

I N D E XCity Council - April 3, 1979

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Adjourned at 9:15 P.M.

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April 3, 1979

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, April 3, 1979, at 5:30 P.M. in the Council Chambers at Torrance City Hall.

2. ROLL CALL:

Present: Councilmembers Applegate, Brown, Geissert, Rossberg, Walker, Wilson and Mayor Armstrong. Absent: None.

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

3. FLAG SALUTE:

Equipment Superintendent Ed Enrietta led in the salute to the flag.

4. INVOCATION:

Reverend Harold M. Slusher, Walteria United Methodist Church, provided the invocation for the meeting.

STANDARD MOTIONS:

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilman Applegate moved to approve the minutes of February 27, 1979, as recorded. His motion was seconded by Councilwoman Geissert; roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

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 Brown, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

7. COUNCIL COMMITTEES:

Community Planning:

April 5th - 5:00 P.M. re: height limitations for R-1 development.

April 11th - 5:00 P.M. re: trash transfer station.

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Citizen Development:

Will meet with Youth Council representatives on April 4th at 4:30 P.M.

8. COMMUNITY MATTERS:8a. COMMENDATION PLAQUE - New Horizons Conservation Club.

Mayor Armstrong presented the subject plaque to representatives of the New Horizons Conservation Club in recognition of their Community Achievement in Energy Conservation by way of their newly installed solar heating system.

8b. RESOLUTION expressing congratulations to Torrance Unified School District employees.RESOLUTION NO. 79-63

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE EXPRESSING ITS CONGRATULATIONS AND THANKS FOR TEN YEARS OF SERVICE AS AN EMPLOYEE OF THE TORRANCE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT TO _____

Councilman Wilson moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 79-63. His motion was seconded by Councilwoman Geissert; roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

Considered by the Council, out of order, at this time:

14. PERSONNEL MATTERS:14b. EQUIPMENT SUPERINTENDENT EXAMINATION.

Equipment Mechanic John Hall stated that Garage employees are of the opinion that the Equipment Superintendent Examination should be on a Promotional basis -- further, that the required three years of supervisory experience discriminates against City employees, as does the reference to a "municipal fleet" for required experience.

It was ascertained by Mayor Armstrong that the above objections had not been presented to the Civil Service Commission -- the following action resulted:

MOTION: Councilman Brown moved to refer Item 14b. back to the Civil Service Commission. The motion was seconded by Councilman Walker. There were no objections, and it was so ordered.

The Council now returned to:

8. COMMUNITY MATTERS:8c. CABLE TELEVISION.RECOMMENDATION OF CITY MANAGER/CITY ATTORNEY:

That you authorize us to hold an administrative public hearing on cable television before representatives of

the City Attorney and City Manager with a report of that hearing to be transmitted to Council in due course after analysis and conferences with Staff.

It was the opinion of Councilwoman Geissert, concurred in by the Council, that the Council hear from the public rather than limiting it to the City Manager and the City Attorney.

MOTION: Councilman Brown moved to concur with the City Manager and City Attorney, with the direction that the public hearing be before the Council. The motion was seconded by Councilman Applegate, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

9. LIBRARY/PARK AND RECREATION MATTERS:

9a. Resolution re: Sur La Brea restroom.

Considered later in the meeting - See Page 10.

10. TRANSPORTATION/PUBLIC WORKS MATTERS:

10a. EXTENSION OF STREET LIGHTING DISTRICT 17.

RECOMMENDATION OF DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION:

1. That the option to extend assessment engineering services for one year be exercised with a fee of \$7,500 to be paid from the Street Lighting District to Patrick Rossetti for performance of this work; and
2. That the subject Street Light Assessment District Budget be approved with no change in assessment rates for the forthcoming year.

MOTION: Councilman Wilson moved to concur with the above stated recommendation of the Department of Transportation. His motion was seconded by Councilwoman Geissert; roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

10b. ESTABLISHMENT OF SEWER REIMBURSEMENT DISTRICT NO. 96.

RECOMMENDATION OF ENGINEERING STAFF:

That Sewer Reimbursement District No. 96 be established to recover the cost of construction of the sewer line and lateral. It is recommended a connection fee of \$449.27 per acre be made for property lying within the proposed Sewer Reimbursement District boundary as shown on the subject sketch, plus an additional charge of \$255.99 to the parcel located on the southeast corner of the intersection of Del Amo Boulevard and Madrona Avenue.

MOTION: Councilman Wilson moved to concur with the recommendation of the Engineering Staff, as above stated. His motion was seconded by Councilwoman Geissert; roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

10c. TORRANCE BOULEVARD BIKEWAY.

RECOMMENDATION OF TRAFFIC COMMISSION, ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION:

1. That the design of the Torrance Boulevard Bikeway be approved, and
2. That the transfer of \$36,000 in SB 821 Funds from the Pacific Coast Highway Bikeway account to the Torrance Boulevard Bikeway account be authorized.

POLICE DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION:

The Police Department recommends against the Torrance Boulevard Bikeway.

Staff presentations were provided by Director of Transportation Horkay, Police Captain Lanham and Sr. Associate Transportation Engineer Collins.

Comments from the audience were invited by Mayor Armstrong.

Ms. Ruth Barnes reported her substantial involvement re: bicycle traffic and legislation pertaining thereto.

Representing the Central Torrance Homeowners Association, Mr. Bob Fraser requested that their April 1, 1979 communication appear verbatim in these minutes. Mayor Armstrong so directed.

"This Association at the General Meeting, open to the public, on March 29, 1979, voted unanimously in favor of the proposed installation of a bikeway on Torrance Boulevard from Western Avenue to the west City limits.

"This mixture of motor vehicle traffic with bicycles is a traffic safety nightmare. However, since bicycles have already appeared in ever-increasing numbers on Torrance Boulevard, the clear marking of a bikeway is indicated. Hopefully, it may attract present bike riders from Carson Street, which is woefully inadequate to carry its traffic load between Crenshaw Boulevard and Maple Avenue.

"One of our suggestions being forwarded to Albert Ng, Budget Officer, in response to his letter of March 22, 1979, which called for a "Town Hall" meeting on a date which had already been set for our own meeting, is:

"Increase the number of motorcycle traffic officers to patrol Torrance Boulevard, Carson Street and Crenshaw Boulevard, on all of which no attention is paid to posted speed limits. These major cross- and inter-city routes daily carry hundreds of non-Torrance residents. Their interest is getting

through our City as expeditiously as possible twice a workday. In the morning, many already late for work, and in the evening, worn out from their labors and many having exited from freeways, they ignore the 'slow' speeds of 30 MPH and 35 MPH on Torrance Boulevard. So do many Torrance drivers.

"A great danger to be met is the use of the bikeway by motorcyclists, and particularly the recently added menace -- mopeds. These should be restricted to the main roadway.

"It has been anticipated that a very thorough and wide-ranging educational program is mandated to reduce bicycle-automobile accidents. We urgently support this concept. No informed person disputes a great increase in the use of the bicycle as a relief from future increases in costs of use of the automobile. We must prepare for it."

Mr. Alvin Smithart, 22620 Ocean Avenue, noted current gas crisis and the likely increase in bicycle traffic. Ms. Shirley Turner, 23216 Juniper Avenue, urged support of the proposed Torrance Boulevard Bikeway; Ms. Kay Lewis, 20539 Avis Avenue, expressed her opinion that "accident prevention is primarily up to the cyclist".

Following discussion, the following action was taken by the Council:

MOTION: Councilman Walker moved to approve Option 2 (Page 4): "Wait until we have more experience with the Anza Avenue bikelanes (say, one year) before proceeding with more bikelanes." The motion was seconded by Councilman Rossberg.

A SUBSTITUTE MOTION was offered by Councilwoman Geissert: To concur with the above stated recommendation of the Traffic Commission, Engineering Department and Department of Transportation. The substitute motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and carried, with roll call vote as follows:

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS: Brown, Geissert, Wilson;
Mayor Armstrong.
NOES: COUNCILMEMBERS: Applegate, Rossberg, Walker.

Councilman Applegate stated that his negative vote was for the reason that he is concerned with the design of the bikeway; there is a safety problem.

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11. POLICE AND FIRE MATTERS:

11a. POLICE FACILITY.

RECOMMENDATION OF CHIEF OF POLICE:

1. That the City Council adopt the subject resolution approving the revised contract with the architect

and accept the reworking of Phases I and II completed thus far.

2. That the City Council move ahead immediately on the project as cost escalations due to time delays are impacting negatively on any projected savings of the smaller facility.
3. That the City Council appropriate \$263,516 from the Federal Revenue Sharing monies set aside for the project to continue on with the Phase III Construction Drawings (5-6 months duration).
4. That the City Council direct the necessary roadway network, utility connections, and master plan revisions be developed as to concept and costs and submitted within the next three months.

RECOMMENDATION OF CITY MANAGER:

1. Appropriate State bail-out funds to the Police Facility;
2. Designate the Harris-Fujita funds to the Police Facility pending actual receipt of the funds; and
3. Direct Staff to bring the \$1,000,000 Federal Revenue Sharing appropriation back to the City Council as a part of the budget hearing process.

MOTION: Councilman Brown moved to concur with the above stated recommendations of the Chief of Police and the City Manager. His motion was seconded by Councilman Rossberg, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

RESOLUTION NO. 79-64

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE APPROVING AN ARCHITECTURAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY AND H. WENDELL MOUNCE, AN ARCHITECT, FOR A REVISED PLAN OF THE PROPOSED POLICE FACILITIES BUILDING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$658,789.00

Councilwoman Geissert moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 79-64. Her motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson; roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

Mayor Armstrong reviewed the need now to pursue the overall basic direction of the Civic Center site; Staff input at a later appropriate date was requested by the Mayor.

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The hour being 7:15 P.M., a 10-minute recess was ordered by Mayor Armstrong.

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6. City Council
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Considered by the Council, out of order, at this time:

20. ROUTINE MATTERS:

- 20e. REQUEST FOR PERMISSION to Hold a Dance at La Casa de Vida Health Club.

RECOMMENDATION OF LAND MANAGEMENT TEAM:

That the City Council give their consent to the request of Las Madrecitas for one time use of the La Casa de Vida facility for purposes of a fund-raising dinner dance and to serve alcoholic beverages on May 5, 1979.

MOTION: Councilman Rossberg moved to concur with the above stated recommendation of the Land Management Team. His motion was seconded by Councilman Brown. There were no objections, and it was so ordered. (Councilman Walker was temporarily absent from the Council Chambers).

- 20a. PURCHASE OF REPLACEMENT "SPECIAL" VEHICLES.

Expenditure: \$20,623.36

RECOMMENDATION OF FINANCE DIRECTOR/PURCHASING SUPERVISOR:

That Council approve of the following:

- a. The purchase of four "special" Police (used) vehicles from an expanded source basis to include either Hertz or Avis' vehicle resale programs in the total amount of \$20,623.36, including tax.
- b. The sale of four vehicles being taken out of service with method of sale to be by best means as determined by Staff.

- 20b. AWARD OF CONTRACT for Ready-Mixed Concrete.

Ref. Bix #B79-21 Estimated Expenditure: \$20,201.80

RECOMMENDATION OF PURCHASING SUPERVISOR/BUYER:

That your Honorable Body approve of the award of a contract for a 5-month period to the low bidder, Chandler's Palos Verdes Sand and Gravel Company, in the amount of \$20,201.80, including sales tax and applicable trade discounts.

- 20c. ON-THE-JOB TRAINING PROGRAMS.

RECOMMENDATION OF MANPOWER PROGRAMS ADMINISTRATOR:

That your Honorable Body approve On-the-Job Training Contracts with Poly-Disc Systems, Inc.; Robinson Helicopter Company; and Imperial International Inc., and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute same on behalf of the City of Torrance.

- 20d. AWARD OF CONTRACT for one Gas-Powered Industrial Sweeper.

(Ref. Bid #B79-15) Expenditure: \$12,122.90.

RECOMMENDATION OF PURCHASING SUPERVISOR/BUYER:

That your Honorable Body approve the award of a contract to purchase the F.M.C. gas-powered industrial sweeper

from R.J. Lison Company, in the amount of \$12,122.90, including sales tax.

MOTION: Councilman Applegate moved to concur with Staff recommendations on agenda items 20a, 20b, 20c, and 20d. His motion was seconded by Councilman Rossberg, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Walker was temporarily absent from the Council Chambers.)

The Council now returned to its regular agenda order.

12. PLANNING AND ZONING MATTERS:

12a. RESOLUTION re: Amendment to Agreement with Bank of America for Residential Rehabilitation Loan Program.

RESOLUTION NO. 79-66

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE THAT CERTAIN AGREEMENT FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT LOANS BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY OF TORRANCE AND BANK OF AMERICA NATIONAL TRUST AND SAVINGS ASSOCIATION

Councilman Wilson moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 79-66. His motion was seconded by Councilman Applegate, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Walker temporarily absent from the Council Chambers).

14. PERSONNEL MATTERS:

14a. RESOLUTION re: City Librarian Classification/Examination.

RESOLUTION NO. 79-67

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING SECTION 2.1 OF RESOLUTION NO. 79-42

Councilwoman Geissert moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 79-67. Her motion was seconded by Councilman Brown, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Walker temporarily absent from Council Chambers).

14b. EQUIPMENT SUPERINTENDENT.

Considered earlier in the meeting - See Page 2.

15. HEARINGS.15a. D 79-2, WILLIAM K. SWANSON.

See Page 10.

17. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS:17a. RESOLUTION re: "In-Lieu Replenishment Program".RESOLUTION NO. 79-68

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE APPROVING AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY AND THE CENTRAL AND WEST BASIN WATER REPLENISHMENT DISTRICT FOR THE CITY'S PARTICIPATION IN THE DISTRICT'S 1979 IN-LIEU WATER REPLENISHMENT PROGRAM

Councilman Wilson moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 79-68. His motion, seconded by Councilman Brown, was unanimously approved by roll call vote (Councilman Walker temporarily absent from the Council Chambers.)

18. SECOND READING ORDINANCES:18a. ORDINANCE NO. 2900.ORDINANCE NO. 2900

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING SECTIONS 33.5.7, 33.5.8, 33.5.9 AND 33.5.10 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE TO REDUCE CERTAIN LICENSE FEES FOR COIN OPERATED VENDING MACHINES

Councilman Brown moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 2900 at its second and final reading. His motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Walker temporarily absent from the Council Chambers.)

19. MATTERS NOT OTHERWISE CLASSIFIED:19a. RESOLUTION re: 208 Areawide Waste Treatment Management Plan.RESOLUTION NO. 79-69

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AGREEING TO IMPLEMENT AND ENFORCE THOSE ELEMENTS OF THE SOUTH COAST AREAWIDE WASTE TREATMENT MANAGEMENT PLAN APPROPRIATE TO ITS JURISDICTION

Councilman Wilson moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 79-69. His motion was seconded by Councilman Brown, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Walker temporarily absent from the Council Chambers).

19b. LETTER FROM DR. VOLPICELLI OBJECTING TO VARIOUS CITY TAXES AND FEES.

See Page 11.

20. ROUTINE MATTERS:

20a. - 20e - See Page 7.

22. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

22a. Mayor Armstrong noted the pending presentation to former Water Commissioner, Charles Dishon, now residing in Raymond, Washington. It was the direction of the Council that the presentation be made to his son, Stephen Dishon.

22b. The memo from Building and Safety Director McKinnon re: outfield signing for the Southwood Little League was noted by Mayor Armstrong. The request was unanimously approved by the Council (Councilman Walker temporarily absent from the Council Chambers). It was specifically noted that approval of this request was on a one-time only basis, in light of policies now being formulated.

(Councilman Walker returned to the Council Chambers at this time.)

The Council returned to:

9. LIBRARY/PARK AND RECREATION MATTERS:

9a. RESOLUTION re: Restroom at Sur La Brea Park.

RESOLUTION NO. 79-64

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE DECLARING THAT IN THE INTEREST OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY, WORK SHOULD PROCEED IMMEDIATELY BY CITY FORCES FOR THE INSTALLATION AND CONSTRUCTION OF RESTROOM FACILITIES IN SUR LA BREA PARK

Councilman Applegate moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 79-64. His motion was seconded by Councilwoman Geissert, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

15. HEARINGS:

15a. D 79-2, WILLIAM K. SWANSON. Appeal of Planning Commission action on a Division of Lot to create two parcels in the Hillside Overlay District between Paseo de las Tortugas and Bluff Street, approximately 100 feet northwest of Via Valmonte. PLANNING COMMISSION FAILED TO APPROVE AS A RESULT OF A TIE VOTE. PLANNING DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDS APPROVAL.

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

Mayor Armstrong announced that this was the time and place for the subject public hearing, and invited comments from the audience.

Speaking in support of the proposed Division of Lot were Ms. Toni Thompson, 23810 Cabrillo Avenue; Lawson Pettigo, 25548 Pennsylvania Avenue, Lomita; and Alvin Smithart, 22620 Ocean Avenue.

Opposed to the proposed Division of Lot were: Harry Hendricksen, 3238 Bluff Street; Jim Dyer, representing Riviera Homeowners Association; Jim Shinkleberg, 4050 Bluff Street; and Ms. Ellen Hendricksen, 3838 Bluff Street. Concerns voiced were: non-conformance with Hillside Ordinance, impact on Bluff Street, traffic, etc.

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

Council discussion was directed to the overall concerns pertaining to Bluff Street, unique development problems on the subject site, Hillside Ordinance requirements, the hardship aspects, etc.

Action taken by the Council is reflected below:

MOTION: Councilman Brown moved to DENY the appeal on D 79-2. His motion was seconded by Councilwoman Geissert, and carried, with roll call vote as follows:

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS: Applegate, Brown, Geissert;
Mayor Armstrong.

NOES: COUNCILMEMBERS: Rossberg, Walker, Wilson.

19. MATTERS NOT OTHERWISE CLASSIFIED:

19a. Resolution re: 208 Areawide Waste Treatment Management Plan.

See Page 9.

19b. LETTER FROM DR. VOLPICELLI OBJECTING TO VARIOUS CITY TAXES AND FEES.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff feels that all of the fees referred to in March 29, 1979 communication, of record, are fair and equitable, and no action should be taken by Council to change the license tax and fee structure or to make any refunds of taxes already paid.

City Attorney Remelmeyer reviewed pending litigation involving the City and Dr. Volpicelli, with note of Council policy to await the final judicial opinion in such matters before taking any action.

Mr. Remelmeyer affirmed, at Mayor Armstrong's question, that it would be in order to hear the matter.

Representing Dr. Volpicelli, Attorney Edward Zen reviewed his client's concerns, of substantial record, the language of City resolutions and ordinances (specifically, Resolution No. 78-100 and Ordinance No. 2843), etc.

Fire Marshall DeYoung provided clarification pertaining to fire inspection fees.

Mayor Armstrong expressed appreciation to Mr. Zen for his time and expressed concerns. No formal action was taken by the Council.

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The hour being 8:40 P.M., the Council recessed and reconvened as the Redevelopment Agency, returning to its agenda at 8:41 P.M.

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22. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS (Cont.):

22c. City Manager Ferraro noted these significant birthdays: City Librarian Russell West, Water System Manager John Borgwat. Congratulations were extended by the Council.

22d. Councilman Applegate commended the recent Police Auction -- it was a most efficient, interesting affair, per Mr. Applegate.

22e. Councilman Rossberg noted Councilwoman Geissert's March 30th communication regarding the Health System Agency and her opinion (page 2) that the "County proposal is a very bad one" and recommending opposition to the proposal. Concurrence with this position was expressed by Councilman Rossberg.

There was further input by Mrs. Geissert who then MOVED that the Council go on record as opposing the County control in this matter. The motion was seconded by Councilman Rossberg. There were no objections, and it was so ordered.

22f. Transportation Committee review of material received re: South Bay Transit Study was recommended by Councilman Rossberg -- the date of April 5th was established for this purpose.

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At 8:56 P.M., the Council recessed for the purpose of an Executive Session re: pending litigation. The Council returned at 9:15 P.M. for formal adjournment. (No action was taken.)

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Shirley L. Nelson
City Clerk of the City of Torrance

James R. Montgomery
Mayor of the City of Torrance

Ava Cripe
Minute Secretary

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