

Torrance, California.  
April 19th., 1932.

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY  
OF TORRANCE.

The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Torrance, was held in the Council Chambers at Torrance, California, April 19th., 1932, and was called to order at 7:45 P.M. by Clerk Bartlett.

The following Councilmen were present: COUNCILMEN: Klusman, Wright, Ludlow, Conner and Steiner. Absent: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Klusman suggested that Councilman Steiner act as temporary Chairman. Councilman Steiner stated that the first business of the evening was to select a Mayor and afterwards organize the various committees. Councilman Conner nominated Councilman Steiner for the office of Mayor as he believed this courtesy should be extended to the remaining member of the old Board. Councilman Steiner acknowledged the courtesy extended to him but believed he could do more for his constituents and be of more service in his present capacity and respectfully declined the nomination and nominated Councilman Wm. T. Klusman. Councilman Ludlow moved the nomination be closed. Councilman Steiner seconded the motion, which was duly carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Wright, Ludlow, Conner and Steiner. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None. Mr. Klusman not voting. Councilman Klusman was then declared Mayor. Mayor Klusman thanked them all for the honor conferred upon him and stated he was just beginning to realize what he was up against.

Councilman Steiner suggested that the regular order of business be dispensed with and proceed with the selection of the heads of the various committees. The following chairmen of the various committees were appointed by Mayor Klusman:

Street, Sewer and Parks Committee: G.A.R. Steiner  
 Finance Committee: Scott Ludlow  
 Ordinance Committee: J. M. Wright  
 Police, Fire, and Lights Committee: Earl Conner

Written communications:

Clerk Bartlett read a communication from the County of Los Angeles under date of April 16th, 1932, calling attention to the necessity for the City of Torrance to assign locations for public utilities along the Sepulveda Boulevard. Councilman Steiner stated that pending the adoption by the council of a program he had instructed the City Engineer to communicate with Dr. Ellinwood concerning a grant for right-of-way for certain utilities and requested that the Engineer's communication be read to the Council, which was done. Councilman Ludlow moved approval of this letter written by the City Engineer. Councilman Conner seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication addressed to the Honorable City Council under date of April 2, 1932, from Victor Sciacca, stating he is desirous of getting the garbage and tin can route in Torrance was read. Councilman Steiner moved this communication be filed for future reference. Councilman Conner seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Clerk Bartlett read resignation tendered by Donald Findley, City Attorney, to take effect at the pleasure of the Council. Councilman Steiner moved acceptance of resignation to become effective on the first of May. Councilman Ludlow seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Wright moved that Mr. Julius Jensen be appointed City Attorney, his salary to begin the first of May, 1932. Councilman Conner seconded the motion, which was duly carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Wright, Conner, Steiner and Klusman. NOES: COUNCILMAN: Ludlow. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None. Mr. Jensen stated that he would serve the Council in an advisory capacity until May 1st without compensation.

Oral communications:

Mr. Ralph Z. Hoerr in the audience suggested that a petition be circulated and presented the Railroad Commission asking a reduction in water rates. Mayor Klusman stated that it is the intention of the Council to take the matter of water rates under consideration and that he did not think that there was any advantage to the city in circulating the petition at the present time. Councilman Steiner stated that the past City Attorney was authorized by the outgoing Council to start an action and file a complaint upon the subject under discussion here. However, he did not know how far the proceedings had advanced.

Councilman Steiner stated that while the councilmen are discussing the various departments he wished the council to consider the removal of the Plumbing, Electrical and Gas Inspections from his department. He believes that there is a loss to the city in requiring the Engineering Department to make these inspections and he would ask that the inspection work be taken from his department. That the amount of work demanded of the two men in his department did not economically admit of this work being carried on; and that there are now 260 men on my list of unemployed, the work of the Stabilization Board is now being taken care of in that department. There is a necessity of giving line for the placing of poles and changes to be made under franchise matters in order that improvements may be carried out.

Mayor Klusman asked to hear from City Engineer Leonard on this matter. The Engineer stated that he believed Councilman Steiner stated the matter clearly but, of course, if the Council saw fit to continue the inspection in the Engineering Department that it would be taken care of as before.

After further discussion, City Clerk Bartlett stated that if the Council saw fit to place the Plumbing, Electrical and Gas Inspections back in his department, where they were originally, he would gladly make these inspections without cost to the city until such time as the business conditions were on a more substantial basis.

The necessity of replacing the City Flag Pole was called to the attention of the Council by Mayor Klusman.

Engineer Leonard recommended that the proposal of the International Derrick & Equipment Company to remove the present pole and replace the same with an 80 ft. telescopic pipe pole for total sum of \$162.00; and the estimate of the Torrance Electric Shop to furnish and install the necessary conduit and equipment for the light signals in connection with the pole at a total expense of \$99.90, entailing a total expenditure of \$261.90 be accepted.

Councilman Steiner moved that the proposal referred to be accepted. Councilman Conner seconded the motion, which was duly carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Klusman, Wright, Ludlow, Conner and Steiner. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

City Engineer Leonard stated that repairs on Redondo Avenue between 182nd. & 190th. were necessary, that the expense at the present time would only be nominal. Councilman Steiner reported that he had already ordered the Street Department to grade and do some work on this road and that the work would proceed.

Councilman Ludlow asked when we had our last audit. Clerk Bartlett stated that there had been no audit last year but audits had been taken every year previously.

Mayor Klusman proposed that beginning the first of May that the monthly salaries of the following City Officials shall be as follows:

City Engineer	200.00
Street Superintendent	175.00
Chief of Police	175.00
Police Judge	75.00
City Attorney	150.00
and no extra compensation for legal work will be allowed.	

Clerk Bartlett stated that the City Attorney's salary was created by Resolution No. 481 and before the change in his salary could be made this Resolution should be repealed. The Clerk also stated that some of the other salaries mentioned were created by ordinances and suggested repeal of such ordinances. Councilman Ludlow then moved repeal of Resolution No. 481. Councilman Conner seconded the motion, which was duly carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Klusman, Wright, Ludlow, Conner and Steiner. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

After some discussion, Councilman Steiner moved that the various ordinances referred to be taken up by the Ordinance Committee. Councilman Wright seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

At this time Mayor Klusman completed the appointment of the various committees as follow:

Street, Sewer and Parks Committee:	G.A.R. Steiner, Chairman Earl Conner Scott Ludlow
Finance Committee:	Scott Ludlow, Chairman G.A.R. Steiner J. M. Wright
Ordinance Committee:	J. M. Wright, Chairman Scott Ludlow Earl Conner
Police, Fire & Light Committee:	Earl Conner, Chairman Scott Ludlow G.A.R. Steiner

Mayor Klusman brought up the matter of the future functioning of the Chamber of Commerce, expressing the opinion that changes should be made and that there was an advantage in having certain activities of the Chamber of Commerce continue. Councilman Wright

moved that the Council appropriate \$150.00 a month to the Chamber and meet the cost of rental of the building until further notice which motion was not seconded. Clerk Bartlett read a communication from the Torrance Chamber of Commerce with reference to a Resolution. Councilman Steiner moved Mayor Klusman be appointed committee of one to work with the Chamber of Commerce. Councilman Conner seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Steiner called attention to the necessity for the city to have a representative of the Council upon the Board of the Metropolitan Sewer District and moved that Mayor Klusman be appointed a committee of one to represent the City of Torrance on the Board of the Metropolitan Sewer District and also upon the Board of the Metropolitan Water District in case it was possible for the City to be so represented. Clerk Bartlett stated that ex-Mayor Dennis had been appointed and under the law would continue to act as representative of the city until his resignation was accepted by the Metropolitan Water District. Councilman Ludlow seconded Councilman Steiner's motion, which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Ludlow asked regarding the printing of the minutes which are to be given further consideration.

Mayor Klusman stated that he received a communication from the Board of Education and that as soon as the Board is assured that the charter had been defeated they would start construction of the Fern Avenue School Building. Councilman Steiner moved that Mayor Klusman be appointed a committee of one to notify the Board of Education. Councilman Ludlow seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Mayor Klusman requested Councilman Steiner to take the chair and speak with reference to future duties of the city employees. Councilman Steiner took the chair and stated that all city employees would continue to perform their duties as in the past and they would continue to function until such time as the Council should name their successors.

Councilman Ludlow moved the meeting adjourn, the Council to meet in an informal session Tuesday evening, April 26th., 1932, at 7:30 P.M. Councilman Conner seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 10:05 P.M.

*A. H. Bartlett*

City Clerk of the City of Torrance.

Approved:

*W. J. Klusman*  
Mayor of the City of Torrance.