

ABG943

Torrance, California  
January 14, 1947

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, January 14, 1947 at 7:50 p.m.

Mayor Sherfey called the meeting to order.

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

All those present in the Council Chamber saluted the Flag.

Councilman Tolson moved that the minutes of an Adjourned Regular Meeting held Tuesday, January 7, 1947 be approved as written. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

A communication was read from the Richfield Oil Corporation, Richfield Building, Los Angeles, advising that no pipelines were laid, removed or abandoned during the period from July 1, 1946 to December 31, 1946, under County Franchise Ordinance No. 1358-1361 N.S. Matter of record.

A communication was read from the Union Oil Company of California, Union Oil Building, Los Angeles, advising that no permits

to place pipe lines or conduits were issued and no such pipe lines or conduits were constructed during the period from July 1, 1946 to December 31, 1946 under the County Franchise Ordinance No. 1010 (N.S.). Matter of record.

A communication was read from Union Oil Company of California, Union Oil Building, Los Angeles, advising that the Pan American Petroleum Company which was assigned to them on November 19, 1930, has not issued any permits for, or placed, pipe lines or conduits during the period from July 1, 1946 to December 31, 1946 under County Franchise Ordinance No. 1501 (N.S.). Matter of record.

A communication was read from Mr. Kenneth P. Cates of Technocracy, Inc., 1526 Cravens Avenue, Room 6, requesting the use of the Civic Auditorium for a dance to be held on Saturday, March 15, 1947.

Councilman Tolson advised that Saturday night is permanently reserved for the Tartar Town Canteen, which is sponsored by Mr. Ted Meier of the Y.M.C.A.

Councilman Gilbert moved that the City Clerk be authorized to communicate with Mr. Cates and advise him to contact Mr. Meier to see if the Canteen will relinquish the use of the Auditorium on March 15, 1947. Councilman Tolson seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Mrs. Mary Merino, 10903 Hawthorne Boulevard, Inglewood, making application for a license to practice Phrenology, (the art of analysing one's talents for certain vocations) in the City of Torrance.

Councilman Gilbert moved that this communication be referred to Chief of Police John H. Stroh for investigation and recommendation to the Council. Councilman Powell seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Mr. Charles A. Tansey, 2607 Sonoma Street, requesting a refund of \$15.00, his filing fee for a Zoning Variance which, according to information from the Engineering Department, was not necessary in his case.

Councilman Tolson moved that this \$15.00 refund be made. Councilman Powell seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

A communication was read from Lawrence Brothers Appliance Company, 2644 East Anaheim Street, Long Beach, protesting the present license fee for automatic music machines, with the request that a flat fee of \$5.00 per machine per annum be established.

Councilman Powell moved that this communication be referred to the entire City Council for study and report at the next regular meeting. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Mr. J. E. Kettler, 1558 S. Long Beach Boulevard, Compton, requesting a Hearing with the Council in the matter of street installation and improvements in Tract No. 14016, which would provide for the extension of Cabrillo Avenue through to 101 Highway. This matter ~~was~~ and also the matter of providing the Narbonne-Sepulveda intersection and grading Sepulveda Boulevard to the proposed grades were to be investigated by the City and a report made.

Councilman Tolson moved that the Council meet with Mr. Kettler at an early date to discuss these matters and give Mr. Kettler a definite answer. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

A Claim against the City of Torrance and Wylton P. Zigler, Bus Driver, filed by Elizabeth Root Rockwell, in behalf of her charge, Susan M. Rockwell, a minor, was presented; such claim demanding a sum of \$10,300.00 for damages resulting from an automobile accident which occurred while said Susan M. Rockwell was attempting to board Torrance Municipal Bus No. 118.

Councilman Powell moved that this Claim be referred to the Legal Department and that the City Council deny this charge on the grounds that it was not filed within the required length of time and because there was no liability. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Howard A. Wood, M.D., Chairman of the Torrance Charter Committee, advising that the members of said Committee have expended private funds to carry on the duties in connection with the preparation of the City Charter which has been adopted by the people of Torrance, and requesting an appropriation of \$600.00 to reimburse members for funds so expended in the interest of the City.

Councilman Tolson moved that the Council authorize the payment of bills contracted by the Charter Committee up to the amount of \$600.00. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Powell and Sherfey. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor Sherfey moved that the Council order an itemized report of all bills contracted by the Torrance Charter Committee. Councilman Powell seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

A Resolution, submitted by the Torrance Charter Committee and subject to the approval of the Council, was read, embodying the appreciation of the people of Torrance to the Honorable Vincent Thomas, Assemblyman, 68th District, Los Angeles County, and the Honorable Jack B. Tenney, Senator, 38th District, Los Angeles County, for valuable public services in securing the ratification of the City Charter of the City of Torrance; and directing the City Clerk of the City of Torrance to forward copies of this Resolution to Assemblyman Thomas and Senator Tenney at the State Capitol Building, Sacramento, California.

Councilman Tolson moved that this Resolution be adopted. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Mr. Arthur Taylor of the Engineering Offices of Taylor and Taylor, 725 South Spring Street, Los Angeles, submitting Specifications dated January 15, 1947 for "Materials for Water Pipe Lines and Accessories" for Municipal Water District No. 2.

Councilman Tolson moved that the adoption of these Specifications be authorized by the City Council. Councilman Powell seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor Sherfey moved that the City Clerk be authorized and directed to advertise for bids on material for Municipal Water District No. 2. Councilman Powell seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

A communication was read from Mr. P. I. Haddan, Jr., Secretary of Haddan, Inc., 831 No. Eucalyptus Avenue, Inglewood, offering a proposal for the abatement of weeds to eliminate next year's fire hazard in the City of Torrance, and suggesting that an ordinance be drawn up so that the cost of this service will be paid by each individual lot owner.

Mr. Haddan, who was present in the assemblage, informed the Council that the cost of this work will run between \$3.50 and \$4.00 per lot.

Councilman Powell moved that the matter of drawing up an ordinance be referred to the Legal Department for study and recommendation to the Council. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Mr. O. F. Cooley, Road Commissioner of the County of Los Angeles Road Department, submitting a report by the Los Angeles County Traffic Committee regarding the traffic conditions at the intersection of Crenshaw and Redondo Beach Boulevard.

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Mr. Glenn M. Jain, City Engineer, stated that the widening of the south approach of Crenshaw Boulevard would be a County project and suggested that the County might react favorably to a request from the City Council to have this work done.

Councilman Powell moved that the matter of checking the cost of a Code W-21-R Nine Unit Reflector sign for installation on Crenshaw Boulevard be referred to Chief of Police John H. Stroh for a recommendation to the Council. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Chief of Police John H. Stroh, requesting that the Police Department be authorized to post twelve "NO LEFT TURN" signs to alleviate the traffic hazards on Sartori Avenue, from Cabrillo to El Prado. These twelve signs are to be purchased from the Southern California Automobile Club for \$1.25 each, the pedestals to be supplied by the City's Garage Mechanic. He also recommended that a Resolution be adopted to take care of violators of the above-mentioned signs.

Councilman Powell moved that Chief Stroh's requests be concurred in and that the Police Department be authorized to post these signs. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

A communication was read from W. C. Bradford, Secretary of the Civil Service Board, requesting that the Council concur in the recommendations of J. E. McMaster, Chief of the Fire Department regarding salaries and classification of personnel in the Fire Department.

Councilman Powell moved that the Chief's recommendations be concurred in. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Mr. Jack Isen, 924 South Catalina Street, Los Angeles, addressed to the Torrance Police Department, commending the Department for its vigilance and quick action in apprehending the perpetrator of the recent Bottle Shop holdup. Matter of record.

A communication was read from Bernard J. Donhue, Boys' Vice Principal of Torrance High School, addressed to Chief of Police John H. Stroh, expressing appreciation to the Police Department for assisting in the control of the crowd at the football games last fall. Matter of record.

A Petition, containing the names of nineteen residents on Gramercy, was read requesting that the street lights now being installed by the Southern California Edison Company on Gramercy Avenue, in the Park Knolls Tract (south of Plaza del Amo) be removed, as they feel that they are detrimental to their property.

Councilman Gilbert moved that this Petition be referred to the entire City Council for study and action at the next regular meeting. Councilman Powell seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Jackson moved that an appropriation of \$550.00, plus tax, be made for the purchase of one hundred street light bowls at \$5.50 each from the Ray-Lite Glass Company at 3172 Santa Ana Street, South Gate, for Replacement purposes. Councilman Powell seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Jackson moved that an appropriation of \$350.00 be made for construction of a sidewalk along the north side of Plaza del Amo, between Arlington Avenue and Martina Avenue to relieve the necessity of school children walking out in the street on their way to and from school. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Jackson moved that an appropriation of \$2858.47 be made for the purchase of a Ford truck, complete with hoist and dump body for the Street Department. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Tolson moved that the Mayor be authorized to execute the amended Agreement between the Municipal Water District No. 1 (Walteria) and the Grinnell Company. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Tolson moved that the Mayor be authorized to execute the amended Agreement between the Municipal Water District No. 1 (Walteria) and the Crane Company. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Tolson moved that the City Council authorize the refund of \$24.00 to the Log Cabin Bread Company due to the fact that they are no longer operating in the City of Torrance. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Tolson moved that an appropriation of \$362.62 be made for the purchase of 504 ft. 4" x 18' Class 150 Cast Iron Pipe for the Water Department. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Tolson moved that an appropriation of \$113.98 be made for the purchase of 2 - 8" Gate Valves for the Water Department. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Gilbert moved that an appropriation of \$351.60 be made to pay the sewer assessment on Lots 62 and 63, Tract 9901, owned by the City, for playground purposes. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Gilbert moved that an appropriation of \$74.00 plus tax be made for the purchase of 200 lbs. of red top grass seed to be used for seeding ball park at Fern Avenue. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor Sherfey moved to authorize the printing of the bonds for Municipal Water District No. 2 (North Torrance) to be done by Jeffries Banknote Company. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor Sherfey moved to appoint Mr. Paul M. Watson, 1328 Acacia Avenue, to fill the unexpired term of Howard P. Raymond, Chairman of the Civil Service Board, whose resignation is accepted, effective as of December 18, 1946. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

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Councilman Gilbert moved that Clerk Bartlett be authorized to notify Mr. Watson of his appointment as a member of the Civil Service Board. Councilman Powell seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

Glenn M. Jain, City Engineer, made the recommendation that, with the Council's approval, the Debt Limitation Hearing on the sewer assessment districts in WALTERIA and South Torrance will be held on Tuesday, March 4, 1947. He stated that the final report by Harold Barnett, Engineer, will be submitted at the meeting of July 15, 1947.

Councilman Tolson moved that the Council authorize the employment of the Engineering Offices of Taylor and Taylor, 725 South Spring Street, Los Angeles, to negotiate with the Metropolitan Water District and place order for water meter service for Torrance Municipal Water District Nos. 1 and 2. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

#### ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. J. E. Kettler, 1558 So. Long Beach Boulevard, Compton, addressed the Council with the request that an appointment for an informal meeting with the Council be made for discussion of street installation and improvements in Tract No. 14016. Mayor Sherfey informed Mr. Kettler that an informal meeting will be held on Monday, January 20, 1947 at 7:00 p.m., to which he is invited.

Mrs. Bessie Slonecker, Secretary of the WALTERIA Civic Organization, requested information regarding the letters she submitted to the Council with reference to the bus terminal in WALTERIA. Councilman Tolson informed Mrs. Slonecker that the recent letter had been turned over to Mr. William H. Murphey, Acting Manager of the Bus Lines, and that an answer should soon be forthcoming.

Mr. W. M. Edwards, President of the Hollywood Riviera Home-owners Association, asked the Council what action had been taken in the installation of a street light at the east side of the intersection at Pales Verdes Parkway and Calle Miramar.

Mayor Sherfey read a portion of the minutes of a Regular Meeting held Tuesday, January 7, 1947, which explained that the problem had been referred to City Engineer, Glenn M. Jain, for action.

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, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

At 8:53 p.m., upon motion by Councilman Gilbert, seconded by Councilman Tolson, the meeting adjourned to Tuesday, January 21, 1947, at 7:45 p.m.

*A. H. Bartlett*  
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 CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

APPROVED:

*John H. Sherfey Jr.*  
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 MAYOR OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE