. (Job No. 68021).

RECOMMENDATION OF ASSOCIATE TRAFFIC ENGINEER:

1. That Council accept the project; and
2. That final payment be made to the contractor.

MOTION: Councilman Beasley moved to concur with the above recommendations of the Associate Traffic Engineer. His motion was seconded by Councilman Johnson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

FISCAL MATTERS:

30. AWARD OF CONTRACT - Bid No. B70-2.
- A. 12 only Police Cars
  - B. 1 only 4-door Sedan.

RECOMMENDATION OF FINANCE DIRECTOR/PURCHASING SUPERVISOR:

That the above items be awarded to the low bidder, Ray Vane (South), Inc. in the total amount of \$33,692.56, including sales tax.

MOTION: Councilman Uerkwitz moved to concur with the above recommendation. The motion, seconded by Councilman Johnson, was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

31. ORDINANCE amending Section 224.1.5 of the Torrance Municipal Code regarding real property transfer tax. Submitted by City Attorney.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2052

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING SECTION 224.1.5 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE RE: REAL PROPERTY TRANSFER TAX.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved for the approval of Ordinance No. 2052 at its first reading. His motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

ELECTION MATTERS:

32. ASSEMBLY BILL 325 - CONFLICTS OF INTEREST.

Request of City Clerk for Council to establish a policy with regard to Assembly Bill 325, in connection with issuing Nomination Papers to candidates for office in the General Municipal Election, April 14, 1970.

It was the comment of Councilman Uerkwitz that it is not possible for the Council to set policy on a State law, and, in his opinion, it would be up to each person filing to abide by his own interpretation of the law. Mayor Isen labelled the law ambiguous, with interpretation impossible and countless unanswered questions.

City Attorney Remelmeyer stated that he will advise City Clerk Coil on the matters on which he must be informed to act as City Clerk. Mr. Remelmeyer acknowledged problems with the ambiguity of the statute, and outlined his various efforts in attempting to obtain clarification.

Further pointed out by Mayor Isen was the misnomer for this bill - it should correctly be called a "Financial Disclosure Bill", rather than "Conflicts of Interest" - adding that it is a poor bill but it is a law of the State, and he will not seek any kind of amendment; he is at a loss to understand its value relative to parttime Councilmen and a Mayor receiving \$100 per month. However, Mayor Isen intends to file and disclose and do everything he can to live up to the spirit of the law as it can best be interpreted. It is understood by the Mayor, with deep regret, that very capable members of Commissions, School Boards, etc. will be resigning by wholesale throughout the State because of this legislation.

Councilman Beasley commented that regardless of the quality of the bill and any ambiguities, the law specifically states that failure to file is a felony.

Speaking as a taxpayer, Mr. Bill Roberts asked that it become a matter of record that he would object to the expenditure of any public funds to try to water down, weaken, or amend this bill now or in the future -- he personally feels it a very good bill and will serve

to bring back the trust of the community for their elected officials, in view of the tremendous recent publicity regarding dishonest public officials.

It was the comment of City Attorney Remelmeyer that there is an objection on the part of <sup>most</sup> every attorney in public agencies in the State - not against the idea of disclosure because that is a political problem as to whether or not there should be such disclosure of assets - but because the bill provides for criminal penalties - a knowing failure to file is a felony, but it's a misdemeanor if you file and make a mistake. To make failure to do something a crime, Mr. Remelmeyer continued, should necessitate an explanation to the public officials, or the one likely to become convicted of a crime, exactly what he should do to avoid such conviction; the Legislature in this case did not do so, and this is considered an extraordinarily ambiguous piece of legislation, and is thereby a tremendous problem.

33. GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION, APRIL 14, 1970 - AWARD OF CONTRACT.  
RESOLUTION authorizing execution of contract for election supplies with Martin and Chapman Company.

RECOMMENDATION OF CITY CLERK:

1. That the quotation of Martin & Chapman in the amount of \$7790.69, including tax, for furnishing election supplies for the General Municipal Election April 14, 1970, be accepted;
2. That the quotations for printing the Arguments and Candidates' Statements be noted and approved, with the most economical size brochure to be printed; and
3. That the submitted RESOLUTION authorizing the contract with Martin and Chapman Company be adopted.

(Note: \$13,969 has been budgeted for the General Municipal Election.)

MOTION: Councilman Beasley moved to concur with the above recommendations of the City Clerk. His motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 70-5

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE AND ATTEST THAT CERTAIN ELECTION SUPPLY CONTRACT BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY OF TORRANCE AND MARTIN & CHAPMAN COMPANY RELATING TO THE GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION, APRIL 14, 1970.

Councilman Wilson moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 70-5. His motion was seconded by Councilman Uerkwitz, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

PARK AND RECREATION:34. SUR LA BREA PARK.RECOMMENDATION OF DIRECTOR OF RECREATION:

That Council refer the entire problem of priorities for capital improvement projects on Sur La Brea Park to the Park and Recreation Commission so that they might make a recommendation to Council at one of its early meetings. SETHA believes top priority belongs on construction of the existing four acres while I placed the top priority on acquiring additional land. Permission is requested to place this on the Commission agenda of January 14 for their consideration and recommendation to Council.

MOTION: Councilman Sciarrotta moved to concur with the above recommendation and referred this matter to the Park and Recreation Commission. The motion was seconded by Councilman Johnson.

Introduced at this time by Councilman Johnson were members of the SETHA HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION present, as well as their spokesman, Mr. Molina, 1918 -237th, who stated that their presentation would now be made before the Park and Recreation Commission on January 14th.

At Mr. Molina's question relative to the acquisition of the 4-acre park land, as well as the additional 3½ acres immediately adjacent, City Attorney Remelmeyer elaborated upon his report of September 18th re: the status of this matter.

As to the funding, at Councilman Miller's question, City Manager Ferraro advised that there is money available for the 4 acres but there is no money for any future acquisition and/or development.

Discussion was then directed to the Tipplers Tax Fund and the monies represented thereby. Councilman Miller thereupon MOVED that in the event the Tipplers Tax Funds prove available that the necessary funds be earmarked for Sur La Brea Park. City Manager Ferraro recommended that other priority recommendations be reviewed before taking the action recommended by Mr. Miller. There was no second to Councilman Miller's motion, and it died.

There were no objections to Councilman Sciarrotta's motion above, that this matter go to the Park and Recreation Commission.

The merits of starting a condemnation at this time for the 3½ acres were noted by Mayor Isen; it was his recommendation that the Council direct the City Attorney to prepare a proper Resolution to start condemnation action on the 3½ acres. Councilman Johnson so MOVED; his motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

ITEMS NOT OTHERWISE CLASSIFIED:

35. RESOLUTION setting forth wage rate schedule for basic trades - 1970. Submitted by City Attorney.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 70-6

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE DETERMINING THE GENERAL PREVAILING RATE FOR STRAIGHT-TIME AND THE GENERAL PREVAILING RATE FOR LEGAL HOLIDAY AND OVERTIME WORK IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE FOR CERTAIN CRAFTS OR TYPES OF WORKMEN.

Councilman Wilson moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 70-6. His motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

36. COMMISSION VACANCIES REPORT

RECOMMENDATION OF CITY CLERK.

That City Council set a time to consider these vacancies.

Representing the League of Women Voters, Mrs. Louis Lanser recommended that a School Board member be appointed to the Park and Recreation Commission. The lack of success of past Council efforts in this regard was reviewed -- it was the consensus that Mrs. Lanser would further research technicalities in such appointment, as well as School Board interest, along with possible legal complications.

The mode of notification for Commission vacancies was discussed. Councilman Uarkwitz MOVED that the City Clerk advertise for two weeks re: the existing Commission vacancies, with an interview date set some time after that. The motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, and there were no objections.

37. AIR POLLUTION RESOLUTIONS.

RESOLUTION regarding low sulphur content fuel oils.

RESOLUTION commending Board of Supervisors for their vigorous efforts to combat air pollution.

City Clerk Coil advised that a letter in support of the above resolutions had been received from Mr. David F. Carroll; copies will be furnished the Council.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 70-7

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE URGING CONTINUATION OF PRESENT IMPORT QUOTAS ON LOW SULPHUR CONTENT FUEL

OILS PAST THE PRESENT MARCH 15, 1970 TERMINATION DATE IN THE INTEREST OF AIR POLLUTION CONTROL.

Councilman Wilson moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 70-7. His motion was seconded by Councilman Johnson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 70-8

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE COMMENDING THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS FOR ITS VIGOROUS EFFORTS TO COMBAT AIR POLLUTION.

Councilman Beasley moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 70-8. His motion, seconded by Councilman Johnson, was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

ADDENDUM ITEM:

38. RESOLUTION declaring City of Torrance's opposition to Terminal Control Area proposed airspace configuration.

Airport Manager Egan advised of the concurrence of the Airport Commission re: the subject resolution.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 70-9

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE DECLARING ITS OPPOSITION TO TERMINAL CONTROL AREA PROPOSED AIRSPACE CONFIGURATION (AIRSPACE DOCKET #69-WA-59) INsofar AS ITS NOISE EFFECT ON THE CITY OF TORRANCE IS CONCERNED.

Councilman Uerkwitz moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 70-9. His motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

39. Acting City Engineer Weaver reported that Lomita Boulevard from Ladeene to Anza had been opened up this date.

40. Councilman Miller resumed last week's discussion re: Garnier Street and possible relief for Lomita Boulevard traffic. City Manager Ferraro advised that there are many problems surrounding Garnier Street (a paper street), and that he will furnish a report to Council regarding same.

41. The Rotary Club/Torrance Police Officers Association project relative to a descriptive, informative brochure on narcotics was described at length by Councilman Miller. Councilman Miller then MOVED that a proper notice go out with the rubbish and water bills identifying the subject brochure, setting forth the proper locations where it can be picked up by interested parties, with the location to be determined by Staff. The motion was seconded by Councilman Beasley, and there were no objections.

42. It was reported by Councilman Uerkwitz that the problem of obnoxious odors may be relayed to the Air Pollution Control District for investigation, on a 24-hour basis, by telephoning 629-4711 at the time the odor is in existence.

Sr. Administrative Assistant Menard described the present efforts of the Air Pollution Control District in Torrance for the next two weeks with a test band to check any possible violations.

43. Councilman Uerkwitz advised in regard to the rubbish situation, that the local Staff for the South Bay Councilmen's Association has informed them that there is approximately six years use remaining at the Palos Verdes dump site, and that there are contracts involved with the County recommending at that time a transfer station to the Santa Monica Mountains, which will provide another 50 years.

Discussion followed, particularly as to the 6 years. Mayor Isen again requested that an early appearance at a Council meeting be arranged for a representative from the County Sanitation District so that there might be discussion and clarification regarding the matter of rubbish disposal.

44. A need for Council support in terms of assuring, preserving, and upgrading the highest quality of neighborhood environment possible in the City of Torrance was noted by Councilman Wilson -- this would assure against blight and deterioration in certain areas; it would require compatibility of zoning in the neighborhoods, and guard against pollution of neighborhood environments. No formal action was taken by the Council.

45. A memorial resolution for Mr. James Burchett, long time, devoted Civil Defense Commissioner and a tremendous man with many, many friends in the community was suggested by Mayor Isen, who so MOVED. His motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, and there were no objections.

46. Acknowledgment, by way of a permaplaque resolution, to Mr. Bob Curry of his promotion to Assistant to the President of Copley newspapers, noting as well his outstanding contribution by way of community service to Torrance and remarkable foresight in moving the Daily Breeze plant to Torrance, was deemed in order by Mayor Isen. The Mayor MOVED that a proper permaplaque resolution be prepared, to be presented at a proper time. The motion was seconded by Councilman Johnson, and there were no objections.

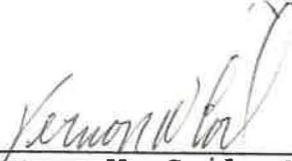
47. Further commemorative action was taken in a MOTION by Mayor Isen: That a permaplaque resolution congratulating Dr. Hull on

his achievements and community contributions be prepared, for presentation at his retirement dinner on April 15th. The motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

48. The need for an Executive Session regarding a Torrance Police Officers Association matter (per communication of January 5th) was presented for clarification by City Manager Ferraro -- it was the request of the Council that such Session be scheduled for the January 20th Council meeting.

The meeting was regularly adjourned at 11:30 P.M.

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

APPROVED:

  
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 Mayor of the City of Torrance