

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

Torrance, California,  
January 15, 1924

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the City of Torrance was held in the Council Chambers at Torrance, California, January 15, 1924, and was called to order at 7:00 PM. by President Gilbert. The following Trustees were present: Fitzhugh, Proctor, Smith, Zeller and Gilbert. Absent: None.

The minutes of the regular meeting of January 2, 1924 were read and approved as read.

Clerk Bartlett read:  
"Hon. Board of Trustees,  
City of Torrance.  
Gentlemen:

The Board of Directors of the Chamber of Commerce at their regular meeting held Tuesday afternoon, Jan. 15, 1924, passed a motion asking your honorable body to consider an Ordinance making a boulevard stop at Cabrillo & Carson Streets at a speed of not more than 10 miles per hour.

Respectfully submitted,  
Harry F. Gadeky,  
Secy C of C."

On motion by Trustee Smith, seconded by Trustee Fitzhugh, and a majority vote, action on above request was laid over until the next meeting.

The Seaboard Petroleum Corporation filed an application for franchise, as read by the Clerk, asking for the regular 40 year franchise; also applying for right to construct and maintain all traps, manholes, appliances, connections and attachments as may be necessary for the purpose of safety and efficiency of operating and maintaining said pipe line. \$100.00 accompanied the application to cover costs and incidental expenses.

Trustee Smith moved that the above request for franchise be granted in accordance with the Ordinance therefore, and that the Clerk be instructed to advertise for bids as usual. Trustee Proctor seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES; Trustees: Fitzhugh, Proctor, Smith, Zeller and Gilbert.  
NOES; Trustees: None.  
ABSENT; Trustees: None.

Complying with the written request of the County Auditor, the following Resolution was dictated by Engineer Jessup:

RESOLUTION NO. 157

Be it resolved that the assessment under Resolution of Intention No. 45 against Lot 7, Tract No. 5925 be rescinded and cancelled and the County Auditor is hereby authorized to remove said assessment from the 1923 Tax rolls and cancel the entire assessment for the remainder of the period of time covered by same.

AYES; Trustees: Fitzhugh, Proctor, Smith, Zeller and Gilbert.  
NOES; Trustees: None.  
ABSENT; Trustees: None.

The complaint of Mr. Winters regarding the speed of cars, trucks and especially oil workers along Susana and Carson was referred to the police department with instructions to watch these streets particularly.

Trustee Fitzhugh brought up the question of heavy trucks, especially those owned by the Superior Oil Co., using the residence streets for their operations, as this was against the Ordinance. Chief Anderson stated that he had stopped one such truck but the driver claimed that on account of the long load, he could not turn on Border Avenue; the Chief also stated that signs had been received for the purpose of warning trucks against the use of residence streets.

It was stated that the barrier across the street at the school had been fixed up so that traffic was going around the right way, but that the barrier at the east end would eventually have to be moved nearer the school to allow the use of Watson Avenue.

As certain bids, as advertised, were to be opened, publicly, at 8:00 P.M., Clerk Bartlett read the following:

"To the Board of Trustees  
of the City of Torrance,  
Gentlemen:

We hereby bid the sum of Three Hundred (\$300.00) Dollars for a fourty year franchise for the use of a portion of Border Street as per application of Torrance Window Glass Company now on file with the City Clerk of the City of Torrance, and certified check in the sum of One Hundred and 00/100 Dollars (\$100.00) for costs, and certified check in the sum of Five Hundred and 00/100 Dollars (\$500.00) as evidence of good faith.

Signed: Western Sheet Glass Co.  
C.L. Bisbee, Sec'y."

Trustee Proctor moved that the bid be accepted and the franchise granted according to regulations. Trustee Fitzhugh seconded the motion which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES; Trustees: Fitzhugh, Proctor, Smith, Zeller and Gilbert.  
NOES; Trustees: None.  
ABSENT; Trustees: None.

The Associated Oil Company tendered a bid for a certain Pipe Line franchise, to-wit:

"Honorable Board of Trustees,  
City of Torrance, Calif.  
Gentlemen:

The undersigned, Associated Oil Company, hereby bids and offers the sum of \$100.00 for that certain franchise for which bids are receivable by you until eight o'clock P. M. January 15, 1924, granting the right for a period of forty years to lay, construct, maintain and operate pipe lines in all Streets and Alleys in that part of the City of Torrance described in the application of the Associated Oil Company for franchise and which is now on file with the City Clerk of the City of Torrance.

There is enclosed herewith certified check No. 103 in the amount of \$100.00 for the full amount of said Bid.

There is also enclosed herewith certified check No. 102 in the amount of \$500.00 as evidence of good faith which \$500.00 shall be returned at the expiration of one year, if at that time there shall have been laid under the franchise and actually used at least one-half mile of pipe line.

Signed: Associated Oil Company,  
By Harrison Guio.

Trustee Smith moved that the bid of the Associated Oil Company be accepted and a franchise granted in conformity with the Ordinance therefore. Trustee Proctor seconded the motion which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES; Trustees: Fitzhugh, Proctor, Smith, Zeller and Gilbert.  
NOES; Trustees: None.  
ABSENT; Trustees: None.

Mr. Hennessy, of the Associated Oil Co., asked that a Resolution be passed accepting the bid.

Trustee Zeller reported that the Auditor was busy on the books, but that it was going to take more time than anticipated to go over last six months work, the Trustee also submitted a trial balance to Jan. 3, 1924.

Trustee Proctor reported that the City now had a good foundation for a beautiful park on El Prado, and he thought that now was the time to plant some trees and lay out walks if walks were thought necessary; that there was still money left over from the amount allowed him for improvements.

It seemed to be the opinion of the Board that a prospectus should be drawn up showing different ways of handling the park so that the best way might be chosen, also that Mrs. Torrance might be interested enough to have plans submitted.

As to the park in El Prado further south, Trustee Proctor mentioned that it would make a good plot for tennis courts and croquet grounds, and, with a walk along the sides, would be a place of beauty instead of a nuisance as at present.

Engineer Jessup stated that he had gone over the situation down on Arlington and Camino Real as to water main extensions; that it would cost about \$1236.00 for enough 4 inch riveted steel pipe and about \$1800.00 for the 6 inch pipe; that the whole improvement would cost about \$3200.00, this would include hydrants, etc; that, though no definite understanding had been reached with the Dominguez Land Co., he thought that if the City would pay \$1500.00 toward the improvement, the Dominguez Land Co. would do the rest.

Trustee Proctor moved that the City Engineer be empowered to go ahead with the proposition to the amount of \$1500.00, acting with the Dominguez Land Co. Trustee Fitzhugh seconded the motion which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:

- AYES; Trustees: Fitzhugh, Proctor, Smith, Zeller and Gilbert.
- NOES; Trustees: None.
- ABSENT; Trustees: None.

Mr. Jessup reported that it would cost about \$1500.00 to move the old booster pump to the new location as there was a good deal involved in the work; also that the dedication of this park was not decided upon as yet; that if the City offered \$1000.00 to help out this work, it would be something for the Dominguez Land Co. to act upon.

Trustee Smith moved that, in view of the fact that no budget had been arranged, the matter be laid over until the next meeting. Trustee Zeller seconded the motion which was duly carried.

The Engineer reported that the contract for the paving in the Plaza Del Amo and the Martina districts had been signed and the bonds approved.

Trustee Smith reported that, as the Police Department had been well taken care of at present, he thought it was now time to take up the needs of the fire department, that the department had submitted a request that the 16 active members of the department be allowed \$1.00 each for the drills--a drill being held each week. After some discussion of the proposition Trustee Smith moved that the 16 active members of the fire department be allowed \$1.00 each per drill that is, to each member present at the drill. Trustee Proctor seconded the motion which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:

- AYES; Trustees: Fitzhugh, Proctor, Smith, Zeller and Gilbert.
- NOES; Trustees: None.
- ABSENT; Trustees: None.

In the matter of compensation, Trustee Smith moved that each member present at a fire be allowed \$2.50 for the first hour and \$1.00 per hour for each additional hour consumed in fire-fighting or arranging equipment afterwards. Trustee Fitzhugh seconded the motion which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:

(No time was set for the allowances to start, unless they meant from date.)

- AYES; Trustees: Fitzhugh, Proctor, Smith, Zeller and Gilbert.
- NOES; Trustees: None.
- ABSENT; Trustees: None.

Trustee Smith also reported that in the matter of fire equipment, the department had at present 1300 feet of good hose, but that this amount was not enough, and recommended the purchase of 700 ft. of 2½" double jacket standard fire hose.

Trustee Proctor moved that the Clerk be instructed to advertise for bids for 700 feet of 2½" double jacket standard fire hose. Trustee Smith seconded the motion which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:

- AYES; Trustees: Fitzhugh, Proctor, Smith, Zeller and Gilbert.
- NOES; Trustees: None.
- ABSENT; Trustees: None.

Incidental equipment for the fire department such as smoke masks hose jacket, 6 spanners, 4½ to 4 suction reducer, etc, probable cost of which would be \$108.00, was mentioned by Trustee Smith.

Trustee Fitzhugh moved that the requisition for the above mentioned equipment be honored. Trustee Proctor seconded the motion which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:

- AYES; Trustees: Fitzhugh, Proctor, Smith, Zeller and Gilbert.
- NOES; Trustees: None.
- ABSENT; Trustees: None.

The question of a hall of some kind for the meeting place of the fire department was mentioned by Trustee Smith, who stated that it was very inconvenient for them to meet in the police quarters--and there was no desirable place to hold their business meetings or initiations.

Mr Jessup stated that plans had practically been completed for a room on the north side which would provide a hall the same width as the other two rooms; that it would be one story high and conform to the rest of the building; that the estimated cost was from 1800 to 2000 dollars.

The matter was brought up, said Trustee Smith, only for the consideration of the Board in the absence of a budget.

On motion by Trustee Proctor, seconded by Trustee Smith, and a majority vote, the fire house addition was laid over until next meeting.

A fire hazard was mentioned as being located behind the El Prado building, there being a shoot from the upper story continually full of boxes, papers and trash of all kinds. Trustee Smith was advised that there was an Ordinance covering the above, and he immediately instructed Chief Anderson to apprise those responsible that action would be taken if the place was not cleaned and the menace removed.

The matter of hauling nitro-glycerine through the main streets of the City--thereby causing an unnecessary danger to life and property--was referred to the City Attorney and the Ordinance committee.

On motion by Trustee Smith, seconded by Trustee Zeller, and a majority vote, the discussion of the new lighting rate was postponed until the next meeting.

Clerk Bartlett reported the need of an adding machine for the use of the office generally, stating that they had been using samples for some time past, but that the different brands had about run out, so requested that the office equipment be enhanced to that extent.

Trustee Proctor moved that the Clerk be empowered to add an adding machine to his equipment. Trustee Smith seconded the motion which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES; Trustees: Fitzhugh, Proctor, Smith, Zeller and Gilbert.

NOES; Trustees: None.

ABSENT; Trustees: None.

"Regarding the Boulevard and School stops," said Trustee Zeller, "I read that the City of Los Angeles is not satisfied with them and are repealing the Ordinance. As Los Angeles, after having had experience, is finding conditions unsatisfactory under these Ordinances, had we not better hold up a little on the proposition until we find out more about it."

Chief Anderson advised the Board that he had everything ready to go ahead with the signs and street marking as soon as the Ordinance was finally passed; that the reason Los Angeles was changing was on account of their intention of putting in lights to replace signs.

Trustee Smith moved that the proposed Ordinance be referred back to the Ordinance committee for further consideration until the next meeting. Trustee Fitzhugh seconded the motion which was duly carried.

Trustee Fitzhugh mentioned the fact that a great number of alley returns were mud holes in the winter and in the summer, dust heaps; that there ought to be some way in which these alleys could be made passable. It was suggested that Mr. Gascoigne could put part of his force to work on them and use some old Willite for filling. Engineer Jessup estimated that it would cost about \$50.00 each to pave them and he disliked the idea of patching them up in a temporary manner as the traffic would soon break them through.

On motion by Trustee Proctor, seconded by Trustee Fitzhugh, and a majority vote, same was referred to the Engineer for ways and means and recommendations.

President Gilbert ordered a return to unfinished business as the City Engineer has the Western Avenue proceedings ready to present. Plans, profiles, etc. showing elevations were submitted for the inspection of the Board, the Engineer explaining that a 3½ inch concrete base with a 2½ inch Willite covering was contemplated. After the plans had been duly considered, Mr. Jessup read:

RESOLUTION NO. 158  
A RESOLUTION ADOPTING PLANS AND PROFILES  
FOR THE PAVING OF WESTERN AVENUE AND A  
PORTION OF EL PRADO IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE

Trustee Proctor moved that Resolution No. 158 be adopted as read, and the same filed in the office of the City Clerk. Trustee Smith seconded the motion which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES; Trustees: Fitzhugh, Proctor, Smith, Zeller and Gilbert.

NOES; Trustees: None.

ABSENT; Trustees: None.

Engineer Jessup read:

RESOLUTION NO. 159  
A RESOLUTION ADOPTING SPECIFICATIONS FOR  
THE PAVING OF WESTERN AVENUE AND A PORTION  
OF EL PRADO

Trustee Smith moved that Resolution No. 159 be adopted as read, and the same filed in the office of the City Clerk. Trustee Fitzhugh seconded the motion which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES; Trustees: Fitzhugh, Proctor, Smith, Zeller and Gilbert.

NOES; Trustees: None.

ABSENT; Trustees: None.

Engineer Jessup dictated:

RESOLUTION NO. 160

RESOLVED THAT specifications No. 20 for Topeka Mixture Asphalt pavement, Willite process be, and the same are hereby adopted.

Trustee Smith moved that Resolution No. 160 be adopted as dictated, and a copy of the same filed in the office of the City Clerk. Trustee Zeller seconded the motion which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES; Trustees: Fitzhugh, Proctor, Smith, Zeller and Gilbert.

NOES; Trustees: None.

ABSENT; Trustees: None.

Trustee Proctor moved that the General Licence Agreement of the California Willite Road Construction Company, Willite Plastic Composition Licence Mixture Agreement, be filed in the office of the City Clerk. Trustee Smith seconded the motion which was duly carried.

Engineer Jessup read:

RESOLUTION OF INTENTION NO. 161.

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, DECLARING ITS INTENTION TO ORDER THE IMPROVEMENT OF PORTIONS OF WESTERN AVENUE AND OF EL PRADO IN SAID CITY: DECLARING THE SAID WORK TO BE OF MORE THAN LOCAL OR ORDINARY PUBLIC BENEFIT, AND DESCRIBING THE DISTRICT TO BE BENEFITTED BY SAID WORK OR IMPROVEMENT AND TO BEAR THE COST AND EXPENSES THEREOF; DECLARING THAT BONDS SHALL BE ISSUED TO REPRESENT SAID COSTS AND EXPENSES AND FIXING THE TIME AND PLACE FOR HEARING OBJECTIONS TO SAID WORK AND IMPROVEMENT OR TO THE EXTENT OF THE DISTRICT TO BE ASSESSED OR BOTH.

Trustee Smith moved that Resolution of Intention No. 161 be adopted as read and the same filed in the office of the City Clerk. Trustee Fitzhugh seconded the motion which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES; Trustees: Fitzhugh, Proctor, Smith, Zeller and Gilbert;

NOES; Trustees: None.

ABSENT; Trustees: None.

New business was again taken up, the City Engineer explaining the progress being made regarding the oil district road proceedings and the needs of the department as to equipment and material.

Trustee Fitzhugh moved that the Clerk advertise for bids for from 1000 to 2000 yards of decomposed rock. Trustee Zeller seconded the motion which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES; Trustees: Fitzhugh, Proctor, Smith, Zeller and Gilbert.  
 NOES; Trustees: None.  
 ABSENT; Trustees: None.

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 Trustee Fitzhugh moved that the Engineer be authorized to advertise for bids for 300 to 500 barrels of road oil. Trustee Proctor seconded the motion, which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:  
 AYES; Trustees: Fitzhugh, Proctor, Smith, Zeller and Gilbert.  
 NOES; Trustees: None.  
 ABSENT; Trustees: None.

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 Trustee Fitzhugh moved that the Engineer be authorized to advertise for bids for 500 tons of crushed rock. Trustee Proctor seconded the motion which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:  
 AYES; Trustees: Fitzhugh, Proctor, Smith, Zeller and Gilbert.  
 NOES; Trustees: None.  
 ABSENT; Trustees: None.

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 Trustee Fitzhugh moved that the Engineer be instructed to advertise for bids for a 4-ton, 3-wheeled road roller. Trustee Smith seconded the motion which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:  
 AYES; Trustees: Fitzhugh, Proctor, Smith, Zeller and Gilbert.  
 NOES; Trustees: None.  
 ABSENT; Trustees: None.

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 Trustee Fitzhugh moved that the Engineer be instructed to advertise for a sprinkling wagon. Trustee Smith seconded the motion which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:  
 AYES; Trustees: Fitzhugh, Proctor, Smith, Zeller and Gilbert.  
 NOES; Trustees: None.  
 ABSENT; Trustees: None.

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 Several times, Trustee Smith said, he had been approached by interested parties looking toward the changing of the meeting nights of the Board, as the present regime seemed to interfere with so many other things.

Trustee Proctor moved that the Ordinance Committee be instructed to draw up the necessary Ordinance changing the meeting nights to the second and fourth Mondays of each month. Trustee Smith seconded the motion which was duly carried.

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 Trustee Proctor moved that all bills, properly audited, be paid. Trustee Fitzhugh seconded the motion which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:  
 AYES; Trustees: Fitzhugh, Proctor, Smith, Zeller and Gilbert.  
 NOES; Trustees: None.  
 ABSENT; Trustees: None.

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 At 10:10 P. M. Trustee Proctor moved to adjourn. Trustee Smith seconded the motion which was duly carried.

*Arthur H. Bancroft*  
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 City Clerk of the City of Torrance.

Approved:

*W. H. Gilbert*  
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 President of the Board of Trustees  
 of the City of Torrance.