

Torrance, California
October 23, 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 on Tuesday, October 23, 1951, in the Council Chamber of the City Hall at 8:00 P.M.

In the absence of the Mayor, and the lack of a quorum, Councilman Drale assumed the chair and Clerk Bartlett called the roll. Those responding were: COUNCILMEN: Drale and Karlow. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Blount, Spelman and Haggard. Also present were City Manager Stevens and City Attorney Hall.

There being several persons in the audience wishing to express protests on the proposed sewer assessment in South Torrance, Councilman Drale asked if they wished to be heard at this time, although no official action could be taken as no quorum was present.

Mr. J.E. Inglis, of Perris, owner of property at 233rd and Arlington, protested the proposed sewer assessment stating this property has been connected to the sewer for some time and should not be assessed again. Mr. Barnett, of Barnett, Hopen & Smith, Engineers, stated he would be glad to discuss the matter with Mr. Inglis and attempt to straighten it out.

Mr. Stroughton, of 190th and Hawthorne, stated they have been paying taxes on the water bond since 1947 and still have no water, and asked if something could be done. The property adjoins KNX on the East. Councilman Drale suggested the matter be taken up with Mr. McVicar, Acting Water Superintendent. Mrs. Stroughton stated they had discussed the problem with him and that he had advised them that as funds were not available no line could be run until another bond issue has been voted. Mrs. Sevak, former owner of the property, stated they had previously been told that water would be brought in as soon as a home was built, and stated, further, that she thought something should be done. Councilman Drale stated the matter would be discussed with Mr. McVicar at the next Water Board meeting and invited them to be present.

Mr. Crumb asked the outcome of the oil sump in the Walteria area. City Attorney Hall advised the City engineer was making an investigation. City Engineer Joseph advised he wished to make a further study of the problem and would make a report at the next regular meeting.

Mr. Ascolesi, Arlington Ave., stated his sewer assessment bore the wrong address and wrong legal description, and that several others he knew of were also wrong.

Councilman Blount arrived at 8:07. Councilman Drale assumed his regular chair and Clerk Bartlett called the roll. Those responding were: COUNCILMEN: Blount, Drale and Karlow. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Spelman and Haggard.

All persons present participated in the salute to our Flag.

Councilman Blount moved Councilman Drale be appointed Mayor Pro-tem for the evening. Motion, seconded by Councilman Karlow, carried.

Mayor Pro-tem Drale announced the time had arrived for the protest hearing on the proposed assessments in South Torrance Sewer Assessment District No. 2 and Clerk Bartlett presented affidavits of mailing, posting and publication of notice of hearing. Councilman Karlow moved the affidavits be received and filed. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried.

Written protest from Clyde W. Moore, 2617 Arlington, was read and oral protests called for. Protest was voiced by Mr. J.E. Inglis, who stated his property has been connected to the sewer since the "'30s". Councilman Karlow moved that the hearing be declared closed;

seconded by Councilman Blount and duly carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Blount, Drale and Karlow. NAYS: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Spelman and Haggard.

The Council discussed the appeals and objections and decided that the Assessment should be modified by reducing the assessment on Parcel 31 and that Parcel 111 should be divided into two parcels to conform to the present ownership and that only a nominal assessment be levied against the last two mentioned parcels. Councilman Karlow moved that the Engineer be, and hereby is, instructed to make these modifications and return the Assessment and Assessment Diagram at the next regular Council meeting on November 13, 1951, for review. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, duly carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Blount, Drale, Karlow. NAYS: COUNCILMEN: Spelman and Haggard. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Spelman and Haggard.

Councilman Blount moved the minutes of the regular meeting of October 9th be approved. Motion, seconded by Councilman Karlow, carried.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

Clerk Bartlett read the following:

Letter from J.W. Venable presenting petition bearing 9 signatures requesting the return of a strip of land 15' wide along 242nd St. to the property owners. His letter stated the Highway Commission had promised to return this strip to the property owners as partial consideration for rights-of-way on present highway. Councilman Karlow moved the letter be referred to the City Attorney and City Engineer for confirmation of the facts. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried.

Request bearing 17 signatures for the City to post signs of "No Horsemen" and "No Moxtorcyclists" along the ocean frontage near 316 Paseo de la Playa. Mayor Pro-tem Drale stated the Traffic Commission had already looked into the matter and City Manager Stevens reported that the strip in question was private property and the City has no control over its useage. Councilman Blount moved the writer of the letter, or the first signature, be advised of the facts. Motion, seconded by Councilman Karlow, carried.

Letter from Pacific Electric Railway submitting renewal of lease along their right-of-way on Torrance Boulevard for execution. Councilman Blount moved the lease be renewed. Motion, seconded by Councilman Karlow, carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Blount, Drale, Karlow. NAYS: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Spelman and Haggard.

Letter from the National Brotherhood of Service for the Blind, Inc., requesting permission to conduct its annual Brotherhood Day Drive on November 17, 1951. Councilman Blount moved the request be granted. Motion, seconded by Councilman Karlow, carried.

Letter from So. Calif. Edison Co. submitting renewal of contract for the operation and maintenance of the overhead street lighting system.

Clerk Bartlett read title to

RESOLUTION NO. 2224

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 Blount moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution. Motion, seconded by Councilman Karlow, carried by the unanimous roll call vote of those present. Councilman Blount moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2224. Motion, seconded by Councilman Karlow, carried by the unanimous roll call vote of those present.

AG 1250

For the benefit of those persons in the audience from the Pacific Hills area, Chairman Drale stated he had talked to Mr. Jenkins, of the Edison Company, about street lights for Pacific Hills and had been advised that metal poles would not be available but that wooden poles could be furnished at no cost to the property owners.

Letter from Luis Monson requesting a license, at a reduced price, to collect junk metal. Clerk Bartlett reported that a similar letter had been addressed to the Chief of Police and ~~that Chief of Police and~~ that Chief Stroh made no recommendation. Councilman Blount moved the communication be held over to the next agenda meeting. Motion, seconded by Councilman Karlow, carried.

Letter from disabled American Veterans, South Bay Chapter #92, requesting permission to sell "Forget-me-nots" November 7, 8, 9 and 10. Councilman Blount moved the request be granted. Motion, seconded by Councilman Karlow, carried.

Copy of a letter addressed to the "Street Naming Division, County of Los Angeles", from the Palos Verdes Corporation, requesting that the name of old "Crenshaw Boulevard" be renamed "Rolling Hills Road" to eliminate any confusion when new Crenshaw is completed and opened for travel. Councilman Blount moved the letter be referred to the City Engineer and Traffic Commission for recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Karlow, carried.

Letter from Postmaster Clara Conner requesting Maple Avenue, Torrance, be renamed to eliminate confusion with Maple Street, unincorporated L.A. County area, as both streets show the same street numbers from the 900 block to the 1200 block, inclusively. Councilman Karlow moved the letter be referred to the City Engineer and Traffic Commission for recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried.

Councilman Drale stated he thought now was the proper time to address a letter to the Post Office Department advising that portions of Torrance are receiving their mail through another post office and that the City would like all city mail delivered from the City of Torrance Post Office, and he so moved. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried.

Small claims action filed against the City by Irving Schiff, in the amount of \$45.11, representing damages to his car and car rental fee during the repair of his automobile. Councilman Blount moved the summons be referred to the City Attorney for his attention. Motion, seconded by Councilman Karlow, carried.

Letter from City Engineer Joseph reporting on the Fern Avenue drainage problem and recommending the request be filed for future reference. Councilman Blount moved the matter be held over until the entire Council is present. Motion, seconded by Councilman Karlow, carried.

Letter from City Engineer Joseph advising the Planning Commission recommended disapproval of tentative tract map No. 17444. Discussion followed, with Councilman Drale stating he did not think the subdivider should be denied the right to go ahead with 129 homes. Councilman Karlow and Blount stated they thought the design and layout could be improved. City Manager Stevens advised the Planning Commission did not disapprove subdividing the property but did disapprove the tentative map. Councilman Blount moved the Council concur in the recommendation and that the tentative tract map be disapproved. Motion was seconded by Councilman Karlow. Roll call: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Blount and Karlow. NAYS: COUNCILMEN: Drale. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Spelman and Haggard.

Letter from the Planning Commission submitting an alternate design for a lighted neon sign at the Jim Dandy Market, corner of Crenshaw and Torrance Boulevard, and recommending approval. Councilman Karlow moved the Council concur in the recommendation. Motion was seconded by Councilman Drale. Roll call: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Drale and Karlow. NAYS: COUNCILMEN: Blount. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Spelman and Haggard.

Letter from the Planning Commission recommending approval of Case No. 220, Petition of Manuel L. Rocha for a Variance and Conditional Permit to build an addition to an existing cow barn, increasing it from a 30 cow capacity to a 45 cow capacity. Discussion followed, with Mr. Whitcomb, of the Planning Commission, advising that the dairy herd was not being increased but the milking capacity of the barn was being increased. Councilman Karlow moved the recommendation be referred to the next agenda meeting. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried.

Letter from the Planning Commission recommending denial of the application of Mrs. Stella Anderson to erect a second single-family dwelling on the rear of the lot at 1525 Fern Avenue. Mr. Joseph explained that the only dwelling on the lot at the present time is on the front of the lot and that there are no buildings on the rear of the lot at the present time. Councilman Karlow moved the Council concur in the recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried.

Letter from the Planning Commission recommending approval of

- (1) The request of William R. Effinger to build a frame dwelling and attached garage on the rear of his lot at 4330 W. 182nd St., which will have 612 square feet of floor area exclusive of the garage; and
- (2) The request of Carl McClung to build a 3-4 room dwelling and attached garage on the front of his lot at 627 Sartori Avenue, which dwelling will have 588 square feet of floor area plus 200 square feet for the garage.

Councilman Karlow moved the Council concur in the recommendation as to the request of Mr. Effinger. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried by the unanimous roll call vote of those present.

Councilman Blount moved the Council concur in the recommendation as to the request of Mr. McClung. Motion, seconded by Councilman Karlow, carried by the unanimous roll call vote of those present.

Letter from the Planning Commission recommending approval, on certain conditions, of the petition of Sam Rikalo for a Variance and Conditional Permit to construct and establish doctors' offices and clinic at 2524 Torrance Boulevard, Case No. 224. Mr. Stevens reported that the Planning Commission hearing had been held on Monday, October 22nd, and that there were protests. He stated, further, that Mayor Haggard had suggested the matter be held over for the next regular meeting. Councilman Blount so moved. Motion, seconded by Councilman Karlow, carried.

Letter from Plumbing Inspector Moore transmitting excerpts from an article entitled "Creating a Garbage-Free Community by Civic Cooperation" and urging consideration by the Council. Councilman Karlow moved the communication be referred to the next agenda meeting and that a copy be sent to the Planning Commission. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried.

Clerk Bartlett read title to

ORDINANCE NO. 576

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

Councilman Karlow moved to dispense with further reading of the Ordinance. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried by the unanimous roll call vote of those present. Councilman Karlow moved for the adoption of urgency ordinance No. 576 at its first and final reading. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

City Manager Stevens suggested that, as there would be 3 weeks before the next regular Council meeting, this meeting be adjourned to October 30th so that any pressing matters might be taken care of.

AGAR250

City Attorney Hall stated Chief Benner had an ordinance request but suggested the matter not be taken up until a later date when the Council attendance was not so limited.

Councilman Blount asked if the City Engineer had received a reply from Property Management as to when they were going to put in curbs, gutters, and sidewalks, on 174th. Mr. Joseph replied that no answer had been received. Councilman Blount then moved the Engineering office withhold the bond on Property Management on the property in question and that they not give approval of any more houses, effective immediately, until "we hear from this corporation on our action re curbs, gutters and sidewalks". Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried by the unanimous roll call vote of those present.

Councilman Drale stated he had one matter to submit to the Engineering Department - the making of a survey on Arlington Avenue with a view to someday, when funds are available, making Arlington a through street.

Councilman Drale also asked that the Powell matter be referred to the Planning Commission for study.

There being no other oral communications, Councilman Blount moved all bills properly audited be paid. Motion, seconded by Councilman Karlow, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

At 8:55 P.M., on motion of Councilman Blount and seconded by Councilman Karlow, meeting adjourned to October 30th at 8:00 P.M.

APPROVED:

Bob L. Hayward
MAYOR OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

A. H. [Signature]
CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE