

Torrance, California
July 12, 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, on Tuesday, July 12, 1949, at 8:02 p.m., Mayor Sherfey presiding. Clerk Bartlett called the roll, those responding being Councilmen: Drale, Haggard, Powell and Sherfey. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Jackson. Also present were City Attorney Smith and City Manager Stevens.

All persons present joined in the Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag.

As first order of business, Councilman Drale moved the minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 28th and of the Adjourned Regular Meeting of June 30th be approved. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried unanimously.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

Clerk Bartlett read the following:

Letter from Standard Gas Company re gross receipts for the year under their franchise (Ord. #389) and enclosing check for \$881.40. Matter of record.

Two letters from Associated Oil Company reporting no pipe lines laid during past six months under County Franchise #1014 and #1351. Matter of record.

Letter from Richfield Oil Company reporting no pipe lines laid during past six months under County Franchise #1350 and #1561. Matter of record.

Request from B. O. Meguar for permission to operate an ice cream truck, Councilman Powell moved permit be granted upon receipt of health certificate. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously.

Request from Benard Mason, Manager of The Whitney Boys Singers for permission to use the Auditorium on July 17th for a concert. Councilman Drale moved request be granted. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried unanimously.

Letter, signed by 33 persons, commending the Council on action taken removing hog farm and fertilizer piles from North Torrance, and requesting action be taken to control flies. Councilman Powell moved the matter be referred to the City Attorney for proper ordinances, that the Mayor declare a "Fly Control Week", and that perhaps the press would cooperate. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously.

Letter from Los Angeles County, Department of Aviation, re construction of power transmission line at Hawthorne Blvd. and requesting authorization for such line be temporarily held up pending safety measures to be taken by Edison Co. City Manager stated the Division of Highways has full control of Hawthorne Blvd. Councilman Drale moved recommendation be referred to the Division of Highways. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried unanimously.

Letters from the Civil Service Board: (1) approving classification of "Legal Stenographer" and requesting promotional examination be called for; and (2) advising A. B. Cameron has refused to move into the City and requesting Council take action. Councilman Drale moved both communications be referred to the City Attorney for his

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opinion, to be rendered at the next regular Council meeting. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried unanimously. A third letter from the Civil Service Board was read reminding the Council of the vacancy on the Board. Councilman Drale moved that Mr. Dan Desmond be appointed to fill the vacancy. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Drale, Haggard, Powell and Sherfey. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Jackson.

Letters urging the signing of the contract with the Torrance Herald for legal advertising be held up (because of the labor difficulties) were read from the following:

- a. Central Labor Council
- b. Retail Clerk's Internat'l Ass'n, Local #905
- c. Communications Workers of America, Local #206
- d. San Pedro Typographical Union #862
- e. Cannery Workers Union of the Pacific
- f. San Pedro-Wilmington Pressmen & Assistant's Union #272

Councilman Drale moved these letters be filed as a matter of record. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, adding no consideration has been given to the signing of any contract as yet. Motion carried unanimously.

Clerk Bartlett then read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 1998

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ACCEPTING THAT CERTAIN QUITCLAIM DEED EXECUTED JUNE 13, 1949, BY AKI IWANAGA AND TAYEKO IWANAGA; AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE TO ACCEPT SAID QUITCLAIM DEED ON BEHALF OF THE CITY.

Councilman Powell moved further reading of the Resolution be dispensed with. Motion, seconded by Councilman Haggard, carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Drale, Haggard, Powell and Sherfey. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Jackson. Councilman Powell moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 1998. Motion, seconded by Councilman Haggard, carried by the same roll call vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 1999

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ACCEPTING THAT CERTAIN HIGHWAY EASEMENT IN CONNECTION WITH THE OPENING OF 223RD STREET AT FERRO CARRIL, EXECUTED JUNE 9, 1949, BY PACIFIC ELECTRIC RAILWAY COMPANY; AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE TO EXECUTE SAME ON BEHALF OF THE CITY.

Motion by Councilman Powell that further reading of the Resolution be dispensed with was seconded by Councilman Drale and carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Drale, Haggard, Powell and Sherfey. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Jackson. Councilman Powell moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 1999. Motion, seconded by Councilman Haggard, carried by the same roll call vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 2000

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE DECLARING ITS INTENTION TO CLOSE A CERTAIN PORTION OF HIGH STREET, WALTERIA TRACT; FIXING A TIME WHEN THE CITY COUNCIL WILL MEET TO TAKE FINAL ACTION THEREON; AND PROVIDING FOR THE PUBLICATION OF THIS RESOLUTION.

Councilman Drale asked if there were any oral protests to the passing of this Resolution. There being none, Councilman Powell moved further reading of the Resolution be dispensed with. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Drale, Haggard, Powell and Sherfey. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Jackson. Councilman Powell moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2000. Motion, seconded by Councilman Haggard, carried by the same roll call vote.

Clerk Bartlett read title to

ORDINANCE NO. 473

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 316.

This title was read at the meeting of June 28th and motion made and carried to hold it over for discussion at a special agenda meeting, at which meeting City Attorney Smith explained the purpose of the amendment. Mr. Plomert, of General Petroleum, asked that careful study and consideration be given before the matter was voted on and mentioned a recent County ordinance. Councilman Powell asked City Attorney Smith what he knew about such an ordinance and Mr. Smith replied he had never seen it nor heard of it. Following a short discussion, Councilman Haggard moved further consideration of this Ordinance be held over until August 23rd. Motion, seconded by Mayor Sherfey, carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Drale, Haggard and Sherfey. NAYS: COUNCILMEN: Powell. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Jackson.

ORDINANCE NO. 474

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING LAND USE ORDINANCE NO. 316, RECLASSIFYING LOTS 1, 2 AND 3, BLOCK 31, TRACT NO. 2761, FROM AN A-1 (LIGHT AGRICULTURAL) ZONE TO AN R-1 (SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL) ZONE.

Councilman Haggard moved further reading of Ordinance be dispensed with. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Drale, Haggard, Powell and Sherfey. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Jackson. Councilman Haggard moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 474. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried by same roll call vote.

ORDINANCE NO. 475

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING LAND USE ORDINANCE NO. 316, RECLASSIFYING APPROXIMATELY 1175' ON NORTH SIDE OF PACIFIC COAST HIGHWAY EASTERLY FROM SOUTHEAST-ERLY CORNER OF TRACT NO. 15397 FROM AN A-1 (LIGHT AGRICULTURAL) ZONE TO A C-2 (GENERAL COMMERCIAL) ZONE.

Councilman Powell moved further reading be dispensed with. Motion, seconded by Councilman Haggard, carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Drale, Haggard, Powell and Sherfey. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Jackson. Councilman Powell moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 475. Motion, seconded by Councilman Haggard, carried by the same roll call vote.

ORDINANCE NO. 476

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ESTABLISHING STOP SIGNS ON CERTAIN STREETS IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE.

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Councilman Drale moved further reading of Ordinance be dispensed with. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried by following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Drale, Haggard, Jackson and Sherfey. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Jackson. Councilman Drale moved for the adoption of urgency Ordinance No. 476 at its first and only reading. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried by the same roll call vote.

City Attorney Smith interrupted the proceedings with apologies for "being asleep at the switch" and advised the Council that an affirmative vote of all five members of the Council was necessary to dispense with the reading of any ordinance - unanimous vote of those present was not sufficient. Accordingly, Councilman Powell moved that the Council's action on Ordinances 474, 475 and 476 be rescinded. Motion, seconded by Councilman Haggard, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Powell then moved that action on Ordinances 474 and 475 be carried over until the next regular meeting. Motion, seconded by Councilman Haggard, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Clerk Bartlett then read urgency Ordinance No. 476 in its entirety. Councilman Powell moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 476 at its first and only reading. Motion, seconded by Councilman Haggard carried unanimously by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Drale, Haggard, Powell and Sherfey. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Jackson.

ORDINANCE NO. 477

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 371, ENTITLED "AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING LAND USE ORDINANCE NO. 316, REGULATING USE OF PROPERTY AND REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 353".

was then read in its entirety. Following oral discussion by the audience, the Council and the City Attorney, Councilman Haggard moved for the adoption of urgency Ordinance No. 477 at its first and only reading. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried unanimously by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Drale, Haggard, Powell and Sherfey. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Jackson.

The following recommendations of City Manager Stevens were read:

PERSONNEL:

1. That Cecil W. Smith be temporarily employed as Building Inspector, effective July 6, 1949, at a compensation of \$253.00 per month.
2. That an examination be held for Building Inspector at the earliest possible date.
3. That the resignation of Cecil W. Smith from the Civil Service Board, due to his employment by the City, be accepted effective July 6, 1949.
4. That Alton E. Stubbs be temporarily employed as Park Maintenance Man, effective July 12, 1949, at a compensation of \$184.00 per month.
5. That Frank H. Kendall, having successfully passed the Civil Service examination, be appointed to serve his probationary period, as Bus Attendant, effective July 1, 1949, and that his compensation be at the rate of \$193.00 per month.

Councilman Powell moved for concurrence in the recommendations. Motion, seconded by Councilman Haggard, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

APPROPRIATIONS:

1. For payment to the Los Angeles County Civil Service Commission, the sum of \$1,390.00, for Civil Service functions for the year 1948-49.

Councilman Powell moved for concurrence in the recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Haggard, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

MISCELLANEOUS:

1. That a Dance Permit be granted Mr. Wall to hold dances at the Hi-Ho Pool Hall on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights, with the condition that the dance close at midnight on Saturday and at 2:00 a.m. other nights and that proper police protection be provided, all in accordance with the recommendation of the Police Chief.

Councilman Drale moved for concurrence in the recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Letter from the Planning Commission was read re:

CASE NO. 166: Petition of Jose Olloque for a Variance and Conditional permit to use the existing building located at 2243 - 203rd Street between Arlington Avenue and Crenshaw Boulevard, as a dry cleaning store and pool hall. This building is located in an R-3 (Multiple Family) Zone.

The Planning Commission unanimously voted to rescind their former action in denying the Variance and to recommend to the City Council that the petition be granted, subject to a recommendation of the Chief of Police.

Chief of Police Stroh inspected the property and advised that he had no objections if the building is improved to comply with the Building Code and if large windows on the street side are installed for the Pool Hall.

Councilman Powell moved the petition of Jose Olloque for a Variance be granted. At the request of Councilman Drale, motion was amended to include "provided there won't be any back room -- just one complete room". Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

CASE NO. 169: Petition of Mr. and Mrs. Procopio J. Aquino for a Variance and Conditional Permit to construct a vegetable stand at 22788 Hawthorne Boulevard and to sell vegetables, fruits, etc., which are not produced on the premises. This property is located in an A-1 (Light Agricultural) Zone.

The Planning Commission had recommended approval of this petition, with the provision that a two-year time limit be imposed. The time limit condition was questioned as to legality by the City Council and at the last regular joint meeting of the Planning Commission and City Council a member of the City Council asked that the Planning Engineer and the City Attorney confer on the legality of a time limit on Variances and report to the Council not later than Tuesday, July 12th.

The Planning Engineer met with the City Attorney on July 8th and it was the City Attorney's opinion that he would, in the absence of any specific court decision on the matter, have to rule adversely on the legality of a time limit being placed as a condition in the granting of Variances.

Councilman Powell moved the Variance be granted without any limitation as to time. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

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ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Councilman Drale asked that the City Attorney be instructed to prepare the necessary resolution to supply water, under emergency issue, to Belvidere Mutual Water of El Nido, El Camino College and recreation buildings in Alondra Park, resolution to be adopted at the next regular Council meeting, as recommended by the Water Board at its afternoon meeting today. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried unanimously.

At the request of Councilman Drale, Clerk Bartlett read the following motion from the minutes of June 28th:

"Councilman Drale moved that City Attorney draw an amendment to Ordinance No. 326 including the following for the Fire Department:

1. Three working shifts off per month, making a 66-hour per week average;
2. Continuation of present pay step plan;
3. 15-day vacation (as provided in Ord. #249); and
4. Chief of the Fire Dept. to come from the rank of Captain of Torrance Fire Dept.

and including for the Police Department

1. A 40-hour week;
2. Continuation of present pay step plan;
3. 15-day vacation (as provided in Ord. #249); and
4. Chief of the Police Dept. to come from rank of Captain of Torrance Police Dept.

Councilman Powell seconded the motion provided the working hours of the Fire Dept. be questioned -- 72 hours rather than 66. Councilman Jackson stated that, before such a motion is made for the City Attorney to draw up such an ordinance, it would be well for the Council to study the budget and see whether it would be possible to make such changes. Mayor Pro Tem Haggard concurred. Roll call on Councilman Drale's motion resulted in: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Drale and Powell. NAYS: COUNCILMEN: Jackson and Haggard. ABSENT: COUNCILMAN: Sherfey. Councilman Powell moved that in the absence of the deciding vote, the matter be referred to the next regular meeting. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote."

Following a short discussion, Councilman Drale reiterated his motion of June 28th, which was seconded by Councilman Powell. Roll call vote resulted in: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Drale and Powell. NAYS: COUNCILMEN: Haggard and Sherfey. ABSENT: COUNCILMAN: Jackson. Considering the vote, Councilman Powell moved the matter be held over for the next Council meeting when five members would be present. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously.

Councilman Powell stated he would like to make a motion regarding an action by the Water Commission this afternoon whereby the Water Department was instructed to proceed at once with the installation of water service in the area of Sepulveda and Ocean Blvds. so that Mr. Stanger could proceed at once with the purchase of materials. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Powell also stated he would like the City Attorney to draft a resolution to the fire underwriters in this district calling for a survey in the City of Torrance in the very near future for the purpose of lowering the insurance rates, the reasons being there are now 3 new modern pieces of equipment in the Fire Dept., with the necessary auxiliary equipment; there have been many additional water lines installed during the past year and the necessary new hydrants. Mayor Sherfey asked the City Attorney if a letter from the Council would not be sufficient and Mr. Smith replied it would. Councilman Powell then changed his statement to a "letter", which Mr. Smith said he would draw for the Mayor to sign.

City Attorney Smith asked Councilman Powell about the 15' alley which they had previously discussed and Councilman Powell replied the matter had been referred to the Engineering Department.

Councilman Powell complimented the Recreation Commission on its fine work and reported to the Council on how the enterprises have grown. He moved the Square Dance group, meeting on Monday nights in the Auditorium, be granted the use of the soft drink facilities (to be supplied by the local V.F.W. Post). Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously.

Councilman Powell stated the Mayor of Redondo had asked for a letter of support to take with him to Sacramento in connection with the new yacht harbor Redondo anticipates obtaining from the State, and suggested the Mayor write such a letter. Suggestion was agreed to by Mayor Sherfey with the concurrence of the Council.

Mayor Sherfey moved \$15.00 be appropriated in settlement of the Judgment rendered against the City in Palos Verdes Corp. et al. v. The City Council of the City of Torrance, et al. Motion, seconded by Councilman Haggard, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Mayor Sherfey also moved the City Clerk be instructed to write a letter of appreciation to Cecil W. Smith for his fine work on the Civil Service Board. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously.

Mr. E. E. Ivey, of North Torrance, introduced Mr. Jack M. Olson, Pest Control Engineer of Paramount, who talked briefly on control of "flies". Councilman Powell suggested that Mr. Ivey and Mr. Olson meet with the Council immediately after the meeting to discuss Torrance's problem.

Councilman Powell moved all bills properly audited be paid. Motion, seconded by Councilman Haggard, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

At 9:35 p.m., Councilman Powell moved meeting be adjourned. Motion, seconded by Councilman Haggard, carried unanimously.


CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

APPROVED:


MAYOR OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

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