

Torrance, California
July 19, 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, on Tuesday, July 10, 1951, at 8:00 P.M., 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 the minutes of the regular meeting of June 26th be approved and accepted. Motion, seconded by Councilman Karlow, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

Clerk Bartlett read the following:

Two letters from Tide Water Associated Oil Company reporting no pipe lines laid or removed under County Ordinances Nos. 1014 and 1351 for period ending June 30, 1951. Matter of record.

Letter from Richfield Oil Corporation reporting no pipe lines laid or removed under County Ordinances Nos. 1358-1361 for period ending June 30, 1951. Matter of record.

Recommendation of approval from the Civil Service Commission of request of Lloyd Crowther for 30-days' leave of absence without pay, on account of ill health, beginning July 18. Councilman Drale moved the Council concur in the recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried.

Letter from W.L. Craven refuting statements made at the last Council meeting by Councilman Drale relative to recent purchases by the Bus Department and City Garage and requesting an apology for the "malicious statements" Councilman Drale asked if Mr. Craven was in the audience, and he was not. Councilman Drale explained, at some length, why he had made the statements he did, stating he was interested in "your tax dollar, not my reputation". Following his remarks, he moved that an itemized statement of the purchases*in both newspapers. On inquiry by Councilman Blount, he corrected his motion to "purchases for the City garage". Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried.

Councilman Blount moved the communication be made public to the newspapers stating, in reply to comment by Councilman Drale, that he believed Mr. Craven had a right to defend himself against the remarks made by Councilman Drale and printed in the paper. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried.

On inquiry from Councilman Spelman, City Manager Stevens advised a written survey was being prepared by Mr. Craven and would be made available to the Council.

**INSERT made since the employment of Mr. Craven be made and published

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Recommendations of City Manager Stevens:

PERSONNEL:

1. That the following named personnel, having successfully passed the promotional examination for the classifications indicated, be appointed to serve their probationary period, effective July 1, 1951, at the compensation indicated:
 - (a) William S. Camp and Everett Wallace promoted from Truck Driver to Power Equipment Operator No. I, compensation to be in the first step for the position.
 - (b) Paul Skaggs from Power Equipment Operator No. II to Power Equipment Operator No. III, compensation to be in the second step for the position.

Councilman Blount moved the Council concur in the recommendations. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried un-animously by roll call vote.

APPROPRIATIONS:

1. To the Torrance Chamber of Commerce for publicity and promotion services for the April-June Quarter, 1951, the sum of \$1,250. (Budget Item)
2. To Ken H. Jones & Co. for the improvement of Sepulveda Blvd., in accordance with the terms of the contract, the sum of \$10,685.02. (From State Gas Tax Funds)
3. To Ken H. Jones & Co. for the improvement of Torrance Blvd. from Madrid Ave. to Date Ave., the sum of \$6,148.60, in accordance with the terms of the contract and including extras. (From State Gas Tax Funds)
4. To Ken H. Jones & Co. for the improvement of Crenshaw Blvd. between 203rd St. and 190th St., the sum of \$17,327.07, in accordance with the terms of the contract. (From State Gas Tax Funds)

Councilman Drale, stating there were a few holes in the new surface on Crenshaw Blvd., moved the Council concur in the recommendations and that Jones check Crenshaw Blvd. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

AWARD OF BID:

1. That the bid of Walter Wiitanen, in the amount of \$10,454.00 for the construction of a library building be accepted as the lowest responsible bid and that all other bids be rejected.

Councilman Drale moved the Council concur in the recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried un-animously by roll call vote.

Clerk Bartlett read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 2193

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE THAT CERTAIN CONTRACT BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY OF TORRANCE AND WALTER WIITANEN

Councilman Blount moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Blount moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2193, Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 2194

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE APPROVING ASSIGNMENT OF PORTION OF FRAN-

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ORDINANCE NO. 557

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 446 BY THE ADDITION OF A SECTION PROHIBITING PARKING IN ALLEYS

Councilman Blount moved to dispense with further reading of the Ordinance. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Blount moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 557 at its second and final reading. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, was defeated by the following roll call vote: AYES COUNCILMEN: None. NAYS: COUNCILMEN: Blount, Drale, Karlow, Spelman and Haggard.

AB Seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote. (Councilman Drale first voted "NO" and then asked that the record show his vote changed to "YES")

ORDINANCE NO. 561

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ESTABLISHING CERTAIN TRAFFIC CONTROL MEASURES PURSUANT TO ARTICLE IV, ORDINANCE NO. 446.

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 urgency Ordinance No. 561 at its first and final reading. Motion, seconded by Councilman Karlow, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

ORDINANCE NO. 562

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. 213.

Councilman Blount moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Blount moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 562 at its first reading. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

ORDINANCE NO. 563

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 523 BY ESTABLISHING A NEW SALARY RATE FOR THE POSITION OF CITY ENGINEER AND PROVIDING FOR CERTAIN SALARY INCREASES FOR POSITIONS IN THE CLASSIFIED SERVICE DUE TO THE INCREASED COST OF LIVING.

At the request of Councilman Drale, the Ordinance was read in its entirety, following which he referred to the next agenda meeting for study. City Manager Stevens explained that unless the Ordinance was adopted immediately, the employees

Councilman Blount moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Blount moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2193, Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 2194

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE APPROVING ASSIGNMENT OF PORTION OF FRANCHISE TO LAY AND OPERATE PIPE LINES FOR THE TRANSPORTATION OF PETROLEUM, OIL, GAS, GASOLINE, WATER AND LIQUID HYDROCARBON PRODUCTS THEREOF, SOLD TO STANDARD GAS COMPANY UNDER ORDINANCE NO. 389.

Councilman Karlow moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Karlow moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2194. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

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ORDINANCE NO. 560

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 280

Councilman Karlow moved to dispense with further reading of the Ordinance. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Karlow moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 560 at its second reading. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote. (Councilman Drale first voted "NO" and then asked that the record show his vote changed to "YES")

ORDINANCE NO. 561

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ESTABLISHING CERTAIN TRAFFIC CONTROL MEASURES PURSUANT TO ARTICLE IV, ORDINANCE NO. 446.

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 urgency Ordinance No. 561 at its first and final reading. Motion, seconded by Councilman Karlow, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

ORDINANCE NO. 562

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. 213.

Councilman Blount moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Blount moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 562 at its first reading. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

ORDINANCE NO. 563

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 523 BY ESTABLISHING A NEW SALARY RATE FOR THE POSITION OF CITY ENGINEER AND PROVIDING FOR CERTAIN SALARY INCREASES FOR POSITIONS IN THE CLASSIFIED SERVICE DUE TO THE INCREASED COST OF LIVING.

At the request of Councilman Drale, the Ordinance was read in its entirety, following which he referred to the next agenda meeting for study. City Manager Stevens explained that unless the Ordinance was adopted immediately, the employees

ABSTRACT

would lose \$10 on their next checks as the \$20 cost-of-living bonus previously granted expired June 30th. Councilman Drale's motion received no second. At the suggestion of City Attorney Hall, Councilman Spelman moved the Ordinance be amended to include ** some increase in compensation for City Clerk Bartlett in his capacity as License Collector. At the suggestion of City Attorney Hall, it was decided such consideration should not be a part of this Ordinance. Councilman Spelman moved for the adoption of urgency Ordinance No. 563, as amended. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

City Manager Stevens suggested the meeting of City employees and the Council, re wage increases, be held on Wednesday, July 18th, at 6:00 P.M. This being agreeable with all members of the Council, meeting so set.

City Attorney Hall, stating he understood his budget request for funds with which to employ a City Prosecutor had been disallowed, asked that he be authorized to have the assistance of the Chief of Police, insofar as legally possible to do so, in the duties of City Prosecutor, stating there were many ways in which the Chief could be of assistance, Councilman Spelman moved the Council concur in the recommendation and that, for such work, a compensation of \$40 per month be allowed, effective July 1st. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Blount stated he wished to call the attention of the Traffic Commission to the hazardous condition caused by the widening of Crenshaw, more particularly, the intersection of 190th St. and the old Crenshaw. He was advised Crenshaw, at that point, would be made a one-way street.

Councilman Drale, after brief discussion, moved that a letter be sent to Cecil King, reminding him of his promise to assist the City in getting a storm drain from the Navy Depot to "Niggers Slough" to alleviate the hazard of surface waters. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried.

Councilman Drale stated that something should be done about the railroad wig-wag at 203rd and Crenshaw as, since the widening of Crenshaw, the sign is now on the street shoulder. He also asked that reflectors or something be placed on the new ribs in the middle of Torrance Blvd. at Crenshaw.

Councilman Karlow asked that the Traffic Commission give some consideration to the installation of an "island" or some sort of traffic control device, by the State, at Newton St. and 101 Highway. City Manager Stevens advised a letter had already been sent to the Division of Highways with an accident record covering the past 2½ years, pictures of the recent accident, and an urgent request that something be done.

Councilman Karlow moved that the City Manager be given a salary increase of \$1,000 per year, with a 3-year contract, and that the City Attorney be directed to draw the necessary ordinance, said increase to be effective July 1, 1951. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: Blount, Karlow, Spelman and Haggard. NAYS: Drale.

Mayor Haggard stated he would like to appoint Charles Schultz, Jr., to fill the unexpired term of Mr. Benstead on the Civil Service Commission. Councilman Drale voiced protest, stating it has been customary for each councilman to make one appointment to the Commission and that since Mr. Benstead had been his appointee, he should be entitled to name the man to fill the vacancy created by Mr. Benstead's resignation, and that he had submitted the name of Dan Desmond, Councilman Blount moved the Council concur in

**INSERT the words "effective July 1, 1951". Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried. Councilman Drale then asked that the Ordinance be amended to include

the recommendation of the Mayor and appoint Mr. Schultz to the Commission. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: Blount, Karlow, Spelman and Haggard. NAYS: Drale.

Chief Stroh called a meeting of the Traffic Commission for Wednesday, July 11th, at 2:30 P.M.

Jack Baldwin, of the Torrance Herald, suggested the Traffic Commission give consideration to the installation of stop-signs at the blind alleys directly northwest of the Auditorium -- between Cravens and Sartori, and between El Prado and Post.

Mr. Bert Johnson, of North Torrance, asked if the stop-sign at 171st and Crenshaw could be better illuminated in some way as the street was so wide, people driving down the center lane cannot see it until they are right on it.

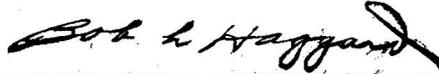
Councilman Blount moved all bills properly audited be paid. Motion, seconded by Councilman Karlow, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

There being no further business, at 8:50 P.M. Councilman Spelman moved meeting be adjourned. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried.

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CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

APPROVED:


MAYOR OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE