

I N D E XCity Council - May 15, 1979

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ORAL COMMUNICATIONS (Cont.):

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Adjourned at 11:46 P.M. to Wednesday,
May 16, 1979 at 5:00 P.M.

* * * * *

Ava Cripe
Minute Secretary

ii.

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May 15, 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, May 15, 1979, at 5:30 P.M. in the Council Chambers at Torrance City Hall.

2. ROLL CALL:

Present: Councilmembers Applegate, Brown, Geissert, Rossberg, Walker and Mayor Armstrong. Absent: Councilman Wilson.

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

3. FLAG SALUTE:

Girl Scout Troop 376, Sam Levy School, led in the salute to the flag.

4. INVOCATION:

Reverend George Johnson, Cathedral of Life Church, gave the invocation.

STANDARD MOTIONS:

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

None available.

6. MOTION TO WAIVE FURTHER READING:

Councilman Brown 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 Applegate, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Wilson absent).

7. COUNCIL COMMITTEES:

Citizen Development and Enrichment:
May 16th at 4:00 P.M. with School Board.

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Finance Committee:
Will meet on May 23rd.

8. COMMUNITY MATTERS:

8a. RESOLUTION OF COMMENDATION for Michael Davis.

RESOLUTION NO. 79-86

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF TORRANCE COMMENDING AMATEUR RADIO
OPERATOR MICHAEL DAVIS FOR HIS PARTICIPA-
TION IN A RESCUE AT SEA

Councilwoman Geissert moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 79-86. Her motion was seconded by Councilman Brown, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Wilson absent).

Mayor Armstrong presented the above Resolution of Commendation to Michael Davis, and extended the warm congratulations of the Council and all present for this remarkable feat.

Further recognition was forthcoming from the California State Legislature via representations for Assemblywoman Ryan, Assemblyman Felando and Senator Beverly.

There was grateful acceptance by Michael.

8b. PRESENTATION TO BAD NEWS BEARS.

Letters of commendation were presented to the members of the Bad News Bears Girls Division IV Soccer Team - Southern California State Champions - by Councilman Walker and Mayor Armstrong.

- 8c. RESOLUTION for Dr. Walter B. LaBerge, Grand Marshal, Armed Forces Day.

RESOLUTION NO. 79-85

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE EXPRESSING ITS APPRECIATION TO DR. WALTER B. LA BERGE, UNDER-SECRETARY OF ARMY, FOR SERVING AS GRAND MARSHAL OF THE TWENTIETH ANNUAL ARMED FORCES DAY CELEBRATION

Councilman Applegate moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 79-85. His motion was seconded by Councilman Rossberg; roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Wilson absent).

- 8d. PROCLAMATION - TORRANCE FIRST CLASS GIRL SCOUT WEEK - Week of May 20, 1979.
- 8e. PROCLAMATION - VIETNAM VETERANS WEEK - May 28-June 3, 1979.
- 8f. PROCLAMATION - TRAFFIC SAFETY AWARENESS WEEK - May 25-June 1, 1979.
- 8ff. PROCLAMATION - NATIONAL PUBLIC WORKS WEEK - May 20-May 26, 1979

So proclaimed by Mayor Miller.

- 8g. PRESENTATION to Dolly Kaimikaua.

Mayor Armstrong expressed appreciation for the outstanding services of Ms. Dolly Kaimikaua as Miss Torrance 1978, and presented her with a plaque in recognition of same. Ms. Kaimikaua likewise conveyed her gratitude for her enriching experience with the City of Torrance.

Introduced by Mayor Armstrong at this time were: Celeste Miller, Miss Torrance 1979, and runners-up Gerlayn Wissinger and Rhonda Shear.

9. LIBRARY/PARK AND RECREATION MATTERS:

- 9a.
- RESOLUTION
- re: Charles H. Wilson Park Development Phase II - LWCF No. 06-00730

RESOLUTION NO. 79-87

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE APPROVING AND PROVIDING FOR THE EXECUTION OF A PROJECT AGREEMENT FOR LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND PROJECT NO. 06-00730, CHARLES H. WILSON PARK DEVELOPMENT, PHASE II, BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY AND THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA, RESOURCES AGENCY, DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

Councilwoman Geissert moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 79-87. Her motion was seconded by Councilman Walker, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Wilson absent).

- 9b.
- APPROVAL OF MASTER PLAN FOR REHABILITATION OF McMASTER PARK RECREATION BUILDING.

Presentation was provided by Consultant Mark Botich, Family Tree, Inc.

Comments from the audience were invited by Mayor Armstrong.

Mr. Mike McCallen, 1619 Pacific Coast Highway, recommended that doors be provided in the storage area to facilitate the removal of tables and chairs. The Council concurred that this was a worthwhile suggestion.

MOTION: Councilman Walker moved to approve the subject Master Plan, with the above noted amendment regarding the doors. The motion was seconded by Councilman Brown, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Wilson absent).

10. TRANSPORTATION/PUBLIC WORKS MATTERS:

- 10a.
- AWARD OF CONTRACT
- Crenshaw Boulevard Grade Separation at Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad Tracks (B79-27).

RECOMMENDATION OF CITY ENGINEER:

That the contract be awarded to G.B. Cooke, Inc. and all other bids be rejected, and that \$650,000 be appropriated from 2106 Gas Tax Funds to cover costs.

MOTION: Councilman Brown moved to concur with the above stated recommendation of the City Engineer. His motion was seconded by Councilman Applegate; roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Wilson absent).

10b. SOUTH BAY TRANSIT STUDY.

MOTION: Councilman Applegate moved to refer Item 10b. to the Transportation Committee. The motion was seconded by Councilman Rossberg, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Wilson absent).

Input regarding the economic aspects of the Torrance and Gardena Bus Systems for Committee review was requested by Councilmen Applegate and Brown.

10c. CONSOLIDATED DIAL-A-LIFT BUS SERVICE FOR TORRANCE AND GARDENA HANDICAPPED RESIDENTS.

MOTION: Councilman Rossberg moved to refer Item 10c. to the Transportation Committee. The motion was seconded by Councilman Applegate, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Wilson absent).

10d. REFUSE TRANSFER FACILITY.

RECOMMENDATION OF COMMUNITY PLANNING COMMITTEE:

1. That Staff be directed to obtain and review formal proposals from private transfer station and resource recovery operators for disposal privileges, and submit for Council approval the recommended agreement most attractive to the City of Torrance.
2. That Staff be directed to prepare the necessary site plan (for the Nike Site), including elevation plan and scope of operations for submission to the Federal Aviation Administration for their review and comments. A formal request should be made, through the Environmental Protection Agency, for technical assistance from SCS Engineers at no cost to the City.

Following review of the Committee's findings, Councilwoman Geissert MOVED that the Committee Report be adopted. Her motion was seconded by Councilman Applegate.

Council discussion followed. Reservations regarding the feasibility of the Nike Site were expressed.

Mr. Ed Greene, Madrona Homeowners Association, pointed out a likely transfer station site on the northwest corner of Torrance Boulevard and Western Avenue -- the use of rail cars for transporting waste materials out of the City was also recommended by Mr. Greene.

Council action is reflected below:

A SUBSTITUTE MOTION was offered by Councilman Walker: That the Council concur with Committee Recommendation No. 1. The motion was seconded by Councilman Rossberg, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Wilson absent).

MOTION: Councilwoman Geissert moved to concur with Committee Recommendation No. 2. The motion was seconded by Councilman Applegate, but FAILED TO CARRY, with roll call vote as follows:

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

ABSENT: COUNCILMEMBERS: Wilson.

The negative votes were based on the overall inappropriateness of the Nike Site as a transfer station and the "exercise in futility" aspect of pursuing Recommendation No. 2.

10e. RESOLUTION re: SB 821 - Bicycle Funding for 1979-80.

RESOLUTION NO. 79-88

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION TO APPLY FOR BICYCLE FUNDS AUTHORIZED UNDER SB 821 FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A BIKEWAY ALONG SEPULVEDA BOULEVARD FROM THE REDONDO BEACH CITY LIMIT TO CABRILLO AVENUE

Councilman Applegate moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 79-88. His motion, seconded by Councilwoman Geissert, was unanimously approved by roll call vote (Councilman Wilson absent).

10f. RESOLUTION re: Dial-A-Lift Bus Service.

RESOLUTION NO. 79-89

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AND THE CITY CLERK TO ATTEST AN AMENDMENT TO THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF TORRANCE AND COMMUNITY TRANSIT SERVICES, INC., FOR OPERATION OF A DIAL-A-LIFT TRANSIT SERVICE

Councilman Walker moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 79-89. His motion was seconded by Councilman Brown; roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Wilson absent).

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The hour being 7:20 P.M., a 10-minute recess was ordered by Mayor Armstrong.

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11. POLICE AND FIRE MATTERS:

- 11a.
- REQUEST OF TORRANCE FIRE FIGHTERS
- re: change in City's anti-nepotism rules.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the anti-nepotism ordinance (Section 14.1.40) be modified to exclude step-relatives who have never been members of the same household.

The Civil Service Commission recommends that the current ordinance not be changed.

Staff and the Civil Service Commission together recommend that the anti-nepotism ordinance, in whatever form it may take, be applied uniformly to all employees in all departments.

Representing the Torrance Fire Fighters, Captain DeArmitt reviewed the problem-free record of related Fire Department employees; successful experiences in other agencies; the fact that Torrance has five fire stations, three shifts; etc. It was the request of Captain DeArmitt that the Fire Department be exempt from the subject section of the ordinance.

Fire Chief Slonecker reaffirmed his opposition to the requested ordinance change, noting Torrance's present fine department, without nepotism.

Council discussion encompassed the impact of exclusive exemption for Fire Department, restrictions to departments with numerous employees, "meet and confer" requirements, the unique circumstances of Fire Department employees (hours, location, etc.), protection against a relative chain of command, hiring controls, etc.

MOTION: Councilman Applegate moved to instruct the City Attorney to prepare a draft ordinance for the Council, based on discussions this date, and addressed only to the Torrance Fire Fighters. The motion was seconded by Councilman Walker, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Absent: Councilman Wilson).

12. PLANNING AND ZONING MATTERS:

- 12a.
- ORDINANCE
- re: Home Occupation Permits.

Following discussion, it was the consensus of the Council that the subject ordinance be modified as follows:

Delete Section n)

Item o) revised to indicate a period of three years... "on administrative review." (Administrative review should be referenced, as elsewhere in the Code.)

Section n)3) revised to reflect that all actions in connection with the issuance of a Home Occupation Permit, or renewal thereof, shall be done only after notification to the neighbors. Recommended alternate wording: "The express

written consent to the conduct of such full time home occupation shall be received from the owner, if the owner is not living in the dwelling. The two lots or parcels to each side of the subject dwelling, and the two lots or parcels nearest behind the subject property shall be notified of the Home Occupation Permit hearing."

Section i) revised to state: "Only the resident may be the applicant and no person other than the applicant shall be employed."

Mr. Ed Greene, Madrona Homeowners Association, stated that the problem of using the Home Occupation permit home as a rendezvous for employees has not been clearly addressed in the subject ordinance.

It was the direction of the Council that Staff return with a revised ordinance, as above discussed.

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- 12b. RESOLUTION re: Review of the Proposed General Plan for Los Angeles County.

RESOLUTION NO. 79-90

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF TORRANCE ENDORSING THE PROPOSED
GENERAL PLAN FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS
ANGELES

Councilman Applegate moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 79-90. His motion was seconded by Councilwoman Geissert, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Wilson absent).

- 12c. \$10,000 HISTORICAL GRANT APPLICATION FOR REHABILITATION STUDY OF HISTORIC DOWNTOWN STRUCTURES.

Staff presentation was provided by Planning Associate Progen.

Following extended discussion, it was the consensus of the Council that additional Staff input should be provided in this matter.

MOTION: Councilman Rossberg moved to table Item 12c. for three weeks to permit Staff/architect input. The motion was seconded by Councilman Applegate, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Wilson absent).

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

15. HEARINGS:

- 15c. PP 79-5, MR. AND MRS. A.R. SALBI. Appeal of Planning Commission approval of a Precise Plan of Development to allow the construction of a single-family home on property adjacent to 354 Paseo de Arena. PLANNING COMMISSION AND PLANNING DEPARTMENT RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF SCHEME "B".

An Affidavit of Publication was presented by City Clerk Nelson, 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, following Staff presentation by Planning Assistant Woodward, invited comments from the audience.

Mrs. A.R. Salbi, owner of the subject property, indicated concurrence with all conditions and the 26 ft. elevation recommended by the Planning Commission.

Architect Lee Alton, P.O. Box 395, Hermosa Beach, reviewed the aspects of Scheme "B" as recommended by the Planning Commission.

The appellant in this case, Mr. Harry Wegener, 354 Paseo de Arena, stated that the hillside ordinance requirements have not been met by the proposed development and generally reaffirmed his objections of record.

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

Council discussion ensued. Councilman Walker stated that the subject plans could have been otherwise evolved to avoid the substantial view blockage represented thereby. The house could be designed in such a way as to have a minimum impact on the two neighbors to the south and provide maximum view to the occupants of the house, per Mr. Walker.

In disagreement was Councilwoman Geissert who pointed out that the subject lot is considerably below street level and is tailor-made to accommodate a two-story house.

MOTION: Councilwoman Geissert moved to concur with the recommendation of the Planning Commission for approval of Scheme "B" only, subject to Staff conditions, and to DENY THE APPEAL. The motion was seconded by Councilman Applegate, and carried, with roll call vote as follows:

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

It was the added comment of Councilman Walker that it was not his suggestion that this be a one-story house; a two-story house can be built with a greater setback to the rear yard, rather than the side yard, thus reducing the view obstruction to both of the neighbors.

15b. UNDERGROUND UTILITY DISTRICTS #9 AND #10 - Amendment of Boundaries.

Mayor Armstrong announced that this was the time and place announced by the Council at its May 8th meeting, when and where any and all persons having any protests or objections to the proposed Underground Utility Districts may appear before the City Council of the City of Torrance and show cause why the subject area should not be designated an Underground Utility District.

City Clerk Nelson presented Proof of Publication of the notice of this hearing; it was received and ordered filed.

The City Engineer's report was received and filed.

Following Staff presentation by Underground Utilities Chairman Payne, Mayor Armstrong inquired if anyone wished to be heard.

Mr. Ed Feist, 21910 Ocean Avenue, expressed the concern of the residents re: preservation of the trees on this street. It was ascertained that this could be accomplished by using the street for the undergrounding.

Mr. Bill Koeningsberg, 23812 Ocean Avenue, inquired if there could be a like arrangement in his area, and was advised affirmatively.

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 Walker, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Wilson absent).

City Engineer Weaver officially noted one written protest from the owner of property at 23036 Hawthorne Boulevard, occupied by Riviera Convertible Sofa.

MOTION: Councilman Applegate moved to make the necessary amendments in order that Southern California Edison Company will move the right-of-way out into the street, with absolute minimum destruction of trees. The motion was seconded by Councilman Rossberg, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Wilson absent).

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

RESOLUTION NO. 79-91

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING THE BOUNDARIES
OF UNDERGROUND UTILITY DISTRICT NOS. 9 AND 10

Councilman Walker moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 79-91. His motion was seconded by Councilman Rossberg, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Wilson absent).

- 12d. RESOLUTION re: Joint Council/Agency Hearing on Adoption of Downtown Redevelopment Plan.

RESOLUTION NO. 79-92

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF TORRANCE CONSENTING TO A JOINT
PUBLIC HEARING BETWEEN THE REDEVELOPMENT
AGENCY OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AND THE
TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL ON THE PROPOSED
REDEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR THE DOWNTOWN
REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT, AND AUTHORIZING

THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A DATE THEREFOR
AND PUBLICATION AND MAILING OF NOTICE
OF SAID JOINT PUBLIC HEARING

Councilwoman Geissert moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 79-92. Her motion, seconded by Councilman Applegate, was unanimously approved by roll call vote (Councilman Wilson absent).

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At 9:55 P.M., the Council recessed and reconvened as the Redevelopment Agency, returning to its agenda at 9:57 P.M.

* * * * *

The Council now returned to:

14. PERSONNEL MATTERS:

14a. EXECUTIVE SESSION regarding wages, hours and working conditions.

See Page 14.

15. HEARINGS:

15a. FINAL PUBLIC HEARING for reprogramming of 1976-77 Community Development Block Grant Funds originally appropriated for the construction of an elevator in the old City Hall building in the amount of \$70,296.

An Affidavit of Publication was presented by City Clerk Nelson, 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 inquired if anyone wished to be heard. There was no response.

Councilman Brown moved that the hearing be closed. His motion, seconded by Councilman Rossberg, was unanimously approved by roll call vote (Councilman Wilson absent).

MOTION: Councilwoman Geissert moved to concur with Staff recommendations:

1. Approval of the reprogramming of all available funds in the elevator budget (approximately \$70,000) to support operational expenses of the Torrance Unified School District Children's Center, and
2. That Staff be directed to pursue HUD approval of an amended 1976-77 CDBG budget and be directed to return to Council within 90 days for approval of an amended funding agreement with the TUSD Children's Center.

The motion was seconded by Councilman Walker, and carried, with roll call vote as follows:

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

Mayor Armstrong stated that his negative vote was for the reason of his original commitment to the elevator and his opinion that whatever use is made of that second floor, access should be provided for the handicapped.

15b. Underground Utility Districts #9 and #10.

See Page 10.

15c. PP 79-5, Mr. and Mrs. A.R. Salbi.

See Page 9.

18. SECOND READING ORDINANCE:

18a. ORDINANCE NO. 2904.

ORDINANCE NO. 2904

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING DIVISION 9 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE TO RECLASSIFY THAT CERTAIN PROPERTY WHICH IS LOCATED AT THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF 171st STREET AND YUKON AVENUE AND DESCRIBED IN ZONE CHANGE CASE 78-27, PETER POZZUOLI

Councilwoman Geissert moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 2904 at its second and final reading. Her motion was seconded by Councilman Applegate, and carried, with roll call vote as follows:

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS: Applegate, Geissert, Rossberg, Walker; Mayor Armstrong.
 NOES: COUNCILMEMBERS: None.
 ABSTAIN: COUNCILMEMBERS: Brown (not present at first reading)
 ABSENT: COUNCILMEMBERS: Wilson.

22. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

22a. Assistant Finance Director Rankin reported on the status of the "bail-out" funds and the audit of reserves.

22b. Councilman Rossberg noted recent praise for Torrance Airport noise control in several publications.

22c. Councilman Rossberg MOVED Council support of Airport Manager Critchfield's efforts re: Reeves Field. The motion was seconded by Mayor Armstrong. There were no objections, and it was so ordered.

22d. Mayor Armstrong reminded all present of the Armed Forces Day Parade on Saturday, May 19th.

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ITEM NO. 14 - EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 10:05 P.M. the Council recessed for the purpose of an Executive Session to consider (1) hours, wages and working conditions, and (2) in joint session as Council/Agency to discuss pending litigation.

The Council returned at 11:45 P.M., and took the following action:

MOTION: Councilman Applegate moved to adjourn to May 16, 1979, at 5:00 P.M. to continue the Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Councilman Brown, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable (Councilman Wilson absent).

Formal adjournment was at 11:46 P.M.

* * * * *

Sheri L. Nelson
City Clerk Of the City of Torrance

James R. Armstrong
Mayor of the City of Torrance