

Torrance, California  
August 17, 1945

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 Friday, August 17, 1945, at 7:55 P.M.

Mayor Tolson called the meeting to order.

Deputy Clerk Hallanger called the roll, those answering present being Councilmen: Cucci, 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 July 24, 1945 be approved as written. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

A report was read from Mr. Dale Riley, Superintendent of Recreation, on the request of Mr. Jerry Wilson, Director of Todd Ship Band, for permission to conduct weekly dances in the Civic Auditorium, which request had been referred to the Recreation Commission for consideration at a meeting held July 24, 1945.

Mr. Riley's report stated that such dances would not be beneficial to the young people's organization known as TARTAR TOWN, whose activities should be left entirely to themselves with proper cooperation from an adult advisory board; that the great attendance from neighboring cities often creates dissension during the dances; and for these reasons recommended that the request of Mr. Jerry Wilson be denied, which recommendation was approved by the Recreation Commission.

Councilman Gilbert moved that the request of Mr. Jerry Wilson, for permission to conduct weekly dances in the Civic Auditorium

be denied. Councilman Cucci seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

The request of Mr. George Mort to operate a taxi service in the City of Torrance read at a meeting held July 24th, was discussed at this time.

Councilman Gilbert stated that the Office of Defense Transportation was granting veterans Certificates of War Necessity to operate, providing the cities would issue them a business license.

Chief Stroh reported that he had checked on Mr. Mort's record and found that he was a veteran of two wars, and that the taxi he would be operating was owned by a Downey concern.

A general discussion ensued on permitting outside concerns to operate taxi service in Torrance, Councilman Gilbert expressing the opinion that perhaps some Torrance veterans might wish to establish a taxi service, and therefore was not in favor of granting a license to a Downey concern. The license fee was also discussed, it being the opinion that the license fee might be increased in view of the rates being charged by the taxi companies.

At this time Deputy Clerk Hallanger informed the Council that he had a communication from Miss Marie Bruce requesting permission to operate a taxi in this City and proceeded to read the communication. Miss Bruce stated in her letter that she would employ returned veterans as drivers out of respect to her brother who had enlisted from Torrance and had been killed in action.

After further discussion Councilman Cucci moved that both communications be referred to the Council for consideration and action at the next regular meeting. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Mr. Frank B. Bates requesting a renewal of his permit to live in a house tent on the premises located at 24241 Ward Street, Walteria, for the reason that he had not been able to secure a clear title to the property. In view of this fact Mr. Bates has purchased Lot 10, Block 2, Meadow Park Tract, to which there is a clear title. He petitioned the Council for permission to have the building permits transferred to the above-mentioned property and that he be granted time in which to build.

Councilman Gilbert moved that the communication from Mr. Bates be referred to the City Engineer for recommendation. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from the Dow Chemical Company requesting permission to hold a dance in the Civic Auditorium on October 27, 1945, said date being a Saturday. They stated that in the past dances had been held on a Friday night which had not proved successful because of the fact that many employes had to report for work early the next day, and consequently the attendance had been small and the revenue poor.

Councilman Gilbert said that he had taken up this request with the TARTAR TOWN Organization who hold dances every Saturday night in the Civic Auditorium, and they were agreeable to make a change if it met with the approval of the Council.

Councilman Powell moved that Councilman Gilbert take up this matter with the TARTAR TOWN Organization, and if they were agreeable to the change to so advise the Dow Chemical Company. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from the General Petroleum Corporation making application for a proposed service connection and meter installation to the 16" Metropolitan Water District water main on the east side of Crenshaw Boulevard adjacent their Torrance Refinery. Prints were attached showing the proposed connection and installation. All expenses in connection with this installation would be borne by the General Petroleum Corporation. They also requested that the water rates suggested in their application be established by the Council since the property of the General Petroleum Corporation is not included within the boundaries of the Municipal Improvement District No. 1.

Engineer Jain explained that he and Water Manager Stanger had met in conference with representatives of the General Petroleum Corporation but that he had not had an opportunity to look over the proposed installation.

Councilman Cucci was in favor of allowing the General Petroleum Corporation to have water, provided that when the North Torrance Water District is established, that company should agree to join in that water district.

Mr. Plomert, representative of the General Petroleum Corporation, who was in the audience, explained that they would not require any laterals nor would there be any expense to the city and that the rates mentioned in their letter were in line with the rates charged by the M.I.D. No. 1.

After some discussion, Councilman Hitchcock moved that this communication be held over until the next meeting in order that the matter could be discussed with the City Engineer and Manager of the Water Department. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from the Metropolitan Water District advising that the City of Torrance, on or before the 25th day of August, 1945, may elect to pay out of its municipal funds all or any portion of the amount of the Metropolitan Water District tax, which would otherwise be levied upon property within the city for the fiscal year 1945-46.

Mayor Tolson moved that the Metropolitan Water District be notified that the City of Torrance does not wish to pay out of its municipal funds all or any portion of the amount of the Metropolitan Water District tax for the fiscal year 1945-46. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Mrs. Gonner stating that the pump on the city water well (formerly the Crown Water Company) had stopped and they had been without water for one day. She had been advised by the man taking care of the pump that it needed repacking. She also stated that the tank needed cleaning. She requested that an extended telephone service be installed in her home if she is to continue looking after the collections and maintenance of the water plant and explained that she is in the Redondo District.

Mayor Tolson advised that City Electrician Butterfield had checked the pump and it appeared to be working all right. He asked for comments and suggestions from the Council as to the best way of remedying the condition of the pump.

Engineer Jain explained that undoubtedly several hundred dollars would have to be expended in the near future for general pump and motor overhaul as only partial overhauls had been made since the city took over the plant and undoubtedly there were many worn parts to replace. He further explained that the city was not deriving enough revenue from the \$1.50 flat rate to pay more than the power bill, and that if the city is to maintain this equipment, the rate should be raised to an amount sufficient to cover complete operation.

A discussion on estimated water rates followed, and Councilman Powell was of the opinion that a sufficient flat rate should be set up to help pay for its upkeep, or that it should be metered.

Councilman Powell moved that City Engineer Jain be authorized to recommend an adequate water rate to be charged consumers of that Water District and obtain the cost of cleaning out the tank; and to investigate the possibility of securing an extended telephone service. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from the Chamber of Commerce pointing out that the Municipal Bus Lines were purchased over a period of years by the use of general funds of the City of Torrance and that these funds were not repaid, and suggesting that all monies derived from the sale of the Bus Line, amounting to \$65,000.00, be earmarked for such needed civic improvements, particularly the need of a Fire and Police Departments.

Councilman Powell moved that the communication be placed on file for future reference. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from the Pacific Coast Building Officials Conference calling attention to their 23rd annual business meeting, scheduled to be held at Hotel Fresno, Fresno, California, September 26, 27 and 28, and requesting Mr. Glenn M. Jain, who is a member of the Code Changes Committee, be granted permission to attend.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that Engineer Jain be authorized to attend the 23rd annual business conference of the Pacific Coast Building Officials Conference, to be held September 26, 27 and 28, 1945, in Fresno, California, with expenses 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.

A communication was read from Murphey and Davis, attorneys for Dr. L. M. Ellinwood of San Francisco, protesting the inclusion of the Ellinwood Ranch within the proposed Municipal Water District, and requesting a thirty day postponement of the date of hearing in order to afford them sufficient time to investigate further the question of whether the Ellinwood Ranch will be sufficiently benefited if included within the district.

In connection with this request from Murphey and Davis, a communication was read from Mr. Art Taylor of Taylor and Taylor, Consulting Engineers, who advised that he had a long talk with Dr. L. M. Ellinwood, and recommended that the request for an extension of time be granted.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that Murphey and Davis be notified that their request for a thirty day postponement of the date of hearing be granted. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from the WALTERIA Civic Organization requesting that \$2,100.00, which was set aside in the budget for improvement of Neece Avenue, be used for paving said street, and explaining that the condition of the street is growing steadily worse.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the communication be referred to Engineer Jain for investigation and report. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Mr. A. S. Thompson of Gardena, complaining of the lax manner in which Mr. Brand, Bus Operator, was driving the bus, and that when Mr. Thompson remonstrated with him the driver was very discourteous in his remarks.

Councilman Gilbert moved that the communication be referred to Councilman Cucci, Chairman of the Transportation Committee and Mr. C. Z. Ward, Manager of the Torrance Municipal Bus Line, for investigation. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was received from the Civil Service Board enclosing copy of a letter addressed to Mr. H. C. Callihan, Bus Operator, from Councilman Cucci, Chairman of the Transportation Committee of the City of Torrance, advising him that his services were no longer required by the Bus Department and set forth four specific charges to substantiate this action. The letter from the Civil Service Board read that after hearing the testimony of all parties, the members of the Civil Service Board, at an adjourned meeting held August 3rd, unanimously voted to sustain Councilman Cucci's dismissal action, and Mr. Callihan was so advised under date of August 4th, and the Board recommended that the City Council uphold Councilman Cucci in dismissing Mr. Callihan.

Councilman Cucci stated that Mr. Callihan had notified the Civil Service Board that he would appeal the case, and in view of this fact, moved that the communication from the Civil Service

Board be filed for future use. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Mr. H. C. Callihan with reference to his dismissal by Councilman Cucci, stating it is his contention that no one councilman has the authority to dismiss any city employee and that there is no city ordinance which provides that the Civil Service Board has any legal authority to sustain action taken by a councilman, and requesting the Council to render a decision on the legality of this action.

Councilman Cucci advised that he had received opinions on this question from two outside attorneys and now requested City Attorney McCall for his opinion at this time. Attorney McCall inquired if he wished a written or verbal opinion. Councilman Powell objected to a verbal opinion.

Councilman Gilbert moved that Attorney McCall render a written opinion on the legality of the action referred to in Mr. Callihan's letter, and to submit this opinion at the next Council meeting to be held August 21st.

Councilman Cucci said he requested a verbal opinion because the hearing has been set for August 29th.

Councilman Gilbert asked if the Civil Service Board could not postpone the hearing for a day or two.

Councilman Cucci continued on the subject of a verbal opinion, saying that since Attorney McCall had drawn up the Civil Service Ordinance, he believed he was well qualified to render an opinion at this time on whether an appointive officer has the right to dismiss an employee.

In reply to Councilman Gilbert's question on whether the hearing could be extended, a gentleman in the audience replied that it could be extended twenty days, whereupon Councilman Gilbert requested Attorney McCall to submit a written opinion, if it was agreeable to the Council.

Councilman Cucci was persistent in his wish for a verbal opinion. Attorney McCall opined that a councilman does not have the authority to discharge a Civil Service employee and said that he will submit a written opinion on this question.

Councilman Cucci contended that a councilman can give a dismissal notice and the Civil Service Board can act on it.

Councilman Hitchcock seconded Councilman Gilbert's motion that City Attorney McCall submit a written opinion at the next Council meeting to be held August 21st., which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from C. Z. Ward, Manager, Torrance Municipal Bus Lines, advising that he had received a copy of Councilman Cucci's communication to Mr. H. C. Callihan stating his services are no longer required and setting forth four specific charges to substantiate his action. In his communication Mr. Ward explained that the matter had been discussed at a meeting of the Civil Service Board. Upon being asked by the Board to express his views on the charges against Mr. Callihan he informed the Board that the charges were completely without foundation. The case was thoroughly discussed and he believed the matter had been settled. He was later advised by the Board that Councilman Cucci's dismissal of Mr. Callihan had been sustained. Mr. Ward maintained that this action is in complete disregard of the city ordinance pertaining to Civil Service Rules and Regulations, and requested the City Council to render a decision on this subject.

Mayor Tolson advised that the opinion to be submitted by Attorney McCall will clarify this question.

Councilman Cucci maintained that not only a councilman can prefer charges but a citizen can do likewise, and explained that he did not dismiss anyone, but filed charges against him (Mr. Callihan).

Councilman Powell said that the Civil Service Commission had been established by the City Council; that the Board was governed by the Civil Service Rules and Regulations, and had the right to enforce them; and that if the party involved in this case was not satisfied with the decision of the Civil Service Board, "his recourse is with the courts and not with the Council".

Mr. Babbitt, who was in the audience, explained that Mr. A. K. Hill, a former Bus Operator, had been ousted from his position on charges brought against him by Mr. Callihan, and if Mr. Callihan had not brought these charges against him, Mr. Hill would still be driving; and Mr. Babbitt contended if Mr. Callihan could take this action, then Councilman Cucci had the same right.

A communication addressed to Mayor Tolson was read from Captain Charles R. Holmes, Civil Air Patrol Commanding, extending an invitation to the Officials of the City of Torrance, with their families and friends, to participate in a Victory Military Ball, at the Hollywood Riviera Club, Redondo Beach, on August 25, 1945.

Deputy Clerk Hallanger presented and read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 1738

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, ACCOUNTING TO THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES FOR CERTAIN SALES MADE PURSUANT TO AN EXISTING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE SAID CITY AND THE SAID COUNTY.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that Resolution No. 1837 be adopted. 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 read a report from Fire Chief McMaster advising that the fire truck, on its way to a fire, had been held up by the Santa Fe train. No action.

Councilman Powell read a communication from Chief Stroh with reference to emergency service rendered by the Torrance Hospital Association. Chief Stroh, who was in the audience, explained that when the Police take emergency cases to the hospital, the first question asked the patient is if they have enough money to pay for hospital service. Chief Stroh said he was under the impression that the \$50.00 a month paid by the City to the Hospital Association, in accordance with contract, was to take care of such emergency cases, and he asked the Council whether the Police Department should take such emergency cases to the Torrance Hospital or to the County Hospital.

Chief Stroh also discussed the ambulance service for which the City pays Stone & Myers \$25.00 a month, in accordance with contract. It was his opinion that a patient should be asked to pay for ambulance service, but if he could not do so, then the service rendered should apply against the \$25.00. Chief Stroh asked the Council to clarify these two points.

After some discussion, Councilman Hitchcock moved that the City Clerk be authorized to arrange a meeting between the Board of Directors of the Torrance Hospital Association, the Head Nurse and members of the City Council, at a time convenient to all, in order to discuss emergency aid rendered by the Hospital Association. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Powell moved that Stone & Myers be requested to render a quarterly report of ambulance cases transported to the hospital who are unable to pay for such service. Councilman Cucci seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Powell read a communication from Mr. Charles J. Long, Radio Service Engineer, advising that on July 15 an additional mobile unit was included in the list of high frequency radio communication equipment which he is servicing for the Police Department, and requesting that the servicing rate be increased, retroactive to July 15th, from \$10.00 to \$12.50 per week.

Upon recommendation of Chief Stroh, Councilman Powell moved that the request of Mr. Charles J. Long for an increase in service rate, from \$10.00 to \$12.50 per week, retroactive to July 15, be granted. 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 Paul Oesterle be employed as a War Emergency Patrolman, in the Police Department, to replace A. K. Hill, at a salary of \$190.00 per month, effective August 9, 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 Powell stated that during Chief Stroh's absence on vacation, Captain F. Schumacher will be in charge as Acting Chief and is entitled to the Chief's rate of pay for the time served.

Councilman Powell moved that an appropriation of \$116.81 be made for parts for repairs to the American LaFrance 750 Gallon Pumper for the Fire Department. 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 stated that Engineer Moffitt of the Fire Department should receive the Captain's rate of pay from August 1 to 15, inclusive, as he is acting as Captain during the vacation of Captain Winters.

Councilman Powell moved that an appropriation of \$52.68, plus tax, be made to cover the cost of laying a concrete floor in the garage at the WALTERIA Fire Station. 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 Pierce Schlotfeld, War Emergency Engineer in the Fire Department, be granted an increase of \$15.00 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 read a communication from Fire Chief McMaster advising that the lumber yard building located on Park Street in WALTERIA, and in later years used as a recreation building, is a fire hazard and is unsafe, and recommending that it be condemned.

Councilman Powell moved that the matter be referred to Engineer Jain for whatever action he deems necessary to eliminate the hazard. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Cucci moved that an appropriation of \$68.58, plus tax, be made to cover the purchase of three sets of Brake Lining from Brake Lining Sales Company. 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 \$67.93, plus tax, be made to cover purchase of steering gear parts, king pins and bushing and pressure plate assembly for Bus No. 102, from the Crown Body & Coach Corporation. 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 Francis D. Starke, be employed as a Bus Operator, on a temporary basis, at a salary of \$185.00 per month, effective August 1, 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 Cucci advised that the C.I.O. Steel Workers Local No. 1414 requested the use of the Civic Auditorium for August 23rd for the purpose of holding an educational conference on a new medical plan, which would be open to the public free of charge, and moved that the request be granted. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

At this time Councilman Cucci brought up the subject of the sale of the Torrance Municipal Bus Line and the action taken by the Council in selling the line at a meeting held July 24, 1945. He stated he was not objecting to the sale but was objecting to the manner in which it was sold, saying, "In the first place it is worth more than \$65,000.00, and in the second place it is a shut-out bid."

Councilman Cucci moved that the action of the Council taken at a meeting held July 24, 1945, to sell the Torrance Municipal Bus Line be rescinded. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was defeated by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci and Powell. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Hitchcock and Tolson. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Cucci said he had pleaded that the sale of the Bus Line be referred to the people for a vote, but apparently his remarks were construed as slanderous; however, at this time he wished again to make a motion that the sale of the Bus Line be referred to the people to determine their wishes.

Mayor Tolson explained that the Bus Line had been sold, that the agreement had been signed and the papers were now in escrow.

Councilman Cucci maintained he could make as many motions as he wished, to which Mayor Tolson replied that he has that right.

Councilman Cucci moved that the matter of the sale of the Bus Line be referred to the people to determine if they wished to sell the line or not.

Councilman Hitchcock asked Councilman Cucci to make the motion again, whereupon Councilman Cucci moved that the matter of the sale of the Bus Line be referred to the people to determine if they wished to sell the line or not. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was defeated by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, and Powell. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Hitchcock and Tolson. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

At this time Councilman Cucci referred to Dearing's General Laws, Volume 2, Act 5203, Sale and Disposal of Public Utilities (Stats. 1921, p.829), Sec. 1-2-3-4-5.

Councilman Cucci maintained that the proper way to dispose of a public utility is to draw up an ordinance referring it to the people; that a 2/3 vote is necessary; that there must be an affirmative vote before it can be sold; that if it is sold it must be to the highest bidder; and that if the Council does not believe the bid high enough it could withdraw the offer and not accept the bid.

Act 5203 was discussed between Councilman Cucci and City Attorney McCall. Attorney McCall asked the Council if they wished him to render an opinion. Councilman Cucci remarked to Attorney McCall that he should know the law since he approved the sale of the line. Attorney McCall replied that the Council sold the Bus Line and added the Council had the right to purchase the line and did not first obtain a vote of the people to make the purchase.

A discussion followed on ceiling prices on the busses and equipment which Councilman Cucci stated should have been taken into consideration before the Bus Line was sold. Attorney McCall explained that the Council would be violating a Federal Law if the Line had been sold at more than ceiling price and that the equipment had been sold at ceiling prices.

Councilman Cucci declared that the matter of the sale of the Bus Line should have been voted on by the people in accordance with Act 5203 of Deering's General Laws; that the line has been sold illegally according to this act; and that he has obtained legal advice on this matter and is proceeding accordingly.

Councilman Cucci moved that the sale of the Bus Line be referred to the people according to Act 5203 of Deering's General Laws. Councilman Powell seconded the motion.

Councilman Gilbert did not think there should be any action taken until an opinion has been received from Attorney McCall. Attorney McCall said he did not think Act 5203 of Deering's General Laws referred to a Bus Line, to which Councilman Cucci replied that it did mention a public utility.

Mayor Tolson then called for a roll call vote, which was defeated as follows: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci and Powell. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Hitchcock and Tolson. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Cucci then read excerpts from the agreement to purchase the Bus Line and a lengthy discussion followed on the various points brought up by Councilman Cucci.

In conclusion Councilman Cucci stated that in view of the illegal procedure of the sale of the Bus Line and in order to protect the rights of the people, he would be failing in his duties in allowing the consumation of the sale without court action, and charged the Council with malfeasance.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that Steve Curtin be employed, on a temporary basis, as Inspector on the 203rd Street Sewer Project, at a salary of \$1.50 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.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that Tom V. Ireland be employed, on a temporary basis, as a chairman in the Engineering Department, to replace Jess Smith, at a salary of \$1.25 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.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that Wilbert Hrdlicka be employed, on a temporary basis, as chairman in the Engineering Department, to replace John Stack, at a salary of \$1.25 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.

Councilman Gilbert moved that Dave Morris be employed on a temporary basis, as a Maintenance Man in the Park Department, to replace John Jones, at a salary of \$170.00 per month, effective July 30, 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 Gilbert moved that Theodore Smith be employed on a temporary basis, as a Maintenance Man in the Park Department, to replace Cecil Ingram, at a salary of \$170.00 per month, effective August 7, 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.

Mayor Tolson moved that an appropriation of \$194.38 be made for payment of The Advance Publication for the Chamber of Commerce. 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.

#### ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Hughes, who was in the audience, addressed the following remarks to the Council, and in particular to Mayor Tolson: "It turned out tonight as I expected and as others expected. I have a group behind me. We are representatives of Torrance and we decided to wait until the next Council meeting to see if the Council would not rescind their motion. We were willing to give the Councilmen a better deal than we had been given, but I see that it did not turn out that way. We were not given any chance to express ourselves. The Council has been given every opportunity and we are sick and fed up with how things are being run here. A man is hired to advise the Council \*\*\* and we are giving the Council one more chance to rescind their action. Next week a complaint will be filed in the Superior Court. Now you have your chance, we have spoken and we are going to fight it; and furthermore it might go further than that. We are asking for an investigation and when that investigation gets going, there is going to be plenty uncovered. We will bring you out in your true light. We regard you as a four-flusher and a fraud and guilty of malfeasance."

Mayor Tolson, angered at these remarks, rapped for order and demanded that Mr. Hughes be ejected from the Council Chamber.

Mr. Michels of the Walteria Civic Organization, who was in the audience, said that there were two questions which had been brought up before the Council some five or six meetings ago; that opinions had been requested but to date none had been given.

The first question referred to was a request for twenty-four hour police protection in Walteria, the second question was about the proposed Walteria Recreation Building.

In reply to the request for police protection, Chief Stroh stated that the Motorola Radio Company had advised him they could not supply the two-way radio set up between Walteria Fire Station and the Police Station in Torrance, due to the lack of materials; however, he has now been advised that within the next sixty days the Motorola Radio Company will be operating on the same pre-war basis and will be able to supply cities with the necessary equipment. If satisfactory, a two-way radio system can be installed between the Walteria Fire Station and Torrance Police Station.

In reference to the proposed Walteria Recreation Building, Councilman Gilbert advised that the bids had been rejected because they were too high and the readvertising for bids had been authorized by the Council. He assured Mr. Michels that the matter had not been overlooked or sidetracked and that Walteria would get its recreation building.

Deputy Clerk Hallanger read a communication from Mr. R. I. Plomert, Jr., Chairman, Torrance Industries' Tax Committee recommending that all funds derived from the sale of the Municipal Bus Lines be specifically set aside for the construction of a much needed fire-station and police-station in the City of Torrance.

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

At 10:00 P.M., on motion of Councilman Gilbert, seconded by Councilman Hitchcock, the meeting adjourned to Tuesday, August 21, 1945, at 7:45 P.M.

Mayor Tolson apologized to the audience for losing his temper and said that when a man makes personal accusations he resented such remarks.

  
CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

ATTEST:

  
MAYOR OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE