

Torrance, California  
February 14, 1956

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL

The City Council of the City of Torrance convened in a regular meeting at 5:30 P. M. February 14, 1956, in the Council Chambers, City Hall, Torrance, California.

Those responding to roll call by Deputy City Clerk Hallanger were: COUNCILMEN: Benstead, Blount, Drale, Schwab, and Isen. City Manager Stevens and City Attorney Hall were also present.

Airport Commissioner Jahn led the salute to our Flag.

The Reverend Percy opened the meeting with an invocation.

Councilman Benstead moved to approve the minutes of the February 7, 1956, meeting of the Council as written. Motion seconded by Mayor Isen, no objections, so ordered.

Councilman Benstead moved to approve the minutes of the Adjourned Regular Meeting of the Council held on February 9, 1956, with the following corrections: Page 1, last paragraph, roll call vote should read: "AYES: COUNCILMEN: Benstead, Isen. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Blount, Drale, and Schwab. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.", and on Page 2, Paragraph 2, the following addition at the end of the paragraph "probationary periods, effective February 13, 1956, each in the second step."

Motion seconded by Mayor Isen, no objection, so ordered.

Councilman Blount asked to go on record as voting "No" on the addition to Paragraph 2 on Page 2 as a matter of principle.

The Council had met in Pre-Council meeting with representatives of the Rome Cable Corporation with regard to City property which Rome Cable has offered to buy.

Mr. Gilbert Woodill and Mr. Kroger, both of Rome Cable Corporation, spoke to the Council and suggested a meeting with them at the Torrance Plant of the Rome Cable Corporation to look over the property in question and discuss their offer with them and the President of their Corporation, Mr. A. D. R. Frase, who will be in Torrance during the next week.

It was agreed, after some discussion, that the Council should meet with the officials of the Rome Cable Corporation at their plant on 213th Street at 9:00 A. M. Wednesday, February 22, 1956.

Mayor Isen moved that City Manager Stevens advertise for bids to ascertain who would be interested in the land, the use they would put it to and what they would pay for it.

There were no objections and it was so ordered.

BIDS:

Deputy City Clerk Hallanger said the opening of bids for obsolete equipment had been advertised as being held at 8:00 P. M., and City Attorney Hall advised the Council that if all bids delivered to the Clerk's office were here, and if they were open for inspection, it would be in order to open them now. He pointed out that the bids had been advertised before the meeting time of the Council was changed. To the Deputy City Clerk's suggestion that they be re-advertised, the City Attorney replied that it was not necessary if the stipulations above were fulfilled, and that it would be a waste of money.

Deputy City Clerk Hallanger opened and read the following bids for obsolete equipment:

Bob's Auto Wrecking Company bid \$250 for:

- 1 Scarifier;
- 1 Disc;
- 1 TD9 1-yard bucket;
- 1 dump body and hoist;
- 1 Dodge Truck (dump) less tires;
- 1 pull type sweeper;
- 1 tractor, 48 HP Cletrack Model K;
- 1 4-wheel trailer, hard tires.

City-Wide Auto Wrecking bid:

- 1 Dump body and hoist \$ 16.11
- 1 Dodge truck (dump) less tires 46.51
- 1 Tractor, 48 HP Cleat track Model K 76.56
- 4-wheel trailer, hard tires 26.26
- Ford 1951 V8 4-door 51.51
- 1 A-frame 11.11
- 1 Tar & Asphalt kettle 11.11
- 1 Truck, Dodge, 8-pass., Carryall 26.26

Harry Braves bid:

- 1 TD9 Bucket \$ 10.00
- 1 Box Dump 12.00
- 4-tire trailer 21.00
- Sweep 12.00
- Trailer K Model 110.00
- Disc 12.00
- Dodge dump truck 21.00
- Spring tooth harrow 5.00
- Jeep power takeoff 1946 Model 7.00

Harry L. Benscoter bid:

\$11.00 per ton or \$300 total for all, or to move storage building for the City, at City's discretion.

Broken Drum Auto Parts bid:

- 1 Tractor - 48 HP Cleat Track Model K \$178.00
- 1 Ford 1951 V8 4-door sedan 56.00
- 1 G. E. Induction motor 2 HP Volts 220 Cycle 60 11.00
- 1 Truck, Dodge, 8-pass. Carryall, 1/2 ton 1942 153.00
- 1 Truck, Weapons carrier, Dodge 3/4 ton, 1944 153.00
- 1 Ford Jeep, pass., 1/4 ton 1943 153.00

Councilman Benstead moved that these bids be referred to the City Manager for his recommendation. Motion seconded by Councilman Drale, no objections, so ordered.

Deputy City Clerk Hallanger presented the affidavit of publication and opened and read the following three bids on automobiles to be leased by the Police Department effective March 1, 1956 to February 28, 1957.

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Whittlesey Motors, of 1600 Cabrillo Avenue, Torrance, bid:

"The 1956 Plymouth six (6) cylinder (125 H.P.) four door sedans will be leased to the City for the amount of eight and one half (8½¢) per mile for a minimum of 30,000 miles as set forth in the bid notice.

The 1956 Plymouth eight (8) cylinder (180 H.P.) four door sedans will be leased for the amount of ten cents (10¢) per mile for a minimum of 30,000 miles as agreed in the bid notice.

We further agree to all conditions in the bid notice and hope we can be of service to the City of Torrance."

Oscar Maples, Inc., of 1420 Cabrillo Avenue, Torrance, bid:

"1. Two (2) to Four (4) vehicles to be used by the traffic department, powered with 8 cyl, 176 HP engines, compensation for such use to be at the rate of 9 cents per mile.

2. Four (4) to Six (6) vehicles to be used for other than traffic, powered with 6 cyl, 137 HP engines, compensation for such use to be at the rate of 7½ cents per mile.

3. Two (2) to Four (4) vehicles to be used by the Traffic Department, powered with 8 cyl, 225 HP known as our Police Special Interceptor unit, compensation for such use to be at the rate of 9½¢ cents per mile."

Paul's Chevrolet, Inc., of 1640 Cabrillo Avenue, Torrance, bid:

"1. Two (2) to four (4) of said vehicles (4 door sedan) for use by the Traffic Department powered by engines with a minimum rating of 170 H.P., the compensation for such use by the said department of the City shall be nine (9) cents per mile per car, or as an alternate we wish to offer two (2) to four (4) of said vehicles (4 door sedans) for use by the Traffic Department powered by engines with a minimum rating of 205 H.P., the compensation for such use by the said department of the City shall be nine and one half (9½) cents per mile per car.

2. Four (4) to six (6) of said vehicles consisting of one (1) 2 door-six passenger station wagon and the balance four (4) door sedans for use for other than traffic purposes powered by engines with a minimum rating of 140 H.P., the compensation for such use by said department of the City to be seven and one half (7½) cents per mile per car.

3. The above cars to be furnished in accordance with the terms and conditions of an AGREEMENT made and entered into as of the first day of March 1955 by and between the CITY OF TORRANCE, a municipal Corporation referred to as the City of Torrance and Paul D. Loranger DBA Paul's Chevrolet referred to as Paul's. The terms and conditions of the above referred to Agreement, which commenced on the first day of March, 1955 and continued to and including the 29th day of February, 1956, and continued to and including the 29th day of February, 1956, will be considered a part of this quotation and will therefore supercede and replace any and all of the terms and conditions contained in the "Notice to Bidder" dated February 3, 1956."

Councilman Drale asked if it might be cheaper to buy the vehicles needed by the City. There was a short discussion.

Councilman Drale moved that these bids be referred to the City Manager for his study and recommendation and to find if it would be cheaper to buy the cars needed by the City.

Motion seconded by Councilman Benstead, no objection, and it was so ordered.

#### HEARINGS:

CASE 372: Request of McDonald Brothers for Change of Zone from R-3 and C-1 to M-1 Zone at 2410 Carson Street. Submitted by the Planning Commission without recommendation.

Mr. Mulvihill of the Planning Commission, as a member appointed by the Mayor to meet with representatives of the residents of the area and of McDonald Brothers, came forward and presented to the Council copies of compromise as suggested by the residents of the area. He reported that he

had held another meeting with residents of the area since the last Council meeting and that a representative of McDonald Brothers had been present. Mr. Mulvihill then presented the Council with copies of the proposals of McDonald Brothers.

Mr. Joseph Landerville of 1630 Beech Street spoke to the Council briefly, opposing the Change of Zone.

Councilman Benstead moved the Hearing be closed. Motion seconded by Councilman Blount, no objections, so ordered.

Councilman Benstead moved Case 372 be denied.

Motion died for lack of a second.

Mayor Isen moved the matter be tabled for a week to permit the Council to study the various recommendations and proposed compromises.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, failed by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Benstead, Isen. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Blount, Drale, Schwab. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Blount called the attention of the Council to the excerpt from the Planning Commission Minutes of January 18, 1956, Page 4 of those Minutes, which the Council had in their Agenda material on this Change of Zone.

Councilman Blount moved that Case 372 for Change of Zone be granted with the following stipulations, based on the Planning Commission recommendations:

1. That the owners of the property dedicate to the City 10' of their property along the Carson Street frontage for the widening of Carson Street.
2. That the owners of the property shall agree that the north 15' of the buildings fronting on Carson street shall be restricted for office space only.
3. That the owners of the property agree to maintain parking on a 1 to 1 ratio.
4. That buildings to be erected will be modern, with attractive architectural facades, per Exhibit A-1, along with appropriate landscaping to further beautify them, in keeping with the homes and school along Carson Street. Also, as a condition of approval, the petitioner will agree in writing to the following:
  - (a) Post adequate signs within their industrial tract to direct egress traffic out of said tract to Crenshaw Blvd., and Jefferson Street, again to relieve traffic congestion on Carson Street;
  - (b) Promptly comply with any reasonable requests of the Chief of Police and/or the Traffic Commission that concerns traffic control which may arise from their industrial tract.

The further stipulation was made that the corrugated iron building facing Carson on the easterly end of the property be removed as soon as possible and in less than one year in any case, and that

The proper set-back on Crenshaw be made to equalize the setback across the street and the land be dedicated to the City by McDonald Brothers.

Councilman Schwab asked why Item 6(d) of the Planning Commission recommendations was deleted, saying this covered the buildings that face Carson Street.

Councilman Drale agreed with Councilman Schwab, saying that we are requesting that new buildings be beautified and set back further from the street than the present structures.

Councilman Blount said he would be glad to rephrase his motion to include "No additions are to be made to present buildings that would increase their usable area".

Councilman Benstead asked if it was intended that the present buildings should come out, and Councilman Blount replied that it was so intended at a future time.

Mr. Mulvihill asked if a uniform setback would be maintained when these buildings are removed, and Councilman Blount expressed the opinion that his motion reads that way.

Motion seconded by Councilman Schwab.

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Mr. Landerville expressed the opinion that the building in question would not be removed unless it was required.

Mayor Isen called on the City Attorney, who said this could be ordered removed only if the party requesting the Change of Zone agreed, otherwise nothing could be done about it.

Mr. McDonald came forward and replied to the Mayor's question by saying McDonald Brothers would be glad to do this at the right time.

Councilman Drale said the 25' setback on Carson was specified but that there was no mention of landscaping.

Councilman Blount said that with Councilman Schwab's permission he would amend his motion to include landscaping and maintenance of it.

Councilman Schwab agreed.

Mayor Isen moved to table Councilman Blount's motion for a week for study.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, failed by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Isen, Benstead. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Blount, Drale, and Schwab. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Drale asked if the owners dedicated 10' of land to the City along Carson Street, who would be responsible for the installation of the curbs, gutters and sidewalks and paving the street.

Councilman Blount replied that if the owners of the land dedicated 10' to the City, and put in the curbs, gutters and sidewalks, that he believed it was the City's policy to pave the street.

City Manager Stevens was consulted, and replied that this was so.

Councilman Blount said that with Councilman Schwab's permission he would amend his motion to so specify.

Councilman Schwab agreed.

Councilman Drale asked when the work of improving the street would begin, and Mr. McDonald replied that it was hoped to begin a planned job in about six months.

Motion carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Blount, Drale, Schwab. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Benstead, Isen. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

VACATION OF PORTION OF VIA COLUSA. Hearing on Resolution of Intention No. 2866 to vacate a portion of Via Colusa. Memorandum describing vacationing and location sketch attached.

Deputy City Clerk Hallanger presented the affidavits of publication. These were accepted and ordered filed.

Councilman Blount moved the Hearing be closed.

Motion seconded by Councilman Schwab, no objections, so ordered.

Councilman Blount moved the City Attorney be authorized to draw up the necessary ordinance to present to the Council.

Motion seconded by Councilman Schwab, no objections, so ordered.

VACATION OF PORTION OF BLUFF STREET. Hearing on Resolution of Intention No. 2864 to vacate a portion of Bluff Street. Memo describing vacationing and location sketch attached.

Councilman Blount moved the Hearing be closed.

Motion seconded by Councilman Schwab, no objections, so ordered.

Councilman Blount moved the City Attorney be authorized to draw the proper Ordinance to present to the Council.

Motion seconded by Councilman Schwab, no objection, so ordered.

VACATION OF PORTION OF FLORENCE AVENUE. Hearing on Resolution of Intention No. 2867 to vacate a portion of Florence Avenue. Memorandum describing vacationing and location sketch attached.

City Engineer Bishop asked the Council that the Hearing be continued for another week because of an error in drafting.

There were no objections and it was so ordered.

ENGINEERING AND PLANNING COMMISSION MATTERS:

1. TORRANCE VISTA. Request for waiver of front yard setback, this

recommended for approval by the Planning Commission. The request is for 15' instead of 20' setback for certain lots in Tract No. 15570.

Councilman Drale moved to concur with the recommendation of the Planning Commission. Motion, seconded by Mayor Isen, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

2. Request of Dudley Gray for waiver of front yard setback, recommended for approval by the Planning Commission.

Mr. Gray was present, and explained to the Council that he seeks this setback so he can begin construction. He explained that when the 15' of land is vacated on Bluff Street he will have the normal 20' setback. He added that without this waiver, it would be necessary for him to wait for 60 to 90 days for the building to begin.

Mayor Isen moved to concur with the recommendation of the Planning Commission with the stipulation that Mr. Gray's comment be made a part of the record.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Drale commented that the Building Department, who issue the permits and make inspections, should be very wary on this point.

3. TENTATIVE TRACT NO. 22696: Presented to the City Council February 7, 1956, and held over for this meeting. Material RESUBMITTED: Transmittal form recommending approval of Tentative Tract 22696 located northerly of the westerly prolongation of Maricopa Street, westerly of Madrona Avenue and southerly of Emerald Street, containing 33 lots, presented by Bert M. Lynn; letter of John R. Patrick, Ass't. to City Engineer, dated January 31, 1956; sketch of tract; also attached, copy of petition of property owners protesting approval of Tract 22696.

Councilman Benstead remarked that it was the intention of the Council to pass no more tracts that had cesspools or septic tanks.

Mr. Lynn came forward and told the Council that he has had a survey made, and finds that by installing over a thousand feet of off-site sewer pipe it will be possible to sewer this tract, and that he intends to do this.

Councilman Schwab said that the sewers had been one of the reasons he abstained from voting on this, and that another reason was that Mr. Lynn had signed the letter of transmittal as Chairman of the Planning Commission.

It was explained to the Council that the letters of transmittal are routinely prepared in the Engineering Department and signed by the secretary in that office, and that in all probability this had been signed by her without Mr. Lynn's express permission. It was brought out that when this tract came before the Planning Commission, Mr. Lynn had stepped out of the Commission. Councilman Blount expressed the opinion that Mr. Lynn had, in all probability, not known that his name was signed on the letter of transmittal, and that while it was his own intention to vote against this tract, nonetheless he felt that Mr. Lynn had been most open and above-board about his presentation of the tract to the Council.

City Attorney Hall asked Mr. Lynn if, so far as his name appearing on this letter of transmittal is concerned, it was done by a secretary and without his direct authorization or knowledge, and Mr. Lynn replied that it was.

Mayor Isen asked Mr. Lynn if he wished to withdraw his name from the letter, and Mr. Lynn replied that he would be glad to do so if it was required or requested by the Council.

Councilman Drale questioned the width of the streets, saying a 40' street is shown on the map, but that the Engineer recommends an 80' street.

City Engineer Bishop talked to the Council about this, saying part of the property it would be necessary to have to make an 80' street is on the property of the railroad.

City Engineer Bishop said there were houses on one side of Madrona that would prevent widening it on the western side, and that the other side is on the railroad right of way. He said it might be possible that the railroad would give the City an easement. He added that the Planning

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Commission had not discussed this part of the development.

A representative of Barclay Engineers spoke to the Council; he said his company had been retained by Mr. Lynn to do the engineering of this tract. He said Madrona is a dedicated street and that south of Torrance Boulevard the improvements are already in and the street lines up this way. He said the street would have to be widened on the East side because of the existing houses on the west. He said the plans included curbs, gutters, and sidewalks along the entire frontage.

Councilman Benstead asked about drainage, which was reported to pose no problem.

City Engineer Bishop said there is natural drainage here and that the water would drain to the northeast corner of the subdivision. He said his recommendation would be for a drainage well at that location to take care of nuisance water.

After some discussion, City Engineer Bishop said he thought two drainage wells would take care of the nuisance water, and that four at good locations would handle light rains as well.

City Engineer Bishop recommended that drainage wells on Madrona just South of Emerald, one on Emerald just west of Madrona and two more one block in either direction, one east along Emerald and one north on Madrona.

Leo Radford of 3440 Emerald spoke in opposition to the tract, saying that drainage water is a problem in the area now.

Councilman Drale said it is very unusual for us to pass a 40' street, and that if there is a way to rectify this it should be done.

Councilman Benstead said he is very interested in the drainage problem.

Councilman Schwab said that he, like Mr. Drale, is concerned with the width of the street because there will be heavy traffic there.

William Stiger, executive secretary of the Farm Owners' Association at 356 South Broadway, spoke to the Council in opposition to the Tract.

Mr. Lynn spoke again, saying the owners of the property adjoining this are in favor of the tract. He spoke of the aqueduct from Maricopa to Madrona, saying it has been there for 32 years and that he was advised by the Engineering Department that drainage wells would be in order, and said he would install them. He informed the Council that he would lean over backward to do everything he can to make this a model tract.

In reply to a question from the Mayor, Mr. Lynn said Avenue "A" is a full 34' paved street, and that there is a house sitting on either side of it which precludes it being extended.

Mr. Lynn outlined the possibility of Madrona being divided by the railroad tracks, with another 40' street across the tracks from the tract. He showed a map to the Council which delineated the street in question.

Mr. Lynn then presented to the Council a petition signed by people living in the immediate vicinity of this proposed tract and urging the acceptance of the tract by the Council. Mr. Lynn pointed out that he had secured only one signer per parcel of land, not asking for more.

Mr. Kenneth Cristofferson of 3516 Emerald spoke in opposition to the tract, and presented to Deputy City Clerk Hallanger a petition bearing more than 60 names, all opposing this tract.

Mr. D. O. Guadarama then spoke to the Council in favor of the tract; he said his property adjoined that of the proposed tract and covered all the north part of it. He said that having the tract would mean that the area would have good streets and sidewalks, and that sewers would be available to the area.

Mayor Isen asked Mr. Lynn if he would put in the four drainage wells. Mr. Lynn agreed to do so, and added that he would do anything the City Engineer asks in this tract.

Councilman Drale said the 40' street still worried him, and that all other subdividers have given the City the necessary footage to widen streets.

Councilman Drale said he would like to have this tract held over until we get clarification of the street width.

Councilman Schwab agreed, and added that he would also like to have the provisions for drainage specified.

Mayor Isen asked about referring this back to the Planning Commission for clarification.

Councilman Schwab said he would like to see much that has been said here tonight in writing.

Mayor Isen suggested this go back to the Planning Commission for their meeting February 15th.

Councilman Schwab moved this be held over for the next week for clarification on the questioned points.

Motion seconded by Councilman Drale, no objection, so ordered.

At 7:25 P. M., the Mayor declared a ten-minute recess, with the Council re-convening at 7:35 P. M.

Councilman Blount, who was ill, left the meeting during the recess and did not return.

It was agreed to finish the Planning and Engineering matters at this time, before taking the Agenda material in order.

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4. TENTATIVE TRACT MAP NO. 22642: Transmittal form from Engineering Department and Planning Commission recommending approval of Tentative Tract Map No. 22642, located northerly of 186th Street, southerly of 185th Street and westerly of Prairie Avenue, containing 36 lots submitted by Grand Construction Company. Attached: Excerpt from Planning Commission Minutes of February 1, 1956; letter of John R. Patrick, Ass't. to City Engineer, dated February 1, 1956; sketch of tract.

Councilman Schwab asked what is north of 185th Street in this area, and City Engineer Bishop said it is vacant land. He added that this should specify a 100' street instead of a 90' street.

Councilman Benstead moved the necessary correction be made to show a 100' street instead of a 90' street. No objection, so ordered.

Councilman Drale asked City Engineer Bishop to show him on the map where this is, and the City Engineer did so.

Councilman Schwab moved to approve Tentative Tract Map No. 22642. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

5. REVISED TENTATIVE TRACT MAP NO. 20163: Transmittal form from Engineering Department and Planning Commission recommending approval of Tentative Tract Map No. 20163, revised, located northerly of 171st Street, southerly of 168th Street, westerly of Yukon Avenue and easterly of Tract No. 18609, containing 49 lots presented by Grand Construction Company. Attached: Excerpt from Planning Commission Minutes of February 1, 1956; letter of John R. Patrick, Ass't. to City Engineer, dated February 1, 1956, sketch of tract.

Councilman Schwab asked City Engineer Bishop about Cranbrook Avenue, as shown in this tract, and said the transmittal shows a house at 168th and Cranbrook; he asked about this.

City Engineer Bishop said yes, there is a house there. He added that he believes the Planning Commission felt that with the house there, it is desirable to show future development with a run towards the west.

Councilman Benstead asked what lies north of the plot for future development and Mr. Bishop said 168th Street is more or less undeveloped although there is one house there.

Councilman Drale asked if 170th Street would go to Cranbrook or not. He suggested a through street here.

City Engineer Bishop said this is the recommendation of the Planning Commission, who considered that the plan presented here would allow good traffic circulation.

Councilman Schwab moved to approve Tentative Tract Map No. 20163. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

6. A letter from R. W. Bishop, City Engineer, submitting a petition from property owners requesting lowering of grade on Samuel Street. Attached: Letter from R. W. Bishop, dated January 6, 1956, and location sketch.

Mr. Bishop came forward and spoke to the Council, saying that the people in the area prefer the Method Two suggested in his letter, which will be less expensive than Method One.

Mayor Isen moved to withdraw approval of Method One and concur with the residents in their choice of Method Two.

Motion seconded by Councilman Drale.

No objection, so ordered.

7. Letter from R. W. Bishop, City Engineer, recommending release of bond on Tract No. 17024. Attached: Letter from C. W. Clemmer, Park Superintendent, and sketch of Tract.

Councilman Drale moved to concur with the City Engineer in releasing the bond on Tract No. 17024.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

8. Letter from R. W. Bishop, City Engineer, recommending release of bond on Tract No. 14545. Attached, letter from C. W. Clemmer, Park Superintendent, and sketch of tract.

Councilman Benstead asked where this tract is located, and the City Engineer said south of Sepulveda and east of Hawthorne Boulevard.

Councilman Drale moved to concur with the recommendation of the City Engineer in the release of bond on Tract 14545.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

9. Letter from R. W. Bishop, City Engineer, recommending release of bonds on Tracts No. 19150, 19462 and 19463. Attached: Letter from C. W. Clemmer, Park Superintendent, and sketch of tracts.

Councilman Drale moved to concur with the recommendation of the City Engineer and release the bonds on these tracts.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

10. Letter from John R. Patrick, Ass't. to City Engineer, submitting easement deeds from McCarroll and Hall for street purposes, covering the southerly 40 feet of Lot 8 in Block 300, Tract 1952.

Deputy City Clerk Hallanger read:

RESOLUTION NO. 2876

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 W. J. MC CARROLL AND LILLIAN MC CARROLL.

Councilman Schwab moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution. Motion, seconded by Mayor Isen, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

Councilman Schwab moved for adoption of Resolution No. 2876. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 2877

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 LARHEAN HALL AND MARJORIE HALL.

Councilman Benstead moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution. Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

Councilman Benstead moved for adoption of Resolution 2877. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

At this time Mr. Newman, of 1521 - 8th Street in Manhattan Beach, addressed the Council regarding the drainage project he wishes installed in the Hollywood Riviera area. He presented a petition supporting his request.

Mayor Isen ordered this turned over to the City Engineer and City Manager for their investigation and recommendation, and asked that they present their report at the next Council meeting.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:

1. A notice from the County Boundary Commission of Annexation by the City of Hawthorne of property known as the "proposed George Annexation" with accompanying legal description of territory proposed to be annexed. This was dated February 7, 1956, and signed by James S. Allison, Secretary, and the property involved is far north of the City of Torrance.

Councilman Schwab moved this be filed. There were no objections and it was so ordered.

2. Verification dated February 7, 1956, from the Board of Supervisors of Los Angeles County of an Agreement with the City for mailing labels and stickers, in connection with the coming Municipal Election, at a cost of about \$125.00 to the City of Torrance.

There were no objections and this was ordered filed.

3. Request by Wray Shimfessel for permission to live in a trailer on a vacant lot during construction of a residence thereon; this dated February 6th, 1956, and stating the property in question is on 235th Street.

Councilman Drale moved the usual permit granted in such cases be issued, this for a 90-day period providing a permit for building is taken out at once.

There were no objections and it was so ordered.

4. Letter from Torrance Unified School District dated February 8, 1956, and signed by J. H. Hull, requesting Torrance City Council to consider advisability of annexation of off-shore ocean property to the three-mile limit.

There were no objections, and this was referred to the City Attorney.

5. Claim from Raymond Sanchez dated January 31, 1956, for flood damage in the amount of \$2400 less 20% commission, and less transportation and picking costs of 4,000 bunches of flowers.

Councilman Drale moved the claim be denied and turned over to the City Attorney.

Motion seconded by Councilman Schwab, no objection, so ordered.

6. Mayor Isen read in full a letter of commendation from Mrs. Donald B. Dane for the excellent performance by the Torrance Civil Defense unit and various Torrance City employees during the recent flood. This letter was dated February 8, 1956.

Councilman Drale moved the letter be filed.

Motion seconded by Councilman Schwab, no objections, so ordered.

7. Letter of thanks from Robert L. Hagenbaugh, Cubmaster, Pack 201-C for use of the Civic Auditorium. The letter was dated February 5, 1956.

There were no objections and the letter was ordered filed.

8. Request by the Boy Scouts of America, Robert J. Fleishman, Field Scout Executive, Harbor District, for free use of the Auditorium on March 8, 1956, for Scout Rally. They will pay custodial fee. The Recreation Department has cleared the date for them.

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Councilman Benstead said he had attended a recent Recreation Commission meeting, and they merely clear the date on these requests. He said they would like these requests to come before them for their recommendation.

There was a short discussion of this between the Council and City Attorney Hall.

Councilman Benstead moved that these be cleared through the Recreation Commission and not before the City Council in the future.

Motion seconded by Councilman Schwab, no objections, so ordered.

9. Request from Erhard O. P. Klein, Secretary of the Cub Scouts Pack 733-C, requesting free use of the Auditorium on February 22, with custodial services to be paid by the Scouts.

Councilman Drale moved the request be granted. Motion seconded by Mayor Isen, no objection, so ordered.

10. Request by two Cub Scout packs and Boy Scout Troop of the Walteria area for waiver of rental fee and public address system, in the use of the Auditorium on February 23, 1956. The date has been cleared with the Recreation Department and custodial fees will be paid. This was dated February 6, 1956.

Councilman Schwab moved the request be granted.

Motion seconded by Councilman Drale, no objection so ordered.

11. Request by Reverend Gene H. May, Pastor of Evengel Temple Assembly of God, Torrance, for free use of the Auditorium, evening of February 20, 1956. Request dated February 9, 1956, and cleared by Recreation Department.

Councilman Benstead moved the request be granted.

Motion seconded by Mayor Isen, no objections, so ordered.

12. Petition of complaint (8 signatures) regarding oil pumps and storage tank, with adjoining sump, near Hawthorne Avenue and Del Amo Boulevard.

Councilman Schwab said he and George Powell had gone out to look at this, and that the situation was very bad indeed. He expressed the opinion that the Council should suggest that fences be placed around them and that a lock be put on the gates.

Councilman Schwab so moved.

Motion seconded by Councilman Benstead, no objection, so ordered.

Mayor Isen ordered this problem turned over to George C. Powell, Land Use Investigator, and that he take the necessary steps to make this condition more safe.

Councilman Schwab said the oil wells at this location are not well guarded either, and moved that the City request the proper fences to be erected.

Motion seconded by Councilman Benstead. No objection, so ordered.

Mayor Isen suggested that a time limit be set, and if the clean-up and fencing is not completed by that time, the owners of the property be prosecuted. He suggested that Mr. Powell be authorized to take any action necessary to rectify the bad situation at the location mentioned.

13. A letter dated February 3, 1956, from Walter T. Porter, requesting a stop sign placed at the corner of Crest Road and Crenshaw.

Councilman Drale moved to refer this to the Traffic Commission.

Motion seconded by Councilman Benstead, no objection, so ordered.

14. Letter from North Torrance Civic Improvement Association, dated February 8, 1956, decrying the conditions in the Glenburn Avenue area.

Councilman Drale moved that copies of this letter and the Resolution to be read be sent to individual members of the Board of Supervisors and to Col. Hedger of the County Flood Control District.

Motion seconded by Councilman Benstead, no objection, so ordered.

Deputy City Clerk Hallanger read:

RESOLUTION NO. 2878

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE REQUESTING THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES TO ASSIST IN INSTITUTING PROCEDURES TO MAKE REPAIRS TO GLENBURN AVENUE IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE.

Councilman Benstead moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

Councilman Benstead moved for adoption of Resolution No. 2878. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Mayor Isen directed the Deputy City Clerk to send copies of both the letter and the Resolution to each member of the Board of Supervisors, to Col. Hedger of the County Flood Control District, to the contractor doing the work on Glenburn, and to any one else at the discretion of the City Manager.

15. Request dated February 6, 1956, from the North Torrance Civic Improvement Association, asking that an application for construction of two-lane bowling alley behind a residence situated on Prairie Avenue be denied.

Councilman Schwab said it was his understanding that this application was to be withdrawn.

Mayor Isen instructed the Deputy City Clerk to send copies of this protest to the persons who intended building the bowling alleys.

16. Request dated February 3, 1956, from the Hoffmeister Cabinet Shop at 3008 Hyde Park Blvd., Los Angeles, requesting a change of fees in the City's business license ordinance.

Mayor Isen moved that this request be filed. Motion seconded by Councilman Benstead, no objection, so ordered.

17. January 25, 1956, request from the California Bench Company to maintain placement of benches at locations listed; this was accompanied by a memorandum under date of February 10, 1956, from Marshall Chamberlain, Bus Department Superintendent, regarding certain suggested changes in the location of some benches.

Mayor Isen ordered this held over for the next meeting of the Council for study.

18. Recommendation from Marion J. Varner & Associates dated February 8, 1956, that final acceptance of Torrance Fire Station #4 be made.

Councilman Schwab moved to concur with the recommendation of the architect.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

19. Request from the League of California Cities dated February 8, 1956, that the City Attorney attend a League meeting of City Attorneys in Santa Barbara April 19 and 20, 1956 with appropriate expenses paid. *See 2/28/56*

Councilman Drale moved to concur with the request.

Motion seconded by Councilman Schwab, no objection, so ordered.

Recommendations from the City Manager

1. Memorandum from John R. Patrick, Ass't. to City Engineer, to Geo. W. Stevens, City Manager, recommending a 4-foot woven wire fence be built along the top of the Seaside Park Retaining Wall. Dated February 10, 1956.

City Manager Stevens affirmed to the Council that this fence was necessary.

Councilman Benstead moved to concur with the recommendation of the City Manager.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

Communications from Recreation Commission:

1. Recommendation dated February 10, 1956, that the Adult Center be enlarged; attached letter from Adult Recreation Center dated January 9, 1956, with petition attached.

Councilman Drale moved to refer this to the Building Department for an inspection and recommendation.

No objection, so ordered.

2. Letter dated February 10, 1956, from the Recreation Commission, asking that the procedure for approval of free use of the Civic Auditorium be changed.

Councilman Benstead moved to concur with this request.

No objections, and it was so ordered.

Communications from Airport Commission:

1. Recommendation that Longren Aircraft Company be allowed to assign their hangar lease at Torrance Municipal Airport to Earl Kruger. This dated February 7, 1956, and signed by Jack White, Chairman of the Commission.

Councilman Benstead moved to concur with the recommendation.

Motion seconded by Councilman Drale, no objection, so ordered.

2. Letter dated February 7, 1956, signed by Jack E. White, Chairman of the Airport Commission, recommending a limited license for electrical service to V. E. Noble's hangar at the Torrance Airport.

Councilman Schwab moved to concur with the recommendation of the Airport Commission.

Motion seconded by Councilman Benstead, no objection, so ordered.

3. Deputy City Clerk Hallanger read, in part, the recommendation dated February 7, 1956, from the Airport Commission which concerned the audit of accounts in connection with the Airport, and which contained Commissioner Jahn's motion to recommend that the Airport Manager return to the City \$13,641.24 which had been paid for supervision from May 1, 1949, to January 1, 1955.

City Attorney Hall told the Council that a City accountant has not audited the Airport Management's "Airport Fund", and that as a follow-up he thinks this should be done.

Councilman Drale moved that the City's auditors make a complete audit of the Airport books.

Motion seconded by Councilman Schwab, who said he would not act on this without complete information.

City Attorney Hall said this had been done, and that our auditors were in agreement with the accounts as presented.

Mr. Jahn was present and spoke to the Council, saying he did so as an individual and not as an Airport Commission. He said the City's auditor has audited the books, and that these figures presented to the Council tonight are substantially the same as those reported by the City's auditors, and so the figures as submitted by them for their expenditures and for the Improvement Fund would be about the same.

Councilman Drale asked City Attorney Hall if the City's auditors had not audited the maintenance and improvement fund.

City Manager Stevens told the Council that the audit by the City's auditors had been made to see if the City was getting its full share of the income, and that the figures of the two audits were in agreement, so there is no question of that. He said he believes the total income shown in the audit report of the Airport Management's auditor and the income shown in the report of the City's auditor check within a few cents.

Mr. Jahn said Collins-Dietrich might never have expended the amount of money they say they have, and the balance might be hard to check. He said it is his understanding that there are no receipts to prove or disprove this.

Motion lost by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Benstead, Isen. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Drale, Schwab. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Blount.

Mayor Isen moved that the City Attorney be instructed to demand of the Airport Manager the sum of \$13,641.24 for the Airport Maintenance and Improvement Fund.

Motion seconded by Councilman Benstead.

City Manager Stevens said this is a matter of simple arithmetic. He said that even if the \$13,641.24 is disallowed, the audits indicate that the expenditures are in excess of the amount required under the conditions of the Collins-Dietrich lease, therefore, it is not a matter of returning money to the Fund, but merely disallowing credit for Supervision as outlined in this audit.

Councilman Schwab said that is the reason he would not go along with the motion that has been made.

City Manager Stevens said if the \$13,641.24 is not allowed as an expenditure, there is a sum of \$28,736.30 which has been expended, being far more than required under the lease terms.

Councilman Benstead asked if we had a complete audit, and City Manager Stevens said that Logan Cotton has not audited the Fund in question, but that about \$24,000 should have been expended under the terms of the agreement, and that about \$42,000 has been spent, far more than fulfilling the agreement.

Mayor Isen withdrew his motion.

Councilman Benstead withdrew his second to the motion.

Mayor Isen asked City Manager Stevens to prepare a written report on this for the Council.

4. Letter outlining proposed improvements of fire fighting equipment at the Airport, this dated February 18, 1956, and signed by Jack E. White.

Councilman Drale moved that this be referred to Fire Chief Benner for his study and recommendation.

Motion seconded by Mayor Isen, no objections, so ordered.

Deputy City Clerk Hallanger read:

ORDINANCE NO. 796

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING SECTION 8.33 OF "THE CODE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, 1954", TO PROVIDE THAT NO ONE ON AN ELIGIBLE LIST MAY BE PASSED OVER MORE THAN TWICE IN PREFERENCE TO SOME OTHER APPOINTMENT

Councilman Benstead moved to dispense with further reading of the Ordinance. Motion, seconded by Mayor Isen, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

Councilman Benstead moved for adoption of Ordinance No. 796 at its first reading. Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab, carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Benstead, Schwab, Isen. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Drale. ABSENT: COUNCILMAN: Blount.

Councilman Drale said he voted "No" on this because he still believes the No. 1 person on the Eligible List should get the appointment.

CAA011

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

City Manager Stevens recommended that the bid of Oscar Maples to furnish a Ford truck to the City for the sum of \$3,839.99 plus tax be accepted.

Councilman Benstead moved to concur with the recommendation of the City Manager.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

City Manager Stevens recommended that two-hour parking be enforced on the City's parking lot at Cravens and El Prado between the hours of 9:00 A. M. and 6:00 P. M. each day except Sunday.

Councilman Schwab moved to concur with the recommendation of the City Manager.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

Mayor Isen read a Proclamation proclaiming the week of February 17-25, 1956, as Girl Scout Cookie Week.

Councilman Drale asked everyone to remember that this is Heart Fund Month.

Mayor Isen said he would be glad to proclaim this as Heart Fund Month if the proclamation were prepared.

Councilman Benstead moved that all bills properly audited be paid.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 P. M.

By I. J. Hallanger   
Deputy City Clerk of the City of Torrance

APPROVED:

  
Mayor of the City of Torrance