

Torrance, California
August 22, 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 at 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 22, 1950, Mayor Haggard presiding.

Those responding to roll call by City Clerk Bartlett were:
COUNCILMEN: Blount, Powell, Spelman and Haggard. ABSENT: Drale.
Also present were City Manager Stevens and City Attorney Smith.

As first order of business, Mayor Haggard announced the time had come for the second hearing on the budget and called for oral communications.

At this point, Councilman Drale arrived and took his chair.

Councilman Powell opened the discussion by moving that the City again enter into a contract with the Chamber of Commerce for advertising the City, as was done last year, rather than making a grant of funds to the Chamber. Discussion followed, with Mayor Haggard seconding the motion. Discussion continued with Councilman Drale insisting the matter be referred to the City Attorney for an opinion. The motion and second were withdrawn.

Councilman Spelman moved the Budget, as set, be approved for the fiscal year 1950-51. Councilman Powell urged, at some length, that before adoption of the Budget \$25,000 be withdrawn from "Unap-

propriated Reserve" and held for an emergency blanket salary increase of \$10.00 per month for all City employees. Councilman Spelman's motion was seconded by Councilman Blount. Discussion of the blanket salary increase continued with City Manager Stevens reminding the Council that a good portion of the funds set aside in "Unappropriated Reserve" would be used for civilian defense. Councilmen Spelman and Blount withdrew their motion and second. Councilman Powell then moved that the City Manager withdraw the necessary money from "Unappropriated Reserve" to give an increase of \$10.00 per month to all City employees, to be effective within sixty days. Motion was seconded by Councilman Drale. At the suggestion of Councilman Spelman, Councilman Powell amended his motion to include: "said raise to be indicated by a recommendation from Mr. Stevens, to be concurred in by the Council." Motion carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: Drale, Powell, Spelman and Haggard. NAYS: Blount. ABSENT COUNCILMEN: None

Councilman Spelman moved the Budget as set be adopted. Motion was seconded by Councilman Blount. Councilman Drale interrupted and asked that the City Manager read the tax rate to the audience. Following the reading, motion carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Powell then commended Mr. Stevens for the manner in which he "ended up last year and in which he prepared this budget. I think it is a credit to the City." Councilman Blount asked that the comment be made a matter of record.

Mayor Haggard announced the time had come to open bids on the loadpacker, and Clerk Bartlett opened and read the following:

Bidder	Bid Price
Schultz & Peckham - Torrance International Harvester - Long Beach	\$8,463.50 7,696.63
Paul's Chevrolet - Torrance General Truck Sales - Long Beach	7,942.68 8,151.00
Sawyer Motor Company - Long Beach	10,510.95

City Manager Stevens recommended that, since he was leaving on his vacation, the bids be referred to Street Superintendent Perkins and Street Commissioner Drale and that they be authorized to act. Councilman Drale stated that, due to the small difference between one local bidder and one outsider, he would be in favor of giving the bid to Paul's Chevrolet. Councilman Powell moved that the Council concur in Mr. Stevens' recommendation and that the local dealer be given consideration. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Mayor Haggard announced the time had come for the third and final hearing on Planning Commission Case No. 194 -- Petition of William Malat and Louis Lesser for change of zone. Description of the property involved was read and Mrs. R. C. Brown, speaking for the residents in the area, urged that the petition be granted. There being no protests, Councilman Powell moved the Council concur with the recommendation of the Planning Commission and grant the request. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Spelman moved that the minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 8th and the Adjourned Regular Meeting of August 15th be approved. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

Clerk Bartlett read the following:

Letter from The Metropolitan Water District transmitting copy of Resolution levying the tax rate for the fiscal year (31¢). Matter of record.

Letter from Torrance Electric Shop complaining of pickup service of rubbish, etc. Councilman Drale moved the communication be turned over to Mr. Perkins and Mr. Stevens for their recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried.

ABSTRACT

Statement from Union Oil Company of franchise earnings for the year ending June 30, 1950, reporting payment to the City in the amount of \$232.80. Matter of record.

Memorandum from County Tax Collector showing projects in the City under County Acquisition and Improvement District No. 28, Refunding Assessment Bond Act of 1935. Matter of record.

Letter from Dorothy Jamieson, Librarian, calling attention to expiration of terms of members of the Library Board. Councilman Spelman moved that the letter be referred to Councilman Blount for his recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried.

Letter from Mrs. D. A. Murphy, on behalf of property owners along a certain portion of Hickory, Iris, Greenwood and Fern Avenues requesting curbs, gutters and sidewalks, at the expense of the property owners, and that the City grade and pave between the gutters and furnish engineers.

Two letters from the Civil Service Board protesting the Council's action in adopting Ordinances 523 and 526 without first submitting the matters to the Civil Service Board. Councilman Drale moved that this matter be the first item on the next agenda. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried.

Three letters from the Division of Highways -- one relative to the installation of school crossing and warning signs at 174th and Arlington; one with reference to crosswalk across State Highway at 174th Street; and the third relative to change in lighting at the intersection of Hawthorne Ave. and Sepulveda Blvd., and requesting the City to assume 50% of the maintenance cost of the new lighting. Councilman Drale moved that copies of the first two letters be sent to the North Torrance Civic Ass'n. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried. Councilman Drale then moved that the request in the third letter be complied with. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Request from Mrs. Maybel C. Banks for renewal of her Bus Depot Contract at the same terms, with the exception of depot hours. Councilman Powell moved that the communication be referred to the Transportation Commission with authority to renew after a study of the hours. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Petition from City employees requesting survey of cost of living and salary adjustment. Councilman Powell moved the petition be filed as a matter of record. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried.

Clerk Bartlett read in its entirety:

RESOLUTION NO. 2086

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO FILE AN APPLICATION WITH THE STATE BOARD OF PUBLIC HEALTH FOR A PERMIT TO USE AND EXTEND EXISTING WATER WORKS AND CONSTRUCT NEW WATER WORKS.

City Manager Stevens explained that this resolution was required to accompany our request for advance planning funds from the Government. Councilman Spelman moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2086. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

The following recommendations of City Manager Stevens were then read:

APPROPRIATIONS:

1. For the purchase of a sound system for the Council Chamber, the sum of \$1,571.70 (from Unappropriated Reserve Funds).
2. For the purchase of re-conditioned bus motor (White), the sum of \$1,800.00.

3. For the purchase of tire supplies for the fiscal year, the sum of \$3,018.54 plus sales tax (Budget Items).
4. For payment to Barclay Engineers for engineering services, the sum of \$250.00.

Councilman Powell moved the Council concur with the recommendations. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, 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. That one-way streets be established as follows:
 - a. Madrid Avenue -- Torrance Boulevard to Carson Street.
 - b. Sartori Avenue -- Torrance Boulevard to Portola Avenue.

Councilman Drale moved the Council concur with the recommendations. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

The following letter from Mr. Stevens, as to matters referred to him for investigation, was also read:

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- "a. Opening and Improving of Date Avenue north of Sonoma Street. It is planned to obtain easements for the existing 40' roadway involved. If this is not possible, legal steps will be taken to declare it an open public street. Following acquisition of right of way, the roadway improvement will be included in the program for streets in that area.
 - "b. Request for survey of duties and compensation of personnel of City Clerk's office in comparison with that of the position of Court Clerk. I have investigated the duties, responsibilities and qualifications of the personnel involved and it is my recommendation that the compensation of the Court Clerk be fixed at: \$184 - \$193 - \$202 - \$211 - \$221, which will be equitable with other classifications of similar duties and responsibilities."

Councilman Spelman moved that the Council concur with the recommendation as to the second item and that the City Attorney be instructed to draw the necessary ordinance. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

A letter was read from the Planning Commission relative to the Nuccio case and recommending approval of Case No. 200, as follows:

"CASE NO. 200: Petition of P. A. Eschandi for a variance of front yard set-back requirement on Lot 13, Block "L", Tract No. 10302, in Hollywood Riviera, for the garage to a point five feet (5') from the front property line.

It was also the unanimous decision of the Commission to recommend to the City Council that all possible consideration be given by the Council and City Attorney as to any possible ground of appeal from the Nuccio Dairy adverse decision."

As to Case No. 200, Mr. C. W. Keyes, representing the Hollywood Riviera Community Ass'n, said he was not familiar with the location of the property and could not make a recommendation for his group. Councilman Powell moved the matter be held up until after a short recess during which time Mr. Keyes could familiarize himself with the location.

Recess was declared at 9:01 and meeting reconvened at 9:10.

Councilman Powell asked that he be allowed to bring up a subject out of order at this time and advised of cesspools collapsing in Seaside Heights and asked that the Council, with the assistance of some-

one from the Engineering Department, visit the area and determine what can be done. Councilman Spelman suggested that a committee from Seaside Heights meet with the Council. It was decided that the group would meet at the home of Mr. Haroldson at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, August 23rd.

Returning to Case No. 200, Mr. Keyes, after studying a map, advised that as representative of the Hollywood Riviera Community Association, he concurred in the Planning Commission's recommendation to grant the variance. Councilman Powell moved that the City Council concur in the recommendation as to Case No. 200, and that the Council and City Attorney be advised of the item contained in paragraph two.

Donald Armstrong, attorney for Nuccio, reviewed the proceedings to date and concluded his remarks by stating: "I submit that this Council has plenty of money to be spent for good purposes rather than prosecute these people." Councilman Powell's motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Letters were read from John R. Patrick, Assistant to City Engineer, relative to the following Tract Maps, all previously approved by the Planning Commission:

TRACT NO. 16649: Located between 164th Street and 166th Street, and between Casimir Avenue and Atkinson Avenue, consisting of 66 lots, was submitted by Mr. Bert Murphy. This tract will have sanitary sewers installed. I am submitting a copy of the report from the County Flood Control District. By lowering the grade of 166th Street, Wilkie Avenue as shown on this map will be able to drain into the Dominguez Flood Control Channel, thereby eliminating the flooded conditions that occur at the dip on 164th Street at every rain.

TRACT NO. 17103: Containing 25 lots located south of 174th Street and west of Arlington Avenue, was submitted by Mr. Bert Murphy. This tract will have sanitary sewers constructed. A letter from the County Flood Control was not required on this property.

Councilman Blount asked if garages were to be built. There being no one present who could answer the question, Councilman Drale moved the Council concur with the recommendation as to both tracts. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

TRACT NO. 14545: This tract is located at the southwest corner of 174th Street and Crenshaw Boulevard and consists of 99 lots submitted by Property Management Corporation. Sanitary sewers will be installed in this tract.

Councilman Drale moved the Council concur with the recommendation of the Planning Commission. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

TRACT NO. 16759: I am submitting herewith the Title Sheet of Tract No. 16759 and a copy of a letter from the Title Insurance and Trust Company in regard to the above tract which was approved by the City Council on May 23, 1950.

The letter states that it will be necessary that the City of Torrance sign this tract map as an easement holder. The easement as recorded in Book 12743, page 23 of Official Records as shown in this letter is for the right-of-way of the Pacific Coast Highway. I talked to Mr. McKnight concerning this and he stated that this should not be shown, but that an easement as recorded in Book 32171, page 395 is to the Water Company for an easement along that portion of Madison Avenue which is being dedicated by this subdivision map.

"The County Surveyor's Office states that it is necessary that the Mayor and the City Clerk sign this map, and a certification is on the map for the proper signatures."

"The subdivider would like to obtain these signatures as soon as possible so that he may proceed with recording his map."

Following a brief explanation by City Manager Stevens, Councilman Spelman moved that the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized and directed to sign the recording sheet as easement owners. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

TRACT NO. 14529: Located south of 174th Street and east of Ainsworth Alley, which was approved by the Planning Commission on April 18, 1950 for recommendation to the City Council. This tract contains 99 lots and was submitted by the Mac-Low-Men Corporation. You will note that there is a tier of lots that back up to McMaster Park, but two public walkways have been provided into the park. I would like to recommend that the subdivider be required to place a fence along the rear of the lots adjoining McMaster Park. This office is requesting that 174th Street be paved to join the existing pavement. Sanitary sewers will be installed in this tract.

Mr. Henderson, of Mac-Low-Men Corporation, advised that the F.H.A. has already required that they install a 5' high chain link fence. Councilman Drale moved the Council concur with the recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

TRACT NO. 16850: At a post diem meeting of the Torrance City Planning Commission held on August 16, 1950, Tract Map No. 16850 as submitted by Ocean Hills, Inc., located north of Palos Verdes Estates and west of Tract No. 10306, containing 82 lots, was recommended for approval eliminating their previous requirements as to the settlement of the question of 2½ acres and the placing of all utilities underground. At the same meeting the City Planners recommended for approval the request of Ocean Hills, Inc., on the elimination of sidewalks in this area."

Mr. Blakeley, Mr. Bolas, and Commander Mason, residents of the area, protested the request for permission to eliminate sidewalks and urged that the Council adhere to the existing Ordinance. Councilman Spelman moved that Tract Map No. 16850 be accepted without exception to the Subdivision Ordinance, subject to the posting of the necessary bonds. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: Blount, Powell, Spelman and Haggard. NAYS: Drale. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None

Clerk Bartlett read an Inter-Office Memorandum from the Civil Service Board relative to action taken by the Board on August 16th. Matter of record. Councilman Drale asked that members of the Board be invited to the next agenda meeting to discuss the matters contained in their communications.

Clerk Bartlett read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 2087

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

Councilman Drale moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Drale moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2087. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 2088

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE MAKING APPLICATION TO DIRECTOR OF FINANCE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR PLAN PREPARATION REIMBURSEMENT FOR THE SOUTH TORRANCE SEWER DISTRICT NO. 2, AND DESIGNATING THE CITY MANAGER AS AUTHORIZED AGENT OF THE CITY WITH AUTHORITY TO CONDUCT ALL NEGOTIATIONS WITH SAID DIRECTOR OF FINANCE.

ABRG:10

Councilman Spelman moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Spelman moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2088. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

ORDINANCE NO. 518

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE PROHIBITING THE POSSESSION AND PLAYING OF CERTAIN COIN OPERATED MACHINES.

Councilman Blount moved to dispense with further reading of the Ordinance. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, was defeated by the following roll call vote: AYES: Blount, Spelman and Haggard. NAYS: Drale and Powell. The Ordinance was read in its entirety. Councilman Blount moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 518 at its second and final reading. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: Blount, Powell, Spelman and Haggard. NAYS: Drale. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None

ORDINANCE NO. 529

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING FRANCHISE ORDINANCE NO. 351.

Councilman Blount moved to dispense with further reading of the Ordinance. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: Blount, Powell, Spelman and Haggard. Councilman Drale did not vote. Councilman Spelman moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 529 at its second and final reading. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

ORDINANCE NO. 530

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE CREATING A COMMITTEE ON PROPOSED LEGISLATION.

Councilman Powell moved to dispense with further reading of the Ordinance. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: Blount, Powell, Spelman and Haggard. NAYS: Drale. Councilman Drale protested passage of the Ordinance on the ground that it would prevent him from ever getting an ordinance or resolution adopted "unless three members of the Council agree". Discussion followed, with Councilman Blount reading paragraph 2 of the Ordinance and stating the City Attorney had assured the Council the intent was not to prevent the presentation or request for ordinances. Councilman Blount also stated that the ordinance originally had been prepared at the instance of Councilman Powell; that the other ordinance (No. 505), in his opinion, wasn't a good ordinance but that this one was. Councilman Spelman moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 530 at its first reading. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: Blount, Powell, Spelman and Haggard. NAYS: Drale. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None

ORDINANCE NO. 531

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE FIXING THE TAX RATES AND LEVYING TAXES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 1950.

Councilman Powell moved further reading of the ordinance be dispensed with. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Powell moved for the adoption of urgency Ordinance No. 531 at its first and final reading. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

City Manager Stevens reported that on the recent examination for City Engineer, only one applicant passed and suggested that the gentleman be invited to attend the next agenda meeting.

Councilman Drale asked that the City Manager request "the proper people" to post some type of sign on Western Avenue "directing by arrow to the City of Torrance, with the estimated population and estimated payroll of the City."

Councilman Powell stated that, in the minutes of August 8th, Planning Commission Case No. 199 had been referred to the City Attorney, and that the City Attorney had advised it should not come to him, being a request for Variance. Councilman Powell then moved that the Council concur with the recommendation of the Planning Commission. Motion was seconded and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Powell asked that the letter being prepared by the City Manager to advise employees of their rights under the Armed Forces Act include a page as to their rights under the Retirement System.

Councilman Powell moved the City Manager be authorized to start his annual vacation beginning Friday noon. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried.

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

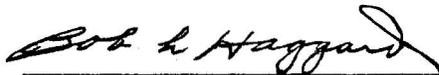
M. A. Chamberlain, Bus Superintendent, stated application had been made to the Board of Public Utilities for the discontinuance of the Harbor Hills line and asked if he was to proceed with such curtailment. Mayor Haggard answered "I think that has been agreed on by the Council" and Councilman Powell added that the curtailment was ordered except for Hollywood-Riviera, and that the other two lines were subject to curtailment.

At 10:09 p.m., Councilman Blount moved meeting be adjourned. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried.

ABR 10


CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

APPROVED:


MAYOR OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE