

Torrance, California
April 7, 1931.

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF TORRANCE.

The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Torrance, was held in the Council Chambers at Torrance, California, April 7th., 1931, and was called to order at 7:45 P. M. by Mayor Dennis.

The following Trustees were present: Trustees: Bell, Nelson, Smith, Steiner and Dennis.

Absent: Trustees: None.

Trustee Steiner moved that the minutes of the regular meeting of March 17th., 1931, be adopted.

Trustee Nelson seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Clerk Bartlett read a communication from Mr. J. W. Leech, Sec'y. of the Torrance Kiwanis Club, under date of April 7th., 1931, addressed to the City Trustees, enclosing letter from the Hermosa Beach Kiwanis Club with reference to installing a flasher light or stop signal at the intersection of Redondo-Riverside Boulevard and Prairie Avenue.

Engineer Leonard stated that the statement made in the letter that the south half of this intersection is in the City of Torrance, is wrong, as none of it is in Torrance.

Trustee Steiner moved that the City Engineer be instructed to get in touch with the proper authorities in regard to the matter.

Trustee Smith seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Clerk Bartlett read a communication from the Title Insurance & Trust Company, under date of March 21st., 1931, addressed to Mr. F. R. Leonard, City Engineer, quoting a price of (\$1665.00) for a Condemnation Guarantee for the contemplated improvement along Sepulveda Boulevard.

Engineer Leonard submitted plan of the proposed Sepulveda Boulevard improvement project and stated that there are approximately (131) different parcels in the improvement and this will average \$12.00 or \$13.00 for each certification. It is necessary that the City have this done as soon as possible in order that work may be started by late summer. It is essential that as quick action as possible be taken by the Council and this matter be disposed of. Engineer Leonard stated that this is part of the incidental expense to be borne by the property owners. In this case the City would have to advance the money until the contract is let.

Trustee Steiner moved that the Engineer be instructed to proceed.

Trustee Smith seconded the motion, which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: TRUSTEES: Bell, Nelson, Smith, Steiner and Dennis.
NOES: " None.
ABSENT: " None.

Clerk Bartlett read a copy of a communication from the Los Angeles County Road Department, under date of April 3rd., 1931, addressed to Mary E. Doherty, 610 Commercial Exchange Bldg., Los

Angeles, with reference to the improvement or abandonment of streets in Tract No. 10321.

Trustee Steiner moved that this matter be laid over till the next regular meeting.

Trustee Smith seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Clerk Bartlett read two communications from Mrs. Mary E. Worthen, 24265 Park Street, WALTERIA, under dates of April 2nd., and 6th., 1931, in which she complained of the condition of the water in WALTERIA, and asked that the Council find a remedy for it.

Mr. Quandt in the audience stated that someone had complained of the water and he referred them to the Health Department, as he thought the water was O. K.

Trustee Smith moved that this matter be deferred to the Health Department.

Trustee Bell seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Clerk Bartlett read a petition asking that the Council call a Special Election for the purpose of voting upon a bond issue not to exceed \$150,000.00 to be used for the purchase and improvement of a public park in Torrance. Clerk Bartlett stated that this petition had been signed by approximately (300) people but that he did not have time to check the names over as it had been filed at 7: P. M. this evening.

Trustee Steiner stated that the cost of an election is not very great, and it would be a good way of finding out whether or not a park is really desired in Torrance, so moved that the following resolution be adopted, declaring public interest and necessity require such a park and bond election.

RESOLUTION NO. 492.

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE DECLARING AND DETERMINING THAT THE PUBLIC INTEREST AND NECESSITY DEMAND THE ACQUISITION, CONSTRUCTION AND COMPLETION OF PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS WITHIN THE CITY OF TORRANCE AND THAT THE COST OF SAME WILL BE TOO GREAT TO BE PAID OUT OF THE ORDINARY ANNUAL INCOME AND REVENUE OF SAID CITY.

Trustee Nelson seconded the motion, which was duly carried by the following roll call vote :

AYES: TRUSTEES: Bell, Nelson, Smith, Steiner and Dennis.
NOES: " None.
ABSENT: " None.

Clerk Bartlett read a petition asking that the Council take no action in promoting a Municipal Bus System. Clerk Bartlett stated that this petition was filed in his office at 4:45 P. M. this afternoon and was signed by approximately (512) people.

Trustee Steiner moved that this petition be filed for future reference.

Trustee Bell seconded the motion, which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: TRUSTEES: Bell, Nelson, Smith, Steiner and Dennis.
NOES: " None.
ABSENT: " None.

Clerk Bartlett read a communication which was signed by (40) residents of North Lomita, asking that certain persons be appointed to serve on the North Lomita Annexation Election Board, May 26th., 1931.

Trustee Steiner moved that the request be granted.

Trustee Bell seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Attorney Briney reported with reference to the Water Suit, that a conference had been held yesterday between the Attorneys in the case. Mr. Steary who has been objecting to the inclusion of Mr. Dillings name in the petition finally consented to leaving it there after the conference yesterday, but did want another paragraph added to it. This was to be written by the 8th. and the petition will probably be filed not later than Thursday with one exception, that if Mr. Steary is called to Arizona Thursday the petition will not be filed until next Monday.

After discussing this matter, it was the consensus of the Council

that if the petition was not filed by Monday the 13th of April, 1931, steps would be taken to employ other attorneys.

Attorney Briney stated that he would be able to report by next Monday.

Trustee Bell introduced:

ORDINANCE NO. 217.

LICENSE ORDINANCE WHICH REPEALS ORDINANCES NOS. 110 & 151.

Trustee Smith called attention to the fact that the Fire Department Ordinance has become a law, and in that it stated that the City Council should appoint a Chief, so moved that Mr. B. F. Hannebrink be appointed as Chief of the Torrance Fire Department.

Trustee Steiner seconded the motion, which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: TRUSTEES: Bell, Nelson, Smith, Steiner and Dennis.
NOES: " None.
ABSENT: " None.

Trustee Bell introduced:

ORDINANCE NO. 218.

CALLING A SPECIAL ANNEXATION ELECTION FOR MAY 26TH., 1931.

Clerk Bartlett again reported that he had checked all the names on the petition with the Great Registrar and finds more than 25% of the registered voters in that district to have their genuine signatures appended to the petitions.

At 9:05 P. M. Trustee Smith was excused from the meeting.

Attorney Briney reported with reference to the application for street crossings, and stated that about a year ago the City applied for a one year extension of time to finish work on some street crossing, and since our last meeting the time has run out. He has again made application to the Railroad Commission and asked for two years extension of time, but has not heard from them as yet.

Attorney Briney reported that he had received a letter from the General Petroleum Corporation stating that they were looking into the matter of the extension of Prairie Avenue, and were taking it up with the Dominguez Land Corporation. He expects to hear from them again in a few days.

Attorney Briney stated that he had nothing to report with reference to the payment of hydrant installation in WALTERIA, and asked that the matter be laid over till the next regular meeting.

Engineer Leonard stated that he had not heard from the Pacific Electric with reference to the extension of their line on Redondo Blvd.

Trustee Steiner asked that a stenographer be hired to help in the Engineering Department, as there is a great deal of work.

Engineer Leonard stated that the volume of work at present requires another stenographer and he believed this could be paid for out of the County Employment Fund.

Mayor Dennis stated that he would be in favor of hiring another stenographer only for the emergency work.

Trustee Steiner moved that the Engineer be instructed to employ a stenographer, to be paid out of the County Fund.

Trustee Bell seconded the motion, which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: TRUSTEES: Bell, Nelson, Steiner and Dennis.
NOES: " None.
ABSENT: " Smith.

Trustee Steiner moved that the City Clerk be authorized to get an estimate for repairing the ceiling in the Council Chambers, also for an extension to the sleeping quarters down stairs in the Fire Department.

Trustee Bell seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Trustee Steiner moved that the Street Superintendent, be authorized to purchase a mowing machine, as the old one is worn out. Trustee Bell seconded the motion, which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: TRUSTEES: Bell, Nelson, Steiner and Dennis.
NOES: " None.
ABSENT: " Smith.

Trustee Steiner stated that he had a request from a resident at 1551 Post Avenue for the removal of a large pepper tree in front of her place that shades her yard and she is unable to grow any flowers.

Trustee Bell moved that the request be rejected, and stated that many requests of the same nature have been refused, and if one is granted the Council will have to grant them all.

Trustee Steiner seconded the motion, which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: TRUSTEES: Bell, Nelson, Steiner and Dennis,
NOES: " None.
ABSENT: " Smith.

Trustee Nelson brought up the subject of an oil derrick located on Sonoma Street which is very dangerous.

Engineer Leonard reported that he had written the Southern Midway Oil Company, calling attention to the violation of our ordinance, and he has not as yet heard from them, but expects to in a few days.

Engineer Leonard called the Council's attention to locating a blinker at the crossing of Western Avenue on the east side of El Prado, and stated that before the crossing was put in an intermitting blinker was removed. The blinker was originally installed by the Automobile Club, and in this case it will cost \$35.00 for replacement of one similar. Engineer Leonard stated that he had taken this matter up with the County with the object in view of endeavoring to have this expense met by the County who were responsible for removing the safety light, however, in case the County would not agree to furnish the blinker a resolution should be passed so that one might be placed. He also believed a fence should be erected to keep cars from going off the road at this point as he stated this was a very dangerous place especially in a fog.

Trustee Steiner moved that the City Clerk be instructed to purchase a blinker light and cause same to be installed on the east side of El Prado facing north on Western Avenue.

Trustee Bell seconded the motion, which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: TRUSTEES: Bell, Nelson, Steiner and Dennis,
NOES: " None.
ABSENT: " Smith.

Clerk Bartlett read a telegram from Carl Hyde, Sacramento, California, under date of April 7th., 1931, stating that he had succeeded in redraft of Assembly Bill 211 permitting county aid for parks, and asking that Council urge passage of this bill by wiring Assemblyman James Reid.

Trustee Steiner moved that the Mayor be authorized to reply to this telegram by wiring Assemblyman James Reid.

Trustee Bell seconded the motion, which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: TRUSTEES: Bell, Nelson, Steiner and Dennis.
NOES: " None.
ABSENT: " Smith.

Trustee Nelson moved that all bills, properly audited, be paid. Trustee Bell seconded the motion, which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: TRUSTEES: Bell, Nelson, Steiner and Dennis.
NOES: " None.
ABSENT: " Smith.

Trustee Nelson asked that the Street Department think about numbering the blocks, putting the numbers on a post or by the names of the streets on the curbs.

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 P. M.

A. H. Bartlett
City Clerk of the City of Torrance

Approved:

John Dennis
Mayor of the City of Torrance.