

Torrance, California  
May 22, 1951

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 8:05 p.m., on Tuesday, May 22, 1951, Mayor Haggard presiding.

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

All persons present participated in the salute to Our Flag.

As first order of business, Councilman Spelman moved minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 8th be approved and accepted. Motion, seconded by Councilman Karlow, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Mayor Haggard announced the time had arrived for the opening of bids for electrical materials for McMaster Ball Park, and Clerk Bartlett opened and read the following bids:

Coast Wholesale Electric .....	\$ 1,534.08
L. B. Marsh .....	1,549.32
Norton Electric Wholesale Mart .....	1,567.04

Councilman Drale moved all bids be received and referred to the City Manager for checking, and that contract be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Mayor Haggard announced the time had arrived for the opening of bids for the North Torrance sewer and Clerk Bartlett opened and read the following bids:

Jack Grbavac .....	\$ 51,309.25
Papac Construction Co. ....	58,233.40
Henson & Likich Co. ....	57,624.40
O'Shaughnessey Construction Co. ....	62,755.25
N. J. Vusich .....	55,165.55
Mike Ramljak Co. ....	57,821.70
S. S. Zarubica .....	57,829.32
Northwest Excavating Co. ....	60,330.05
J. E. Popovich .....	56,417.50
B. Pecel & Sons .....	58,227.60
Chutuk & Cappello .....	60,830.90
Craig & Joy Constructors .....	58,459.18
A. R. Milosevich & Son .....	53,598.22

Councilman Drale moved the bids be held up until an engineering correction on 182nd St. could be clarified, and that all bids be referred to Mr. Stevens for checking and contract awarded to lowest responsible bidder. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

#### WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

Letter from North Torrance Civic Improvement Ass'n asking to be advised of progress on the Library Building for North Torrance budgeted in the last budget. Mr. Stevens reported that plans were being prepared and if County approval could be secured, bids would be called for during June. Councilman Blount moved the City Manager write the North Torrance group advising them of this fact. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried.

Letter from North Torrance Civic Improvement Ass'n asking that something be done about the water hole near the street at McMaster Park. Councilman Blount moved the letter be referred to the Engineering Department for action. Motion, seconded by Councilman Karlow, carried.

Request from Truman Browne for permission to erect a directional sign, 40' x 11', at the intersection of Sepulveda and Hawthorne Blvds., calling attention to the new homes in Tract 13028. Councilman Drale moved the writer be advised of the City's Sign ordinance and that the ordinance would have to be complied with. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried.

Letter from the Recreation Commission recommending that any funds in its capital outlay budget as of June 20th be earmarked for the development of the proposed Adult Recreation Center. Councilman Drale moved the Council concur in the recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Karlow, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Letter from City Manager Stevens reporting on the operation of the City Dump and the saving to the City in operating its own dump as compared to using a commercial dump. Councilman Drale stated his purpose in pushing the closing of the City's dump was "to get something started for the future" and stated, further, that "it isn't too soon to build an incinerator". He concluded his remarks by saying: "The letter is fine ..... but I would like to see something definite started now."

Claim for damages in the amount of \$3,500 by John R. and Ruth Todd, 22704 Ocean Ave., because of "water leaking and/or being discharged from the water main owned, operated and maintained ... by the City of Torrance." Councilman Spelman moved the claim be denied and referred to our insurance carrier. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried. City Attorney Hall asked that the claim be referred to him before transmittal to the insurance carrier as there was some question as to whether or not the claim had been made within the statutory period.

## Recommendations of City Manager Stevens:

PERSONNEL:

1. The appointment of J. J. Benner to serve his probationary period as Fire Chief, effective May 8, 1951.
2. The appointment of Jacob Joseph to serve his probationary period as City Engineer, effective June 1, 1951, at a compensation of \$550 per month.
3. That Bruce Gooler be temporarily employed as a Police Officer during emergency period, effective May 1, 1951, at the compensation set forth as the first step for the position.
4. That J. R. Stroh be appointed to serve his probationary period as Police Officer, effective May 16, 1951, at the compensation set forth as the first step for the position.
5. That the following named personnel be appointed to serve their probationary period as Laborers in the Street Department, effective May 3, 1951, at the compensation set forth as the first step for the position:
  - a. Charles S. Bennett
  - b. Michel W. Collins
  - c. Joseph A. Williams
  - d. James L. Wilkins
6. That the following named personnel, having successfully served their probationary period as Firemen, be granted permanent status on the dates indicated:
  - a. R. G. Collins ..... May 5, 1951
  - b. William Russell .... May 16, 1951

Councilman Spelman moved the Council concur in the recommendations under "Personnel", items 1 through 6. Motion, seconded by Councilman Karlow, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

APPROPRIATIONS:

1. For the payment to Barclay Surveying Company for engineering services for the month of April, 1951, the sum of \$500.
2. For payment to Logan R. Cotton and Bruce Brown for accounting services for quarters ending December 31, 1950, and March 31, 1951, the sum of \$550. (A Budget Item)
3. For payment to Torrance Chamber of Commerce for publicity and advertising services for the January-March 1951 quarter, the sum of \$1,250. (A Budget Item)
4. For payment to H. B. Adair Construction Company for installation of curbs and gutters, the sum of \$595.10.
5. For repairing and improving main entrance to Airport, the sum of \$950. (Airport Funds).

Councilman Spelman moved the Council concur in the recommendations under "Appropriations", items 1 through 5. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

TRAFFIC CONTROL:

1. STOP Signs:
  - a. Four-way at Cabrillo Avenue and Middlebrook Road.
  - b. One-way on road from Torrance Sand & Gravel Company at Crenshaw Boulevard

Councilman Karlow moved the Council concur in the recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

MISCELLANEOUS:

1. That the bid of John J. Swigart Company for the purchase of Maintenance Distributor from Street Department, for the sum \$1,350 be accepted. (This equipment is no longer used by the Street Department.)

Councilman Spelman moved the Council concur in the recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Karlow, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Letter from Torrance Planning Commission recommending approval of Change of Zone, Case No. 213, and requesting date be set for third and final hearing before the Council. Councilman Spelman moved the hearing be set for 8:00 p.m. on June 26, 1951. Motion, seconded by Councilman Karlow, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Clerk Bartlett read title to:

ORDINANCE NO. 556

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. 210.

Councilman Spelman moved to dispense with further reading of the Ordinance. Motion, seconded by Councilman Karlow, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Spelman moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 556 at its second and final reading. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

City Manager Stevens reminded the Council of the Budget Meeting on Friday, May 25th, at 5:30 p.m.

Councilman Blount moved that the Torrance Veterans' Service Council be granted a permit to sell fireworks. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Blount advised the group from Hollywood Riviera that as yet the other members of his committee had been unable to meet and discuss the suggestions re bus service but that they would meet immediately after tonight's Council meeting.

Councilman Drale discussed, briefly, the water problem facing the City of Torrance and asked the City Attorney to report on his trip to Sacramento. Mr. Hall replied that Senate Bill 1127 had been set aside for us and that a section has been proposed and added to it. He stated he felt the trip was successful because "we were able to tack on to an old bill." Councilman Drale stated he thought a committee of three should be appointed to sponsor the water bond election which will be coming up and to give the people of the City a true picture of the situation, and moved the committeemen be Mr. Bartlett, Mr. Stanger and Mr. Stevens. Discussion followed, with Mayor Haggard stating he thought such committee recommendation should first be made at a meeting of the Water Board. There being no second, Councilman Drale's motion was declared lost.

Mr. Brennan, of Hollywood Riviera, stated that in view of the curtailing of their bus service, the proposed purchase of additional busses was causing sharp comment in his district and asked if the purchase was to be left in the hands of one person or ask for bids. He was assured bids would be called for.

Councilman Spelman moved the Council approve the final improvement of that portion of Western Avenue within the City of Torrance, from 182nd Street to 260th Street. City Clerk Bartlett explained to the Council that such action was necessary in order for the Title Company to give a clear title report "due to the fact that one foot of one lot is in the City of Torrance". Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

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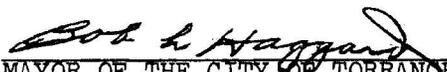
Mr. H. V. Hobbs, of 17230 Hawthorne Blvd., stated he was the purchaser of a lot in Hollywood Riviera on which he was building a home. However, foundation excavation disclosed a storm drain running through the property which was not disclosed in the title report and of which the City Engineering office had no knowledge. He stated our Building Inspector had refused to allow the pouring of concrete over this drain, although Mr. Patrick had previously authorized the foundation provided the drain was protected by steel. He stated he had offered to give the City an easement in the 5' side yard line if they would move the drain. Discussion followed between Mr. Hobbs, members of the Council and the City Attorney. Commander Mason stated probably 4 lots would be involved if the City were to move the drain. City Attorney Hall agreed to meet with Mr. Hobbs to discuss the problem and decide whether or not the City had any responsibility in the matter.

There being no further business, Councilman Spelman moved all bills properly audited be paid. Motion, seconded by Councilman Karlow, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

At 8:56 p.m., Councilman Blount moved meeting be adjourned. Motion, seconded by Councilman Karlow, carried unanimously.

  
CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

APPROVED:

  
MAYOR OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE