

Torrance, California
May 10, 1938

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 Chamber, City Hall, Torrance, California, on Tuesday evening, May 10, 1938 at 7:45 p.m.

Mayor Tolson called the meeting to order.

Clerk Bartlett called the roll, those answering present being Councilmen: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. Absent: Councilmen: None.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the minutes of a regular meeting held April 26, 1938 be approved as written. Councilman McGuire seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS

A communication from the City of Pomona was read, extending an invitation to the dinner meeting of the Los Angeles County League of Municipalities, to be held in Pomona May 19, 1938. Those desiring to attend the meeting are to notify Clerk Bartlett so that reservations can be made.

A communication from the Torrance Chamber of Commerce was read, commending the Council on its action in appointing Leonard J. Young as Acting City Engineer, and urging that Mr. Young be considered favorably for appointment as City Engineer.

A communication from the Bert S. Crossland Post #170 was read, requesting permission to erect and operate fireworks booths in the City of Torrance on July 1, 2, 3 and 4th.

Councilman McGuire moved that the request be granted. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication from the Bible Institute of Los Angeles was read, asking the cooperation of the Council in allowing a Gospel truck to appear on pre-determined street corners in the City.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the request be granted. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication from Mr. and Mrs. J.A. Young was read, requesting the removal of two pepper trees at 1691 and 1695 Gramercy Avenue.

Councilman McGuire moved that the matter be referred to the Street Department. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication from Mrs. Lela Gonner was read, in which she claimed that a large and very beautiful tree on her property had been mutilated by the Associated Telephone Company of Long Beach in trimming the tree for clearing telephone wires through. She was under the impression that a permit had been issued by the City of Torrance for this work and asked that a letter be written her expressing approval or disapproval of the way the tree was trimmed.

Councilman Hitchcock stated that, upon investigation, he had found the tree had been greatly damaged by the careless trimming. He stated that a permit may have been issued for enough trimming to allow the wires to go through, but that no permit covered such ruthless mutilation of property.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the City Clerk be authorized to write a letter to Mrs. Gonner, stating that the Council does not approve of the manner in which the tree was trimmed. Councilman Murray seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication from Mr. W.A. Birchler was read, requesting permission to operate a fireworks stand at 23925 Narbonne Avenue.

Councilman McGuire moved that the request be granted. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication from Leonard Babcock, District Commissioner of Boy Scouts, was read, urging completion of plans for erection of a swimming pool in Torrance.

Councilman Powell moved that the communication be filed.

Councilman Murray moved the matter be referred to the Engineering Department for report and recommendation at the next meeting.

Councilman Powell withdrew his motion and seconded Councilman Murray's motion, which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Murray suggested that representatives of various organizations, or anyone who may be interested, meet with the City Engineer and offer suggestions on maintenance cost of recreational appliances.

Two communications of similar nature, signed by Abe Phillips and Thomas Ford, were read. These communications requested permission to operate draw poker card houses in the City of Torrance.

Councilman Powell moved that the requests be denied. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Clerk Bartlett reported general tax collections amounting to \$33814.36.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read in full:

RESOLUTION NO. 1183

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY ENGINEER AND CITY ATTORNEY TO PREPARE A FORMAL APPLICATION TO THE WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION FOR AN ALLOTMENT OF FUNDS FOR THE FOLLOWING PROJECT PROPOSAL.

Mr. Young stated that the set up is for about 40 men, who will be used mainly to clean up parkings and landscape the property recently annexed to the City Yard site.

Councilman Powell moved that Resolution No. 1183 be adopted. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mr. Young advised that he and Captain J.H. Stroh had investigated the location desired by the Harbor Rifle and Pistol Club for a range, and that, if a bond could be provided to absolve the city from any responsibility, he would recommend that the request be granted.

Mr. Young reported that his investigation of the corner at 182nd and Hawthorne Avenue disclosed that a sodium vapor light would be very desirable at that location, and that he had advised Mr. Bundy to that effect.

Mr. Young reported, in the matter of the request for a fire hydrant on Emerald Street near the Felker Manufacturing Company, it developed that the pipe line belonging to Dominguez Water Corporation is on private property, therefore the City could not pay hydrant rental. He had taken up the matter with Mr. Tallon of the Dominguez Water Corporation, who promised to write Mr. Young of the decision of his company as to placing a hydrant on the street.

Mr. Young advised the Council that a program must be outlined for expenditure of 1/4-cent gas tax fund on major highways and mailed to the State Highways Office before June 1, 1938.

It seems that the highways which it is desired to improve have Pacific Electric right-of-ways along them, which the Pacific Electric Railway Company no longer use, but which said company will not relinquish to the City of Torrance.

After a great deal of discussion, Councilman Hitchcock moved that the State Highway Office be notified that the Council is not ready to adopt a budget at this time, but would submit a project statement calling for accumulation of funds as provided by Section 200 of the Code to comply with the other requirements of the law.

Mr. Young read a letter received from the State Department of Public Works requesting that the expenditure of \$100.00 for maintenance of warning and directional signs on the state highway routes within the City of Torrance for the 1937-38 biennium be approved.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that this expenditure be approved. Councilman McGuire seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Upon being informed by Mr. Young that Hawthorne Avenue, from Redondo Riverside Boulevard to State Highway 101 should be re-stripped, Councilman Hitchcock moved that \$150.00 be appropriated for this purpose. Councilman Murray seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, Murray, McGuire, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Attorney McCall presented for second reading and read in full:

ORDINANCE NO. 303

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE REGULATING PLUMBING AND REPEALING THAT PORTION OF PARAGRAPH 70 OF SECTION 12 OF ORDINANCE NO. 235 WHICH REFERS TO PLUMBING CONTRACTORS, ALSO THAT PORTION OF SECTION 3 OF ORDINANCE NO. 259 WHICH REFERS TO JOURNEYMEN PLUMBERS, AND READS "OR A BONA FIDE RESIDENT OWNER OF A HOME IN WHICH PLUMBING IS BEING OR TO BE DONE," AND ALSO REPEALING SECTION 5 OF ORDINANCE NO. 259.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that Ordinance No. 303 be adopted for final reading. Councilman McGuire seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that not to exceed \$80.00 be appropriated for improving Greenwood Avenue. Councilman McGuire seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Upon recommendation of Mr. Young, Councilman Hitchcock moved that Mr. Glenn M. Jain be appointed as Assistant City Engineer at a salary of \$150.00 per month, to begin May 16, 1938. Councilman McGuire seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None..

Mayor Tolson moved that the payment of the fire insurance premium on the Administration Building, amounting to \$192.10 be authorized. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor Tolson moved that an appropriation of \$200.00, for payment of the bonds of the City Treasurer and City Clerk, be authorized. Councilman Murray seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the persons having in their possession a bass violin belonging to the City of Torrance be notified to return said violin to the City. Councilman Murray seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Attorney McCall reported that, after a careful examination of the statutes, he had failed to find any method or procedure whereby the city could put in sidewalks without the consent of the property owners whose property would be affected by such action.

Councilman Powell moved that a refund of \$100.00 be made to The Texas Company for electrical contractor's fees paid by said company by mistake. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

The matter of music stores paying business licenses was brought up at this time. Councilman Powell stated that he felt the business license ordinance amply covered this situation.

Attorney McCall stated that the question submitted to him was whether or not the fact that a person who is a music teacher has the right to operate a music store, where instruments and sheet music are sold, without a license. He said, in his opinion, the fact that a person operates as a music teacher does not entitle him or her to operate a commercial enterprise without a business license.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that Mr. Gilmeister be requested to attend the Compton Golden Jubilee Celebration to represent Torrance, which function will be held May 19, 20 and 21. Councilman Murray seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$275.00 be made for office equipment for the City Attorney's office. Councilman McGuire seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Upon his question as to how to obtain a fireworks permit, a Mr. A.R. Bratrud was advised to submit a written request giving location of proposed fireworks stand, together with the regular \$12.00 fee.

Mrs. Brown was advised that all records of property owners' addresses are kept in the Engineering Department, and that Mr. Young will be glad to give her any information she may desire so she may contact individual property owners in regard to the desired sidewalks on Cedar Avenue.

She was also advised by Councilman Hitchcock that the palm leaf windbreak would be completed as soon as palm leaves are obtained.

Mr. Scott R. Ludlow pointed out the merits of a swimming pool in Torrance, and assured the Council that his complete cooperation would be given in planning and erecting of same. He strongly urged that everything possible be done to get this project started, advising that many people are interested and would cooperate fully.

Mr. McConlogue, representing the Steel Worker's Union, stated that they were very much in favor of such a project.

Mr. Young stated that, in constructing a swimming pool, there are many things to take into consideration. He said it may take some time to arrive at all the figures and assemble all the data, but that he will go into the matter thoroughly and have a report as soon as possible.

Mr. Powell suggested that some of the Chamber of Commerce advertising fund be used, if possible to do so, in financing a recreation project of this nature.

A communication from Torrance High School requesting that part or all of the rental of the Auditorium be cancelled for the annual junior-senior prom was read.

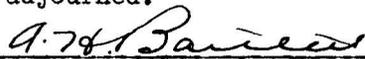
Councilman Hitchcock moved that the request be granted, provided some evening could be arranged when the Auditorium was free. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A Mr. Joe Sandlin, representing the Torrance Merchants Ball Team, asked the cooperation of the Council in allowing said ball team to use the park. He was advised that a meeting is scheduled for the near future for a settlement on the park situation.

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

Mayor Tolson moved that not to exceed \$983.74, including trade-in allowance on 1929 Ford Roadster, be appropriated for the purchase from Ed Thompson of a half ton Chevrolet pick-up truck for the Electrical Department. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

At 9:00 p.m., upon motion of Councilman Hitchcock, seconded by Councilman Murray, the meeting adjourned.



 City Clerk of the City of Torrance

Approved:



 Mayor of the City of Torrance