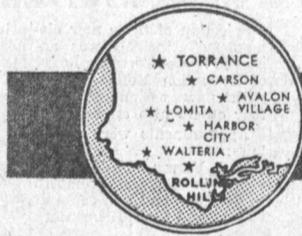


# Council Vindicates Lynn of All Charges

24-Hour  
Want Ad Service  
DA 5-1515



THE PRESS IS THE HOME-OWNED NEWSPAPER OF TORRANCE

## TORRANCE PRESS

3238 SEPULVEDA BLVD., TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA

Inside the Press

Classified ..... 6-8B  
Sports ..... 6A  
Darlene Cope ..... 6A  
TV Log ..... 7A  
TV Highlights ..... 6A  
Women ..... 1B  
Ben Wallace ..... 3B

VOLUME XIII, NUMBER 23

SUNDAY, JULY 9, 1961

10c A COPY



CONGRATULATIONS — Councilman George Vico here congratulates former Public Works Director Wade Peebles on his appointment to the vacant position of city manager Wednesday night. Peebles gained the

position on a 4-3 vote of the council. His first official action after being named to the post was to appoint John Bramhall, who had served as acting city manager during the interim period, as assistant city manager.

# City Manager's Post Awarded to Peebles

## Phone Threats Reported as Council Votes

Wade Peebles, former director of public works for the city of Torrance, became city manager Wednesday night after councilmen told of telephoned threats against them and their families if they named him to the post.

Motion to place Peebles in the long-empty position was made by Councilman George Vico who, two weeks ago, refused to break a 3-3 deadlock on the council by abstaining from voting on a similar motion.

Councilman George Bradford hurriedly seconded the motion. Bradford was also a recipient of telephonic threats. Peebles was voted into office by a 4-3 majority with affirmative votes cast by Mayor Albert Isen and Councilmen Victor Benstead, Bradford and Vico.

### OPPOSITION

Opposed to the appointment were Councilmen Willy Blount, J. A. Beasley and Nickolas Drale.

Beasley extended his sympathies to the new city manager, noting that his slight edge in council support might make things difficult for him. "I don't deny that Peebles might be the best man for the job," Beasley stated, "I

just feel that the other candidates for the position should have been screened thoroughly to see if there was a better."

Immediately following the close of the meeting Peebles named John Bramhall, who had served as acting city manager during the interim period, to the post of assistant city manager.

### POST OPEN

Both positions had been open since the resignation of former city manager George Stevens and former assistant city manager Chapman, Bone six weeks ago.

Vico, in making the motion to appoint Peebles, stated that he had been warned in an anonymous telephone call not to vote for "a certain person."

Vico, who is 6'2" and weighs in excess of 200 pounds, didn't seem particularly concerned at the threat.



RESCUE RUN—Members of the fire department's rescue unit Thursday answered a call to 23817 Park Ave. in Welteria to give emergency treatment to an unconscious woman. Promptly answering the summons firemen

used resuscitator before transferring her to a local hospital. Later identified as Mrs. Betty Balin, 28, of the above address, she regained consciousness at Little Company of Mary Hospital.

### COMPLETE VINDICATION . . .

## 'Preferential Treatment' Charge Dropped As City Council Action Clears Bert Lynn

Charges that city planning commission president Bert Lynn had received "preferential treatment" from other city departments were dropped Wednesday night at a special hearing before the city council.

Lynn was supported by heads of public works and building departments when he stated that he had been told that the ordinance under which the city was trying to collect an approximate \$250 in sewer fees allegedly due, was discrimi-

natory and unconstitutional. Stating that the entire issue had been developed as an attack on his candidacy for the school board, a position he subsequently won, Lynn demanded "complete vindication" from the charges.

### PRINCIPLE

The \$250 supposedly due was not an important issue, Lynn said. He opposed in principle paying the bill in order to placate the "frustrated individual" who had brought the charges.

Lynn stated that he would donate the \$250 in

books on "Americanism and the American way of life" to a Torrance library in order to prove that the issue was one of principle only.

Following the council's decision to drop the charges it moved and passed a vote of confidence in Lynn, noting his many contributions to the community and the uncounted hours of time that he had readily volunteered for the city's betterment.

Decision brought a round of applause from the standing-room-only audience.



IMPASSIONED PLEA—A complete vindication from all charges was given Bert Lynn, president of the city's planning commission, Wednesday night after Lynn appeared before the city council to plead his case. Heads of city departments backed up his statements

that no fees were due on buildings erected by Lynn at the corner of Torrance and Henrietta St. Commission president noted that the charges were "dreamed up" to hamper his campaign for election to the school board.

### EDITORIAL . . .

## Threats Ignored as Council Votes Issue

Torrance city councilmen deservedly have earned the admiration of their constituency following their rebuff of attempts to intimidate them Wednesday night.

Councilman George Bradford, during a lull between two of the more hotly contested issues on the evening's agenda, noted that he had received two phone calls from anonymous persons during the day.

The first call flatly told him "don't show up for tonight's meeting," while the second threatened physical violence to himself and his family if he (1) voted to rezone the controversial Marble Estates tract from industrial to residential use, and (2) if he voted to place Public Works Director Wade Peebles in the now vacant city manager's post.

### WRONG VOTE

A second councilman, George Vico, immediately reported that he, too, had received a threatening call on the subject of Peebles' candidacy for the top administrative post of the city. He promptly moved that Peebles receive the position, Bradford seconded the motion, and the motion passed 4-3 with Mayor Albert Isen and Councilman Victor Benstead providing the needed majority.

Vico had previously found himself in the position of breaking a 3-3 tie for Peebles' appointment, but had declined to vote, stating "he wanted more time to think about it."

It is to the everlasting credit of these men that they did not allow themselves to be swayed by this kind of threat. Recognized, ninety five percent of these kinds of calls are made by the "crackpot" or the "crank." But that other five percent can look mighty large when it involves the safety of your family and yourself!

These men are to be congratulated for placing their duty to the people of Torrance before their desire to protect their families from abuse.

## Jail Sentences For Pair

A Torrance couple Thursday received 90-day jail sentences after being convicted of petty theft and narcotics addiction charges.

The 26 year old man, his wife, 22, were previously booked on burglary and grand theft charges. They are Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Hlavaty, of 1879 Lomita Blvd.

Pair were sentenced after they pleaded guilty of the lesser charge in the court of Judge Otto B. Willett of South Bay Municipal Court. A third suspect, Ronald Ricks, 27, of San Pedro, pleaded innocent to the charges and his trial was set for August 2 in South Bay Municipal Court. Both Ricks and Hlavaty are on parole for previous convictions.

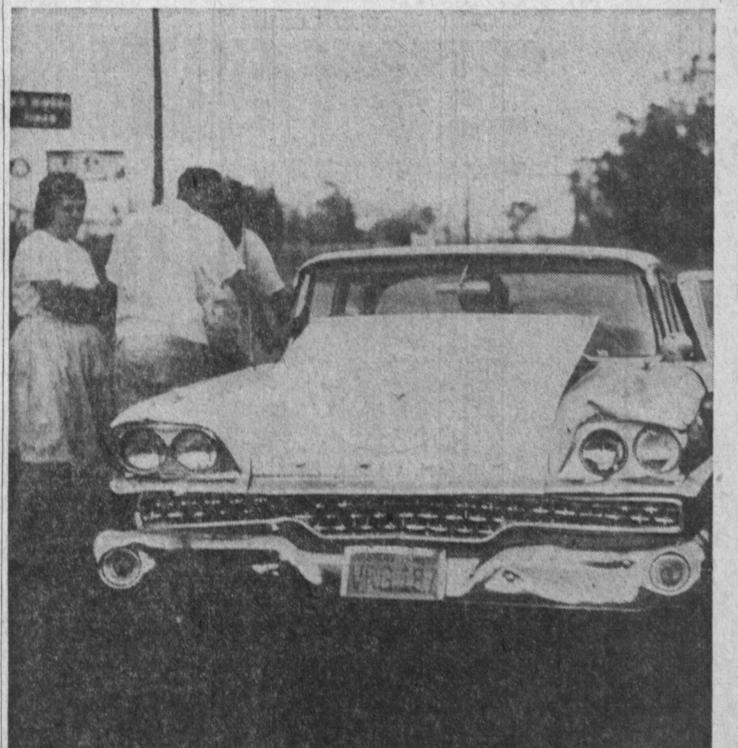
### COMMERCE IS GROWING . . .

## Chamber of Commerce Lists Sixty-Three Firms Open for Business in Torrance

For the second period in a row the number of new businesses locating in Torrance outnumber the number of firms closing their door by a 3-1 majority, according to information released yesterday by the Torrance Chamber of Commerce.

New businesses listed in the period between May 15 and June 30 include:

A & A Shoe Repair, 2123 W. 182nd St.; Ellis Albertson, barber, 2756 Sepulveda; American Automatic Foods, 1739 W. 213th St.; A. H. Anderson, 819 Border; Automotive Electronics Specialties, 1745 Border; Bay Aero Radio Service, 3103 Pacific Coast Highway; Bay Area Flight Service, 3013 Pacific Coast Highway; Beefeaters Mart, 3939 Artesia; Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Bellaart, apartments, 5323 Ruby St.; June Ann Bogardus Foster Home, 5402 Via Del Valle; Burgunder Jewelers, 5011 Pacific Coast Highway; Calabro Realty, 23252 Roberts Road; Checker Board Cleaners, 23641 Arlington; Consolidated Missile Division, Coast Spar Milling, (Continued on Page A-3)



FENDER BANGER—A jurisdictional problem between Torrance police and sheriff's deputies developed Thursday evening when a minor accident occurred exactly on the dividing line of the two districts. City limit line runs down the center of Western Ave. on the

east side of Torrance. Accident took place in the exact center of Sepulveda and Western intersection. Local police answered the call first, finally turned issue over to deputies for disposition.