

Torrance, California
December 13, 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, December 13, 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 November 22, 1938, an Adjourned Regular Meeting held November 23, 1938, a Special Meeting held November 28, 1938, an Adjourned Special Meeting held November 29, 1938 and an Adjourned Meeting of an Adjourned Special Meeting held November 30, 1938 be approved as written. Councilman McGuire seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

A communication was read from John Wright referring to a previous letter he wrote the Council in regard to damages to his automobile.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the City Attorney be authorized to make settlement for an amount not to exceed \$15.00. 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.

A communication was read from the Hollywood Riviera Community Association requesting installation of four overhead street lights at the following locations: (1) On Via Los Miradores between Los Altos and Calle Cabrillo. (2) Near intersection of Paseo de Gracia and Buena Ventura. (3) At intersection of Calle Miramar and Via Bonita. (4) On Via Monte D'Oro immediately across from building housing Fire Engine #3.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the Southern California Edison Company be authorized to install four overhead street lights at the above locations. 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 an appropriation of not to exceed \$106.30 be made for placing heavy screen in all jail windows, upon the recommendation of J.H. Stroh, Director of Public Safety. 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.

A communication was read from General Petroleum Corporation of California, Applying for permit to construct an 18' x 23' 8½" 1000 barrel welded tank.

Upon recommendation of Acting Engineer Young, Councilman Hitchcock moved that the request be granted. Councilman McGuire seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from the Tide Water Associated Oil Company, reporting no receipts or earnings from the use, operation and possession of County of Los Angeles Franchise Ordinance No. 1351 lying within the City of Torrance for the twelve months preceding December 2, 1938. Presented as a matter of record.

A communication was read from C. Earl Conner, expressing appreciation for the attitude shown by the City Council in adjourning their regular meeting of November 22, 1938, date of the dinner meeting held in honor of the newly elected representatives of this Congressional District.

A communication was read from the League of California Municipalities, expressing gratitude for the cooperation of the City of Torrance in accepting a voluntary increase in League dues for 1939.

A communication was read from Southwestern Archeological Federation, approving proposed W.P.A. archeological project at Malaga Cove.

A communication was read from the Torrance Chamber of Commerce referring a request by Mr. Minor of the Walteria Recreation Center to the City Council. It was stated that Mr. Minor had requested an appropriation of \$10.00 per month to cover costs of music, costumes, transportation, etc., for the furtherance of recreational activities in Walteria.

Mr. Riley, Recreation Director, remarked that the activities are conducted by the citizens of Walteria entirely independent of the Recreation Department.

Clerk Bartlett brought up the question of whether or not money could be appropriated for an independent undertaking of this kind. There was some discussion along this line, at which time it was decided that if the program is recognized as an advertising medium, the advertising fund could be used therefor.

Councilman Powell moved that the Chamber of Commerce be notified of the willingness of the City Council to appropriate \$10.00 per month until the end of the fiscal year (June 30, 1939) to help defray expenses of the Walteria Recreation Center, after the matter has been investigated and approved by City Attorney McCall; 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.

A communication was read from Father Fitzgerald of the Church of the Nativity requesting a street light near the entrance of the church.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the matter be referred to the Lighting Committee for investigation. Councilman Murray seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, suggesting that a bulletin board announcing events at the Civic Auditorium would be a pleasing and informative item in acquainting citizens with auditorium activities.

Councilman Murray moved that the matter be referred to the proper committee for investigation and recommendation. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Mrs. Bessie Myers, asking that Lot 9, Block 13, Torrance Tract be rezoned allowing the erection of a residence for two families. The lot is at the present time zoned for one family residence.

Clerk Bartlett advised that proper steps would be to post notices of intention to rezone the lot, allowing proper time for protests, and, if none are presented, to proceed with zoning.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the request for rezoning be complied with. Councilman McGuire seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Dr. O.E. Fossum, applying for a permit to build two two-family residences on Lot 8, Block 29, Torrance Tract.

Upon recommendation of Acting Engineer Young, Councilman Hitchcock moved that the permit be granted. Councilman Murray seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from the Board of Education of the City of Los Angeles, stating that Lot 42, Block 2, Subdivision of Lot 33 of Meadow Park Tract (adjacent to the Walteria School Site) was acquired by Los Angeles City School District by grant deed dated October 24, 1938.

Clerk Bartlett stated that vacation proceedings of the alley had been started previously and abandoned and asked the City Attorney what the next step necessary would be. Mr. McCall replied that the proceedings would have to be started again.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that Attorney McCall be instructed to draw up a Resolution of Intention for presentation at the next meeting. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from the Division of Highways, enclosing a First Supplemental Memorandum of Agreement for expenditures of 1/4-cent gas tax on streets of major importance for the 1939 fiscal year. It was suggested that a resolution for execution of the agreement be adopted and mailed to the Highway office, together with the agreement signed by the proper official.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 1224

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE APPROVING FIRST SUPPLEMENTAL MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT FOR EXPENDITURE OF 1/4 CENT GAS TAX ALLOCATED FOR STREETS OF MAJOR IMPORTANCE.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that Resolution No. 1224 be adopted. 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.

Clerk Bartlett reported tax collections for December 8, 1938 amounting to \$10,202.23, of which \$674.74 was Municipal Water District No. 1 collections.

Clerk Bartlett reported receipt of \$798.09 dividend from the State Compensation Insurance Company.

Clerk Bartlett read a copy of a Resolution of the City of Hawthorne requesting that legislative action be taken to designate the Hawthorne-LaBrea Route as a State Highway.

Attorney McCall reported he had been informed by the

Pacific Electric Railway Company attorney that they expect to deliver a deed to the Torrance Boulevard property by the first of the year.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that not to exceed \$188.00 plus sales tax, be appropriated for 100 barrels road oil. 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 \$89.50 be appropriated for 50 tons #4 rock for street repair. 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 an appropriation of not to exceed \$129.16 be made for 2388 gallons bitumuls for street repair. Councilman Powell 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 reported that he and Mr. Stanger, Manager of the Water Company, had attended a meeting of the Flood Control District. He stated further that the City of Torrance had been asked to appropriate \$10.00 to the Flood Control District program expense.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that an appropriation of \$10.00 be made payable to the Flood Control District. Councilman Powell 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 appointed Mr. Jain, Assistant Engineer, to represent the City of Torrance on the Flood Control Board.

Clerk Bartlett presented Ordinance No. 309 for final reading:

ORDINANCE NO. 309

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING PLANNING COMMISSION
FIXING TERMS OF OFFICE OF MEMBERS AND REPEAL-
ING ORDINANCE NO. 111.

Councilman Powell moved that further reading of Ordinance No. 309 be suspended. Councilman Murray seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Powell moved that Ordinance No. 309 be adopted for final reading. 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.

Mayor Tolson moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$163.97 be made for 252' 4" Cast Iron Pipe and four fittings for the Torrance Municipal Water District No.1 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.

Mayor Tolson moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$134.34 be made for repair parts for the Chlorinator and Ammonia machines. 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.

After some discussion, Mayor Tolson appointed Councilman Powell to represent the City Council at the Coordinating Council meetings.

Mayor Tolson appointed the following Planning Commission members: Tom F. McGuire, J.E. McCall, L.J. Young, R.J. Deininger, S.R. Ludlow, Charles Curtiss, W.A. Felker, J. Salm and J.W. Crowther. The City Clerk was instructed to notify each member of their appointment to the Planning Commission.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Mershon asked the support of the City Council in reorganizing the Torrance Symphonic Orchestra, offering his services and cooperation. He stated that the Orchestra gives the City a great deal of good publicity and that he felt the orchestra should be continued for the good of the citizens who enjoy good music.

Mr. Williamson congratulated the City Council for their act in forming a Planning Commission and offered his services and advise at any time they may be needed, he having been with the Regional Planning Commission for a number of years.

Mr. Elson, Principal of Torrance High School, extolled the merits of a little theatre movement in Torrance, stating that he had long felt the need of such an enterprise in this community, but that the High School had been unable to supply that need.

Mr. Shidler stated that he is also heartily in favor of such a movement.

Mr. Ferris, the instigator of the community theatre idea for the City of Torrance, stated he had talked to a number of leaders of different organizations in the City, who seemed to approve the idea. He added that the City would receive an unlimited amount of advertising from such a project.

Miss Armstrong expressed approval of the idea, advising that she had studied dramatic art for a number of years and felt that the City would benefit greatly. She said she was of the opinion that Mr. Ferris is capable of conducting such a group.

Mr. Shidler stated he had talked to several ministers, who approved the idea as an excellent one.

Councilman Murray moved that the matter be referred to the Chamber of Commerce for recommendation. Councilman McGuire seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A representative of the Fern Avenue Parent-Teacher Association asked what action had been taken on a request of the Fern Avenue school for books. She was informed that the request had been referred to the Library Board.

Mr. Mershon asked if some action might be taken on his request for aid in reorganizing the Symphonic Orchestra. Councilman Tolson suggested that it be referred to the Finance Committee for recommendation and report at the next meeting.

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.

At 8:55 P.M., upon motion of Councilman McGuire, seconded by Councilman Hitchcock, the meeting adjourned.


City Clerk of the City of Torrance

Approved:

Mayor of the City of Torrance