

Torrance, California
December 18, 1945

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 Ad-
journed Regular Meeting in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Torrance,
California, on Tuesday, December 18, 1945 at 7:59 P.M.

Mayor Tolson called the meeting to order.

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

All those present in the Council Chamber saluted the Flag.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the minutes of a Regular Meet-
ing held November 27, 1945 and of a Regular Meeting held December
11, 1945 be approved as written. Councilman Powell seconded the
motion, which was carried unanimously.

At 8:00 P.M., Mayor Tolson announced that time had arrived for
holding of a hearing in connection with proposed Municipal Water
District No. 1 (Walteria-South Torrance).

Clerk Bartlett presented an Affidavit of Publication of Ordi-
nance No. 365, read the title thereof, and declared that same
had been published November 29, 1945 and December 6, 1945. He
further declared that the ordinance had been proofed by him and
was found to be accurate and that publication is sufficient.

Clerk Bartlett then called Mr. Arthur Taylor of the engineer-
ing firm of Taylor and Taylor, employed by the City of Torrance,
who, after being sworn, by City Clerk Bartlett, certified that he
is the engineer for the Municipal Water District No. 1 (Walteria-
South Torrance), and certified that the plans, scope and estimated
cost of the proposed water district are as outlined in the report
on file with the city; and that all of the lands included within
the district will be benefited.

Mayor Tolson then asked Clerk Bartlett if he had received any
written protests. Clerk Bartlett declared there were no written
protests received, after which Mayor Tolson called for oral pro-
tests. There being none, Clerk Bartlett then presented and read
title to, and excerpts from:

RESOLUTION NO. 1752

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, CALLING
PROVIDING FOR AND GIVING NOTICE OF A
SPECIAL ELECTION TO BE HELD JANUARY 15,
1946 WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF MUNICIPAL
WATER DISTRICT NO. 1 OF THE CITY OF
TORRANCE AS DESCRIBED HEREIN AND PRO-
VIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION TO THE QUALI-
FIED VOTERS OF SAID DISTRICT OF THE
PROPOSITION OF INCURRING A DEBT BY THE
ISSUANCE OF BONDS OF SUCH DISTRICT IN
THE AMOUNT OF \$150,000.00 TO PAY THE
COSTS AND EXPENSES OF ACQUIRING AND
CONSTRUCTING WATER WORKS FOR SAID
DISTRICT.

Councilman Gilbert moved that Resolution No. 1752 be adopted.
Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried by the
following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Hitchcock,
Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN:
Cucci.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

A communication was read from Joel Hagberg, Walteria, requesting that the prospective water users of Walteria be allowed to choose the type of water system, and the source of supply of water, to be decided upon, inasmuch, he said, as they will be paying for same.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the communication be filed. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from C. Z. Ward, Manager, Municipal Bus Lines, calling attention to the fact that, although, in July of 1945, a Dispatcher was appointed to handle gassing of busses to eliminate possibility of gasoline shortages, a decrease in miles per gallon had actually resulted instead of the expected increase in mileage of the busses. For this service of gassing busses, he said, the Dispatcher receives an average monthly salary of \$457.83, and since no improvement commensurate with the expense of said service has been evidenced, he said that sound reasoning would command abolishment of this position. He asked that the Council take steps to do so.

Also, he said, the City could save the \$170.00 being paid to the night watchman for 4½ hours work per night by advancing the hours of the Bus Attendant to coincide with the hours worked by the night watchman. Therefore, he recommended that the night watchman be dispensed with and the Bus Attendant's hours changed from 4:00 A.M. to 12:00 Noon to the hours of 12:00 midnight to 8:00 A.M., leaving someone on duty at the City Yard a full twenty-four hours a day. The saving to the City on the above two recommendations would amount to \$627.83 per month, he said, and would not hamper operations of the bus lines in any way.

Mr. Ward's communication contained the following additional recommendations:

That the Los Angeles schedule be increased by three round trips daily and that the local schedule be adjusted accordingly;

That the bus terminal at 1014 South Hill Street, Los Angeles, be re-leased for a period of two years at a rental of \$125.00 per month;

That \$150.00 be allocated for painting the Los Angeles bus terminal.

Mr. Ward enclosed a communication addressed to him from Sunset Stages, requesting permission to operate a bus service into the City of Torrance from Redondo Beach and Inglewood, provided the City of Torrance has abandoned plans to operate a service to Redondo Beach. It was requested that a resolution be passed allowing Sunset Stages to render the service above-named. Mr. Ward advised in his communication that, although he would not recommend at this time that Torrance operate a bus service to Redondo Beach, he would recommend that Sunset Stages be given permission to operate from Redondo Beach and Inglewood, as, he said, it would be somewhat beneficial to merchants, manufacturers and residents of the city to have this service. He recommended that the Council pass a resolution as requested, allowing Sunset Stages to operate into Torrance on certain streets, these streets to be designated at a later date.

Councilman Gilbert moved that the City Council concur in the recommendations and requests submitted by Mr. Ward.

Councilman Powell objected, stating that he felt additional time should be allowed for a conference between the Council and Mr. Ward before taking action upon these matters.

Councilman Gilbert protested that too many things had been delayed in the Bus Department, and that, if Mr. Ward is to be retained as Manager of the Bus Lines, his opinions and recommendations should be respected. He said, although he can appreciate Councilman Powell's attitude in wanting to study these matters further, he felt Mr. Ward should be given authority to make necessary improvements to the Bus Lines and that the Council should endeavor to make the Bus Department as good as possible while awaiting the outcome of the litigation relative to sale of the line.

Councilman Powell said that no doubt Councilman Gilbert had discussed these matters with Councilman Hitchcock and Mayor Tolson, but that it was the first time he has heard about it, and, therefore, he would like further time for consideration of the various recommendations contained in the letter. He said he would not ask Councilman Gilbert to act upon a matter involving expenditures of large sums of money without any advance notice and time for thought.

Councilman Gilbert said there is not a great deal of money involved in the recommendations.

Councilman Powell retorted that, if Mr. Ward were properly interested in cooperation and was not seeking political advertising, he would not have written the communication to the Council at all, but would have asked for a meeting, which would have, he finished, avoided the unfavorable publicity which this will give both sides.

Councilman Gilbert said it is agreeable to refer the matter over if the majority of the Council favor doing so.

Councilman Hitchcock said he would be willing to hold the matter over for a week, but that he agreed Mr. Ward should be given more cooperation, as, he said, "rumor has it that he is not receiving that cooperation".

Councilman Gilbert said he would be agreeable to deferring action at this time on one condition, that being that it would be definitely understood that a meeting will be held, with Mr. Ward in attendance, and that the Council will diligently and conscientiously study all the recommendations. In connection with the request of Sunset Stages, he said he thought this should be acted upon now, as the Sunset Stages are desirous of getting started as soon as possible.

Councilman Hitchcock asked about designation of streets. A gentleman in the audience, apparently a Sunset Stages representative, advised that it is not the intention of the Sunset to parallel the existing Bus Lines in Torrance, but that they simply want a permit to drive to the Beacon Drug Company, the present terminal, and then back to Redondo Beach.

Councilman Hitchcock suggested that this recommendation of Mr. Ward be accepted, and asked for the next Resolution number, being

RESOLUTION NO. 1753

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE GRANTING THE REQUEST OF SUNSET STAGES TO OPERATE ON CERTAIN STREETS IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that Resolution No. 1753 be adopted. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Cucci.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read portions of a Statement from the County of Los Angeles summarizing the information contained in the County's Tax Accounts with the City of Torrance for the fiscal year 1944-45. Clerk Bartlett advised that the delinquency rate of 1.43% is one of the lowest since he has been in office. Matter of record.

A communication was read from Gilbert Klein, Attorney at Law, enclosing verified claim for damages against the City of Torrance, being the claim of Catherine Paluso, 130-3/4 South Avenue 21, Los Angeles, that on the 27th day of August, 1945, while viewing a baseball game at the Torrance Baseball Park, she was struck in her right eye by a baseball that had been batted through an opening that had negligently been permitted to remain in a screen erected at said ball park for the protection of spectators, and claiming damages against the City in the sum of \$15,000.00.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the claim be denied and referred to the insurance carrier. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Bernhard D. Bunje, tendering his resignation from the Civil Service Board, effective December 31, 1945, due to the fact that he expects to move from the City of Torrance, and expressing appreciation for cooperation and consideration extended to him during his term of service on the Board.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the resignation be accepted and that a letter be written to Mr. Bunje thanking him for his faithful and excellent service to the City while serving on the Civil Service Board. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Gilbert moved that Mr. George Thatcher be appointed to serve the unexpired term of Mr. Bernhard D. Bunje as a member of the Civil Service Board. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Cucci.

Mr. Thatcher advised that, although he has not had any particular experience to qualify him to serve on the Civil Service Board, he will accept the appointment and serve to the best of his ability.

A communication was read from Torrance Post No. 3251, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, requesting authorization to conduct regular Friday night dances at the Civic Auditorium, to be sponsored by the Post, and to be managed by Mr. Vernon Coil, a member of same.

Councilman Gilbert advised that it has been the policy of the Council not to reserve the auditorium for a specific night of the week over a period of time, and suggested that it be referred to Councilman Cucci for recommendation and checking of the auditorium schedule. He said the idea is a good one. Mayor Tolson said perhaps it could be granted to them with the understanding that, if necessity arose for using the Auditorium on a Friday night for any other purpose, advance notice could be given the Post in order that they could alter their plans and relinquish the auditorium for the night needed for other purposes.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the request be referred to Councilman Cucci for checking the auditorium schedule and for recommendation at the next meeting. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from the Kiwanis Club of Torrance, requesting use of one of the vacated day nursery buildings at the City Park for Boy Scouts, the various troops to meet there on different nights during the week.

A recommendation from Dale Riley, Superintendent of Recreation, that this request be granted, was attached, with the further recommendation that certain repairs be made to the building decided upon to place it in a suitable condition for use by the Scouts.

Councilman Gilbert moved that the recommendation of Mr. Riley be concurred in and the request granted. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from John C. Fitzhugh, advising that he has been compelled by force of circumstances to move into a building previously erected by his father on Lot 70, Tract 7955, on Madison Street, Walteria (the writer's own property) as a storage room for his furniture, and that he had been notified by the City Engineer to vacate the building by December 18, 1945. He asked for permission to continue living in the building temporarily until he can erect a house on the front of the lot.

Engineer Jain advised that the writer had not been given notice to vacate, but had been advised to submit a request to the Council for permission to live in the temporary quarters.

Councilman Powell moved that Mr. Fitzhugh be granted a permit to continue living in the temporary quarters now occupied by him and his family for a period of ninety days, provided he shows intentions by that time of erecting a house. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from C. E. Hein, 2219 $\frac{1}{2}$ Gramercy Avenue, requesting refund of unused portion of Business License No. 235 issued to him August 1, 1945.

Councilman Powell moved that the City Clerk be authorized to refund to Mr. Hein the unused portion of Business License No. 235. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Cucci.

A communication was read from Lindsay D. Ridgeway, applying for refund of Business License No. 381, issued to him November 27, 1945. He advised that plans for opening an insurance office at 1307 Post Avenue have failed.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the proper amount be refunded to Mr. Ridgeway for unused Business License No. 381. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Cucci.

A communication was read from E. T. Martin, applying for refund of unused portion of Business License No. 306, issued to him September 26, 1945.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the unused portion of Business License No. 306 be refunded to Mr. Martin. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Cucci.

A communication was read from Mrs. Davis, 1518½ Crenshaw Boulevard, calling attention to the trees on the corner of Sonoma Avenue and Crenshaw Boulevard, advising that they have grown so tall that they are dangerous.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that this matter be referred to the Park Department. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from the Walteria Civic Organization, advising that the Japanese church, located on Ward Street, Walteria has been partitioned and is occupied by two or three Japanese families, about thirteen people in all. It was requested that an investigation be made to determine whether or not a permit has been granted to partition the building, and if a variance has been asked for to permit multiple family residence in a single family residence zone.

Councilman Powell moved that the communication be referred to the City Engineer for checking and report to the City Council. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from the Walteria Civic Organization, enclosing copies of a letter written to the City Council on February 6, 1945, at which time it was referred to the City Attorney for investigation and report. It was requested that some report of this investigation be made, inasmuch as the community is becoming more thickly settled by the Japanese every week.

The copy of the letter referred to dealt with the matter of restrictions set forth in deeds of certain tracts of land in Walteria, specifying that no part of property shall be used or occupied by any person of African or Asiatic descent, or any person not of the White or Caucasian race.

At this point, a discussion ensued relative to the question of returning Japanese people to the community. Engineer Jain reported that, in connection with the partitioning of the building above referred to, the thirteen Japanese occupants claim to be related, which, he said, may or may not constitute "one family". He said the building is structurally sound, even though the partitions may not be the best. He added that, so far as he can determine, the City can do nothing more than endeavor to collect the permit fee, which he had requested, first verbally and then in writing, the Japanese to pay.

It was agreed by the Council that the problem of the returning Japanese presents an extremely difficult situation, one which

cannot be settled without much thought and study. Councilman Gilbert stated that he sympathized with the people who object to the Japanese living in their neighborhood, declaring that he would do likewise as would many more people.

After some further discussion, Councilman Gilbert moved that a meeting be held December 26, 1945 at 5:00 P.M. (preceding the regular Council Meeting) with Engineer Jain for a thorough, careful discussion of the seriousness of the question of returning Japanese in an effort to arrive at some conclusions as to how the matter should be handled. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from the Citizens National Trust and Savings Bank of Los Angeles, relative to the Mabel E. Frank Will Trust, Trust CT 8054, in reply to several inquiries from Engineer Jain during the past year relative to the purchase by the City of the interest of the above trust in Lots 23, 24 and 25 of Tract 5944.

It was stated that the bank is now in a position to entertain an offer for the purchase of their undivided one-half interest in these lots, and, if an offer is submitted for the whole, the Bank will take same up with Mr. Slavico, co-owner.

Engineer Jain informed that this property is adjacent to the City Yard, and would be good property for the City to own.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the City Engineer report at the next meeting regarding approximate value of the land. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Cyclone Fence Division, American Steel and Wire Company, submitting quotations for furnishing and installing a 6' fence around the City Dump and outlining detailed specifications.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the communication be filed for reference at a later date. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Torrance Lions Club, requesting that the Civic Auditorium be decorated appropriately for the mammoth dance to be held at the Civic Auditorium on New Year's Eve under the co-sponsorship of the Lions Club and the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 3251.

Councilman Gilbert said he favored decorating the Auditorium with appropriate Christmas decorations for the benefit of all the various organizations and individuals holding holiday festivities at the Auditorium.

After a short discussion, Councilman Gilbert moved that James Brodie, Building Custodian, be authorized to contact a decorating firm and request them to consult with Mr. Brodie relative to type of decorations, prices, etc., Mr. Brodie to then contact a majority of the Council for authorization to expend whatever amount is agreed upon by all concerned for Christmas decorations for the Auditorium. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from the City of Maywood, extending an invitation to all citizens to view Maywood's Nativity Scene located west of the Maywood City Hall, any evening from December 13, 1945 until Christmas.

A communication was read from Torrance Area Veterans Service Center, outlining the business of this organization and requesting that the City Council select a representative and alternate at the earliest possible time and furnish the Center the name, address and phone number of each, it being necessary, in order to comply with the method of organization, to form a representative group consisting of one delegate and one alternate to be elected by each organization within the area directly interested in Veterans Welfare and Community interest. It was advised that this particular Service Center serves the areas of Gardena, Harbor City, Keystone, Lomita, Torrance and WALTERIA.

Councilman Powell moved that the Mayor be authorized to act as the representative of the City of Torrance, and that he be

allowed to select his own alternate. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Pueblo Center, requesting street lighting on the street used by teen-agers traveling to and from the Teen-Age Club, known as the "203rd Club".

Clerk Bartlett reported that he and Mr. Riley had investigated this matter and found that, for very little cost, the necessary street lighting could be provided.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the request be referred to the City Engineer for recommendation at the next meeting. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Tide Water Associated Oil Company, Associated Division, advising that, for the twelve months preceding December 2, 1945, no receipts or earnings were derived by said Company from the use, operation and possession of Los Angeles County Franchise Ordinance No. 1351 within the City of Torrance. Matter of record.

A communication was read from W. L. Allen, 4813 West 171st Street, relative to Torrance Water District No. 2 (North Torrance-proposed), requesting that the southern boundary be established along 190th Street, excluding General Petroleum Corporation. He expressed appreciation that no "cheap subdivision" had been established in the vicinity of Prairie Avenue and Redondo Beach Boulevard. Also, he said he favored an airport on that site.

A communication was read from the County of Los Angeles, Board of Supervisors, enclosing certified copy of resolution adopted by the Board of Supervisors on November 27, 1945, declaring Illinois Street (Gramercy Place) in the City of Torrance to be a part of the County System of Highways, and requesting the consent of the City of Torrance to its improvement by the County.

Engineer Jain advised that the County requires a resolution by the City Council, consenting to have the street improved by the County, in order that the Flood Control District may proceed with certain improvements, and recommended that a resolution be passed.

In connection with this matter, and in compliance with Engineer Jain's recommendation, Clerk Bartlett read the next Resolution number, being:

RESOLUTION NO. 1754

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, AUTHORIZ-
ING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF ILLINOIS STREET
(GRAMERCY PLACE) BETWEEN 166th STREET
AND 174TH STREET IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE
AS A PART OF THE COUNTY SYSTEM OF HIGHWAYS.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that Resolution No. 1754 be adopted. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Cucci.

A communication was read from the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, expressing appreciation of the Board of Directors for the Council's action in providing appropriate Christmas decorations for the streets in the central district.

A communication was read from Glenn M. Jain, Secretary, Torrance Planning Commission, advising that the City Planning Commission met in special session December 17, 1945 to consider the petition of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce requesting that the rear yard requirements in the C-1 and C-2 Districts, as required by Land Use Ordinance No. 316, be revoked. Mr. Jain stated that action had been taken by the Commission to hold the necessary hearings, one before the Planning Commission, and one before the City Council, first one to be held January 2, 1945, for this matter and other minor changes which will

clarify certain requirements of Ordinance No. 316. He recommended that the City Council concur in the request for the public hearings on the proposed amendments to Ordinance No. 316.

Councilman Gilbert moved that the City Council concur in the action of the Planning Commission in this matter. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication, signed by City Engineer Jain and Fire Chief McMaster, was read, recommending and urging that the City Council authorize the City Clerk to arrange a contract with a suitable individual or company to have the records of legal ownerships and addresses brought up to date and regularly maintained for the use of all departments of the City and of the general public. Mr. Jain advised that this service can be obtained at a reasonable fee and will more than pay for itself in the service which it renders in a very short time. He outlined the ways in which the information will be used, and stated that the present records havenot been brought up to date since 1936.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the City Engineer be authorized to obtain estimates from various concerns or firms who do this type of work and submit the prices to the City Council. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Cucci.

A communication was read from Loyal Order of Moose, Torrance Lodge No. 785, requesting an appropriation of \$1500.00, and free use of the Civic Auditorium Sunday December 23, 1945 from 1:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M. for a Childrens' Community Christmas Party for 2500 children, stating that it will be a bigger and better program than was given last year.

Councilman Gilbert stated that a committee from the Moose Lodge had met with the City Council and outlined the details of the party, which had apparently been given favorable consideration by the Council.

Councilman Gilbert moved that \$1500.00 be appropriated, from the Advertising Fund, to defray expenses of a Childrens' Community Christmas Party, to be held Sunday, December 23, 1945 sponsored by Loyal Order of Moose, Torrance Lodge No. 785, to be paid upon presentation of proper invoices. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Cucci.

Councilman Gilbert moved that Loyal Order of Moose, Torrance Lodge No. 785, be granted free use of the Civic Auditorium all day Sunday, December 23, 1945 for the purpose of holding a Childrens' Community Christmas Party. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Cucci.

A communication was read from Glenn M. Jain, City Engineer, attaching two copies of Easement from the Santa Fe Railroad Company, three copies of Easement from Dominguez Estate Company, and three copies of "Consent" from the General Petroleum Corporation, in connection with the 203rd Street sewer recently constructed.

It was requested that a resolution be prepared and approved by the Council accepting these easements, and authorizing the City Clerk to have them recorded with the County Recorder.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 1755

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ACCEPTING EASEMENTS FROM SANTA FE RAILROAD COMPANY, DOMINGUEZ ESTATE COMPANY, AND ACCEPTING CONSENT FROM GENERAL PETROLEUM CORPORATION OF RIGHT OF WAY FOR SEWER PURPOSES ON 203RD STREET, AND AUTHORIZING THE RECORDING OF SAME.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that Resolution No. 1755 be adopted. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Cucci.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 1756

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF TORRANCE PROHIBITING LEFT TURNS
AT 1434 MARCELINA AVENUE AND 1617 CABRILLO
AVENUE AND ORDERING THE INSTALLATION OF
"NO LEFT TURN" SIGNS AT SAID LOCATIONS

Councilman Powell moved that Resolution No. 1756 be adopted. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Cucci.

Clerk Bartlett presented 77 petitions, together with a letter signed by City Employees, requesting that the Retirement Plan for City Employees be adopted by Councilmanic action, to become effective July 1, 1946 rather than to require this proposition to be voted upon by the people. Reasons for this request were given. Clerk Bartlett reported that the petitions and letter contained a total of 1753 signatures.

A lengthy discussion of this subject followed, the predominant question being, "if this City Council takes action to adopt a Retirement System for City Employees, can a subsequent City Council, by Council action, repeal it?" Deputy City Attorney Willett read an excerpt of the law, to the effect that, regardless of whether the Retirement System is adopted by Councilmanic action, or by a vote of the electorate, it can be repealed only by a vote of the electorate.

This apparently surprised some members of the Council, as, Councilman Gilbert pointed out, the representative who appeared before the Council and employees at a meeting when the proposition first started gaining interest, stated that, if adopted by Councilmanic action, it could not be repealed by a subsequent Council until after five years.

Councilman Gilbert declared that this constituted one of the main reasons he had not favored adopting it by Councilmanic action, as he felt it should not be a matter which could be buffeted around for political expediency or gain.

Attorney Willett replied that the law is specific in its treatment of the repealing of such a retirement system, adding that the law he cites is as of 1941, and he knows of no later amendments or supplements to it.

Clerk Bartlett read communications from The American Legion, Bert S. Crossland Post No. 170, United Steelworkers of America, Local Union 1414, Torrance Lions Club and Torrance Post No. 3251, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, all endorsing the Retirement System above referred to.

The matter was discussed generally for several minutes, all members of the Council indicating that they favor the plan and feel it is a good one. It was evident that the point brought out by Mr. Willett relative to method of repeal influenced the Council's attitude toward taking Council action to adopt the plan, as it was made clear that none of the Council favored adoption of a system by Councilmanic action only to have it used as a "political football" five years or more hence, which would bring about an everlasting condition of uncertainty and insecurity for city employees. There appeared to be a genuine desire to give to city employees a sound, secure plan, immune from political attacks, to serve one purpose only, that being to retire city employees with a pension for their years of service to the City.

It was pointed out that the trend in all industrial and commercial fields, as well as governing agencies, is toward retirement and pension plans. Councilman Powell said he felt there should be

a National Retirement System, but, inasmuch as there is not, the next best methods must be resorted to.

There appeared to be a small doubt relative to method of repeal, so, after some continued discussion, it was decided that Chief Stroh should contact Mr. Cornwall, the representative of the State Retirement Plan who originally explained the plan, and clarify the point about whether or not a subsequent Council can repeal the plan if adopted by the present Council.

Councilman Powell moved that the matter be deferred until the meeting of December 26, 1945 to allow Chief Stroh time to contact Mr. Cornwall relative to the question of method of repeal. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Powell moved that Chief Stroh be instructed to contact Mr. Cornwall and ask for a clarification of the question, "can a subsequent City Council repeal the Retirement Plan if it is adopted by the present City Council?" Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Powell moved that an appropriation of \$154.84, plus tax, be made for brake lining for Crown Busses, from Brake Lining Sales Company. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Cucci.

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Councilman Powell read a recommendation from James Brodie that certain utensils be purchased for the Civic Auditorium, and moved that Clerk Bartlett be authorized to obtain prices for same. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$160.00 be made for culvert pipe across Arlington Avenue, at Laguna Dominguez Channel. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Cucci.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that William Dymond be employed as a laborer, Street Department, on a temporary basis, at a salary of \$170.00 per month, effective November 5, 1945. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Cucci.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that Jack R. Stephens, who has been on Military leave of absence, be re-employed as a laborer, Street Department, at a salary of \$170.00 per month, effective November 26, 1945. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Cucci.

Councilman Powell asked whether or not he had applied for reinstatement through the Civil Service Board, Engineer Jain replying in the affirmative.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that an appropriation of \$432.00 be made for rental of Christmas decorations for the Christmas season consisting of garlands, pom-poms and banners for 27 lamp posts. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Cucci.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that an appropriation of \$115.48 plus tax, be made for four swivel casters and four wheels for a portable crane for the City Garage. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Cucci.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that an appropriation of \$100.49 be made for rollers, idler and pins for repairs to the loader, Street Department. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Cucci.

Councilman Gilbert moved that the employment of Edwin Clemons as a park maintenance man, on a temporary basis, be authorized, effective December 1, 1945 at a salary of \$170.00 per month, to fill the vacancy created by transfer of Frank Cook. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Cucci.

Councilman Gilbert moved that the Council instruct the City Clerk to place in the mailbox of each member of the City Council a list of the recommendations made by Bus Manager Ward, and that the City Clerk be instructed to notify Bus Manager Ward to meet with the City Council at 5:00 P.M. December 26, 1945. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Mayor Tolson moved that an appropriation of \$74.20 be made to the Chamber of Commerce for entertainment of new and retiring officers in charge of Naval Material Redistribution Center. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Cucci.

Mayor Tolson moved that a relief girl be employed for the Water Department for a period of not to exceed sixty days while the regular employee is on leave of absence, at a rate of \$0.90 per hour. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Cucci.

Mayor Tolson reported that a vacancy exists on the Planning Commission, due to expiration of Mr. LeGrande Barkdull's term on December 13, 1945.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that Mr. LeGrande Barkdull be re-appointed to membership on the City Planning Commission for a full term, to expire December 13, 1949. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Mayor Tolson commented that, at a prior meeting, the Chamber of Commerce recommended appointment of an aviation committee to present plans and recommendations to further the interests of Torrance in acquiring the Lomita Flight Strip as a Torrance Municipal Airport. He advised that Mr. Parkin of the Chamber of Commerce is interested in the matter, and that, he, Mayor Tolson, had suggested that Mr. Parkin suggest names for this committee. Councilman Powell suggested that some of the young men who have served the Country in the field of aviation be appointed to this committee, as, he said, their experience qualifies them to serve in this capacity. Councilman Hitchcock said he felt that Mayor Tolson should serve on the committee to keep the Council informed of the activities of the group. It was pointed out that the Committee will have no power to act, but will present its recommendations to the Council for consideration.

Councilman Gilbert moved that Mayor Tolson be delegated to represent the City Council on the Aviation Committee when it is formed. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Mayor Tolson reported that a recent aviation conference held in Sacramento had been found to be extremely interesting and enlightening for those city officials who had attended.

Engineer Jain reported that a petition for change of zone from A-1 to C-2 had been received from Orrie Gray and Vera M. Gray

affecting property on Pacific Coast Highway adjacent to Ocean Avenue, and advised that it should be referred to the Planning Commission.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that this petition be referred to the Planning Commission as recommended by Engineer Jain. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Gilbert moved that all City Employees, except those necessary to carry on essential functions of the City, be granted an extra holiday, Monday, December 24, 1945, to make a total of a four-day Christmas Holiday from Saturday to Tuesday inclusive. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Clerk Bartlett asked how this affects the City Clerk's Department, the reply being that the Clerk's office performs an essential function, and thereby indicated that the office should not close entirely.

Chief Stroh asked what provision would be made for his department, to which Councilman Gilbert replied that he knew it would seem unfair for everyone except the City policemen and firemen to have a four-day holiday, but that there seems little which can be done, as those departments are definitely essential to the welfare of the entire city.

Councilman Hitchcock asked why this could not be adjusted by giving the policemen who do not benefit by having Monday off an extra day of vacation when vacation periods start, Chief Stroh agreeing that this might be a solution.

Councilman Powell moved that the Chief of Police, the Chief of the Fire Department, the City Clerk and the City Engineer be authorized to arrange to give time off at a later date to those employees who may be required to work Monday as a means of compensating them. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Cucci.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

A sign contractor requested a permit to install a certain type of neon sign at the Rendezvous Cafe. Councilman Hitchcock stated that the gentleman had explained what he requires and moved that he be allowed to install the sign, provided it meets with the approval of City Engineer Jain insofar as specifications and hanging of the sign are concerned. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Mr. Mitchell of WALTERIA said that it would be greatly appreciated if the Council would move some type of building into the park in WALTERIA for use of the various Boy Scout Troops and Cub Scout Troops in WALTERIA, stating that they have no place to hold regular meetings and display their work, which, he said, is one of the principle morale boosters for the boys. Councilman Gilbert thanked Mr. Mitchell for bringing this to the attention of the Council, and asked Mr. Mitchell to contact Dale Riley and find out whether or not such a building which can be moved is available.

Mr. George Thatcher of WALTERIA suggested that the streets be cleaned on Sunday mornings, stating that he had been greatly embarrassed recently when bringing an out of town guest into the City of Torrance to view the main street of the town littered with papers and debris.

Councilman Gilbert stated that this matter is under discussion before the Planning Commission at the present time and it is hoped a solution, in the form of cooperation by the merchants in placing their rubbish in proper containers for ready pick up by the city trucks, will be arrived at, and the deplorable condition eliminated.

Mr. Mitchell said he thought something should be done to cut down accidents on Marcelina Avenue, claiming that, due to angle parking on the street, many minor accidents occur every day. Chief Stroh agreed that angle parking is to blame for this, but it was pointed out that parallel parking would cut the space now available

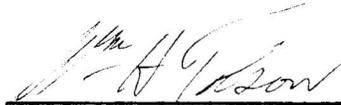
for parking, which is not anywhere near enough, practically in half. He said it is a condition which is practically impossible to better at this time, with demand for parking space so great.

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

At 10:12 P.M., upon motion of Councilman Hitchcock, seconded by Councilman Gilbert, the meeting adjourned.


CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

APPROVED:


MAYOR OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

*****INSERT**

Councilman Powell moved that an increase in salary from \$185.00 to \$200.00 per month be authorized for John C. Brand, bus operator, effective December 16, 1945. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Cucci.

Councilman Powell moved that \$53.63, plus tax, be made for generator exchange core for Bus #102 (\$44.50) and miscellaneous repair parts for stock (\$9.13) from Crown Body and Coach Corporation. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Cucci.

Councilman Powell moved that \$52.24, plus tax, be made for purchase of four (4) 600 x 16 tires for police cars, from Firestone Stores. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Cucci.