

Torrance, California
April 30, 1941

MINUTES OF AN ADJOURNED REGULAR
MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

The City Council of the City of Torrance convened in an
Adjourned Regular Meeting in the Council Chamber, City Hall,
Torrance, California, on April 30, 1941 at 5:00 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.

At 5:00 P.M. Clerk Bartlett opened bids submitted for one (1)
pusher type bus for use in Torrance Municipal Bus Lines Department
in the following order:

<u>Bidder</u>	<u>Bid</u>
Wilcox Chevrolet Company 1600 Cabrillo Avenue Torrance, California	\$ 7,095.85, plus tax and license.
Mack-International Motor Truck Corp.	\$ 7,851.54. plus tax

Bidder

Schultz & Peckham
1514 Cabrillo Avenue
Torrance, California

Bid

\$ 5,040.00, plus tax and
tires.

A number of alternate bids were submitted by this firm.

Councilman Babcock moved that all bids be referred to the Council as a whole, City Engineer and City Attorney for examining.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that a recess be declared for the purpose of allowing the City Council as a whole, the City Engineer and the City Attorney to examine the above bids. Councilman Babcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

At 5:18 P.M. the meeting reconvened.

Councilman Babcock moved that all bids for pusher type bus be rejected and that the bids be referred to the Council as a whole for study; that any checks submitted with the bids be returned. 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.**

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

A communication was read from Milky Williams Lodge, Local No. 1414, C.I.O., protesting purchase by the City of Torrance of additional Ford busses. The C.I.O. "Unfair List" was also submitted.

Councilman Murray moved that the communication, and particularly the "Unfair List" be placed on file for future reference. Councilman Babcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Edward G. Neess, Building Contractor, suggesting that property to be acquired by the City of Torrance from the County of Los Angeles by tax sale be offered for sale as follows:

1st. That the City Council give preference to prospective purchasers of the property who will buy and guarantee to build homes at once on lots purchased.

2nd. That blanket bids be accepted on groups of lots from builders rather than single bids from individuals.

Mayor McGuire asked Attorney McCall if the two abovementioned methods of sale could be used, Attorney McCall's answer being in the affirmative.

A communication from the Associated Assessment Engineers was read, advising that publication has been completed of the first group of tax deeded lands which the City of Torrance is purchasing or taking options to purchase from the County of Los Angeles. It was further advised that the City should have the tax deeds within ten days or two weeks.

In connection with the verification service rendered by the Title Companies, it was advised that a process server, Mr. Rhodes, selected by the Associated Assessment Engineers and approved by the Title Companies, would be used in this capacity, thus saving the City of Torrance the usual \$10.00 per parcel extra charge for the verification of service.

A communication was read from the Title Insurance and Trust Company, submitting bid for furnishing of preliminary title reports to be used in perfecting title in the City of Torrance to 91 lots, per list furnished them by the Associated Assessment Engineers.

A communication addressed to City Attorney McCall from the Associated Assessment Engineers was read, requesting that Mr. Kryne Van den Akker of 453 South Spring Street, Los Angeles, be appointed

Special City Attorney for the purpose only of performing necessary legal services in connection with tax deeded lands to be acquired by the City of Torrance, per agreement. It was mentioned that the amounts payable to Mr. Van den Akker by the City of Torrance for this service is deductible from the commission due Associated Assessment Engineers per agreement between said company and the City of Torrance.

A resolution authorizing the City of Torrance to enter into agreement with Kryne Van den Akker was submitted, together with the agreement.

Attorney McCall was asked if he would recommend hiring an attorney to handle the legal services in connection with the quiet title actions necessary to acquire deeds to the tax deeded lands to be acquired by the City of Torrance by tax sale. He answered that, in the final analysis, the fees paid to the attorney for this service will be paid by the Associated Assessment Engineers, since said amounts are deductible from the commission due the Associated Assessment Engineers.

After a short period of discussion, Councilman Hitchcock suggested that a meeting be arranged with the Associated Assessment Engineers for further discussion of this matter. Clerk Bartlett was instructed to contact the Associated Assessment Engineers and arrange a meeting.

A communication was read from the City of Long Beach, City Engineer's Office, advising that it had been decided that certain information would be provided each of the City Engineers in the Metropolitan Engineer's Transportation Committee regarding the information of the "California Parkway Authority Act," and suggesting that the City Council adopt a resolution endorsing the formation of the Transportation Authority, if formation of said Authority meets with the approval of the Council.

Engineer Jain advised that he felt formation of the Transportation Authority would place a lot of authority in the State Highway Department, and that small cities would not benefit; that funds could be taken away from small cities and used for construction of parkways, inasmuch as it is doubtful whether small cities will receive parkway funds. He pointed out that the Authority is made up of various persons holding high positions in the State Highway Department, and City Engineers of several large cities.

Engineer Jain was asked by Mayor McGuire if he would recommend not endorsing the plan. He replied that he had contacted a number of small cities, who had expressed the same feeling toward the matter that he indicated, but, he said, they had advised that they were being guided by the action of the other engineers.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the communication be studied further before action is taken. Councilman Murray seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Mayor McGuire advised Mr. Edward Neess that no action would be taken on his communication regarding sale of tax deeded property until after the meeting with Associated Assessment Engineers has been held.

A communication was read from J. C. Smith, requesting removal of pepper tree on Arlington Avenue, on the alley corner of 1451 El Prado.

Councilman Babcock moved that the request be referred to the Street Department for action. Councilman Murray seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Engineer Jain reported that Mr. Quandt of the Quandt Pumping Station, WALTERIA, and the other interested persons had abandoned the idea of pumping the water from the WALTERIA basin, an estimate having been given by Engineer Jain that four or five months' pump-

ing would be necessary to complete the job, Mr. Quandt's pump being smaller than he thought when he gave an estimate of three weeks for the job.

In the matter of the Crown Water Company, referred to Engineer Jain for investigation, Engineer Jain reported that the Southern California Water Company had definitely said they would not consider laying 1- $\frac{1}{4}$ miles of pipe to serve thirteen consumers in Northwest Torrance. Mr. Jain said the only other course of action would be for the City to lay pipe to connect with the Belvedere Water Company's lines at Hickman Drive (Belvedere being the nearest Water Company to the district, located directly across the city boundary line in County territory), at a cost of approximately \$2017.00, or to drill a well at a cost of less than \$500.00 and take over the pumps and equipment of Crown Water Company as offered by said company. Mr. Jain added that the equipment consists, in part, of a pump which is practically new, of one 10,000 gallon tank in good condition, and of another 12,000 gallon tank in fair condition, and 4500 feet of pipe in the ground.

He said that 2300 feet of pipe could be run into Belvedere Water Company, who could serve the district with water, and, if agreeable, pay the City back out of water revenue received from the thirteen consumers. He added that when he contacted the Railroad Commission, he had been advised that the City could take whatever action it deems proper in the matter, with no interference from the Railroad Commission.

Councilman Powell suggested that a meeting be held immediately after the Council Meeting to discuss this matter further.

Mr. Stanger, Manager of the Water Department, advised that the funds expended for laying the pipe and drilling the well could be paid back on a percentage basis.

Councilman Powell moved that the Water Superintendent, City Engineer and City Attorney meet after adjournment of this meeting for further discussion of this matter. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Powell moved that Joseph Tedesco be hired from May 1, 1941 to May 15, 1941 at a salary of \$50.00 for the two week period to work at the Walteria Fire Department during the vacation absence of I. R. Kettering, fireman. 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.

Councilman Babcock announced that the proposed civil service ordinance will be presented for first reading May 13, 1941 at a regular meeting of the City Council.

Mayor McGuire moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$1278.68 be made for 1 Sullivan 85' Zephair Compressor for the Water Department. 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.

Mayor McGuire moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$128.75 be made for 100 No. 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ " cement meter boxes for the Water Department. 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.

Mayor McGuire moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$412.00 be made for 40 $\frac{4}{8}$ " x $\frac{3}{4}$ " water meters for the water Department. 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. J. C. Smith of the Torrance Investment Company, asked that a contour map and grade be given for the property adjacent to the Municipal Park and referred to as "the new subdivision". He said building would start immediately this information is given.

Attorney McCall advised that the usual procedure is for the subdividor to furnish the City with this information.

Mr. Smith was advised to obtain a private engineer to draw up the maps and establish the grades. Engineer Jain advised that this procedure involves a tremendous amount of work, and due to the scarcity of Engineers, he said, his office had found it difficult to find sufficient help to do all the engineering work required of that office at this time. Attorney McCall suggested that Mr. Sampson, Engineer with the Los Angeles County Regional Planning Commission, be contacted, as, he said, private engineers who do this type of work register with Mr. Sampson.

Mr. Smith advised that water is needed on Andreo Avenue in the subdivision, to facilitate building plans.

Mr. Stanger suggested that, purchase of pipe and supplies be made at this time, as, he said, pipe is available at present, but may not be available in the near future, as large quantities of materials are being used by the National Defense Program.

Attorney McCall advised that purchases of pipe and materials not exceeding \$500.00 can be made without advertising for bids.

Mr. Stanger informed that there are ten valves only available on the Pacific Coast at this time, and suggested that they could be purchased for stock at a cost of \$30.15 each.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$310.00 be made for purchase of 10 6" valves for stock for the Water Department. Councilman Babcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Murray, who left at 5:55 P.M.

Councilman Babcock moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$500.00 be made for purchase of 792 feet of 4" pipe for stock for the Water Department. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: Murray.

Councilman Babcock moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$500.00 be made for 594 feet of 6" pipe for stock for the Water Department. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Murray.

At the suggestion of Mr. Stanger, Councilman Hitchcock moved that the City Clerk be instructed to advertise for bids for materials for installation of eleven fire hydrants, per list of necessary fire hydrants as recommended by Fire Chief J. E. McMaster, and for enough pipe in addition to the two appropriations made for pipe to complete the job of laying pipe in the district referred to by Mr. J. C. Smith, all said materials as advertised for to be purchased for stock for the Water Department. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Murray.

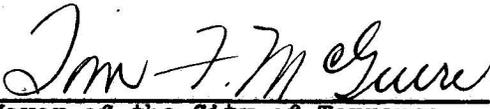
Councilman Hitchcock moved that the Mayor be authorized to execute the agreement between the City of Torrance and Kryne Van den Akker, 453 South Spring Street, Los Angeles, in hiring Mr. Van den Akker as Special City Attorney for the purpose of rendering legal services in connection with quiet title actions on certain tax dedeed property acquired, and to be acquired, by the City of Torrance, said agreement to be executed only and if the plan is approved by the Council after meeting with Associated Assessment Engineers for discussion of the matter, Clerk Bartlett having been instructed to arrange said meeting. Councilman Babcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Murray.

At 6:05 P.M., upon motion of Councilman Hitchcock, seconded by Councilman Babcock, the meeting adjourned.



City Clerk of the City of Torrance

APPROVED:



Mayor of the City of Torrance