

Torrance, California  
June 1, 1954

MINUTES OF AN ADJOURNED REGULAR  
MEETING OF THE TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL

The City Council of the City of Torrance convened in an Adjourned Regular Meeting in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Torrance, California, on Tuesday, June 1, 1954, at 8:00 p.m., Mayor Drale presiding.

Those responding to roll call by Deputy City Clerk Hallanger were: COUNCILMEN: Benstead, Blount, Isen, Schwab and Drale. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None. Also present were City Manager Stevens and City Attorney Hall.

At the request of Mayor Drale, Mr. Anthony Belloti led the salute to our Flag.

Councilman Schwab opened the meeting with an invocation.

Councilman Isen requested that the minutes of the meeting of May 25, 1954, be corrected as follows: Paragraph "2" under Written Communications referring to the statement Mr. Isen made about the Civil Service Ordinances should read: "A Torrance lawyer can't do it, I doubt whether a Philadelphia lawyer *See min. 6/1/54* could,"

Councilman Isen moved that the minutes of the May 25, 1954, meeting be approved as corrected. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

Deputy City Clerk Hallanger advised he had a communication from Mr. David W. Parrish, President, Michie City Publications Company of Los Angeles, accepting City Attorney Hall's invitation to meet with the Council on June 1, 1954, at 8:00 p.m., to discuss the codification of the City ordinances.

Mr. Parrish submitted sample copies of codes prepared by his firm to the Council for inspection.

He explained that the chapters are arranged alphabetically, beginning with the basic ordinances. They are checked against the State laws and statutes, as well as against the Charter to see if there is any conflict. All amendments are worked in. There will be a reference made so that both the City and State laws can readily be found.

He stated that either premanently bound volumes or loose leaf bound volumes could be offered.

A complete editorial job including the Charter, with references to the State laws, checked against Supreme Court decisions, in loose leaf bound volumes would cost \$5500 to supply 100 volumes. The cost of 100 permanently bound volumes would cost approximately \$5450. An additional lot of 100 copies could be supplied for an additional \$200.00 if ordered within approximately six weeks after delivery of the completed volume. The price quoted is based on a code containing between 300 and 350 pages. He estimated the

code for Torrance would run approximately 300 pages. The Charter and several of the more important resolutions, and any other information the Council might want to include could possibly fit into the 350 page limit. The charge per page over 350 would approximate \$7.00 per page for 100 copies.

Mr. Parrish recommended that new ordinances and amendments be held for a year or two, after which a supplement to the code can be supplied on a page basis.

After a general discussion, Councilman Isen moved that an appropriate contract be entered into between the City of Torrance and Michie City Publications Company, under terms and conditions which the Council will pass on when the contract is finally drafted. Motion, seconded by Mayor Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

#### WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

Deputy City Clerk Hallanger read the following:

1. Communication from Recreation Director Van Bellehem recommending early negotiations between Los Angeles County, the State of California Division of Parks and Beaches and the City of Torrance for financial assistance in the development of the site located on the bluffs above Torrance Beach as a Regional County Park.

Councilman Benstead moved that a meeting between the Council and Director Van Bellehem be held in the near future. Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab. Mayor Drale set Wednesday, June 9, 1954, at 7:30 p.m., in the Council Chamber as the time and place for the meeting with Mr. Van Bellehem.

2. Communication from Chief of Police Haslam recommending that no measures be taken to stop truck traffic on Palos Verdes Parkway in Allied Gardens, since this traffic is essential to the County Planned Project.

Councilman Benstead moved the communication be filed as a matter of record and that the Council concur in the recommendation of Chief Haslam. At the suggestion of Councilman Schwab, Councilman Benstead amended his motion to include the stipulation that a letter be sent to the Allied Gardens Homeowners Association advising of the Council's action. Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

3. Communication from Victor D. Olson, Group Sales Manager for the American People's Encyclopedia, requesting City Attorney Hall to expedite their previous request for business license to solicit for the sale of their book, The American Peoples Encyclopedia. (This matter was referred to an Agenda meeting by the Council on May 11, 1954.)

Councilman Blount moved the request for a business license in the City of Torrance be denied. Motion, seconded by Councilman Isen, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

4. Communication from State Division of Highways submitting agreement for gas tax allocation for the 1955 fiscal year, in accordance with project statement submitted by the City.

Deputy City Clerk Hallanger recommended the accompanying resolution be taken up at the time the Council takes action on resolutions.

Councilman Schwab moved the communication be filed as a matter of record. Motion, seconded by Councilman Isen, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

City Manager Stevens advised the Council that the allocation was based on the 1953 special census figures.

5. Communication from Torrance Chamber of Commerce requesting a meeting with the Council to discuss renewal of the advertising agreement between the Chamber and the City, and requesting the increase in the advertising fund from \$5000 to \$10,000, in anticipation of an expanded program.

Councilman Schwab moved the communication be filed as a matter of record. Motion, seconded by Councilman Isen, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

Mayor Drale set Tuesday, June 15, 7:00 p.m., in the Council Chamber as the time and place for a meeting between the Council and the Chamber of Commerce.

6. Communication from California Water Service Co., revising previous request for a pipe line franchise.

Mr. Lawrence Camy, representing California Water service, requested early action on this matter in order to assure an ample supply of water to the areas served.

City Attorney Hall favored granting the franchise; it was only the type of contract about which he was not sure. There are two or three types which can be used, one of which is the Bratton Act; another is the Act of 1937; however, he would prefer to confer with Water Superintendent McVicar on the matter before he made a recommendation.

7. Communication from Chief of Police Haslam recommending denial of request of F. O. Fletcher to build and operate a stable for horses on the Del Amo Estates. Chief Haslam based his recommendation on the proximity to homes on the south side of Sepulveda.

Councilman Isen moved to concur in the recommendation of Chief Haslam that the request be denied. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

8. Memorandum from C. N. Weber, License Inspector, advising that applications for licenses to sell fireworks had been received from the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Disabled American Veterans, and Riviera Sportmen's Club. All locations were approved by the Fire and Police Chiefs, and license fees accompanied each application.

Councilman Isen moved that the licenses to the respective organizations at the respective locations be issued; that the license should state that it is valid only from July 1, through July 4, 1954, inclusive; and that the license should state it is good only at the location specified. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

9. Recommendations of City Manager Stevens:

AWARD OF CONTRACTS:

- A. (1) To Oscar Maples Inc., who submitted the lowest responsible bid of \$1,666.50, plus sales tax, for a four (4) door Ford sedan;
- (2) To Oscar Maples Inc., who submitted the lowest responsible bid on seven (7) Ford business coupes of \$1,431.01, plus sales tax, for each coupe;
- (3) (3) To Henry Backlund who submitted the lowest responsible bid for a  $\frac{1}{2}$  ton pick-up truck of \$1,274.32, plus sales tax; International.
- (4) To Oscar Maples Inc., who submitted the lowest responsible bid for a  $\frac{3}{4}$  ton Ford pick-up truck of \$1,469.79, plus sales tax.

Councilman Blount moved to concur in the recommendation of City Manager Stevens, item "A" under Award of Contracts. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

- B. To C. D. Draucker, who submitted the lowest responsible bid for the installation of Three-light Automatic Traffic Control Signals and Street Illumination at the Intersection of Douglas Aircraft Company's Torrance Plant Access Road with Western Avenue, in the amount of \$8,854.00, subject to the receipt of funds in the above amount from the Douglas Aircraft Company to cover the cost of installation plus \$745.00 for plant mix paving.

That all other bids for the above be rejected.

City Manager Stevens advised that negotiations have been carried on by the Engineering Department who has worked on the idea that the Council will carry the plans and specifications, but the payment will be made by Douglas. We have a written agreement that they will do this.

Mr. Brown, representing Douglas Aircraft Company, stated he had been authorized to request approval of this recommendation, subject to the agreement that was made between City Manager Stevens and the Legal Department for Douglas Aircraft Company. He was willing to vouch for the fact that the cost of installation will be paid by Douglas Aircraft Company and that the concur in the selection of the Drauker Company as the contractor being the lowest bidder. He stated there would be a letter mailed tomorrow verifying the fact that Drauker was the contractor selected by Douglas.

Councilman Isen moved to concur with the recommendation of City Manager Stevens, item "B" under Award of Contracts, subject to verification of the statement of Mr. Brown. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

#### APPROPRIATIONS:

1. For the purchase of a Model F 3 D-G 1 6/12 Volt Mobile Transmitter Receiver for the sum of \$471.06, plus sales tax. (To be purchased from capital improvement funds.)

Councilman Benstead moved to concur with the recommendation of City Manager Stevens, item one under Appropriations. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

2. For the purchase of special dump truck body equipment with compressor, emulsion sprayer, water tank and accessories to be used as a patch truck in the Street Department for the sum of \$3,711.94, including sales tax.  
This specially designed all-purpose patch crew truck planned by Ralph Perkins, Street Superintendent.  
(Purchased from capital outlay funds.)

Councilman Schwab moved to concur in the recommendation of City Manager Stevens, item two under Appropriations. Motion, seconded by Mayor Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

#### MISCELLANEOUS:

Recommendation for an early meeting of the Council to discuss airport matters to consider several proposals received from organizations interested in securing industrial leases at the Torrance Municipal Airport.

Councilman Benstead moved to concur in the recommendation of City Manager Stevens that a meeting be held to consider airport leases. Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

Mayor Drale set 8:00 p.m., Wednesday, June 2, 1954, in the Council Chamber as the time and place for the Council to meet to discuss these matters.

At 9:10 p.m. Mayor Drale called a ten-minute recess. The meeting reconvened at 9:25 p.m.

10. Deputy City Clerk Hallanger read a communication from Sheridan-Gray, Inc., Palos Verdes Estates, submitting a proposal to lease three and one-half (3- $\frac{1}{2}$ ) acres of land at the Airport at the rate of \$200 per acre per year.

Councilman Benstead moved the letter be filed as a matter of record. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

11. Communication from the hi-shear Rivet Tool Company, Los Angeles, submitting a proposal to lease ten (10) acres of land at the Airport at the rate of \$200 per acre per year.

Councilman Benstead moved this communication be filed as a matter of record. Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

12. Revised Tentative Tract No. 17378. Letter of transmittal from the Planning Commission and Engineering Department recommending approval of Revised Tentative Tract No. 17378, consisting of 70 lots located easterly of Amie Avenue from 178th Street to Hickman Avenue, to be developed by the Knapp Building Corporation, subject to the condition that curbs and gutters on the westerly side of Amie Avenue south of 179th Street will be constructed to allow storm waters to flow from the sump to Prairie Avenue, to enable the City to abandon sump.

Councilman Blount moved for approval of Revised Tentative Tract 17378, subject to the condition that the Council be advised at the Council Meeting to be held Wednesday, June 9, 1954, that the minimum floor area and the number of bedrooms is in accordance with the Ordinance. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

13. Revised Tentative Tract No. 19891. Letter of transmittal from the Planning Commission and Engineering Department recommending approval of Revised Tentative Tract No. 19891, consisting of 79 lots located southerly of 182nd Street, westerly of Prairie Avenue, and northerly of 186th Street, to be developed by the Barclay Development Company.

Councilman Schwab moved for the approval of Revised Tentative Tract Map No. 19891, subject to the condition that Bailey Avenue be made a full street. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

Deputy City Clerk Hallanger read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 2577

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AN AMENDMENT TO THE CONTRACT PROVIDING FOR THE PARTICIPATION OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE IN THE STATE EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM, MAKING ITS EMPLOYEES MEMBERS OF SAID SYSTEM.

Councilman Isen moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously.

Councilman Isen moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2577. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 2578

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND THE CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE THAT CERTAIN CONTRACT BETWEEN THE CITY OF TORRANCE AND MARION J. VARNER.

Councilman Blount moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously.

Councilman Blount <sup>moved</sup> for the adoption of Resolution No. 2578. Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 2579

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THAT CERTAIN LEASE BE AND BETWEEN THE CITY OF TORRANCE AND PAUL'S CHEVROLET.

Councilman Benstead moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution. Motion, seconded by Councilman Isen, carried unanimously.

Councilman Benstead moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2579. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 2580

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

Councilman Isen moved to discuss the further reading of the Resolution. Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab. After a short discussion, Councilman Isen rescinded his motion.

Councilman Isen moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2580. Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

A suggestion was made that the Ordinance regarding Parking Meters be discussed at the next Agenda meeting, along with the Ordinance on Trailer Courts, the Sign Ordinance, and the Resolutions on the formation of an Airport Commission and a Water Commission.

It was decided that the number be removed from the Trailer Ordinance, since it was only a draft for discussion and has not been prepared in final form.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Referring to one item/<sup>left</sup>off the Agenda, City Manager Stevens advised he had studied the proposed agreement submitted by the Los Angeles County Health Department. It follows the line of former agreements with the County. It will cost the City \$300 per year. There is no other agency which performs the service offered by the Health Department. He recommended renewal of the contract for the fiscal year 1954-55.

Councilman Isen moved to concur in the recommendation of City Manager Stevens for the adoption of the agreement with the County Health Department. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Isen inquired whether the telegrams regarding speed limits on Highway 101 had been sent to Assemblyman Vincent Thomas.

City Manager Stevens advised that they had been sent.

Councilman Isen inquired whether any steps had been taken on the water survey requested at a previous meeting. (May 11, 1954)

City Manager Stevens stated some preliminary work had been done. He had some figures he could submit to the Council at the Agenda meeting tomorrow night. He recommended that a final report be withheld until Water Superintendent McVicar returns from the Convention in Seattle.

Councilman Isen recommended a written report be prepared when the figures are completed, to be submitted to the homeowners associations.

Councilman Isen inquired as to the status of the condemnation proceedings on Ashley Avenue.

City Attorney Hall explained that the complaint has been drawn and will be filed this week.

Councilman Isen recommended that Attorneys Armstrong and Woolley be present at the meeting between the Council and the Civil Service Board, and that all documents pertaining to the Smith and Dresser case be available. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount.

After considerable discussion regarding the findings, judgment, and the advisability of postponing the meeting until after

the court trial, Councilman Isen withdrew his motion; Councilman Blount his second.

Councilman Isen moved the meeting between the Council and the Civil Service Board be tabled. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead. Mayor Drale ordered the meeting tabled and requested City Manager Stevens to notify the Civil Service Board of the Council's decision.

Mr. Anthony Belloti cautioned the Council to be aware of the fact that the lives of two men, their families and reputations, are involved in this matter. He would not, however, want to see any part of this situation whitewashed. He stated he was speaking for several hundred people who are now confused as to the issues.

Councilman Isen inquired whether the Ordinance had been drawn on center-of-street parking on Cabrillo Avenue.

City Manager Stevens advised this matter would be placed on the Agenda for the next Council meeting.

Councilman Isen inquired whether a motion regarding center-of-the-street parking on Torrance Boulevard would be in order.

Chief of Police Haslam stated a recommendation from the Traffic Commission had been made for center-of-the-street parking for Torrance Boulevard from Sartoria to Cravens and from Arlington to Cota.

This matter, also would be placed on the Agenda for the next meeting.

Mayor Drale moved the sum of \$100 for expenses be granted each Councilman attending the Mayor's and Councilmen's Convention in Santa Barbara, Thursday and Friday of this week.

Motion, seconded and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Isen asked whether the Fire Ordinance was being prepared.

City Attorney Hall stated this would be ready for the next Council meeting.

Councilman Benstead moved all bills properly audited be paid. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount.

Mayor Drale proclaimed the week of June 13-19, 1954 National Flag Week, and requested that as many flags as possible be displayed.

Councilman Schwab remarked that while appreciated the honor of being selected to give the invocation at each Council meeting, the Resolution states all denominations are to be represented and if he, as a member of one denomination were to offer the invocation this would be in violation of the Resolution.

Mayor Drale moved Councilman Schwab be authorized to arrange for representatives of the various denominations to offer the invocation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

At 10:19 p.m. Councilmen Benstead moved to adjourn to Wednesday, June 9, 1954, at 8:00 p.m. Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab.

  
City Clerk of the City of Torrance

APPROVED:

  
Mayor of the City of Torrance

BAA133