

Torrance, California
July 9, 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, July 9, 1940 at 7:45 P.M.

Mayor McGuire called the meeting to order.

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

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the minutes of a Regular Meeting held June 25, 1940, minutes of an Adjourned Regular Meeting held June 27, 1940 and minutes of an Adjourned Regular Meeting held July 2, 1940 be approved as written. Councilman Babcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

At 7:50 P.M., Clerk Bartlett opened sealed bids for a motor grader as follows:

<u>Bidder</u>	<u>Bid</u>	<u>Alternate</u>
Smith Booth Usher Co. 2001 Santa Fe Avenue Los Angeles, California	\$4825.00	
Allowance for used Adams Grader, \$25.00. A certified check for \$500.00 accompanied the bid.		
J. D. Adams Company 1202 Mateo Street Los Angeles, California	\$4055.90 plus tax 41.80 for canopy top	
Allowance for used Adams Grader, \$50.00. Bid Bond for \$425.00 accompanied the bid.		
Shepherd Tractor & Equipment Co. 150 West Jefferson Los Angeles, California	\$4253.00 plus tax	\$4649.00 plus tax
1% discount for payment in 30 days. A certified check for \$550.00 accompanied the bid.		
Brown-Bevis Equipment Co. 4900 Santa Fe Avenue Los Angeles, California	\$4025.00 plus tax	\$4770.00 plus tax
2% cash discount for payment in 15 days. Allowance for used Adams Grader, \$274.60. Bid Bond for \$500.00 accompanied the bid.		
Torrance Auto Sales Co. 1420 Cabrillo Avenue Torrance, California	\$4875.00 plus tax	
Allowance for used Adams Grader, \$25.00.		

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the bids be referred to the City Engineer, City Attorney and City Council as a whole for checking and report at the next meeting. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Richfield Oil Corporation, advising no pipe lines laid or removed under franchise Ordinance No. 92 from January 1 to June 30, 1940.

A communication was read from the Walteria Civic Organization, requesting police protection at the intersection of Highway 101 and Hawthorne Avenue.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the request be referred to the Police Department for recommendation and report at the next regular meeting. Councilman Murray seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from John Ashton Shidler, Attorney-at-Law, requesting that a meeting be arranged with Mr. McCall, the Civil Service and the Fire and Police Commissions at which time, he said, he wished to voice dissatisfaction with Ordinance No. 249 and with its enforcement, and to suggest certain amendments. Five days notice of the meeting was requested.

Mayor McGuire advised that a meeting could be arranged for some day next week, and suggested that Clerk Bartlett advise Mr. Shidler to this effect.

A communication was read from Chief of Police Stroh, recommending that three boulevard stop signs be placed (1) at alley south of Carson Street on Arlington Avenue, (2) at alley south of Carson Street on Gramercy Avenue and (3) at alley on Carson Street between Arlington and Gramercy Avenues.

Councilman Powell moved that the recommendation be complied with. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion.

Attorney McCall advised that a resolution is required to install boulevard stop signs.

Councilman Powell withdrew his motion and Councilman Hitchcock withdrew his second.

Clerk Bartlett presented:

RESOLUTION NO. 1392

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING THE CHIEF OF POLICE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE TO ERECT BOULEVARD STOP SIGNS.

Councilman Powell moved that Resolution No. 1392 be adopted. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Murray, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read in full:

RESOLUTION NO. 1393

A. RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CLERK TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH THE COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT NO. 5 OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY.

Councilman Babcock moved that Resolution No. 1393 be adopted. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Murray, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Clerk Bartlett presented a tentative budget for the fiscal year 1940-41 for the City of Torrance. Estimated income: \$217557.00.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the tentative budget for the City of Torrance for the fiscal year 1940-41 be adopted. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Murray, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Clerk Bartlett presented a tentative budget for the fiscal year 1940-41 for the Torrance Municipal Water District No. 1. Estimated income: \$56625.00.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the tentative budget for the Torrance Municipal Water District No. 1 for the fiscal year 1940-41 be adopted. Councilman Murray seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Murray, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Powell moved that all callmen of the Fire Department be paid on a basis of \$2.50 for the first hour and \$1.00 thereafter per hour while on duty, and \$1.00 for each drill, effective as of July 1, 1940. Councilman Murray seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Murray, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Powell moved that Frank J. Schumacher and Ernest M. Ashton be promoted to the rank of Captains of the Police Department, subject to Ordinance No. 249, effective as of July 1, 1940. Councilman Babcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Murray, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Powell moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$450.25 net be made for 50 Taylor Celco-glass globes for the street lighting department. Councilman Murray seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Murray, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Powell moved that William H. Haslam, Percy G. Bennett and G. S. Evans be promoted to the rank of Sergeants of the Police Department, subject to Ordinance No. 249, effective as of July 1, 1940. Councilman Murray seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Murray, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$196.45 be made for material to repair 233rd Street to Narbonne Avenue. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Murray, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor McGuire moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$90.75, plus tax, be made for 55 gals. floor wax. Councilman Murray seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Murray, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor McGuire moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$70.65, plus tax, be made for miscellaneous cleaning soaps and fluids. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Murray, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor McGuire moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$65.00, plus tax, be made for miscellaneous janitor supplies. Councilman Babcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Murray, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor McGuire moved that the budget for the Torrance Chamber of Commerce for the fiscal year 1940-41 be approved and that execution of contract for same be authorized. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Murray and Powell. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor McGuire stated that the members of the Council had worked diligently in drawing up the 1940-41 budget and compared the total with the figures of the 1939-40 budget.

Regarding the petition presented July 2, 1940 protesting against use of certain lots for storage of plastering and construction equipment, Councilman Powell advised he had investigated the matter and could find no reasonable grounds for complaint, mentioning that the materials are on private property, enclosed by a fence.

When asked by Councilman Babcock whether the ordinance would permit storage of said equipment, Engineer Young replied that the district is zoned for multiple family residence, which would definitely prohibit such storage.

After a short discussion, Councilman Babcock moved that the matter be deferred until the next meeting, members of the Council to investigate the matter in the meantime. Councilman Murray seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Klusman asked how much had been allocated for the Chamber of Commerce budget for 1940-41. Mayor McGuire informed him that the budget had been set at \$7200.00. Mr. Klusman voiced an objection to expenditure of funds for the Chamber of Commerce, suggesting that the money could be used to better advantage by giving work to some of the property owners who cannot pay their taxes and are therefore on the delinquent tax list.

Mr. Gus King entered an oral objection to the storage of plastering and construction equipment on certain lots per the petition presented July 2, 1940, action on which has been deferred until the next meeting. He said the five foot fence enclosing the property is not in compliance with the ordinance governing matters of this kind.

After a short discussion, Engineer Young was instructed to check the provisions of the ordinance and ascertain whether or not a violation of any of the provisions has been committed.

Mr. Klusman asked why members of the Police Department has tried to interfere with distribution of a certain newspaper, stating that the State Supreme Court and United States Supreme Courts have ruled that no municipality can interfere with distribution of handbills, etc.

When asked by Mayor McGuire if he referred to the Torrance Tab, Mr. Klusman replied in the affirmative. Mr. Klusman added that a few years ago, the Police Department had interfered with distribution of his newspaper, the Independent.

Mr. Klusman asked Councilman Powell if he, as Police Commissioner, had issued orders to the Police Department to interfere with distribution of newspapers, to which Councilman Powell replied that he had not and that he would not tolerate such action by any of the Police Department.

Mr. Beach, Editor of the Torrance Tab, expressed appreciation of Mr. Klusman's interest, but added that he regretted the matter had been brought up, as the Police Department had cooperated with the paper since learning who they were.

Mr. Klusman asked what had happened to the proposed pin ball ordinance. Councilman Babcock said it had not been again brought up in open meeting since it was presented a few weeks ago.

Mayor McGuire announced that the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors had appropriated \$317,000.00 to relieve taxes on the Alondra Park district, property in that district having a Mattoon Act assessment against it.

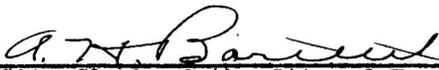
Mr. Klusman commended the Board of Supervisors for this action.

Mrs. Gonner of North Torrance asked why the streets in North Torrance could not be built with gasoline tax funds if said funds could be used to relieve taxes on the Alondra Park district. Mr. W. H. Tolson explained that the funds being used for this purpose are automobile license tax funds, not gasoline tax funds.

Mr. Goodman asked to be allowed to survey the streets and submit an estimate for painting the traffic lines through out the City of Torrance. He asked that a policeman be allowed to help him for one day in this work. He was advised to contact Chief of Police Stroh who will delegate one of the Police Department for this purpose.

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

At 8:43 P.M., upon motion of Councilman Hitchcock, seconded by Councilman Babcock, the meeting adjourned to July 16, 1940 at 4:30 P.M.


City Clerk of the City of Torrance

Approved:


Mayor of the City of Torrance