

Torrance, California
June 11, 1946

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 11, 1946 at 7:50 P.M.

Mayor Sherfey called the meeting to order.

Clerk Bartlett called the roll, those answering present being Councilmen: Jackson, Tolson and Sherfey. Absent: Councilmen: Gilbert and Powell.

All those present in the Council Chamber saluted the Flag.

A recess was declared until 8:00 P.M. to await arrival of Councilman Gilbert, it being understood in advance that Councilman Powell will be unable to attend the meeting.

At 8:03 P.M., upon arrival of Councilman Gilbert, the meeting re-convened.

Councilman Tolson moved that the minutes of a Regular Meeting held May 28, 1946 and of an Adjourned Regular Meeting held June 3, 1946 be approved as written. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

A communication was read from Harold A. Barnett, Civil Engineer, offering an estimate of \$900.00 as the cost of preparing a tentative plan and debt limitation report on a sewer system for the WALTERIA District, and to do said work at the rates of \$3.00 per hour for office work and \$64.00 per day for field survey work, total not to exceed \$900.00.

Councilman Tolson moved that Harold A. Barnett, Civil Engineer be authorized to make the survey as above set forth for an amount of not to exceed \$900.00. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Powell.

A communication was read from Harold A. Barnett, Civil Engineer, submitting a report on the proposed construction of a sanitary sewer system in the southeasterly portion of the City of Torrance (South Torrance), and estimating the total cost at \$212,560.00.

Councilman Gilbert moved that the report be accepted by the Council. Councilman Tolson seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication signed by Edward F. Saul, Edward W. Blackwood, V. G. Mott, Gordon L. Mann, and Nikolas O. Drale, was read, stating that members of the Metropolitan Water Committee of North Torrance who have been working long and earnestly to secure an adequate water supply for North Torrance have read with great concern an article in the Torrance Herald stating that the water supply for a new subdivision at 174th Street and Crenshaw Boulevard has been assured by Moneta Water Company.

It was pointed out that the forty acres of land comprising this subdivision is included in the proposed new North Torrance water district, and that, if Moneta Water Company provides the necessary water for the subdivision to the extent of allowing the property to be excluded from the new district, the entire issue might be jeopardized. It was stated that, in matters relative to water for North Torrance, it was felt that the committee interested in the new water district should be kept informed and consulted relative to any proposed action by the City Council.

Councilman Gilbert stated that, to his knowledge, the Council had taken no action whatsoever in connection with allowing Moneta Water Company to furnish water for the new subdivision.

Councilman Tolson added that, as a matter of fact, no action is necessary by the Council and that, in any event, there is no proposal to exclude the land from the new water district. However, he pointed out, as the new homes are built, naturally water will be sought from the source available at the time, and that, since the new district is not supplying water yet, the only alternative is to obtain it from Moneta Water Company. He reiterated his statement, however, that, regardless of whether or not Moneta Water Company supplies water to the new subdivision, the land will still be included in the new water district and assessed accordingly.

Mr. Gordon Mann addressed the Council briefly relative to the subject, asking whether or not, if Moneta Water Company supplies water to the subdivision, that Company will be given a permanent right to continue doing so, even after the new district is ready to furnish water.

Councilman Tolson replied emphatically that the subdivision will be included in the new water district. Councilman Gilbert stated that the only land to be excluded, so far as Moneta Water Company is concerned, is the land within the original A & I district boundaries embracing Moneta Water Company.

Councilman Tolson stated that, to his knowledge, there is no action the Council can take to prohibit the Moneta Water Company from laying the necessary pipe lines to provide water for the new homes, but that the Council can definitely see that the subdivision is included in the new water district.

Councilman Tolson moved that the communication be filed for future reference. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from the Hollywood Riviera Home-owners Association, signed by William M. Edwards, President, and William A. Mason, Vice President, relative to Camp Vaughn Scott. It was advised that the Boy Scouts of America organization, which organization has been endeavoring to obtain a long-term lease for exclusive use by said organization of the park, has apparently taken possession of the park to the exclusion of citizens of the City of Torrance. It was stated that a sign on the premises describes the site as being "Camp Vaughn Scott", and that another sign at the entrance reads "Trespassing Prohibited". It was further pointed out that residents of the Hollywood Riviera community have been informed that they were barred from admittance to this park. A request was made that the situation be clarified and that all parties concerned be advised of the actual status of the park site.

Mayor Sherfey declared that the matter of the request made by the Boy Scouts organization that a lease agreement be entered into between that organization and the City has been disposed of, and that the Boy Scout organization has been advised that the City cannot legally enter into a lease agreement with any specific organization to grant exclusive use of a park site.

Councilman Tolson stated that, so far as the status of the park site is concerned, it is definitely a public park at this time. He

said that, although it had been quite generally understood at the time the City accepted the park that the Boy Scouts would maintain a camp on the site, it had also been intended that the park should be open to anyone desiring to use it.

Councilman Gilbert displayed surprise that anyone had been told they were barred from the park, stating that he had never observed this in the many times he had been to the park. He said he would suggest that the City Clerk be requested to endeavor to learn the names of the persons who have been giving out the information that anyone is barred from the park at any time.

Mr. Mason addressed the Council, stating that the "no trespassing" sign is very prominently displayed at the only vehicle entrance to the park, which sign bears the signature of the Boy Scouts organization.

Councilman Gilbert asked Mr. Mason to furnish Mr. Bartlett, City Clerk, with names of persons who have told residents of Hollywood Riviera that they are barred from the park. Mr. Mason answered that, although he does not know the names at this time, he will endeavor to obtain same.

Mayor Sherfey inquired again regarding the sign, asking when it was erected. Mr. Mason replied that it is comparatively new.

Mr. Mason added that the objection which is being made is not an objection to use of the park by the Boy Scouts or any organization, but is an objection to the public being prohibited from entering a public park.

Mr. Turner, speaking on behalf of the Boy Scouts, stated that he had no knowledge of anyone being told they were barred from the park.

Councilman Gilbert requested that this matter be referred to him for investigation and report to the Council at the next meeting, which met with the approval of the other Council members.

A communication was read from William A. Mason, 204 Via La Circula, requesting that a fire plug be installed at the corner of Via La Circula and Via Bonita in the Hollywood Riviera district.

Councilman Gilbert moved that the request be referred to the Chief of the Fire Department for recommendation and action. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Communications were read from Mrs. A. B. Culpepper, 174th and Prairie Avenue, and Mrs. C. L. Cunningham, 174th & Prairie Avenue, appealing to the Council to take immediate steps in the matter of rodent control, stating that all their efforts to keep rats outside their houses are in vain, and that the presence of many rats in the community in which they live presents a very real hazard to them and their families. It was stated that this condition makes the community unfit for human habitation.

Mayor Sherfey stated that he had been in contact with Dr. Smiley, District Health Office of the County of Los Angeles Health Department, relative to these two communications and the problem to which they call attention, and that Dr. Smiley had stated that he would make an investigation and report findings to the City Council.

Mayor Sherfey stated that, although Dr. Smiley had been furnished proper information to enable him to make the necessary investigation of the condition, official action is in order at this time, whereupon he moved that Dr. Smiley be notified regarding the above two communications and asked to make an investigation of the condition. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from the State of California, The Adjutant General's Office, signed by C. D. O'Sullivan, Brigadier General, acknowledging City of Torrance letter of June 5, 1946 addressed to the Adjutant General, in which it was advised that civic organizations and citizen's groups in the City have expressed a desire to have stationed in the City of Torrance, Infantry troops of the California National Guard. It was stated that the patriotic attitude of the City Council in offering to contribute property for an armory on a ninety-nine year lease is appreciated, and that the City of Torrance will be included in the allocation of units. It was stated that The Adjutant General's Office cannot make allocations at this time, but will keep the City of Torrance informed as to when headquarters can take positive action.

A communication was read from J. F. Gorman, making an appeal for a re-hearing in connection with his application for a permit to operate a trailer park on the south side of Pacific Coast Highway between Ocean Avenue and Neece Avenue.

Mayor Sherfey advised that this is a matter of a Petition for Variance to allow operation of a trailer camp in an A-1 Zone, and that the matter has been acted upon by the Planning Commission by denying the request, which resulted in Mr. Gorman claiming that he had not been allowed sufficient time to assemble all his data which, he felt, would have influenced the decision of the Planning Commission. Mayor Sherfey said he thought the matter should be referred to the Planning Commission Secretary, Mr. Jain, to notify Mr. Gorman of proper procedure in making an appeal for re-hearing.

Engineer Jain stated that Mr. Gorman had apparently meant this letter to be the appeal as provided for in Land Use Ordinance No. 316. He proceeded to outline the procedure, stating that an applicant may, within ten days after the Planning Commission decision is made, appeal to the City Council for a re-hearing of the case, whereupon the Council must set a date not less than fifteen, nor more than forty, days thereafter for re-hearing.

Mayor Sherfey stated that there have been several requests recently to use this property, which is in the vicinity of the new City park in Walteria, for trailer or auto camps. He said he did not feel that the people of Walteria should be subjected to the responsibility of being constantly on the alert relative to use of the property near the park.

Councilman Gilbert stated that he felt the applicant should be granted a hearing as a matter of courtesy.

Clerk Bartlett read a communication from the Planning Commission, advising that Case No. 45, Petition for Variance of J. F. Gorman to permit the operation of a trailer camp on the south side of Pacific Coast Highway, between Ocean Avenue and Neece Avenue had been considered at a meeting of the Commission June 5, 1946.

It was advised that, after hearing all the evidence in both written and oral communications, which consisted of eight protests and no approvals, it was unanimously decided to reject the Petition for Variance, and it was recommended that the City Council concur in this action.

Action was withheld pending decision relative to the re-hearing under discussion.

Councilman Tolson stated that, in view of the strong opposition presented, and that fact that several similar requests for use of this property have been denied in the past, a re-hearing would possibly be a waste of time and effort. He added, however, that he would be agreeable to holding a hearing if the remainder of the Council feel it to be necessary.

At this point, Deputy City Attorney Willett interrupted to advise that it is mandatory for the Council to hold hearings when appeals are made, as this is the procedure provided by Land Use Ordinance No. 316 in those cases where applicants are dissatisfied with decisions reached by the Planning Commission and wish to continue the matter further.

Councilman Gilbert moved that, at the adjourned meeting of June 18, 1946, a date be established for the hearing requested by Mr. J. F. Gorman in connection with a Petition for Variance submitted by Mr. Gorman, and designated by the Planning Commission as Case No. 45, in which Petition Mr. Gorman has applied for a variance to allow operation of a trailer camp on the south side of Pacific Coast Highway between Ocean Avenue and Neece Avenue. Councilman Tolson seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Tolson moved that the communication read from the Planning Commission relative to Case No. 45 be held in abeyance until after the hearing. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Nolan F. Robison and Alvan K. Hill, applying for refund on Business License No. 417, issued December 7, 1945 for the operation of a taxi service, it being claimed that the license was not used.

Councilman Gilbert moved that the City Clerk be authorized to make the proper refund on Business License No. 417. Councilman

Tolson seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Powell.

Clerk Bartlett presented the contract between the Torrance Municipal Water District No. 1 and the Luippold Engineering Sales Company for renewal, effective July 1, 1946 to June 30, 1947, being the contract for chlorine gas for water treatment, and advised that the prices and terms are unchanged.

Councilman Gilbert moved that the contract be renewed. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Powell.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 1779

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE RELATIVE TO THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW TRUNK SEWER FOR DISPOSAL OF SEWAGE FROM COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT NO. 5 OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY INCLUDING THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA.

Councilman Gilbert moved that Resolution No. 1779 be adopted. Councilman Tolson seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Powell.

Councilman Tolson stated that, for the benefit of those people who are not familiar with proceedings relative to sewers, the above resolution merely authorizes the County Sanitation District to build the trunk line sewer, and that the funds for same will not be paid from the City General Fund.

Councilman Jackson moved that an appropriation of \$281.70 be made for O.C.D. equipment for the Street Department, in accordance with a list on file with the City Clerk. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Powell.

Councilman Jackson moved that, in accordance with a recommendation of Engineer Jain, Mr. Lee Carl Welpton be employed as a Surveyor and Inspector of Street and Highway Construction, on a temporary basis, pending a Civil Service examination, at a salary of \$250.00 per month, effective June 3, 1946. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Powell.

Councilman Jackson moved that, in accordance with a recommendation of Street Superintendent Perkins, Don A. Lemen be employed as a Laborer, Street Department, on a temporary basis, pending Civil Service examination, at a salary of \$205.00 per month, effective May 21, 1946. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Powell.

Councilman Jackson moved that, in accordance with a recommendation of Street Superintendent Perkins, an appropriation of \$77.86 be made for 993 gallons Bitumuls, Street Department. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Powell.

Councilman Jackson moved that, in accordance with a recommendation of Engineer Jain, an appropriation of not to exceed \$200.00

be made for plant-mix road material for alley intersections. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Powell.

Mayor Sherfey moved that in accordance with a recommendation of Water Manager Stanger, Mr. R. P. Hocott be employed to fill in while the Water Department employees are on vacation, at a salary of \$205.00 per month, his name having been taken from the Civil Service list. Councilman Tolson seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Powell.

Mayor Sherfey moved that an appropriation of \$467.40 be made for one 16" Sparling Main-Line Meter complete with cast steel saddle, suitable for welding on 16" standard steel pipe, meter complete with one straightening vane, for Torrance Municipal Water District No. 1. Councilman Tolson seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Powell.

Mayor Sherfey moved that an appropriation of \$303.81 be made for one Type 212-B Indicating-Totalizing-Recording instrument complete with electric remote control for operation of the above meter; instrument to be complete in pedestal type case to indicate and record rate of flows to a maximum of 3000 gallons per minute on seven day charts. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Powell.

Mayor Sherfey moved that an appropriation of \$303.81 be made for one Type 212-B Indicating-Totalizing-Recording instrument complete with electric remote control as above-described; instrument to indicate and record rate of flows to a maximum of 4000 gallons per minute on seven day charts. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Powell.

Mayor Sherfey moved that an appropriation of \$500.00 be made, payable to A. R. Walker, Architect, for service of Project Directory to regiment all of the materials essential to the Municipal Bonds Issue authorized by the City Council (Post-War Bond issue). Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Powell.

Mayor Sherfey moved that Ethelyn V. Sears be employed as a Stenographer, Legal Department, at a salary of \$185.00 per month, on a temporary basis pending Civil Service examination, effective June 3, 1946. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Powell.

Mayor Sherfey moved that an appropriation of \$142.43 be made for O.C.D. equipment for the Water Department, in accordance with a list on file with the City Clerk. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Powell.

Councilman Tolson moved that an appropriation of \$73.24 be made for O.C.D. equipment for the Fire Department, in accordance with a list on file with the City Clerk. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Powell.

Councilman Tolson moved that an appropriation of \$161.50 be made, payable to Verne D. Crall Enterprises, representing final payment for services rendered. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Powell.

Councilman Gilbert moved that an appropriation of \$55.41 be made for O.C.D. equipment for the Recreation Department, in accordance with a list on file with the City Clerk. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Powell.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Mrs. Evelyn Carr inquired as to progress of the proposed charter for the City of Torrance.

Mayor Sherfey advised that he had been in conference with both City Attorney McCall and Deputy City Attorney Willett relative to this matter, upon which the Attorneys are working at this time, and suggested that an official report be withheld until the meeting of June 18, 1946, it having been understood that Mr. McCall, who is unavoidably absent from this meeting, was to make the report at this meeting.

Clerk Bartlett announced that it is hoped a definite report will be ready for the June 18, 1946 meeting in connection with valuations of Municipal Water District No. 1 (Walteria-South Torrance), and proposed Municipal Water District No. 2 (North Torrance).

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

At 8:55 P.M., upon motion of Councilman Gilbert, seconded by Councilman Tolson, the meeting adjourned to June 18, 1946 at 7:45 P.M.


CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

APPROVED:


MAYOR OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE