

ABG340

Torrance, California
January 10, 1950

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 of the City Hall on Tuesday, January 10, 1950, at 8:08 p.m., Mayor Sherfey presiding.

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

All persons present participated in the Salute to our Flag.

As first order of business, Councilman Jackson moved that the minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 27th, Adjourned Regular Meeting of December 29th, the Protest Hearing of January 3rd and the Special Meeting of January 5th be approved as read. Motion, seconded by Councilman Haggard, carried unanimously.

Mayor Sherfey announced the time had come for taking final action on the Walteria Sewer District. Clerk Bartlett then read a communication from Harold Barnett, Civil Engineer, recommending a correction in the assessment of Parcel 751 due to transfer of some property. Councilman Jackson moved that the Engineer be authorized to make the correction. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried unanimously.

At 8:12 p.m., Mayor Sherfey declared a short recess for the purpose of making this correction. Meeting reconvened at 8:15 and Engineer reported the correction had been made.

Clerk Bartlett then read a second letter from the Engineers reporting on protests received and recommending any and all protests be denied. Mayor Sherfey then asked for further protests or questions from the audience. Questions were raised by Mr. Hahn, Mr. Swanson, Mr. Bates and Mr. Gray as to assessment for full 50' when their lots are less than 50'. Explanation was made by Mr. Barnett that assessments were based on recorded Tract Maps. Question was raised by the Council as to cost of a survey to determine exact frontage of each lot and Mr. Barnett estimated the cost at \$20,000 and the time at six months. Clerk Bartlett then read a letter from Mr. Patrick, Ass't to City Engineer, making certain recommendations as to the protest made by Mr. Carl Combs. Councilman Drale asked the City Attorney what recourse a citizen had when assessed for more property than he owned and was told the citizen would have to go into Superior Court and contest the assessment on that particular lot. Councilman Jackson moved to deny any and all protests. Motion, seconded by Councilman Haggard, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Clerk Bartlett read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 2029

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, CONFIRMING THE ASSESSMENT LEVIED UPON THE LAND WITHIN THE WALTERIA SEWER ASSESSMENT DISTRICT TO PAY THE COSTS OF THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE PACIFIC COAST HIGHWAY AND CERTAIN OTHER STREETS AND ALLEYS IN SAID CITY BY THE CONSTRUCTION AND INSTALLATION THEREIN OF A SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM.

Councilman Jackson moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2029. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Mayor Sherfey announced the time had come for hearing the petition of John Kettler relative to change of zone in Tract 16125. City Manager Stevens reviewed the case and read one letter of protest. The Planning Commission's recommendation of approval was then read. There being no oral protests, Councilman Powell moved to concur with the recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

At 8:47 p.m., Mayor Sherfey declared a 5-minute recess to take care of the signing of necessary papers relative to the Walteria Sewer District. Meeting reconvened at 8:58.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

Clerk Bartlett read the following correspondence:

Letter from Richfield Oil Corp. advising no pipe lines were laid, removed or abandoned from July 1 to December 31, 1949, under County Franchise Ord. Nos. 1358-1361. Matter of record.

Letter from Chicago Bridge & Iron Co. relative to hazardous condition of intersection at Madrona and Carson and urging remedy. Councilman Powell moved that the matter be taken under consideration by the Traffic Commission on its next tour. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously.

Letter from Mrs. John Scanlon, Hollywood Riviera, requesting aid in eliminating the sandy condition across the street from her property. At the suggestion of Councilman Drale, Councilman Powell moved that

the matter be referred to the City Manager for report at the next meeting. Motion, seconded by Councilman Haggard, carried unanimously.

Letter from Walteria Businessmen's Club urging assistance in obtaining 25-mile traffic zone on Pacific Coast Highway from Ocean Ave. to Madison St. Discussion followed, with Councilman Jackson and City Manager Stevens reporting this matter had been taken up with the State before -- the first request being rejected, and no decision received as yet on second request. Following further discussion, City Manager Stevens was instructed to again write the Highway Department.

Letter from Torrance Council of P.T.A. urging that the City Attorney be instructed to draw an ordinance prohibiting minors from playing pin ball machines. Short discussion followed resulting in motion by Councilman Powell that the matter be referred to the Council as a whole, and the City Attorney, for study as to possible legislation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously.

Letter from the Recreation Commission recommending (1) Tartar Teen Club be given use of the Auditorium on Friday nights and employment of Mr. Nolan and Miss Avis as supervisors, (2) immediate construction of Community Building at El Retiro Park at approximate cost of \$3000 and (3) lights for the Walteria Softball Field. Councilman Drale moved to concur with the recommendations. Motion was seconded by Councilman Powell. Lengthy discussion ensued, particularly as to recommendation No. 2, as no building plans had been submitted to the Council for approval. Mr. Patronskey advised the Council of the building plans and that the labor and a good part of the material would be donated. Motion was defeated by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Drale and Powell. NAYS: COUNCILMEN: Haggard, Jackson and Sherfey. Further discussion followed. Mayor Sherfey then moved that the Council concur with the recommendation of the Commission, with the exception of the building, and that the City Manager prepare plans and specifications for submission to the Council at earliest possible date. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Haggard, Jackson, Powell and Sherfey. NAYS: COUNCILMAN: Drale.

Request of Jack Perry for lease of the Auditorium one night a week to conduct a Wrestling Show. Councilman Powell moved the matter be referred to City Manager Stevens for recommendation as to use of the building. Motion, seconded by Councilman Haggard, carried unanimously.

Letter from Torrance General Insurance Agency as to Fire and Extended Coverage Insurance Proposal. Councilman Powell moved that the communication be referred to the City Manager and Finance Committee for recommendation to the Council as a whole. City Manager Stevens suggested insurance representatives be called in to explain the insurance to the Council and Mr. Stevens was instructed to have such representatives at the next agenda meeting. Councilman Powell withdrew his motion.

Clerk Bartlett read the following recommendations of City Manager Stevens:

PERSONNEL:

1. That Dale Riley be temporarily appointed as Assistant Building Inspector, effective January 3, 1950, and that his present compensation be retained.

Discussion followed as to Asst. Bldg. Inspector receiving more compensation than the Bldg. Inspector. Councilman Jackson moved the Council concur with the recommendation. Further discussion ensued resulting in Councilman Jackson withdrawing his motion. Councilman Haggard moved the matter be referred to the Civil Service Board for recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried unanimously.

2. That classifications and salary schedules be authorized for the following positions and that the Civil Service Board be authorized to call examinations for same:

AB9910

- a. Plumbing Inspector
- b. Assistant Building Inspector

Councilman Drale moved that City Manager Stevens be instructed to appoint Arthur Moore as Temporary Plumbing Inspector pending establishing of salary schedule and examination. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Powell moved to concur with the recommendations of City Manager. Motion, seconded by Councilman Haggard, carried unanimously.

3. That Mary Andrus be temporarily employed as a Stenographer-Clerk in the Engineer's office, effective January 11, 1950, and that her compensation be at the rate for the first step in the above classification.

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

APPROPRIATIONS:

1. League of California Cities dues for the year 1950, \$400.00.
2. Second Payment on North Torrance Fire Station in the amount of \$2,203.70. \$588.80 of cost will be retained for 35 days, under terms of contract.
3. For Money and Securities Policy for 3-year term, the sum of \$201.15.
4. To Barnett, Hopen and Smith for Engineering Services on the Walteria Sewer District, the sum of \$538.48.

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

MISCELLANEOUS:

1. That bids be invited for the construction of a metal storage building for the Street Department, approximately 50' x 100'. (A Budget Item)

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

Clerk Bartlett read the following report on matters referred to the City Manager for investigation:

- "1. Report on Chapter 47 Funds:
 - a. Site Acquisition Funds amount to \$3,841.60. Request for the full amount of the funds is being processed with the State toward the purchase of the North Torrance Fire Station land.
 - b. Plan Preparation Funds amount to \$3,730.08. A conference was held with State officials to determine if these funds could be used toward the water survey. It was decided that the funds could not be applied on such a project. It is believed that the funds can be used for the preparation of plans for the extension of sections of the County Sanitation sewer lines within the City, which would be part of the Master Sewer System to be established. Funds could be used for plans for a Police Department building or a swimming pool, if so desired.

"2. Traffic Control at the Intersection of Border, Cabrillo and Torrance Boulevard:

The Traffic Commission made a study of the intersection and of the two plans submitted by the Southern California Auto Club. It was decided to have additional studies made by Mr. Dorsey. Plans have been forwarded to his office and it is planned to take traffic counts at the intersection next week. Reports will be made of the results obtained and the plan adopted."

The following recommendations of the Planning Commission were read:

"At a meeting of the Planning Commission on December 20, 1949, the request of H. J. Swanson, Engineering Contractor, for permission to improve the property at 23639 Hawthorne Boulevard, owned and operated by Noriyoshi Matsui, and on which is conducted a fish drying business, was discussed and the report of the committee appointed to investigate same was heard.

"It was the decision of the Commission to recommend approval, subject to a favorable opinion of the City Attorney. Mr. Smith, City Attorney, has been contacted and has given a favorable reply. It is recommended that the request of Mr. Swanson, to improve the property located at 23639 Hawthorne Boulevard, be approved."

Councilman Powell moved that the Council concur with the recommendation with the provision that if and when the premises become a nuisance, it can be abated. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously.

CASE NO. 181: Petition of Dr. Don C. Moshos for a Variance and Conditional Permit to permit the construction and operation of a new car agency and garage at 1621-23 Cravens Avenue. This property is located in a C-1 (Retail Commercial) Zone.

The Planning Commission recommends denial of this petition, due to inadequate parking facilities, smoke and fumes and the protests of adjacent property owners to such an operation.

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

CASE NO. 183: Petition of Mary Eleanor Kline for a Variance and Conditional Permit to permit the construction of a medical building at 1104-06 Sartori Avenue. This property is located in an R-3 (Multiple Family Residential) Zone. The Planning Commission recommends approval of this petition."

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

FINAL TRACT MAP NO. 14202: This tract is located east of Hawthorne Boulevard and north of 182nd Street, consists of 47 lots and is being subdivided by Truman Browne. The Planning Commission recommends approval of this map, subject to minor engineering changes.

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

REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF VARIANCE: The request of Mary E. Frenger for an extension on the Variance Issued under Case No. 167, to operate a restaurant on property at 3657 Emerald Street, was recommended for approval. The extension is to cover a period of six months from the date of expiration of the original Variance.

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

ABG:MD

Clerk Bartlett read title to:

ORDINANCE NO. 496

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING LAND USE ORDINANCE NO. 316, RECLASSIFYING THAT CERTAIN PROPERTY DESCRIBED IN PLANNING COMMISSION CASE NO. 176.

Councilman Powell moved to dispense with further reading of the Ordinance. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Powell moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 496 at its first reading. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

ORDINANCE NO. 497

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING LAND USE ORDINANCE NO. 316, RECLASSIFYING THAT CERTAIN PROPERTY DESCRIBED IN PLANNING COMMISSION CASE NO. 177.

Councilman Drale moved to dispense with further reading of the Ordinance. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Drale moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 497 at its first reading. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

ORDINANCE NO. 498

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING LAND USE ORDINANCE NO. 316, RECLASSIFYING THAT CERTAIN PROPERTY DESCRIBED IN PLANNING COMMISSION CASE NO. 179.

Councilman Powell moved to dispense with further reading of the Ordinance. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Powell moved to adopt Ordinance No. 498 at its first reading. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

City Manager Stevens advised he had a report from the Bus Superintendent which was presented to the Transportation Committee and which he wished the Council as a whole to study. Councilman Powell moved that the report be held over for the Agenda Meeting next Tuesday. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried unanimously.

City Manager Stevens recommended that a Police Officer be sent to Traffic School at U.C.L.A. for 10-days with expenses paid. Councilman Jackson moved to concur with the recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Haggard, carried unanimously.

City Manager Stevens also advised the Council that he had in his possession several samples of street signs for their study before awarding of contract.

City Attorney Smith reported that Rudy Mayer, of Sunhaven Properties, had called him relative to the 2½ acres deeded to the City, title to which was encumbered, advising the City would get the 2½ acres but that he would be unable to give the School Board its 10 acres. Councilman Powell moved that the matter be referred to the Council and City Attorney for study. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried unanimously.

Councilman Drale moved that the establishment of traffic control at 182nd and Hawthorne be referred to the Traffic Commission. Motion, seconded by Councilman Haggard, carried unanimously.

Councilman Drale moved that a certified Bank Appraiser be employed to make an appraisal of the 28 lots adjacent to El Retiro Park. City Manager Stevens reported on the replies he had received from lot owners as to asking price of the lots. Councilman Haggard suggested the City purchase lots up in the hill, where the majority of the people

are, and that El Retiro Park be left as is. Discussion followed. Motion was seconded by Councilman Powell and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Drale moved that the City Attorney be instructed to amend the Business License Ordinance as follows: (1) resident contractors to include those outside the City limits having a Torrance address; (2) \$5.00 per year fee on 5¢ vending machines and \$2.00 per year on 1¢ vending machines; (3) \$24.00 per year for wholesalers, resident or non-resident. Motion was seconded by Councilman Powell. City Attorney Smith suggested that the entire schedule of fees be gone over rather than amend 2 or 3 at a time. Motion of Councilman Drale carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Drale, Jackson and Powell. NAYS: COUNCILMEN: Haggard and Sherfey.

Mayor Sherfey moved that a meeting be set with the City Attorney to go over all the changes to be made in the License Ordinance. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried unanimously.

Councilman Powell moved that the City of Torrance be included in the Assessment District of the Walteria Sewer District. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Powell requested that the City Clerk check on Lot 10 of Block 1, Meadow Park Tract, reportedly sold for taxes.

Councilman Powell reminded the Council that the building still existed on the Hollywood-Palos Verdes Parkway. City Attorney Smith advised he had just completed drawing the Mandatory Injunction.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Representatives of Harbor City, Harbor Hills, and Normont Terrace protested the cancelling of the bus route servicing them, stating the bus was used by workers, school children, housewives, students, etc., and was their only means of transportation. These representatives were:

Leonard Kitsch, Harbor City Chamber of Commerce, 1302 Pacific Coast Hwy.
 Frances Hencel, 25108 So. Normandie, Harbor City; tel. Lomita 2611-J.
 Mrs. Paul Laine, 1131 252nd St., Harbor City; tel. 1340-W.
 Mrs. Herman Ludwig, 25425 Frampton St., Harbor City; tel. Lomita 2041-R.
 Edw. G. Pemdray, 501 Harbor Hills, Lomita.
 William Plummer, 1402 251st St., Harbor City; tel. Lomita 562-J.
 William Brady, Harbor Hills.
 Mr. Sanda, Harbor Hills.
 Mr. Sheehan, Harbor Hills.
 Mrs. Betty Moses, 732 Harbor Hills.
 Mrs. Naomi Huff, 519 Harbor Hills; tel. Term. 36938.
 Mrs. Frances Derouin, 1073 W. 256th, Harbor City.
 Mrs. Joe Cervantes, 1067 W. 256th, Harbor City; tel. Lomita 737-M.

A meeting of the Council and representatives of the group is to be called at a later date for further discussion.

Mr. Geo. Downing, member of the Civil Service Board, advised the Council that Mr. Elder's term as a Board Member had expired on January 4th. Clerk Bartlett not having received a copy of the communication from the Civil Service Board to the Council as to action taken on various matters at their last meeting, Councilman Drale offered his copy for reading. The communication not covering Mr. Elder's status, Councilman Powell moved that Mr. Elder be nominated for an extended term. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried and the Mayor advised he would consider Mr. Elder for another term.

Councilman Haggard moved all bills properly audited be paid. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

ABR-10

At 10:35 p.m., Councilman Jackson moved meeting be adjourned.
Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried unanimously.


CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

APPROVED:


MAYOR OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE