

Torrance, California
July 14, 1953

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL

The City Council of the City of Torrance convened in a Regular Meeting in the Council Chamber of the City Hall on Tuesday, July 14, 1953, at 8:00 p.m., Mayor Schwab presiding.

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

Councilman Benstead led the salute to our Flag.

As first order of business Councilman Benstead moved to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 23, 1953, as written. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by those present.

Mayor Schwab announced this is the time and place for the opening of bids for cast iron pipe for the Water Department and installation of pipe lines for the Water Department.

City Clerk Bartlett opened and read the following bids:

<u>Cast Iron Pipe for Water Department</u>		
	AMOUNT	
<u>BIDDER</u>	<u>3.006' of 4"</u>	<u>6.012' of 6"</u>
U. S. Pipe and Foundry	\$ 3,171.33	\$ 9,408.78
Pacific States Cast Iron Pipe	3,219.43	9,559.08
James B. Clow and Sons	3,276.54	9,799.56
American Cast Iron Pipe	3,162.31	9,378.72
<u>Installation of Pipe Lines for Water Department</u>		
	AMOUNT	
<u>BIDDER</u>	<u>2.004' of 4"</u>	<u>1.791' of 6"</u>
J. E. Young Pipe Line Contractor, Inc.	\$ 1,542.00	\$ 1,771.00
Sam B. Pierce	1,903.80	1,737.27
S. E. Pipe Line Construction Co.	(Total Bid - \$4,710.00)	

Councilman Spelman moved these bids be referred to the City Manager and Water Superintendent for their recommendation, following a recess at nine o'clock. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by those present.

Mayor Schwab announced this is the time and place for the second hearing of the 1953-1954 Budget. Oral protests were called for.

Dale Isenberg, Executive Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, made an appeal for an increase from \$5,000 to \$10,000 for the advertising contract with the Chamber of Commerce and the City of Torrance for the ensuing fiscal year.

There being no other requests, Councilman Spelman moved the Hearing be closed. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by those present.

Mayor Schwab announced the third and final Budget Hearing would be held two weeks from tonight, July 28, 1953.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

City Clerk Bartlett read the following:

Communication from personnel of City Clerk's office requesting reclassifications for older and more experienced employees and requesting examinations be waived for these reclassifications.

City Clerk Bartlett said this was part of his office force, and he believed something should be done to change the status of the Civil Service Ordinance so it will be fair for every department.

Councilman Benstead said that according to the minutes of a special meeting of the Civil Service Board held on July 8th, they do not recommend a change or reclassification at this time. Due to the fact the City Council is to have a meeting with the Civil Service Board one week from tonight, Councilman Benstead moved this request be held over until after that meeting. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by those present.

Communication from the Water Superintendent requesting reclassifications of certain personnel.

Councilman Benstead said the Civil Service rules and regulations provide that a person shall take a competitive examination for a new classification, or a higher classification, and moved that this request be held over until after the meeting with the Civil Service Board. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by those present.

Request from the Torrance Municipal Water District No. 3 to transfer loaned funds into the Bond Interest and Redemption Fund.

Councilman Spelman moved this be referred to the next Agenda meeting. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by those present.

Request from the Democratic Party for use of the Civic Auditorium on Saturday, August 29, 1953.

Councilman Benstead moved the request be granted. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by those present.

Request of Richard Henry Dana Chapter No. 64 of the Military Order of the Purple Heart to solicit in the City of Torrance to sell tickets and souvenir programs for their Vaudeville Show, to be held on the night of August 15, 1953, in San Pedro.

Councilman Spelman moved the request be granted and the time limit be placed at five days for their soliciting. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by those present.

Request of the Chamber of Commerce for the erection of a 9 x 16 neon sign to be located on City property at Torrance Boulevard and Western Avenue, and requesting that traffic be closed to the public between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 1:00 a.m. on El Prado Street, between Sartori and Cravens Avenue, for a community celebration to be held on Friday, August 28, 1953.

City Manager Stevens said he had informed the Chamber of Commerce it was the City's intention to sell this land, and the erection of the sign would have to be subject to that change of ownership. Mr. Isenberg said they understood this, but the sign, when completed, will be turned over to the City and can be moved at will.

Councilman Benstead moved the Chamber of Commerce be granted the privilege of erecting the neon sign and closing the streets for the community celebration. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by those present.

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Letter from the Armed Forces Disciplinary Control Board, Fort MacArthur, California, commending Chief of Police, J. H. Stroh and his Department for the fine cooperation and the energetic assistance given in the handling of all police cases involving military personnel.

Councilman Benstead moved the letter be filed as a matter of record and that a letter of thanks be written by City Manager Stevens, thanking them for recognizing that we do have a good Chief of Police. Councilman Benstead also moved the letter of commendation be published so the entire Police Force can see it. "The boys have done a good job; let's give them credit!" Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by those present.

Letter from the Division of Highways advising that a contract for about 3.6 miles in length to be graded and paved with asphalt concrete pavement and a steel girder bridge to be constructed in Los Angeles County, between Inglewood Avenue and Normandie Avenue, was awarded to J. E. Haddock, Ltd.

Councilman Benstead moved the letter be filed as a matter of record. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by those present.

Letter from the Tide Water Associated Oil Company, addressed to the City Attorney, submitting franchise payment in the amount of \$206.45, made by way of compromise, covering City of Torrance Ordinance No. 127, Ordinances No. 1014 and 1351 of the County of Los Angeles.

Councilman Spelman said City Attorney Hall should be congratulated for the action he has started, and moved the letter be filed as a matter of record and the check deposited with the City Treasurer. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Report from Tide Water Associated Oil Company advising no permits were issued and no pipe lines laid or removed during the period January 1, 1953, to and including June 30, 1953, under Los Angeles County Franchise Ordinance No. 1351, within the City of Torrance.

City Clerk Bartlett said this was a matter of record.

Report from the Richfield Oil Corporation advising that no pipelines were laid, removed, or abandoned in place during the period from January 1 to June 30, 1953, inclusive, under Los Angeles County Franchise Ordinances No. 1358 and 1361, within the limits of the City of Torrance.

City Clerk Bartlett stated this was a matter of record.

Letter from the City Clerk of Redondo Beach advising the City of Redondo Beach will hold a hearing on the proposed annexation of various properties located in the City of Torrance.

City Attorney Hall advised the City of Torrance has already excluded this property.

Councilman Spelman moved the communication be filed as a matter of record. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by those present.

Letter from Austin Rheingold 22317 Redbeam Avenue, complaining of the lack of water pressure in the Allied Gardens Tract.

Councilman Spelman moved the communication be referred to the City Attorney for disposition. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by those present.

Request of George E. Redding for permission to occupy a trailer for a period of ninety days, while he is constructing a dwelling at 2031 - 233rd Street, Torrance.

Councilman Spelman moved this request be granted, subject to the provision that he take out a building permit and the trailer not be occupied for a period over ninety days. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by those present.

Application of B. W. Dowander, dba Yellow Cab Company, for taxicab stand at 1256 Sartori, Torrance.

City Clerk Bartlett said the application had been approved by Chief of Police Stroh.

Councilman Spelman moved the request be granted. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by those present.

Petition from taxpayers and residents of the Allied Gardens Tract, requesting the City to construct a curbed and planted parkway down the center of Palos Verdes Boulevard.

Councilman Benstead moved this request be referred to the next Agenda meeting for further study. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by those present.

Letter from the Civil Service Board expressing their appreciation for the action taken by the City Council in changing the Five-Step Salary Plan to a Three-Step Plan.

Councilman Benstead moved the communication be filed as a matter of record. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by those present.

Letter from the Civil Service Board approving the draft of a proposed change in the personnel ordinance submitted by City Attorney Hall, establishing a five-Member Board, and recommending this proposed ordinance be adopted.

Councilman Spelman moved this be referred to the next Agenda meeting. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by those present.

Recommendations of City Manager Stevens:

PERSONNEL:

1. That the following personnel be appointed in the classification indicated, on the dates shown and at the first salary bracket:
 - (a) To serve his probationary term - Robert G. Bell, Laborer, Street Department, July 6, 1953.
 - (b) On a temporary basis - Ruben C. R. Helmke, Janitor, July 6, 1953.
 - (c) Temporary for Summer Vacation - Ronald G. Turner, Laborer, Park Department, June 16, 1953.
2. That Claude Kuhn, Bus Operator, be granted a two-week leave of absence without pay, from July 6 to July 19, inclusive. (Approved by the Bus Superintendent and Civil Service Board)

Councilman Benstead inquired if Robert G. Bell was appointed from an eligible list. City Manager Stevens said he was taken from the list.

Councilman Spelman moved to concur with the recommendations of City Manager Stevens, items one and two, under Personnel. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

APPROPRIATIONS:

1. To Barclay Survey Company for engineering services during the month of June, 1953, the sum of \$363.00.
2. To James M. Montgomery for engineering services during the month of June, 1953, the sum of \$1,688.98, in accordance with the terms of the contract. (From Bond Issue Funds)
3. For the purchase of a 16-cubic-yard Garwood Load Packer, the sum of \$4,961.52, including tax.

Councilman Benstead moved to concur with the recommendations of City Manager Stevens, items one through three, under Appropria-

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tions. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

City Manager Stevens recommended that, effective July 1, 1953, the fee to be paid for the collection of garbage and non-combustible refuse be at the rate of \$3,394.31 per month, in accordance with the terms of the contract.

Councilman Benstead moved to concur with the recommendations of City Manager Stevens. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

Letter from the Pacific Hills Homeowner's Association agreeing to the amended Variance regarding the Torrance Sand and Gravel Company, as recommended by the Torrance Planning Commission, providing certain additional conditions were made a part of the Council's approval.

Mayor Schwab referred the letter to the next Agenda meeting, at which time Mr. Powell will be present with the map to outline the conditions.

Mr. Powell thanked the Homeowner's group for their work in helping to correct the situation, and he then introduced Mr. Shepherd of the Torrance Sand & Gravel Company, who agreed verbally to all of the conditions outlined in the letter except condition (E), which they thought should not be included for the reason it deprived them of the use of the road, although they were willing to stipulate that no further sand and gravel operations would be conducted in that area.

Mayor Schwab commended the Pacific Hills Homeowner's Association for their letter and said that with the fine spirit of cooperation shown by both interested parties this matter should be taken care of at the next Agenda meeting.

Letter from the U. S. Treasury Department regarding the employees of the City of Torrance participating in the Social Security Program, even though they are presently covered by the State Retirement Act.

Councilman Spelman moved the communication be referred to the next Agenda meeting. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by those present.

City Clerk Bartlett read the following bids for auditing the books and accounts of the City of Torrance for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1953, and ending June 30, 1954:

<u>BIDDER</u>	<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Logan R. Cotton	General Government	\$1,400.00
Logan R. Cotton	Municipal Bus Department	350.00
Logan R. Cotton	Municipal Water District #3	1,800.00
C. J. Meadway	General Fund, Special Fund, Municipal Water Districts Municipal Bus Lines	Maximum fee shall be \$4,000.00

Councilman Spelman moved these two bids be referred to the City Manager for his recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

Request of the Torrance Gardens and Plaza Home Owner's Association for the City to plant grass, flowers, shrubbery, etc. in the vicinity of Crenshaw at Torrance Boulevard.

Councilman Benstead moved this be referred to the next Agenda meeting. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by those present.

Request of the Communications Engineering Company that they be given consideration in the allotment of communications maintenance for the City of Torrance Police and Fire Departments for the ensuing year.

Councilman Spelman moved this be referred to the next Agenda meeting. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously.

At 9:00 p.m. Mayor Schwab declared a fifteen-minute recess. The meeting reconvened at 9:15 p.m.

City Manager Stevens said after checking the bids with Mr. McVicar, Water Superintendent, he would like to recommend the contract for furnishing cast iron pipe be awarded to the American Cast Iron Pipe Company who submitted the lowest responsible bid in the amount of \$12,541.03, and that all other bids be rejected.

City Manager Stevens said the bid of the S. E. Pipe Line Construction Company, for installation of pipe lines, was found to be irregular. He recommended the contract for the installation of pipe lines be awarded to the J. E. Young Pipe Line Contractor, Inc., who submitted the lowest responsible bid in the amount of \$3,313.00, and that all other bids be rejected.

Councilman Spelman moved to concur with the recommendations of City Manager Stevens in awarding the above contracts. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

City Clerk Bartlett read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 2413

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING JOINT PARTICIPATION IN OPPOSING RATE APPLICATION OF THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON COMPANY.

Councilman Spelman moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

Councilman Spelman moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2413. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

RESOLUTION NO. 2414

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING THE EMPLOYMENT OF CLARENCE A. WINDER TO ASSIST THE CITY AS AN INTERESTED PARTY OR IN OPPOSING THE APPLICATION OF THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON COMPANY FOR AN INCREASE IN RATES.

Councilman Spelman moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

Councilman Spelman moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2414. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

RESOLUTION NO. 2415

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 2197, AND RESOLUTION NO. 2203 INSOFAR AS SAID RESOLUTION IS APPLICABLE.

Councilman Benstead moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

Councilman Benstead moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2415. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

RESOLUTION NO. 2416

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE THAT CERTAIN CONTRACT FOR ADVERTISING BETWEEN THE CITY OF TORRANCE AND THE TORRANCE HERALD FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 1953-1954.

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Councilman Spelman moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

Councilman Spelman moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2416. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

RESOLUTION NO. 2417

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THAT CERTAIN AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY OF TORRANCE AND RAGSDALE AND NEWELL.

Councilman Benstead moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

Councilman Benstead moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2417. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

RESOLUTION NO. 2418

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ESTABLISHING THE PRACTICE OF OPENING COUNCIL MEETINGS WITH AN INVOCATION.

Councilman Spelman moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

Councilman Spelman moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2418. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

RESOLUTION NO. 2419

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE REQUESTING THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO ORDER THE CANCELLATION OF TAXES ON CERTAIN PROPERTY ACQUIRED BY THE CITY OF TORRANCE FOR PUBLIC USE.

Councilman Benstead moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

Councilman Benstead moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2419. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

RESOLUTION NO. 2420

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING COLLINS-DIETRICH AIR SERVICES, INC., A CORPORATION, TO BORROW CERTAIN FUNDS FROM THE BANK OF AMERICA FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSTRUCTING A NEW HANGAR ON THAT CERTAIN PROPERTY UNDER LEASE TO SAID CORPORATION.

Councilman Spelman moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

Councilman Spelman moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2420. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

RESOLUTION NO. 2421

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE FINDING AND DETERMINING THAT THE PUBLIC INTEREST AND NECESSITY REQUIRE THE ACQUISITION, CONSTRUCTION AND COMPLETION BY THE SAID CITY OF TORRANCE OF CERTAIN PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS, TO WIT:

THE CONSTRUCTION AND INSTALLATION OF A PUBLIC STREET OVER AND ACROSS CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE; AND DIRECTING THE CITY ATTORNEY TO BRING AND PROSECUTE AN ACTION IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE CONDEMNATION THEREOF.

Councilman Benstead moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

Councilman Benstead moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2421. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

ORDINANCE NO. 649

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 523 ELIMINATING THE FIVE-STEP PLAN AND ADOPTING A THREE-STEP PLAN AND MAKING A CHANGE IN THE SALARIES OF THE VARIOUS POSITIONS IN THE CLASSIFIED SERVICE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE.

Councilman Spelman moved to dispense with further reading of the Ordinance. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

Councilman Spelman moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 649 at its first and final reading. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

ORDINANCE NO. 650

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING LAND USE ORDINANCE NO. 612, RECLASSIFYING THAT CERTAIN PROPERTY DESCRIBED IN PLANNING COMMISSION CASE NO. 258.

Councilman Spelman moved to dispense with further reading of the Ordinance. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Benstead and Spelman. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Schwab. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Blount and Drale.

Councilman Spelman moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 650 at its first reading. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Benstead and Spelman. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Schwab. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Blount and Drale.

ORDINANCE NO. 651

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING LAND USE ORDINANCE NO. 612, RECLASSIFYING THAT CERTAIN PROPERTY DESCRIBED IN PLANNING COMMISSION CASE NO. 260.

Councilman Benstead moved to dispense with further reading of the Ordinance. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

Councilman Benstead moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 651 at its first reading. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

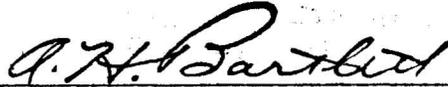
ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Councilman Benstead said there would be approximately half a million dollars surplus from the water bond issue and moved to consider, at the next Agenda meeting, the placing on the ballot of a proposition requesting the voters to authorize use of this money for the purchase of property for the construction of a new Civic Center, a new fire station and a swimming pool. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by those present.

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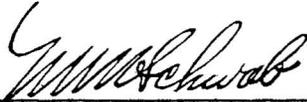
Councilman Spelman moved that all bills properly audited be paid. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

At 9:30 Councilman Spelman moved the meeting adjourn. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by those present.



CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

APPROVED:



MAYOR OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE