

Torrance, California  
September 25, 1956

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL

The City Council of the City of Torrance convened in a regular session at 8:00 P. M. Tuesday, September 25, 1956, in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Torrance, California.

Those responding to roll call by City Clerk Bartlett were: COUNCILMEN: Benstead, Blount, Drale, Jahn, and Isen. City Manager Stevens and Acting City Attorney Remelmeyer were also present.

At the request of Mayor Isen, Judge Parker Wood led the salute to our Flag.

Reverend Milton Sippel opened the meeting with an invocation.

Councilman Drale moved to approve the Minutes of the regular meeting of September 18, 1956, as written.

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

BIDS:

Mayor Isen announced that this was the time and place for opening Bids for the sale of Tax Anticipation Warrants for the Fiscal Year of 1956-57.

City Clerk Bartlett presented the affidavit of publication, which was accepted and ordered filed.

City Clerk Bartlett then opened and read the two bids in full, as follows:

Bank of America  
San Francisco 20, California.

"For the \$400,000 par value legally issued TAX ANTICIPATION WARRANT of the CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, as described in the Notice of Sale adopted by the City Council, we hereby bid you par and accrued interest to date of delivery, plus a premium of \$9.00.

The Warrant above bid for is more particularly described as follows: \$400,000 par value TAX ANTICIPATION WARRANT OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, being one Warrant in the denomination of \$400,000 dated October 4, 1956; maturing December 31, 1956; to bear interest at the rate of three point ten per centum (3.10%) per annum, said interest to be computed on the basis of 365 days per year and to be paid at the maturity of said Warrant.

The above bid is made subject to our obtaining, at no cost to us, the satisfactory opinion of Messrs. O'Melveny & Myers, attorneys, of Los Angeles, California, approving the legality of the above-mentioned Warrant in all respects. It is further understood that this bid is for acceptance within 24 hours from the time bids are to be opened.

Enclosed is our Cashier's check for \$2500.00 which is to be returned to us in the event this bid is not accepted.

Respectfully submitted,  
BANK OF AMERICA N. T. & S. A.  
By: S/J. A. Tweedy"

California Bank,  
629 S. Spring St.,  
Los Angeles, Calif.

Re: \$400,000 par value Torrance Tax Anticipation Warrants Dated: October 4, 1956;  
Due: December 31, 1956.

"In accordance with your recent official notice of sale, requesting bids on the above described issue, we hereby respectfully submit a bid of the par value thereof, such warrants to bear interest at the rate of 2.23% per annum.

In addition to the above amount, we will pay accrued interest from the date of the Warrants to the date of their delivery. Should our bid be accepted, it is desired that you issue four warrants of \$100,000 denominations.

In accordance with the printed notice of sale, it is our understanding that the legal opinion of Messrs. O'Melveny & Myers of Los Angeles, attorneys, approving the validity of said Warrants will be furnished to the successful bidder without charge.

We are enclosing our Cashiers Check in the amount of \$2,500.00 which is to be retained by you to apply against the purchase price in the event our bid is successful, otherwise to be promptly returned if this bid is not accepted.

Very truly yours,  
CALIFORNIA BANK  
By: S/A.O.Otsea,  
Vice President."

Councilman Benstead moved these bids be referred to the City Manager and City Attorney for their study and recommendation later in the meeting. Motion seconded by Councilman Drale, no objection, so ordered.

ELLINWOOD IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT - 1911 Act - Street Lighting

Mayor Isen announced this was the time and place for continuation of the proceedings in the Ellinwood Improvement District.

City Clerk Bartlett presented the plans and specifications as previously authorized by Resolution No. 3002.

Councilman Benstead moved they be accepted and filed.

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

The Councilmen did not examine the plans and specifications.

City Clerk Bartlett presented:

RESOLUTION NO. 3009

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING AND ADOPTING PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS AND ASSESSMENT DISTRICT EXTERIOR BOUNDARIES FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF PACIFIC COAST HIGHWAY AND OTHER STREETS WITHIN WHAT IS KNOWN AS ELLINWOOD IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT, BY THE CONSTRUCTION OF A STREET LIGHTING SYSTEM THEREIN:

Councilman Benstead moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution.

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

Councilman Benstead moved for adoption of Resolution No. 3009.

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

City Clerk Bartlett presented:

RESOLUTION NO. 3010

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, DECLARING ITS INTENTION TO ORDER THE CONSTRUCTION OF A STREET LIGHTING SYSTEM AND APPURTENANT WORK IN PACIFIC COAST HIGHWAY AND CERTAIN OTHER STREETS IN SAID CITY, WITHIN WHAT IS KNOWN AS THE ELLINWOOD IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT; DECLARING THE WORK TO BE OF MORE THAN LOCAL OR ORDINARY PUBLIC BENEFIT; AND DESCRIBING THE DISTRICT TO BE BENEFITTED BY SAID WORK AND TO PAY THE COSTS AND EXPENSES THEREOF; DETERMINING THAT BONDS SHALL BE ISSUED TO REPRESENT SAID COSTS AND EXPENSES, AND FIXING THE TIME AND PLACE SET FOR HEARING OBJECTIONS TO SAID WORK OR IMPROVEMENT, OR TO THE EXTENT OF THE DISTRICT TO BE ASSESSED, OR BOTH:

Councilman Drale moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution.

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

Councilman Drale moved for adoption of Resolution No. 3010.

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

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:

1. A letter dated September 14, 1956, from Mr. George Binder, 404 No. Roxbury Drive, Beverly Hills, California, regarding Torrance parking, containing suggestions for improving the parking situation in downtown Torrance.

Mayor Isen said the Councilmen had discussed this letter, and asked if any of them had anything they wished to say on it now. Receiving no reply, Mayor Isen suggested City Manager Stevens reply to Mr. Binder's letter and incorporate the following items in the reply:

1. The status of the improvements of the City-owned parking lot at El Prado and Cravens;
2. The status of the proposed demolition of the old Fire Station;
3. The Mayor said this is the time to 'get into high gear' on the Parking Assessment District, and it should be considered in connection with the traffic problem. He asked Mr. Stevens to bring Mr. Binder up-to-date on the Parking Assessment District.

Mayor Isen directed the City Manager to investigate the possibilities of Mr. Binder's offer of the property at the corner of El Prado and Cabrillo Streets, and give a report to the Council on it.

The Mayor then asked the City Manager for a brief report of the status of the Parking Lo Assessment District.

City Manager Stevens said today we sent to the Assessment Engineer the Resolution, maps, and estimates he needs. The Engineering Department reports that the actual assessment area goes to him tomorrow, and that will permit him to follow through. Mr. Stevens said we indicated to the Assessment Engineer this afternoon that this project has top priority over any other we have, and he was asked to proceed as quickly as possible. The City Manager said this will go forward as quickly as the law permits, which is not, he said, too fast.

Mayor Isen asked whether or not the person whose bid was accepted for the removal of the buildings at 1517 Marcelina has begun the work of removing them.

Councilman Blount, as a neighbor of the property in question, said work began last weekend.

Mayor Isen said there is quite a report from the Auto Club of Southern California on their survey of our traffic problems. He said this is not particularized as yet. The Mayor reported that the Chief of Police and Mr. Mansfield contacted Ralph Dorsey today, and he will come to work for the City in a purely consulting capacity for about four days a month at a fee of \$300 a month. Mr. Dorsey is an outstanding expert on traffic problems, and the Council feels it would be well to retain him on that basis.

Councilman Drale moved the City Manager be authorized to enter into negotiations with Mr. Dorsey and work out an acceptable agreement with him under those terms, and ask Mr. Dorsey to meet with the Council before the regular meeting of this Council next Tuesday at 5:00 P. M for approval of the agreement, with such agreement to be terminable upon 30 days' notice by either party.

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

Mayor Isen suggested that an invitation go out to a committee from the Retail Merchants Association, Mr. Binder, the Traffic & Parking Authority of the Chamber of Commerce, to meet with Mr. Dorsey and the Council at that time to discuss the problems at issue.

There were no objections, and it was so ordered.

Councilman Jahn referred to Mr. Binder's offer of his property at El Prado and Cabrillo, and asked if he meant for the City to demolish the buildings there.

City Manager Stevens said that was the meaning of the offer. Mayor Isen suggested this also be referred to Mr. Dorsey.

Mayor Isen asked City Manager Stevens if the bid for demolition of the old Fire Station includes demolition of the garages attached to it, and the City Manager said it does.

2. A letter dated September 17, 1956, from the 'Six Cities Highway Committee', signed by Wilburn E. Baker, Chairman, asking that the City of Torrance participate in the expense of their group in the amount of \$100 per year, that being the contribution asked of each member City.

Councilman Drale, who works with the Committee, recommended that the City pay these 'dues' as it is a Committee working for this area.

City Manager Stevens recommended that we contribute this sum.

Councilman Drale reported that the main projects of this group at present are (1) the San Diego-Sepulveda Freeway, and (2) Del Amo Boulevard improvement for the direct benefit of the Torrance-Redondo Beach area.

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

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

3. A letter dated September 18, 1956, from Mr. and Mrs. David M. Austin of 4227 W. 180th Street, asking to buy a strip of City-owned property next to their property, the strip being 11 feet wide by one hundred and twelve feet long.

A comment from the City Engineer, dated September 20, 1956, was "Land is part of former sump, now filled. See no engineering reason for not selling. Suggest checking with Mr. Van Bellehem."

Mr. Van Bellehem reported that he could see "No objection to selling this 11-foot strip."

Mayor Isen asked how a reasonable price could be ascertained, and City Manager Stevens said it did not seem worth-while to have an appraisal of such a small piece of land, but that it would be wise to have a qualified real estate man give us a fair estimate based on the footage involved and the price of land in the area.

Councilman Drale asked if Regina Street might some day be extended, saying this is part of the right-of-way for it.

Councilman Drale moved the City Manager make an investigation as to whether the street should be extended or not before a decision is made on this.

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

4. A petition dated September 12, 1956, signed by 18 citizens, asking the City regrade and resurface West 167th Street between Crenshaw Blvd. and Casimir Avenue.

A comment from the City Engineer, dated September 20, 1956, was to the effect that the subdivider is now repairing the street under our supervision, the bond has not yet been released, and the problem is already much diminished.

Mayor Isen directed the City Manager to write to Mr. Norman Turner, 2921 West 167th Street, the first signer of the petition, and report to him the developments the City Engineer has given.

5. A letter dated September 21, 1956, from Moine Brothers, signed by Tony Moine, said the bid they sent in for demolishing the old fire station was in error, and explained how he had made the mistake. The letter asked the City Council to cancel the bid and keep the bid bond furnished.

Assistant City Manager Mansfield presented to the Council the bid form sent out, and explained that the error could easily have been made.

Mayor Isen asked the Attorney if we could go on the basis that Moine Brothers have forfeited.

City Attorney Remelmeyer said if they forfeit their bond we can.

Councilman Jahn asked the Attorney if we ask that he forfeit his bond and remove him from the list, whether it is proper for us to go to the No. 2 bidder.

Mayor Isen said we could authorize the City Manager to enter into negotiations with the next-lowest bidder for the work, and we need not call for bids again because the figure they bid is less than a thousand dollars.

Councilman Benstead said Moine Brothers should forfeit their bond.

City Attorney Remelmeyer said the letter is sufficient for the record.

Councilman Drale moved the bid of Moine Bros. be cancelled, and the 10% bidders bond be refunded to them.

Motion died for lack of a second.

Councilman Drale moved the bid be cancelled.

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

Councilman Jahn asked if cancelling the bid cancels the bond automatically, and City Attorney Remelmeyer replied that it does not.

Councilman Benstead asked the Attorney if the Council can cancel the bond, and Attorney Remelmeyer said we can forfeit the bond.

Councilman Drale said he feels the man made an honest mistake.

Councilman Jahn moved the bond be forfeited to the City and the City retain the money.

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

Councilman Drale moved the City Manager negotiate with the next-lowest bidder, High F. Smith & Son, and accept their offer to demolish the old fire station for \$790.00.

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

6. A letter from the Dow Employee's Association, protesting the requirement by the City that they obtain a permit to operate a Coca Cola machine. This was not dated, but was received in the office of the City Clerk on September 21, 1956, and was signed by Everett J. Lawry, the President of the Association.

Attached was a memorandum from Gale Whitacre, License Inspector, to the effect that this license could not be granted free under our law.

Councilman Drale asked if any service organizations in the City get free licenses for a machine of this type, and Mr. Whitacre, who was present, said they do not.

Councilman Benstead moved to concur with the recommendation of the License Inspector that this fee be paid.

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

7. A memorandum dated September 19, 1956, from G. Whitacre, License Inspector, recommending release of Oil Well Bond #1-502-401, in the amount of \$500.00, covering Lot 631, Tract 4529, 226th and Martha Street, oil well known as West #1. The well has been sold, and is now covered by Oil Well Bond #618456 in the amount of \$500.00.

Councilman Jahn moved to concur with the recommendation of Mr. Whitacre that Oil Well Bond #1-502-401 be released.

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

8. A memorandum dated September 19, 1956, from G. Whitacre, License Inspector, recommended a license refund to the Cookson Company of 1525 Cortland Avenue, San Francisco, because it constituted a double payment.

Councilman Benstead moved to concur with this recommendation made by Mr. Whitacre.

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

9. A letter from the County of Los Angeles Public Library, dated September 18, 1956, signed by William S. Geller, Assistant County Librarian, submitting a Library Service Agreement for the Fiscal Year of 1956-57.

Councilman Blount moved the Library Service Agreement be executed.

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

10. A letter dated September 11, 1956, from the Office of the County Counsel submitting a Community Recreation Agreement for the current year for execution. This was signed by Richard L. Riemer, Deputy County Counsel, for Harold W. Kennedy, County Counsel.

City Clerk Bartlett presented:

RESOLUTION NO. 3011

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE THAT CERTAIN COMMUNITY RECREATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES AND THE CITY OF TORRANCE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 1956-1957.

Councilman Benstead moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution.

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

Councilman Drale asked if an effort could be made to enlarge the contribution made by the County to Torrance.

City Manager Stevens said he would try to get that done this year, and hopes that he can, supported by the Census figures and our enlarged and expanded program.

Councilman Benstead moved for adoption of Resolution No. 3011.

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

11. A memorandum dated September 21, 1956, from G. Whitacre, License Inspector, submitting an application from Independent Veteran Salvage, 14114 S. Menlo Avenue, Gardena, for a Junk Collector's License. The fee is \$100 per year, and Ordinance No. 624 provides that no license to conduct or carry on any business in this section mentioned shall be granted or issued except upon order of the City Council.'

Councilman Benstead moved this be referred to the Chief of Police for his recommendation.

Chief of Police W. H. Haslam was present, and said this company is highly recommended; he said it conducts business in the Cities of Manhattan Beach, Gardena, and Hermosa Beach, and has never had any complaints. The Chief said he does not feel further investigation is necessary.

Councilman Drale asked if this would conflict with the Salvation Army, Goodwill Industries, etc.

Councilman Blount pointed out that those charities will only pick up certain articles, saying they are "choosy".

Mr. Whitacre was asked for a recommendation, and replied that he thought this business would fill a certain niche in the community. He pointed out that the charities named do not accept certain articles, and this man will buy old iron, batteries, etc.

Councilman Benstead asked if this business is operated by an individual; and Mr. Whitacre replied that it is.

Councilman Blount moved the request be granted.

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

12. A letter dated September 20, 1956, from Paul's Chevrolet, 1640 Cabrillo Avenue, signed by K. D. Figgins, Manager, requesting permission to erect five 'new car' announcement banners from the light posts in the 1500 and 1600 blocks on Cabrillo, and one at Crenshaw and Torrance Boulevard for the week of October 17, 1956.

A memorandum from the Building Department recommended approval of the request.

Mayor Isen moved the request be granted.

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

13. An Invitation from the South Bay B'nai B'rith Women, Chapter 727, to attend presentation to Mayors of the six South Bay Area cities of copies of "Cross Currents" on Wednesday, October 10, at 8:30 P. M., at the Gardena Recreation Center, 1651 Market Street, Gardena, California. This was signed by Bernard Snitzer, President of the Men's Lodge, and by Roslyn Snitzer, President of the Women's Chapter.

There were no objections, and this was ordered filed.

#### Recommendations of the City Manager.

##### PERSONNEL:

1. Evelyn M. Stanford has been employed as File Clerk and Police Matron, effective September 17, 1956, at the first salary step. (No. 1 on Eligible List.)

Councilman Benstead moved to concur in this recommendation under "Personnel" as made by Assistant City Manager Don Mansfield.

Motion, seconded by Mayor Isen, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

##### PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION MATTERS:

1. Parks & Recreation Commission request that appraisal and condemnation proceedings be instituted for the purpose of creating future park sites. Attached were: Summary report on acreage needs for future parks in the City of Torrance; excerpt from Council Minutes of August 28, 1956.

Note: This held over from meetings of August 28 and September 4, 1956.

Mayor Isen said the Parks & Recreation Commission has requested this be held over for further study, and, there being no objections, it was so ordered.

##### AIRPORT COMMISSION MATTERS:

1. A communication from the Airport Commission reporting the following action at their July 26, 1956, meeting:  
"Commissioner Crain moved to recommend to the City Council that a completion bond be required on the construction of anything larger than a single unit T-hangar of 1600 square feet.  
Motion, seconded by Commissioner Abrams, carried unanimously by roll call vote."

Councilman Blount moved that a completion bond be required on the construction of anything at the Airport.

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

##### ENGINEERING AND PLANNING COMMISSION MATTERS:

1. A letter dated September 21, 1956, from R. W. Bishop, City Engineer, submitted the Second Supplemental Memorandum of Agreement from the State of California Division of Highways for expenditures of gas tax allocation for major city streets, and the necessary Resolution adopting

the budget and approving the Memorandum of Agreement.  
City Clerk Bartlett read:

RESOLUTION NO. 3012

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE  
ADOPTING BUDGET AND APPROVING SECOND SUPPLEMENTAL  
MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT FOR EXPENDITURE OF GAS TAX  
ALLOCATION FOR MAJOR CITY STREETS.

Councilman Drale moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution.

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

Councilman Jahn moved for adoption of Resolution No. 3012.

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

2. A letter from R. W. Bishop, City Engineer, dated September 21, 1956, submitted an easement deed given by Fieldbrook, Inc., and Oldfield, Inc., covering a portion of Lots 13, 14, and 15 and 16 in Block 1 of Tract 15569 for realignment of Reese Road, and outlined the attendant circumstances.

City Clerk Bartlett read:

RESOLUTION NO. 3013

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 FIELDBROOK, INC.,  
A CORPORATION, AND OLDFIELD, INC., A CORPORATION.

Councilman Jahn moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution.

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

Councilman Jahn moved for adoption of Resolution No. 3013.

Councilman Blount asked the City Engineer if the land being vacated is now part of land where homes have been built and are occupied at this time.

City Engineer Bishop replied that it is.

Councilman Drale said the easements were here before the homes were built.

Councilman Blount said he is worried about the conditions of title on the easements.

City Engineer Bishop said the easement was granted some time ago, but did not get on the Agenda until now. He said it was granted before the lots were sold.

Councilman Blount said we have a man in North Torrance now saying he owns part of the street, and he does not want this to happen here.

Councilman Jahn withdrew his motion for adoption of Resolution No. 3013, and moved this be referred to the City Attorney and the City Engineer for their investigation and report.

There were no objections, and it was so ordered.

3. A report dated September 21, 1956, from R. W. Bishop, City Engineer, regarding the status of easements not yet obtained in the Hollywood Riviera Sewer District No. 2. Mr. Bishop reported that eleven easements have not yet been secured.

Councilman Jahn suggested that condemnation proceedings be initiated, saying the rains are coming and he would like to see this cleared up before that time, and expressed a fear that part of the Hollywood Riviera are would not be habitable if this is not done.

City Engineer Bishop said we could condemn for this if we could find an owner to serve.

Councilman Blount asked if these 11 parcels are holding up the project, and the City Engineer said they are, that we must have them for the project.

Mayor Isen said it would only cost about \$15 for preliminary report from the Title Company to find the owners, and suggested the Attorney help the Engineer in this matter.

Councilman Drale asked if the District has been formed, and Mr. Bishop said it is, that we had to secure about a hundred easements for it, and that all have been obtained but these under discussion.

Councilman Blount asked City Attorney Remelmeyer if the right of eminent domain is vested in this type of political subdivision.

Attorney Remelmeyer said it is, but the right to possession might not be included.

Councilman Blount suggested immediate action.

Attorney Remelmeyer said the legal formalities would take time.

Councilman Drale asked the Attorney to give the Council an opinion on this next week.

Councilman Jahn moved the City Attorney and the City Engineer inaugurate any and all proceedings necessary to get the 11 easements needed to speed the completion of the work.

Motion seconded by Mayor Isen.

City Engineer Bishop pointed out that so far, we have secured all the easements without cost, but we will have to pay for any we condemn.

Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

At 8:55 P. M., Mayor Isen declared a recess, with the Council reconvening at 9:05 P. M.

Victor Precinct: A letter from George Powell, Planning Director, transmitted to the Council information regarding the rezoning of the Victor Precinct, and contained the Planning Commission's recommendation on oil well drilling. This was dated September 21, 1956.

Mayor Isen said this was here so a date could be set for the third and final Public Hearing, which he set for October 9, 1956, at 8:00 P.M. in the Council Chamber, at the regular meeting of the Council. The Mayor asked Judge Parker Wood, who lives in Los Angeles but attended the meeting because he owns property in the Victor Precinct, if he wished to be heard in the matter, explaining that this is a courtesy he is glad to extend to Judge Wood under the circumstances.

Mr. Wood said he is satisfied with the M-1 zoning which was the recommendation of the Planning Commission, but at the last Hearing the matter of a 50-foot setback on Torrance Boulevard came up. Then Mr. Wood asked if this would amount to a side road or access road, or just a wide Torrance Boulevard, saying if so, it seems to him it is a condemnation.

Planning Director Powell, at the request of Mayor Isen, described the proposed setback, reading from a draft of the Minutes of the last Planning Commission meeting.

Councilman Drale protested against the proposed setback.

Mayor Isen pointed out again that this is here only for the Hearing date to be set.

Councilman Jahn moved the City Attorney have prepared on October 9, in case the Council does concur with the recommendations of the Planning Commission, both an Urgency Ordinance and a regular Ordinance, so both can be passed concurrently if the Council wishes, to avoid any legal question in the future. He said he makes this motion because the present hiatus in zoning is causing inconvenience to the people in the district, and especially some of the business people.

Mayor Isen said no motion was necessary; the Attorney heard the suggestion and might come equipped.

Councilman Drale recommended that the uniform setback on Torrance Boulevard be maintained, asking what the setback is.

Mr. Powell said none is required except for residential property.

Mayor Isen repeated that the third and final Hearing on this Case will be held October 9, 1956, at 8:00 P. M. in this Council Chamber.

5. A letter dated September 21, 1956, from George Powell, regarding minimum lot area for residences in M-1 zone, and transmitting to the Council the action taken by the Planning Commission on September 5, 1956, on this matter, as follows:

"Commissioner Mulvihill moved to recommend to the City Council that a minimum of 10,000 square feet be required for residential properties in an M-1 zone.

Motion, seconded by Commissioner Wing, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present."

Mr. Powell's letter requested that the date of October 9, 1956, be set as the date for the third and final Hearing.

There were no objections, and Mayor Isen set the date of the third and final Hearing on this as October 9, 1956, at 8:00 P. M. in the Council Chamber, City Hall.

6. CASE NO. 398: Letter of Transmittal from the Planning Commission, recommending approval of request of Mildred Andersen for Variance to permit construction of commercial buildings for shopping center at 3709 - 190th Street, with stipulations.

Councilman Blount moved this be referred to the City Attorney for study and report.

Councilman Drale said there is a cul de sac there, and it was intended to take the street through to 190th. He pointed out that this is across the intersection from the General Petroleum plant, and if the street is extended, a traffic signal could be suspended there for control of traffic, which he said is needed. Unless the easement is given the City for the street, he said he will not vote for this. He added that he believes the street being cut through would be an asset to Mrs. Andersen's property.

There being no further objections, this was referred to the City Attorney for his legal opinion and recommendations.

#### REPORTS:

A report that a Summons was received in the office of the City Clerk on September 21, 1956, at 10:30 A. M., asking judgment in the amount of \$328.71, in the case of F. M. Garvin against the City of Torrance, Arthur W. Miller, Attorney. This claim was denied by the City Council at their meeting held August 7, 1956.

City Clerk Bartlett read:

#### ORDINANCE NO. 824

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING APPENDIX I OF "THE CODE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, 1954" (ADOPTED BY ORDINANCE NO. 791), RECLASSIFYING THAT CERTAIN PROPERTY DESCRIBED IN PLANNING COMMISSION CASE NO. 388.

Councilman Jahn moved to dispense with further reading of the Ordinance.

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

Councilman Jahn moved for adoption of Ordinance No. 824 at its second and final reading.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 825

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING APPENDIX I OF "THE CODE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, 1954" (ADOPTED BY ORDINANCE NO. 791), RECLASSIFYING THAT CERTAIN PROPERTY DESCRIBED IN PLANNING COMMISSION CASE NO. 401.

Councilman Jahn moved to dispense with further reading of the Ordinance.

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

Councilman Jahn moved for adoption of Ordinance No. 825 at its second and final reading.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 826

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ESTABLISHING CERTAIN TRAFFIC CONTROL MEASURES PURSUANT TO ARTICLE IV, SECTION 17.35 OF "THE CODE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, 1954".

Councilman Blount moved to dispense with further reading of the Ordinance.

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

Councilman Blount moved for adoption of Urgency Ordinance No. 826 at its first and final reading.

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

Mayor Isen then proclaimed as follows:

PROCLAMATION

PROCLAMATION OF THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE PROCLAIMING THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 25, 1956, THROUGH OCTOBER 1, 1956, AS NATIONAL BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL WOMEN'S WEEK, HERE LOCALLY IN TORRANCE.

Councilman Jahn moved to concur in the Proclamation.

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

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

City Attorney Remelmeyer reported that he has been in contact with the hog farmers, Messrs. Foley and Kazarian and their attorneys, and with Mr. Green. He said he will file a complaint for an injunction in the Superior Court, and the gentlemen have agreed they will file a stipulation for judgment, but Mr. Foley will do so only if we extend the time to June 15, 1956, because he says he will lose some of his hogs if he moves them during the spring. Attorney Remelmeyer asked the Council if they wish to extend the time to June 15 for Mr. Foley to move his hogs.

Mayor Isen asked if the City could enter into the stipulation with the other two ranchers.

Attorney Remelmeyer said he did not know whether they will agree to this, adding that all three of them are in touch with each other.

Councilman Drale said they should be treated alike, and suggested giving them all six months from October 1, 1956.

Attorney Remelmeyer pointed out that if he files a complaint and takes this matter to court, it will not be through the courts by June.

Councilman Blount protested against allowing this extra time, and Councilman Jahn concurred in the protest.

Councilman Benstead said this is about the same thing as before - they did not get out in the time allotted to them then, and they will not now, in his opinion.

Mayor Isen explained that if they do not get out after signing this stipulation, judgment will be entered by the court against them.

City Attorney Remelmeyer recommended that the hog ranchers be given until June 15, 1957, as the final date to move from the City of Torrance on condition that they sign a stipulation to judgment on the complaint provided by the City Attorney.

Councilman Jahn moved to concur with the recommendation of the City Attorney.

Motion, seconded by Mayor Isen, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

City Manager Stevens recommended the bid of the California Bank be accepted for the sale of Tax Anticipation Warrants for the Fiscal year of 1956-57, saying it was the bid most favorable to the City, and that all other bids be rejected.

City Attorney Remelmeyer reported he has checked and found the bids in order.

Councilman Drale moved to concur with the recommendation of the City Manager. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Benstead said he would like to make an appointment to meet with the Fire Commission and the Fire Chief on Thursday, September 27, at 5:00 P. M., in the Fire Chief's office, and would like for the City Manager to attend.

There were no objections, and it was so ordered.

Councilman Benstead brought up the matter of the lot split proposed of the lot behind the old City Hall and next door to Mr. Probert's home.

He moved we include the building in that part of the lot next to Mr. Probert's home when the lot is split, and that as much of the land as is necessary to concur with the City's ordinances also be included.

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

Councilman Benstead said dogs are running loose over the City, some without licenses. He expressed dissatisfaction with the way the Humane Society is handling calls on this, and asked for a report at the next meeting on what they have done over the past year, and an outline of the duties of the Pound under their contract with the City.

City Attorney Remelmeyer said he has prepared a new dog ordinance for the Council which incorporates the various ordinances on this which the City has had, and in which the duties of the Poundmaster are clearly outlined. He said he hopes to have this ready for consideration by the Council very shortly.

Councilman Benstead said he wants to know how many dog licenses have been issued by the Pound and how many shots have been given during the past year.

City Manager Stevens said he would try to have the report by next week, but pointed out that he will have to get the figures from the Poundmaster and they may not be readily available.

Mayor Isen suggested that a comparison with the previous year would be of value, and the City Manager said he would try to get the figures.

Councilman Benstead, saying he has reported on this before, said there is a serious traffic hazard on Paseo de la Playa in Hollywood Riviera. He said there is a sharp turn there at the top of the hill, and there have been several very serious accidents there since last May. To remedy this, he suggested that a 'no parking' sign be put on the west side, a 'slow curve' sign be established, and a 'controlled street' sign be put there, as well as a double line being painted on the street.

Councilman Drale said he would second the motion subject to approval of the Traffic Commission.

Councilman Benstead protested against the amendment, saying this had to be done at once. It should not wait, he went on, adding that he has reported this before and nothing has been done. People lost control of their cars at the curve on the street, he said.

Councilman Drale said the Traffic Commission should make the recommendations on how to place the signs.

Councilman Blount said the Traffic Commission meets Thursday, and would be glad to consider this matter then.

Councilman Benstead agreed to the amendment, but warned against procrastination in the matter.

There were no objections, and it was so ordered.

Councilman Blount said when a Pre-Council meeting is to be, in effect, cancelled, as the one was tonight, he would like to have the Council notified in advance.

Councilman Drale said the new business directory is the finest he recalls the City ever having, and he thinks the Chamber of Commerce deserves a lot of credit on it. He asked to have the Mayor send a letter to them saying we feel they have done a magnificent job.

Mayor Isen said this work was done by a commercial firm, the Chamber made money on it, and he does not feel a letter is necessary.

Councilman Drale asked that the record show his recommendation, saying he believes in giving credit where credit is due.

Councilman Blount said he concurred with Councilman Drale in this.

Mrs. Herma Tillim said the Chamber of Commerce only acted as the headquarters for a commercial organization which paid very handsome salaries to its people during the preparation of this directory.

Councilman Drale said the Reynolds Aluminum Company is getting ready to move into their new plant, and have established a new fence behind the old wooden fence, which has been removed. He asked if any negotiations are under way to acquire enough land for widening Dominguez Boulevard, which he described as a traffic bottle-neck. If negotiations are not presently under way, Councilman Drale suggested they begin, if the matter can be handled without too much expense.

Mayor Isen suggested a letter be written to Reynolds Aluminum to congratulate them on removing the old fence, which was an eyesore, and telling them the Council would like to negotiate with them regarding the widening of Dominguez Boulevard. He said he would be glad to sign such a letter.

Councilman Jahn moved the Council institute a policy of installing no more "hanging in the middle" signals, but use signals on all four corners of intersections where signals are necessary.

Councilman Blount and Councilman Drale both agreed with the idea, but said the cost is excessive, almost prohibitive, for installing four-corner signals.

Upon being asked, City Manager Stevens said a suspended signal in the middle of an intersection cost the City at least \$1200, and a set of four-corner signals cost a minimum of \$6,000.00.

Councilman Jahn refused to withdraw his motion, which died for lack of a second.

Mayor Isen said each of the Councilmen have pledged to do something about parking problems in Torrance, and if we are to reach our objectives something must be done now. He pointed out the low sales tax income of our City in spite of the mushroom-like growth we are having, and said we must do what we can. He added that he believes the Council is now on the right track.

Mayor Isen pointed up the wide publicity on our new Civic Center buildings, and read excerpts from a clipping from the Columbus Office Dispatch of Columbus, Ohio, and a clipping from the "Times" of Harington, Kansas about our new buildings.

Mayor Isen called to the attention of the Council the trouble our neighboring City of Gardena has been having about a proposed "bloodless bullfight" on September 29, 1956. The Mayor said he believes we should have an ordinance to prohibit this in our City, to avoid promoters trying to come into Torrance to operate. Mayor Isen moved a proper ordinance be drawn, asking both an Urgency Ordinance and a regular ordinance be drawn.

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

Mr. Elvin Schoonover, speaking for the Pacific Hills Homeowners Association, asked that Newton Street be resurfaced from Lennox to Highway 101, and that the City Engineer see what can be done about the low spot there east of Cricklewood.

Mayor Isen asked him to put his requests in writing so they can be referred to the proper people.

Mr. Schoonover then asked about having the Madison Street ditch cleaned out before the rains come. He said it is now choked with weeds.

Councilman Drale moved the Street Department clean it at their earliest opportunity.

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

Councilman Blount moved all bills properly audited be paid.

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

The meeting adjourned at 9:50 P. M.



City Clerk of the City of Torrance

APPROVED:

Albert Isen  
Mayor of the City of Torrance