

Torrance, California  
October 9, 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, October 9, 1951, at 8:05 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 Karlow moved the minutes of the regular meeting of September 25th and the adjourned regular meeting of October 3rd be approved. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

Clerk Bartlett read the following:

Letter from North Torrance Civic Improvement Ass'n urging the erection of street signs in the new tracts. City Manager Stevens stated that the last order of signs, which includes many of these new streets, has arrived and would be erected in the next two or three weeks. Matter of record.

Claim against the City by Nellie Mesh, on behalf of Sharon Jones, a minor, for injuries sustained July 7th at the Walteria Recreation Center, in the amount of \$250. Councilman Spelman moved the claim be denied and referred to the insurance carrier. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Letter from the Civil Service Board recommending the permanent reinstatement of Shird D. Kelton, Jr., as a Laborer in the Water Department. Councilman Drale moved the Council concur in the recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Karlow, carried.

Postal Card from Mrs. D.W. Randall, 216 Via Colorin, Palos Verdes Estates and letter from Mrs. J.S. Lucock, 213 Via Colorin, Palos Verdes Estates, both protesting the proposed operation of a gravel pit requested by Wm. Riley. Councilman Drale moved the communications be filed as a matter of record. Motion, seconded by Councilman Karlow, carried.

Letter from Clyde W. Moore, 2617 Arlington, protesting Resolution of Intention No. 2113, South Torrance sewer assessment. Councilman Drale moved the communication be referred to the City Engineer for his report at the next regular meeting. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried.

Request from the Y.M.C.A. for free use of the Auditorium on November 17, in observance of "Good Neighbor Day". During brief discussion, Mr. Stevens advised the Council that the date had been cleared with the Recreation Department. Councilman Karlow moved the request be granted. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried.

Letter from County School Superintendent advising the County could not assign a crossing guard at 182nd and Hawthorne, or 186th as the major portion of the intersections are within the City of Torrance. Councilman Drale asked Chief of Police Stroh for his recommendation. Chief Stroh replied that, if Torrance supplied a guard at 186th St., the County should supply one at 182nd St., stating he thought the County should give protection to its children coming into Torrance. Councilman Drale moved the matter be referred to the Traffic Commission for its recommendation next meeting. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried.

Letter from Mr. Patrick, Asst. to City Engineer, submitting an easement across Lot 151, in Tract 13028, for street purposes. Clerk Bartlett stated the Resolution of acceptance would be read with the other resolutions. Matter of record.

Letter from City Engineer Joseph submitting, for consideration, easement for public street purposes from Everett Powell, 2091 W. 166th St. Councilman Drale stated he had some pertinent information relative to this property which the other members of the Council did not have and moved the matter be tabled until the matter could be studied. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Letter from City Engineer Joseph reporting on the dumping of oil sump residue in the abandoned gravel pit near Madison St. He reported that dumping operations were being carried on by Mr. J.T. Roseman, who has been engaged to excavate, remove and dispose of abandoned oil well sumps within the City, and that Mr. Roseman has a permit to carry on a trucking business within the City. Mr. Joseph recommended that this dumping operation be permitted to continue as the abandoned pit, a menace to physical safety, was being filled. Discussion continued between members of the Council. Mr. Crumb and Mr. Muraski, residents in the vicinity, protested the continued operation. Councilman Drale moved the City Attorney ascertain from the records whether the owner of the pit has a permit to operate such a dump and if not that the dumping of oil be stopped immediately. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

AGARD

Councilman Drale moved that, if the gentleman wasn't aware of the City ordinance demanding sumps be fenced, he be so notified. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Recommendations of City Manager:

AWARD OF BIDS:

1. That the bid of the International Harvester Company for a 16,000 lb. G.V.W. Truck in the amount of \$2,225.01, including sales tax be accepted and all other bids be rejected.
2. That the bid of Essick Manufacturing Company for furnishing Compressor and Spray Unit in the amount of \$1,471.47 plus sales tax be accepted and all other bids be rejected.
3. That the bid of Schultz & Peckham for supplying a heavy duty trailer for the sum of \$3,956.00 including sales tax be accepted and all other bids be rejected.
4. That the bid of Shields, Harper & Company for supplying a 10,000 gallon storage tank and pump for the sum of \$1,680.79 plus sales tax be accepted and all other bids be rejected.

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

TRAFFIC CONTROL:

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

1. Stop Signs:
  - (a) Four-way STOP at Arlington Avenue and 166th Street
  - (b) Two-way STOP on Elm Avenue at Eldorado Street
  - (c) One-way STOP Northbound on Via Sevilla at Calle de Aragon.
2. Limited Parking:
  - (a) NO PARKING AT ANY TIME on the west side of Atkinson Avenue between 164th Street and 166th Street.

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

Clerk Bartlett read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 2219

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE APPROVING THE COMPLETED PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS PREPARED WITH AN ADVANCE FROM THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA UNDER THE TERMS OF PUBLIC LAW 352, 81ST CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES, APPROVED OCTOBER 13, 1949.

City Manager Stevens recommended the acceptance of the plans and specifications, and stated they had been approved by Acting Water Superintendent McVicar. Councilman Karlow moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Blount, Drale, Karlow, Spelman and Haggard. Councilman Karlow moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2219. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Blount, Drale, Karlow, Spelman and Haggard. NAYS: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

RESOLUTION NO. 2220

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO ACCEPT, ON BEHALF OF THE CITY, THAT CERTAIN EASEMENT DEED FROM TRUMAN ENTERPRISES, INC.

Following brief explanation by City Engineer Joseph, Councilman Spelman moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, was defeated by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Drale, Karlow, Spelman and Haggard. NAYS: COUNCILMEN: Blount. Councilman Blount stated his "No" vote was because he had not had an opportunity to read the Resolution and asked to see a copy. After reading the Resolution, Councilman Blount withdrew his "No" vote and Councilman Spelman moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2220. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 2221

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING A CONDITIONAL PERMIT TO  
F.J. NORRIS

Councilman Karlow moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Karlow moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2221. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 2222

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING WAIVER OF REAR YARD REQUIREMENT FOR BERT K. MURPHY

Councilman Karlow moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Karlow moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2222. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 2223

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE CHANGING THE NAME OF "KARBY WAY" TO  
"GLENCOE WAY"

Councilman Drale moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Drale moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2223. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

ORDINANCE NO. 574

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, DECLARING THE INTENTION OF SAID CITY COUNCIL TO CALL AN ELECTION UNDER THE MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT ACT OF 1935, AS AMENDED, IN THAT PART OF THE CITY CONTAINED WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE PROPOSED MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT, TO BE KNOWN AS "MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT NO. 3 OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE", FOR THE PURPOSE OF SUBMITTING TO THE ELECTORS OF SAID DISTRICT THE PROPOSITION OF AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF BONDS OF SUCH DISTRICT, AND FIXING AND GIVING NOTICE OF A TIME AND PLACE OF HEARING.

Councilman Spelman moved to dispense with further reading of the Ordinance. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Blount, Drale, Karlow, Spelman and Haggard. NAYS: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None. Councilman Spelman moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 574. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried by the following roll call vote:

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AYES: COUNCILMEN: Blount, Drale, Karlow, Spelman and Haggard. NAYS: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None. Councilman Drale stated several people had requested answers to questions on the water bond election: first, if the revenue bonds are going to be paid from increased rates in the City of Torrance. If so, the people ask why not just increase the rates and have a "pay-as-you-go" program rather than a two million dollar bond issue. City Manager Stevens replied that the need was now, not ten years from now, and that no adequate system could be constructed in a piece-meal operation. Mayor Haggard asked Mr. Stanger, retired Water Superintendent, if he cared to make any statement on the water bond issue but he declined to comment. The second question asked by Councilman Drale, on behalf of the people, was if the subdividers were adopting a plan comparable to that given to the City by Mr. Montgomery in his report. The City Manager replied that the subdividers' systems are adequate but only fit a small square in the entire picture and don't add much to the strength of the total system. Mr. Stevens stated further that there will be hearings on the bond issue and that all such matters could be thoroughly discussed at that time.

#### ORDINANCE NO. 575

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF  
TORRANCE ORDERING THE VACATION OF CERTAIN STREETS  
AND ALLEYS IN TRACT NO. 15757.

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 approval and adoption of Ordinance No. 575 at its first reading. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

#### ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

City Manager Stevens stated that he and Bus Superintendent Chamberlain had checked the bids on 21-passenger busses, adding extras where needed to make the busses as near alike as possible, and recommended the bid be awarded to the low bidder, Paul's Chevrolet, whose bid totaled \$3,951.17, and that all other bids be rejected. Councilman Drale moved the bid be awarded to the lowest bidder, Paul's Chevrolet. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Blount stated there were two vacancies on the Library Board and recommended the appointment of Mrs. Juanita Thompson for two years and Mr. Kenneth Bloomfield for one year. With the concurrence of the Council, Mayor Haggard made the appointments as recommended.

Councilman Blount then asked the City Engineer for his report on the paving, curbs, gutters and sidewalks which were to have been installed by the subdivider at 174th Street. Mr. Joseph replied that the subdivider had been delayed, pending plans of the State but that now it was known the State was going to do nothing about 174th Street and the subdivider has been notified to proceed with the paving, curbs, etc., immediately. Discussion followed between Councilman Blount and Mr. Joseph. Councilman Blount asked that he be allowed to see the subdivider's reply if and when received.

Councilman Drale stated he had attended a meeting at Pacific Hills on Monday evening and received complaints that approximately 88 homes in that development are without inspection doors to their bathtubs. He asked that the matter be investigated as to who was negligent as such inspection doors are required under State law. City Manager Stevens replied that he would look into the matter.

Councilman Karlow moved that the City Manager, City Attorney, the Assistant to City Engineer, the Fire Chief and the City Judge be authorized to attend the League of California Cities' convention in San Francisco, commencing October 15, 1951, and that upon return and rendering an accounting they be reimbursed for both travel and other expenses necessarily incurred in making the trip; that, further, they be allowed, subject to an accounting therefor, an advance of the necessary funds to make the trip. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Karlow moved that the members of the City Council who so desire to attend the League of California Cities' convention be authorized and that, subject to an accounting, necessary funds be advanced to cover necessary expenses of these individuals. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Spelman moved that the members of the Council be furnished with copies of all ordinances and resolutions either prior to or with their agenda. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS (Cont)

Mr. O.Z. Drale, of North Torrance, at great length, urged the annexation of Alondra Park, and gave reasons why he believed such annexation would be of benefit to the entire city of Torrance.

Mr. W.G. Rook, of 1508 Fern Avenue, urged something be done about the drainage problem in the area and suggested possibly the School Board would do something about curbs and sidewalks and a fence to keep papers from blowing off the school yard. Mayor Haggard stated the drainage problem has been given a lot of study and that he couldn't speak for the School Board, either as to a fence or sidewalks.

Protests were heard against Torrance Sand & Gravel by Mrs. Brubaker and Mr. Cameron. City Attorney Hall advised the Council and the Audience that the operators of the pit admitted the residents had been subjected to extreme noise, dirt and dust and that the operators were installing a water system to eliminate as much dust as possible and that they were hauling the rock away for a particular job and should be through in approximately 30 days and that when that is through they will discontinue operations on that side; further, that their promise would be put in writing. Mr. Hall stated he had examined the variance under which the operation is being conducted and could find nothing illegal -- that it is his understanding the operation is confined within the 50 acres covered by the variance. Further comment against the operation was voiced by Mr. Ralph Barber, of 3024 Winlock Road, who stated the rock had not been stock-piled for two years.

A representative of the Jim Dandy Market asked if approval of the sign proposed to be erected at Crenshaw and Torrance Boulevards had been received and he was advised that the Planning Commission was considering the matter but as yet had made no recommendation to the Council. Councilman Drale read an excerpt from the Planning Commission minutes of October 3rd wherein the Commissioners had suggested that Mr. Lloyd attempt to have the sign relocated and reduced in size. The gentleman asked if the sign were reduced in size to four foot square, with a 10-foot clearance from the ground, would it be acceptable and the Mayor replied that such a proposal should go to the Planning Commission before the Council could act. Councilman Drale suggested any newsketch be presented to Mr. Lloyd.

Mr. O.D. Swayne again stated he felt the drainage problem on Elm and Fern Avenues was the City's problem and should not be borne by the individuals.

Mr. Jack White, President of North Torrance Civic Improvement Association, on behalf of the group, urged the annexation of Alondra Park.

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

At 9:40 P.M., Councilman Karlow Moved the meeting be adjourned. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously.

  
CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

APPROVED:

  
MAYOR OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

AG 280