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Torrance, California  
February 14, 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, Torrance, on Tuesday, February 14, 1950, at 8:00 p.m., Mayor Sherfey presiding.

Those responding to roll call by Clerk Bartlett were: 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 Powell moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 24th, the Adjourned Regular Meeting of January 31st, the Adjourned Regular Meeting of February 7th and the Special Meeting of February 9th. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried unanimously.

Mayor Sherfey announced the time had come to open bids for the erection of a metal building at the bus yard and Clerk Bartlett read the following bids:

Bidder	Address	Amount
Apex Steel Corp., Ltd.	6111 Eastern Ave., Los Angeles 55	\$ 9,177.00
Pacific Iron & Steel Co.	11633 So. Alameda St., Los Angeles 2	8,681.00
Empire Steel Buildings Co.	2137 Marianna Ave., Los Angeles 33	8,672.00
Everett L. Foster	6000 Paramount Blvd., Long Beach 5	10,497.00
Pioneer Steel & Constr. Co., Inc.	108 W. 6th St., Los Angeles 14	8,045.00
Otis Oliver	1827 W. 145th St., Gardena	8,987.00
Kyle Steel Constr. Co.	5200 Alcoa Ave., Los Angeles 11	8,992.00
Nigg Engineering Corp.	545 N. 2nd St., Covina	9,590.00
Pascoe Steel & Constr.	389 N.E. End Ave., Pomona	8,194.00
Vinnell Co., Inc.	3025 W. Mission Rd., Alhambra	8,483.00

Councilman Drale moved the bid of Pioneer Steel & Construction Co. be accepted and all other bids rejected, subject to approval of specifications. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Mayor Sherfey then announced the time had come to open bids for street signs and Clerk Bartlett opened and read the following:

Bidder	Item 1 - "A"	Item 2 - "B"	Item 3
U. S. Porcelain & Enamel	\$ 3.00	\$ 7.00	--
Hundley Company	4.44	8.19	\$ 6.74
Ferro Enameling Co.	4.44	8.19	--

City Manager Stevens advised the Council that the bid made by U. S. Porcelain did not meet the specifications and he would prefer that the Council studied the bids with the samples. So moved by Councilman Powell, seconded by Councilman Haggard and unanimously carried.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

Clerk Bartlett read the following correspondence:

Letter from Tide Water Associated Oil Co. advising no receipts or earnings under Franchise Ordinance No. 127 for the 12 months preceding February 1, 1950. Matter of record.

Request from J. Garsh for permission to conduct auto salvage yard and new parts and accessory store at 1801 Torrance Blvd. Councilman Powell moved the request be referred to the Chief of Police for recommendation at the next regular meeting and to the Council as a whole for study of the area concerned. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried unanimously.

Letter from Thos. R. Dale, of 1827 W. 182nd St., urging traffic signals at 182nd and Western. City Manager Stevens advised that the City had erected temporary stop signs going on to Western and that the County is going to install signal lights after completing work on Western. Councilman Drale moved the matter be referred to the Traffic Commission. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried unanimously.

Petition signed by the attorneys in town requesting reduction in occupational permit fee. Councilman Drale moved the matter be referred to the City Attorney for his recommendation. Following a short discussion, Councilman Drale withdrew his motion and Councilman Haggard, at the suggestion of Mayor Sherfey, moved the petition be taken under consideration at the time other license fees are considered. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried unanimously.

Petition signed by 37 persons requesting the opening of 171st St. between Yukon Ave. and Glenburn Ave. Following discussion, Councilman Powell moved the petition be referred to the City Manager and Traffic Commission for recommendation at the next regular meeting. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously.

Letter from the Santa Fe Railway Co. acknowledging complaints of excessive speed and noise and advising investigation would be made. At the suggestion of Mayor Sherfey, Councilman Drale moved that a copy of the letter be sent to Mr. Elder and that the letter be filed as a matter of record. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried.

Request from the Salvation Army to display placards on the light standards between April 13th and 24th. Councilman Powell moved the City Manager be authorized to grant the request. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried unanimously.

Letter from A. D. Gianni, Chairman of the Planning Commission, recommending additional compensation for Earle A. Lloyd, Planning Consultant, as more of his time will be required than in the past. Councilman Powell moved that the present Secretary of the Commission, together with the Finance Committee, consider the request and make their recommendation at the next regular meeting. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried unanimously.

Letter from Byron Johnson tendering his resignation from the Planning Commission. Councilman Powell moved that the resignation be accepted and that a letter be sent Mr. Johnson thanking him for services performed, and that the Mayor consider nominations for the vacancy. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously.

Letter from Ferdinand O. Bahr of the State Recreation Commission, advising appraisal of city's recreational facilities had been completed and was ready for presentation. Councilman Powell moved that February 28th be set for the presentation hearing and that the City Clerk write letters of invitation to the Recreation Commission and the various youth groups. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously.

Letter from the Recreation Commission recommending (1) that a director of recreation be employed immediately on a 1-year contract, subject to civil service status at the end of the year; (2) that the Council approve plans submitted for recreation buildings at El Retiro Park and North Torrance, not to exceed \$5000 each; and (3) that a merry-go-round be purchased for Walteria Park, not to exceed \$300. Councilman Drale moved to concur with the recommendations. Motion was seconded by Councilman Powell. Following some discussion, motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Letter from the Civil Service Board recommending that, due to the incapacity of the Sr. Captain, the next Sr. Captain receive the appointment of Fire Chief and that no examination be called until such time as Capt. Winters can pass the physical examination for reinstatement as Captain. Councilman Jackson moved the communication be referred to the City Manager for appropriate action in appointing the Fire Chief. Councilman Drale advised he did not care to vote on the matter until he receives the written opinion requested from the City Attorney. Motion was seconded by Councilman Haggard and carried; Councilman Drale did not vote.

Letter from the Civil Service Board recommending that A. B. Cameron and Wm. F. Gregory be notified to move into the City at once or forfeit their civil service rights. Councilman Drale moved that the communication be referred to the legal department and City Manager for a written opinion at the next regular meeting. Motion was seconded by Councilman Powell. City Attorney Smith advised that last Spring he had submitted an opinion to the City Manager as to the status of

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Mr. Cameron and that he could not write a better one now. He advised the Council, further, that it was impossible for him to be continually writing legal opinions "for the next regular meeting" as there was too much other work in the office. Councilman Powell moved that the City Manager communicate with the Civil Service Board as to the status of Mr. Cameron, based on the City Attorney's previous opinion, and that he study the situation of the other gentleman and report to the Council at the next meeting. Councilman Drale withdrew his previous motion and seconded Councilman Powell's motion. Motion carried.

Letter from the Civil Service Board recommending that position of Fire Chief be permanently filled by the oldest active captain and giving reasons for recommendation. Councilman Jackson moved communication be filed as a matter of record. Motion, seconded by Councilman Haggard, carried unanimously.

Letter from Civil Service Board advising the Board had met with the School Board relative to employment of Recreational Director and the joint recommendation was that such person should be employed through competitive civil service examination. Councilman Drale moved the letter be filed as a matter of record. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried.

Clerk Bartlett read the following recommendations of City Manager Stevens which, on motion of Councilman Drale, seconded by Councilman Powell, were acted upon individually.

#### PERSONNEL:

1. That Dale Riley be reclassified from City Recreation Director to Superintendent of Maintenance, Recreation. This classification to be made without a civil service examination as it is to be a change in name only and not in the work performed by Mr. Riley during the past few years. Compensation to be \$242 to \$290 per month.

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

#### APPROPRIATIONS:

1. For the purchase of disintegrated granite for 242nd Street, the sum of \$500.00.

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

2. For the purchase of California Jurisprudence and MacQuillan's law books for the City Attorney's office, the sum of \$732.88.

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

3. For payment to the Torrance Chamber of Commerce for advertising and publicity service during October, November and December, 1949, the sum of \$1,250.00 (A budget item)

Councilman Powell moved that the item be held up pending signing of the contract presently under consideration. There being no second, motion was declared lost. Councilman Haggard moved to concur with the recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Haggard, Jackson and Sherfey. NAYS: COUNCILMEN: Drale and Powell. Councilman Powell requested that the item be paid "under protest".

#### TRAFFIC CONTROL:

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

Stop Signs:

- (a) On Linda Drive at Carol Drive
- (b) On Via Los Miradores at Monte D'Oro

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

BIDS:

That the City invite bids on the following matters:

1. Electrical equipment for lighting ball field at Walteria Park.
2. For recreation buildings at El Retiro Park and at North Torrance.
3. For sale of surplus equipment at Airport to establish building fund.
4. For restaurant concession at Airport.
5. For improvement of Hawthorne Avenue south of Newton Street and Newton Street from Hawthorne Avenue to a point 1200' east of Madison Avenue. (County Gas Tax Funds)

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

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

1. Drainage conditions in Hollywood Riviera:

Street Department has enlarged catch basin inlets on streets in upper Hollywood Riviera to insure unrestricted flow into the drains. This should reduce the flood danger and restrict the flood hazard to the size of the existing drains.

Further study is being made by the Engineering Department in the hopes that some water may be diverted from the critical areas.

2. Recreation Director:

Applications for Recreation Director were closed February 1, 1950. All applications have been screened by Dr. Hull and myself and the number of candidates under consideration reduced to three. We expect to interview the last of the three under consideration some time next week and will be prepared to recommend the employment of one man, or to submit the top two candidates for consideration by the City Council at the next regular meeting of the Council, to be held February 28, 1950.

3. Gutters on streets in Walteria:

Street Superintendent, Ralph Perkins, has designed a street for the Walteria area which confines storm waters to a gutter line and which also provides a paved shoulder outside the gutter line for parking or for pedestrian use. This design was recently used on Ocean Avenue south of Highway 101 and is being planned for 242nd Street. I believe that this answers the request for confining the water to the streets by means of a gutter. Where this is in practice, a roll type curbing will be used when it does not interfere with the design of the roadway.

Relative to item 1, Councilman Powell moved that the matter be referred back to the Engineering Department for further study; as to item 2, that the matter be referred to the Recreation Commission for its recommendation; and moved to concur with item 3. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

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Letter was read from City Manager Stevens relative to the proposed purchase of lots to be included in El Retiro Park, as follows:

"We have on this date received a valuation report on Lots 5 to 32, inclusive, Block 'P', Tract No. 10300, from Marshall and Stevens and appraised value is as follows:

Lots 5 and 6	\$950.00	average values	\$ 1,900.00
Lots 7, 8 and 9	800.00	" "	2,400.00
Lots 10 through 28	650.00	" "	12,350.00
Lots 29 and 30	750.00	" "	1,500.00
Lots 31 and 32	850.00	" "	1,700.00
Total Value - 28 Lots			\$19,850.00
Average Value Per Lot			\$709.00

"The results of a canvas of property owners by this office to determine their asking price for the lots in question, is as follows:

Lot No.	Price Asked By Owner	Lot No.	Price Asked By Owner
5	\$	19	\$ 800.00
6	1,000.00	20	800.00
7	1,235.00	21	800.00
8	1,000.00	22	
9		23	3,000.00
10	2,400.00	24	
11	1,500.00	25	
12	1,000.00	26	1,000.00
13		27	
14	1,200.00	28	
15		29	850.00
16	1,000.00	30	
17		31	1,200.00
18		32	1,500.00

"Where no value is placed on the lot, owner failed to reply or failed to set a value."

Councilman Powell moved that a copy of the communication be sent to the Recreation Commission and the Hollywood Riviera group which originated the petition for acquisition. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously.

Letter from the Planning Commission was read as follows:

CASE NO. 164: Petition of Frank Celinscak for a Variance and Conditional Permit to permit the construction and operation of a cafe situated at 18930 Hawthorne Blvd., on the corner of 190th Street and Hawthorne Blvd. This property is located in an A-1 (Light Agricultural) Zone. It was the decision of the Commission that the recommendation of denial, submitted to the Council at the meeting held January 24, 1950, be continued in effect, as the new information brought up does not make any change in the case.

Councilman Drale advised the area in question was in the process of being re-zoned for business and moved that the matter be held up pending the adoption of the new zone map for the district. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried unanimously.

CASE NO. 188: Petition of Bay Manufacturing Company for a Variance and Conditional Permit to make an addition to the existing manufacturing plant located at 316 Arlington Avenue. This property is situated in an R-3 (Multiple-Family Residential) Zone. Approval of this Variance was recommended to the Council.

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

TRACT MAPS: (1) Tentative Tract Maps No. 16331 and No. 16332 were submitted by Bert Murphy and consist of 22 and 25 lots, respectively. Tract No. 16331 is located south of 182nd Street and Tract

No. 16332 is located on the northwest corner of 182nd Street and Yukon Avenue. Approval of both maps were recommended to the Council.

Councilman Drale moved to concur in the recommendation. Motion seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried unanimously.

(2) Tentative Tract Map No. 15757 was submitted by the Mac-Low-Men Corporation and consists of 283 lots. This is the property formerly known as Bay Cities Airport, located south of Redondo Beach Boulevard and west of Prairie Avenue. Approval of this map was recommended to the Council, subject to the acceptance of the map by the National Federal Housing Administration, in conformance with their rules and regulations, before placing F.H.A. insured loans on this property.

Councilman Drale moved to concur in the recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried unanimously.

SPECIAL REQUESTS: (1) Approval was recommended on the following requests for a set-back variance from 20' to 5' on the front property line, for garages:

- a. O. E. Dick, 131 Via Los Miradores.
- b. Ted Brandon, 136 and 138 Hollywood Palos Verdes Parkway
- c. Williard B. Key, 416 Calle Mayor

Councilman Drale moved to concur with the recommendations. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried unanimously.

(2) Approval was also recommended on the request of Mr. Williard B. Key, 416 Calle Mayor, for a side yard variance to within 1' of the property line for his garage.

Councilman Drale moved to concur in the recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried unanimously.

Clerk Bartlett read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 2036

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE MAKING APPLICATION TO DIRECTOR OF FINANCE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR ACQUISITION AID IN POSTWAR PUBLIC WORKS PROGRAMS AND DESIGNATING THE CITY MANAGER AS AUTHORIZED AGENT OF THE CITY WITH AUTHORITY TO CONDUCT ALL NEGOTIATIONS WITH SAID DIRECTOR OF FINANCE.

Councilman Powell moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2036. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 2037

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE DECLARING THOSE CERTAIN STREETS COMMONLY KNOWN AND DESIGNATED AS CRENSHAW BOULEVARD AND ATKINSON AVENUE, AS PER COUNTY SURVEYOR MAPS NO. B-1953 AND B-643, AS PUBLIC HIGHWAYS.

Councilman Jackson moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2037. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 2038

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING PARAGRAPH 6 OF RESOLUTION NO. 1833.

Councilman Jackson moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2038. Motion, seconded by Councilman Haggard, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

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RESOLUTION NO. 2039

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE  
DECLARING THAT CERTAIN OBSTRUCTION ON HOLLYWOOD PALOS  
VERDES PARKWAY, WITHIN THE CONFINES OF TRACT NO. 15211,  
A PUBLIC NUISANCE.

Councilman Powell moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2039.  
Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried unanimously by roll  
call vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 2040

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE  
AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY ATTORNEY TO INSTITUTE  
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST HADDOCK ENGINEERS, LTD., FOR THE  
ABATEMENT OF A PUBLIC NUISANCE.

Councilman Powell moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2040.  
Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried unanimously by roll  
call vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 2041

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE  
EXONERATING THAT CERTAIN BOND OF THE STANDARD OIL COM-  
PANY OF CALIFORNIA COVERING MARBLE FEE WELL NO. 34.

Councilman Powell moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2041.  
Motion, seconded by Councilman Haggard, carried unanimously by roll  
call vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 2042

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE  
AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO  
ENTER INTO LEASE AGREEMENTS FOR CERTAIN PREMISES AT THE  
TORRANCE MUNICIPAL AIRPORT.

Councilman Jackson moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2042.  
Motion, seconded by Councilman Haggard, carried unanimously by roll  
call vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 2043

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE  
AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO  
EXECUTE THAT CERTAIN GRANT OF EASEMENT TO THE SOUTHERN  
CALIFORNIA EDISON COMPANY.

Councilman Powell moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2043.  
Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried unanimously by roll  
call vote.

ORDINANCE NO. 501

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TOR-  
RANCE AMENDING LAND USE ORDINANCE NO. 316, RECLASSI-  
FYING THAT CERTAIN PROPERTY DESCRIBED IN PLANNING  
COMMISSION CASE NO. 180.

Councilman Powell moved further reading of the Ordinance be dis-  
penssed with. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried unani-  
mously by roll call vote. Councilman Powell moved for the adoption  
of Ordinance No. 501 at its first reading. Motion, seconded by Coun-  
cilman Jackson, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Drale opened a discussion relative to the poor fire  
protection in West Torrance and lack of hydrants, the two existing in  
the area being on private property. City Manager Stevens advised he  
had communicated with Dominguez Water and that they had not replied,  
but indications were that they would stand no share of the expense.  
Councilman Drale moved that immediate steps be taken to provide at  
least temporary protection. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell,  
carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Drale asked for a status report on the proposed new police station and was advised plans were being made and that the only question was where to put it. Councilman Powell moved that the Chief of Police make his recommendation next meeting as to location. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously.

Councilman Haggard urged something be done about the Bus Department and moved that the Council place a \$125,000 bond issue on the ballot for the purchase of 7 new busses. There being no second, motion was declared lost. Councilman Haggard then moved that a proposition be placed on the ballot to sell the bus line to a private operator. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Haggard, Jackson and Sherfey. NAYS: COUNCILMAN: Drale. Councilman Powell declined to vote. Discussion followed, with Councilman Haggard suggesting that he resign as Chairman of the Transportation Commission in favor of Councilman Drale. No action taken.

Councilman Powell read the list of proposed ballot issues, as follows: (1) bond issue for swimming pool, (2) salary adjustment of City Treasurer, (3) salary for City Council, (4) civil jurisdiction for City Court, and (5) sale of bus system. He was advised that the salary adjustment of the City Treasurer would not go on the ballot but that the other issues would appear.

Councilman Powell moved that the two hydrants in West Torrance on private property be checked as to possibility of their being moved. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried unanimously.

#### ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Mayor Sherfey advised the audience that the map showing the proposed ward districts requested by Councilman Drale last meeting was ready for study. Councilman Powell interrupted to state that the issue was not to be on the April ballot. Following some discussion, Councilman Powell moved that the matter be delayed until the November ballot. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Drale, Haggard and Powell. NAYS: COUNCILMEN: Jackson and Sherfey.

Representatives from West Torrance, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas urged bus service on Hawthorne Blvd. between 182nd St. and Sepulveda to Civic Center. Approximately 20 persons were in the group.

Commander Mason urged immediate steps be taken to remedy the flood situation in the Hollywood Riviera District. Mr. Mavin, of 209 Via Colusa, explained the damage in more detail and asked that a meeting be arranged with the City Manager in an attempt to work out a remedy. City Manager Stevens advised he would meet with them immediately after tonight's meeting.

Further discussion of the loss shown by the Bus Department was had.

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

At 9:57 p.m., Councilman Haggard 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

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