

Torrance, California
December 12, 1939

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 12, 1939 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 28, 1939 be approved as written. Councilman Murray seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

A communication was read from the United States Senate, written by the Secretary of Senator Sheridan Downey, thanking the City Council for their recent action in adopting a Resolution pertaining to the drainage development of Gardena Valley and advising that the matter will receive careful attention by the Senator.

A communication was read from the Alex Shultz Furniture Stores, 730 American Avenue, Long Beach, requesting permission to distribute advertising matter in the City of Torrance. A short discussion followed, it being the opinion of the Council that no exceptions could be made to the business license ordinance requiring a license for distribution of advertising matter.

A communication was read from Robert F. Lessing, Chairman of the Coordinating Council, calling attention to the poor ventilating facilities of the Civic Auditorium and suggesting that the condition be remedied if possible. Referred to the Building Committee for report.

A communication was read from the Tide Water Associated Oil Company, Associated Division, reporting no receipts or earnings were derived from the use, operation and possession of County of Los Angeles Franchise Ordinance No. 1351 lying within the city limits of the City of Torrance for the twelve months preceding December 2, 1939.

A communication was read from Hermine Oetken, requesting a refund on a business license issued to Wm. F. Oetken, gross business receipts not having reached \$5,000.00 in any year.

A communication was read from Emma Steffen, Proprietress of the Torrance Hotel, requesting refund on a business license, stating that gross business receipts had not reached \$5,000.00 in any year.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the requests be granted. 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.

Regarding the request of R. F. Burdett to operate a pool hall at 1214 El Prado, Chief Stroh submitted a favorable report relative to Mr. Burdett's past business operations.

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

Engineer Young presented and read in full:

RESOLUTION NO. 1368

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE REQUESTING THAT CERTAIN GAS TAX FUNDS FOR USE ON STATE HIGHWAYS BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A CULVERT AT HAWTHORNE AVENUE AND 236th STREET.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that Resolution No. 1368 be adopted. 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.

Engineer Young recommended that J. H. Plotzke be employed to secure right of way on Hawthorne Avenue from Torrance Boulevard north to Redondo Beach Boulevard in accordance with a desire expressed by the State to improve Hawthorne Avenue in the future as part of the State Highway System. He stated Mr. Plotzke had requested a salary of \$300.00 per month (which includes automobile expense), and had given a rough estimate of three months as the time required to complete the job. Mr. Young also pointed out that the funds expended for said purpose would be paid from Gas Tax Funds allocated for expenditure on State Highways.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that Mr. Young's recommendation be complied with and that Mr. Plotzke be requested to submit in writing an outline of the work anticipated and the manner of performing said work. 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.

Engineer Young reported he had investigated the request for a street light at the corner of Eldorado and Elm Streets and found the request to be justified.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the request for a street light at the corner of Eldorado and Elm Streets be granted. 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.

Engineer Young reported that the Edison company had been notified to install a sodium vapor light at the General Petroleum Refinery entrance on Crenshaw Boulevard, but the Edison Company, upon investigation, had found it would be necessary to place about 2200 feet of line in order to get the light in from their service. Engineer Young said further that the Edison Company is working out a plan whereby the light could be installed on the General Petroleum Corporation service.

Councilman Powell reported regarding the desire of the Four-Square Gospel Church to purchase Lots 15 and 16, Block 52, Torrance Tract. He said action has been delayed because a suitable location has not been found for the girl scout building located at that address. Mrs. Nicholls advised the Church would be agreeable to leaving the building on the lot until such time as a location is found. She was assured an answer could be expected within the next few days.

Councilman Powell presented and read in full:

ORDINANCE NO. 315

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE CONSENTING TO ESTABLISHMENT OF PORTIONS OF ELENA AVENUE, REDONDO-WILMINGTON ROAD AND OTHER STREETS AS A COUNTY HIGHWAY.

Councilman Powell moved that Ordinance No. 315 be adopted for first reading. 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.

Councilman Murray reported that a location for camp site for the boy and girl scouts had been found and asked that the committee headed by Mr. Leatherman contact Mr. Bartlett relative to a suitable meeting date with the Recreation Committee.

Councilman McGuire reported a public hearing of the Planning Commission had been held December 11, 1939, at which time much interest in the proposed zoning plan of the City was expressed. He asked anyone interested in the matter to attend the next meeting scheduled for January 8, 1940

Mayor Tolson moved that not to exceed \$65.00 be appropriated for 4-Celo-glass globes for the street lighting 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.

Councilman McGuire reported that Mr. Butterfield had made a survey of the lighting system, it having been decided to try a new type of inverted reflector in an effort to obtain best possible results by reflecting all the light downward. Councilman Powell suggested that a few large street light globes be used in the business district, he having had a number of complaints relative to the dim illumination of the streets. Councilman McGuire said that the City of Torrance uses 2500 watt lamps, while many cities use 4,000 watt lamps, but that if the larger lamps were used, an increase in the electric bill of \$360.00 per month could be expected. He said an experiment would be made with the new reflectors before any changes are made.

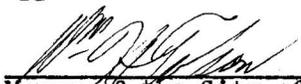
Councilman McGuire moved that all bills properly audited be paid. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

At 8:12 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