

888

29-77

Torrance, California  
November 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 November 13, 1951, Mayor Haggard Presiding.

Those responding to roll call by City Clerk Bartlett were:  
COUNCILMEN: Drale, Karlow, Spelman and Haggard. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Blount. Also present were City Manager Stevens and City Attorney Hall. Councilman Blount arrived at 8:05 P.M.

All persons present participated in the salute to Our Flag.

As first order of business, Councilman Karlow moved the minutes of the regular meeting of October 23, 1951, and of the adjourned regular meeting of October 30, 1951, be approved. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried.

Mayor Haggard announced it was now the time and place for the hearing of protests to the formation of Municipal Water District No. 3 in the City of Torrance.

City Clerk Bartlett reported that the Affidavit of Publication was on file in his office, that it was published in the Torrance Herald on October 18 and October 25, 1951, and that he had received no written protests.

Mayor Haggard inquired if anyone desired to be heard. Nobody replied. Mayor Haggard then called on Mr. R.C. Kenmer, from the office of Mr. James Montgomery, the consulting engineer. Mr. Kenmer was sworn and testified that he was familiar with the proposed district, with the official maps and plans on file with the City Clerk, and with the proposed project, and that all of the territory within the proposed district would be benefited by the proposed project. With the aid of the map he explained the boundaries and the project. There being no questions, Councilman Karlow moved that the hearing of the protests in the matter of Municipal Water District No. 3 be adjourned to 8:00 P.M., November 20, 1951. 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 Mayor announced the time had arrived for proceeding with matters relative to South Torrance Sewer District No. 2.

Councilman Drale moved that any and all appeals and objections be denied. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, duly carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Blount, Drale, Karlow, Spelman and Haggard. NAYS: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

City Engineer Joseph then presented the resolution confirming the assessment, and Clerk Bartlett read title to

RESOLUTION NO. 2225

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, CONFIRMING THE ASSESSMENT LEVIED UPON THE LAND WITHIN THE SOUTH TORRANCE SEWER ASSESSMENT DISTRICT NO. 2 TO PAY THE COSTS OF THE IMPROVEMENT OF ARLINGTON AVENUE AND CERTAIN OTHER STREETS AND ALLEYS IN SAID CITY BY THE CONSTRUCTION AND INSTALLATION THEREIN OF A SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM.

Councilman Karlow moved that further reading of the Resolution be dispensed with. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, duly carried by

the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Blount, Drale, Karlow, Spelman and Haggard. NAYS: COUNCILMEN: None. Councilman Karlow moved that Resolution No. 2225 be passed and adopted. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, was adopted by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Blount, Drale, Karlow, Spelman and Haggard. NAYS: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN None.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

Clerk Bartlett read the following:

Letter from Luis Monson (held over from last meeting) requesting permit to collect junk, and requesting reduction in license fee. Councilman Spelman moved the request for a reduced fee be denied. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried.

Request from Rev. S. O. Whitman for use of the Recreation Hall at Torrance Park for community Sunday School, morning and evening, and further use on Tuesday and Thursday nights for Young Peoples Meeting and Prayer Meeting. Councilman Drale moved the letter be referred to the Recreation Commission for its recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried.

Request from North Torrance Civic Improvement Assn. for an appropriation of \$300 for the North Torrance Christmas Party. Brief discussion was had, following which Councilman Drale moved that action be withheld as the same matter, along with other areas, was covered in another communication from Recreation Director Carpenter. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried.

Letter from Asst. to City Engineer Patrick advising he was submitting petitions for the creating of a 1911 Act Assessment Sewer Job in the Seaside Ranchos area and that signatures on the petitions represent 59.91% of the property owners in the area. His letter also transmitted the following letter from the County of Los Angeles Health Department:

"Honorable City Council  
City of Torrance  
City Hall  
Torrance, California

Attention: John R. Patrick, Asst. to City Engineer

Gentlemen:

SUBJECT: Proposed sanitary sewer district, Seaside Ranchos, City of Torrance.

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

ANALYSIS: This Department has made an investigation of the area of Seaside Ranchos Sanitary Sewer District as shown on the attached map. During the course of this investigation 80 residents were contacted and of this group 32 or forty percent reported that they have had trouble with their private sewage disposal systems. The soil within the area of this proposed sanitary sewer district is a fine silty sand, interspersed with clay. This type of soil is not conducive to satisfactory sewage disposal over any great period of time due to its poor leaching capabilities and also eventually this fine sand sifts into the seepage pits through the spaces of the brick lining of the pits and causes them to fill with silt and sand or cave in. Several of the contacts reported that the ground surface area around their seepage pits was sinking, also that they had recently had their seepage pits pumped out. One contact reported that if their present system failed, they did not have remaining available lot area on which to install an additional seepage pit.

AGA280

22X

0071

In view of our survey it is respectfully recommended that proceedings be instituted at once for the installation of sanitary sewers in this district as an improvement necessary to the protection of public health. This recommendation is made pursuant to the provisions of Section 2808 of the Streets and Highways Code.

Very truly yours,

/s/ K. H. Sutherland. M.D.  
KENNETH H. SUTHERLAND, M.D.,  
Assistant Health Officer

For and in the absence of  
ROY O. GILBERT, M.D.,  
Los Angeles County Health Officer"

Councilman Spelman moved the letter be received and the necessary action taken. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Blount, Drale, Karlow, Spelman and Haggard. NAYS: COUNCILMAN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Letter from Asst. to City Engineer Patrick transmitting petitions for the creation of the Seaside Ranchos Sewer District, representing 136 lots of the possible 227 lots, together with maps indicating said 136 lot signers. Councilman Spelman moved the petitions and maps be received. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Letter from Asst. to City Engineer Patrick recommending that Barnett, Hopen and Smith be retained as Assessment Engineers in connection with the Seaside Ranchos Sewer District, and transmitting a letter from Barnett, Hopen and Smith covering the estimated cost of such assessment work. Councilman Spelman moved the Council concur in the recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Letter from Mr. Patrick transmitting resolutions determining the necessity of the Seaside Ranchos Sewer District and instructing the City Engineer to prepare plans and specifications.

Clerk Bartlett read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 2226

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, FINDING AND DETERMINING THAT A SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM IN THE SEASIDE RANCHOS SEWER DISTRICT, IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE, IS NECESSARY AS A HEALTH MEASURE.

Councilman Spelman moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Blount, Drale, Karlow, Spelman and Haggard. NAYS: COUNCILMEN: None. Councilman Spelman moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2226. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Blount, Drale, Karlow, Spelman and Haggard. NAYS: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

RESOLUTION NO. 2227

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 SEASIDE RANCHOS SEWER DISTRICT, IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE, AS OUTLINED ON DRAWING NO. 6424, PREPARED BY BARNETT, HOPEN & SMITH, CIVIL ENGINEERS AND LAND SURVEYORS.

Councilman Spelman moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution. Motion, seconded by Councilman Karlow, carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: Blount, Drale, Karlow, Spelman and Haggard. NAYS: COUNCILMEN: None. Councilman Spelman moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2227. 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.

At 8:27 P.M., Mayor Haggard declared a short recess. Meeting reconvened at 8:35.

Report from City Engineer Joseph on his investigation of the Torrance Gravel Pit and recommending the operation be permitted to continue. A letter from K. Sande Senness, owner of the pit site, was also read relative to the pit operations. Discussion followed between members of the Council, resulting in the suggestion by Mayor Haggard that the dump be closed until Mr. Senness takes out a business license for the operation of a dump. Councilman Drale so moved. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Karlow then moved these communications be referred to the next agenda meeting for study to determine the City's position in regard to the problem of oil sumps and the dump. Councilman Drale seconded the motion, with a request that the City Attorney prepare a written statement answering the questions raised. Motion carried.

AGA280

Letter from City Engineer Joseph reporting on his survey relative to the extension of Arlington Avenue from 190th Street to 203rd Street, estimating such improvement at \$85,000. Councilman Drale stated his purpose in requesting this survey was that in his opinion such improvement would bring more business into Torrance, and moved the letter be filed as a matter of record. Motion, seconded by Councilman Karlow, carried.

Request from the Recreation Department for an appropriation of \$1,000 to be divided between four districts for the annual Christmas parties. Councilman Drale moved the Council concur in the recommendation. Motion was seconded by Councilman Karlow. Mayor Haggard stated he believed the Council should give the matter more thought before voting to spend \$1,000. City Manager Stevens, in reply to inquiry by Councilman Spelman, advised such expenditure was not a budget item and would have to come from Unappropriated Reserve. Motion carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Blount, Drale, Karlow and Spelman. NAYS: COUNCILMEN: Haggard. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Request from David Glabe to occupy a house trailer on Lot 11, Tract B-14, Walteria, during construction of residence. Councilman Spelman moved the request be granted, subject to the obtaining of a building permit, and that such trailer occupancy be limited to 90 days. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried.

Recommendations of City Manager Stevens:

PERSONNEL:

1. J. J. Benner, having satisfactorily served his probationary period as Fire Chief, was permanently appointed to the position effective November 8, 1951.

Councilman Drale moved the Council concur. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Drale asked if the salary had been adjusted and City Manager Stevens advised Mr. Benner's anniversary date had been changed to coincide with his appointment as Fire Chief, and that he was being paid under the bracket established for the position.

APPROPRIATIONS:

1. To Barclay Survey Company for engineering services during the month of October 1951, the sum of \$355.00.
2. To Ken H. Jones and Company for improvement of Crenshaw Boulevard from 174th St. to 190th St., the sum of \$30,393.50, including extras. (State Gas Tax Funds).

Councilman Spelman moved the Council concur in the recommendations. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, 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. STOP SIGNS:

- (a) Four-way at Madison Street and Newton Street;
- (b) Two-way on access road north of Torrance Blvd. at Faysmith Avenue;
- (c) For west-bound traffic on Camino del Campo at Monte D'Oro;
- (d) For north-bound traffic on Camino de las Colinas at Monte D'Oro.

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

Councilman Drale inquired of the City Manager as to insurance expirations, as of January 1st, and was advised that bids would be called for and received early in December.

Letter from the Planning Commission recommending approval of Case No. 222: Petition of W. Verburg for a Variance and Conditional Permit to add a salesroom on the front of the existing dairy building, subject to the condition that a fence be erected along that portion of Crenshaw Boulevard where the cows are maintained.

Councilman Drale moved the Council concur in the recommendation, on the condition imposed. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Letter from the Planning Commission recommending approval of CASE NO. 225: Petition of the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Los Angeles for a Variance and Conditional Permit for the construction of an elementary parochial school at 3846 Redondo Beach Blvd. Councilman Drale moved the Council concur in the recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Letter from the Planning Commission recommending approval of Case No. 220: Petition of Manual L. Rocha for a Variance and Conditional Permit to build an addition to an existing cow barn, subject to the condition that the total number of milk cows on the premises at any one time will not exceed 200, nor will the total number of cattle at any one time exceed 250. Councilman Drale moved the Council concur in the recommendation. Councilman Blount seconded the motion, providing assurance was given that the variance was subject to the conditions laid down by the Planning Commission. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Clerk Bartlett read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 2228

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO ACCEPT, ON BEHALF OF THE CITY, THAT CERTAIN EASEMENT DEED FROM LORINA J. McLEAN.

Councilman Spelman moved further reading of the Resolution be dispensed with. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Spelman moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2228. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 2229

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE DECLARING ITS INTENTION TO VACATE CERTAIN STREETS AND ALLEYS IN TRACT NO. 15757; FIXING A TIME WHEN THE CITY COUNCIL WILL MEET TO TAKE FINAL ACTION THEREON; PROVIDING FOR THE PUBLICATION OF THIS RESOLUTION; AND RESCINDING RESOLUTION NO. 2214

Councilman Karlow moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Karlow moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2229. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

ORDINANCE NO. 578

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE DECLARING DEPOSITING OF RUBBISH ON CITY STREETS OR ALLEYS A NUISANCE.

Councilman Spelman moved to dispense with further reading of the Ordinance. Motion, seconded by Councilman Karlow, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Spelman moved for the adoption of urgency Ordinance No. 578 at its first and final reading. Motion, seconded by Councilman Karlow, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

AG 280

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

City Manager Stevens asked that he be authorized to negotiate with the federal government for a special census, and gave his reasons for such a request. Councilman Drale so moved. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

City Attorney Hall advised the Council that he had received a letter respecting the discussions previously had with Mr. Truman Browne concerning water service to his subdivision south of Sepulveda. The letter, claiming damages in the approximate sum of \$90,000 was read in its entirety. It also set forth Mr. Browne's proposal re service and installation costs, etc. Mr. Hall advised the Council that he did not believe the City could legally accept the proposal and recommended that the offer, as contained in the letter, be denied. Councilman Spelman so moved. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried by the following roll call vote:  
AYES: COUNCILMEN: Blount, Drale, Karlow, Spelman and Haggard.  
NAYS: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Drale stated that at the meeting of October 23rd a letter had been received from City Engineer Joseph recommending disapproval of tentative tract map No. 17444, submitted by the January Company, and that the Planning Commission had also disapproved the map for "small items" which could be worked out. He stated he did not think a subdivision of some 400 homes should be held up and that by "stalling around" we would lose a big subdivision. He then moved that the tentative tract map be accepted. There being no second, his motion was declared lost.

Councilman Drale asked if the gardeners in the City of Torrance were licensed. Clerk Bartlett advised him that regular "gardeners" were licensed but that not persons just mowing lawns and weeding of flower beds. Councilman Drale stated that he believed they were carrying on a business and should be licensed and asked that the matter be given some consideration by the License Inspector.

Councilman Drale urged all citizens to contribute to the "GIFT LIFT" for the servicemen in Korea and stated the Jr. Chamber of Commerce and the YMCA would accept the gifts.

Councilman Spelman asked about the timing of the new traffic signals on Torrance Boulevard, as a driver can make both signals without stopping. Chief Stroh advised that the signals were set for 32 miles an hour, with the intention that a driver could make

both signals, so that traffic going west on Torrance Boulevard would move faster. Further explanation of the timing was given at some length.

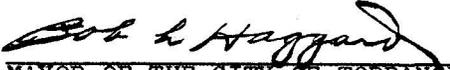
Jack Baldwin, of the Torrance Herald, expressed his appreciation to the Council and members of the City's official family for the fine cooperation given the Herald during his four years as reporter and stated he hoped the same courtesies would be extended his successor. Mayor Haggard responded that everyone regreted his departure and wished him every success on his new job with the Long Beach Independant.

There being no further business, Councilman Drale moved that all bills properly audited by paid. Motion, seconded by Councilman Karlow, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

At 9:30 P.M., on motion by Councilman Karlow, seconded by Councilman Drale, meeting adjourned to 8:00 P.M., November 20, 1951.

  
CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

APPROVED:

  
MAYOR OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE