

Torrance, California.
February 25, 1936.

5040V

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

The City Council of the City of Torrance convened in a regular meeting in the Council Chambers, City Hall, Torrance, California, on Tuesday, February 25, 1936 at 7:45 P.M.

Mayor Ludlow called the meeting to order.

Clerk Bartlett called the roll, those answering present being: Councilmen: Hitchcock, Klusman, Stanger, Tolson and Ludlow. Absent: None.

Upon motion of Councilman Hitchcock, seconded by Councilman Stanger, the minutes of the regular meeting held February 11, 1936 and the minutes of the adjourned regular meeting held February 18, 1936 (which latter were read) were approved as written.

COMMUNICATIONS

Protest from ten persons, objecting to use of Lot 1, Block 32, Torrance Tract as a playground. The matter was referred to the Recreation Director, Councilman Tolson, for investigation and report, together with Councilman Stanger, Police Commissioner.

Communication from the Associated Public Utilities Corporation, Columbus, Ohio, returning check for \$185.03 sent them on January 16th. and stating their legal opinion as to further amount due them in settlement of claims covering water served in the Shoe String Strip of Los Angeles City.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that this communication be referred to the City Attorney for investigation and report at the next meeting for further action by the Council. Councilman Stanger seconded the motion, which was carried.

Communication from the County Public Library regarding annual budget and asking if Board of Library Trustees desires to enter into contract with the County for the fiscal year 1936-37, and for what amount.

After some discussion, Clerk Bartlett was instructed to write Miss Vogelsson, stating that it is the intention and desire of the present Board to enter into the contract, but that the incoming Board cannot be bound by those now in office. He was also instructed to ask Miss Vogelsson to meet with the Board to discuss the amount of the contract and any other matters which might come up.

Communication from Mr. John Fess, submitting application for position as custodian of the public buildings of the City of Torrance. Placed on file for future reference.

Communication from League of California Municipalities, reporting meeting held February 15 and 16 in San Francisco. Filed.

Communication from National Supply Company, quoting on Valdura aluminum paint and offering an attractive price concession.

After some discussion, Councilman Tolson moved that advantage be taken of this offer. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, Klusman, Stanger, Tolson and Ludlow. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: None.

Communication from Taylor & Taylor regarding non-compliance with specifications and plans in the installation of the booster plants and particularly in regard to eccentric reducers.

Councilman Stanger moved that this communication be filed. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried.

Communication from Taylor & Taylor referring to Mr. Schruth's statement that change orders will require the comments of the consulting engineers before he can pass on them.

Engineer Leonard suggested that he be permitted to take this matter up personally with Mr. Schruth and report back at the next Council meeting.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that Engineer Leonard contact Mr. Schruth in regard to this matter. Councilman Tolson seconded the motion, which was carried.

Clerk Bartlett requested permission to purchase 310 feet of 18" casing for overflow system on Cedar Avenue.

Engineer Leonard stated that funds for this expenditure would come from the \$40,000 water bond reserve.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that an appropriation be made for the purchase of the 310 feet of casing. Councilman Stanger seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, Klusman, Stanger, Tolson and Ludlow. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: None.

At 8:45 P.M. Engineer Leonard requested that the regular order of business be waived to permit two W.P.A. representatives to present a matter for the consideration of the Council. He then introduced Mr. Grayson and Mr. Chambers, who were seated in the audience.

Mr. Frank W. Chambers explained that it was desired to start a W.P.A. garden project on about 50 acres of ground near the C.C.M.O. property, to employ about 250 men for 120 hours per month, at \$55.00 cash per month. He stated that the workers must be relief cases, but that age or physical condition would not bar them from the work. He then explained that the land is donated and that the government pays the salaries, but that it is desired that the City of Torrance furnish the water, stating that the approximate expense would be \$18.00 per acre per year for water.

Attorney Rippe stated that a new law passed in 1935 would no doubt permit the City to take care of indigents in this manner.

Attorney Rippe was instructed to contact Mr. Chambers as soon as he determined definitely in regard to the legality of the City furnishing the water for this project.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that Mr. Chambers be notified by letter to proceed with this project as soon as Mr. Rippe's legal opinion is rendered. Councilman Tolson seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, Klusman, Stanger, Tolson and Ludlow. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: None.

At 9 P.M. the regular order of business was resumed.

Clerk Bartlett asked if the Council desired any propositions to be placed on the ballot for the coming general election, other than the matter already presented regarding the Board of Freeholders.

After some discussion, Councilman Stanger moved that the City Clerk be authorized to include in his notice of election a proposition to be known as Proposition No. 1, submitting to the electors the question of whether or not the City Councilmen should be paid the sum of \$50.00 per month for their services, the proposition to be drafted by the City Attorney and to be included on the ballot to be submitted at the general municipal election on April 14, 1936.

Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, Klusman, Stanger, Tolson and Ludlow. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: None.

Clerk Bartlett also requested that the twelve precincts be used for the general election in April. Councilman Klusman moved that this request be granted. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried. The Clerk was instructed to so proceed, and to check with the City Attorney if necessary.

Attorney Rippe presented and read in full:

RESOLUTION NO. 838

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY
OF TORRANCE REPEALING RESOLUTION NO. 837

Councilman Hitchcock moved that Resolution No. 838 be adopted. Councilman Stanger seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, Klusman, Stanger, Tolson and Ludlow. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: None.

Attorney Rippy presented and read in full:

RESOLUTION NO. 839

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY
OF TORRANCE REPEALING RESOLUTION NO. 834

Councilman Klusman moved that Resolution No. 839 be adopted. Councilman Stanger seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, Klusman, Stanger, Tolson and Ludlow. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: None.

Attorney Rippy presented and read in full:

RESOLUTION NO. 840

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY
OF TORRANCE REQUESTING INCREASE IN GRANT ON
CITY HALL AND JAIL BUILDING AND RECOMMENDING
APPROVAL OF THE FEDERAL EMERGENCY ADMINISTRATION
OF PUBLIC WORKS OF REALLOCATION AND DISBURSEMENT
OF SAID INCREASE GRANT AND BOND FUNDS FOR
CONSTRUCTION OF SAID BUILDING

Councilman Stanger moved that Resolution No. 840 be adopted. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, Klusman, Stanger, Tolson and Ludlow. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: None.

Attorney Rippy presented and read in full:

RESOLUTION NO. 841

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY
OF TORRANCE APPROVING ADDENDA SPECIFICATIONS
TO CITY HALL AND JAIL BUILDING, PUBLIC ASSEMBLY
HALL BUILDING AND PUBLIC LIBRARY BUILDING

Councilman Tolson moved that Resolution No. 841 be adopted. Councilman Klusman seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, Klusman, Stanger, Tolson and Ludlow. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: None.

Attorney Rippy presented and read in full:

RESOLUTION NO. 842

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PUBLICATION OF
NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

Councilman Stanger moved that Resolution No. 842 be adopted. Councilman Tolson seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, Klusman, Stanger, Tolson and Ludlow. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: None.

Attorney Rippy presented and read in full:

RESOLUTION NO. 843

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY
OF TORRANCE APPROVING PROJECT STATEMENT #2
DATED FEBRUARY 21, 1936, FOR IMPROVEMENT OF
CABRILLO AVENUE AND AUTHORIZING ITS
EXECUTION AND DELIVERY

Councilman Klusman moved that Resolution No. 843 be adopted. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, Klusman, Stanger, Tolson and Ludlow. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: None.

Attorney Rippy presented and read in full:

RESOLUTION NO. 844

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY
OF TORRANCE REQUESTING APPROVAL OF CHANGE
ORDER FOR AERATION SYSTEM IN CONNECTION WITH
UNIT C, P.W.A. DOCKET 6081.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that Resolution No. 844 be adopted. Councilman Klusman seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, Klusman, Stanger, Tolson and Ludlow. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: None.

Attorney Rippy reported on the matter previously referred to him in regard to a question raised by the League of California Municipalities as to business license fees for merchants in the city and those coming into the city from outside. He stated that it is possible to discriminate more or less between local merchants and outsiders providing their method of doing business is different (for example, using delivery wagons), but that no discrimination now exists in the Torrance ordinance.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the City Clerk be authorized to furnish the League of California Municipalities with information regarding business license fees for merchants in town and those coming into town from outside. Councilman Stanger seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, Klusman, Stanger, Tolson and Ludlow. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: None.

Engineer Leonard reported that some of the cocos plumosa trees had already been placed by the Lomita Garden Club along the State Highway in Torrance.

Councilman Stanger reported progress on license fee collections.

Councilman Stanger reported that 45-minute parking signs could be purchased at approximately \$2.50 each, and he moved that the signs be purchased and placed on the light posts. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, Klusman, Stanger, Tolson and Ludlow. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: None.

Councilman Stanger stated that attorneys at the meeting of the League of California Municipalities had stated that a city would be responsible for accidents caused by pipe lying along the sidewalks or by broken sidewalks. Attorney Rippy expressed the opinion that the city might be liable in such a case, but that the city would have recourse and could collect damages from the contractor directly responsible for the accident.

Attorney Rippy was requested to check into this matter and report.

Councilman Stanger stated that the smooth sidewalk in front of the A. & P. Store on Sartori Avenue is dangerous, and that he had seen three persons fall there during a recent rainstorm.

The Street Commissioner was instructed to have this sidewalk made safe as soon as possible.

Councilman Tolson reported progress in the Recreation Department.

Councilman Stanger called attention to the stop sign desired at the west side of Torrance Boulevard and the south side of Border Avenue (at Mullins' Service Station).

Attorney Rippy stated that he would bring in the ordinance covering this stop sign for second reading at the next Council meeting.

Mayor Ludlow asked Engineer Leonard about the \$5000.00 expected from Supervisor John Quinn, regarding the improvement of Cabrillo Ave.

Engineer Leonard stated that he had talked with Mr. Quinn, who had stated that the Board of Supervisors would meet on Monday, March 2, 1936.

Engineer Leonard also reported that he had been informed that Curtis had been the low bidder on the Cedar Avenue improvement, that the bid had been approved and sent on to Washington, and that a report from Washington was expected within a short time.

Mayor Ludlow expressed the opinion that investigation should be made as to suitable rules and regulations governing the use of the public assembly hall.

Clerk Bartlett was instructed to communicate with other small cities and request information as to what rules they have.

Mayor Ludlow stated that he believed that the Board of Fire Insurance Underwriters should be approached in regard to reduction in rates in Torrance.

Mayor Ludlow moved that the City Clerk be instructed to get in touch with the Board of Fire Underwriters and request them to meet with the City Council for the purpose of discussing rate reduction. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, Klusman, Stanger, Tolson and Ludlow. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: None.

Mayor Ludlow presented a letter from Assistant Engineer Summers with reference to turning the water into the distribution mains of the water system.

After discussion by the City Council, Councilman Tolson moved that the letter and matter be referred to the City Engineer for recommendation as to the time the water should be turned into the system. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that all bills properly audited be paid. Councilman Stanger seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, Klusman, Stanger, Tolson and Ludlow. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: None.

At 9:45 P.M., upon motion of Councilman Hitchcock, seconded by Councilman Stanger, the meeting adjourned to Friday, February 28, 1936 at 7:30 P.M.

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

Approved:

J. P. Ludlow
Mayor of the City of Torrance.