

Torrance, California
January 6, 1942

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 Tuesday, January 6, 1942 at 5:00 P.M.

Mayor McGuire called the meeting to order.

Clerk Bartlett called the roll, those answering present being Councilmen: Babcock, Hitchcock, Kail and McGuire. Absent: Councilmen: Powell.

Mayor McGuire announced the purpose of the meeting, being to open bids for repairing and furnishing Water Department building damaged by earthquake.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the bid of G. O. Gartz, 3908 Mission Road, Los Angeles, for repairing, remodeling and furnishing Water Department building at 1511 Cravens Avenue be accepted and that all other bids be rejected, checks to be returned to firms whose bids are rejected. Councilman Kail seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Kail, and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: Powell.

Mr. Stanger, Manager of the Water Department, introduced Mr. Gartz at this time, who proceeded to express appreciation for the action taken in awarding the contract for repairing, remodeling and furnishing Water Department building to G. O. Gartz.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$93.12 be made for installation of rest room facilities at Boy Scout property for use of army camp. Councilman Babcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Kail and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Powell.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$75.00 be made for blackout material and equipment for use at the Civic Auditorium. Councilman Kail seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Kail and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Powell.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$400.00 be made for material for repairing Hollywood Palos Verdes Parkway. Councilman Babcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Kail and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Powell.

Mr. Eisen of the firm of Walker and Eisen, Architects, announced that plans for repairing the Fire Station building at 1523 Cravens Avenue, damaged by earthquake, are completed and approved by the City Engineer. He suggested that bids be asked for, allowing approximately one month before opening said bids.

Councilman Babcock moved that the City Clerk be authorized to advertise for bids for repairs to the Fire Station house at 1523 Cravens Avenue, damaged by earthquake, bids to be opened at 8:00 P.M. February 10, 1942. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Kail and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Powell.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

A communication was read from Pat Dillinger, requesting use of the Girl Scout building for use as a Service Club for the United States Army and Coast Artillery service men located in Torrance.

Referred to Engineer Jain, who was instructed to furnish an estimate as to the cost of installing approximately five hundred feet of pipe line to provide gas service in the building.

A communication was read from Local No. 360 State, County and Municipal Workers of America, City Employees of Torrance, requesting the Council to arrange a meeting with the executive board of said Local. The communication was signed by N. Hawkes, President, and C.M. Gilbert, Recording Secretary.

Clerk Bartlett was instructed to notify Local No. 360, State, County and Municipal Workers of America, that the meeting as requested will be held immediately after the regular Council meeting scheduled for January 13, 1942.

A communication was read from the County of Los Angeles, Purchasing and Stores Department, requesting the City of Torrance to furnish the County of Los Angeles with a list of City owned equipment which might be utilized by the County in the event of an emergency, said equipment to be used on a rental basis.

Councilman Hitchcock suggested that Engineer Jain compile the information requested and present same to the County and that Mr. Jain also obtain from the County a list of County owned equipment which might be utilized by the City of Torrance in the event of an emergency, also to be used on a rental basis. He suggested that all cities in the Harbor District be informed as to equipment owned by each city.

A communication was read from the Great American Indemnity Company, with which company the City carries liability insurance, submitting certain safety recommendations.

Clerk Bartlett advised that the City Engineer, Street Superintendent, and Chairman of the Street Department Committee had been furnished with copies of the safety recommendations communication.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the matter be referred to the City Engineer, work to proceed on the minor repair work, Engineer Jain to furnish an estimate of the cost of removing the sidewalk at the corner of Post and Cravens Avenue and installing new sidewalk flush with the existing sidewalks and flush with the existing curb line, this being one of the recommendations made. Councilman Babcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Kail and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Powell.

A communication was read from the National Supply Plant Corporation, referring to expansion of plant facilities, Navy Department Bureau of Ships Contract Nod-2129. Reference was made to a City of Torrance letter addressed to the National Supply Plant Corporation and dated December 19, 1941 in which it was advised that their request for removal of certain trees was granted by the City Council. It was asked that one tree only, being the ninth tree from the corner of Border Avenue and Carson Street, be removed, it being felt that the balance of the trees will serve as a camouflage for the new building.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the request of the National Supply Plant Corporation for removal of one tree only, being the ninth tree from the corner of Border Avenue and Carson Street, be complied with, instead of removing all the trees on the North side of Carson Street from Border Avenue to Ferrocarril Avenue as originally requested. Councilman Babcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read, advising that Louis Cassullo, Jr. has tendered his resignation from the Torrance Police Department, effective January 6, 1942.

Chief Stroh advised that Mr. Cassullo has accepted an appointment with the Sheriff's Office.

A communication from Chief Stroh addressed to George Powell, Chairman, Police Department, was read, advising that Karl Friberg has served his probationary period and recommending that he be given a permanent appointment as police patrolman, effective January 1, 1942.

Councilman Babcock moved that Chief Stroh's recommendation as read be complied with. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Kail and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Powell.

A communication from Chief McMaster, was read, recommending that Engineer Whitney's salary be increased from \$155.00 per month to \$165.00 per month, effective January 1, 1942.

Councilman Babcock moved that the request of Chief McMaster as read be granted. Councilman Kail seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Kail and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Powell.

A communication was read from the County of Los Angeles, Board of Supervisors, enclosing copy of resolution adopted by the Board on December 30, 1941 determining that the public interest, convenience and necessity require the refunding of the indebtedness and requesting the consent of the City Councils of the Cities of Los Angeles, Torrance and Gardena to said refunding, in Acquisition and Improvement District No. 124 of the County of Los Angeles. (Western Avenue)

A communication was read from the Gardena Valley Chamber of Commerce regarding this matter and requesting that the City give the matter immediate and affirmative attention.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 1514

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE DETERMINING THAT THE PUBLIC INTEREST, CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY REQUIRE THE REFUNDING OF THE INDEBTEDNESS OF ACQUISITION AND IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NUMBER 124 OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, AND CONSENTING TO THE REFUNDING OF SAID INDEBTEDNESS AND THE LEVYING OF A REASSESSMENT THEREFOR.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that Resolution No. 1514 be adopted. Councilman Babcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Kail and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Powell.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read in full:

RESOLUTION NO. 1515

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING SPEED LIMITS ON CERTAIN STREETS IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE.

Councilman Babcock moved that Resolution No. 1515 be adopted. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Kail and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Powell.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read in full:

RESOLUTION NO. 1516

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE PROHIBITING PARKING ALONG PORTIONS OF CERTAIN STREETS OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE.

Corrections were made by Chief Stroh pertaining to the route designated for prohibiting parking.

Councilman Babcock moved that Resolution No. 1516 be adopted as corrected. Councilman Kail seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Kail and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Powell.

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, Kail and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Powell.

Engineer Jain advised that the Southern California Edison Company Ltd. had been contacted regarding placing a switch controlling street lights in a location easily accessible to be Police Department to facilitate blackout orders. He said that the Edison Company has spent several thousand dollars in installing a system whereby the master switch will be operated from the company's main station, an attendant to be on duty twenty-four hours per day. Chief Stroh advised this arrangement will be satisfactory as long as a man is kept on duty twenty-four hours per day.

Engineer Jain reported that the building at 1406 Cravens Avenue, into which Clarence Pinkham wishes to move his billiard parlor, is structurally sound.

Chief Stroh said he had no objection to operation of a billiard and pool hall business at the location.

Councilman Babcock moved that the request of Clarence Pinkham for transfer of his business license for operation of a billiard parlor from 1208 El Prado to 1406 Cravens Avenue be granted. Councilman Kail seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Engineer Jain reported that the building at 1618 Cravens Avenue, owned by Harvel Guttenfelder, is occupied at the present

time, the building having been damaged by earthquake and no occupancy permit having been granted as yet. Engineer Jain reported that no plans have been submitted for repairing the building.

Mayor McGuire instructed Engineer Jain to direct a letter to the occupant of the building at 1618 Cravens Avenue, advising that the building was damaged during the earthquake of November 14, 1941; that it has ^{not} been repaired; and that no occupancy permit has been issued by the Engineering Department.

Mayor McGuire asked what has been done regarding the D & M Machine Works building at 2304 Abalone, also damaged during the earthquake. Engineer Jain advised that construction had been started but not in compliance with requirements; that he had issued a written stop order. He stated that the building had been seriously damaged, but can be repaired properly if requirements are complied with.

Attorney McCall asked if blowing the siren is absolutely necessary during fire calls. He said several persons had mistaken a recent siren fire call for an air raid warning signal and had acted accordingly. Chief Stroh advised he had approached the Fire Department regarding this, but had been informed that the siren is the only means of summoning the firemen to a fire.

Chief Stroh requested permission to make small purchases necessary for carrying out the Civilian Defense program without waiting from meeting to meeting for authorization of expenditures. He mentioned a few items which it will be necessary to purchase. He said several more telephones should be installed in the Civic Auditorium. Also, he said, identification cards must be purchased.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$100.00 be made for purchase of necessary materials, supplies, equipment and services in connection with the Civilian Defense Program, these purchases to be made at the discretion of the Chief of Police. Councilman Kail seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Kail and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Powell.

A short discussion ensued regarding air raid warning signals. Councilman Hitchcock suggested that air whistles be used.

Chief Stroh inquired what action should be taken regarding compensating Mr. Cassullo for overtime worked during the black-outs. Chief Stroh was authorized to submit a record of Mr. Cassullo's overtime, Mr. Cassullo to be paid at his regular rate of pay for his overtime work.

Mayor McGuire asked Mr. Stanger and City Attorney McCall a few questions regarding the North Torrance water system. Mr. McCall advised that the City owns the property; that no corporation has been formed; that the City has by resolution joined with the Crown Water Company in an application submitted to the Railroad Commission for permission to convey its property to the City. A short discussion followed but no action was taken.

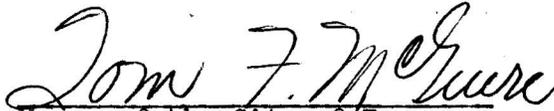
Attorney McCall requested that Mr. Hunter, Deputy City Attorney, or Mr. Shidler, City Judge, be allowed to substitute for him at the January 13, 1942 Council Meeting, it being necessary for him to be in San Francisco January 14, 1942.

It was agreed that Mr. Shidler, City Judge, would be requested to substitute for Attorney McCall at the January 13, 1942 Council Meeting.

At 6:00 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