

Torrance, California
May 25, 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 evening, May 25, 1937 at 7:45 P.M.

Mayor Tolson called the meeting to order.

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

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the minutes of the regular meeting of May 11, 1937 and of the adjourned regular meeting of May 12, 1937 be approved as written. Councilman McGuire seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS

Communication from the Gardena Valley Improvement Association regarding conference with officials of the Pacific Electric Railway Company for improvement of railway service, to be held Thursday, May 27, 1937 at 8 P.M. in the Gardena City Hall, and urging that representatives from Torrance attend.

Mayor Tolson appointed Attorney Rippey and Councilmen McGuire and Powell to attend.

Communication and resolution from the City of Manhattan Beach regarding dangerous condition at junction of La Tijera, Slauson and Overhill Drive.

Communication from Wm. J. Clark, Attorney, Alhambra, California, representing owner of portion of Lot 22, Meadow Park Tract, and calling attention to flooded condition of the lot, due to lack of drainage.

Engineer Leonard stated that it had already been explained to the property owner that this property had always been a lake and was shown on the government maps as a lake. He also said that there was only about one inch difference in height of the land on each side of the road since the improvement of Hawthorne Avenue by the City of Torrance.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the City Engineer be authorized to reply to the attorney's letter. Councilman McGuire seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Communication from Taylor and Taylor, under date of May 20, 1937, advising that work is under way of making study of Moneta Water Company and that their report would be ready within ten days.

Petition from seventeen merchants in the City of Torrance requesting that an ordinance be passed to prevent picketing.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the matter be referred to the Ordinance Committee for investigation. Councilman Deininger seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Communication from the Fire Chief recommending the appointment of Gordon Northington to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Robert McMaster.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the appointment of Gordon Northington be approved. Councilman McGuire seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Attorney Rippy presented and read in full:

RESOLUTION NO. 1110

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE INDICATING AN INTENTION TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY OF NEW YORK

Councilman Deininger moved that Resolution No. 1110 be adopted. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Deininger, Hitchcock, McGuire, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Eight o'clock being the time set to receive protests on the zoning of Lot 3 in Block 11, Torrance Tract, the Clerk reported that no protests had been received.

Attorney Rippy reported that he had sent in the final judgment of condemnation in the Damuth case.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that not to exceed \$100.00 be appropriated for the purchase of a mowing machine. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Deininger, Hitchcock, McGuire, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that not to exceed \$500.00 be appropriated for the resurfacing of Cravens Avenue. Councilman Deininger seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Deininger, Hitchcock, McGuire, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Hitchcock presented a request for the removal of two pepper trees from the front of Evangelical Church, and moved that this matter be referred to the Council for action. Councilman McGuire seconded the motion, which was carried.

Mayor Tolson reported that the Board of Library Trustees had met this date and that they recommended that branch libraries be established in Walteria and in North Torrance.

The Mayor explained that this would increase the amount of the contract with the County \$1320.00, and that the City would furnish housing for the branch libraries. He stated that it was possible that someone in these sections might donate rooms.

Attorney Rippe presented and read in full:

RESOLUTION NO. 1111

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY
OF TORRANCE INDICATING AN INTENTION TO ENTER
INTO A CONTRACT WITH THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
ON THE BASIS OF EXTENDED SERVICE TO WALTERIA
AND NORTH TORRANCE

Councilman Hitchcock moved that Resolution No. 1111 be adopted. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Deininger, Hitchcock, McGuire, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Powell stated that there had been several near accidents at the Santa Fe Railway crossing on Cedar Avenue.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the Santa Fe crossing on Cedar Avenue be painted with "Railroad Crossing" signs. Councilman Deininger seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Deininger, Hitchcock, McGuire, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Clerk Bartlett reported that the second portion of the Motor Vehicle Tax, in the amount of \$4462.12, had been received this date.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. John Salm requested that the permit issued for the establishment of a brick yard near 182nd Street and Western Avenue be revoked, in order to preserve that section as a residential district.

Engineer Leonard explained that this permit had been issued in October, 1936 to a Mr. Higgins. He stated that there are two or three other brick yards in that vicinity, which were established before that section was annexed to the City of Torrance. He said that he could see no way in which the City Council could legislate against a brick yard in that district, which was agricultural and industrial land.

Attorney Rippe stated that if the City has no right to revoke the permit, the people have no recourse. He said that the City cannot arbitrarily zone a piece of property if it is adapted for a particular purpose, and that this property was agricultural and industrial in character.

Mr. Salm said that there are about ten residences between Arlington and Western Avenues on 182nd Street.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the matter be referred to the Council as a whole for investigation and recommendation at the next meeting. Councilman Deininger seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Tuesday, June 1, 1937 was set as the time to investigate this situation, the meeting to immediately follow the adjourned regular meeting to be held at 4:45 P.M. on that date.

Mr. Geardt, of North Torrance, asked when the report would be presented from Taylor and Taylor on the water situation.

Mayor Tolson replied that the report would be given at the next regular Council meeting on June 8th.

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

At 8:25 P.M., upon motion of Councilman Hitchcock, seconded by Councilman Deininger, the meeting adjourned to Tuesday, June 1, 1937 at 4:45 P.M.

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

Approved:

J. W. Tolson
Mayor of the City of Torrance.