

MINUTES OF AN ADJOURNED REGULAR
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

Torrance, California,
September 11, 1923

An adjourned, regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the City of Torrance was held in the Council Chambers at Torrance, California, September 11, 1923, and was called to order by President Gilbert at 8:00 P.M. The following Trustees were present: Fitzhugh, Nash, Proctor, Stone and Gilbert. Absent: None.

The minutes of the regular meeting of September 4, 1923, were read and approved as read.

Protests against the intended paving of the Martina-Manuel district were called for as had been advertised. No protests having been filed, the proceedings were ordered to advance in the regular way.

The following petition was read by the Clerk:
"Gentlemen:

We, the undersigned property owners in the district bounded on the north by the southern line of Carson Street, on the west by the eastern line of Arlington Street, on the east by the center line of Cabrillo Avenue, on the south by the northern line of Two Hundred and Twenty-second Street, respectfully petition you, the Honorable Board of Trustees, to begin proceedings for the improvement of all the roadways in said district by grading the same and paving with a four (4) inch Willite pavement." Signed by some 50 names.

Trustee Proctor moved that the petition be granted and that proceedings be ordered to advance in the legal way. Trustee Stone seconded the motion which was duly carried.

Trustee Stone reported that he had not had time to get the Police committee together, and asked for another week's time in the matter of an extra patrolman.

Trustee Nash reported a dearth of City funds, and requested a continuance of the saving regime.

The City Engineer reported that he was not quite ready to make final disposition of the matter of closing certain streets and alleys across which the Santa Fe will pass, as was recommended by the Railroad Commission in their fight against grade crossings; that he had talked with the Santa Fe engineer and he did not seem to care greatly whether the streets were closed or not; that a cut of from 4 to 7 feet would be necessary in some places, but even so, the crossings will probably have to be at grade.

Trustee Proctor thought it would be better to leave it to the discretion of the City Engineer.

Mr. Jessup also mentioned the matter of the So. Cal. Gas Co. wishing to change their gas line to the western line of Western Avenue from Plaza del Amo north - thereby making the line run up east of the Union Tool Co., and giving better service in that vicinity; that he saw no objection to their going ahead with it and mentioned it for the information of the Board.

Also pertaining to the request of the Glass Co. to use space over the sidewalk in front of their factory, the Engineer stated that this was an exceptional condition and would, no doubt, have to be handled as such, as it would be impossible for them to move all their heavy foundations, but, by building out over the sidewalk they would have room enough, and none of the sidewalk or street would be interfered with for public use. Ways and means of granting a franchise or lease were discussed and the matter was finally referred to the Ordinance committee, the City Attorney and Engineer.

Chief of the Fire Dept., Hannebrink, again mentioned the short circuit in the Fire house and wanted something done to obviate the danger of a shock, also stating that water was running in on the Fire apparatus.

The Engineer stated that he had been to Mr. Smith about the matter, but had had no luck in getting him to fix the same; that he would see him again.

Police Chief Anderson stated that the Ordinance against burning trash after sundown was being broken; also that the Motor Vehicle Division was about to make a drive against motorists under section 122-driving in the middle of the road.

Both these matters were to be mentioned in the newspaper for a warning to offenders.

Clerk Bartlett brought up Ordinances Nos. 65 and 66, which had been read Sept. 4th, and laid over until the next meeting:

ORDINANCE NO. 65
AN ORDINANCE GRANTING A FRANCHISE
TO THE GENERAL PIPE LINE COMPANY
OF CALIFORNIA

Trustee Stone moved that Ordinance No. 65 be finally adopted, and the same filed in the office of the City Clerk. Trustee Proctor seconded the motion which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES; Trustees: Fitzhugh, Nash, Proctor, Stone and Gilbert.
NOES; Trustees: None.
ABSENT; Trustees: None.

ORDINANCE NO. 66
AN ORDINANCE GRANTING A FRANCHISE
TO THE PETROLEUM MIDWAY COMPANY, LTD

Trustee Stone moved that Ordinance No. 66 be finally adopted, and the same filed in the office of the City Clerk. Trustee Nash seconded the motion which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES; Trustees: Fitzhugh, Nash, Proctor, Stone and Gilbert.
NOES; Trustees: None.
ABSENT; Trustees: None.

As the Street lights were not being turned on soon enough in the evening, according to Trustee Proctor, Trustee Stone promised to speak to the company about it.

Trustee Proctor also mentioned that the City was receiving no benefit financially - except from the Building permits - from the oil wells and moved that the license Ordinance be amended so as to include each well, whereby the City would receive \$24.00 per year therefrom. Trustee Nash seconded the motion which was duly carried.

The City Engineer read:
RESOLUTION NO. 142.
A RESOLUTION ORDERING THE WORK
IN THE MARTINA-MANUEL DISTRICT

Trustee Proctor moved that Resolution No. 142 be adopted as read, and the same filed in the office of the City Clerk. Trustee Nash seconded the motion which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES; Trustees: Fitzhugh, Nash, Proctor, Stone and Gilbert.
NOES; Trustees: None.
ABSENT; Trustees: None.

Engineer Jessup read his report on the water question- that of buying the plant from the Torrance Water, Light & Power Co.-same contained data as to the physical original cost, depreciation, monthly statements of receipts and expenditures; indeed a real intimate exposition of the standing of the company, and recommended the purchase of the water system.

The matter was referred back to the Engineer pending the looking up of some legal details.

Trustee Fitzhugh introduced:

ORDINANCE NO. 70
AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE RE-
STRICTING OIL DRILLING AND PRODUCTION
OPERATIONS

Trustee Nash stated that, on account of several petitions being filed opposing such an Ordinance, he would vote against such an Ordinance.

Mr. Taylor stated that he was the spokesman of the people who had filed 8 petitions with the Board against the passage of this Ordinance; that if such an Ordinance was passed, it would bring about a referendum very quickly; that at their first meeting 87 members had joined and that it was quite possible they would be a power in Torrance.

Trustee Proctor said there were people buying residence lots at the present time for oil purposes; that by putting it up to the people, the Board could find out just what they wanted so he was in favor of passing the Ordinance for that very reason. Then a referendum could be instituted thereby letting the people themselves rule; that, personally, he did not want to see drilling in the restricted district as we had a good industrial City here and he would like to see it go on as at present; that individual lot owners could not make any money by leasing for oil according to figures, but that let us pass the Ordinance and bring it up to the people.

Mr. Taylor mentioned the fact that none of the Board were acquainted with him, but he was a resident and voter in Torrance and that both he and his wife owned property here.

Trustee Stone moved that Ordinance No. 70 be approved as read for its first reading. Trustee Proctor seconded the motion which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES; Trustees: Fitzhugh, Proctor, Stone and Gilbert.
NOES; Trustee Nash.
ABSENT; Trustees: None.

Regarding the proposed paving of the Andreo-Gramercy district, Mr. Wise asked if by getting a majority of the property owners on 218th Street to protest the paving of that certain street, said street might be left out and the rest of the paving go on as intended; that it would cost him \$1200.00 as he owned corner lots facing on both streets?

The matter was to be looked into more fully.

Trustee Proctor moved that all bills, properly audited, be paid. Trustee Nash seconded the motion which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES; Trustees: Fitzhugh, Nash, Proctor, Stone and Gilbert.
NOES; Trustees: None.
ABSENT; Trustees: None.

At 10:15 P.M., Trustee Fitzhugh moved to adjourn. Trustee Nash seconded the motion which was duly carried.

Albert H. Baudet
City Clerk of the City of
Torrance.

Approved:

W. H. Gilbert
President of the Board of Trustees
of the City of Torrance.