

Torrance, California
April 27, 1943

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, April 27, 1943, at 7:45 P.M.

Mayor McGuire called the meeting to order.

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

All those present in the Council Chamber saluted the Flag!

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the minutes of a Regular Meeting held April 13, 1943; an Adjourned Regular Meeting held April 20, 1943; and of an Adjourned Regular Meeting held April 21, 1943, be approved as written. Councilman Babcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

A communication was read from The Texas Company, enclosing a check in the sum of \$21.47 in full payment of all amounts due, or claimed to be due the City, under Ordinances Nos. 117, 884, 1129 and 1377, for the period from January 1 to December 31, 1942, inclusive. Their letter further stated that while there were no gross receipts from the use, operation or possession of the above-mentioned ordinances this offer and payment was made only by way of compromise. The letter was filed as a matter of record.

A communication was read from the Shell Oil Company, reporting earnings from various pipe line franchises granted by the City, for the year 1942, in the sum of \$337.63; and enclosing their check, payable to the City Treasurer, for that amount. The letter was filed as a matter of record.

A communication was read from Mr. W. H. Stanger, Superintendent of Torrance Municipal Water District No. 1, requesting that he be authorized to employ eight men at the prevailing rate of pay; these men to be employed for the purpose of making water installations for houses to be built in Torrance Water District No. 1. Mr. Stanger explained that applications had been received for 142 services.

Councilman Powell moved that Mr. Stanger's letter be referred to the Council as a whole. Councilman Babcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Engineer Jain, stating that the Federal Housing Administration had requested Katz and Pine to advise them as to when the construction of curbs, gutter, sidewalk and rock and oil surfacing will be placed on the easterly side of Cabrillo Avenue, between 222nd Street and Plaza del Amo; and advising that this work as estimated by the Engineer's office, would cost approximately \$2500.00.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that this communication be referred to the Council as a whole for further study, and that the information requested would be furnished Mr. Pine at a later date. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Engineer Jain, advising that at a public hearing held before the City Planning Commission April 26, 1943, a unanimous recommendation was made to the City Council that the present garage building located at the northeast corner of 182nd Street and Prairie Avenue, and owned by Leslie A. Mann, be approved for a variance to use as a machine shop doing light manufacturing; and that a 16' x 40' addition be allowed to be similarly used.

Councilman Babcock moved that the recommendation of the Planning Commission be approved; that the City Clerk notify Mr. Leslie A. Mann that his request for a zone variance had been granted; and that a license be issued to Mr. Mann for this new business.

Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Cucci, Hitchcock, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

A communication was read from California National Builders, Inc. requesting the City to install a sewer on 203rd Street to serve the sixty-four (64) lots in Tract 9901, on which they propose to build houses.

A notation at the bottom of this letter, by Engineer Jain, stated that the cost of this sewer was estimated to be approximately \$7550.00.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that this communication be referred to the Council as a whole for further study and report at a later date. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from The Adjutant General's Office, State of California, advising that it will be necessary to withdraw protection by the State Guard from the Torrance Water System, as of twelve o'clock noon, May 24, 1943; and expressing appreciation for the many favors extended the State Guard by the City of Torrance.

Councilman Babcock moved that the City Clerk be authorized to write a letter to The Adjutant General acknowledging his letter, and thanking him for his cooperation during the period of occupancy by the State Guard. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from the Pacific Electric Railway Company regarding the opening and improving of Abalone Avenue and Plaza del Amo Crossing, and attaching an agreement covering the structural changes; and requesting a certified copy of the Council's action approving the agreement and authorizing its execution.

Councilman Babcock asked City Attorney McCall if he had checked the Agreement. Mr. McCall replied that he had, and that it appeared to be in good form and was what the Council had requested several months ago; and that he recommended the execution of this Agreement.

Councilman Babcock moved that the Mayor be authorized to sign the Agreement with the Pacific Electric Railway Company for the installation of a culvert and the construction of a grade crossing at Abalone Avenue and Plaza del Amo. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Clerk Bartlett presented for second and final reading:

ORDINANCE NO. 343

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE
AMENDING LAND USE ORDINANCE NO. 316,
RECLASSIFYING PROPERTY IN BLOCK 12,
TRACT 4070, HEREINAFTER DESCRIBED.

Councilman Babcock moved that further reading of Ordinance No. 343 be dispensed with. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Cucci moved that Ordinance No. 343 be adopted for second and final reading. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Cucci, Hitchcock, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 1574

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, ACCEPTING BIDS FOR CERTAIN TAX DEEDED LANDS IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE, AND INSTRUCTING THE CITY CLERK TO APPLY TO LOS ANGELES COUNTY FOR SUCH TAX DEEDS.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that Resolution No. 1574 be adopted. Councilman Babcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Cucci, Hitchcock, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that an appropriation of \$63.20, plus tax, be made for the purchase of hay for the City stables. Councilman Babcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Cucci, Hitchcock, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Powell moved that an appropriation of \$97.56, plus freight and tax, be made for the purchase of one Booking Machine and a five year's supply of Booking Slips, for the Police Department. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Cucci, Hitchcock, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Powell moved that the temporary employment of George G. Strong, as a fireman, at a salary of \$155.00 per month, effective April 2, 1943, to replace Mr. Northington, be authorized. Councilman Cucci seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Cucci, Hitchcock, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Babcock moved that an appropriation of \$60.00, plus tax, be made for the purchase of 1000 Commutation Books for the Bus Department. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Cucci, Hitchcock, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Babcock moved that the temporary employment of Jack Abernathy as a Bus Driver, effective April 21, 1943, to replace Clemm Ray Johnston, be authorized. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Cucci, Hitchcock, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Babcock moved that the City Attorney be authorized to draw up a new contract with the Aluminum Company of America, for service of the Municipal Bus Lines to that Company, at a flat rate

of \$250.00 monthly. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Cucci, Hitchcock, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Babcock moved that the City Attorney be authorized to draw up a contract between the Joshua Hendy Iron Works and the Torrance Municipal Bus Lines; this contract to be approved at a later date. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Cucci, Hitchcock, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Babcock moved that new Daily and Sunday Schedule for the Torrance Municipal Bus Lines be approved, effective May 9, 1943; also a change in rates, to become effective as soon thereafter as the law will allow; raising the fares from ten cents to fifteen cents between Tenth and Hill and Imperial and Hoover; and changing commutation books from twelve-rides to ten-rides, with no change in price.

Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Cucci, Hitchcock, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor McGuire moved that the City Attorney be authorized to draw up a contract with the National Supply Company, allowing said Company to use Lots 29 and 30, Tract No. 5944, for parking space at a price to be agreed upon. Councilman Cucci seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Cucci, Hitchcock, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. John Salm, of 1824 - 182nd Street, complained that people living directly across the street from his property are known to be keeping some fifteen hogs on their property, which he said he believed was in violation of City Ordinance No. 316, as they have no permit to establish a hog ranch at this location.

Councilman Powell moved that the Chief of Police be instructed to investigate this case and if it is found to be as described, the owner of the hogs be ordered to dispose of them immediately; and failing to do so, that he bring them in.

Mr. Jesse Crowther, of Walteria, stated that a similar condition exists all over the City, and that people are moving them into R-1 residential sections, and told of as many as six hogs being kept on one city lot. He further stated that the Land Use Ordinance No. 316 prohibits the keeping of hogs, and while the Chief of Police has been ordered to do something about it he states his hands are tied unless a warrant is sworn out by someone. Mr. Crowther said he believed it was up to the Council to take some definite action whereby somebody would have authority to go out and make these people show cause why they are violating Ordinance No. 316. He also stated that people are moving in houses in violation of City Ordinance, and he thought the Chief of Police or City Judge should have some authority to bring people in for such violations.

Councilman Powell asked the City Attorney for an opinion in regard to Mr. Crowther's statement that the Chief of Police couldn't take action unless a warrant was issued.

Mr. McCall said it was the duty of the Chief of Police and all officers to enforce this Ordinance, and all provisions of same; and he didn't think it was necessary for a warrant to be issued.

Councilman Cucci asked if there was anything in the Ordinance to prevent the keeping of hogs for domestic use.

Mr. McCall replied that the Ordinance specifically stated what was permitted, and if it was not mentioned it would therefore be excluded.

Councilman Babcock offered a substitute motion, that the Chief of Police be instructed to investigate the conditions, as stated by Messrs. Salm and Crowther, and all persons importing or raising hogs in the City of Torrance, without a permit to do so, be instructed that they must abstain from keeping hogs, or be brought in to show cause why they should not be forced to abstain from doing so.

Councilman Cucci seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

Mr. A. M. Rosenfeld, of 440 West Seventh St., San Pedro, stated that a few weeks ago he addressed a letter to the City Council, regarding his property at the southwest corner of Torrance Blvd. and Cravens Avenue, on which he has a gas station, and requested permission to allow a watchman to live in a house-trailer to be parked on the said property.

Mr. Rosenfeld stated that during the past several months most of the windows have been broken out, and now they have commenced to remove the gasoline pumps. He explained that he had an opportunity to get someone who was willing to take care of the property if he could park a trailer on the lot. He said that while he knew this was against the Planning Ordinance, he requested that such permission be granted only until such time that this party could find a house to live in; stating that just as soon as they could find a house they would move the trailer off.

After discussion the Mayor advised Mr. Rosenfeld that the Council would let him know their decision in the matter within a few days.

At 8:10 P.M., on motion of Councilman Hitchcock, seconded by Councilman Babcock, the Council declared a recess from regular routine business to allow the Associated Assessment Engineers to conduct a public auction of tax-deeded properties.

At 10:10 P.M., at the conclusion of the public auction, the Council resumed its regular order of business.

Councilman Babcock moved that the highest bids received on all lots offered for sale at the public auction held April 27, 1943, be accepted. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Mayor McGuire instructed the City Attorney to prepare a resolution to cover this sale.

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

At 10:15 P.M., upon motion of Councilman Babcock, seconded by Councilman Hitchcock, the meeting adjourned to Tuesday, May 4, 1943, at 4:45 P.M.


City Clerk of the City of Torrance

APPROVED:


Mayor of the City of Torrance