

Torrance, California
June 26, 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, June 26, 1945, at 7:55 P.M.

Mayor Tolson called the meeting to order.

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

All those present in the Council Chamber saluted the Flag.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the Minutes of a Regular Meeting held June 12, 1945, be approved as written. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

A communication was read from the Navy Material Redistribution Center, urgently requesting that repairs to Crenshaw Boulevard be expedited, as the street is impassable in its present condition and entails a long detour to reach the center from Sepulveda Boulevard.

The City Clerk was requested to acknowledge receipt of this communication and to advise Commander Drake that the funds for the surfacing of Crenshaw Boulevard have been appropriated and that the work will start as soon as possible.

As it was 8:00 P.M., Mayor Tolson announced that bids for the construction of the Walteria Recreation Center would be opened at this time.

Clerk Bartlett opened and read the bid of Mr. C. B. Bagnall, 1505 Border Avenue, Torrance, California, in the amount of \$5588.00; For Alternate No. 1, a reduction of \$257.00; For Alternate No. 2, a reduction of \$55.00; For Alternate No. 3, a reduction of \$528.00; For Alternate No. 4, a reduction of \$78.00.

This Bid was accompanied by a Bid Bond in the amount of \$1500.00.

Clerk Bartlett then opened and read the bid of Mr. Harry Heirshberg, 1078 South La Cienega Blvd., Los Angeles, California, in the amount of \$6,750.00; For Alternate No. 1, a reduction of \$280.00; For Alternate No. 3, a reduction of \$600.00; For Alternate No. 4, a reduction of \$75.00; and if "Petco Standard" toilet partitions were desired, an addition of \$141.00.

This Bid was accompanied by a Bank Cashier's Check in the amount of \$700.00.

Councilman Gilbert moved that the bids be referred to the City Engineer and the City Council as a whole for further study. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from the Boy Scouts of America thanking the City Council for their cooperation in providing transportation to and from the camp at Wilmington and Griffith Park; which, they stated, enabled the Boy Scouts of Troop #241 to win a certificate at each camp. Matter of record.

A communication was read from the Torrance High School, thanking the Council for permitting them to use the Torrance Civic Auditorium for the Junior-Senior Prom. Matter of record.

A communication was read from Mrs. Marie P. Quigley, Leader of the Junior High Girl Scout Troop #472, expressing appreciation

for the interest taken in refinishing the Girl Scout House, this past year. Matter of record.

A communication was read from Torrance Post No. 3251, Veterans of Foreign Wars, transmitting an appeal from the Torrance Branch of the American Red Cross, for assistance in securing a station wagon or other means of transportation, to meet the needs of the Red Cross Canteen Service.

Councilman Hitchcock inquired of Fire Chief McMaster if arrangements could be made whereby the Red Cross could have the use of the Ambulance which had been turned over to the City.

Chief McMaster replied that the Ambulance had been equipped to transport the pulmotor and other apparatus of the Fire Department, and it would necessitate considerable work to remove this equipment each time it was used, unless some other vehicle was provided for the use of the Fire Department.

Mr. Chas. E. Conner, Commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, was present in the audience and advised that their organization had been approached by the Red Cross about a month ago in regard to obtaining transportation for the Canteen Service and at that time they thought they might be able to assist them in acquiring a vehicle answering their needs, but now find that this will be impossible. Mr. Conner stated that he believed the ambulance would serve a greater need if arrangements could be made whereby it could be released to the Red Cross as they make regular trips each week to the nearby Hospital and meet the incoming hospital ships.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the request of the Red Cross be referred to the Council as a whole for study and report at the next regular meeting. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from The American Legion, Bert S. Crossland Post No. 170, requesting permission to sponsor Ferris Greater shows in Torrance, from July 29th to August 6th; advising that this is the same show that was here in the spring and was approved by the Torrance Police Department.

Councilman Gilbert moved that the request of the American Legion be granted. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried.

A communication was read from the Associated Assessment Engineers advising that Mr. Harry S. Whiteman, one of the partners of said firm, is resigning; and in accordance with the provisions of the agreement made with the City written consent is requested for Mr. Basil R. Greig (who will continue to operate the above-named firm as an individual) to continue to represent the City of Torrance in the liquidation of tax-deeded lands.

Mayor Tolson moved that the request be held over until the next regular meeting of the Council. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from the Tax Collector of the County of Los Angeles enclosing one executed copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Supervisors of Los Angeles County on June 19, 1945 extending the period of resale one year for that property deeded to the City of Torrance on August 14, 1943, pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 294, Statutes of 1941; which extension was granted in compliance with the request contained in Resolution No. 1727, adopted by the City Council of the City of Torrance on May 8, 1945. Matter of record.

A communication was read from the Chief of Police, in reference to the installation of boulevard stop signs on Eldorado Street at Crenshaw Boulevard, and recommending that four-way stop signs be installed at this intersection as well as at the intersection of Abalone Avenue and 220th Street; said signs to be installed prior to the commencement of school next fall.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the recommendation of the Chief of Police be approved and the necessary signs be installed. 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.

Clerk Bartlett announced that a number of contracts were expiring on June 30th next and it would be necessary to take some action at this time in regard to their renewal.

Councilman Powell moved that the contract with George M. Green for the collection of tin cans and garbage be renewed for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1946. 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 the contract with the General Petroleum Corporation be renewed for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1946. 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 moved that the contract for incandescent lamps be renewed with DeVore Electric Shop for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1946. 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 moved that the contract with Luippold Engineering Sales Company for ammonia and liquid gas for the Water Department be renewed for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1946. 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 the contract with the South Bay Humane Society be renewed for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1946. 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 the contract with the Southern California Edison Company for electric energy be renewed for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1946. 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 the contract with Stone and Meyers for ambulance service be renewed for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1946. 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 contract with the Torrance Herald for advertising be renewed for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1946. 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 the lease with Louis S. Bosse for the building located at 3612 W. 242nd Street, WALTERIA, to be used as a Public Library, be renewed for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1946. 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 the contract with the Torrance Hospital Association for emergency aid be renewed for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1946. 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 Powell stated that he would like to have a report from the Torrance Hospital on the number of first aid cases handled during the past fiscal year; whereupon he moved that the Torrance Hospital be requested to furnish the City Council with a report of the number of cases handled for the City during the previous year. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the contract with Remington Rand for repair service on the adding machine be renewed for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1946. 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.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 1735

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF TORRANCE OFFERING TO BUY
THE ASSESSMENT WARRANT ON THE 203RD
STREET SEWER PROJECT.

Councilman Cucci moved that Resolution No. 1735 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.

Councilman Powell called attention to the fact that the contract with Logan Cotton for auditing services had not been renewed; whereupon he moved that said contract be renewed for the ensuing year. 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 an appropriation of \$51.25 be made for the purchase of two 2½" x 1½" x 1½" Siamese, ball type, shut-off valves for the Fire Department. 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 advised that he was informed by the Chief of Police that Officer C. V. Watts, who has been employed for the past thirteen months as a Patrolman, is leaving the Police Department on account of the bad condition of his feet, and as he is entitled to a vacation, the Chief had recommended that Officer Watts be paid for his fifteen day vacation period.

Councilman Powell moved that the recommendation of Chief Stroh be approved, and Officer C. V. Watts receive fifteen days vacation pay. 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 stated that he was advised by Chief Stroh that Sgt. P. Bennett has been discharged from the United States Navy and will be back in the Police Department on July 1st; and stated that he was very pleased to hear this.

Councilman Powell advised that Chief Stroh recommended an increase in salary for Officer G. Enfield from \$170.00 to \$190.00 as he has satisfactorily completed three months' services, said increase effective July 1, 1945; and that after three additional months of satisfactory service his salary be increased to \$210.00 per month.

Councilman Powell moved that the recommendation of Chief Stroh be concurred in. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Powell moved that the Chief of Police be authorized to employ Officer Oesterle at \$170.00 per month, effective June 18, 1945, to replace Officer Beal who had to leave the City on an emergency call and will be away until July 1st; after which time Officer Oesterle will substitute for officers while on vacation. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Gucci stated that he had been advised by Attorney McCall that the bill of the Crown Coach Corporation for \$4,000.00, which had been held in abeyance for some time, should be paid and if the City has any claims against said Corporation that such claims should be filed later; whereupon Councilman Gucci moved that the sum of \$4,000.00 be appropriated as final payment due the Crown Coach Corporation for the four busses purchased by the City. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Gucci moved that Clerk Bartlett be authorized to address a letter to the Office of Defense Transportation, attention of Mr. Naylor, advising that the City of Torrance has no intention of inaugurating the additional bus service to Redondo, Palos Verdes and Clifton Riviera until O.D.T. approval has been obtained; and to resubmit the request of the Torrance Municipal Bus Lines for this extension of service. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the City Engineer be authorized to have a sodium vapor light installed by the Southern California Edison Company at the intersection of Sepulveda Blvd. and Hawthorne Blvd. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that an appropriation of \$152.31, plus tax, be authorized, for the purchase of 1991 gallons of Bitumuls for street repair. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that an appropriation of \$875.00 be authorized for the surfacing of alleys in the Park Knolls Tract. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that an appropriation of \$400.00 be authorized for the surfacing of Lincoln Avenue between Border Avenue and Santa Fe tracks. 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 authorized the temporary employment of Mr. J. W. Stack as Chainman in the Engineering Department at \$1.25 per hour, effective June 20, 1945, to be used intermittently as needed. 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 moved that the sum of \$12,950.00 be placed in the Budget for post-war surveys, plans and rights-of-way; which the City Engineer advises is necessary in order that he may prepare applications for matching State Aid Funds. 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 Gilbert stated that at the last meeting of the Council a request was submitted for additional seating capacity at the City Park, and at that time a motion was made by him that the matter be referred to Mr. Riley for recommendation.

Councilman Gilbert advised that since that time, he and Mr. Riley had made quite a thorough investigation of this matter, but that Mr. Riley was not yet prepared to make a recommendation, but would like to discuss the matter further with the Council, either after the meeting tonight, or as soon as possible, and explain just what he has in mind.

Councilman Gilbert also suggested calling the Recreation Committee together.

Mayor Tolson moved that an appropriation of \$394.80 be made to the Los Angeles County Civil Service Commission for civil service functions performed for the City of Torrance during the past year, as per contract. 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.

Mayor Tolson moved that the Torrance Municipal Water District No. 1 be authorized to employ George Schmidt as laborer for a period of not exceeding thirty days at \$170.00 per month. 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.

Mayor Tolson moved that the City Clerk be authorized to employ a temporary stenographer to take the minutes of the Council Meetings, and transcribe same, during the absence of Mrs. Worsham, at \$1.00 per hour. 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 Engineer Jain if he had a report to make on the request of Mr. Knight of Hollywood Riviera regarding fire plug, light standard, etc.

Engineer Jain stated that he checked on the street and found that about 90% of it is within the City of Redondo Beach that is not improved and that the part in Torrance was improved.

Regarding the fire plug; he said there was a fire hydrant about a block away and believed that was sufficiently close to take care of the property.

Regarding the street light; he said there was no light at that particular intersection and believed one should be installed.

Mayor Tolson asked for a report on the request of the Four Square Church for sidewalk in front of their property on El Prado.

Engineer Jain said he estimated it would cost about \$400.00 to install this sidewalk, but had not been able to find anyone to do it.

Councilman Gilbert moved that the City Engineer be authorized to go ahead with the work at such time as he finds someone to construct this sidewalk. 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 read a communication from the Walteria Civic Organization advising that a meeting was held on June 15, 1945, at the Walteria Elementary School for the purpose of discussing the water problem of that community; that there were more than 66 persons in attendance; and that 60 persons voted in favor of considering the Metropolitan Water District only.

Councilman Cucci asked Attorney McCall if it was necessary to have an election for the bond issue for the water district, or whether the Council could carry it through without putting it up to a vote.

Attorney McCall advised that it would have to go to a vote, if there was to be a bond issue.

Councilman Cucci moved that Attorney McCall look into the law and render a legal opinion as to whether it will be necessary to hold an election or not; and that Clerk Bartlett advise the Walteria Civic Organization of the action being taken. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Chas. E. Conner requested permission to place a trailer on the vacant lot owned by Dr. Ingold, adjoining his building on Marcelina Avenue, for a period of thirty days from July 5th to August 5th, for the purpose of conducting a membership campaign for the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Councilman Powell moved that the request of Mr. Conner be granted. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Chief Stroh advised that there were many traffic violations at the intersection of Pacific Coast Highway and Hawthorne Blvd. where the automatic stop signals were recently installed; and that as this is a State highway, under the Motor Vehicle Law, a certain percentage of the fines for such violations would go to the State; and suggested that a City Ordinance be adopted, so that all of such fines would go to the City of Torrance.

Councilman Cucci moved that this matter be referred to the Ordinance Committee for report at the next regular meeting of the Council. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that all bills properly audited be paid. 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.

At 9:02 P.M., on motion of Councilman Cucci, seconded by Councilman Gilbert, the meeting adjourned.

A. H. Bauer
CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

ATTEST:

W. H. Tolson
MAYOR OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE