

Torrance, California
December 27, 1949

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 on Tuesday, December 27, 1949, in the Council Chamber of the City Hall.

Mayor Sherfey being absent, Councilman Jackson moved that Councilman Powell act as Mayor pro tem. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously. Mayor pro tem Powell called the meeting to order at 8:05 p.m.

Clerk Bartlett called the roll, those responding being: COUNCILMEN: Drale, Jackson and Powell. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Haggard and Sherfey. Also present were City Manager Stevens and City Attorney Smith.

All persons present participated in the salute to our Flag, following which one-minute's silence was observed as a tribute to James Brodie, deceased, who had been a City employee for 20 years.

As first order of business, Councilman Jackson moved that the minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 13, 1949, be approved as read. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously.

Mayor pro tem Powell announced the time had come to open bids for street name signs, and Clerk Bartlett read the following:

<u>Bidder</u>	<u>Item 1</u>	<u>Item 2</u>	<u>Item 3</u>	<u>Item 4</u>
Hundley Company	\$ 4.44	\$ 3.47	\$ 3.44	--
U. S. Porcelain Enamel Co.	3.50	2.80	3.50	--

Councilman Jackson moved the bids be received and referred to the City Manager for study and recommendation at the next regular meeting. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously.

Mayor pro tem Powell announced the time had come for the Protest Hearing on the Walteria Sanitary Sewer District. Clerk Bartlett advised that affidavits of mailing, posting and publication had been received and were on file in his office. Councilman Jackson moved the affidavits be received and filed. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously. Clerk Bartlett then read written protests from the following:

1. Sgt. Michael Bayer, 21 N. Tremont St., Indianapolis, Indiana -- Asst. No. 108
2. Paul Watanabe, 16411 La Salle, Gardena -- Asst. No. 101
3. Mrs. Eula Reid, 2381 Park St.
4. Ernest Rann, 618 So. Gertruda. Redondo -- Asst. No. 583

5. Louis S. Bosse, 3612 W. 242nd St., -- Lots 29, 30, 31, 32 and 33, Tract 7506.

City Manager Stevens directed a series of questions, pertaining to the sewer assessments, to Mr. Harold A. Barnett, civil engineer, of Barnett, Hopen & Smith, Mr. Walker of Municipal Bonding Company, and Mr. Patrick of our Engineering Dept. Questions from the floor were then addressed to the various men as to specific instances, following which Councilman Jackson moved the hearing be declared closed, under Alternate 9b. Motion was seconded by Councilman Drale and carried. Mayor pro tem Powell explained that by closing the hearing in this manner, those wishing to protest would have an opportunity to do so. Councilman Drale moved that the City Manager, City Engineer and other consultants meet with property owners having specific questions during intermission. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried. Councilman Jackson then moved that the time for the review of the questions raised be held at the next regular meeting -- January 10, 1950. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried.

At 8:55 p.m., Mayor pro tem Powell declared a 10 minute recess. Mayor Sherfey having arrived in the Chamber just prior to the recess, he assumed his chair and called the meeting to order at 9:15.

Mayor Sherfey announced the time had come for the opening of bids for the purchase of a truck, and Clerk Bartlett read the following:

Bidder	Item	Price
Glenn E. Thomas Co.	1950 Dodge - 11" clutch	\$ 1493.50
" " "	" " - 10" "	1456.19
Paul's Chevrolet	1950 Chev.	1365.78
Schultz & Peckham	1950 Ford	1361.02

Councilman Drale moved that the bids be received and that the low bid of Schultz & Peckham be accepted. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were read by Clerk Bartlett:

Letter from Division of Highways relative to condition of 174th St. Councilman Drale moved the matter be filed as a matter of record. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried unanimously.

Request from MacIsaac and Menke Co., contractors building the Pittsburgh Plate Glass Co., for permission to place a house trailer on the premises for the night watchman. Councilman Drale moved the request be granted. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried unanimously.

Letter from Los Angeles County, enclosing agreement between the Board of Supervisors and State Controller re the purchase of tax deeded land for Western Avenue Improvement. Councilman Powell moved that the Mayor and City Clerk be instructed to execute the instrument. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried unanimously.

Letter from Walteria Civic Organization re the proposed dump site in the Palos Verdes Hills, enclosing copy of letter sent to Supervisor Darby, urging the Council to concur in the opinion expressed in the letter. Councilman Powell moved that the Council concur in the recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried unanimously.

Letter from League of California Cities re allocation of balance of Chapter 47 funds for use by the City. Councilman Jackson moved the communication be referred to the City Manager for report to the entire Council at the next agenda meeting. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried unanimously.

Letter from Milky William's Local Union 1414 supporting City Workers Local 360. Councilman Jackson moved that no change be made by the City in the deduction of union dues from wages. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Drale interrupted the proceedings to state that the matter had arisen over a question raised by Councilman Haggard as to the legality of the City spending taxpayers' money doing the work of someone else -- and that in his opinion there were other things more illegal being done, including the appropriation of \$5000 to the Chamber of Commerce. He further stated he had requested a written opinion from the City Attorney as to the legality of such an appropriation and proceeded to read a small portion of the opinion. No action was taken.

Request from Local 1414 for elimination of hazards at the intersections of Cabrillo, Border and 213th Streets. Discussion followed, with Councilman Powell moving that the matter be referred to the Traffic Commission for recommendation at the next meeting and that the installation of a traffic circle be given some consideration. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously.

Letter from Los Angeles County advising appropriation of \$14623.18 for improvement of Newton and other streets in Torrance had been authorized. Matter of record.

Report of franchise earnings in an amount of \$500.34 by General Petroleum from November 1, 1948 to October 31, 1949. Matter of record.

Report from City Clerk that payment of the first half of the taxes in the amount of \$95,515.28 had been received from the County. Matter of record.

Clerk Bartlett also reported that he had 20 written protests, and between 20 and 30 oral protests, re the increased rates in the new License Ordinance. Councilman Powell moved that the City Clerk prepare a list of the objections and objectors and that a hearing be set at which time the Council would consider them. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried unanimously. Hearing was set by Mayor Sherfey for January 3, 1950, at 8:00 p.m.

Clerk Bartlett read the following recommendations of City Manager Stevens:

PERSONNEL:

1. That June Whitt, having successfully passed the Civil Service examination, be appointed to serve her probationary period as Account Clerk, effective January 1, 1950, and that her compensation be at the rate set forth as the fifth step for the above classification.

Councilman Powell moved that the Council concur with the recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

APPROPRIATIONS:

1. For the purchase of tires for the remaining portion of the fiscal year, the sum of \$1,313.51. (Budget Item)
2. For modernizing lighting installations at Five-Point intersection, the sum of \$625.00. (Budget Item)
3. For the installation of fire hydrant at 166th St. and Illinois St., in accordance with the recommendation of the Fire Chief.

Question was raised by Councilman Drale as to Item 1. Following explanation by Mr. Stevens, Councilman Drale moved that on future purchases over \$1000, sealed bids be called for and opened in open Council meeting. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried.

APR 10

Councilman Jackson moved that the Council concur with the recommendations of the City Manager. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

TRAFFIC CONTROL:

That the City Attorney be authorized to prepare the necessary ordinance to establish the following regulatory signs, in accordance with the recommendations of the Traffic Commission:

1. Stop Signs:
 - a. On 213th Street at Border Avenue
 - b. On North side of Border Avenue at 213th Street
2. That 2-hour parking limits be established on:
 - a. East side of Manuel Avenue from 218th Street to alley.
 - b. North side of 218th Street from Manuel Avenue 100' easterly.

Councilman Jackson moved to concur with the recommendations. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried unanimously, by roll call vote.

Letter was then read from the City Manager reporting on matters previously referred to him, as follows:

"Drainage From Naval Depot: Last winter the drainage condition at the Naval Depot was called to the attention of the Commander of the United States Naval Base and corrective measures requested. The Commander replied that expenditure of their funds for a partial solution of the problem did not seem justified.

"I recommend that a drainage study of the entire area be made and costs determined, and that when such data becomes available, that Federal aid be requested for financing the project.

"A petition bearing signatures of 210 persons requesting bus service for the West Torrance area was referred to the Transportation Committee, Bus Superintendent and City Manager for investigation and recommendation. On Wednesday, December 22, 1949, the group traveled over the route necessary to serve the petitioners and determined that it was not economically feasible to cover the route at this time. It was estimated that operational costs would amount to \$15.00 to \$18.00 per day and that normal revenues could not be expected to average over \$2.50 per day."

As to the drainage problem, Councilman Jackson moved that the City Manager be instructed to make a study of the area and determine the cost, and report back to the Council within 3 months. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried unanimously.

As to the petition for a bus route, Councilman Powell reported that he had made the trip over the route with the group and that such a route would not be feasible at the present time. Mayor Sherfey moved that Mr. A. E. Thomas, who instigated the original petition, be notified of the group's decision. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried unanimously.

Letter was read from the Planning Commission re the following matters:

Case No. 182: Petition of F. J. Major for a Variance and Conditional Permit to permit the construction of a Two-family Residence at 17615 Yukon Avenue. The property is located in an A-1 (Light Agricultural) Zone. The Commission voted unanimously to recommend approval of the above case.

Councilman Drale moved that the Council concur with the recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Tentative Tract Map No. 14529: This tract is located on Ainsworth Street between 174th Street and the Southern California Edison right of way, is being subdivided by the Mac-Low-Men Corporation and was recommended for approval, subject to an extension of 'B' Street being cut through to 'E' Street and the dedication of two public walk-ways for public use.

Councilman Powell moved to concur with the recommendation and accept the map. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Tentative Tract Map No. 13994: This tract is located at the easterly end of that portion of Lot 1, Tract No. 9765, lying between Pacific Coast Highway and Newton Street, consisting of 80 lots and presented by Mr. K. Sande Senness. This map was recommended for approval.

Councilman Drale moved to concur with the recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Clerk Bartlett read title to:

ORDINANCE NO. 493

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE DEFINING THE TERM "USES PERMITTED" AS SET FORTH AND USED IN ORDINANCE NO. 316 OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, AND AMENDING SAME IN THE PARTICULAR RESPECT AS SET FORTH IN THIS ORDINANCE.

Councilman Powell moved further reading of the Ordinance be dispensed with. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Powell moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 493 at its second and final reading. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

ORDINANCE NO. 494

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 249

Councilman Drale moved to dispense with further reading of the Ordinance. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Drale moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 494 at its second and final reading. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Councilman Drale announced he had letters from the Waleria Businessmen's Group and Waleria Civic Organization urging resurfacing of streets and alleys. After much discussion, Councilman Drale moved that all streets and alleys in Waleria be given immediate attention and that the equipment remain in the area until the job is finished. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried.

Councilman Drale also reported on the Bus Department loss during the period July 1 to November 30, 1949.

Councilman Powell urged that certain other drainage problems be considered in the study to be made -- namely (1) corner of 235th and Narbonne, (2) 238th and Hawthorne, and (3) the area where people in Hollywood Riviera have been allowed to build at a point which is under water during the rainy season.

Councilman Powell also commended the citizens of Torrance, and the Police Department, for the fine Holiday record.

Mayor Sherfey suggested the City Attorney be instructed to write a letter of condolence to Mrs. Brodie. So moved by Councilman Drale, seconded by Councilman Powell, and carried. The Mayor also suggested the Flag be set at half-mast between 9:00 and 10:00 a.m., Wednesday, Dec. 28th, in tribute to Mr. Brodie. So moved by Councilman Powell, seconded by Councilman Jackson and unanimously carried.

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Mrs. Slonecker advised the Council that the Walteria Civic Organization had submitted another letter relative to street conditions in Walteria, and Councilman Drale stated that his previous motion would cover them.

Mr. John Wall, of the Hi-Ho, asked the Council what decision had been reached relative to his request for an amendment to the "No Sunday Dancing" ordinance. Discussion followed, resulting in Councilman Powell moving that the City Attorney draft an ordinance amending our present ordinance, giving the Chief of Police plenary power and discretion. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried.

Mr. C. T. Rippe asked what, if anything, the Council was going to do about the proposed "Self-Service Station" ordinance. Lengthy discussion followed, resulting in a motion by Councilman Powell that the matter be held over for the next agenda meeting when Mr. Haggard would be present and could explain his reasons for requesting the ordinance. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried.

Councilman Powell moved all bills properly audited be paid. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried unanimously.

At 11:20 p.m., Councilman Powell moved the meeting be adjourned to Thursday, December 29th, at 12:00 noon, for the adoption of certain ordinances and resolutions, and any other business which might properly come before the Council. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried.


CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

APPROVED:


MAYOR OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE