

Torrance, California
February 27, 1940

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, February 27, 1940 at 7:45 P.M.

Mayor Tolson called the meeting to order.

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

Councilman Murray moved that the minutes of a Regular Meeting held February 13, 1940 be approved as written. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

A communication was read from J. O. Bishop, Chairman, Civil Service Board, with reference to agility tests given to members of Police Department during recent Civil Service examinations. Comments and suggestions regarding the matter were invited.

Councilman Powell moved that the communication be referred to the Police Commission for investigation. Councilman Murray seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Mrs. Hugh F. Schultz, 1916 Arlington, requesting that the zoning regulation for one-family residences on Arlington Avenue be relaxed and that she be granted permit to build stucco garages with rentals above on her property at 1916 Arlington Avenue. Referred to the Planning Commission.

A communication was read from Mrs. Addie Hussey, 2030-231st Street, requesting that 231st Street be repaired. Councilman Hitchcock advised that appropriations for repair to the street have been arranged.

A communication was read from the Walteria Civic Association, requesting street repair on Neece Avenue from Newton Street to Highway 101. Referred to the Street Department.

A communication was read from the 20-30 Club, requesting permission to sponsor the Steffen's Superior Shows in Torrance from March 12 to March 16, 1940. George Figueredo, President of the Club, explained briefly the method of operation of the shows and added that a thorough investigation had been made before applying for the permit.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the request be granted. Councilman Murray seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from H. E. Lewis, 445 Cedar Avenue, Long Beach, offering for sale Lots 2 and 3, Block 14, Torrance Tract, for \$2,000.00. Communication filed for future reference.

A communication was read from the Railroad Commission of the State of California, together with a statement of rate reductions of the Southern California Edison Company, Ltd., effective March 1, 1940.

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A copy of a communication from the Board of Public Utilities and Transportation to the Landier Transit Co., Inc. was read, advising that the application of the Landier Transit Co., Inc. for operation of a bus system between the City of Torrance and the City of Huntington Park had been consolidated, for purpose of hearing, with the applications of the Asbury Rapid Transit System, Inc. and the City of Torrance, the hearings to be held March 15, 1940 at 10:00 A.M. Mayor Tolson advised that he and Attorney McCall will attend the hearings.

A franchise statement from the Southern California Gas Company was read for the period from January 1, 1939 to December 31, 1939, reporting amounts due the City of Torrance as follows: Ordinance No. 270 of the County of Los Angeles, \$3.17; Ordinance No. 463 of the County of Los Angeles, \$888.13; Ordinance No. 515 of the County of Los Angeles, \$8.14. Total amount due and received, \$899.44.

A communication was read from Father Hawe General Assembly, requesting adoption of a resolution submitted by them, recommending the observance of Good Friday, March 22, 1940. The resolution recommended that all offices, banks and stores be closed from 12:00 to 3:00 on that day in observance of Good Friday.

Councilman Powell moved that the recommended resolution be adopted and the businessmen be requested to concur insofar as possible. Councilman Murray seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 1377

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE EXONERATING SURETY BOND POSTED BY SUNSET OIL COMPANY OR JULIAN PETROLEUM CORPORATION.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that Resolution No. 1377 be adopted. Councilman McGuire seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 1378

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE REQUESTING BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO WAIVE TAXES ON LOTS 17, 18 AND 19, BLOCK 3, SUBDIVISION OF LOT 33, MEADOW PARK TRACT.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that Resolution No. 1378 be adopted. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 1379

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE CHANGING THE NAME OF A PORTION OF CARSON STREET TO WATSON AVENUE.

Councilman Powell moved that Resolution No. 1379 be adopted. Councilman Murray seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 1380

RESOLUTION FIXING PRECINCTS, POLLING PLACES
AND HOURS POLLS WILL BE OPEN FOR GENERAL
MUNICIPAL ELECTION, APRIL 9, 1940.

Councilman McGuire moved that Resolution No. 1380 be adopted. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Engineer Young gave an estimate for installation of a dry well at 231st Street and Narbonne Avenue as follows: \$97.50 for labor, \$75.81, plus tax, for material.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$200.00 be made for installation of a dry well at 231st Street and Narbonne Avenue. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Engineer Young announced that a hazardous condition exists at 1619 Cabrillo Avenue, in the form of a building which threatens to collapse as a result of damage done to it some eighteen months ago during a fire. He said his repeated efforts to have the owner rehabilitate the building had been unsuccessful, in that the owner had been trying to negotiate a sale of the building. He said that he had just recently, however, notified Mrs. J. Pearl Baird, owner, that unless steps were taken to remedy the situation, the City would be compelled to remove a portion of the building as a protection to the public. In answer to his communication, he added, Mrs. Baird had notified him to contact J. C. Smith, since she had sold the building, proceedings being handled by J. C. Smith. Mr. Smith, upon being informed of the above facts, had asked for enough time to complete escrow proceedings, thus allowing the new owner to proceed with rehabilitation of the building.

Engineer Young said he felt that the hazard could be temporarily eliminated by erecting a barrier and placing lights thereon, until such time as the escrow proceedings are complete.

Councilman Powell moved that the City Engineer be instructed to proceed with eliminating the hazard in whatever manner he deems proper. Councilman Murray seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Engineer Young recommended that the request of Jack Smith to place a wire from the corner of Sartori Avenue and El Prado Street to the Erwin Hotel for a taxi cab bell system be granted.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the request be granted. Councilman Murray seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Engineer Young stated an investigation is being made regarding the drainage problem at Cabrillo Avenue and Carson Street and 213th Street, Border and Cabrillo Avenues. He said a report will be ready in the near future.

Councilman Murray asked Attorney McCall for a report regarding acquirement of the Pacific Electric Railway Company right of way on Cabrillo Avenue. Attorney McCall said he had been informed by the

Pacific Electric Railway Company officials that the property could be acquired only through a condemnation suit, since the line was one in operation. He added he had mentioned this procedure did not conform with the original agreement in which the Pacific Electric agreed to sell the right of way for a specified amount. He said his briefing of the matter is not complete to date, but that he will finish it and report to the Council, at which time a meeting can be held to determine whether or not the condemnation suit should be started.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$200.00 be made for material for repair of 231st Street. Councilman Murray seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$200.00 be made for material for repair of 233rd Street. Councilman McGuire seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$165.00 be made for material for repair of Sonoma Street. Councilman McGuire seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$380.00 be made for repairs to the fence on the south side of the ball park at the Municipal Park. Councilman McGuire seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman McGuire moved that \$7600.00 be transferred from the unallocated fund to the General Fund and that \$550.00 be transferred from the unallocated advertising fund to the ball park fund. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman McGuire moved that the City Clerk be instructed to notify all registered voters of the City of Torrance by post card of their polling places for the forthcoming Municipal Election to be held April 9, 1940. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor Tolson moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$123.60 be made for 12 meters for the Water Department. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor Tolson moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$135.47 be made for 24 lead connections complete, 24 meter connections and 6 brass valves for the Water Department. Councilman Murray seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor Tolson moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$109.67 be made for 1 AWWA 10" Gate Valve and 1 8" AWWA Gate Valve for the Water Department. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor Tolson moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$66.95 be made for 1 Ellis Cast Iron Pipe Cutter for the Water Department. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor Tolson moved that the Water Department be authorized to sell 1 Oxweld Welding Torch and Gage for \$35.00. Councilman Hitchcock, seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor Tolson submitted a recommendation of the Fire Chief for purchase of 700 feet 2-1/2" fire hose and moved that the Purchasing Agent be authorized to secure estimates for same, the hose to replace hose being discarded. Councilman McGuire seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously..

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Kleinfelter requested permit to sell popcorn on Catalina Avenue near the entrance to Palos Verdes Estates. Clerk Bartlett read Section 18 of Ordinance 235, containing the provision that no business license shall be issued for this type of business without first securing a permit from the City Council. Councilman Hitchcock said that many complaints had been received in the past regarding this particular business, residents objecting to papers and refuse being strewn over the street. Councilman Powell maintained that this business is a legitimate one and the license should not be withheld.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the City Council make a thorough investigation of this request before taking action. Councilman McGuire seconded the motion, which was carried, Councilman Powell casting a dissenting vote.

A Mr. Brock requested that the City of Torrance grade Hawthorne Avenue in the front of his property and deposit the dirt on the opposite side of the street, also his property.

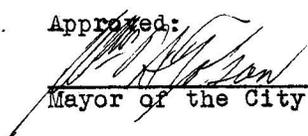
Referred to the City Engineer and Street Department for recommendation.

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

At 9:00 P.M., upon motion of Councilman Hitchcock, seconded by Councilman McGuire, the meeting adjourned to March 5, 1940 at 4:30 P.M.


City Clerk of the City of Torrance

Approved:


Mayor of the City of Torrance