

Torrance, California
September 10, 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, September 10, 1946 at 8:05 P.M.

Mayor Sherfey called the meeting to order.

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

All those present in the Council Chamber saluted the Flag.

Councilman Gilbert moved that the minutes of a Regular Meeting held August 27, 1946 be approved as written. Councilman Tolson seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

A communication was read from Taylor and Taylor, Engineers, setting forth the assessed valuation of the lands of the North Torrance M.W.D. #2 at \$696,000.00, and recommending a maximum bond issue of \$174,000.00 to provide the system.

A communication was read from Walter F. Andre, 1905-A Orange Avenue, Long Beach, requesting permission to erect a corrugated Iron Garage temporarily on Lots 16 and 17, Block A, Tract 7506, Walteria, for the purpose of storing material and supplies.

After a short discussion with the City Engineer on whether it would be permissible to erect such a building, Councilman Tolson moved that the City Clerk notify Mr. Andre that it will be necessary for him to secure a building permit to erect the above-mentioned garage. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from the Ravens Club requesting use of the Civic Auditorium on the evening of October 30, 1946 for the purpose of holding a dance.

There was some discussion among the members of the Council, Dale Riley, Superintendent of Recreation, participating, on whether the requested date for holding a dance in the Civic Auditorium would interfere with the activities of the Tartar Town Organization.

Mayor Sherfey moved that this request be referred to Councilman Gilbert for his study and recommendation. Councilman Tolson seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Leo I. Wagner, President of the Torrance Area Boys Club, advising that the Torrance Area's Youth Band, affiliated with the Torrance Boys' Club and The Tartar Town, under joint auspices, have secured the Los Angeles County Band for a concert to be given in the Torrance Civic Auditorium September 25, 1946, and requesting the use of two City busses to transport said Los Angeles County band and their equipment to and from Torrance.

Discussion followed on the availability of two city busses for the above purpose.

Councilman Powell moved that the request be referred to Councilman Tolson, Chairman of the Municipal Bus Lines, and authorizing him to supply the two desired busses, if Councilman Tolson deems it possible. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from E. S. Willard & Sons, Athletic Enterprises, 2282 Cambridge Street, Los Angeles, requesting the use of the Civic Auditorium for weekly amateur boxing shows, and setting forth certain proposals which they would agree to if their request were granted.

Mayor Sherfey moved that the request of E. S. Willard & Sons be referred to the Council as a whole for further study. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from State Employees' Retirement System, advising that they are agreeable to July 1, 1947 as a participation date, without the necessity of a new valuation, and reminding that persons will be one year older and have one more year of prior service, and that any error resulting in the contributions of the City on account of the delay, will be corrected automatically at the next investigation and valuation which no doubt will take place in 1950. Matter of record.

A communication was read from The American Legion, Bert S. Crossland Post No. 170, requesting use of the Civic Auditorium the evening of December 31, 1946 for a New Year's Eve Dance.

Councilman Tolson moved that the above request be granted. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from The Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway Company in reply to the City Clerk's letter of August 26, in regard to eliminating some of the noise of trains operating during the early morning hours. They advised that the matter is being given attention.

Mayor Sherfey moved that the City Clerk be instructed to send a copy of the Santa Fe's letter to Mr. A. L. Elder. Councilman Tolson seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Mr. A. W. Finch, President, Torrance Model Race Car Club, extolling the merits of the Club as a form of free recreation for the residents of Torrance and vicinity, and setting forth plans and suggestions for a complete Hobby Park.

Councilman Gilbert moved that the City Council, with Mr. Riley, Superintendent of Recreation, in attendance, meet with two or three members of the Torrance Model Race Car Club in order to discuss this plan more thoroughly, and requesting Mr. Riley to make the necessary arrangements for such a meeting which will be agreeable to all parties. Councilman Tolson seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from P. I. Haddan, Secretary, Haddan, Inc., suggesting a method of weed abatement for the City of Torrance.

Mayor Sherfey moved that the communication be referred to City Engineer Jain for study and recommendation. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A petition was read from Mr. John A. Woods, stating that on August 30, 1946 he had erected two 16 x 16 army tents on property located on the Southwest corner of Arlington and Santa Fe Avenues, Torrance, to serve as temporary living quarters and for the storage of household goods and equipment, and requesting that he be granted thirty days use of these tents, by which time he will have disposed of his belongings.

After a short discussion with City Engineer Jain as to the location and whether there had been any complaints, Councilman Powell moved that Mr. Wood's request for permission to use the two tents for a period of thirty days be granted. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from the Secretary of the Planning Commission advising that the Commission had considered the request of the City Council for a recommendation upon the moving

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in or construction of Quonset Huts within the City; and it was unanimously decided that the Planning Commission had no authority to act on this matter, under the present Land Use Ordinance No. 316, and that restrictions could only be initiated and enforced by the City Council. The Commission offered no recommendation and referred the matter back to the City Council. The City Engineer was instructed by the Commission to summarize two plans now being followed by Los Angeles and the City of Compton, which plans were detailed in the communication.

After considerable discussion on the procedure followed by other cities and on the two plans outlined by the Planning Commission, Mayor Sherfey moved that the question of moving Quonset Huts into the City of Torrance be referred to the City Council as a whole, the City Engineer and the Planning Commission, for further study.

Councilman Powell suggested that a date be set for a study of this question.

Mayor Sherfey then amended his motion to include "at a date convenient to all concerned, and that City Engineer Jain convey to the Planning Commission the desire of the Council to cooperate with the Veterans in every way possible." Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Glenn M. Jain, Secretary, City Planning Commission, advising that the Commission had considered the Petition for Variance of Sol Burns, Case No. 51, to establish and operate a Salvage Yard at 1338 Border Avenue, Lot 2, Block 112, Torrance Tract.

The communication stated that after considering all the evidence presented, including nine written protests, it was unanimously agreed to deny the Petition for Variance and recommended that the City Council concur in this action.

Councilman Gilbert moved that the City Council concur in the recommendation of the Planning Commission in denying the petition. Councilman Tolson seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Glenn M. Jain, Secretary, City Planning Commission, advising that the Commission had considered the Petition for Variance of Dennis Cook, Case No. 53, to construct a Highway Equipment Maintenance Yard for the State Division of Highways, at the northwest corner of Hickman Drive and Bailey Drive, on a portion of Lot 20, R. O. Hickman Tract.

It was advised that after hearing all the evidence presented, both written and oral, and after a personal inspection of the site, it was unanimously agreed to recommend that the Petition for Variance be granted, with the recommendation that the hedge and fence be so located as not to injure the private residential property across the street on Bailey Drive, and requesting that the City Council concur in this action.

Councilman Powell moved that the City Council concur in the action of the Planning Commission. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Glenn M. Jain, Secretary, City Planning Commission, recommending that the City Council accept Tentative Tract Map covering the re-subdivision of Tract No. 10216, at the Southeast corner of 182nd Street and Hawthorne Avenue, this request having been made by the owner, Mr. Thomas Johnson, who is to prepare and file a "Record of Survey Map" in place of a subdivision map.

Councilman Tolson moved that the City Council accept Tentative Map and agree to accept a properly prepared and executed Record of Survey Map, as permitted by the State Sub-Division Map Act, in accordance with recommendation of the Planning Commission. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from W. C. Bradford, Secretary of the Torrance Civil Service Board, stating that an examination

for the position of Manager of the Torrance Municipal Bus Lines had been requested, as directed by the City Council on August 6th, and inquiring whether this position will carry the same salary as previously paid.

Councilman Tolson moved that the examination for position of Manager of the Bus Lines be held in abeyance until after the Council has decided on the salary to be paid. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 1798

RESOLUTION OF INTENTION TO ORDER
THE VACATION OF THE ALLEY IN LOT
F, TRACT 7506, COUNTY OF LOS
ANGELES.

Councilman Gilbert moved that Resolution No. 1798 be adopted. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Jackson.

Clerk Bartlett presented for first reading, and read title to:

ORDINANCE NO. 376

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING TO PACIFIC
ELECTRIC RAILWAY COMPANY, A COR-
PORATION, ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS,
THE RIGHT TO CONSTRUCT, MAINTAIN, AND
OPERATE A SPUR OR TEAM TRACK UPON AND
ACROSS THE WEST ROADWAY OF FERROCARRIL
AVENUE IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALI-
FORNIA.

Councilman Tolson moved that further reading of Ordinance No. 376 be dispensed with. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Tolson moved that Ordinance No. 376 be adopted for first reading. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Jackson.

Clerk Bartlett presented for first reading, and read title to:

ORDINANCE NO. 377

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA,
DECLARING THE INTENTION OF SAID CITY
COUNCIL OF SAID CITY OF TORRANCE TO
CALL AN ELECTION UNDER THE MUNICIPAL
WATER DISTRICT ACT OF 1935 IN THAT
PART OF THE CITY CONTAINED WITHIN
THE BOUNDARIES OF THE PROPOSED MUNI-
CIPAL WATER DISTRICT, TO BE KNOWN AS
"MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT NO. 2 OF
THE CITY OF TORRANCE", FOR THE PUR-
POSE OF SUBMITTING TO THE ELECTORS OF
SAID DISTRICT THE PROPOSITION OF
AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF
BONDS OF SUCH DISTRICT AND FIXING AND
GIVING NOTICE OF A TIME AND PLACE OF
HEARING.

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Councilman Gilbert moved that further reading of Ordinance No. 377 be dispensed with. Councilman Tolson seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Gilbert moved that Ordinance No. 377 be adopted for first reading. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Jackson.

Councilman Powell moved that Larry Benton be employed as a Patrolman on probation, in the Police Department, at a salary of \$220.00 per month, effective September 16, 1946. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Jackson.

Councilman Powell moved that Mervyn H. Porter be employed as a Patrolman on probation, in the Police Department, at a salary of \$210.00 per month, effective September 16, 1946. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Jackson.

Councilman Powell moved that Jesse W. Holmes be employed as a Patrolman on probation, in the Police Department, at a salary of \$210.00 per month, effective September 16, 1946. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Jackson.

Councilman Tolson moved that an appropriation of \$900.00 be made for the purchase of asphaltic plant-mix material for completing alley intersections and replacing driveways which were adjusted in the city's alley resurfacing program. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Jackson.

A communication was read from Pacific Coast Building Officials Conference, advising that their 24th Annual Business Meeting is scheduled to be held at Victoria, British Columbia, September 17 to 20, and stating that the presence of City Engineer, Glenn M. Jain, as Chairman of the Code Changes Committee, is necessary at this meeting.

Councilman Tolson moved that City Engineer Jain be authorized to attend the Pacific Coast Building Officials Conference meeting at Victoria, British Columbia, September 17 to 20, 1946, with expenses paid. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Jackson.

Councilman Tolson moved that the Tire Mileage Agreement for the Torrance Municipal Bus Lines be renewed with The B. F. Goodrich Company for a period of one year, ending September 30, 1947. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Jackson.

Mayor Sherfey moved that an appropriation of \$106.05 be made for payment to the Chamber of Commerce to cover Advertising & Promotion expenses in behalf of the City of Torrance for the month of August, 1946. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Jackson.

Mayor Sherfey moved that \$25,000.00 be transferred from the General Fund of the Torrance Municipal Improvement District No. 1 (Water Company) to the General Fund of the City of Torrance. Councilman Tolson seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Jackson.

Mayor Sherfey moved that the City Clerk and the City Treasurer be authorized to register warrants pending receipt of tax moneys. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Jackson.

Mayor Sherfey moved that James L. Dresser be employed as Building Inspector at a salary of \$285.00 per month, effective September 16, 1946. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Jackson.

The request of Frank Munoz for permission to hold fiesta and dancing on his farm located on 182nd Street, North Torrance, on Saturdays and Sundays was considered at this time.

Chief Stroh informed the Council that he had inspected the premises and talked to the owner who informed him that the fiesta and dancing was for the amusement of the farmers living in that district. Chief Stroh had no objections to this form of amusement, but suggested that the loud speaker, which was an annoyance to the community, be eliminated and that the Sunday night dancing law be enforced.

Councilman Gilbert moved that the request of Frank Munoz to hold fiesta and dancing on his farm be granted subject to the removal of the loud speaker, and that the dancing be restricted to Saturday nights only. Councilman Tolson seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Clerk Bartlett read a communication from Floyd E. Pendell, Attorney for Charles H. Quandt, in which an official offer was made in regard to proposed purchase by the City of Torrance of the Quandt Water Plant for the sum of \$40,000.00 cash, as shown by the appraisal of Taylor and Taylor and final inspection by Mr. Johnston under date of August 27, 1946. The communication further stated that if withdrawals of certain equipment are made, as shown by a letter given Mr. Johnston, two additional withdrawals will be made, being a pick-up truck and a twenty horsepower Pomona Pump, these withdrawals to be kept by Mr. Quandt, he will accept the sum of \$38,500.00. The communication also stated that if this offer is accepted, Mr. Quandt will arrange to deliver the plant to the City at the earliest possible date.

Mayor Sherfey stated that the Council had not had an opportunity to discuss this matter, whereupon he moved that the offer be referred to the Council as a whole for their consideration. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

None.

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

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At 9:20 P.M., upon motion of Councilman Gilbert, seconded by Councilman Tolson, the meeting adjourned.

A. H. B. Barrett
CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

APPROVED:

George Sheriff Jr
MAYOR OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE