

Torrance, California
February 13, 1945

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, February 13, 1945 at 7:45 P.M.

Mayor Tolson called the meeting to order.

Clerk Bartlett called the roll, those answering present being Councilman: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. Absent: Councilmen: None.

All those present in the Council Chamber saluted the Flag!

Councilman Cucci moved that the minutes of the Regular Meeting held January 23, 1945 be corrected, stating that he was quoted as having said, in the discussion pertaining to condemnation proceedings, that "the City should eliminate all preliminaries and start condemnation proceedings"; and advised that he did not say this, but did say that "the City should acquire the right of way free if possible, but, if impossible, condemnation proceedings should then be started"; and moved that the minutes as so amended be approved. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

A resolution which was adopted by the Torrance Retail Merchants Association on February 13, 1945 was read, recommending to the City

of Torrance that the editorial appearing in the Torrance Herald, issue of January 11, 1945, columns 1 and 2, page 1, entitled "Torrance Needs Men of Vision," be adopted as the official attitude of the City Council of the City of Torrance, within reasonable limitations, and that the keynote of "vision and progress" be taken by each and every city official, each and every committee and commission of the City of Torrance, and the City Council, as a guide for future conduct of the business of the people of Torrance. It was also resolved that the Torrance Retail Merchants Association go on record as reposing complete confidence in the City Council of the City of Torrance, and that the text of the editorial in question be spread upon the minutes of the meeting of the Torrance Retail Merchants Association, and that the City Council of the City of Torrance do likewise, and that copies of the resolution be sent to department heads, commissions and committees.

Councilman Cucci moved that action be deferred to allow time for study by the City Council of the resolution, advising that the matter had not been introduced prior to this meeting. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Tide Water Associated Oil Company, Associated Division, advising that, for the twelve months preceding February 1, 1945, under the provisions of Franchise Ordinance No. 127, no receipts or earnings were derived by said Company from the use and ownership of said pipe line, for the construction and operation for which said franchise is granted. Matter of record.

A communication addressed to the Chief of the Fire Department, was read from Local Veteran Service Committee, signed by James G. Caldwell, Chairman, expressing thanks for cooperation of the Fire Department in giving Veterans beds. It was stated that additional beds will be needed in the near future and asked for suggestions in connection with the matter.

Councilman Gilbert said he thought the City should allocate funds for this purpose, and moved that the matter be referred to the Council for study. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion.

Councilman Cucci suggested that someone should be delegated to locate beds which can be purchased, adding that they could be temporarily placed in the Auditorium.

Mayor Tolson suggested that the entire matter be referred to Councilman Cucci for report at the next meeting, which met with the approval of the other Councilmen. The above motion was lost.

A communication was read from the Secretary of the WALTERIA Parent-Teacher Association, protesting the proposed locating of a dump site in the WALTERIA vicinity.

After a short period of discussion, it was decided that no action is necessary, as the agency which proposes to establish the dump must apply for a permit and the necessary action can be taken at that time. The Council members who entered into the discussion expressed opposition to the proposal.

A communication was read from the WALTERIA Civic Organization, calling attention to certain restrictions set forth in deeds of certain tracts of land in WALTERIA, the restriction specifically mentioned being that no part of property shall be used or occupied or permitted to be used or occupied in whole or in part by any person of African or Asiatic descent, or any person not of the White or Caucasian race.

It was stated that it is believed the restrictions set forth form a lawful basis and civic opportunity to support popular sentiment against the return of any Japanese, and requested that the City Council make a prompt investigation of the matter, and submit a written report to the WALTERIA Civic Organization of findings and recommendations.

Councilman Cucci moved that the matter be referred to the City Attorney for legal interpretation, a report to be rendered at the next regular meeting. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion.

Mayor Tolson stated that several complaints had been received regarding the Mexican family residing on Gramercy Avenue.

Councilman Cucci and Powell said they thought the City Attorney should study the matter of race restrictions throughout the City of Torrance.

Councilman Powell said that, if agreeable, he thought the motion above should include "and that the City Attorney be instructed to make a study of the race restrictions throughout the City of Torrance, a report to be rendered." Councilman Cucci agreed to incorporate this provision in the motion, which motion was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from the Boy Scouts of America, expressing appreciation for the use of City property and auditorium facilities by the Boy Scouts on their Field Day program February 10, 1944, and extending thanks to Dale Riley and James Brodie for their cooperation.

A communication was read from Harriett V. Leech, City Treasurer, advising that she was, on the fifth day of February, 1945, served with a Summons and Complaint in Superior Court Action No. LB C-12135, which action apparently questions her authority to sign checks to pay Mr. A. H. Bartlett \$50.00 per month as City Purchasing Agent.

She said she presumed that the City would furnish her the necessary legal representation, since the action was brought against her as City Treasurer and not personally. The City Attorney had advised, she said, that he could not represent her in this action unless directed to do so by the City Council.

She asked to be advised whether or not the City Council will select an attorney to represent her as City Treasurer, or if she will be represented by the City Attorney, or if she will have to pay for defense to the suit.

Councilman Gilbert stated that, inasmuch as the City Council has started this action as a test case, he feels it would be only fair that the Council support Mrs. Leech, as well as the other party. He asked Attorney McCall whether or not Mr. McCall favors taking the case, or whether or not it would place him in an embarrassing position to do so.

Mr. McCall replied that the first duty of the City Attorney is to represent the City Council, and since there was a conflict between members of the Council in starting the action, he felt it would be somewhat embarrassing for the City Attorney to handle the case. He said, however, that if so directed by the Council, he would take the case and carry out the wishes of the Council.

Councilman Gilbert stated that it would be unfair to ask Mr. McCall to handle the case, and moved that the City Treasurer, Mrs. Leech, be given whatever legal counsel or representation she needs in defending herself in Superior Court Action No. LB C-12135, which action names Mrs. Harriett V. Leech and Mr. Albert H. Bartlett as Defendants and Howard P. Raymond as Plaintiff. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Hitchcock asked whether or not the City Council should authorize Mrs. Leech to employ the necessary legal counsel or whether she may do so with no further authorization than the above motion.

Councilman Gilbert said it was immaterial to him whether the City Council selects legal counsel for Mrs. Leech, or whether the Council meets with her and ascertains her wishes so far as a choice of legal representation is concerned.

Councilman Cucci asked whether or not the intent of the motion had been to authorize sufficient funds to employ legal representation for Mrs. Leech in connection with the above named suit, Councilman Gilbert's reply being in the affirmative.

Councilman Powell contended that a stipulated amount should be mentioned in the motion.

Councilman Gilbert suggested that the Council meet with Mrs. Leech and determine whether she has a choice of counsel, and endeavor to reach a fair conclusion as to the amount the City should allow for this purpose.

Councilman Powell said he thought the Council should rule on the amount to be spent for legal representation for Mrs. Leech. He said he would not care to support the above motion unless a specific amount is mentioned. He said he thought the City Attorney could represent Mrs. Leech as well as any other attorney.

Mrs. Leech, who was in the assemblage, was asked if she could give an estimate of the amount her legal counsel will cost. She replied that, if the Council authorizes Mr. McCall, City Attorney, to represent her, she will be satisfied, but that, if Mr. McCall does not handle the case, she intends to employ the best attorneys in the State.

Councilman Cucci stated that he understood that it was the intent of the motion to authorize Mr. McCall to represent Mrs. Leech, Councilman Gilbert advising him that he apparently misunderstood, as he (Councilman Gilbert), had purposely asked Mr. McCall, prior to making the motion, how he felt about the matter to avoid placing him in the embarrassing position of handling any part of the case in view of the fact that he, Mr. McCall, feels there is a conflict between members of the Council in this matter.

Attorney McCall stated that he objects to handling the case for either Mr. Bartlett or Mrs. Leech, as his duty is to represent the Council as a whole, but that, if directed by the Council, he would take the case. He said there is enough work for the City Attorney to carry out the orders of the City Council in matters upon which they agree unanimously, and that, in his opinion, it would be better if the Council would furnish outside counsel.

Councilman Powell said that, in summarizing the whole matter, Mrs. Leech is not in jeopardy in this case, as she signed the checks upon being advised by the City Attorney that to do so was entirely legal. Mr. McCall advised that the only legal opinion he had rendered in the matter had been the opinion rendered to the City Council. Mrs. Leech was asked upon what authority she had signed the checks, her reply being that she had done so in supporting the action of the City Council who appointed Mr. Bartlett Purchasing Agent.

Councilman Cucci said the Council is in agreement on the principle of this matter, but that the discussion is in connection with the amount which should be stipulated for legal representation for Mrs. Leech.

Councilman Gilbert suggested that a fair method of arriving at an amount might be to appropriate the same amount as was appropriated for the other side in this action, inasmuch as the case is of interest to the Council as a test case, it being hoped that the outcome might be a guide in operating the city government more efficiently.

Councilman Powell said he would be in favor of appropriating \$300.00 to pay for legal representation for Mrs. Leech, this being the same amount as was appropriated for the opposite side.

Councilman Gilbert amended his motion to include "and that an amount of not to exceed \$300.00 be appropriated for legal counsel for Mrs. Harriett V. Leech, City Treasurer". Councilman Powell seconded the motion as amended, which motion was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

A communication was read from Pacific Waste Products Company, 220 West Fifth Street, Los Angeles, applying for a permit to conduct a wholesale salvage and warehousing business in the City of Torrance at 1230 Border Avenue, or 1230 Torrance Boulevard.

Engineer Jain advised that Mr. Kayne had contacted him relative to the matter, and that the zoning ordinance allows salvage yards in the locality above-mentioned. Mr. Jain gave a brief outline of the manner in which the company will operate, according to information furnished him by Mr. Kayne, stating that it is strictly a wholesale business to be operated on a large scale. He said assurance had been given verbally that the premises would be kept in an orderly manner, and, further, that it is the intention of the owners to construct a fence which will enclose the premises and give a clean, neat appearance from the street. Mr. Jain said his only objection is that the fence can possibly become a choice spot for placing circus posters and other signs. He suggested that the possibility of this happening could be precluded by the construction of a wire fence.

Mr. Kayne of the Pacific Waste Products Company pointed out that a wire fence would not accomplish the purpose for which the fence is intended, as the premises would be visible from the street through this type of fence. He said the fence proposed will be a painted one, and that signs "Post No Bills" can be posted to preclude the possibility of it becoming littered with signs. He gave a brief outline of the company's method of operating and advised that a minimum of about fifteen employees will constitute the working force.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the request of Pacific Waste Products Company for a permit to operate a wholesale salvage and warehousing business at 1230 Border Avenue be granted. Councilman Cucci seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Daniel Frohman, requesting a permit to operate a taxi stand at 1281 Sartori Avenue, corner of El Prado and Sartori Avenue.

After a short discussion, during which it was pointed out that two permits had already been issued for taxi stands, and that it hardly seemed fair to the ones who already have stands to grant additional permits, Councilman Powell moved that the request be denied. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from United Steelworkers of America, Local Union 1414, C.I.O., signed by Carl D. Steele, Secretary, extending sympathy to the City Council regarding the continued criticism which the Council members find themselves subjected to by some of the small town newspapers serving this community. (Quoting from the communication). It was stated that the Steelworkers Union is confident that the City Council endeavors to conduct the affairs of the City in a conscientious and businesslike manner.

Councilman Powell moved that the City Clerk be instructed to write a letter of appreciation and thanks to the United Steelworkers of America, Local Union 1414, for expressing confidence in the judgment of the City Council. Councilman Cucci seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from William R. Lee, requesting removal of a large pepper tree in the alley in the rear of 1923 Arlington Avenue.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the request be referred to the Tree Committee (Park Department). Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Mrs. William J. Wolff, 236 North Irena Avenue, Redondo Beach, requesting that the white traffic lines be painted on Torrance Boulevard.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the City Clerk be authorized to communicate with Mrs. Wolff and advise that the white lines have been painted on Torrance Boulevard. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Huntington Land and Improvement Company, requesting that Via Camino Del Campo in the block between Catalina Avenue and Camino de Las Colinas be repaired, advising that many complaints had been received regarding the condition of the street.

Engineer Jain said he is of the impression that the street mentioned is in the City of Redondo Beach and offered to investigate the matter.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the matter be referred to the City Engineer for investigation and report at the next meeting. Councilman Cucci seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Powell reported the condition of Andree Avenue to be very unsatisfactory and said something should be done toward repairing it.

A communication was read from Emma McElfresh, Manager, El Cajon Court, 2075 Torrance Boulevard, requesting that the curb in

the front of the court be painted yellow in order that the tenants of the court may have an entrance. She advised that the market trade uses all the available parking space since Torrance Boulevard has been paved.

Councilman Cucci moved that this matter be referred to the Chief of Police for whatever action he may deem necessary. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Joe Reynolds, Box 229, Walteria, California, advising that he had been served with notice to move his trailer into a trailer camp, and that he had subsequently applied for a building permit for a house. He requested an extension of time on the moving notice to allow him time to get the house into proper condition for habitation.

After a short period of discussion, Councilman Gilbert moved that Mr. Joe Reynolds be granted an extension of time for a period of 60 days to allow him time to get his house into proper condition for habitation. Councilman Cucci seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from the County of Los Angeles, The Regional Planning Commission, advising that the County's 1945-46 Public Works Program is now being processed for presentation to the Board of Supervisors. It was suggested that the City of Torrance submit a report to the County within the next two weeks, listing project or projects for which the City expects to ask County financial assistance. It was advised that the projects referred to should be construed as being of general benefit, such as beach or park improvements, where the facilities are to be used by the general public.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that this matter be referred to the City Engineer for study and that, if necessary, a special meeting of the City Council be held for approval of the plans. Councilman Cucci seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from the City of Los Angeles, Office of City Clerk, advising that a communication from the City of Torrance requesting that the City of Los Angeles secure the necessary right of way for the widening of Western Avenue to a width of 100 feet through the City of Torrance was referred to the City Engineer and the Public Works Committee.

Engineer Jain reported that he had held several telephone conversations with the City Engineer's office of Los Angeles, and that he expects favorable action and cooperation by that office regarding the Western Avenue right of way acquisition.

A communication was read from the West Basin Water Survey Committee, requesting the City to appoint an accredited delegate to represent the City of Torrance and mail notice of appointment to Mrs. Leland Dye, Secretary, West Basin Water Survey Committee, 210 East Queen Street, Inglewood, California.

Councilman Cucci moved that City Engineer, Glenn M. Jain, be appointed as the delegate to represent the City of Torrance, to act as a member of the steering committee of the West Basin Water Survey Committee. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from R & G Electric Company of Long Beach, requesting a refund of \$9.25, representing fee paid for Electrical Permit No. 4048, advising that it was later ascertained that the location for which the permit was obtained was not within the City limits of Torrance.

Councilman Cucci moved that R & G Electric Company be granted a refund of \$9.25 for Electrical Permit No. 4048, permit having been obtained in error. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

A communication was read from Glenn M. Jain, City Engineer and Acting Secretary, Torrance City Planning Commission, attaching certified copies of the minutes of the two public hearings held before the Torrance City Planning Commission on January 22 and February 5, 1945, upon the Petition for Change of Zone, Case No. 17, submitted by Margot Grow, 1400 El Prado, Torrance, California, requesting that property along the southwest side of Cravens Avenue, described as Lots 6 to 9 inclusive, Block 11; Lots 1 to 8 inclusive, Block 13; Lots 1 to 3, inclusive, Block 14, all in the Torrance Tract, be rezoned from R-3 to C-1 use.

It was advised that one of the legal requirements in connection with this matter is that the City Council hold at least one public hearing before adopting the recommendation of the Planning Commission that the change of zone be approved.

Recommendation was made that the change of zone be approved by the Council.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the public hearing as required be scheduled for February 27, 1945, at 8:00 P.M. in the Council Chamber, and that the Planning Commission be notified to this effect. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Hitchcock read a recommendation from Engineer Jain that final payment be made to Tomei Construction Company on the Torrance Boulevard project.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the recommendation of Engineer Jain be complied with, and that an appropriation of \$6,780.70 be made to pay Tomei Construction Company full and final payment on the Torrance Boulevard project. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: **AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.**

A communication was read from the City of Torrance Civil Service Board, advising that Mr. Joe Webb, electrician, has requested a leave of absence, without pay, from March 1 to March 31, 1945, in order to take his father to Portland, Oregon. It was advised that the request has been approved by Mr. Butterfield, City Electrician, and by the members of the Civil Service Board.

Councilman Cucci moved that Mr. Joe Webb, electrician, be granted a leave of absence as mentioned above for thirty days, the request having been approved by Mr. Butterfield and members of the Civil Service Board. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from the City of Torrance Civil Service Board, advising that Mrs. Cora B. Bohrer, Supervisor of Arts and Crafts, has requested six months sick leave, commencing April 1, 1945. It was advised that her request has been approved by Mr. Dale Riley, Superintendent of Recreation, and by the Civil Service Board. A note was attached to the communication, advising that Mrs. Bohrer will have 22½ days accumulated sick leave with pay due her on April 1, 1945.

Councilman Gilbert moved that the request as submitted be granted. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from O. D. Butterfield, City Electrician, urging that the Council adopt the Uniform Electric Code and the Appliance Code regulating the sale of electrical appliances.

Copy of the ordinance not being available, it was adopted by number, as, it was pointed out that the Code is a uniform one and can be adopted by reference to it, number of the ordinance being:

ORDINANCE NO. 361

Councilman Cucci moved that Ordinance No. 361 be adopted for first reading. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: **AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.**

Clerk Bartlett presented and read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 1704

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ACCEPTING GRANT DEED FROM MARK A. WRIGHT AND AUTHORIZING RECORDING OF SAME.

(Lots 62 and 63, Tract 9901).

Councilman Hitchcock moved that Resolution No. 1704 be adopted. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 1705

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE REQUESTING THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO ORDER THE CANCELLATION OF TAXES ON CERTAIN PROPERTY ACQUIRED BY THE CITY OF TORRANCE FOR PUBLIC USE.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that Resolution No. 1705 be adopted. Councilman Cucci seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 1706

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE DIRECTING THE HOLDING OF AN ELECTION TO DETERMINE IF THE VARIOUS CITY EMPLOYEES WISH TO JOIN THE STATE RETIREMENT SYSTEM.

Councilman Cucci moved that Resolution No. 1706 be adopted. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

A communication addressed to Mr. W. Vaughn Scott from Hollywood Riviera Community Association was read, advising that, as requested by the City Attorney of Torrance, certified copy was enclosed of a resolution adopted at the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Hollywood Riviera Community Association, which provides that the parcels of land proposed to be deeded to the City for park purposes, will not be subject to payment of dues to the Community Association, whereupon Councilman Cucci asked whether or not the City would be exempt from payment of delinquent taxes on the property. Attorney McCall replied that he believed when a municipality acquires land, delinquent taxes are cancelled.

Councilman Cucci said he believed Mr. Packard of the Associated Assessment Engineers had advised against acceptance of the property, stating that the City would be required to pay something like \$3,000.00 in delinquent taxes.

At this point, Mr. Vaughn Scott of the Huntington Land and Improvement Company entered the discussion, stating that taxes on the three parcels in question amount to \$1323.22 as of December 12, 1944.

Councilman Gilbert inquired about the restrictions named in the deeds of the adjacent property owners. Mr. Scott advised that the Hollywood Riviera Community Association is controlled by the Huntington Redondo Company, and that the adjacent owners do not have use of the

property in question. Mr. Scott went into detail to explain the value of the property, and particularly the benefit to be derived by the Boy Scouts of the South Bay area if the site is used for a Boy Scout camp. He said he is greatly interested in this particular site, and has been for many years, and that the Los Angeles Area Council of Boy Scouts is also hoping that the property will be used for the benefit of Boy Scouts in the South Bay area.

Councilman Cucci stated that Mr. Packard had advised against acceptance by the City of the property because of the delinquent taxes, and because of the restrictions contained in the deeds of adjacent property owners.

Attorney McCall pointed out that the resolution adopted by the Hollywood Riviera Community Association corrects the former condition named.

Mr. Scott said that the reversionary rights are owned by the Hollywood Riviera Community Association, but that the Association is controlled by the Huntington Redondo Company which he is associated with.

Mayor Tolson said that, in all probability, the City would be exempt from payment of the delinquent taxes on the property if the City accepts same, but that, even if the City should be required to pay the taxes, he thought the property should be accepted so long as the taxes amount to the figure mentioned by Mr. Scott, or \$1323.22.

Councilman Powell moved that the City Attorney and Mr. Packard of the Associated Assessment Engineers confer between now and the next meeting date, and render an opinion at that time as to whether or not the City should accept the property, and to determine whether or not the City will be required to pay the delinquent taxes, amounting to \$1323.22. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion.

Attorney McCall said that, in connection with the restrictions on the property, he believed that, once the property is deeded to the City and becomes municipal property, no restrictions can be imposed which the City cannot protect itself from.

Mr. Shook of the Los Angeles Area Council, Boy Scouts, was introduced by Mr. Scott and spoke briefly on behalf of the Boy Scouts, stating that the property in question is an ideal location for a weekend camp site for the Scouts.

Mr. Bartlett was asked to read the resolution accepting the property, which he read in full, title being: Resolution accepting corporation grant deed from Hollywood Riviera Community Association and authorizing the City Clerk to record same in the office of the County Recorder.

A vote was taken at this time on Councilman Powell's motion, which motion was carried unanimously.

Councilman Powell moved that Mrs. Beatrice Patterson be employed as a Crossing Guard to replace Charles Fields, at a salary of 70¢ per hour, effective February 8, 1945. Councilman Cucci seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Powell moved that Joe Tedesco be employed as a War Emergency employee, as engineer, Torrance Fire Department, at a salary of \$175.00 per month. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Powell moved that Milton Langum be employed as a War Emergency employee, as engineer, Torrance Fire Department, at a salary of \$175.00 per month. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Regarding certain recommendations submitted to him by Chief McMaster, Councilman Powell advised the Chief that a conference will be held with him at a later time for discussion of the various matters included in the Chief's letter.

Councilman Cucci announced that the Municipal Bus Lines had taken in a gross income of \$9700.00 during the month of January, 1945.

Councilman Cucci moved that an appropriation of \$160.00 be made for an exchange motor for Bus #101 for Municipal Bus Lines. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Cucci moved that \$106.40 be appropriated for a routine check of the Municipal Bus Lines, payable to Joseph Shaeffer. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Cucci moved that Frank I. Coleman be employed on a temporary basis, as relief bus operator, at a salary of \$185.00 per month, effective February 4, 1945. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Cucci moved that an increase in salary be authorized for C. T. Kuhn, Bus Operator, from \$185.00 to \$200.00 per month, effective February 16, 1945, and for Ral Triplett, Bus Operator, from \$185.00 to \$200.00 per month, effective March 1, 1945, as the operators will have completed their six months service as of the dates mentioned. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Cucci moved that an appropriation of \$162.35 be made for: 1,000 10-ride commutation books from Dillingham Printing Company, \$50.00; 5,000 Daily Bus Revenue Reports, \$29.16; 500 Daily Mileage Inspection Reports, \$26.45; 500 Schedule Placards, 500 Maps of Route, 200 Local Service Placards, \$56.74; from Torrance Herald, all for Municipal Bus Lines. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$90.00, plus tax, be made for purchase of a hydraulic scraper for the Ford Ferguson Tractor, Street Department. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the City Clerk be authorized to advertize for bids for a 600 gallon oil spreader tank (two-wheel trailer type) for spreading road oil, at a cost of approximately \$1950.00 complete, including the necessary spray bars and accessories. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that Robert E. Lamphere be employed as a War Emergency employee, Street Department, at a salary of \$170.00 per month, effective February 8, 1945. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that Leslie Cox be employed as a War Emergency employee, Street Department, at a salary of \$170.00 per month, effective February 9, 1945. Councilman Cucci seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Hitchcock read a communication from Engineer Jain in which it was advised that Mr. Perkins, Street Superintendent, had recommended that Mr. Sam Webb, truck driver in the Street Department, be given a temporary rating of Power Equipment Operator, with the regular increase in salary to \$190.00 per month, advising that Mr. Webb is working fifty percent, or more, of the time on heavy equipment.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that Mr. Sam Webb, truck driver, Street Department, be given a temporary rating of Power Equipment Operator with the regular increase in salary to \$190.00 per month, effective February 1, 1945. Councilman Cucci seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Hitchcock read a communication from Engineer Jain in which it was advised that the Bus Department has taken over practically all the City Garage for storage and repair of the new busses, leaving several pieces of City equipment out in the weather. He asked for authorization to construct some additional storage buildings at once to protect this equipment.

Councilman Hitchcock suggested that Mr. Jain draw up plans and make estimates on the cost of additional buildings at the City Yard and present same to the Council for study. Councilman Gilbert said he thought a master plan should be drawn for the City Yard, with the view of constructing buildings according to a general plan in order that the City Yard can eventually serve all the needs for which it is intended and also become a credit to the City. Councilman Hitchcock approved this suggestion.

Engineer Jain pointed out that it is extremely difficult to get the Street Department equipment in and out of the yard, inasmuch as the busses are also parked outside the buildings. He suggested that, inasmuch as the nearby Defense Plant keeps lights on all night, the busses be parked in the lighted area as a temporary measure to relieve the congestion.

It was agreed that something must be done to improve the conditions at the City Yard, and a date was set for Friday, February 16, 1945 at 4:00 P.M. for an inspection of the City Yard, members of the Council to meet there with Engineer Jain.

Councilman Gilbert moved that the emergency employment of Casper Clemmer, John Fess and Eugene Held, Firemen, who have substituted in the Park Department on their days off, be authorized, at regular Park Maintenance wages (\$170.00 per month), during absence of Howard Webb, between January 6, 1945 and February 9, 1945.

Councilman Cucci asked Mr. Babbitt, Civil Service member, whether or not there is anything in the Rules and Regulations against this kind of action. He advised that there is nothing to prohibit it. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Gilbert moved that Howard Webb be re-hired as a Park Maintenance man, at a salary of \$170.00 per month, effective February 12, 1945, this date to begin Mr. Howard Webb's probationary period. Councilman Cucci seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Gilbert moved that Mark Fox be employed as a War Emergency employee as a Park Maintenance man, Park Department, at

a salary of \$170.00 per month, effective February 5, 1945, to replace Marvin Ingram. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Gilbert moved that Mrs. Vivian Callihan be employed on a temporary basis at the Recreation Center, at a salary of 75¢ per hour, effective January 26, 1945, to replace Mrs. Emma Middleton. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that Cecil A. Smith be employed as a War Emergency employee in the Street Department, at a salary of \$170.00 per month, effective February 13, 1945. Councilman Cucci seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$125.00 be made for a hydraulic pump for the tractor loader. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$425.00 be made for a hydraulic hoist for #12 Truck in the Street Department. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that an appropriation of \$156.82 be made for the purchase of 2000 gallons Bitumuls for general street repair, Street Department. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor Tolson moved that an appropriation of \$322.88 be made for 1 3/4 cubic foot concrete mixer with engine and two used tires, for Municipal Water District No. 1. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor Tolson moved that an appropriation of \$72.01 be made for purchase of 1 R.C.I. air hammer with five caulking tools and hose whip, for Municipal Water District No. 1. Councilman Cucci seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor Tolson moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$200.00 be made for purchase of small tools for Municipal Water District No. 1. Councilman Cucci seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor Tolson moved that an appropriation of \$138.22 be made for magazines for the Chamber of Commerce, from Torrance Herald. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor Tolson asked what the Council desires relative to the water survey in WALTERIA, stating that Taylor and Taylor have submitted a bid to make the survey of the water needs in WALTERIA for fee of \$600.00, or to make a survey of the needs in both WALTERIA and HOLLYWOOD RIVIERA for \$1100.00. Councilman Cucci asked if the survey is for the explicit purpose of determining what the needs of the community of WALTERIA are, so far as water is concerned, Mayor Tolson replying that this is the general purpose, regardless of present service.

Councilman Powell moved that the Mayor be instructed to inform Taylor and Taylor that the City Council hereby authorizes that firm to make a survey of the water situation in WALTERIA for a fee of \$600.00. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Chief of Police John H. Stroh extended an invitation to the Council and City Employees to attend the meeting of City Employees scheduled for February 14, 1945, 7:00 P.M. in the Court Room at which time a discussion will be held on the State Retirement System and an election held for the purpose of determining whether or not the City Employees wish to adopt this retirement system.

Mr. Shields requested that the alley between Andreo and Gramercy Avenues be repaired, stating that it is in very bad condition and should be repaired before any more heavy rains come. Referred to the Street Department.

Mr. Joel Hagberg reported that the new street light recently installed on Neece Street in WALTERIA should be inspected, as it is out. He also asked what has been done about the 4-way signal in WALTERIA. Mr. Jain advised that work on the signal will start within a short time.

It was decided to refer the matter of the street light to Mr. O. D. Butterfield to determine what is needed to remedy the condition.

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

At 10:30 P.M., upon motion of Councilman Hitchcock, seconded by Councilman Cucci, the meeting adjourned.


CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

APPROVED:


MAYOR OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE