

Torrance, California
March 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 on Tuesday, March 14, 1950, at 8:05 p.m., Mayor Sherfey presiding. Those responding to roll call by City Clerk Bartlett were: COUNCILMEN: Drale, Haggard, Jackson, Powell and Sherfey.

All persons present participated in the salute to our Flag.

As first order of business, Councilman Jackson moved that minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 28th and the Adjourned Regular Meeting of March 7th be approved as read. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried.

Mayor Sherfey announced that by mutual consent it had been agreed that the hearing on the Peter Nuccio request to re-open a dairy would be the next matter of business and that counsel would be limited to 10 minutes each. (Due to the outcome of the hearing, the testimony given will not be set forth here. However, those taking the stand for the "plaintiff" were Peter Nuccio and Joseph Costa. The witnesses for the "defense" were Planning Commissioners Gianni, Salm, Felker, Hill and Deininger, Planning Consultant Lloyd, Secretary John Patrick, and Dale Riley of the City's License Department.)

At the suggestion of Judge Shidler, attorney for Mr. Nuccio, the Council recessed at 9:15 and reconvened at 9:25 to continue with the regular order of business, deferring further hearing on the Nuccio matter until the end of the meeting.

Mayor Sherfey announced the time had come to open bids for the sale of surplus equipment at the Torrance Municipal Airport and the following were read by City Clerk Bartlett:

Item No.	<u>George M. Acker</u>	<u>Paramount Sales & Salv.</u>	<u>Carl Allen</u>	<u>J. M. Foote</u>
1		207.85		150.00
2				400.00
3		187.87		300.00
4		288.88	276.00	150.00
5		103.87	67.50	100.00
6		128.78		150.00
7		268.68		150.00
8		5.12		
9		187.87		
10		56.56		

Item No.	George M. Acker	Paramount Sales & Salv.	Carl Allen	J. M. Foote
11	236.50	151.51		160.00
12	265.00	236.36	203.13	
13	6.50	12.87	26.00	
14	75.80	63.52	78.26	70.00
15	31.20	84.84		

Councilman Jackson moved bids be received and referred to City Manager for tabulation and report at the next Regular Meeting. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried unanimously.

Mayor Sherfey announced the time had come for the opening of bids on the recreation buildings for El Retiro Park and North Torrance, and the following were read by Clerk Bartlett:

Bidder	Const. of Buildings	Plumbing	Electric Work	Total
Milton A Stein	\$15,470.00	\$1,390.00	\$1,100.00	\$17,960.00
Kettler Knolls, Inc.	15,311.66	1,635.00	888.00	17,834.66
Carter Mack Builders	14,786.00	1,259.00	905.00	16,950.00
William A. Mayo				16,560.00
James C. Anderson	17,782.73	1,672.00		19,454.73

Councilman Powell moved all bids be received and referred to the City Manager for analysis and recommendation at the next Regular Meeting. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

Clerk Bartlett read the following correspondence:

Copy of a letter from Standard Oil Company, addressed to Fire Chief Benner, in appreciation of standby service during the recent refinery reservoir fire. Matter of record.

Letter from Division of Highways advising investigation of traffic conditions at 182nd and Hawthorne had been made previous to our request and that no additional traffic controls were deemed necessary. Councilman Drale moved a copy of the communication be sent to Mr. Thomas, of the West Torrance Civic Ass'n. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried.

Request from Fay Buersdorf for permission to keep a house trailer at Lot 1, Block 3, Meadow Park Tract, during construction of garage house. Councilman Jackson moved permission be granted for 90 days. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously.

Letter from Mr. Gore, 24454 Neece Ave., WALTERIA, again calling attention to the alley condition. Councilman Drale asked if this was the case where Mr. Green's truck had done damage and was advised affirmatively. Councilman Haggard moved that Mr. Gore be advised as to the party responsible. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried unanimously.

Letter from Shell Oil Company as to franchise earnings under Ordinances 116, 121, 174 and 328, and County Ordinances Nos. 1356 and 1502, enclosing check for \$627.81. Matter of record.

Statement of gross receipts and franchise earnings for the calendar year 1949 from Southern California Edison Co. and enclosing check for \$16,223.61. Matter of record.

Councilman Drale interrupted to request that the checks be turned over to the City Treasurer and was advised by the City Clerk that the Treasurer had received them a week before.

Letter from American District Telegraph Co. submitting verified invoices covering damage to their official car in an accident last December. Councilman Drale moved the demand be denied and referred to the insurance carrier. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Recommendations of the City Manager were read as follows:

PERSONNEL:

1. That the Fire Chief be authorized to employ two additional Firemen, effective March 16, 1950, and that their compensation be at the rate set forth as the first step for Firemen.
2. That John C. McGee be appointed to serve his probationary period as Light Power Equipment Operator, effective March 16, 1950, and that his compensation be at the rate of \$231 per month.
3. That Beverly J. Whitney be employed as a Typist Clerk, effective March 27, 1950, and that her compensation be at the rate set forth as the first step for Typist Clerk.

Councilman Jackson moved that the Council concur with the recommendations under Personnel. Motion, seconded by Councilman Haggard, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

APPROPRIATIONS:

1. For the payment of fire insurance premiums to provide blanket fire insurance for City property, the sum of \$3,007.21.

Councilman Drale asked for a statement as to how the insurance was to be divided. City Manager Stevens advised it would be divided between Mr. Bowen, Mr. Locke and Torrance General Insurance Agency. Councilman Drale asked if Mr. Lund had been invited to participate and Mr. Stevens advised that Mr. Lund had declined to participate. Councilman Jackson moved the Council concur with the recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Haggard, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

TRAFFIC CONTROL:

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

1. 4-way STOP signs at 242nd Street and Ocean Avenue.
2. STOP sign on Via Sevilla at south side of Via Colusa.

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

BIDS:

1. That the bid of Southwest Tractor Sales, in the amount of \$2,126.50 plus tax, for Ford tractor with skip loader and appurtenances, be accepted and all other bids be rejected.

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

2. That the bid of Ladco Wholesale Electric, who submitted the low bid in the amount of \$1,135.70 plus tax for electrical equipment for Walteria Ball Park be accepted and all other bids be rejected.

Councilman Jackson moved to concur with the recommendation and that all other bids be rejected. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

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

1. Petition for opening 171st Street between Yukon Avenue and Glenburn Avenue: The site was inspected by members of the Traffic Commission and it is their recommendation, and mine, that the street be opened, providing right of way is available and that the work be done during the summer months.

2. Petition to vacate 50' of 203rd Street, or to provide access to homes: This street is still considered as a portion of a future major highway and should not be vacated at this time. Further study is required to determine the best way to provide ingress and egress to the property on the north side of the street.
3. Residential status of William F. Gregory: The City Attorney has ruled that Mr. Gregory is a resident of the City of Torrance, by his right to state where his official residence is.
4. Dedication of Garnet Street: The City Attorney and I have discussed the status of Garnet Street and visited the site. It was determined that the City could not dedicate the street as a public street as the title was not held by the City, nor was it offered for dedication by the owners. A map has been prepared for the City Attorney's office, which will be submitted to the Title Company for title search. The City Attorney will follow with the necessary action to make Garnet a public street. When this is accomplished, the Street Department will fit improvement of the street into its construction program.

Councilman Powell moved to concur with the recommendations with the provisions that the City Manager be authorized to proceed under Item 1 and, as to Item 4 that a copy be sent to the West Torrance Improvement group. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Letter was read from Mr. Stevens as to revenue and operation costs for the Long Beach-Hawthorne and Harbor Hills bus routes, and suggested a special meeting be called for discussion of the bus situation. Councilman Powell moved the report be accepted and asked that the Mayor fix a date for the special meeting, as requested. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried. Mayor Sherfey advised a time would be fixed and members notified.

Councilman Drale asked whether or not there was still a 5¢ fare in the City of Torrance and was advised affirmatively. He then stated the Council had previously requested such fare be increased to 10¢ and deemed it negligence on the part of the Bus Superintendent for not complying. Mayor Sherfey suggested the discussion be tabled until the special meeting.

Clerk Bartlett read a memo from City Manager Stevens as to availability of certain buildings, for purchase by the City, for recreation buildings, as follows:

1. The City of Torrance can purchase the Mess Hall of the Veteran's Housing Project at the Torrance Municipal Airport for \$500, or they may submit a bid for a lesser amount and take the chance of obtaining the building. I would recommend the latter alternative if the City is interested in the building.
2. There is a possibility that the office building on Palos Verdes Parkway, belonging to the Haddock Engineering Corporation, may be made available to the Walteria Business Men's Association, or some other group in the South Torrance area, without cost. The group would expect the City to bear the cost of moving and setting up the building as a Recreation Building. It is estimated that the cost to the City would not be over \$1,000. The title of the building would then rest with the City of Torrance.

Mayor Sherfey suggested item 2 not be considered as information now was that the Haddock building was not available to the City. Councilman Drale moved the matter be filed as a matter of record. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried unanimously.

Communication was read from the Planning Commission as follows, with recommendations of approval:

APPROVED

CHANGE OF ZONE:

Case No. 184: Proposed Change of Zone of all lots in Block 71, Torrance Tract, which face Sartori Avenue, from R-3 (Multiple-Family Residential) to C-1 (Retail Commercial) use. This change to also include 133.39' north from Block 71 on the easterly side of Sartori Avenue, in order to coordinate the use of land with that on the westerly side of Sartori.

Case No. 185: Petition of John E. Kettler for a Change of Zone affecting all of Tract No. 14421, located between Walnut and Western Avenues south of 235th Street, from A-1 (Light Agricultural) to R-1 (Single-Family Residential) use.

Case No. 187: Proposed Change of Zone (Land Use Plan) of certain portions of the North Torrance area, generally described as follows:

"That portion of the City of Torrance bordered on the East by a line approximately 150' West of the West line of Crenshaw Blvd.; on the West by the City boundary line (Hawthorne Avenue); on the North by the City boundary line (Redondo Beach Blvd.); on the South by a line approximately 150' South of the South line of 190th Street."

Two official public hearings have been held before the Planning Commission on each of the above cases and it will be necessary that the third and final public hearing be held before the City Council. This hearing cannot legally be held before April 11, 1950, in order to comply with legal notice requirements.

On motion of Councilman Jackson, seconded by Councilman Powell, and unanimously carried, Mayor Sherfey set the time for hearing as 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 12, 1950.

VARIANCE:

Case No. 186: Petition of Calvin and Bettie Thomas for a Variance and Conditional Permit for a studio for "Torrance Accordionettes" at 1215 Crenshaw Blvd. and residence adjoining studio at 1219 Crenshaw Blvd. Studio is to be sound-proofed and suitable for radio broadcasting of "Torrance Accordionettes" shows. Property is located in an R-2 (Two-Family Residential) Zone.

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

Clerk Bartlett read a letter from City Manager Stevens re considered bus service on Hawthorne Blvd. and Councilman Powell moved a copy of the report be sent to the West Torrance Group and that they be apprised of the meeting to be held on the transportation problem. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried.

Memorandum was read from the Recreation Commission suggesting the North Torrance Park be named "McMaster Park" in honor of our late Fire Chief. Councilman Drale moved to concur with the recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Clerk Bartlett read in full:

RESOLUTION NO. 2049

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE REQUESTING THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO ORDER THE CANCELLATION OF TAXES ON CERTAIN PROPERTY ACQUIRED BY THE CITY OF TORRANCE FOR WATER DISTRIBUTING SYSTEM.

Councilman Jackson moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2049. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 2050

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE THAT CERTAIN AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY OF TORRANCE AND PIONEER STEEL AND CONSTRUCTION CO., INC.

Councilman Drale moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2050. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Clerk Bartlett read title to:

ORDINANCE NO. 505

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE CREATING A JUDICIARY COMMITTEE.

Councilman Jackson moved the matter be deferred until the next Regular Meeting. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously.

Discussion was held as to the availability of funds to purchase property adjacent to the City Dump. Mayor Sherfey moved that the City Manager make a report and recommendation at the next Regular Meeting. Motion, seconded by Councilman Haggard, carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Haggard, Jackson, Powell and Sherfey. NAYS: COUNCILMAN: Drale.

Councilman Drale asked for a report on the hydrant situation in North Torrance and City Manager Stevens advised the request had been made for the moving of one hydrant and estimates would be made on the others. As a matter of record, Councilman Drale also urged that the Street Department do something about Sepulveda between Hawthorne and Narbonne.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Robert Plomert, Treasurer of the Torrance Branch of Y.M.C.A., urged everyone to support the fund raising campaign.

There being no further communications, hearing on the Nuccio matter was resumed with counsel for each side making their summations, following which Council members asked questions of counsel, Mr. Nuccio and Mr. Costa. Following discussion, Councilman Haggard moved the Council concur with the recommendation of the Planning Commission and deny the request. Councilman Powell seconded the motion with the provision that it be amended as being denied on the grounds that the Council, on advice of the City Attorney, had no authority to act. Motion not being so amended, Councilman Powell withdrew his second. Following further discussion, motion was declared lost for lack of second. Councilman Drale moved for non-concurrence with the recommendation of the Planning Commission. Discussion followed and motion was declared lost for lack of a second. Councilman Powell moved that, in accordance with the opinion of the City Attorney, the Council go on record as having no power to judge in this matter and that the matter be declared dead for lack of proper authority at this time. Discussion followed with Councilman Haggard stating that was "certainly pussy-footing around the bush". Motion was declared lost for lack of second. Councilman Jackson then made the following statement and motion: "The reason I am making this motion is that it seems to me, in looking at this matter, that the right of an individual who owns property to continue his business is his right and should not be taken away from him. I therefore make the motion that Mr. Nuccio be granted permission to continue his dairy business." Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Drale, Jackson and Powell. NAYS: COUNCILMEN: Haggard and Sherfey.

Mr. Gianni, Chairman of the Planning Commission, rose from the audience stating the Planning Commission has tried its best to make a city out of Torrance and the Council was upholding a person who was absolutely in violation of all our ordinances. He advised the Council

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-- "I turn in my resignation right now. . . . You can have your job. I don't want it" and left the Council Chamber.

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

At 11:30 p.m., on motion of Councilman Haggard and seconded by Councilman Jackson, and unanimously carried, meeting adjourned.



CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

APPROVED:



MAYOR OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE