

I N D E XCity Council - February 13, 1979

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Adjourned at 12:00 Midnight.

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Ava Cripe
Minute SecretaryCity Council
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February 13, 1979

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE TORRANCE CITY COUNCILOPENING CEREMONIES:1. CALL TO ORDER:

The Torrance City Council convened in a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, February 13, 1979, at 7:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers at Torrance City Hall.

2. ROLL CALL:

Present: Councilmembers Applegate, Geissert, Rossberg, Walker, Wilson and Mayor Armstrong. Councilman Brown arrived at 7:05 P.M. Absent: None.

Also present: City Manager Ferraro, Deputy City Attorney Freeman and City Clerk Nelson. Absent: City Treasurer Rupert, City Attorney Remelmeyer.

3. FLAG SALUTE:

Ms. Evelyn Carr led in the salute to the flag.

4. INVOCATION:

Father P.J. McHugh, Nativity Catholic Church, gave the invocation.

STANDARD MOTIONS:5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

None available.

6. MOTION TO WAIVE FURTHER READING:

Councilman Applegate moved that after the City Clerk has assigned 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 Councilmember the right to demand the reading of any such resolution or ordinance in regular order. The motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Brown had not yet arrived at the meeting).

7. COUNCIL COMMITTEES:Citizen Development:

February 15th - 4:00 P.M. - at School District office.
February 26th meeting with Fine Arts Committee has been cancelled.

1.

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Public Safety:

February 21st at 5:00 P.M.

Finance:

Mid-year Budget Review on February 15th at 5:00 P.M.

8. COMMUNITY AFFAIRS:8a. PRESENTATIONS TO FORMER COMMISSIONERS:

A Certificate of Appreciation to Mrs. Betty Rogers was presented by Mayor Armstrong, on behalf of the Council, in recognition of her substantial community contributions.

A Tile Plaque, with like appreciation, was presented by the Mayor to Mr. James Pierson for his valuable service on the Library Commission.

Tile plaques for Mr. Harold Smith, formerly of the Park and Recreation Commission and Mr. Jacobus Preijers, Torrance Disaster Council, were announced.

8b. PRESENTATION TO MIKE WOOD in recognition of excellence - 1978 World Hula Hoop Contest runner-up.

Mayor Armstrong, on behalf of the Council, commended Mike on his achievement and the fame thereby afforded the City of Torrance.

8c. BEAUTIFICATION SCENE AWARDS - Winter 1978.

Environmental Quality Commissioner Robinson made the following presentations:

Residential:

Ms. Margaret S. Shirai
17230 Elgar

Commercial:

The Plaza
2350 Sepulveda Boulevard

Industrial:

Donovan Engineering Corporation
2305 Border Avenue

10. TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC WORKS MATTERS:10a. WIDENING AND IMPROVEMENT OF MADRONA AVENUE between Torrance Boulevard and Carson Street.RECOMMENDATION OF SR. C.E. ASSOCIATE:

1. That the design parameters for Madrona Avenue as described be approved.
2. That \$200,000 in 2107 Gas Tax Funds be appropriated.
3. That the subject resolution requesting \$400,000 in County HTC funds be adopted.
4. That the irrevocable offer for dedication for the right turn lane at Carson Street be accepted.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 79-22

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE REQUESTING THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY TO MAKE ALLOCATION OF FUNDS FROM "HIGHWAYS-THROUGH-CITIES SPECIAL PROJECTS" FUND FOR STREET IMPROVEMENTS ON MADRONA AVENUE BETWEEN CARSON STREET AND TORRANCE BOULEVARD

Following Staff presentation by Sr. C.E. Associate Bourbonnais, Council discussion was directed to the unique concerns surrounding the proposed improvement -- buffers, driveways, left-turn lanes, etc.

Mr. Ed Greene, Madrona Homeowners Association, in a prepared statement (of record) reviewed the homeowner input, it being generally felt that a "good compromise" has been achieved by Staff.

Formal action taken by the Council is reflected below:

MOTION: Councilman Rossberg moved to concur with the above stated Staff recommendations, including elimination of the left-turn pocket for southbound traffic on Madrona at Onrado. The motion was seconded by Councilman Walker, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

MOTION: Councilman Wilson moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 79-22. His motion was seconded by Councilman Rossberg, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

14. PERSONNEL MATTERS:

14a. EXECUTIVE SESSION re: Hours, Wages and Working Conditions.

See Page 10.

14b. ADDITIONAL HOUSING SPECIALIST POSITION in Planning Department.

It was the request of Councilman Walker that this matter be held for the February 27th Council meeting until he has received desired additional input. There were no objections, and it was so ordered.

15. HEARINGS:

15a. ZC 78-21, GPA 78-5 and TT 35716, ALICE AND KENNY UYEDA. Request for a Change of Zone from C-3 PP to R-1, and amendment to the Land Use Element of the General Plan to change designation from retail commercial to low density residential and, on appeal, a six-lot tentative tract on property located on the west side of Western Avenue north of the proposed 184th Street. PLANNING COMMISSION AND PLANNING DEPARTMENT RECOMMEND DENIAL.

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

Councilman Applegate announced that he would ABSTAIN in this matter in that he has a potential conflict of interest in the subject property, as well as property within 300 feet of same because of his business interests. Mr. Applegate then departed from the Council Chambers.

Mayor Armstrong then announced that this was the time and place for the subject public hearing, and, following presentation by Planning Assistant Woodward, invited comments from the audience.

Representing neighborhood residents, Ms. Esther Cortoni, 18418 Manhattan Place, submitted a petition opposing any commercial development adjacent to their residential area -- consideration of residential development for the subject property was requested.

Representing the proponent, Mr. Clark Leonard, Lanco Engineering, indicated the willingness of the proponent to consider R-3 PD or RTH, if R-1 zoning is not favored. Mr. Leonard then elaborated on the difficulties of commercial development of the property vs. the positive aspects of residential development. It was pointed out by Mayor Armstrong that the R-3 PD or RTH zoning had not been considered by the Planning Commission; referral back to that Commission would now appear to be in order.

Further comments were invited by the Mayor.

Mr. Alfred Salgado, 4595 Sonoma Highway, Santa Rosa, reaffirmed his strong objections to any residential development, as expressed at the Planning Commission meeting, of record. Mr. Salgado is owner of property to the south of the subject parcel, which is zoned commercial.

Opposition to residential development was also voiced by Mr. Sol Levine, 3743 West 171st Street, (Mr. Salgado's partner), who deemed any residential development non-conforming to the existing development and zoning in the area. An office building is proposed for their property, per Mr. Levine.

Mrs. Penny Salgado specifically noted the problems presented by Lucky Market at this location, as well as the impracticability of residential development.

The proponent, Mr. Kenny Uyeda, 1823 West 185th Street, stated that his intent is to develop in a manner most beneficial to the residential neighborhood.

There being no one else who wished to be heard, Councilman Brown moved that the hearing be closed. His motion was seconded by Councilman Walker, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Applegate abstained).

Following discussion, it was the consensus of the Council that this matter should be returned to the Planning Commission for consideration of another residential zone with Precise Plan requirements. Formal action was taken as follows:

MOTION: Councilman Brown moved to refer ZC 78-21 and GPA 78-5 back to the Planning Commission for reconsideration in view of input at this meeting, with note of the recommended Precise Plan requirement; further, that TT 35716 be denied without prejudice to permit Mr. Uyeda to refile for appropriate rezoning including R-1 but not limited to R-1. Also, that any plan not be approved which would burden Messrs. Salgado and Levine to dedicate a portion of their property, unless they so consented. The motion was seconded by Councilman Walker, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Applegate abstained).

Councilman Applegate returned to the Council Chambers at this time.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS:

17a. REQUEST FOR WATER COMMISSION MINUTE SECRETARY SERVICES.

Following discussion, it was agreed that Minute Secretary services should be temporarily granted to the Water Commission, with referral of the overall matter of Minute Secretary services to the Finance Committee.

Councilman Rossberg expressed concern at the absence of Water Commission minutes since August, 1978, and requested review regarding this lack.

Staff input regarding his earlier request regarding the assignment of a Minute Secretary to the Airport Noise Committee was requested by Councilman Brown.

MOTION: Councilman Brown moved that the Water Commission Minute Secretarial service be restored during Finance Committee considerations regarding such service for all Commissions -- a comprehensive report, with recommendations, to be returned to the Council. The motion was seconded by Councilman Rossberg, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

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The hour being 9:15 P.M., a 10-minute recess was ordered by Mayor Armstrong.

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17b. BUSINESS LICENSE TAXES FOR VENDING MACHINES.REPORT OF FINANCE AND GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE:

Chairman Wilson stated the new rates (up 17%) are in line when compared to the increase seen in inflation (C.P.I. up 63% and W.P.I. up 85%) since 1972 which was the last time the vending machine rates were increased and when compared to the basic and per employee fee increases, for other types of businesses.

Councilman Applegate stated that he is opposed to the increase in the fees as he opposed the increase voted in June, 1978 and reaffirmed by the Council in December, 1978.

Councilman Brown stated he is not opposed to the new rates; however, he would like to have additional information as to what the average pinball machine grosses per year and what the impact would be if a maximum tax was established per location (Staff report, of record, provided).

Staff presentation was provided by Revenue Administrator Murdoch.

Present, to protest the proposed increase in fees, were: Mr. Harold Steubber, 600 Devan Place, Long Beach, immediate past president, California State Vending Machine Association; Mr. John Rodenbour, JNR Enterprises, 604 North Clementine, Anaheim; Mr. Robert McWilliams, general manager and president, Accurate Vending Corporation; Mr. Tom Rockwell, 2231 Meyer Street, San Pedro; Mr. Jerry Richardson, Richardson Vending Service (communication of record); Mr. Frank Ridder, Ridder Bros. Vending; Mr. Gino Lauro, 1603 9th Street, San Pedro.

Council discussion encompassed overall taxes, cost of living increases, tax inequities, legal considerations, the need for additional input, etc.

Council action evolved as follows:

MOTION: Councilman Wilson moved that the vending machine rates be increased, as set at budget time. The motion was seconded by Councilman Brown.

A SUBSTITUTE MOTION was offered by Councilman Rossberg: That Council hold off any increase at this time, and that this matter be referred back to Staff and Committee to come up with a better concept. The substitute motion was seconded by Councilman Walker, and carried, with roll call vote as follows:

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS: Applegate, Rossberg, Walker;
Mayor Armstrong.

NOES: COUNCILMEMBERS: Brown, Geissert, Wilson.

It was stated by Mayor Armstrong, and concurred in by the Council, that he would oppose any attempt to put any kind of machine -- vending, game, slot, or otherwise -- on public recreation facilities.

17c. PRACTICE OF HYPNOTISM AND TEACHING OF SELF-HYPNOSIS AND LICENSING FOR HYPNOTISTS.

RECOMMENDATION OF CHIEF OF POLICE/FINANCE DIRECTOR/

DEPUTY CITY ATTORNEY: The proposed ordinance will permit the public to engage the services of hypnotists for a greater variety of treatment, both medical, and vocational or avocational self-improvement. While there is no compelling need for such an ordinance, it is recommended that if the ordinance is adopted, there are sufficient safeguards to prevent abuses.

Speakers on this item were:

Mr. Steve Craig, 3455 Meyer Street, Mar Vista: Hypnotism has a very useful place in our society but it should be regulated under medical supervision. Mr. Craig then cited his personal unhappy experience involving his daughter and hypnotists.

Ms. Sandra Collins, 1457½ West 219th Street: Self-hypnosis has been most beneficial in many aspects of her life.

Mr. Jay Bartell, 14640 Victory Boulevard, Van Nuys, president, Hypnotists Union, Local 472, AFL/CIO: Provided background information regarding the requirements for the practice of hypnosis.

Mr. Lawrence Levy, 4617 Willis Avenue, Sherman Oaks: The medical profession has accepted hypnotism as a tool, per Mr. Levy, who also reviewed State Code requirements regarding the practice of hypnotism. Contents of the proposed City of Torrance ordinance were also discussed by Mr. Levy.

Mr. Morris Surrey, 20920 Anza Avenue: Reported his satisfaction with self-hypnosis classes.

Mr. Mike Hording, Northridge: Representing Hypnotists Examining Council, and, on behalf of that organization, applauded this action by the Council in taking a forward step in recognition and proper regulation of hypnosis.

Mr. Robert Foley, Union City, state president, California Professional Hypnotists Association: Expressed approval of the subject ordinance, and deemed it a reflection of the organization's principles.

Ms. Ginny Miller, 4261 West 182nd Street: Reported positive benefits from self-hypnosis classes.

Mr. C.A. Honey, chairman, Examining Board for Southern Region, California Professional Hypnotists Association: Reviewed qualifications for professional hypnotists.

Mr. Gardner Fisher, Burbank, board of trustees, Hypnotists Union, Local #472: Expressed appreciation to the Council for hearing the foregoing comments.

There being no other speakers, Council discussion was directed to the subject ordinance. It was the recommendation of Councilman Brown, generally concurred in by the Council, that the ordinance be revised to reflect a separate reference for hypnotism (Section 31.7.3); and that there be clarification re: the role of the License Review Board (Section 33.18.71 - b) 2).

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2894

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF TORRANCE REGULATING THE PRACTICE
OF HYPNOSIS AND THE TEACHING OF SELF-
HYPNOSIS AND PROVIDING FOR THE LICENSING
OF SUCH PRACTITIONERS

Councilman Brown moved to approve Ordinance No. 2894 at its first reading, with the above noted modifications to be brought back for the second reading of the ordinance. The motion was seconded by Councilman Applegate, and carried, with roll call vote as follows:

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS: Applegate, Brown, Geissert,
Rossberg, Wilson; Mayor Armstrong.
NOES: COUNCILMEMBERS: Walker (we have correct controls at
the present time; not in favor
of any type of self-policing.)

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20. ROUTINE MATTERS:

20a. PURCHASE OF ILLUMINATED ADVANCED WARNING STREET NAME SIGNS.
(Ref. Bid B78-52) Expenditure: \$20,709.72

RECOMMENDATION OF PURCHASING SUPERVISOR/DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION: That your Honorable Body approve of the award of a contract for the purchase of 86 six-foot, double-faced, advanced warning street name signs from the low bidder, Nu Art Lighting and Manufacturing Company, Inc., in the total amount of \$20,709.72, including tax.

20b. AWARD OF A SERVICE CONTRACT to microfilm building permit records. (Ref. Bod #B79-3)
Estimated Expenditure: \$15,366.00

RECOMMENDATION OF BUYER:
That your Honorable Body approve the award of a contract expected to run 18 months to Continental Graphics Division of Republic Corporation for conversion of building records to permanent microfilm in the anticipated amount of \$15,366.00, plus sales tax.

20c. AWARD OF CONTRACT for Requirements of New Ammunition.
(Ref. Bid #B79-6) Anticipated Expenditure: \$6693.52

RECOMMENDATION OF BUYER:
That your Honorable Body reject all bids received, and approve of the award of a contract to Olin Corporation, the low bidder of the State contract, in a total amount of \$6693.52, including tax.

20d. REJECTION OF BIDS FOR POWER SWEEPER.
(Ref. Bid #B78-63)

RECOMMENDATION OF BUYER:
That your Honorable Body reject all bids for a power sweeper and authorize Staff to proceed with a rebid using revised specifications.

MOTION: Councilman Wilson moved to concur with Staff recommendations on agenda items 20a, 20b, 20c and 20d. His motion was seconded by Councilman Walker, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

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The hour being 11:21 P.M., the Council recessed and reconvened as the Redevelopment Agency, returning to its agenda at 11:30 P.M.

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22. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

22a. Councilman Brown requested Staff investigation re: possible need for lighting at the triangle park at Calle Miramar and Via Colusa, based on reported vandalism.

22b. Councilwoman Geissert requested a Staff report regarding telephone availability at park playgrounds.

22c. Councilman Rossberg commended Sr. C.E. Associate Bourbonnais for a fine presentation earlier this evening (Item 10a) along with the outstanding departmental work with the residents and all concerned in this matter (Madrona Street widening and improvement).

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14a. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 11:40 P.M., the Council recessed for an Executive Session, returning at 11:55 P.M. to take the following action:

ORDINANCE NO. 2895

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE REPEALING PART XI, PART XIV, AND PART XVIII OF CHAPTER 7, DIVISION 1 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE GOVERNING EMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION PROVISIONS FOR THE CITY MANAGER, CITY TREASURER, AND EXECUTIVE EMPLOYEES

Councilman Wilson moved for the approval of Ordinance No. 2895 at its first reading. His motion was seconded by Mayor Armstrong; roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

RESOLUTION NO. 79-23

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE SETTING FORTH WAGES, HOURS AND WORKING CONDITIONS FOR CERTAIN MANAGEMENT EMPLOYEES
(Police Captain)

Councilman Wilson moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 79-23, with amendments in regard to health insurance. The motion was seconded by Councilman Applegate, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

RESOLUTION NO. 79-24

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE GOVERNING EMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION FOR THE CITY CLERK

Councilman Walker moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 79-24, with amendments in regard to the Social Security contribution. The motion was seconded by Councilman Rossberg, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

RESOLUTION NO. 79-25

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE GOVERNING EMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION PROVISIONS FOR EMPLOYEES REPRESENTED BY THE TORRANCE MANAGEMENT EMPLOYEES ORGANIZATION

Councilman Walker moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 79-25. His motion, seconded by Councilman Rossberg, was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

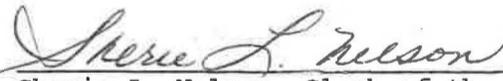
RESOLUTION NO. 79-26

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE GOVERNING EMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION FOR THE CITY MANAGER, CITY TREASURER AND EXECUTIVE EMPLOYEES AND ADDING A NEW PART XI DEALING WITH THE SAME SUBJECT

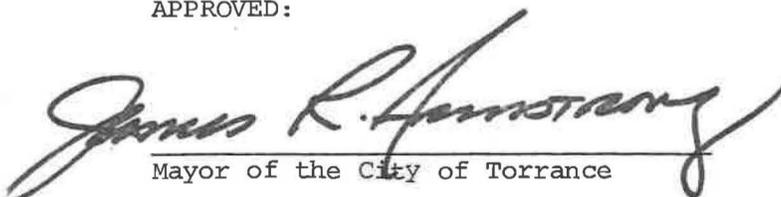
Councilman Walker moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 79-26, with amendments in regard to the Social Security contribution. The motion was seconded by Councilman Applegate, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

The meeting was regularly adjourned at 12:00 Midnight.

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 Sherie L. Nelson, Clerk of the
 City of Torrance, California

APPROVED:


 Mayor of the City of Torrance

Ava Cripe
 Minute Secretary

11.

City Council
 February 13, 1979