

AGA280

Torrance, California
November 28, 1952

MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING
OF THE TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL

The City Council of the City of Torrance convened in a Special Meeting in the Council Chambers of the City Hall on Friday, November 28, 1952, at 5:40 p.m., Mayor Schwab presiding.

Those responding to roll call by City Clerk Bartlett were:
COUNCILMEN: Benstead, Blount, Drale, Spelman and Schwab. Also present was City Manager Stevens.

This being a Special meeting, Mayor Schwab announced the regular order of business would be dispensed with, and that the purpose of the meeting was to determine the City's policy in the expenditure of funds for Christmas parties this year, and any other matters which might come before the Council.

Mayor Schwab reviewed the recommendation of the Recreation Commission, which had been read at the Council meeting of November 12, 1952, and which requested that the City Council appropriate \$1,250 to assist the different organizations who sponsor Christmas parties for children in the four City neighborhoods. This recommendation had been held for discussion at the next Agenda meeting, at which time no decision was reached. The matter was overlooked at the Regular meeting of the Council, held November 25, and Mayor Schwab advised that, as the time is growing close to Christmas, he had received a number of telephone calls from interested parties who were wondering what the policy is to be. Councilman Benstead stated that he had also received a number of telephone calls and that, in his opinion, as long as the money was not coming from the Recreation Budget but had been set up as a separate item, he believes it is not a part of Recreation and is a matter entirely up to the Council to decide. City Manager Stevens verified the fact that \$1,000 had been set up in the Budget for this purpose under "Promotion". Councilman Benstead moved that \$1,000 be expended for Christmas parties this year, that the total amount be split three ways as follows: one-third for South Torrance, one-third for Central Torrance and one-third for North Torrance, and that any money not expended by the districts be returned and placed back in the General Fund. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Benstead, Drale, Spelman and Schwab. NOES: COUNCILMAN: Blount. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None. The question was raised as to what the policy would be in the future and it was decided that a satisfactory arrangement could be worked out at a later date.

City Manager Stevens advised that a matter had been brought to him late this afternoon and was so important that he would like to present it at this time. He presented Tract Map No. 18416 for re-approval, which is located south of 101 Highway and east of Crenshaw Boulevard, and stated that the reason was because the date of ownership was changed to November 22, 1952, and that the County Recorder would return it for approval after this date. The matter is important because this property contains the new Crenshaw Boulevard and the contractor wants to start laying the 24" water main in the street on December 5, 1952. Mr. Stevens stated that there is no change whatsoever in any other detail; the reapproval is necessary only because of the change in the date of ownership and that he would like to recommend its approval at this time. Councilman Drale moved the Council concur with the recommendation of Mr. Stevens. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Benstead inquired as to the number of personnel employed by the Recreation Department and City Manager Stevens replied that there were seven full-time employees, with about that same number working on a maximum of twenty hours a week. Councilman Benstead explained his reason for bringing up this question by stating that he believed the Recreation Department to be over-staffed, as there is no Recreation Program being carried on at this time. A general discussion on recreation followed and it was decided to discuss the matter further at the next Agenda meeting, at which time the presence of the Recreation Director will be requested.

Councilman Drale stated that he had just been out to look at the bank of ground in Seaside Ranchos and that he didn't believe the situation was as bad as it had been painted, as it looks like the Engineering Department has taken care of the situation although the drain has not been completed. Mayor Schwab said he had also spent about two hours in the area talking with the people there. City Manager Stevens stated that he and Attorney Hall had gone over every foot of the bank and that it was going along as well as could be expected.

At 6:07 p.m. Councilman Spelman moved the meeting adjourn. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried.

A. H. Bartlett

CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

APPROVED:

W. Schwab

MAYOR OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE