

Torrance, California
March 13, 1951

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 at 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 13, 1951, Mayor Haggard presiding.

Those Councilmen responding to roll call by City Clerk Bartlett were: Blount, Drale, Karlow, Spelman and Haggard. 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 Spelman moved minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 27th, and the Special Meetings of March 6th and 7th, be approved. Motion, seconded by Councilman Karlow, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

At the request of Mayor Haggard, City Clerk Bartlett read a letter from the Planning Commission relative to Case No. 209:

Petition of Robert S. Price for a Variance and Conditional Permit to establish and operate a retail grocery store and gasoline service station at the intersection of Sepulveda Blvd. and 228th St., being Lots 59 and 60, Block 5, Shady Nook Tract. (This property is located in an R-1, Single-Family Residential Zone);

in which the Commission advised public hearings had been held, objections heard, and that the Commission recommended approval of the variance over protests filed. Councilman Spelman moved the Council concur in the recommendation of the Planning Commission. Councilman Drale suggested the matter be referred back to the Commission in view of the protests and B. B. Smith, President of the Commission, stated that following the Commission's first recommendation of approval, the matter had been called back from the Council before action had been taken to permit further investigation by the Commissioners because of protests filed; that the Commissioners had investigated the site, talked to nearby residents, called a second public hearing, heard protests, and were of the unanimous opinion the permit should be granted as the property could not be utilized for residential purposes. Councilman Karlow stated there were residents of the area in the audience and Mayor Haggard invited them to present their objections. Mr. Paul Anderson, of 1857 Reynosa Drive, as spokesman for the group, presented the objections -- (1) traffic hazard, (2) parking along roadway would be a nuisance, (3) increase in traffic an additional hazard, (4) view of vegetable debris, boxes and bottles from dining room windows, (5) attraction of undesirable vermin, flies, insects and mice, (6) noise from service station, (7) storage of gasoline a fire hazard, etc. Motion carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: Blount, Karlow, Spelman and Haggard. NAYS: Drale. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None

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WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

Clerk Bartlett read the following:

Letter from California Highway Commission re Resolution No. 2126 (improvement of 174th Street). Matter of record.

Letter from California Highway Commission re Resolution No. 2127 (signal at Robert Road and Pacific Coast Highway). Matter of record.

Councilman Drale moved that copies of both communications be sent to Assemblyman Vincent Thomas. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Letter from Civil Service Board advising of disability retirement application of Capt. J. R. Winters from the Fire Department, effective May 1, 1951, and recommending approval. Councilman Blount moved request be granted, subject to the City Attorney's advice as to

legality. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Letter from Civil Service Board recommending appointment of J. J. Benner as Fire Chief, subject to examination by Los Angeles County Civil Service Commission. Councilman Drale so moved. Councilman Blount asked if the motion could be amended to authorize Mr. Stevens to make the appointment from an eligible list. Councilman Drale withdrew his motion and Councilman Blount moved that the Council concur in the recommendation of the Civil Service Board and that the matter be referred to the City Manager for his recommendation and appointment from a civil service eligible list. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Request from Howard Angle to occupy house trailer at 23625 Eshelman during construction of home. Councilman Blount moved request be granted, subject to the 90-day restriction. Motion, seconded by Councilman Karlow, carried.

Letter from Recreation Director Carpenter requesting appropriation of \$1000 for Picnic Patio at El Retiro Park (budgeted item). Councilman Spelman moved request be granted. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Letter from Shell Oil Company reporting County & City franchise earnings as of December 31, 1950, in the amount of \$998.77. Matter of record.

Copy of a letter to M. A. Bandixeu from Roy O. Gilbert, Health Officer, ordering protection around two unprotected abandoned pits at Plaza del Amo and Abalone. Matter of record.

Letter from The Texas Company reporting County & City franchise earnings as of December 31, 1950, in the amount of \$10.63. Matter of record.

Resolution No. 2347, from the City of Hawthorne, requesting the Board of Supervisors to create a judicial district consisting of the South Bay cities and the City of Hawthorne in a judicial district of the County of Los Angeles for the purpose of establishment of a Municipal Court for said district. Matter of record.

Councilman Drale moved that a resolution be sent to the Board of Supervisors urging a Court be established in Torrance as we carry the majority of the load. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Letter from N. A. Leake, 1525 Marcelina Ave., requesting removal of two dead pepper trees. Councilman Drale moved the communication be referred to the City Manager for attention. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried.

Christmas Party expense reports from Seaside Homeowners Association and Hollywood Riviera. Matter of record.

Letter from Asst. to City Engineer Patrick advising resolutions for the adoption of plans and specifications for North Torrance and Seaside Heights Sewer Districts were being prepared by Barnett, Hopen & Smith. Matter of record.

Letter from Mr. Patrick submitting Tract Map No. 16923 for approval as per recommendation of the Planning Commission. Councilman Spelman moved the Council concur in the recommendation of Mr. Patrick and the Planning Commission and approve Tract Map No. 16923. Motion, seconded by Councilman Karlow, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Recommendations of City Manager Stevens:

APPROPRIATIONS:

1. That an appropriation for uniform allowance, in the amount of \$15 per man, be granted for the second group of twenty-five Auxiliary Policemen being trained.

- 2. To Barclay Surveying Company for engineering services during the month of February 1951, the sum of \$255.00.
- 3. That the Water Superintendent be authorized to purchase the building on the Water District property, which belongs to the Peace Officers' Ass'n, for the sum of \$2,500. (Funds to come from Torrance Municipal Improvement Dist. No. 1.)
- 4. For the construction of a picnic patio at El Retiro Park, the sum of \$1,000. (Budget Item)

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

TRAFFIC CONTROL:

That the City Attorney be authorized to prepare the necessary ordinance to establish the following regulatory signs in accordance with the recommendations of the Traffic Commission:

- 1. Four-way STOP:
 - (a) at Newton Street and Winlock Drive.
- 2. Speed Limits:
 - (a) 25-Mile Per Hour on Newton Street between Hawthorne Boulevard and Tandem Way;
 - (b) 25-Mile Per Hour on 182nd Street between Hawthorne Boulevard and Bailey Drive.
- 3. Two-Hour Parking Limit:
 - (a) on South side of Carson Street between Gramercy and Cabrillo.

Councilman Drale moved the Council concur in the recommendations. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

City Clerk Bartlett read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 2159

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ADOPTING BUDGET AND APPROVING FIRST SUPPLEMENTAL MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT FOR EXPENDITURE OF GAS TAX ALLOCATION FOR MAJOR CITY STREETS.

Councilman Drale moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Drale moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2159. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 2160

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE THOSE CERTAIN CONTRACTS BETWEEN THE CITY OF TORRANCE AND BARNETT, HOPEN & SMITH.

Councilman Spelman moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution. Motion, seconded by Councilman Karlow, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Spelman moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2160. Motion, seconded by Councilman Karlow, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 2161

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE GRANT OF EASEMENT TO ASSOCIATED TELEPHONE COMPANY, LTD., AND SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON COMPANY

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Councilman Drale moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Drale moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2161. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

ORDINANCE NO. 552

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 462, BUILDING CODE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE.

Councilman Karlow moved to dispense with further reading of the Ordinance. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Karlow moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 552 at its first reading. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

City Manager Stevens then presented plans and specifications for North Torrance Sewer District No. 1. Councilman Blount moved to receive and file the plans and specifications. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Upon examination, the Council found them satisfactory and in good order, and had no suggestions for modifications.

The City Manager presented, and Clerk Bartlett read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 2162

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING AND ADOPTING PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF WHAT IS KNOWN AS THE NORTH TORRANCE SEWER DISTRICT NO. 1, BY THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM THEREIN.

Councilman Karlow moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Blount moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2162. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Blount, Drale, Karlow, Spelman and Haggard. NAYS: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

The City Manager presented, and Clerk Bartlett read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 2163

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, DECLARING ITS INTENTION TO ORDER THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM IN REGINA AVENUE AND CERTAIN OTHER STREETS IN SAID CITY WITHIN WHAT IS KNOWN AS THE NORTH TORRANCE SEWER DISTRICT NO. 1; DECLARING THE WORK TO BE OF MORE THAN LOCAL OR ORDINARY PUBLIC BENEFIT, AND DESCRIBING THE DISTRICT TO BE BENEFITED BY SAID WORK AND TO PAY THE COSTS AND EXPENSES THEREOF; DETERMINING THAT BONDS SHALL BE ISSUED TO REPRESENT SAID COSTS AND EXPENSES; AND FIXING THE TIME AND PLACE SET FOR HEARING OBJECTIONS TO SAID WORK OR IMPROVEMENT, OR TO THE EXTENT OF THE DISTRICT TO BE ASSESSED, OR BOTH.

Councilman Blount moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Blount moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2163. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Blount, Drale, Karlow, Spelman and Haggard. NAYS: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

The City Manager presented an estimate of cost of the proposed improvement in the amount of \$65,989.00. Councilman Blount moved that this estimate be received and filed. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

The City Manager presented plans and specifications for Seaside Heights Sewer District. Councilman Drale moved to receive and file the plans and specifications. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Upon examination, the Council found them satisfactory and in good order, and had no suggestions for modifications.

The City Manager presented, and Clerk Bartlett read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 2164

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING AND ADOPTING PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF WHAT IS KNOWN AS THE SEASIDE HEIGHTS SEWER DISTRICT, BY THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM THEREIN.

Councilman Spelman moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Spelman moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2164. Motion, seconded by Councilman Karlow, carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Blount, Drale, Karlow, Spelman and Haggard. NAYS: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

The City Manager presented, and Clerk Bartlett read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 2165

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, DECLARING ITS INTENTION TO ORDER THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM IN BINDEWALD ROAD AND CERTAIN OTHER STREETS IN SAID CITY, WITHIN WHAT IS KNOWN AS THE SEASIDE HEIGHTS SEWER DISTRICT; DECLARING THE WORK TO BE OF MORE THAN LOCAL OR ORDINARY PUBLIC BENEFIT, AND DESCRIBING THE DISTRICT TO BE BENEFITED BY SAID WORK AND TO PAY THE COSTS AND EXPENSES THEREOF; DETERMINING THAT BONDS SHALL BE ISSUED TO REPRESENT SAID COSTS AND EXPENSES; AND FIXING THE TIME AND PLACE SET FOR HEARING OBJECTIONS TO SAID WORK OR IMPROVEMENT, OR TO THE EXTENT OF THE DISTRICT TO BE ASSESSED, OR BOTH.

Councilman Drale moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Blount moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2165. Motion, seconded by Councilman Karlow, carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Blount, Drale, Karlow, Spelman and Haggard. NAYS: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

The City Manager presented an estimate of cost of the proposed improvement in the amount of \$84,689.76. Councilman Drale moved that this estimate be received and filed. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

At 8:45 p.m. a recess was declared. Meeting reconvened at 8:55.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Councilman Drale moved an ordinance be drawn creating a Parking Authority composed of five persons -- a minister of a Protestant Church, a priest of the Catholic Church, one man representing industry, one man representing labor and one businessman. He explained that such a representation would not be interested in personal gains and suggested, as chairman of the group, Otto Kresse, a representative of industry. A brief discussion followed with Councilman Karlow inquiring if the City could appoint such a body. City Attorney Hall advised the Council that under the 1949 Act, such a commission could be created, but, since there was a question of title, he would prefer to make his comments in writing. There being no second, Councilman Drale's motion was declared lost.

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Councilman Drale urged the citizens to report broken sidewalks.

Councilman Karlow moved a letter of condolence be sent to Clarence Brown, a member of the City's Park Department, who recently lost a son in Korea. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried. Clerk Bartlett asked if the instructions to the former City Attorney to write all such communications was still in effect and was advised affirmatively.

Councilman Karlow, with a brief comment, moved that steps be taken by the City to obtain permission from the Santa Fe Railroad to clean up and beautify the triangular plot of ground at the intersection of Sepulveda and Walnut, which is an entrance to the Kettler Knolls Tract. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried. The City Manager was instructed to look into the matter.

Councilman Blount stated he would like to have the Parking Authority matter discussed at the next agenda meeting.

Protests were then heard from the audience as to the City Dump. Those voicing protests were Robert Carlson, President of Knolls Home-owners' Assn., Mrs. Velma Brace, 2435 Border Ave., Mr. H. L. Perkins, 2745 Border Avenue, Mrs. Basil Brady of Plaza del Amo, Mr. Archie Watson of Border Avenue, Mr. Robert Grier of Border Avenue and Mrs. Elliott. All protestants urged the closing, filling in and levelling off of the dump because of rats, flies, etc., from a health standpoint, and also argued the dump and the adjoining pit were a menace to the safety of children. Following heated discussion, Councilman Drale moved the City Attorney commence proceedings for the condemnation of the 2½ acres adjacent to the City Dump and that the Dump be closed, filled up, cleaned up and leveled off, and that arrangements be made with Mr. Paap who leased the Standard Oil sump for dumping facilities.

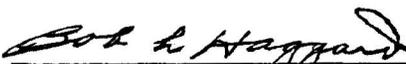
Councilman Karlow asked that the City Manager read the letter he had received from the Health Department. The letter was read, reporting two investigations had been made by the Rodent Control Division, that no traces of rats had been found, that weekly inspections would continue, and making certain recommendations. The City Manager stated that the City was spraying regularly to keep down fly infestation. In further discussion, Mr. Stevens stated the City was trying to find another site suitable for a dump, that Mr. Paap had not completed his proposed deal with Standard Oil. Councilman Drale suggested an arrangement be worked out with the County to use the old dicalite pit. Mr. Stevens stated he thought a time limit of one-year could be placed on the present dump, and possibly the City would be able to fill it in before that time if another location could be found. There being no second, Councilman Drale's motion was declared lost.

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

At 9:38 p.m., Councilman Spelman moved meeting be adjourned. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried.


CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

APPROVED:


MAYOR OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE