

Torrance, California  
April 23, 1940

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, April 23, 1940 at 7:45 P.M.

Mayor McGuire called the meeting to order.

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

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the minutes of a Regular Meeting held April 10, 1940 and of an Adjourned Regular Meeting held April 15, 1940 be approved as written. Councilman Murray seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

A communication was read from the Board of Education of the City of Los Angeles, advising that playground service will be extended to the Torrance elementary school, effective approximately May 1, 1940, said service to continue through the summer, Saturdays included.

A communication was read from Marjorie Cooke, Music instructor of Torrance High School, extending thanks for the financial aid given students who represented Torrance in the National Convention of Musical Educators March 30 to April 5, 1940.

A communication was read from the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, requesting that an official representative of the Torrance City Council be appointed to attend future meetings of the 1940 Torrance Factory Frolic Committee.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the Chairman of the Recreation Committee be appointed to represent the City Council in future meetings of the 1940 Torrance Factory Frolic Committee. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Jacob B. Brock, who submitted a

request February 27, 1940 that the City grade Hawthorne Avenue in front of his property and deposit the dirt on his property on the opposite side of the street, which request was denied at the following meeting after an investigation had been made by Councilman Hitchcock and Engineer Young. Mr. Brock entered an objection to the decision, stating that the proposed excavation of the property will be a costly one to him if the City holds to its decision in denying the request. Councilman Hitchcock, after discussing the matter briefly with Mr. Brock who was in the audience, suggested that the entire Council investigate the matter. Thursday, April 25, 1940 at 4:30 P.M. was agreed upon as a suitable date for said investigation.

A communication was read from the City of Palos Verdes Estates, advising that the Palos Verdes City Council holds its regular meeting the first Tuesday of each month. This letter was in answer to Clerk Bartlett's recent request, he having been instructed to obtain this information in order that a meeting could be arranged for discussion of various problems as requested by the Palos Verdes City Council. Clerk Bartlett was instructed to contact the Palos Verdes City Council and invite them to attend an informal meeting with the Torrance City Council or a representative thereof.

A communication was read from J. A. Evans, Torrance Gift and Stationery Store, inquiring as to the regulations for sale of fireworks. Attorney McCall read the citation covering this matter, which set out the manner of making applications for sale of fireworks, designating fire chief or fire prevention officer to investigate and make recommendations, and authorizing the City Council or governing body to make the final decision in either granting or denying the request. Certain requirements for the type of fireworks were stipulated also. Attorney McCall advised that no ordinance regulating this business is necessary so long as the requirements as specified by the statute are met.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that Mr. Evans be assured that no ordinance governing sale of fireworks will be adopted between the present date and July 4, 1940. Councilman Babcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Powell suggested that the Fire Chief be instructed to investigate the request before granting same.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the request of J. A. Evans for permit to sell fireworks July 3rd and 4th, 1940 be granted, provided the request is approved by the Fire Chief. Councilman Murray seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Eugene H. Rosenthal, requesting a permit to operate an amusement parlor at 1601-03-05 Gramercy.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the request be referred to the Police Department for investigation. Councilman Murray seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Engineer Young advised that this business would comply with zoning requirements of the district.

A communication was read from the Southwest District Highways Association, extending an invitation to the Regular monthly dinner meeting to be held at the Underwood Cafe, Inglewood, April 25, 1940. Those desiring to attend the dinner to contact Engineer Young.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read in full:

RESOLUTION NO. 1385

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE DECLARING INTENTION TO CLOSE, VACATE AND ABANDON A PORTION OF A CERTAIN STREET IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that Resolution No. 1385 be adopted. Councilman Murray seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN : Babcock, Hitchcock, Murray, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

A communication was read from The Planning Commission of the City of Torrance, enclosing copy of a proposed Ordinance creating and establishing a "Land Use Plan" for the City of Torrance, together with a resolution adopted by the Commission approving the plan and recommending the enactment of same by passage of the ordinance.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read in full:

RESOLUTION NO. 1386

A RESOLUTION OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE APPROVING A LAND USE PLAN FOR SAID CITY AND RECOMMENDING THE ADOPTION OF SAID PLAN AND ENACTMENT OF THE NECESSARY ORDINANCE TO MAKE SUCH PLAN EFFECTIVE.

Councilman Babcock moved that Resolution No. 1386 be adopted. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Murray, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

above motion amended as follows;

Councilman Babcock moved that the Resolution of the Planning Commission of the City of Torrance approving a land use plan for said City and recommending the adoption of said plan and enactment of the necessary ordinance to make such plan effective be approved. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read title to:

ORDINANCE NO. 316

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A LAND USE PLAN WITHIN THE CITY OF TORRANCE CREATING EIGHT (8) DISTRICTS; REGULATING THE USE OF PROPERTY, HEIGHT OF STRUCTURE; AND OPEN SPACES FOR LIGHT AND VENTILATION; ADOPTING A MAP OF SAID DISTRICTS; DEFINING TERMS USED; PROVIDING FOR THE ADJUSTMENT, ENFORCEMENT AND AMENDMENT THEREOF; AND PRESCRIBING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION; AND REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT THEREWITH.

Councilman Babcock moved that Ordinance No. 316 be adopted for first reading. Councilman Murray seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Murray, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read two resolutions of the Planning Commission as follows:

- (1) A RESOLUTION OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE REQUESTING THE WALTERIA CIVIC ASSOCIATION TO APPOINT FIVE (5) RESIDENT PROPERTY OWNERS OF THAT AREA AS AN

ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION  
ON MATTERS OF MUTUAL CONCERN.

- (2) A RESOLUTION OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE REQUESTING THE NORTH TORRANCE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION TO APPOINT FIVE (5) RESIDENT PROPERTY OWNERS OF THAT AREA AS AN ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION ON MATTERS OF MUTUAL CONCERN.

Clerk Bartlett was instructed to forward a copy of the resolution to the WALTERIA CIVIC ASSOCIATION and to the North Torrance Improvement Association.

Mayor McGuire suggested that, since representatives of each of the above districts are members of the Planning Commission, it might be advisable to include them on the committee. However, he added, this would not be mandatory.

A request was submitted by J. E. McMaster, Fire Chief, for installation of two fire hydrants at the following locations: (1) on Hawthorne Boulevard 150 feet north of Spencer Street (2) on Huntington Drive 150 feet east of Amie Street; to be installed by Dominguez Water Company.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the request of J. E. McMaster, Fire Chief, for installation of two fire hydrants at the above locations be granted. Councilmen Murray seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Murray, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor McGuire appointed standing committees of the City Council as follows;

FINANCE COMMITTEE

L. V. Babcock	Tom F. McGuire Chairman	J. E. Hitchcock
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RECREATION

G. V. Powell	J. V. Murray Chairman	L. V. Babcock
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ORDINANCE

J. V. Murray	G. V. Powell Chairman	Tom F. McGuire
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POLICE AND FIRE

J. E. Hitchcock	G. V. Powell Chairman	Tom F. McGuire
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STREET, SEWER, CITY PARKS, GARBAGE

J. V. Murray	J. E. Hitchcock Chairman	Tom F. McGuire
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Councilman Hitchcock moved that the City Council go on record as approving the committee appointments made by Mayor McGuire as above. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that Engineer Young be authorized to notify the proper persons to install a sodium vapor light at the intersection of Hawthorne Avenue and Torrance Boulevard, as requested at the last regular meeting. Councilman Murray seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Murray, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Regarding the request of Mrs. George for removal of a tree at 704 Madrid Avenue, Councilman Hitchcock, Babcock and McGuire said they had inspected the tree and would not recommend removal of the tree, as to do so would disrupt the street planning.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the request be denied. Councilman Babcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Engineer Young reported briefly on the proposed Vista Highlands sewer project.

Attorney McCall stated that the statute governing sale of fire-works is available for inspection in the office of the Fire Chief, Police Chief, City Clerk and City Attorney.

Councilman Powell moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$75.00, plus sales tax, be made for 1 Marbelite lamp post to replace broken post at Maple Street and Torrance Boulevard. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote; AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Murray, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Powell said he had been requested to call to the attention of the Council the need for a sidewalk from Plaza del Amo to Santa Fe Street, particularly on the west side of the street on Arlington Avenue. He said a hazardous condition exists for children walking to and from school, since there is an inclination to walk on the highway, particularly when the ground is wet.

The matter was referred to the City Engineer for investigation and for report as to cost of installing the sidewalk as requested.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$156.09, plus tax, be made for material for alley repair. Councilman Babcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Murray, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor McGuire moved that May 13, 1940 at 7:45 P.M. be designated as the time for holding a public hearing on zoning Ordinance No. 316, and that the zoning committee be in attendance. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Mayor McGuire advised that zoning maps are on file in the Engineering Department for inspection of anyone who may desire to check the zoning of their locality, and asked everyone interested to attend the public hearing scheduled for May 13, 1940.

Mayor McGuire moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$102.12, plus sales tax, be made for 24 Mazda lamps for ball park replacement. Councilman Murray seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Murray, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor McGuire moved that the members of the Finance Committee, City Clerk and Treasurer be authorized to attend a meeting of the Municipal Finance Officers Association to be held at San Diego April 27, 1940, expenses paid. Councilman Murray seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Murray, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

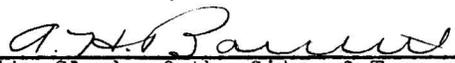
Mr. Bell, speaking for Mrs. King, inquired what the zoning restrictions are for the territory on Hawthorne Avenue near Torrance Boulevard. He was advised to call at the office of the City Engineer for inspection of the zoning maps.

Mayor McGuire moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$239.48, including sales tax, be made for 150 #3 and 20 #4 cement meter boxes. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Murray, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

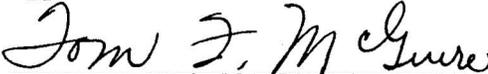
Mr. Clifford King, who submitted a project at a prior meeting to the entrance of Chief Stroh and two deputy sheriffs into his place of business on Cabrillo Avenue known as Kings' Cafe, was called at this time. No answer being received to the second call for Mr. King, he was presumed to be absent.

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

At 8:32 P.M., upon motion of Councilman Murray, seconded by Councilman Babcock, the meeting adjourned.

  
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 City Clerk of the City of Torrance

Approved:

  
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 Mayor of the City of Torrance