

ABG943

Torrance, California
June 24, 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, June 24, 1947, at 7:45 p.m.

Mayor Sherfey called the meeting to order.

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

All those present in the Council Chamber saluted the Flag.

Councilman Jackson moved that the Minutes of a Regular Meeting held June 10, 1947 and the Minutes of an Adjourned Regular Meeting held June 13, 1947 be approved as written. Councilman Tolson seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

A communication was read from Mrs. Eva E. Kelley, 23863 Park Street, WALTERIA, requesting permission to sell ready-to-wear garments in her home which is in the R-1 Zone.

After discussing business restrictions under the Land Use Ordinance as it affects her case, Mayor Sherfey moved that the City Engineer be instructed to write Mrs. Kelley advising her of all restrictions for home occupation and inform her also that a business license is required.

At 8:00 p.m. Clerk Bartlett announced that bids for garbage for the 1947-48 fiscal year should be opened, which bids were opened and read as follows:

BIDDER

George M. Green
1511 Post Avenue
Torrance, California

BID

\$500.00 per month to be paid by City to the contractor and 25¢ per month for each completed and occupied unit.

A Cashier's Check for \$100.00 accompanied bid.

BIDDER

Everett L. Miller
1626 Vorhees Avenue
Manhattan Beach, California

\$790.00 per month to be paid by
City to the contractor and 25¢
per month for each completed
and occupied unit.

A Cashier's Check for \$100.00 accompanied bid.

Arthur Kazarian
8720-3rd Avenue
Inglewood, California

\$825.00 per month to be paid by
City to the contractor and 25¢
per month for each completed
and occupied unit.

A Cashier's Check for \$100.00 accompanied bid.

Roscoe R. Brant
3493 Spencer Street
Torrance, California

\$780.00 per month to be paid by
City to the contractor and 25¢
per month for each completed
and occupied unit.

A Cashier's Check for \$100.00 accompanied bid.

James Pratty
P.O. Box 6733
Los Angeles 22, Calif.

\$674.00 per month to be paid by
City to the contractor and 25¢
per month for each completed
and occupied unit.

A Cashier's Check for \$100.00 accompanied bid.

As George M. Green submitted the lowest bid for garbage and tin can collection and disposal, Councilman Gilbert moved that George M. Green, who has given satisfactory service in the past, be awarded contract for the fiscal year 1947-48. 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.

Bids for gasoline for the 1947-48 fiscal year, which were opened and read at the meeting of June 10, 1947 and referred to the Council and City Attorney for study and recommendation, were presented for consideration at this time.

The Tide Water Associated Oil Company, Associated Division, being the lowest bidder, Councilman Gilbert moved that said company be awarded the gasoline contract for the fiscal year 1947-48 and that all other bids be rejected. 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. E. Bowen, Insurance Agent, 1327 Post Avenue, requesting favorable consideration for insurance business for the City of Torrance.

In answer to Councilman Tolson's inquiry if any insurance was due for renewal, Clerk Bartlett replied that this question will be answered later in the meeting.

A communication was read from Fred Blake, Park Superintendent, submitting his resignation, effective June 16, 1947.

A communication was read from Standard Gas Company enclosing Acceptance of Franchise No. 389. Matter of record.

Councilman Gilbert referred to Mr. Blake's resignation, and moved that the City Clerk be authorized to write a letter of appreciation to Mr. Blake for his service to the City. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Torrance Area Youth Bands, signed by Mr. James Van Dyck, Director, requesting change in rehearsal schedule and additional use of the Civic Auditorium.

After discussion on whether there will be any conflict with the present auditorium schedule and if this will entail extra service on the part of the Auditorium employees, Councilman Gilbert moved that the City Clerk be authorized to check this matter with the City Custodian and report to the Council. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Clarence D. Hutson, Manager, Location Department, Twentieth Century-Fox Film Corporation, expressing appreciation for the fine cooperation received through Mr. Dale Riley, Superintendent of Recreation, in connection with the use of the Torrance Municipal Park, which was used in the filming of certain parts of a picture entitled OFF TO BUFFALO.

A communication was read from The National Supply Company submitting an agreement in connection with the intended improvement of Western Avenue from 182nd Street to 260th Street, this improvement being adjacent to their property. This agreement is a release to the City and is not valid unless all of the conditions therein have been agreed to and accepted by the City Council on behalf of the City of Torrance.

The City Attorney advised that this agreement be referred to the City Engineer and himself for study.

Councilman Tolson moved that the agreement from The National Supply Company be referred to the City Engineer and City Attorney for study and recommendation to the Council. Councilman Powell seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

A petition was read from the California Nevada Properties, Inc. requesting that certain lots in Tract 10306 be rezoned from A-1, Agricultural to R-1, Single Family Residential.

Councilman Tolson moved that the petition for change of zone be referred to the Planning Commission. Councilman Powell seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

A petition was read from F. J. Nestor requesting that Lot 25, Meadow Park Tract, be rezoned from A-1 to C-2.

Councilman Tolson moved that this petition for change of zone be referred to the Planning Commission. Councilman Powell seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

A petition, bearing thirty-seven signatures, was read requesting the Council to remove the sump holes and remains of the old dehydrating plant located at Lincoln and Border Avenues, which constitutes a menace to the safety of children and is a detriment to the community.

After discussing various methods of eliminating the dangers presented by these sump holes, Councilman Powell moved that Fire Chief McMaster and City Engineer Jain be authorized to inspect the sump holes and dehydrating plant located at Lincoln and Border Avenues, and report their findings and recommendations to the Council at the next regular meeting. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

An application for the operation of one taxi cab in the City of Torrance was submitted by Joseph DeSalvo.

Councilman Tolson moved that, upon recommendation of Chief of Police Stroh, the application be denied. Councilman Powell seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

Fire Chief McMaster reported by letter that he had contacted business establishments in Torrance in regard to waste paper in the back of their stores, and had ascertained that some concerns store the waste paper in the rear of their stores and others have containers to hold same, and that this waste paper is placed outside in the alley on the morning the pick-up truck makes its rounds.

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Clerk Bartlett explained that the bond covering thirty-three employees will expire July 1, 1947, and that the rate charged by all bonding companies is the same, namely \$5.00 per \$1000.00.

Councilman Tolson moved that W. E. Bowen, Insurance Agent, be requested to write a new bond to cover approximately thirty-three employees, for the fiscal year 1947-48. Councilman Powell seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: ~~COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey.~~ NOES: ~~COUNCILMEN: None.~~ ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Jackson moved that an appropriation of \$970.26 be made for the purchase of the following material for stock: 3/4" Couplings, 3/4" Stops L.W. Service, 2" Brass Valves and 3/4" Goosenecks complete for Torrance Municipal Improvement District No. 1. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Jackson, Gilbert, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Jackson moved that an appropriation of \$974.25 be made for the purchase of 225 - 3/4" Goosenecks complete, for stock, for Torrance Municipal Improvement District No. 1. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Jackson, Gilbert, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Gilbert moved that an appropriation of \$974.60 be made for the purchase of the following material for stock: 1" Galvanized Pipe, 3/4" Galvanized Pipe, 3/4" x 5" Galvanized Nipples, 3/4" x 6" Galvanized Nipples, 3/4" x 8" Galvanized Nipples, 1" x 4" Galvanized Nipples, 2" x 4" Galvanized Nipples, 2" x 5" Galvanized Nipples, 2" x 6" Galvanized Nipples; 3/4" and 1" Ells, for Torrance Municipal Improvement District No. 1. 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 Jackson moved that an appropriation of \$991.62 be made for the purchase of the following material for stock for Torrance Municipal Improvement District No. 1: 6" Cross All Bell, 4" Bends 90°, 6" Bends 90°, 6" Bends 45°, 1" Galvanized Pipe, 2" Galvanized Pipe, 6" Plugs, 10" Plugs, 6" Sleeves Short, 4" Tees All Bell, 6" x 4" Tees All Bell, 6" Tees All Bell, 2" x 1" Galvanized Tees. 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 \$913.80 be made for the purchase of 3/4" Meter Boxes with C.I. Covers and #6 Meter Boxes Reg. for stock for Torrance Municipal Improvement District No. 1. 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 \$952.00 be made for the purchase of 5/8" x 3/4" Water Meters for stock for Torrance Municipal Improvement District No. 1. 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 \$792.60 be made for the purchase of 6" Valves for stock for Torrance Municipal Improvement District No. 1. 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 \$732.50 be made for the purchase of 1" Water Meters for stock for Torrance Municipal Improvement District No. 1. Mayor Sherfey 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 \$760.00 be made for the purchase of 2" Water Meters for stock for Torrance Municipal Improvement District No. 1. 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.

Councilman Gilbert moved that an appropriation of \$806.64 be made for the purchase of 6 x 55 Hydrant Barrels, 6 x 4 x 2½ Hydrant Heads for stock for Torrance Municipal Improvement District No. 1. 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 Jackson moved that an appropriation of \$305.28 be made for 6" Welded 14 Gage Pipe for stock for Torrance Municipal Improvement District No. 1. 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 Tolson moved that the Mayor be authorized to execute contract with the Los Angeles County Library Board for library service for the fiscal year 1947-48. 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 the contract with the Torrance Herald for legal advertising be renewed for the fiscal year 1947-48. 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 the contract with the Southern California Edison Company covering street lights be renewed for the fiscal year 1947-48. 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.

Clerk Bartlett presented:

RESOLUTION NO. 1841

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING STIPULATION FOR JUDGMENT.

City Attorney Willett explained that this resolution concerns a large number of law suits brought by various banks for the recovery of taxes paid for the tax years 1941-42 to 1946-47, on bank fixtures which if classified as personal property would be exempt from taxation; and authorizing the City Attorney to stipulate on behalf of the City that judgment be entered in accordance with the final decision entered in certain Test Cases now pending in the Superior Court.

Councilman Tolson moved that Resolution No. 1841 be adopted. 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.

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Clerk Bartlett presented for first reading and read title to:

ORDINANCE NO. 390

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE,
CALIFORNIA AMENDING SECTION 6 OF
ORDINANCE NO. 366.

Clerk Bartlett explained that this ordinance amends that section of the taxi cab ordinance by providing for the reduction of the amount paid for personal injury to two or more persons.

Councilman Tolson moved that further reading of Ordinance No. 390 be dispensed with. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Tolson moved that Ordinance No. 390 be adopted for first reading. 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.

Clerk Bartlett presented for first reading and read title to:

ORDINANCE NO. 391

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING
LAND USE ORDINANCE NO. 316, RECLASSIFYING LOTS
5 AND 6, BLOCK 5, LOTS 9 AND 10, BLOCK 2, ALL
IN TRACT NO. 3757; THE EAST 160 FEET OF LOT 21,
TRACT NO. 3757; AND THE EAST 160 FEET OF LOT 20,
TRACT NO. 10185, LYING SOUTH OF LOT 6, BLOCK 5,
TRACT NO. 3757, HEREINAFTER DESCRIBED.

Councilman Gilbert moved that further reading of Ordinance No. 391 be suspended. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Gilbert moved that Ordinance No. 391 be adopted for first reading. 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 California Nevada Properties Inc., in reply to the City's letter of June 16th, regarding the installation of fire hydrants in Tract 10306, and advising that the water company serving Tract 10306 will not assume the payment of the hydrants. They claimed that although the City might rent the fire hydrants this would not reimburse them for their initial expenditure and requested that other satisfactory arrangements be made.

Councilman Powell moved that the request from the California Nevada Properties Inc. be referred to the Council as a whole for study. Councilman Tolson seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Powell moved that an appropriation not to exceed \$50.00 be made for parts to repair the fire truck which was formerly stationed at the Municipal Airport. 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 expenditure of \$86.10 be authorized for the purchase of two gates and fittings to be used in the chain link fence at the Ball Park. 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 that the Civil Service Board be authorized to call for an examination for the position of Bus Manager, with residence requirement waived for this one particular examination,

for the purpose of obtaining the services of a qualified manager, the results of the last examination disclosing that no applicant had passed. Councilman Tolson seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

Mayor Sherfey moved that the Civil Service Board be authorized to call for an examination for the position of Park Superintendent. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

Mayor Sherfey moved that the Civil Service Board be authorized to call for an examination for the position of Police Investigator. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

Chief Stroh explained that an examination had already been held for the position of Police Investigator.

Mayor Sherfey then withdrew his motion and Councilman Gilbert withdrew his second.

Mayor Sherfey moved that an appropriation of \$16,500.00 be made from the General Fund to repay the current loan made from the Torrance Municipal Improvement District No. 1. 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.

Mayor Sherfey moved that the City Clerk be instructed to make formal request of the Dominguez Water Company for continuation of their water line on or near the location of Hawthorne Avenue and Spencer Street; stating that this request meets with the approval of Fire Chief McMaster and the Engineer of the Dominguez Water Company. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

City Engineer Jain had no report to make on the Pacific Electric Railway Company's permit.

A communication was read from Fire Chief McMaster submitting list of turnout suits and equipment furnished firemen, and stating that part of the turnout suits, boots and helmets are never returned when the men leave the service.

Mayor Sherfey moved that the Council meet with Fire Chief McMaster for the purpose of discussing this matter. Councilman Tolson seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Gilbert moved that the recommendation of the Civil Service Board to give Mr. Hoerr half-time employment in the Park Department, or some other department, in addition to his duties as caretaker at the City Dump be concurred in. Councilman Powell seconded the motion.

After some discussion on Mr. Hoerr's status under the Retirement System, Councilman Powell withdrew his second and Councilman Gilbert amended his motion as follows: "I move that action on the recommendation of the Civil Service Board that Mr. Hoerr be given half-time employment, in addition to his duties as caretaker at the City Dump, be held in abeyance, and that the City Attorney be instructed to ascertain from the State Employees' Retirement System Mr. Hoerr's rights under the Retirement System." Mayor Sherfey seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Harry Greenwood, 1407 Marcelina, said he understood that some of the City's insurance will expire July 1st and asked if the City was calling for bids. Clerk Bartlett read the policies that will expire and informed Mr. Greenwood that he could come to the office any time and check over the policies.

A discussion followed on the best possible way of eliminating the hazards created by abandoned oil wells. The City Attorney explained that the City of Los Angeles has an ordinance which requires that a bond be posted guaranteeing the cleaning up of abandoned wells, which would be required of the lease holder, and that most cities have such an ordinance.

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City Engineer Jain stated that sometime ago an ordinance was partially prepared but that it has never been adopted.

Councilman Powell moved that City Attorney Willett prepare an ordinance to take care of abandoned oil wells, to include the posting of a bond which will guarantee the cleaning up of such wells, which will be satisfactory to the Fire Chief and City Engineer. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

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

At 9:05 p.m., upon motion of Councilman Tolson, seconded by Councilman Gilbert, and unanimously carried, the meeting adjourned.

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

APPROVED:

J. H. Sherfey, Jr.
MAYOR OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE