

Torrance, California
January 12, 1937

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

The City Council of the City of Torrance convened in a regular meeting in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Torrance, California, on Tuesday, January 12, 1937 at 7:45 P.M.

Mayor Stanger called the meeting to order.

Clerk Bartlett called the roll, those answering present being Councilmen: Hitchcock, McGuire, Powell, Tolson and Stanger. Absent: Councilmen: None.

Councilman Tolson moved that the minutes of the adjourned meeting of an adjourned regular meeting held January 5, 1937 be approved as written. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which

was carried unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS

Communication from the Torrance Herald requesting permission to erect a temporary sign directing to the demonstration home at the corner of Beech Avenue and Sierra (the sign to be placed in the parkway between the roadways of Torrance Boulevard at the intersection of Beech Avenue).

Councilman Tolson moved that this request be granted. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Communication from Walker and Eisen, Architects, explaining the difference in the amount of the lowest bid on the Administration Building and their estimate of the cost of said building, advising that all bids be rejected and the P.W.A. be requested for an extension of time, and suggesting changes and eliminations to reduce the cost.

Mayor Stanger explained that the P.W.A. had been sent a request for extension of time on January 7, 1937.

Engineer Leonard stated that the proposed area of the Administration Building had been reduced in order to make it possible for future bids to be within the original estimate.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that all bids received on the Administration Building be rejected. Councilman Tolson seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Powell, Tolson and Stanger. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Communication from the Torrance Chamber of Commerce requesting an advance of \$565.00 for advertising in the Los Angeles Times Mid-winter Number and the annual edition of the Long Beach Press-Telegram.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the request be granted. Councilman Tolson seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Powell, Tolson and Stanger. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Communication from the Los Angeles County Public Library, inclosing four copies of bill for services rendered between July 1, 1936 and December 31, 1936, in the amount of \$3300.00.

Mayor Stanger stated that the Library Board had approved the payment of this bill.

Councilman Tolson moved that the Library bill be paid. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Powell, Tolson and Stanger. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Communication, addressed to the Board of Library Trustees, from the Torrance Librarian, expressing appreciation of remodeled lighting system, and requesting plugs for lamps and a typewriter desk.

Mayor Stanger stated that the Librarian had been advised that it was the agreement that the County would furnish any necessary furniture.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the City Electrician be instructed to install the two plugs requested. Councilman Tolson seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Powell, Tolson and Stanger. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Two communications requesting the improvement of streets in Tract No. 454 were referred to City Engineer for investigation and report at next meeting.

Letter from Torrance Fire Department recommending remodeling the rooms above the Fire Station; that the Masonic Building be provided with a fire escape, etc.; and that four battery chargers and one 4-way valve be secured for the Fire Department.

Mayor Stanger reported that he had suggested to the Fire Chief that the remodeling work be done by the firemen in their spare time,

and that he did not believe it would be necessary to employ a carpenter.

Mayor Stanger also reported that he had requested the Masonic Lodge to comply with the wishes of the Fire Department regarding the rear exit and the fire escape, and that they had agreed to do so, upon receiving a letter from the City Engineer stating the necessity therefor.

Mayor Stanger moved that the City Clerk be authorized to purchase one four-way valve for the Hollywood-Riviera Fire House, at the cost of \$75.00. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Powell, Tolson and Stanger. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Communication from the Loyal Order of Moose regarding annual convention in Sacramento, stating that the Torrance Lodge hopes to win the prize, and requesting funds to aid in financing their part in advertising Torrance at the convention.

The City Clerk was requested to investigate as to the amount necessary and report back at the next meeting.

Letter from P. S. Venable Estate regarding Walteria playground.

Clerk Bartlett explained that he had heard nothing further from Attorney Perry in connection with this property. He stated that no rent had been paid since July 1, 1936, at which time the former lease expired.

Councilman Tolson moved that the City Clerk be authorized to pay the rent from July 1, 1936 at the rate of \$10.00 per month. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Powell, Tolson and Stanger. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Letter from Los Angeles Metropolitan Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America requesting appropriation of \$500.00 to cover expense of promoting and maintaining program during the year 1936.

Councilman Tolson moved that the request be granted. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Powell, Tolson and Stanger. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Several communications with reference to fire insurance on the city buildings were presented.

Councilman McGuire moved that the award be made at an adjourned meeting on January 19, 1937. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Communication from the Torrance Investment Company regarding insurance on the new Administration Building. No action at this time.

Form letter from the California League of Municipalities, reporting on meeting held in San Francisco on December 30, 1936 and inclosing two resolutions adopted at that meeting. It was requested that the City Council endorse these resolutions and transmit same to Congressmen and Senators. One resolution was in reference to reduction in P.W.A. allocations and the other was in reference to relief for the employable unemployed.

Mayor Stanger reported that this had been taken care of.

A resolution adopted at a meeting of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors held on Tuesday, December 29, 1936, regarding anticipated population increase and economic development. Councilman Powell moved that the communication and resolution be referred to the Torrance Chamber of Commerce. Councilman Tolson seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

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Communication, addressed to the City Engineer, from the California Division of Highways, inclosing first supplemental memorandum of agreement regarding 1/4¢ gasoline tax allocation.

Attorney Rippy presented and read in full:

RESOLUTION NO. 1072

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF FIRST SUPPLEMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA COVERING EXPENDITURE OF QUARTER-CENT GAS TAX FUND ON NARBONNE AVENUE, AND APPROPRIATING \$1500.00 TO SUPPLEMENT THE SAME

Councilman McGuire moved that Resolution No. 1072 be adopted. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Powell, Tolson and Stanger. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Attorney Rippy presented and read in full:

RESOLUTION NO. 1073

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, ADOPTING PREVAILING WAGE SCALE FOR IMPROVEMENT OF NARBONNE AVENUE

Councilman Hitchcock moved that Resolution No. 1073 be adopted. Councilman Tolson seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Powell, Tolson and Stanger. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Attorney Rippy presented and read in full:

RESOLUTION NO. 1074

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING PUBLICATION OF NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS COVERING IMPROVEMENT OF NARBONNE AVENUE

Councilman Powell moved that Resolution No. 1074 be adopted. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Powell, Tolson and Stanger. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Attorney Rippy presented for second reading:

ORDINANCE NO. 290

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 261.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that further reading be dispensed with. Councilman Tolson seconded the motion, which was carried.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that Ordinance No. 290 be adopted, for final reading. Councilman Tolson seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Powell, Tolson and Stanger. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Attorney Rippe presented and read in full:

RESOLUTION NO. 1075

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY
OF TORRANCE APPROVING MAP OF TRACT NO. 11245

Councilman Hitchcock moved that Resolution No. 1075 be adopted. Councilman McGuire seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Powell, Tolson and Stanger. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor Stanger read a note from Mr. Eisen, of Walker & Eisen, regarding the omitting of type of steel construction in specifications for Administration Building.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the City Engineer notify the architects, Walker & Eisen, that the specifications should be the same as originally advertised in the paper, and that if any type of steel framing other than the one shown on the drawings was substituted, complete drawings and calculations should be submitted with the bid. Councilman Tolson seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Tolson moved that the bids call for steel construction as done before. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Engineer Leonard reported that, in compliance with the Chamber of Commerce request for rezoning to aid residential development, he had contacted the Chanslor-Canfield Midway Oil Company's Vice President regarding their frontage on Torrance Boulevard, asking if they had worked out any housing program. He had been informed that if the City would furnish a pencil sketch of what would be most desirable, the matter would be taken up with the management of the C.C.M.O. properties and a report be made later.

Councilman Tolson moved that \$304.40, plus sales tax, be appropriated for lights from the C. W. Cole Company for the Civic Auditorium. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Powell, Tolson and Stanger. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Tolson moved that scenery for the Auditorium be purchased from the J. O. Martin Studio for not to exceed \$500.00, plus sales tax. Councilman McGuire seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Powell, Tolson and Stanger. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Scott R. Ludlow expressed his approbation of the City's activity in planning an Administration Building, and spoke of the importance of steel construction.

Mr. Ludlow then spoke of the present organization of the Torrance Symphonic Orchestra and stated their desire to be put on the same basis and to operate under the same system as the Torrance Municipal Band. However, he said that before asking for an appropriation, they would appreciate an opportunity to give a trial concert, for which they requested \$100.00.

Mayor Stanger explained that \$800.00 had been set up in the budget for the Symphonic Orchestra, but that the leader had not considered it sufficient and had been unappreciative.

Councilman McGuire moved that \$100.00 be appropriated for a trial concert by the Torrance Symphonic Orchestra. Councilman

Tolson seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Powell, Tolson and Stanger. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mr. Ludlow also asked about Rev. Lingenfelter's request that the City sponsor a W.P.A. project on which he desired employment. Mayor Stanger said he had written Mr. Hopkins and Harold Pomeroy, but that as yet no reply had been received.

Engineer Leonard stated that in awarding the contract to the George R. Curtis Paving Company for the improvement of 190th Street and Western Avenue, January 13, 1937 had been set as the date on which the work should commence. However, he stated that the paving company had requested an extension of time, due to delay in completing another job at Terminal Island. In as much as the Pacific Electric Railway Company had been delayed, on account of putting in more rails than originally contemplated, Engineer Leonard recommended that the request for an extension of time be granted the paving company.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the Curtis Paving Company be granted an extension of time to January 26, 1937, on which date work is to be started on the 190th Street and Western Avenue improvement. Councilman McGuire seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that all bills properly audited be paid. Councilman Tolson seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Powell, Tolson and Stanger. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

At 9:15 P.M., upon motion of Councilman Tolson, seconded by Councilman Powell, the meeting adjourned to Tuesday, January 19, 1937 at 7:30 P.M.

A. H. Bartlett
City Clerk of the City of Torrance.

Approved:

W. H. Stanger
Mayor of the City of Torrance.