

Minutes

Torrance, California
September 13, 1949

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF TORRANCE

ABSTRACT

The City Council of the City of Torrance convened in a Regular Meeting in the Council Chamber of the City Hall on Tuesday, September 13, 1949, at 8:06 p.m., Mayor Sherfey presiding.

Clerk Bartlett called the roll, those responding being: COUNCILMEN: Drale, Haggard, Jackson, Powell and Sherfey. Also present were City Manager Stevens and City Attorney Smith.

All persons present in the Chamber participated in the Flag salute.

As first order of business, Councilman Haggard moved that minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 23rd and the Special Meetings of August 25th and 30th be approved as read. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried unanimously.

Mayor Sherfey announced the time had come to open bids for the construction of a fire station in North Torrance. The following bids were read by City Clerk Bartlett:

| Bidder | Total Amount |
|--|--------------|
| Stanley F. Orlopp 1505 W. Beverly Blvd., Los Angeles 26 | \$ 7,750.00 |
| Bert E. Moore, Jr..... 8450 So. Western Ave., Los Angeles | 7,233.00 |
| Brewer-Webb Construction Co..... 3420 Myrtle Ave., Long Beach 7 | 6,575.00 |
| Arnold Schleuniger Co..... 862 Loma Vista, El Segundo | 5,888.00 |
| Don B. Wolf 21804 Halldale, Torrance | 6,314.96 |
| F. Olson 1937 W. Florence Ave., Los Angeles 47 | 7,888.00 |
| H. N. Hanson Construction Co..... 12309 Alpine Ave., Lynwood | 6,299.00 |
| R. H. Thayer Construction Co. 3355 Atlantic Ave., Long Beach 7 | 7,566.00 |
| Carter Mack Builders 905 Sartori Ave., Torrance | 7,112.00 |
| Edwin H. Holton 3950 Franklin Ave., Los Angeles 27 | 7,090.00 |
| Herbert S. Sutton 4511 Melrose Ave., Los Angeles | 6,889.00 |

| Bidder | Total Amount |
|---|--------------|
| West America Construction Corp. 5171 W. Washington Blvd., Los Angeles | \$ 6,481.00 |
| Hudson Construction Co. 1277 W. 24th St., Los Angeles 7 | 9,920.00 |
| C. G. Millhouse Co..... 9615 Otis St., South Gate | 6,963.00 |

Councilman Jackson moved all bids be received and referred to the City Manager and City Attorney for checking and report at the next Regular Meeting. Motion, seconded by Councilman Haggard, carried unanimously.

Mayor Sherfey announced the time had come to open bids on the agricultural farming lease of airport property. Clerk Bartlett read the following bids:

| Bidder | Alter. "A" | Alter. "B" | Alter. "C" |
|--|--|--|---|
| Machado Ranch, Inc. 5454 Centinella Blvd. Venice | \$6000 cash --\$2000 on 11/1/49 and \$4000 at end of harvest | \$2000 on 11/1/49 \$1000 at end of har- vest on E. 80 and 25% at end of harvest | 30% of net at end of har- vest |
| A. P. Wright 9475 LaSalle Ave. Los Angeles | \$6000 cash --\$3000 on signing lease and \$3000 at end of har- vest | ---- | 30% of gross; guarantee of \$2000 |

Councilman Powell moved all bids be received and referred to the City Manager and Council as a whole for further study, report to be made at the next Regular Meeting. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried unanimously.

Mayor Sherfey announced that now was the time set for the third and final hearing on Planning Commission Case No. 171:

"Petition of Ernest Rapp for a Change of Zone, affecting that portion of the East half of Lot 15, Meadow Park Tract, lying north of Pacific Coast Highway, beginning at a point 331.88 feet east of Ocean Ave. and extending easterly a distance of 200 feet. This property is located in an A-1 (Light Agricultural) Zone and the Petitioner requests that this zone be changed to C-1 (Retail Commercial) use.

"The Planning Commission unanimously recommends approval of this change of zone."

There being no oral or written objections, Councilman Drale moved the Council concur with the recommendation of the Planning Commission. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Mayor Sherfey announced the time had come for the third and final hearing on Planning Commission Case No. 173:

"Rezoning of the following described property: That certain area of the City of Torrance bounded on the South by Carson Street; on the East by Crenshaw Blvd.; on the North by the northerly boundary of Tract No. 7873; and on the West by Hawthorne Avenue, excepting Tract No. 3458."

This being the start of the Master rezoning of the City, Planning Consultant Lloyd explained the changes to be made, advising the Planning Commission had given the matter much study and recommended the changes indicated. Mr. Lynn and Mrs. R. C. Brown, from the audience, urged that a restricted area be provided to insure against "shack" houses being erected. Discussion followed as to the zoning of the northwest corner of Torrance Blvd. and Crenshaw, it being the opinion of Councilman Haggard that more space should be reserved for commercial use. Councilman Powell moved the Council concur with the recommendation of the Planning Commission and that the City Attorney be instructed to draft the necessary ordinance to set up this change of zone. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Drale, Jackson, Powell and Sherfey. NAYS: COUNCILMAN: Haggard.

Notices not having been posted, City Attorney Smith asked the Council to postpone the hearing scheduled on Resolution No. 2008, "A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Torrance Declaring Its Intention to Vacate a Certain Alley in Tract No. 8198; Fixing a Time When the City Council Will Meet to Take Final Action Thereon; and Providing for the Publication of this Resolution." Councilman Drale moved the Council delay the hearing until after notices have been posted. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried unanimously.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

The following correspondence was read by Clerk Bartlett:

Request from Robert H. Lucas, partially disabled veteran, for permission to operate a small car at the ball park for the entertainment of children. Councilman Powell moved that the communication be referred to the Chief of Police, Recreation Commission and City Attorney for study and a report at the next meeting. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously.

Petition signed by 113 persons from North Torrance urging the installation of 4-way stop signs at the intersection of 171st and Crenshaw. Councilman Jackson moved the communication be referred to the Traffic Commission for checking at their next regular trip around town. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried unanimously.

Request from James V. O'Neill for permission to live in a trailer during construction of his house. Councilman Jackson moved the usual 90-day permit be granted. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously.

Request from the Student Council of the Torrance High School for permission to use the parkway in front of the school during school hours and assuring the Council it would be kept clean of refuse. Discussion followed, Councilman Powell moving permission be granted. Motion, seconded by Councilman Haggard, carried unanimously.

Resignation of Donald L. Clark from the Police Department and request for vacation pay. Discussion followed, Councilman Drale moving the vacation pay be granted. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Clerk Bartlett read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 2011

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES TO CONSTRUCT AND WIDEN THAT PORTION OF WESTERN AVENUE FROM 182ND STREET TO TORRANCE BOULEVARD, ALL OF WHICH LIES WITHIN THE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, THE SAME TO BE WITHOUT ANY COST WHATSOEVER TO THE CITY OF TORRANCE.

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Councilman Drale moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2011. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 2012

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE QUIT CLAIM DEED TO KATZ AND PINE.

Councilman Jackson moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2012. Question was raised as to the date of the tax sale, following which Councilman Haggard seconded the motion. Discussion followed. The resolution not having been drawn by the City Attorney nor having been given him for approval, Councilmen Jackson and Haggard withdrew the motion and second. Councilman Jackson then moved the matter be referred to the City Attorney for study and his recommendation at the next regular meeting. Motion, seconded by Councilman Haggard, carried unanimously.

ORDINANCE NO. 478

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 249

Councilman Drale moved further reading of Ordinance No. 478 be dispensed with. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Drale moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 478 at its second and final reading. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

ORDINANCE NO. 480

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE CLOSING, VACATING AND ABANDONING A PORTION OF HIGH STREET, WALTERIA TRACT.

City Attorney Smith asked that this be delayed due to notices not having been posted. Councilman Powell moved the ordinance be referred to the City Attorney until ready for adoption. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried unanimously.

ORDINANCE NO. 481

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ESTABLISHING CERTAIN TRAFFIC CONTROL MEASURES PURSUANT TO ARTICLE IV, ORDINANCE NO. 446

Councilman Powell moved further reading of urgency Ordinance No. 481 be dispensed with. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Powell moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 481. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Request from Torrance Unified School District for permission to use Auditorium every Tuesday night, starting September 20, for square dance instruction. The Recreation Commission recommended denial of the request. Discussion followed by members of the Council. Councilman Drale moved the Council concur in the recommendation of the Recreation Commission. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Drale, Jackson, Powell and Sherfey. NAYS: COUNCILMAN: Haggard.

Letter from Santa Fe Railway re night operation of trains through Torrance, newly installed crossing signals, etc. Councilman Jackson moved the letter be filed as a matter of record. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously.

Request from the Torrance Area Youth Band for use of the Auditorium for rehearsals Saturday mornings and afternoons and Thursday evenings. Councilman Haggard moved the request be referred to the

Recreation Commission. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried unanimously.

Letter from Division of Highways advising traffic survey would be made as requested at Pacific Coast Highway and Madison St. Councilman Powell moved the letter be filed as a matter of record. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried unanimously.

Letter from So. Calif. Freight Lines re complaints of residents in Walteria in connection with trucks going from 101 Highway to Dicalite and advising of efforts to eliminate the objections. Councilman Drale moved the communication be filed as a matter of record and a copy sent to the Walteria Civic organization. At the suggestion of Councilman Powell, he amended his motion to include that the matter be referred to the Traffic Commission for checking. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried unanimously.

Clerk Bartlett read the following recommendations of City Manager Stevens:

PERSONNEL:

1. That William Leitz be temporarily employed as a Laborer, effective August 29, 1949, at a compensation of \$176.00 per month.
2. That the classification title of "Assistant City Engineer" be changed to "Assistant to City Engineer".

Councilman Jackson moved the Council concur with the recommendations. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

APPROPRIATIONS:

1. For the purchase of a Ford Coupe for the Fire Department, the sum of \$1,273.00, including trade-in of 1939 Oldsmobile Coupe, in accordance with the recommendation of the Fire Chief.

Councilman Jackson moved the Council concur in the recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

MISCELLANEOUS:

1. That fire hydrants be authorized at the following locations:
 - a. On 164th St., 1400' west of Arlington Ave.
 - b. Calle Mayor at Via Sejo
 - c. Via El Chico at Via Los Miradores
 - d. Via El Chico at Via Linda Vista
 - e. Via Linda Vista at Paseo de Gracia
 - f. Via Sejo at Via Los Altos

Councilman Powell moved the Council concur in the recommendation. Motion seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Jackson moved that the City Attorney draw the necessary ordinance required under Item 2, PERSONNEL. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried unanimously.

City Manager Stevens presented Final Map of Tract No. 14338, explaining this was a re-submission due to an engineering tie-in and that no changes had been made in the subdivision whatsoever, recommending its acceptance. Councilman Drale moved the Council concur in the recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Haggard, carried unanimously.

City Manager Stevens reminded the Council of their decision in agenda to retain Mr. Beebe to make a research and render an opinion on the consolidation of the water districts. Councilman Powell

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moved the City Attorney be instructed to draft the necessary resolution to cover the employment of Mr. Beebe for such purpose. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Haggard moved that the City Council request the resignation of George W. Downing from the Civil Service Board. Motion was seconded by Councilman Jackson and, following much discussion by members of the Council, was defeated by the following roll call vote, a 4/5ths vote being required: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Haggard, Jackson and Sherfey. Councilmen Drale and Powell expressed themselves as not caring to vote on the issue at this time.

The Mayor announced discussion would take place at 4:00 o'clock p.m., Wednesday, September 14th, in the Council Chamber with reference to filling vacancies existing in various Commissions.

Councilman Powell submitted a report from the Torrance Summer Recreation Department, giving thanks to the group as a whole with special commendation to Rex Welch, Doris Avis, Don Robinson, Marlow Rose, Boone Kirks, Jeannette Probert, William Lewis, Myrna Parker, Cliff Graybehl, Dorothea Ballack, Lloyd Jones, Betty Schaeffer, Lester Clemons and Red Moon. He further reported that the group had entertained a total of 34,544 children during the program.

Mayor Sherfey announced he would be out of the City for a month and requested the Council's permission to be absent. Councilman Drale moved that Councilman Powell be appointed as temporary Mayor during the period. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried unanimously.

Mrs. Jessie M. Whitted, of 1628 Hickory Ave., presented a petition signed by 18 property owners requesting rezoning of both sides of Hickory Ave. from an A-1 to an R-2 zone between Carson St. and Sonoma. Councilman Powell moved that the matter be referred to Planning Consultant Lloyd for his recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried unanimously.

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

At 9:25 p.m., Councilman Powell moved the meeting be adjourned until 4:00 p.m. September 14th. Motion, seconded by Councilman Haggard, carried unanimously.


CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

APPROVED:


MAYOR OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE