

Torrance, California
December 26, 1950

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 of the City Hall on Tuesday, December 26, 1950, at 8:00 p.m., Mayor Haggard presiding.

Those responding to roll call by City Clerk Bartlett were:
COUNCILMEN: Blount, Powell, Spelman and Haggard. ABSENT: COUNCILMAN: Drale. Also present were City Manager Stevens and City Attorney Hall.

All persons present participated in the salute to our Flag.

As first order of business, Councilman Blount moved the minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 12th and the Special Meeting of December 14th be approved. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried by the unanimous roll call vote of Councilmen present.

Mayor Haggard announced the time had come for the third and final hearing on Planning Commission Case No. 205. Mr. Lloyd, Secretary of the Planning Commission, explained to the Council and audience the area covered in this proposed Change of Zone and advised the only re-zoning proposed was changing Narbonne Avenue from A-1 to C-1, to conform to the zoning of Narbonne immediately south of our City limits. There being no protests, written or oral, Councilman Spelman moved the Council concur in the recommendation of the Planning Commission. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried by unanimous roll call vote of those present.

Clerk Bartlett read a letter from the Planning Commission recommending approval of the Variance requested by California Water Service, Case No. 206. Mr. Lloyd explained that the Commission had held a hearing on this matter, that there were no protests, and that California Water Service had agreed to beautify the area concerned. There being no protests, written or oral, Councilman Powell moved the Council concur in the recommendation of the Planning Commission and grant the Variance. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

Mayor Haggard announced the time had come for the opening of bids on Insurance and Clerk Bartlett opened and read the following bids: (1) City fleet - fire, theft and comprehensive ---- (a) Torrance General Insurance Agency - \$470.99; (b) Lund Co. - \$538.51. (2) Airport Liability and Property Damage ---- (a) Torrance General Insurance Agency - \$155.40; (b) Lund Co. - \$132.40. Councilman Powell moved all insurance bids be referred to the City Manager, City Attorney and Council for recommendation at the next regular meeting. Motion was seconded by Councilman Spelman. Mr. Stevens advised the Council the City's present coverage would expire on

December 31st. Motions were withdrawn and Councilman Powell moved all insurance bids be held over for discussion at a recess to be held later in the evening. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried.

Clerk Bartlett opened the bid of the Hundley Company on street signs, which read - \$8.99 per sign. Discussion followed as to this price and price previously paid. Councilman Powell then moved the bid be referred to the City Manager for his recommendation at the next meeting. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried.

Clerk Bartlett opened and read the only bid submitted for the construction of an all metal building at the airport by the Empire Steel Buildings Company on building 60' x 40' x 14' -- \$9600, and one building 60' x 60' x 14' -- \$14,220. Councilman Spelman moved the bid be referred to the City Manager for his recommendation at the next regular meeting. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried.

Clerk Bartlett then opened and read the only bid submitted for the addition to the police station by Walter Wiitanen, the amount being \$5184.00. Councilman Spelman moved the bid be referred to the City Manager for his recommendation at the next regular meeting. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

Clerk Bartlett read the following:

Petition signed by 18 employees of the Water Dept. requesting a \$35 across-the-board raise to help stabilize the high cost of living and increased income taxes. Councilman Powell moved that the petition be discussed by the Council prior to the meeting of the Water Board, 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, January 2, 1951. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried.

Petition signed by 40 residents requesting stop signs at the intersection of Cabrillo and Plaza del Amo. Councilman Blount moved the petition be referred to the Traffic Commission for its recommendation at the next meeting. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried.

Letter from State of California, Office of the Adjutant General, requesting duplicate itemized invoices on any charges for electrical power at Torrance Municipal Airport. Matter of record.

Letter of resignation from James M. Hall as a member of the Torrance Planning Commission. Councilman Spelman moved the resignation be accepted and that the Council, at its next agenda meeting, discuss the appointment of another member to the Commission. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried.

Letter from the State Disaster Council acknowledging receipt of the City's Resolution approving the Civil Defense Master Mutual Aid Agreement. Matter of record.

Letter from Standard Gas Company requesting approval of proposed assignment of a portion of its franchise Ordinance No. 389 to Pacific Coast Gasoline Company. Discussion followed, with City Attorney Hall recommending that if the assignment is approved the City not release Standard Gas from its liability, as the assignment is only a temporary measure. Councilman Powell moved that the City Attorney be authorized to draft the necessary document to protect the City of Torrance and yet accomplish the request of Standard Gas Company. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

Letter from Truman Browne re cesspool complaints received by the City from Tracts 14202 and 14579. Matter of record.

Letter from Truman Browne requesting permission to install water mains and service lines to California Water Service Co. and/or Dominguez Water Company for Tract 13028. Councilman Powell moved

ABG940

the request be referred to the meeting of the Water Board on January 2nd. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried.

Request from Grace Ikuko Uchizoro to occupy a trailer on her 7-acre ranch in Walteria. Councilman Powell moved the request be denied, as it is customary to grant such permission only when a building permit had been applied for, and no such application has been made. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried.

Letter from Division of Highways re Resolutions 2126 and 2127, improvement of 174th St. and traffic light at Roberts Road. Councilman Spelman moved that copies of the letter be given the press, as the Council did not intend for these matters to "die". Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried.

Letter from Mr. Patrick, Assistant to City Engineer advising he had received a petition for the creation of a sanitary sewer district in Tract No. 15933 and recommending that Resolutions 2123 and 2124 be repealed and new resolutions adopted to include Tract 15933 in North Torrance Sewer District No. 1. Transmitted with his letter was the following letter from the Health Department of the County of Los Angeles, dated November 20, 1950:

"Honorable City Council
City of Torrance
City Hall
Torrance, Calif.

Gentlemen:

SUBJECT: Sanitary Sewer District, Tracts 14202, 14579
12777, 15933 and 10216, located in City of
Torrance.

RECOMMENDATION: It is respectfully recommended that sanitary
sewers be installed in this District.

ANALYSIS: This Department has made an investigation of
this proposed sanitary sewer district comprising
Tracts 14202, 14579, 12777, 15933 and 10216, located within
the City of Torrance as shown on the attached map. During the
course of this investigation 50 property owners or tenants were
contacted and of this group 24 or 48% reported that they have had
trouble with their cesspool sewage disposal systems. They com-
plained of cesspools filling up, sewage backing up into house
plumbing fixtures or overflowing on the surface of the ground.

The soil within the boundaries of this proposed sanitary sewer
district consists of adobe or fine beach sand. Neither type of
soil provides good leaching action for any type of sub-surface
sewage disposal system. Most of the homes in this area were con-
structed less than one year ago and many of them have been occu-
pied only five months.

In view of the facts revealed by our survey it is respectfully
recommended that proceedings be instituted at once for the in-
stallation of sanitary sewers in this District as an improvement
necessary to the protection of public health. This recommenda-
tion is made pursuant to the provisions of Section 2808 of the
Streets and Highways Code.

Very truly yours,

ROY O. GILBERT, M.D.
Los Angeles County Health
Officer"

Councilman Blount moved the Council concur in the recommendation,
that Resolutions 2123 and 2124 be revoked, and that the new resolu-
tions be given numbers and passed at this meeting. Motion, seconded
by Councilman Spelman, carried, and Clerk Bartlett proceeded to read:

"RESOLUTION NO. 2135

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, FINDING AND DETERMINING THAT A SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM IN THE NORTH TORRANCE SEWER DISTRICT NO. 1, IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE, IS NECESSARY AS A HEALTH MEASURE, AND REPEALING RESOLUTION NO. 2123.

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Torrance has carefully considered all matters relating to the proposed construction of a sanitary sewer system in the North Torrance Sewer District No. 1, in the City of Torrance, as indicated on Drawing No. 6443, prepared by Barnett, Hopen and Smith, Civil Engineers and Land Surveyors, and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 2808 of the Streets and Highways Code of the State of California, as amended (Chapter 271, Statutes of 1945), the installation of a sanitary sewer system in the above described district has been recommended by the Health Officer of the County of Los Angeles as necessary as a health measure, and such recommendation has been given in writing and spread upon the minutes of the City Council;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. That, in accordance with the provisions of Section 2808, as amended (Statutes of 1945, Chapter 271) of the Streets and Highways Code of the State of California, relating to the exemption of proceedings for the construction of sanitary sewers from the provisions of the Special Assessment Investigation, Limitation and Majority Protest Act of 1931, the City Council hereby finds and declares that the necessity exists as a health measure and that the construction of said sanitary sewer system be completed.

SECTION 2. That the City Clerk shall certify to the passage and adoption of this Resolution by the affirmative vote of a minimum of four-fifths of the City Council and its approval by the Mayor and shall cause the same to be entered in the Book of Resolutions of said City; and shall make a record of the passage and adoption thereof in the records of the City Council of said City in the minutes of the meeting at which the same was passed and adopted.

SECTION 3. The provisions of prior resolutions having been incorporated into and provided for herein, it is hereby ordered by the City Council of the City of Torrance that Resolution No. 2123, and any other resolution or resolutions of the City of Torrance in conflict with this Resolution, be and the same are hereby repealed."

Councilman Blount moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2135. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Blount, Powell, Spelman and Haggard. ABSENT: COUNCILMAN: Drale.

Clerk Bartlett read:

"RESOLUTION NO. 2136

"A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, INSTRUCTING THE CITY ENGINEER TO PREPARE PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM IN THE NORTH TORRANCE SEWER DISTRICT NO. 1, IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE, AS OUTLINED ON DRAWING NO. 6443, PREPARED BY BARNETT, HOPEN & SMITH, CIVIL ENGINEERS AND LAND SURVEYORS, AND REPEALING RESOLUTION NO. 2124.

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THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE HEREBY RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. That the City Engineer be and is hereby instructed to prepare final plans and specifications for said improvement, and that the City Engineer be and is hereby instructed to cause to be performed all necessary work and cause to be prepared all necessary Resolutions, Notices and other required items for proceeding with said improvement and completing the same under the provisions of Division 7 of the Streets and Highways Code of the State of California, known and designated as the "Improvement Act of 1911".

SECTION 2. That the City Clerk shall certify to the passage and adoption of this Resolution; shall cause the same to be entered in the Book of Resolutions of the City of Torrance; and shall make a record of the passage and adoption of said resolution in the records of the City Council of said City in the minutes of the meeting at which the same was passed and adopted.

SECTION 3. The provisions of prior resolutions having been incorporated into and provided for herein, it is hereby ordered by the City Council of the City of Torrance that Resolution No. 2124, and any other resolution or resolutions of the City of Torrance in conflict with this Resolution, be and the same are hereby repealed.

Councilman Blount moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2136. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Blount, Powell, Spelman and Haggard. NAYS: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Drale.

Clerk Bartlett read the following recommendations of City Manager Stevens:

PERSONNEL:

1. That the following named personnel, having successfully passed their civil service examination, be appointed to serve their probationary period as Laborers, effective December 12, 1950, and that their compensation be at the rate set as the first step for that position:
 - (a) Larry R. Fox
 - (b) Bobby G. Franklin
2. That Paul W. Hughes, having successfully passed the civil service examination, be employed as a Mechanic to serve his probationary period, effective December 8, 1950, and that his compensation be at the rate set as the first step for the position.

Councilman Spelman moved the Council concur in the recommendations. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

APPROPRIATIONS:

1. That payment be made to the Torrance Unified School District, in the amount of \$1,258.46, as their share of funds received from the Los Angeles County under the Community Recreation Agreement.

Councilman Spelman moved the Council concur in the recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

Clerk Bartlett read a letter from City Manager Stevens recommending that Acting Fire Chief J. J. Benner be granted permanent status as Fire Chief, effective Dec. 1, 1950, and that the last six months be considered his probationary period. Councilman Spelman moved the Council concur in the recommendation. Councilman Blount, stating he thought Mr. Benner had done a fine job as Acting Chief, said he thought an appointment made in such a manner might be illegal and that he didn't want to see the Council take any action which they might later regret, stating further that he would like an

opinion from the City Attorney as to the legality of an appointment made in such a manner. Councilman Powell asked that the motion be withdrawn until such time as all five members of the Council were present. Councilman Spelman withdrew his motion. Councilman Blount then moved the City Attorney give his written opinion as to such appointment. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried.

Clerk Bartlett read a report of the City Manager as to progress in preparing for major disasters and civil defense in our City. Councilman Spelman moved the report be accepted and Mr. Stevens commended for a "job very well done". Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried.

A letter was presented from Plumbing Inspector Arthur S. Moore recommending the Council take action as to the schedule of fees and permit fees set forth in the 1948 Plumbing Code. Councilman Powell moved the City Attorney be authorized to draw the necessary resolution to put such fees into effect and that they be made a part of the Building Department charges. Motion was seconded by Councilman Blount. City Manager Stevens advised that Ordinance No. 445, adopting the Plumbing Code, made no exceptions and the fees were automatically adopted. Councilman Powell rescinded his motion and moved that the City Engineering Office be authorized to charge the fees as per the schedule in the 1948 Plumbing Code and that a letter be written to Mr. Moore commending him for bringing this matter to the attention of the Council. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried.

Clerk Bartlett read title to:

ORDINANCE NO. 544

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING SUPPLEMENTARY RULES AND REGULATIONS OF ORDINANCE NO. 326.

Councilman Blount moved to dispense with further reading of the Ordinance. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Blount moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 544 at its second and final reading. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

City Manager Stevens reported that bids for a police car, which were opened at the agenda meeting, had been given to the Chief of Police and that his recommendation was that the City purchase the 1951 Ford, Special Deluxe. Councilman Spelman moved the Council concur in the recommendation and that all other bids be rejected. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

At the request of City Manager Stevens, a short recess was declared at 9:05 for the purpose of discussing the bids opened this evening. Meeting re-convened at 9:10 and Mr. Stevens made the following recommendations:

(a) That the bid of Torrance General Insurance Agency, in the amount of \$470.99, for fire, theft and comprehensive on the City fleet, be accepted as the lowest bid and that all other bids be rejected. Councilman Spelman so moved. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

(b) That the bid of the Lund Co., in the amount of \$132.40, be accepted as the lowest bid on airport liability, and that all other bids be rejected. Councilman Blount so moved. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

(c) That street signs be purchased from Hundley Company, as the only bidder, and that decision on the poles be made at a later date. Councilman Blount so moved. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

ABG940

(d) That the bid of Walter Wiitanen for the addition to the police station be accepted. Councilman Spelman moved the Council concur in the recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Powell moved the bid on the metal building at the airport be rejected. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried.

Councilman Powell moved the "World War II arrangements for promotional examination be resurrected and referred to the Council for study", stating at some length that some protection should be given to employees being called into service and that the Civil Service Board should be acquainted with the emergency arrangements employed during the last war. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried.

Councilman Powell commended the Police Department for its fine work during the Christmas holidays. He also commended the various organizations and individuals who helped make the Christmas parties throughout the City such a success.

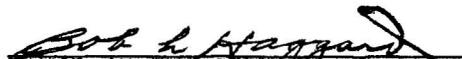
Councilman Powell moved the Auxiliary Police be immediately reimbursed, as previously approved, for their uniforms. Chief of Police Stroh advised this matter had been taken care of. Motion rescinded.

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

At 9:17 p.m., Councilman Blount moved meeting be adjourned. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried.


CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

APPROVED:


MAYOR OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE