

Torrance, California
October 2, 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 5:30 P. M. Tuesday, October 2, 1956, in the Council Chambers, City Hall, Torrance, California.

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

At the request of Mayor Isen, Mr. Charles Gotts led the salute to our Flag.

The Reverend Nathan Bond opened the meeting with an invocation.

Councilman Jahn moved to approve the Minutes of the Council Meeting of September 25, 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 a Cash Register for the Plunge.

City Clerk Bartlett presented the affidavit of publication and notices calling for bids.

There were no objections, and these were accepted and ordered filed. City Clerk Bartlett opened and read the bids summarized here:

National Cash Register Co., \$1034.00 plus applicable taxes,
940 Pine Ave.,
Long Beach, Calif.

R. C. Allen Business Machines, Inc. \$ 735.00
507 So. Western Avenue
Los Angeles, Calif.

Victor Adding Machine Co. This firm unable to bid, but asked not
1324 Pine Ave., to be excluded from future bids.
Long Beach.

Councilman Drale moved these be referred to City Manager Stevens and Recreation Director Harry Van Bellehem for study and recommendation later in this meeting.

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

Councilman Drale asked how much longer the pool will be open this year, and Mr. Van Bellehem replied it will close at the end of October.

Councilman Drale asked when we will pay for the machine being bid on, and City Manager Stevens said we are asking for delivery in March, 1957, and will pay for it when we get it.

PARKING:

Mayor Isen announced that the Council has discussed off-street parking and parking problems with Mr. Ralph Dorsey, and suggested that City Manager Stevens read a letter written to him by Mr. Dorsey.

City Manager Stevens read aloud the following letter from Mr. Dorsey, dated October 1, 1956, and addressed to Mr. Stevens:

"Confirming my recent visit to your City and our conversation relative to my services as a traffic consultant, I herewith submit a proposal:

For the sum of \$300 per month I will act as a traffic consultant on the basis of four (4) days per month.

By mutual agreement this contract can be terminated at any time."

Councilman Drale moved the City engage the services of Mr. Dorsey, and the contract and the necessary Resolution be drawn.

Motion seconded by Councilman Jahn.

Councilman Drale said he did not wish a time limit on this, as he could not tell how long the need would exist.

Mr. Dorsey pointed out that the agreement is terminable by either party when the need for his services is no longer clearly indicated, or for any other reason.

Councilman Drale amended his motion to make it effective as of October 2, 1956, and Councilman Jahn accepted the amendment to his second.

Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:

Councilman Blount asked if he might discuss the second communication under this heading on the Agenda, but at the request of Mayor Isen he postponed this until the item is taken up in its regular order.

1. City Clerk Bartlett read in full requests from the following people for removal of the 'No Parking Zone' on Martina, under the dates shown:

D. Boone Kirks, Principal, Dated September 20, 1956
Torrance Elementary School,
2005 Martina Avenue.

Mrs. R. F. Thompson, Sr. Dated September 20, 1956
Torrance Elementary School PTA

Mrs. Vera Stowell Dated September 21, 1956
Head Teacher,
Torrance Child Care Center,
2021 Martina Avenue

City Clerk Bartlett also read in full a recommendation to the Council from Chief of Police W. H. Haslam, dated September 21, 1956. He recommended the 'No Parking Zone' be retained, with the possible exception of one sign. He gave his reasons for making this recommendation.

Councilman Jahn moved to concur with the recommendation of the Chief of Police.

Motion seconded by Councilman Blount, who said this had been before the Traffic Commission where the Chief's recommendation was unanimously approved.

There were no objections to the motion, and it was so ordered by Mayor Isen, who instructed the Chief of Police to write a letter to the interested parties and inform them of the decision of the Council and the reasons for it.

2. A letter dated September 22, 1956, signed "An Anxious Taxpayer". Councilman Benstead moved this be stricken from the record because it was not signed.

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

3. Recommendation of City Manager Stevens, dated September 27, 1956, that an 11-foot strip of property, adjoining that owned by Mr. and Mrs. David Austin, be sold to them for a fair price, that to be determined by a competent appraiser.

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

Motion seconded by Councilman Benstead.

Councilman Jahn asked the cost of such an appraisal.

City Manager Stevens said he actually thought having a fair price set on this small piece of land by a competent local realtor would serve.

Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Mayor Isen asked Councilman Drale if he would take it upon himself to do this.

Councilman Drale replied he would prefer not to handle any matter affecting the City financially, and suggested some other realtor handle the job.

Mayor Isen directed the City Manager to get estimates from two competent people.

4. An undated communication from Councilman Benstead, recommending a profession survey for future park sites in the City of Torrance. Councilman Benstead's reasons for this recommendation were stated fully.

There were no objections, and this was ordered filed.

5. A petition dated September 10, 1956, from five property owners in the immediate vicinity of Crenshaw and Crest Road, asking that attention be given to the traffic hazards for school children of the Hillside Elementary School.

A comment dated September 28, 1956, from Chief of Police Haslam stated his Department would give the area all the attention possible.

A comment from City Manager Stevens said the Traffic Commission is considering this situation, and will have recommendations regarding it.

Mayor Isen instructed Chief Haslam to write to Walter T. Porter, the first signer of this petition, and give him this information.

Councilman Jahn asked if the Police Department has been augmented by the full number of new policemen allowed by the Budget.

Chief Haslam said it has, that four of the men have finished their training, and six are now in the training school and should be through with the classes in about three weeks.

6. Memorandum dated September 24, 1956, from the City Clerk, with reference to the use of Plaza del Amo as a parking area by the Torrance Unified School District. A letter dated September 13, 1956, from J. H. Hull, Secretary to the Board of Education, requesting permission to use the land for this purpose was attached. A memorandum from the Chief of Police, dated September 27, 1956, said he could see no objection to this use of the west side of Plaza del Amo, providing this means the unpaved portion of west of the trees in the center of the right of way. He did suggest an agreement by the School District to vacate this in the event the City may wish to pave and use this portion of Plaza del Amo as a street.

Councilman Benstead moved to concur with the recommendation of the Chief of Police.

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

Mayor Isen instructed Chief Haslam to write to the School District and transmit this information to them.

Recommendations of the City Manager:

PERSONNEL:

1. That Stanley E. Remelmeyer be appointed to serve his probationary period as City Attorney, effective October 1, 1956, at the salary established for the position.

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

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Motion seconded by Councilman Benstead, who asked Mr. Remelmeyer's standing on the Eligible List.

City Manager Stevens replied that he stood No. 1 on the List.
Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

2. That the Plumbing Inspector be authorized to attend the Annual Conference of Western Plumbing Officials in Sacramento, November 7 to 10, 1956, with appropriate expenses paid.
3. William O. Dunmyer has been employed as Park Maintenance Man, effective September 25, 1956, at the first salary step. (No. 1 on Eligible List.)
4. Charles E. Todd has been employed as Laborer in the Park Department for temporary work (a month to six weeks during vacation period) effective September 24, 1956, at the first salary step. (No. 2 on "Laborer" Eligible List, the No. 1 man refused temporary employment.)

Councilman Benstead moved to concur with recommendations 2, 3, and 4, as presented by the City Manager under "Personnel".

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

APPROPRIATIONS:

1. To Dames and Moore, the sum of \$1,756.46 for soil investigation on the Walteria Sump Storm Drain Project No. 245. This sum will be refunded to the City by the L. A. County Flood Control upon completion and acceptance of the plans.
2. To Barclay Surveying Company for engineering services during the month of August 1956, the sum of \$1,303.50.

Councilman Drale moved to concur with recommendations 1 and 2 under Appropriations as presented by the City Manager.

Motion seconded by Mayor Isen.

Councilman Jahn asked if the number of Project No. 245 was assigned by the County or by the City.

City Manager Stevens said it was originally assigned by the County, and has been used by the City to maintain common identification.

Councilman Jahn asked if the County or the City has been doing this work.

City Manager Stevens said the County set up the project, and the City is doing the work, which is a drain starting at Crenshaw and travelling west along the northerly line of our Airport to Madison Street. He said this is almost completely engineered, and the City will be paid for it.

Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

3. The sum of \$200.00 to cover the annual fee for membership in the American Municipal Association. It is believed that the City will benefit from membership in this association.

Councilman Drale asked if membership in this association will furnish benefits to the City to supplement membership in the League of California Cities, and City Manager Stevens replied that it will.

Councilman Jahn moved to concur with the recommendation of the City Manager that the City become a member of the American Municipal Association.

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

Mayor Isen asked if this Association might be able to help the City avail itself of the use of Federal funds, and the City Manager said there is that possibility.

4. Attached is the final summation of additional work ordered on the City Hall and Jail. Most of the items were ordered from time to time as the need became apparent. Each item has added to the efficiency of the buildings and are rather small for a project of this size. I recommend final payment on the additional items.

Councilman Drale moved to concur with the recommendation of the City Manager that these bills be paid.

Motion seconded by Mayor Isen.

Councilman Jahn asked if the City is dealing individually with R. E. Payne and Columbia Showcase & Cabinet Company, and City Manager Stevens said we are.

Councilman Jahn asked if the public address system is any part of either of these requests for payment, and City Manager Stevens said it is not.

Councilman Blount asked how much of the total contract price is now being withheld, and City Manager Stevens said 10%.

Councilman Blount said the ventilation system does not work.

City Manager Stevens replied that it does work on the first floor of the building, but that a part is missing which prevents it from working on the second floor of the City Hall. He reported that the part has been ordered.

Councilman Blount asked if the 10% will be withheld until the system is working.

Councilman Jahn asked if the 10% withheld can be released without Council action.

City Manager Stevens said he believed so, as it is written into the contract.

City Manager Stevens reported that both the architect and builder know about the unsatisfactory performance of the ventilating system.

Mayor Isen asked if the 10% could be withheld by motion of the Council.

This was referred to City Attorney Remelmeyer, who said he would have to read the contract and know all the facts before answering this question.

Councilman Jahn said he believes the builder has done a good job, but feels that if money is due him, he will act more quickly to get this fixed. He suggested the sum due the builder under this recommendation be withheld until the ventilating system is fixed.

Councilman Drale rescinded his motion, and Mayor Isen withdrew his second to that motion.

Councilman Drale asked if Columbia Showcase & Cabinet Company had anything to do with the ventilating system, and City Manager Stevens said they did not.

Councilman Blount said he believes this has not been called to the attention of the architect and builder forcibly enough.

Councilman Blount moved that Columbia Showcase & Cabinet Co. be paid the \$1,495.52 as recommended by the City Manager under Item No. 4, "Appropriations".

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

Councilman Blount suggested that City Manager Stevens contact Mr. Payne, the builder, and find out from him when the ventilating system will be fixed and report back on this at the next meeting of the Council, informing Mr. Payne of this Council's feeling in the matter.

There were no objections, and it was so ordered.

Mayor Isen ordered the statement from Mr. Payne tabled until Mr. Stevens puts it back on the Agenda.

CONTRACTS:

1. That the contracts for operation of the Bus Terminal in Los Angeles by Maybel C. Banks, and the Torrance Depot by Charles Gotts, be extended to September 21, 1957, under the terms of the existing Agreement and at the same commission of 10%.

Councilman Blount moved to concur with the recommendation of the City Manager that the contracts be renewed.

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

PARK & RECREATION COMMISSION MATTERS:

1. A letter dated September 27, 1956, from Herma Tillim, Chairman of the Commission, informed the Council that the resignation of Mr. Anthony A. Bilotti from the Parks & Recreation Commission had been accepted with regret at the meeting of the Commission on Wednesday, September 26.

Councilman Drale moved the resignation of Mr. Bilotti be accepted, and a letter of thanks be sent to him by either City Clerk Bartlett or Assistant City Manager Mansfield.

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

Mayor Isen submitted the name of Herb Albright, of 1005 Hickory Street, as a replacement for Mr. Bilotti on the Parks & Recreation Commission. Mayor Isen said he would ask the Council for concurrence at the next regular meeting.

2. A letter dated September 27, 1956, from Herma Tillim, Chairman of the Parks & Recreation Commission, contained the recommendation to the Council that lights be installed at the tennis courts in El Retiro Park 'as soon as possible'.

Councilman Benstead asked Recreation Director Van Bellehem how much this would cost.

Mr. Van Bellehem said the entire park actually needs more electrical energy just for what is there now, and if these lights are put in the system must be entirely re-worked. He said this would probably cost about \$5,000.00.

Councilman Drale suggested this be referred to City Manager Stevens and the Electrical Department, to determine what work is necessary and what the cost will be.

There were no objections, and it was so ordered.

Councilman Jahn asked if any changes contemplated would take care of future development as well, and City Manager Stevens said yes.

Councilman Benstead asked Mrs. Tillim if the Commission had considered where the money would come from, and Mrs. Tillim said that was the reason they had said 'as soon as possible'.

Councilman Benstead asked the City Manager if he would determine how many people actually use this park, and the City Manager said he would attempt to do so.

Mayor Isen suggested this be tabled until the City Manager puts it back on the Agenda with his findings. There were no objections and it was so ordered.

Mayor Isen recognized Mr. Van Bellehem, who asked to withhold his recommendation on the cash register bids opened this evening for a week for further study.

Councilman Benstead moved the request be granted.

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

At 6:20 P. M., Mayor Isen declared a recess, with the Council re-convening at 6:30 P. M.

Mayor Isen said he was advised during recess that the Redondo Beach Daily Breeze will be represented at our Council meetings from now on, and introduced Mr. Floyd Rinehart, their reporter.

Mr. Rinehart thanked the Mayor.

3. A letter dated September 27, 1956, from Herma Tillim, Chairman of the Parks & Recreation Commission, transmitted to the Council the unanimous recommendation of that Commission that the City employ a professional person to go over the park sites designated at these hearings and by the Commission, to see what can be done and what should be done.

Councilman Benstead moved Recreation Director Van Bellehem be authorized to contact such persons and report back to the Council what will be required and the cost, with the report to be made in two weeks.

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

ENGINEERING & PLANNING COMMISSION MATTERS:

1. A report from City Engineer Bishop, dated September 27, 1956, gave the present status of the 11 easements in the Hollywood Riviera Sewer District No. 2 which the City has not yet obtained. The report gave the Engineer's plan for obtaining these 11 easements.

The Council thanked Mr. Bishop for the report, with Mayor Isen bidding him to proceed as quickly as possible on this matter.

2. CASE NO. 409: A transmittal form from Planning Commission recommending approval of request of Charles B. Copeland for variance to operate a plumbing business at 23656 Park Street, with stipulations, for the duration of this calendar year only and with the license not to be renewed.

Councilman Benstead moved to concur with the recommendation of the Planning Commission.

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

City Clerk Bartlett read:

ORDINANCE NO. 827

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE PROHIBITING BULL FIGHTING OR ANY OTHER SIMILAR CONTEST OR PROMOTION OR ADVERTISING THEREOF, PRESCRIBING PENALTIES FOR THE VIOLATION OF THIS PROVISION AND DECLARING THE PRESENCE OF AN EMERGENCY.

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

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

Councilman Benstead moved for adoption of Urgency Ordinance No. 827 at its first and final reading.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 828

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE PROHIBITING BULL FIGHTING OR ANY OTHER SIMILAR CONTEST OR PROMOTION OR ADVERTISING THEREOF.

Councilman Jahn moved to dispense with further reading of the Ordinance. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Jahn moved for adoption of Ordinance No. 828 at its first reading.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 829

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING CERTAIN SECTIONS OF CHAPTER 16 ENTITLED "LICENSING AND REGULATION OF BUSINESSES AND TRADES" OF "THE CODE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, 1954" RELATING TO THE ISSUING OF PLATES FOR BUSINESS VEHICLES, COIN-OPERATED MACHINES AND LICENSE FEES FOR TRADES AND OCCUPATIONS.

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

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

Councilman Jahn asked License Inspector Whitacre if there were any other changes in the Ordinance than the issuance of metal plates where indicated, and Mr. Whitacre said there are not.

Councilman Jahn moved for adoption of Ordinance No. 829 at its first reading.

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

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

City Manager Stevens reported he has discussed the drainage problem between Onrado and El Dorado Streets, west of Maple Avenue, with the Engineering Department and a conclusion has been reached. As several interested residents of the area were present, he asked if City Engineer Bishop could outline this now.

There were no objections, and it was so ordered.

City Engineer Bishop recommended that we install a 200' concrete drain pipe easterly from the main line, which will take care of three lots and tap the fourth. This will be constructed to allow drainage to get in and flow through the structure, and will allow a retaining wall to be built on top of it, which will allow the fill to be higher than before and give the people to the south of the easement more level back yard than before, at the same time draining the lots to the north. He estimated this can be done for considerably less than a thousand dollars, probably for about \$800.00. He said the plan would keep the drainage structure from being visible.

Mayor Isen asked what the lots will look like if no walls are put up.

City Engineer Bishop said like ordinary back yards with fill. He said they would slope down to the structure.

Councilman Benstead asked if this plan would give part of our easement to the property owners.

Mr. Bishop said the property owners could use the surface. He said this plan will not give the property owners a complete retaining wall, but they could build up from the City's wall. He said this wall would be at the rear property line. He said this structure will be 2 feet wide.

Councilman Jahn asked if engineering the wall to bear the property owners' walls would not cost extra money, and put the walls on City property.

Mr. Bishop agreed that it would.

Councilman Jahn said he does not feel it would be good to build a 2 foot wall as proposed and allow the property owners to continue it on City property. He believes the property owners should build their walls on their own land.

Mr. Alex Hannum, of 3225 Onrado, protested that the City crews, in working there, had dug up the already small back yards on the Onrado side

of this easement, as much as four feet in some places. He said he had built a back fence 7 feet from his property line, and 2 feet outside the easement, and yet his fence was destroyed by the City crews, as was much of his planting.

Councilman Jahn said he favors the drainage structure proposed, but does not wish to say the City is going to give permission for the property owners to continue a wall on top of the structure.

Mayor Isen agreed, saying the walls the property owners build should be at their property line or inside it, as they choose.

Mr. Hannum said no one could build a fence there now, because the soil moved by the City has been left so soft it will not bear the weight of a fence. He asked if it was the intention of the City to compact the fill. He said it had been compacted by the builder, but the City crews had undone that.

Councilman Benstead said the City will compact it when it is through.

A lady in the audience arose and addressed the Council, saying her land was filled by the City and has not been compacted.

In answer to a question, City Manager Stevens said the top of the slope and the property line bear no relation to each other.

A lady in the audience said the people on the next street to her have built their fences on easements, and asked why they cannot do the same thing on this street.

Mr. Bishop said such fences have to be removed if it is demanded by the holder of the easement.

Mr. Ted Green, of 3205 Onrado, said the proposed drainage structure will be only 200 feet long, and the area to be drained is much longer. He asked if this had been considered.

City Engineer Bishop said the drainage is for the lots to the north, and this 200-foot structure will drain the ones necessary, as the rest of them drain to the north.

Mrs. Carol Long, of 3217 Onrado, said her land was dug up and left in bad condition by the City even though it was not needed.

City Engineer Bishop said her land will be restored to its original condition.

Councilman Blount asked why it was dug up.

City Manager Stevens told him the Council agreed to provide a drainage outlet for the lots to the north, and the Street Department was sent to provide it and the land was dug up.

Councilman Blount expressed some doubt that this was being done in the right way.

Dr. Easley, one of the property owners to the north, said the area needs drainage badly.

A lady who says she lives in back of Dr. Easley said the water could not drain out through is fence anyway.

Mr. Hannum said he thought the Engineer's idea for this drainage a good one, if the yards are put back as they were and the grade compacted.

Councilman Jahn agreed that the Engineer's recommendation is good, if an opening is left to clean the drain if necessary, but the idea should not be given that the property owners can build fences on the City's retaining walls. He moved to concur with the recommendation of the City Engineer with those two stipulations.

Motion died for lack of a second.

Mrs. T. W. Trissler, of 3309 Onrado, asked if the drain would end 200' east of the main channel, and Mr. Bishop said yes.

Councilman Drale said he is against doing anything too hurriedly here, because if this drain clogs up we will be involved in even more problems. He said if it is the City's easement, he believes it should be fenced and kept clean by the City.

Mrs. Long asked, if the City did not use the easement behind her property for drainage, why she cannot have it back.

City Manager Stevens said it might be needed later.

Councilman Jahn asked the size of this structure, and City Engineer Bishop said it will be 200 feet long, about 2 feet high and about 2 feet wide, saying it is a triangular structure, and he believes it to be larger than will ever be needed.

Councilman Jahn moved for adoption of Ordinance No. 828 at its first reading.

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

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Councilman Jahn moved to concur with the recommendation of the City Engineer, with the stipulation that the people cannot build on the City's property, and with the City to proceed diligently with the work.

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

City Attorney Remelmeyer reported to the Council that no other Ordinance is necessary for them to have the authority to control what is built in a controlled zone area, as they already have the authority under existing ordinances.

Mayor Isen asked the Attorney the status of the Ordinance requested prohibiting signs being put up on City property.

Attorney Remelmeyer said this would be presented next week.

Attorney Remelmeyer referred to the condemnation of easements for sewer purposes in Hollywood Riviera Sewer District No. 2, and said he has found the City does have the right of immediate possession under condemnation for that purpose.

Councilman Blount commented on the abundance of mosquitoes lately, and asked the City Manager if the City participates in a Mosquito Abatement District, or if the Health Department could do anything about this.

City Manager Stevens said the City does not belong to such a District. He said we have the advice of the Health Department, and have followed it by bringing in mosquito fish, and by spraying wherever we know or suspect there are mosquitoes.

Councilman Jahn reported to Chief of Police Haslam that the "Parking on One Side Only" signs in the Hollywood-Riviera area have been put up, but are being ignored. He said he feels that if a few citations are given, it will be of more good than painting the curbs red, although that ~~might~~ be the solution.

Chief Haslam said the opening of school has caused many demands on the Police Department, and the Traffic Officers are especially busy, and one has been injured. He added that an effort will be made to check the conditions reported by Councilman Jahn.

Councilman Jahn said the public address system in the Council Chamber is not working well, that the audience cannot hear what is going on. He asked that this be corrected.

City Manager Stevens said the man who installed it would come and check it.

Mayor Isen referred this to Mr. Stevens to follow up on.

Councilman Jahn asked if all the money referred to in a letter from the County Road Department is for Yukon Avenue. The letter was signed by Sam R. Kennedy, Road Commissioner, and dated September 26, 1956, and was captioned "Yukon Ave. Et Al -" in referring to Aid to Cities by the County.

City Manager Stevens said it was not all for Yukon Avenue, but as Yukon was the first of the streets named in our application for this Aid, the letter caption referred to it directly and the others by reference.

Councilman Jahn said the Engineering Department needs more help. He said part of the issues that arise come up because there is not good and proper inspection. He said he feels more help for the Department might be in line even though it is not in the budget.

City Manager Stevens said the Department is losing three people at one time.

Councilman Jahn said efforts should be made to replace them at once. Councilman Benstead asked why they are leaving.

City Manager Stevens said one vacancy is caused by a promotion, as the person doing the job took an examination and was eligible for the promotion; one person is leaving to go into private industry where he feels the future is more promising; the third person is leaving to go to work for the County.

Councilman Benstead asked if one was leaving because there is no opportunity for advancement, and the City Manager replied that the man in question had not taken an examination for advancement.

Mayor Isen asked the City Manager for a report on the conditions for the Council, saying we should work on it at once before the Department is completely demoralized.

Mr. Merle H. Meyers of 603 So. Fir Street, Inglewood, presented a petition from property owners on Ermanita asking for that street to be extended to 174th Street. He said he owns property there, and would like to see the street extended, offering to give the City a 27' easement for street purposes.

Mayor Isen instructed Mr. Meyers to file the petition with the City Clerk, so he could refer it to the Engineer for study and a recommendation. Councilman Drale so moved.

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

Councilman Benstead moved all bills properly audited be paid.

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 P. M.

APPROVED:

A. H. Bartlett

City Clerk of the City of Torrance

Albert Isen

Mayor of the City of Torrance