

Torrance, California
June 26, 1941

MINUTES OF AN ADJOURNED REGULAR
MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

The City Council of the City of Torrance convened in an Adjourned Regular Meeting in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Torrance, California on Thursday, June 26, 1941 at 5:05 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.

Being an Adjourned Meeting, the regular order of business was dispensed with.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

A communication was received from the Gardena Valley Chamber of Commerce, requesting Mayor McGuire to appoint two citizens from the City of Torrance to serve in conjunction with others appointed by various cities to participate in a mass celebration sometime during the late summer of this year in commemoration of the lifting of the Matoon Act from the Alondra Park district.

The appointment to be made at a later date.

A communication was read from the Acquisition and Improvement District No. 28 (Alondra Park) Taxpayers' Association, reporting a full and complete liquidation and settlement of the Alondra Park situation. It was stated that heavy expenditures of time and effort had been required, and that much money had to be advanced to meet unavoidable operation expenses. It further stated that accrued liabilities totaling approximately \$600.00 consist largely of Escrow fees and operation costs, which must be paid in order to release the individual members of the Committee from personal liability. The City of Torrance was requested to assist in liquidating the accrued liabilities by contributing \$100.00.

Mayor McGuire suggested that Pat McDonneil, Secretary of the Association, be contacted and asked to furnish itemized bills.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$100.00 be made, payable to the Alondra Park Taxpayers' Association, in accordance with the above request, upon receipt by the City of Torrance of itemized bills indicating what the expenses consist of. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCIL-

MEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Murray, Powell and McGuire. NOES:
COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Two applications for permits to sell fireworks were read as follows: (1) R. E. Parker, for permission to sell at the northwest corner of Hawthorne Boulevard and 101 Highway. (2) Birdine C. Tuttle, for permission to sell at 24250 Hawthorne Boulevard. Both requests were accompanied by recommendations of Fire Chief McMaster that permits be granted.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the requests of R. E. Parker and Birdine C. Tuttle for permission to sell fireworks be granted. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 1460

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY CLERK TO PUBLISH AN ADVERTISEMENT CALLING FOR BIDS ON CERTAIN PARCELS OF REAL PROPERTY.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that Resolution No. 1460 be adopted. 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.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 1461

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING THE SPECIAL CITY ATTORNEY TO FILE QUIET TITLE ACTIONS ON CERTAIN PARCELS OF REAL PROPERTY WITHIN SAID CITY.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that Resolution No. 1461 be adopted. 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.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 1462

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING QUITCLAIM DEED FROM JOHN HOLGER HANNA AND MYRA E. HANNA, his wife, AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY CLERK TO RECORD SAME IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY RECORDER.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that Resolution No. 1462 be adopted. 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.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 1463

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING QUITCLAIM DEED FROM JOHN HOLGER HANNA AND MYRA E. HANNA, his wife, AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY CLERK TO RECORD SAME IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY RECORDER.

Councilman Babcock moved that Resolution No. 1463 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 title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 1464

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING QUITCLAIM DEED FROM BYRON G. HILL AND STELLA D. HILL, his wife, AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY CLERK TO RECORD SAME IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY RECORDER.

Councilman Babcock moved that Resolution No. 1464 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 title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 1465

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING QUITCLAIM DEED FROM MINNIE ELLIS, a single woman, AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY CLERK TO RECORD SAME IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY RECORDER.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that Resolution No. 1465 be adopted. 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.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 1466

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING QUITCLAIM DEED FROM HENRY A. MacCLATCHIE AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY CLERK TO RECORD SAME IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY RECORDER.

Councilman Babcock moved that Resolution No. 1466 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 title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 1467

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING QUITCLAIM DEED FROM MUNICIPAL PROPERTIES, INC., a Corporation, AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY CLERK TO RECORD SAME IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY RECORDER.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that Resolution No. 1467 be adopted. 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.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 1468

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING QUITCLAIM DEED FROM
ELMER P. DIXON AND ROSE H. DIXON, Husband
and Wife, AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY CLERK
TO RECORD SAME IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY
RECORDER.

Councilman Babcock moved that Resolution No. 1468 be adopted.
Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the
following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitch-
cock, Murray, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT:
COUNCILMEN: None.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 1469

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING QUITCLAIM DEED FROM
MARY B. SANDERSON, a single woman, AND
ELIZABETH SANDERSON, a single woman, AND
AUTHORIZING THE CITY CLERK TO RECORD SAME
IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY RECORDER.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that Resolution No. 1469 be adopt-
ed. 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.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 1470

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING QUITCLAIM DEED FROM
GEORGE McCLELLAND ROURKE AND HERMINA KORF
ROURKE AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY CLERK TO
RECORD SAME IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY
RECORDER.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that Resolution No. 1470 be
adopted. Councilman Babcock seconded the motion, which was car-
ried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN:
Babcock, Hitchcock, Murray, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCIL-
MEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 1471

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING QUITCLAIM DEED FROM
D. S. SWAN AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY CLERK
TO RECORD SAME IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY
RECORDER.

Councilman Babcock moved that Resolution No. 1471 be adopt-
ed. 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 title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 1472

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING QUITCLAIM DEED FROM THE TEXAS COMPANY, a Corporation, AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY CLERK TO RECORD SAME IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY RECORDER.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that Resolution No. 1472 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 and read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 1473

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING QUITCLAIM DEED FROM CHARLES W. MILLER, JR. AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY CLERK TO RECORD SAME IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY RECORDER.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that Resolution No. 1473 be adopted. 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 Murray moved that the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized to renew the contract with George M. Green for collection of garbage and tin cans for the fiscal years of 1941-42, 1942-43 and 1943-44 and that there be inserted in the contract a proviso whereby either party to the contract may terminate the contract on sixty (60) days notice; that there be inserted in the contract a clause granting to the contractor the privilege of keeping all materials collected, such as garbage, bottles or any other salvageable materials; that there be a provision in the contract to pay the contractor fifty cents (50¢) per month for each new house built in the City of Torrance after July 1, 1941. 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.

Councilman Powell moved that the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized to renew the contract with the General Petroleum Corporation of California for the fiscal year 1941-42 for gasoline and oil requirements, and that the General Petroleum Service Station operated by Glenn Maupin at the corner of Carson Street and Arlington Avenue be authorized to deliver gasoline for the City equipment. 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 Murray moved that the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized to renew the contract with the General Electric Company (through Two Macks Electric Company, Torrance) for the fiscal year 1941-42 for incandescent lamps. 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.

Councilman Babcock moved that the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized to enter into contract with Luippold Engineering Sales Company for the fiscal year 1941-42 for liquid chlorine and ammonia for the Torrance Municipal Improvement District No. 1.

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 Babcock moved that the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized to renew the contract with the Southern California Edison Company, Ltd. for the fiscal year 1941-42 for electrical energy for overhead street lighting system and ornamental street lights. 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.

Engineer Jain reported that the County of Los Angeles Road Department had advised that they had taken over the complete State Relief Administration relief load, and are ready to furnish men to various cities. Mr. Jain said Mr. Freeman of the Road Department had requested the City of Torrance to advise how many men are needed for street work in Torrance. He stated that the Road Department is paying wages from the $\frac{1}{4}$ Gas Tax Fund, but not from the apportionment allowed to the City.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the Manager of the Torrance Municipal Bus Lines be authorized to furnish free transportation for workers to be furnished by the Los Angeles County Road Department for street work in the City of Torrance. Councilman Babcock seconded the motion.

Councilman Powell mentioned that some of the workers assigned may be from districts not served by the Torrance Municipal Bus Line, and suggested that the City arrange to furnish transportation on other lines also, or in whatever manner is most suitable.

Councilman Hitchcock amended the above motion to include Councilman Powell's suggestion. 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.

Councilmen Powell asked what the cost of printing of supplies for the recall election to be held July 29, 1941 will be. Clerk Bartlett advised that inasmuch as the number of ballots necessary has not been determined to date, the cost cannot be estimated at this time. He said that, immediately this information is obtained, the cost can then be estimated.

Councilman Murray inquired from whom the City is ordering the printing of election supplies. Clerk Bartlett advised that the Automatic Printing Company has been given the order, to which Councilman Powell replied, "I just wanted to be sure that some local man got the printing."

Mayor McGuire inquired how long it will be before the estimated cost can be arrived at, to which Clerk Bartlett replied, "probably two or three days." He stated he had today (June 26, 1941) received the roster of registered voters from the office of Wm. Kerr, Registrar of Voters.

Councilman Powell remarked as follows:

"I have a resolution here and a comment I would like to make before I present it. In the past, we understand that the City Engineer has been paid as high as \$400.00 per month. The purchasing agent's salary is \$75.00 a month and has been for the past few years."

At this point, Clerk Bartlett corrected Councilman Powell, advising that the salary paid the purchasing agent is \$50.00 per

month. Councilman Powell acknowledged the correction.

Councilman Powell remarked that Ordinance No. 326 provides that no elective officer shall hold an appointive position and read the following resolution in full:

RESOLUTION NO. 1474

WHEREAS,

Civil Service Ordinance No. 326 prescribes that no elective officer shall hold an appointive office;

AND WHEREAS,

The City of Torrance has had its general purchasing done by the City Clerk, an elective officer;

BE IT RESOLVED,

That Mr. Glenn Jain be appointed City Engineer;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,

That the City Engineer be appointed Purchasing Agent for the City of Torrance;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,

That the title of the two offices hereinabove set out shall be Director of Public Works;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,

That the salary of the City Engineer shall be \$250.00 a month and that the salary of the Purchasing Agent be \$75.00 a month.

Councilman Powell moved that Resolution No. 1474 be adopted. Councilman Babcock seconded the motion.

Councilman Hitchcock stated he could not see the absolute necessity, under Ordinance 326, of removing the City Clerk from the position of purchasing agent. His remarks were as follows: "Why it is necessary to do it, I do not understand. A man that has been in that job as long as he has and I would say has given as good service as he had - to deprive him of earning that \$50.00 per month - I can't see it. I would like to ask the City Attorney if, in his opinion, that ordinance demands that we remove him from that position."

Attorney McCall read Section 3, Sub-section (d) of Ordinance 326 as follows: "No elective officer in the City of Torrance shall be qualified to hold a Civil Service position while serving as such officer under this ordinance."

Attorney McCall stated as follows: "In my opinion, that is stating in the affirmative what the law was already and I do not believe that Section (d) has any effect on whether or not the job would be held by an elective officer, but is entirely in the discretion of the Council as to whether or not the Council will have an elective officer do the purchasing. I don't think it affects him. An elective officer cannot possibly qualify to hold a Civil Service job."

Councilman Hitchcock: "It is at the discretion of the Council to appoint whoever we desire to hold that job?"

Attorney McCall: "Whether or not Section (d) would prevent the present purchasing agent from continuing to be purchasing agent-----under the City Council. The Council can remove the present purchasing agent and give it to anybody they please, in or outside the City, but this doesn't have any effect one way or the other." (Indicating the Civil Service Ordinance, No. 326).

Councilman Powell: "When the rules and regulations are adopted, this will be classified under civil service."

Attorney McCall: "If it was classified as a civil service job, it could not be held by an elective officer."

Councilman Powell asked if all professional men, such as the City Engineer and City Attorney, and all city employees, are brought in under civil service under the new civil service ordinance. (326).

Attorney McCall answered that all appointive officers and employees who are regularly employed come under the ordinance.

Councilman Powell contended that the position of Purchasing Agent is an appointive position.

Attorney McCall said he would not say that the Purchasing Agent is an appointive officer. Rather, he said, the Purchasing Agent would be classed as an employee. A City employee cannot be an elective officer, he continued.

Councilman Powell said that, in his opinion, the line to be drawn is in separating elective officers from appointive officers in the matter, Councilman Murray agreeing and remarking that a Councilman, being an elective officer, could not be appointed Purchasing Agent.

Councilman Hitchcock: "I personally have no objections to Jain, outside of the fact that I don't think he has time in that office and to put this added work on Jain and deprive Mr. Bartlett of this job - I don't think it is right. If that ordinance was written up - that particular clause - to get rid of Mr. Bartlett - that's another thing."

Councilman Murray: "This ordinance was written up for City Employees. That's my understanding. To say that and how you arrive at it to say it was to get Mr. Bartlett out of the job is a broad statement."

Clerk Bartlett read a statement at this time regarding his position as Purchasing Agent, wherein it was stated that he had saved money for the taxpayers of the City and benefited the merchants by his method of handling the job.

Clerk Bartlett handed a ruling from the Civil Service Peace Officers Association to Attorney McCall and read a copy thereof.

Harvel Guttenfelder, owner of Harvel's Service, Corner Marcelina and Cravens Avenues, addressed the Council at this time, stating that, although he is indeed happy to see Mr. Jain receive the appointment of City Engineer, he feels that the position of Purchasing Agent should be held by Mr. Bartlett, as heretofore. He remarked that, if it was felt Mr. Jain has not been satisfactorily compensated for his services as engineer, the Council should pay him whatever the job is worth. He pointed out that the nature of Mr. Jain's work necessarily takes him out of the office a great deal, and that it would work a hardship on him to be compelled to remain in his office to have interviews with various salesmen,

some of whom must come from Los Angeles wholesale houses. He said that if a change in the position of purchasing agent is desired, and if it is set up under civil service, he felt sure Mr. Bartlett would be willing to relinquish the position to the one who qualifies, in the event examinations are held.

Mr. Fay Parks, owner of Torrance Plumbing Company, agreed with Mr. Guttenfelder. He also remarked that, if Mr. Jain has not been paid enough for his services, he should be given the proper salary. He pointed out that Mr. Bartlett has available all the information about expenses of various departments, and is in a better position than is Mr. Jain to know where expenditures should be made. He said he objected to changing the purchasing to any other department. Mr. Bartlett, he said, had handled the purchasing in fine shape, and that he, personally, is against the change.

A roll call vote was taken at this time on the motion made by Councilman Powell to adopt Resolution No. 1474, which motion was seconded by Councilman Babcock, as follows: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Murray and Powell. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock and McGuire. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Prior to his vote, Mayor McGuire stated his objection to appointing Mr. Jain as Purchasing Agent. He said he favored appointing him as City Engineer, but that the Purchasing Agent's position should not be changed at this time. To appoint Mr. Jain Purchasing Agent will necessitate hiring another man in the Engineering Department, he said, and, inasmuch as the budget has not been set yet, it cannot be determined whether another man can be afforded in the Engineering Department.

Councilman Powell said it is agreed that Mr. Jain needs more assistants in his department, as work in his department, as in all departments, has increased tremendously. He said he disagreed with Mr. Guttenfelder, Mr. Parks and Members of the City Council who contended that Mr. Jain should not receive the City Purchasing Agent's position.

Mr. Jain remarked that the action taken to appoint him Purchasing Agent is entirely unsolicited. He said he certainly does not wish to deprive Mr. Bartlett of any portion of his salary.

Clerk Bartlett assured Mr. Jain that he felt no animosity toward him or anyone and, facing the Council table, addressed Councilman Babcock, Councilman Murray, and Councilman Powell, remarking "I wish to thank Councilmen Babcock, Powell and Murray for taking away part of my living."

Councilman Hitchcock moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$6674.40 be made for purchase of three (3) Dodge WH 47 2-Ton Trucks for the street department, less trade in of \$50.00 on #2 1929 Chevrolet Truck, \$100.00 on #6 1929 Dodge truck, \$150.00 on #11 Diamond T. Truck, (Total trade-in allowance on used trucks, \$300.00). 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.

Mr. Fred Harder, 1604 Greenwood Avenue, asked the Council why the change had been made in the service stations handling of gasoline for the City equipment. (Mr. Harder having served in this capacity a number of years at the General Petroleum Station on the corner of Sartori and El Prado Streets). Councilman Powell advised that it was for the purpose of giving someone else a chance to get some of the City business.

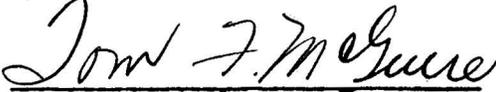
A short discussion ensued. Mayor McGuire advised Mr. Harder

that, in the event the Council reconsiders its action, Mr. Harder will be notified.

At 6:20 P.M., upon motion of Councilman Hitchcock, seconded by Councilman Babcock, the meeting adjourned.


City Clerk of the City of Torrance

APPROVED:


Mayor of the City of Torrance