

Torrance, California
May 23, 1944

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, May 23, 1944, at 7:45 P.M.

Mayor Tolson called the meeting to order.

Clerk Bartlett called the roll, those answering present being Councilmen: Cucci, Gilbert, Powell and Tolson. Absent: Councilman: Hitchcock.

All those present in the Council Chamber saluted the Flag!

Councilman Powell moved that the minutes of a Regular Meeting held May 9, 1944 and of an Adjourned Regular Meeting held May 16, 1944 be approved as written. Councilman Cucci seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

A communication was read from The National Supply Company complaining of the nuisance and danger created due to sulphur dust arising from the operation of the United Sulphur and Chemical Company located at 1811 - 213th Street, and requesting the Council to take necessary action to compel said company to abate this condition

Councilman Powell moved that the City Attorney be instructed to contact the United Sulphur and Chemical Company and endeavor to settle this complaint to the satisfaction of both parties. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from State, County & Municipal Workers of America, Local 360 requesting a meeting with the Council for the purpose of discussing a general wage increase for city employees.

It was decided that the Council set a date for a meeting with Local No. 360 to be held at such a time when the budget for the forthcoming year is under consideration, and to notify Local No. 360 to this effect.

A petition bearing the signatures of ten residents was read requesting that the name of their street known as Columbia Court be changed to Columbia Place, explaining that the homes were individually owned.

Mayor Tolson moved that the petition be referred to the City Engineer for study and report at the next regular meeting. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

At 8:00 P.M. Clerk Bartlett opened bids for improvement of Crenshaw Boulevard, on the following four methods of construction:

- (1) 1" Armor Coat on hillside sand and clay select material sub-grade.
- (2) 1" Armor Coat on decomposed granite sub-grade.
- (3) 1½" Plant-mixed surfacing on hillside sand and clay select material sub-grade.
- (4) 1½" Plant-mixed surfacing on decomposed granite sub-grade.

<u>BIDDER</u>	<u>METHOD #1</u>	<u>METHOD #2</u>	<u>METHOD #3</u>	<u>METHOD #4</u>
Olympic Contracting Company 124 No. La Brea Ave. Los Angeles, Calif.	\$28,181.80	\$30,701.80	\$29,695.00	\$32,215.00
Bond accompanied bid.				
R. W. Hampton Co. 1105 No. Main St. Santa Ana, Calif.	\$28,638.77	\$31,242.77	\$30,620.92	\$33,224.92
Bond accompanied bid.				
Griffith Co. 1060 So. Broadway Los Angeles, Calif.	\$ No Bid	\$34,588.90	\$ No Bid	\$35,445.00
Bond accompanied bid.				
Vido Kovacevich 5400 Imperial Highway South Gate, Calif.	\$30,613.55	\$34,813.55	\$32,165.00	\$36,365.00
Bond accompanied bid.				
Warren Southwest Inc. 2145 E. 25th St. Los Angeles, Calif.	\$32,465.15	\$36,917.15	\$33,924.00	\$38,376.00
Certified Check accompanied bid.				
Owl Truck & Construction Co. 420 So. Alameda Compton, Calif.	\$34,408.20	\$37,096.20	\$36,235.10	\$38,923.10
Bond accompanied bid.				

<u>BIDDER</u>	<u>METHOD #1</u>	<u>METHOD #2</u>	<u>METHOD #3</u>	<u>METHOD #4</u>
Oswald Bros. 366 E. 58th St. Los Angeles, Calif.	\$39,556.75	\$45,016.75	\$41,140.00	\$46,600.00

Certified Check accompanied bid.

Councilman Powell moved that the bids be referred to the City Engineer for study and report at the next Adjourned Regular Meeting to be held May 29, 1944. Councilman Cucci seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from the City Engineer recommending that an appropriation of \$15,028.83 be authorized as final payment to the Griffith Company for the resurfacing of Cabrillo Avenue from Carson Street to Plaza del Amo.

Councilman Cucci moved that final payment of \$15,028.83 to the Griffith Company, for the resurfacing of Cabrillo Avenue from Carson Street to Plaza del Amo, be authorized. Mayor Tolson seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock.

A communication was read from the City Engineer stating that the Dominguez Land Corporation had reserved for street purposes a strip of land 30 feet wide on the westerly side of Border Avenue, between Plaza del Amo and Lincoln Avenue; and a 60 foot strip of land from Lincoln Avenue to Sepulveda Blvd., the latter strip being an extension of Border Avenue southerly to Sepulveda Blvd. City Engineer Jain advised that the Real Estate Management Company, as successors to the Dominguez Land Corporation, would grant to the City a quitclaim deed to all of the above-mentioned property and recommended that the City Council so request this quitclaim deed.

Councilman Cucci moved that the City Attorney be authorized to obtain from the Real Estate Management Company a quitclaim deed to the above-described land. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Mr. C. Z. Ward, Manager, Torrance Municipal Bus Lines, advising that the services of Mr. William P. Agee, Station attendant at 1014 South Hill Street, Los Angeles, had terminated as of May 17, 1944.

A communication was read from Mr. C. Z. Ward, Manager, Torrance Municipal Bus Lines, requesting the City Council to enter into an agreement with Carl E. Marsteller to act as ticket agent and janitor at 1014 South Hill Street, Los Angeles.

Mayor Tolson stated he had not seen the contract and would like to study it before taking any definite action. Mr. Ward informed him that it was similar to the contract entered into with Mr. William P. Agee, resigned, with the exception of the thirty day clause which had been omitted.

After considerable discussion on the termination clause, Mr. Marsteller participating, it was agreed that he be notified to appear before the City Council at an Adjourned Regular Meeting to be held May 29, 1944 at 7:30 P.M. for further discussion and definite action on the proposed contract.

Mayor Tolson moved that Mr. Carl E. Marsteller be paid for his services from the time he started until such time as the Council approved his contract, said remuneration to be based on terms as set forth in contract, said remuneration to be based on terms as set forth in contract with William P. Agee. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 1659

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF TORRANCE ACCEPTING DEED
FROM COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES COVER-
ING CERTAIN TAX-DEEDED PROPERTIES
IN SAID CITY OF TORRANCE AND AUTHOR-
IZING RECORDING OF SAME.

Councilman Cucci moved that Resolution No. 1659 be adopted. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 1660

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA
AUTHORIZING THE CITY TO ENTER INTO
THE ANNEXED AGREEMENT WITH ASSOCI-
ATED ASSESSMENT ENGINEERS.

In reply to Councilman Cucci's question if any recent legislation had been passed prohibiting municipalities from selling tax-deeded property for the duration of the war, City Attorney McCall replied that no moratorium had been passed except the Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act of 1940, as amended in 1942.

Upon request of Councilman Cucci, City Clerk Bartlett read Resolution No. 1660 in full and City Attorney McCall read the proposed agreement in full.

A communication was read from the Associated Assessment Engineers explaining that the agreement was the same in substance as the former agreement but the form had been changed as many of the cited sections of the Political Code quoted in the former agreement had been repealed and they now worked pursuant to the Revenue and Taxation Code. They further stated that the agreement provides for the same commission, but due to the fact that City Attorney McCall had in the past given of his services because of their operations in this City and that he would have considerable amount of work and research to do in connection with their work before all of the tax-deeded properties in the City are liquidated, they feel he should be compensated for this additional work; and as they did not wish the City to be put to any additional expense, they suggested that their commission be lowered to eighteen per cent on all tax deeded properties sold by the City of Torrance, and the two per cent which would otherwise be paid to them, be paid to the City Attorney as additional compensation for the work and research which their operations might entail.

In reply to Councilman Cucci's question as to the status of delinquent lands in the City of Torrance, Mr. Greig of the Associated Assessment Engineers replied that about eighty per cent of the work had been completed in so far as property was available for resale in the City, and that they were endeavoring to have property released from under injunction so that there will be more for resale. He said the agreement sets forth the work they will accomplish in the City of Torrance and explained that the proposed reduction in their fee would compensate City Attorney McCall for the additional work he will be called upon to do.

Councilman Cucci advised that he required time to study the agreement, remarking that the City Attorney appeared to be in the

employ of the Associated Assessment Engineers. Mr. Greig objected strenuously to this statement and denied most emphatically that Mr. McCall was in their employ.

Councilman Cucci moved that the Council defer action on the agreement submitted by the Associated Assessment Engineers until the next regular meeting. Mayor Tolson seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read in full:

RESOLUTION NO. 1661

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE APPROVING A UNIFORM METHOD OF PROCEDURE FOR ESTABLISHING PRO-RATA COSTS FOR IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS CONSTRUCTED JOINTLY BY THE CITY AND INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY OWNERS AND PRIVATE CONTRACTORS.

Councilman Cucci moved that Resolution No. 1661 be adopted. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock.

A communication was read from the Board of Education of the City of Los Angeles, enclosing new lease covering a portion of the Torrance Municipal Park for a child care center, for the period of one year commencing June 15, 1944.

Councilman Cucci moved that the agreement with the Los Angeles City School District of Los Angeles County covering a portion of the Torrance Municipal Park for a child care center be renewed for a period of one year commencing June 15, 1944. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock.

Councilman Powell moved that the expenditure of \$110.00, plus tax, be authorized for the purchase of four tires for Ford Auxiliary Fire Truck, now used at Columbia Steel. Councilman Cucci seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock,

Councilman Powell moved that Joseph Cozzolino be employed as a patrolman in the Police Department at a salary of \$160.00 per month, effective May 22, 1944. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock.

Councilman Powell moved that the purchase of a service flag to replace the one in front of the Auditorium be authorized and that the numbers be brought up to date. Councilman Cucci seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock.

Councilman Powell moved that Alvan K. Hill be employed as a patrolman in the Police Department at a salary of \$160.00 per month, effective May 11, 1944. Councilman Cucci seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock.

Councilman Powell moved that Charles Field be employed as a crossing guard at a salary of seventy cents an hour, six hours a day, effective May 10, 1944, to replace Mrs. Mable Cox, resigned. Councilman Cucci seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock.

Councilman Cucci moved that the black-out curtains in the Auditorium be removed. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, Councilman Cucci explained that the darkened Auditorium required the constant use of electric light which was draining our limited supply of light bulbs.

Mayor Tolson asked Chief Stroh if this matter came under the jurisdiction of the Civilian Defense Council. He replied that the Council had the right to remove the curtains if they so desired, but that they served as a safety measure in preventing glass from falling into the building.

The motion was not acted upon.

Councilman Gilbert moved that the Civic Auditorium be kept open two nights a week, this action being taken because of the small attendance and the fact that eventually all recreation will be transferred to the City Park, and that Mr. Riley be advised of this action. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Powell discussed the feasibility of converting the Auditorium floor into one suitable for roller skating, to be so constructed that the Auditorium could still be used for conventions and the like. Councilman Gilbert advised that he would take up this matter with Mr. Walker of the firm of Walker & Eisen, Architects and obtain an estimate of the cost.

Councilman Cucci advised that he and Mr. Riley had met with Mr. Glenn of the Los Angeles Board of Education and had discussed the possibility of keeping the athletic field at the High School open in the evenings during the summer months. Mr. Glenn was in favor of this suggestion if the City could find someone to accept the position of Instructor, which pays 94¢ an hour.

Councilman Cucci disclosed that the terms of office of all members of the Library Board had expired some time ago and the Board was no longer functioning; therefore he desired at this time to appoint four new members to the Board, their terms of office to conform with those set forth in the original resolution of the Library Board.

After some discussion, it was suggested that these appointments be incorporated in a new resolution to be presented at the next regular meeting.

Councilman Gilbert advised that no decision had been made concerning the employment of a watchman for the park.

Mayor Tolson moved that an appropriation of \$177.75, plus tax, be made for the purchase of 2 - 600 x 20 Truck Tires, 8 ply, and 2 Heavy Duty Tubes for same; and 2 - 750 x 20 Truck Tires, 10 ply, and 2 Heavy Duty Tubes for same, for Street Department trucks. Councilman Cucci seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock.

Mayor Tolson moved that an appropriation of \$53.05, plus tax, be made for the purchase of transmission parts for Bus No. 101 from the Crown Body & Coach Corporation. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock.

Mayor Tolson moved that an appropriation of \$81.07, inclusive of tax, be made for the printing of 1,000 ticket agent's daily report sheets by the Torrance Herald. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock.

Mayor Tolson moved that an appropriation of \$149.12, plus tax, be made for engine exchange and parts for Bus No. 102. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock.

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

At 9:55 P.M., on motion of Councilman Cucci, seconded by Councilman Gilbert, the meeting adjourned to May 29, 1944 at 7:30 P.M.

G. H. B. B...
CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

APPROVED:

M. H. Tolson
MAYOR OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE