

Torrance, California
December 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 Tuesday, December 30, 1941 at 7:45 P.M.

Clerk Bartlett called the meeting to order.

There being no quorum assembled, Clerk Bartlett declared a recess until 8:00 P.M.

The meeting reconvened at 8:00 P.M.

Mayor McGuire called the meeting to order.

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

Mayor McGuire announced that opening of bids for repairs and furnishings to Water Department building at 1510 Cravens Avenue would begin and instructed Clerk Bartlett to proceed which bids Clerk Bartlett opened and read as follows:

<u>Bidder</u>	<u>Bid</u>
Blomquist & Runyan 3370 Randolph Street Huntington Park, Calif.	\$7641.00

ALTERNATE "A" If sparkling Cemelith is omitted and two brush coats substituted, deduct \$30.00

ALTERNATE "B" If all steel counter and lockers under same, in fact, all counter work is omitted, deduct \$751.00.

ALTERNATE "C" If the work is done in accordance with Addenda Specification (providing for certain gunite reinforcement, in place of new masonry), deduct from the above basic bid \$437.00.

A Cashier's Check in the amount of \$400.00 accompanied the bid.

Harman & Company 4540 Cutter Street Los Angeles, California.	\$8813.00
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ALTERNATE "A" If sparkling Cemelith is omitted and two brush coats substituted, deduct \$14.00.

ALTERNATE "B" If all steel counter and lockers under same, in fact all counter work is omitted, deduct \$729.00.

ALTERNATE "C" If the work is done in accordance with Addenda Specification deduct from the above basic bid \$402.00

A Bidder's Bond in the amount of \$1,000.00 accompanied the bid.

C. D. Sandland 918 North Western Avenue Los Angeles, California	\$8416.00
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ALTERNATE "A" If sparkling Cemelith is omitted and two brush coats substituted, deduct \$25.00.

ALTERNATE "B" If all steel counter and lockers under same, in fact, all counter work is omitted, deduct \$790.00.

ALTERNATE "C" If the work is done in accordance with Addenda Specification (providing for certain gunite reinforcement, in place of new masonry) add to the above basic bid \$250.00.

A Bidder's Bond in the amount of \$450.00 accompanied the bid.

R. J. Daum 6803 West Boulevard Inglewood, California	\$7630.00
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ALTERNATE "A" If sparkling Cemelith is omitted and two brush coats substituted, deduct \$35.00.

ALTERNATE "B" If all steel counter and lockers under same, in fact, all counter work is omitted, deduct \$750.00.

ALTERNATE "C" If the work is done in accordance with Addenda Specification (providing for certain gunite reinforcement, in place of new masonry) deduct from the above basic bid \$125.00.

A Bidder's Bond in the amount of 5% of the bid accompanied the bid.

G. O. Gartz \$6995.00
 3908 Mission Road
 Los Angeles, California

ALTERNATE "A" If sparkling Gemelith is omitted and two brush coats substituted, deduct \$50.00.

ALTERNATE "B" If all steel counter and lockers under same, in fact, all counter work is omitted, deduct \$960.00.

ALTERNATE "C" If all work is done in accordance with Addenda Specification (providing for certain gunite reinforcement, in place of new masonry) add to the above basic bid \$400.00.

A Certified Check in the amount of \$500.00 accompanied the bid.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that all bids as submitted and read for repairs and furnishing Water Department building be referred to the Water Superintendent, Architect, City Attorney and City Engineer for study and report at the Adjourned Meeting to be held January 6, 1941 at 5:00 P.M. Councilman Babcock seconded the motion, which carried by the following roll call vote:
 AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Kail, Powell and McGuire.
 NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

A communication was read from the City of Palos Verdes Estates, requesting that Huntington Road, also known as Palos Verdes Parkway, be repaired, including repairs to the shoulders, and including center striping.

Mr. S. F. Bergstrom, City Clerk of the City of Palos Verdes Estates, addressed the Council at this time, emphasizing the need for improvement of this road, particularly due to the fact that large numbers of military units are using the road. One of the Councilmen of the City of Palos Verdes Estates also addressed the City Council, urging that immediate action be taken to repair this street.

Engineer Jain reported that work has been started by the Street Department in patching and repairing the holes in the street. He remarked that, although the road is situated in a remote section of the City, it does handle a great deal of traffic, and especially so now that the Army is using it.

Mr. Bergstrom inquired what the cost would be to center stripe the street. Engineer Jain gave an estimate of \$45.00.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$45.00 be made for center striping Huntington Road, known as Palos Verdes Parkway. Councilman Kail seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Kail, Powell and McGuire.
 NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Engineer Jain was instructed to give an estimate in the near future of the cost of resurfacing Huntington Road.

The Councilman from the City of Palos Verdes Estates expressed appreciation for the action taken.

A communication was read from the Japanese-American Citizens League Anti-Axis Committee of the Southern District Council, ex-

pressing appreciation for the action taken by the Council in adopting a resolution in which the confidence of the Council in the loyalty of the Japanese-American citizens was expressed. Matter of record.

A communication was read from A. P. Sutliff, 111 Terrace Avenue, Altadena, inquiring whether or not the city is in a position to furnish domestic water to 17548 Prairie Avenue, being located adjacent to and north of the Coast Brick Company in North Torrance.

Engineer Jain reported that the new water well in North Torrance circles around this property. Councilman Hitchcock suggested that an answer to this letter be withheld until it is determined whether service can be given through the new water well in North Torrance.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the communication from Mr. A. P. Sutliff be filed for future reference. Councilman Babcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Engineer Jain was instructed to investigate this matter and report his findings in the near future.

A communication was read from Clarence A. Pinkham, 1007 Portola Avenue, requesting that his business license for operation of a billiard parlor at 1208 El Prado be transferred to 1406 Cravens Avenue.

After a short discussion pertaining to the 1406 Cravens Avenue location, Councilman Hitchcock moved that the matter be referred to the Police Department and City Engineer for investigation and report. Councilman Babcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from the State of California, Governor's Office, Sacramento, advising that the U.S. Office of Price Administration has called upon the California State Council of Defense and the City and county defense councils throughout the State to accept responsibility for the rationing of new rubber tires and tubes, rationing to begin January 5, 1942. It was advised that all cities and counties will be required to appoint rationing boards, the board to consist of three members, (two men and one woman), who will serve as volunteers. Great emphasis was made upon the importance to national defense and security of conserving rubber. It was requested and urged that, within twenty-four hours after receipt of the communication, the City of Torrance send, by telegram, addressed to the office of the State Council of Defense, Room 305, State Capitol, Sacramento, the full names and addresses of the persons chosen to be nominated for designation as the members of the local rationing board.

It was decided, inasmuch as the persons selected for this duty must first be contacted before they are appointed, to make the necessary contacts and advise Clerk Bartlett not later than 12:00 noon of December 31, 1941 of the selections made in order that Clerk Bartlett may immediately telegraph the information to Sacramento.

A communication was read from Selective Service Board No. 280, located at 1337 El Prado Street, Torrance, relative to Resolution No. 1511 of the City of Torrance, which resolution requested draft deferment for members of the Torrance Fire and Police Departments. It was advised that, inasmuch as it is not within the power of the local board to grant blanket deferments for any class of employees, DSS Form 42-A should be filed for each individual case.

Mayor McGuire instructed Clerk Bartlett to deliver copies of the communication to Chief Stroh of the Police Department and Chief McMaster of the Fire Department in order that they may obtain the proper forms to be filed.

A communication was read from the Los Angeles County Flood Control District, enclosing prints of drawings showing proposed

improvements on the Dominguez Channel from Redondo Beach Boulevard to Arlington Avenue. It was requested that, since portions of this work lie within the City of Torrance, the Council approve the plans and issue the District the necessary permits for construction within the City of Torrance.

A communication was read from Glenn M. Jain, City Engineer, regarding the above letter, in which Mr. Jain recommended that the drawings as designated therein for improvements on the Dominguez Channel from Redondo Beach Boulevard to Arlington Avenue be approved. Mr. Jain further recommended that the City Engineer's office be given authority to issue the necessary permits for construction of said channel in accordance with the plans submitted.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the plans as submitted by the Los Angeles County Flood Control District for proposed improvements on the Dominguez Channel from Redondo Beach Boulevard to Arlington Avenue be approved and that the City Engineer's office be given authority to issue the necessary permits for construction of said channel in accordance with the plans submitted, this action being in accordance with recommendations of Engineer Jain. Councilman Babcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Donald Findley, Counselor-At-Law, Torrance, California, addressed to the attention of John E. McCall, City Attorney, and referred to a petition submitted to the Railroad Commission of the State of California in connection with the Crown Water Company matter, requesting authority to sell and transfer its water system properties to the City of Torrance, a municipal corporation. It was suggested by Mr. Findley that the City Council adopt a resolution authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to sign for the City a memorandum whereby the City would join in the application submitted to the Railroad Commission, authorizing the acceptance of the deed. It was advised by Mr. Findley that, unless this action is taken, it will be necessary for a representative of the City Council to attend a hearing to be called for the purpose of investigating the transfer of title by the Crown Water Company to the City of Torrance.

Attorney McCall advised that this matter is one of the steps necessary for liquidating a corporation, since the Railroad Commission has some jurisdiction in the matter. He suggested that the resolution as requested by Mr. Findley be adopted and submitted with the application. He advised further that the corporation which the residents had contemplated forming had not materialized as yet; that it will be a year possibly before the City can sell the system to anyone due to this fact.

RESOLUTION NO. 1513

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE CONSENTING TO ACCEPT TITLE TO CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY.

Councilman Babcock moved that Resolution No. 1513 be adopted. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Kail, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Powell read a communication from Walter R. West, tendering his resignation from the position as Captain of the Torrance Fire Department, and requesting to be returned to the position of Engineer of the Torrance Fire Department.

Councilman Powell read a communication from Chief J. E. McMaster of the Fire Department, in which Chief McMaster recommended that the resignation of Walter R. West from the position of Captain of the Fire Department be accepted and that he be re-

turned to the position of Engineer of the Fire Department, J. J. Benner to be appointed to fill the vacancy as Captain of the Fire Department, to be effective January 1, 1942.

Councilman Powell moved that the resignation of Walter R. West from the position of Captain of the Fire Department be accepted and that Mr. West be returned to the position of Engineer of the Fire Department, effective January 1, 1942. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Kail, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Powell moved that, upon recommendation of Chief McMaster, J. J. Benner be appointed to fill the position of Captain of the Torrance Fire Department, to become effective January 1, 1942, a position of Captain being vacated by resignation of Walter R. West. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Kail, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Powell suggested that, if agreeable to other members of the Council, the portion of the Municipal Park used for cooking and eating purposes by the soldiers of the United States Army who are stationed there be provided with a proper roof to afford necessary shelter.

Dale Riley, Superintendent of Recreation, advised this could be done for approximately \$70.00 for material.

Councilman Babcock moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$70.00 be made for providing a roof over the cooking and eating quarters at the Municipal Park being used by soldiers of the United States Army. Councilman Kail seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Kail, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$210.00 be made for concrete floor and mechanic's pit in the bus garage at the City Yard. Councilman Kail seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Kail, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Babcock moved that the City Council approve the change of schedule and fare rates of the Municipal Bus Lines, effective January 1, 1942. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Kail, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Babcock moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$43.20 be made for advertisement in the Torrance Herald of change of schedule of the Torrance Municipal Bus Lines. Councilman Kail seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Kail, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Babcock moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$42.50 be made for 10,000 new schedule pamphlets and that an appropriation of not to exceed \$30.50 be made for 25 display cards of new schedule for the Torrance Municipal Bus Lines. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Kail, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Babcock moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$76.02 be made for Christmas candy and boxes. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Kail, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Babcock moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$70.00 be made for roof on grandstand and shower room at the Municipal Park. Councilman Kail seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Kail, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: NONE. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the application of H. B. Schermerhom to operate retail ice cream, sandwich and pop route in North Torrance, south only to 190th, be granted. Councilman Babcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Regarding the application of Crill Crawford for permit to operate a billiard room at 1325 Sartori Avenue, Engineer Jain advised Mr. Crawford has abandoned the idea.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Chief Stroh asked what had been done regarding his communication read at the December 23, 1941 meeting regarding blacking out the Civic Auditorium. Mayor McGuire said he thought the drapes would completely black out the building. Chief Stroh suggested that double doors be constructed at the entrance of the building to confine all the light within the structure. Engineer Jain was instructed to obtain an estimate of the cost of constructing such a door.

Chief Stroh reported that the General Petroleum Corporation has requested action to prohibit parking on Crenshaw Boulevard from 203rd Street north to 190th Street and on 190th Street extending past the General Petroleum Corporation's storage tanks. Chief Stroh suggested that the parking restriction be made to include the area south to Torrance Boulevard, affecting the West side of Crenshaw Boulevard to Torrance Boulevard, but on both sides of the streets in the vicinity of the General Petroleum Corporation refinery.

Councilman Powell moved that the Chief of Police be instructed to have the curbs painted to prohibit parking on the streets in the area designated by the General Petroleum Corporation, and also to extend to Torrance Boulevard on Crenshaw Boulevard, West side only, and that the Chief of Police be authorized to purchase the necessary signs prohibiting parking and to post same; that the City Attorney be instructed to draw up an ordinance prohibiting said parking if the City Attorney feels an ordinance is necessary. Councilman Kail seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Kail, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Chief Stroh reported that it has been determined that the basement of the Post Office is the only air raid shelter in the City and recommended that the windows be sandbagged. He said Postmaster Conner has received permission from Washington, D.C. to make use of the basement for air raid shelter purposes. Councilman Hitchcock suggested that the Street Department attend to the matter of sand bagging the windows.

Chief Stroh asked what should be done regarding storage of confiscated radios and cameras surrendered by Japanese aliens. He said it would be necessary to have them in a safe place, as some of the equipment is valuable.

It was suggested that a storage room be rented. Chief Stroh reported that the Miller & Miller Transfer Company offers the only available storage space.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the Chief of Police be authorized to rent storage space for the confiscated radios and cameras surrendered by Japanese aliens, Chief Stroh to obtain the storage space at as reasonable a cost as possible. Councilman Kail seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Kail, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Chief Stroh reported that the three automobile radios in Police cars at the present time cannot be used with the two-way radio communication system recently installed at the Police Station unless they are changed over to the wave length used by the communication system. He said it would cost approximately \$20.00 each for the work on the radios. He asked the Council to authorize the sale of the radios, as, he said, they are not worth spending \$20.00 each on.

Chief Stroh stated that the Southern California Edison Company Ltd. has installed a master switch in a location easily accessible to the Chief of Police of the City of Gardena, said switch being the one which controls the street lights. He asked that the Edison Company be contacted and asked to take similar steps in the City of Torrance.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the City Engineer be authorized to contact the Southern California Edison Company Ltd., and request them to move the master switch controlling street lights to a location easily accessible to the Police Department to facilitate enforcement of blackout orders. Councilman Babcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Chief Stroh reported that the Civilian Defense Council work has reached the point where it will be necessary to appoint persons to fill various positions in the setup. He suggested Michael Straszer for the Public Information division; Jack Miller for the Transportation division; Mr. Graham for the Health division. He said the position of Vice Chairman must be filled immediately. He reported he had contacted several persons, but none had been available for service. Councilman Hitchcock suggested Doctor R. A. Bingham. Chief Stroh was asked to contact Doctor Bingham and ask him to serve in the capacity of Vice Chairman of the Civilian Defense Council. Chief Stroh said he also has the name of Pat Boyle, whom he will contact as soon as possible. Mr. A. H. Silligo, who was present in the Council Chamber, volunteered for the position.

Chief Stroh reported that the first meeting of the Law Enforcement School had been held tonight; that the first meeting consisted mainly of registering the men who appeared to attend the school. He said the attendance is very satisfactory, and that the training is the accepted method of training in progress all over the United States.

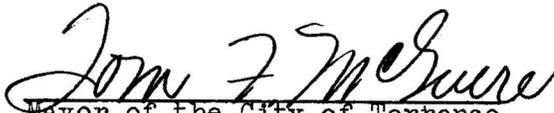
Mayor McGuire asked Attorney McCall for a report on the claim of Jean Ray, who filed a claim against the City for damages incurred when her automobile collided with a motor bus of the Torrance Municipal Bus Lines. Attorney McCall reported that the claim will be referred to the Insurance carrier in the usual manner.

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

At 9:20 P.M., upon motion of Councilman Babcock, second-
ed by Councilman Hitchcock, the meeting adjourned to January 6,
1941 at 5:00 P.M.


City Clerk of the City of Torrance

APPROVED:


Mayor of the City of Torrance