

Torrance, California
January 11, 1949

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 11, 1949, at 8:05 p.m.

Mayor Sherfey called the meeting to order.

Clerk Bartlett called the roll, those answering present being Councilmen: Drale, Haggard, Jackson, Powell and Sherfey. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

All those present in the Council Chamber saluted the Flag.

Councilman Jackson moved that the Minutes of an Adjourned Regular Meeting held December 21, 1948, the Minutes of a Regular Meeting held December 28, 1948 and the Minutes of a Special Meeting held January 3, 1949, be approved as written. Councilman Drale seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

A communication from Shell Oil Company was read advising that no new installations or abandonments were made on pipe line under Franchise Ordinance No. 328 for the period ending December 31, 1948. Matter of record.

A communication from Union Oil Company was read advising that no pipe lines or conduits were constructed under Los Angeles County Ordinance Nos. 1010 and 1501, which ordinances are superseded by Torrance Franchise Ordinance No. 417, effective August 13, 1948, during the period beginning July 1 and ending August 13, 1948. Matter of record.

A communication from Merlin R. Cook, Bus Department, was read requesting that he be furnished with a copy of all the charges made against the position of Bus Garage Foreman and personal charges against himself; and that he be granted another hearing on the suspension which he stated was not properly followed, according to Section #13, Right of Appeals, to Board of Review.

Councilman Drale moved that Merlin R. Cook's request be granted and that he be extended a hearing before the Civil Service Board. Councilman Powell seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

A communication from Rear Admiral Paul Hendren, Commander U. S. Naval Base Los Angeles, was read advising that a study is being made of possible methods of disposition of storm water run-off in the vicinity of the Naval Supply Depot, Torrance Annex, and any information gained from this study will be communicated to the City Engineer.

Clerk Bartlett announced that the amendment to the City Charter was ratified by the State Legislature on January 7, 1949, and was filed in his office on January 10, 1949.

Clerk Bartlett called attention to a paragraph in an article published in the Torrance Herald January 6, 1949, entitled "City Manager Status Near", which has reference to the improved financial structure of the city under Mr. Stevens' guidance.

Clerk Bartlett stated, in a letter addressed to the Council, that it has been the custom of many cities to register warrants during the so-called lean period of receipt of taxes, rather than to set up an additional tax rate to take care of this period; and

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that the re-negotiation of the Southern California Edison Company franchise was done by City Attorney Smith on the recommendation of the Southern California Edison Company.

A communication from George W. Stevens, City Engineer, was read submitting the following recommendations for the Council's consideration and approval:

PERSONNEL:

1. That all City employees be finger-printed, in accordance with the recommendation of the Civil Service Board.

APPROPRIATIONS:

1. For the purchase of 100 Trafficones for Street and Paint Departments, the sum of \$153.75.
2. For the purchase of target material for Police Pistol Range, the sum of \$52.87.
3. For the payment of fees for an appraisal of the principal City buildings and contents, a sum not to exceed \$1,500.00. (From Unappropriated Funds.)
4. For the refund of fee for Building Permit No. 8564 to James Cox, the sum of \$4.00. Residence outside the City of Torrance.

MISCELLANEOUS:

1. That the Concession Agreement with American Legion Post No. 170 be renewed for the year 1949, under the same conditions as the 1948 contract.

Councilman Drale moved that the Council concur in the recommendations submitted by City Engineer Stevens. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Drale, Haggard, Jackson, Powell and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

A communication from John R. Patrick, Secretary, Torrance Planning Commission, was read advising that at a meeting of the Commission held January 4, 1949, the following matters were considered and acted upon:

The second public hearing was held on Case No. 153, petition of John E. Kettler for Change of Zone affecting all of Tract No. 15213, situated at Sepulveda Boulevard and Walnut Street, between Cabrillo Avenue and Western Avenue. It is requested that all lots be rezoned to R-1, with the exception of Lot 1, Block 4, and Lot 1, Block 5, which are requested to be rezoned to C-2 (General Commercial).

The Planning Commission unanimously voted to recommend to the City Council that they grant this petition for a Change of Zone and it will be necessary that a third and final hearing before the City Council be held. This hearing cannot legally be held before February 8, 1949, and it is suggested that this date be set for the final hearing on this petition.

Mayor Sherfey set February 8, 1949, at 8:00 p.m. as the time for holding a Public Hearing before the Council on the Petition of John E. Kettler for a Change of Zone, Case No. 153.

It was unanimously voted by the Planning Commission to recommend the approval of Final Tract Map No. 13043, subject to minor engineering changes and the posting of the necessary bonds. This tract is located on 164th Street between Arlington Avenue and Gramercy Place and consists of twenty-one (21) lots.

Mayor Sherfey moved that the Council concur in the recommendation of the Planning Commission and approve Final Tract Map No. 13043. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

The following petitions for Zoning Variance were unanimously approved:

CASE NO. 152: Petition of Juanita Hutslar for a Zoning Variance affecting Lot 4, Block 300, Tract 1952, situated at the corner of Arlington Avenue and Sepulveda Boulevard, between Santa Fe Avenue and 229th Street. Petition requests permission to use the existing building as an automobile repair shop or welding shop. This property is now zoned C-1 (Retail Commercial).

CASE NO. 154: Petition of Stella R. Richardson for a Zoning Variance to permit the construction of an Apartment-court on a portion of Lot 71, of the McDonald Tract, situated at 18333 South Western Avenue. This property is located in an A-1 (Light Agricultural) Zone.

Clerk Bartlett presented for first and final reading and read title to emergency

ORDINANCE NO. 446

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE REGULATING TRAFFIC UPON THE PUBLIC STREETS AND REPEALING ALL OTHER ORDINANCES AND PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH.

At 8:20 p.m. Mayor Sherfey declared a short recess to permit members of the Council to discuss certain points in the ordinance with the City Attorney.

At 8:26 p.m. the meeting reconvened.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 1950

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE DESIGNATING ONE OF ITS OFFICIALS TO PREPARE ANNUAL STREET REPORTS TO THE STATE CONTROLLER.

Councilman Jackson moved that Resolution No. 1950 be adopted. Councilman Drale seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Drale, Haggard, Jackson, Powell and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 1951

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE COMMENDING THE HONORABLE VINCENT THOMAS, ASSEMBLYMAN OF THE 68TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT, FOR HIS INDEFATIGABLE LABOR AND EFFORTS AND THE DISPATCH WITH WHICH THE AMENDMENT TO THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE WAS CONDUCTED THROUGH THE CHANNELS OF LEGISLATION IN THE TWO HOUSES OF THE LEGISLATIVE BODY OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

Mayor Sherfey moved that Resolution No. 1951 be adopted. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Drale, Haggard, Jackson, Powell and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

ABSENT

Clerk Bartlett presented and read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 1952

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE COMMENDING THE HONORABLE JACK B. TENNEY, SENATOR FROM THE 38TH DISTRICT, FOR HIS VALUABLE EFFORTS IN CONDUCTING THE PROCEEDINGS IN THE SENATE OF THE STATE LEGISLATURE IN THE MATTER OF THE APPROVAL OF THE SENATE TO THE AMENDMENT TO THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE.

Mayor Sherfey moved that Resolution No. 1952 be adopted. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Drale, Haggard, Jackson, Powell and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

A communication from the Santa Fe Railway Company was read confirming their request, made at a recent meeting between the City Council and representatives of their company, that consideration of the proposed railroad ordinance be deferred for approximately sixty days, which extension would enable both the Council and their company to give further study to the matters covered by the proposed ordinance. The Santa Fe reiterated the assurance given at that meeting that instructions would go forward to reduce the speed of their trains passing through the sector between Crenshaw Boulevard and Carson Street and to minimize to the greatest possible extent the blowing of whistles in that area. It is their understanding that City Engineer Stevens will advise them when their will be a joint meeting to discuss the matter of additional protection for the Crenshaw Boulevard and Cabrillo Avenue crossings. With reference to a residential development in the Western section of this City, the writer was confident that officials of the Railway Company and Chanslor-Ganfield Midway Oil Company are not merely interested but eager to further this future development.

Councilman Drale moved that Mrs. Leonard Young, a representative of the Madrid Improvement Association, be invited to attend all meetings to be held between the City Council and representatives of the Santa Fe Railway Company. Councilman Powell seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

Mayor Sherfey advised that City Engineer Stevens would notify Mrs. Young and members of the Council of forthcoming meetings.

A petition, bearing ninety-eight signatures of residents and property owners in the vicinity of 2310 - 166th Street, was read requesting the City Council to issue a restraining order to prohibit commercial raising or feeding of hogs on said property.

City Engineer Stevens asked that the issuance of a business license be withheld pending an investigation and the Council's decision on the matter, and that the Health Department be requested to make a report of existing conditions.

Councilman Powell moved that the issuance of a business license for the operation of a hog ranch be withheld until the Health Department and City Council have made an investigation and that the City Clerk be instructed to request the Health Department to make an investigation of the premises.

Councilman Drale asked the City Attorney for his opinion.

City Attorney Smith replied that hog ranches are legally allowed in Zone M-2.

City Engineer Stevens explained that Zone M-2 (Heavy Manufacturing) is the only place in the Land Use Ordinance where hog ranches are mentioned, and they are only allowed to operate with the consent of the Health Department and City Council.

Councilman Drale seconded Councilman Powell's motion which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Drale moved that the City Attorney prepare a schedule of fees to be charged by the City Clerk synonymous with, and in line with, fees charged by County Clerks for same service, and that said schedule be embodied in an ordinance. Councilman Powell seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Drale moved that the City Engineer be instructed to make a survey of the Police Department, also a thorough study of the City Charter and Civil Service Rules and Regulations with a view to putting members of the Police Department on a five day a week basis, and report his findings to the City Council. Councilman Powell seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

Mayor Sherfey called for Council action on Ordinance No. 446, heretofore read.

Councilman Powell moved that further reading of Ordinance No. 446 be dispensed with. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Drale, Haggard, Jackson, Powell and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Powell moved that emergency Ordinance No. 446 be adopted. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Drale, Haggard, Jackson, Powell and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

ABRIDGED

Councilman Jackson stated that as the amendment to the City Charter setting up a City Manager form of government, was ratified by the State Legislature on January 7, 1949, such appointment is now in order, whereupon he moved that the City Council appoint George W. Stevens as City Manager at a salary of \$10,000.00 a year, effective January 1, 1949. Councilman Drale seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Drale, Haggard, Jackson, Powell and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Powell moved that the payment of \$4,742.06 be authorized for library service from July 1 to December 31, 1948, in accordance with Los Angeles County Library Contract. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Drale, Haggard, Jackson, Powell and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

In accordance with the provisions of Ordinance No. 443, providing for the establishment and appointment of a Planning Commission, Mayor Sherfey submitted the following named persons for appointment to said Commission:

To serve for a term of one year:

The name of Jesse Crowther was withheld pending an opinion from the City Attorney regarding the status of Mr. Crowther's residence.

John Salm
W. A. Felker

To serve for a term of two years:

R. J. Deininger
Byron Johnson
A. D. Gianni

To serve for a term of three years:

Merton Gilbert
R. S. Whitcomb
C. T. Rippy

To serve as Secretary:

John R. Patrick

To serve as Assistant Secretary:

Ladeene Hamman

To serve as President of the Commission:

A. D. Gianni

Councilman Jackson moved that the Council approve the appointments of the above named persons to the Planning Commission. Councilman Powell seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Drale, Haggard, Jackson, Powell and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

In accordance with the provisions of Ordinance No. 438 creating a Torrance Disaster Council, Mayor Sherfey appointed the following named persons as members of said Disaster Council:

Chairman	Mayor J. Hugh Sherfey, Jr.
Commander	George W. Stevens, who shall be Vice-Chairman
Vice-Commander	Councilman George C. Powell
Executive Officer	Councilman Nickolas O. Drale

Chiefs of Division are as follows:

<u>Law and Order Division:</u>	Chief of Police John Stroh
<u>Fire Division:</u>	Fire Chief John E. McMaster
<u>Medical Division:</u>	Dr. Henry C. Smiley
<u>Public Works Division:</u>	Assistant City Engineer John R. Patrick
<u>Utilities Division:</u>	City Clerk A. H. Bartlett Southern California Edison Co. Southern California Gas Co. Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Co. Wm. H. Stanger, Manager, Water Districts
<u>Transportation Division:</u>	Marshall A. Chamberlain, Manager Torrance Municipal Bus Lines
<u>Communications Division:</u>	Sergeant Gwilym S. Evans
<u>Personnel:</u>	Citizens appointed by Chiefs of each division.

Councilman Haggard moved that the Council concur in the appointments to the Torrance Disaster Council. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Drale, Haggard, Jackson, Powell and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

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

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

None.

At 8:45 p.m., upon motion of Councilman Jackson, seconded by Councilman Powell, and unanimously carried, the meeting adjourned.

A. H. Bartlett

CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

APPROVED:

Joseph Sheriff Jr

MAYOR OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

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