

Torrance, California  
October 15, 1946

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 Ad-journed Regular Meeting in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Torrance, California on Tuesday, October 15, 1946, at 7:45 p.m.

Mayor Sherfey called the meeting to order.

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

All those present in the Council Chamber saluted the Flag.

Mayor Sherfey announced a short recess until 8:00 p.m.

Mayor Sherfey called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m. and announced the Public Hearing for protests against the Municipal Water District No. 2, Ordinance No. 377.

Clerk Bartlett read a written protest from the Farmers' and Merchants' National Bank signed by Mr. R. C. Lemmon, Assistant Trust Officer, submitting their objection to the incorporation of their lands into the proposed Municipal Water District No. 2, said lands being approximately 80 acres on the northerly side of 190th Street and extending from Arlington Street to Crenshaw Boulevard. They stated that the water for irrigation of this land has for many years been furnished by the Moneta Water Company, said company being mutually owned by the land owners to whom it renders service, and that the company is equipped to supply water for domestic use if and when the need arises. They also advised that, owing to the increase in the cost of water under the Municipal Water District No. 2, irrigation of the lands would be prohibitive.

Clerk Bartlett then read a Petition signed by thirty-two persons, representing about 90% of the people in a portion of the proposed Municipal Water District No. 2, requesting that their property be excluded from said Water District. The Petition stated that this Water District, if formed, would cause additional taxation and costs without any real benefits to the people.

Mayor Sherfey asked if any persons who had filed protests wished to be heard in support thereof.

Mr. Persche of South Arlington, Torrance was first to make an oral protest, stating that the people who had submitted the Petition had a plentiful supply of water and that the formation of Municipal Water District No. 2 would only add an extra burden of taxes.

Mr. R. W. Bennett, representing the Farmers' and Merchants' National Bank, upheld the statements as set forth in the communication from said Bank and requested that the City Council consider the matter further before going ahead.

Mayor Sherfey asked if any others wished to speak upon the matter before the Council.

Mr. Frank Carrell spoke in behalf of one of the Petition signers, stating that the particular area mentioned in the Petition has no need for a new Water District, that they had just relieved themselves of bonds on the present Water Company and do not wish to take on the burden of more bonds.

At this time Clerk Bartlett put Mr. Arthur Taylor, of Taylor and Taylor, Engineers, under oath in order that he might give testimony regarding the plan and scope of the proposed water distribution system, the benefits to the land within the district and the estimated cost of \$157,000 for improvement and \$17,000 for incidental expenses, making a total of \$174,000. Mr. Taylor also stated that the taxes on the people would only amount to around \$2.25 a year. He advised that the new Water District, when formed, could offer a means of reciprocating with both the Moneta Water Company and the Metropolitan Water Company in case any one of them runs low on water supply.

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Mr. Stevens, Manager of the Moneta Water Company stated that, since 1912 his water company has served in the Cities of Gardena, Torrance, Los Angeles and in Los Angeles County and that it is prepared to include the district in North Torrance.

Mayor Sherfey announced a recess at 9:05 p.m. for the purpose of discussion among the Council of the proposed Municipal Water District No. 2.

At 9:30 p.m. Mayor Sherfey called the meeting to order and announced that the Council had decided to deny all protests to the proposed Water District and so moved. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 1802

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, CALLING, PROVIDING FOR AND GIVING NOTICE OF A SPECIAL ELECTION TO BE HELD NOVEMBER 19, 1946 WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT NO. 2 OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AS DESCRIBED HEREIN AND PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION TO THE QUALIFIED VOTERS OF SAID DISTRICT OF THE PROPOSITION OF INCURRING A DEBT BY THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS OF SUCH DISTRICT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$174,000.00 TO PAY THE COSTS AND EXPENSES OF ACQUIRING AND CONSTRUCTING WATER WORKS FOR SAID DISTRICT.

Councilman Tolson moved that further reading of Resolution No. 1802 be dispensed with. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Tolson moved that Resolution No. 1802 be adopted. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

A communication was read from the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, signed by Bob Haggard, Chairman of the Parking Committee, protesting passage of Ordinance No. 378 for the installation of Parking Meters in the retail district of Torrance.

A communication was read from Glenn M. Jain, City Engineer submitting a schedule of prevailing wage rates which he recommended for adoption by the City Council for corporation into the specifications and bid forms for the Walteria Water System, Municipal Water District No. 1.

Councilman Tolson moved that the wage scale recommended by the City Engineer be adopted. Councilman Powell seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert.

A communication was read from the Civil Service Board, signed by W. C. Bradford, Secretary, requesting that a classification of "Timekeeper-Clerk" be established by the City Council for the Street Department, said classification to supersede the present classification of "Clerk". The reason for this request was that the new title would more fully designate the duties of the position.

Councilman Jackson moved that the new classification be established, subject to a promotional examination. Councilman Tolson seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

A post-card communication was read from Mr. Emmett A. Ryan advising that he had received a letter from Mr. Raymond V. Darby, Supervisor of the County Health Department and that said Department is investigating the General Petroleum Corporation Refinery's health hazard of fumes and smoke. He recommended the use of a tall stack which could be constructed by the Refinery Engineers, and asked that the City Council lend their support in the matter.

Mayor Sherfey moved that the communication be filed for future consideration. Councilman Tolson seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Mr. J. B. Moore, 10335 La Grange Avenue, Los Angeles, requesting a permit for him and his family to live in their house-trailer on the back of their lot at 3713 - 174th Street in North Torrance, until their house has been built.

Councilman Powell moved that a ninety-day permit be granted to Mr. Moore. Councilman Tolson seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 1803

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE A REVOCABLE PERMIT PREPARED BY PUBLIC ROADS DEPARTMENT AND RECEIVED FROM THE COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC ROADS, REGARDING LOMITA FLIGHT STRIP.

Councilman Tolson moved that Resolution No. 1803 be adopted. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read title to:

ORDINANCE NO. 378

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE RELATING TO TRAFFIC AND REGULATING THE USE OF PUBLIC STREETS AND HIGHWAYS OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE; PROVIDING FOR THE INSTALLATION, REGULATION AND CONTROL OF THE USE OF PARKING METERS AND PARKING METER ZONES; DEFINING PARKING METER ZONES; AUTHORIZING A METHOD OF PAYMENT FOR PARKING METERS AND THE INSTALLATION THEREOF EXCLUSIVELY FROM THE RECEIPTS OBTAINED FROM THEIR OPERATION; PROVIDING FOR ENFORCEMENT AND PENALTY FOR VIOLATION THEREOF; AND PROVIDING THAT INVALIDITY OF PART SHALL NOT AFFECT THE VALIDITY OF REMAINDER.

Councilman Powell moved that further reading of Ordinance No. 378 be dispensed with. Councilman Tolson seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Powell moved that Ordinance No. 378 be adopted for second and final reading. Councilman Tolson seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read title to:

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ORDINANCE NO. 379

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE IMPOSING A LICENSE TAX FOR THE PRIVILEGE OF SELLING TANGIBLE PERSONAL PROPERTY AT RETAIL, PROVIDING FOR THE COLLECTING AND PAYING OF SUCH TAX, AND PRESCRIBING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS OF THE PROVISIONS HEREOF.

Councilman Tolson moved that further reading of Ordinance No. 379 be dispensed with. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Tolson moved that Ordinance No. 379 be adopted for first reading. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert.

Clerk Bartlett presented:

AN ORDINANCE CREATING THE OFFICE OF AIR POLLUTION CONTROL OFFICER AND PROVIDING FOR THE ALLEVIATION OF AIR POLLUTIONS.

At the request of Mr. R. I. Plomert, Representative from General Petroleum Corporation, Councilman Tolson moved that the proposed Ordinance, the title of which is foregoing, be held up until the next Council Meeting in order to give Mr. Plomert sufficient time to examine the ordinance before adoption. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, signed by John T. McGrary, Jr., General Chairman of the Christmas street Decorations Committee requesting the donation by the City of their colored lights for decorating certain sections of the Retail District in Torrance for the Christmas Holiday season.

Councilman Powell moved that City Engineer Glenn M. Jain be authorized to contact the Edison Company and have them furnish the power for these electric lights, and that the City Electricians be authorized to install them. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert.

Councilman Powell, in concurrence with the recommendation submitted by J. E. McMaster, Chief of the Fire Department, moved that two fire hydrants be installed at the following locations: One on Flower Avenue 700 feet south of Carson Street, and one on Carson Street 400 feet east of Abalone Avenue. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Jackson moved that the City Council authorize the appointment of the following Street Department employees to the position of "Truck Driver I", at a salary of \$215.00 per month, effective October 1, 1946.

Howard A. Andrews  
Pinkney S. Cruze  
Jack R. Stephens  
Roy E. Thompson

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

Councilman Jackson moved that Don A. Lemen, at present classified as "Laborer" in the Street Department, be given a temporary appointment as "Timekeeper-Clerk" pending the holding of a Civil Service Examination at a salary of \$215.00 per month, to be effective October 1, 1946. Mayor Sherfey seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert.

Councilman Jackson moved that an appropriation of \$1550.00 be made for road materials for the resurfacing of Plaza del Amo, between Carson Street and Arlington Avenue. Councilman Powell seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert.

Councilman Jackson stated that he had received a report from Engineer Jain on the matter of resurfacing 203rd Street in the Pueblo District. The estimated cost of materials alone is \$950.00. The City Engineer, in his report, stated that the work can be started on November 1, 1946 and completed on or around November 30, 1946.

Mayor Sherfey, at this time, asked if Mr. A. W. Finch, Chairman of the Miniature Auto Club, was present in the assemblage. Mr. Dale Riley addressed the Council, stating that Mr. Finch had been in the Council Chambers earlier in the evening, and had discussed the problem of the Miniature Auto Oval with him. Mr. Finch had advised Mr. Riley that all members of the Club were willing to cooperate in reducing the antagonism of the residents living near the Auto Oval on Plaza del Amo by limiting their hours and posting a sign to that effect, as well as putting a padlock on the gate.

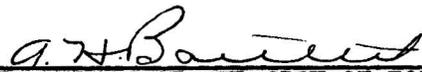
Mr. Fred Turner, 1860 Plaza del Amo, Torrance, advised the Council that he is the father of the child stricken with Polio who must have absolute quiet for her recovery, which immediately brought about the following action:

Councilman Powell moved that the City Clerk be authorized to notify Mr. Finch of the decision of the City Council to request the Miniature Auto Club to cease operating at the track until the Polio patient has recovered sufficiently, and that the Recreation Superintendent, Mr. Dale Riley be authorized to post a sign to that effect, and also to padlock the gate. Councilman Tolson seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

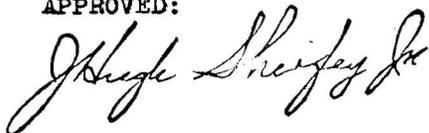
Mayor Sherfey made the suggestion that considerable study be given to the matter of changing the location of the Miniature Auto Oval so that there would be no more complaints from residents in the City of Torrance.

Councilman Tolson moved that all bills properly audited be paid. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

At 10:20 P.M., Councilman Tolson moved that the meeting be adjourned. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

  
CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

APPROVED:



MAYOR OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

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