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Torrance, California  
June 22, 1954

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, City Hall, Torrance, California, on Tuesday, June 22, 1954, at 8:00 p.m., Mayor Drale presiding.

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

Mr. Frank Gately, President of the Torrance Democratic Club led the salute to our Flag.

Reverend Homer Miller, pastor of the Central Evangelical United Brethren Church, opened the meeting with an invocation.

Mayor Drale declared the Minutes of the Adjourned Regular Meeting of June 15, 1954, approved as written, if there were no corrections.

Mayor Drale announced this was the time and place for the opening of bids for Pound Service.

City Clerk Bartlett opened and read the following:

BIDDER

BID

South Bay Humane Society

90 per cent of license fees to be retained by South Bay Humane Society; Humane Society to furnish License Collector, license books and tags.

Councilman Isen moved the bid of the South Bay Humane Society be accepted, subject to City Manager Steven's recommendation.

City Manager Stevens recommended the bid of the South Bay Humane Society be accepted.

Councilman Benstead seconded the motion, which carried unanimously by roll call vote.

City Clerk Bartlett then opened the following bids for Trucks and Truck Chassis to carry 16 Yard Garwood Loadpacker unit:

<u>BIDDER</u>	<u>ITEM</u>	<u>BID</u>
Joe Gill Motor Co. Long Beach, Calif.	White Truck Chassis; Model WC 20; Gross Vehicle Weight rating 24,500 lbs, WB 178"; Eng.Mod. 230-A Mustang	\$4,964.66
	Alternate Bid: Model 3022 PL; WB 127½", Eng.Mod. 230-A Mustang (This unit has a 16 yd. Garwood Loadpacker unit mounted on it now. It would be sold as 1954 and would have same warranty as a new unit. Complete	10,559.00
Oscar Maples, Inc. Torrance, Calif.	1954 Ford F-800 V8; 170 HP, 175"WB	3,550.00
	1954 Ford 16,000# GVW F-600 v8	2,065.98
	1954 Ford One-Ton 9' Flat Bed Truck	1,622.00
Henry Backlund Torrance, Calif.	1954 R-184 International 21,500 GVW Cab and Chassis; 172" WB	3,610.62
	1954 R-162 International 16,000 GVW Cab and Chassis; 154" WB	2,279.52
	1954 R-132 International One-Ton Truck	1,821.54
GMC Truck & Coach Div. Los Angeles, Calif.	1954 GMC Truck Chassis and Cab; 179" (WB)	3,792.45
Reo Motors, Inc. Los Angeles, Calif.	Reo Model F22-3C Chassis & Cab; 21,000# GVW; 170" WB	3,829.04
Paul's Chevrolet Torrance, Calif.	Model 6403 Chevrolet Truck & cab 16,000# GVW, 161" WB	2,159.95
	Model 3808 Chassis & Cab; 9'8" Flat Bed Size	1,573.82
	7:00 x 18-8 Tires	137.66
Walter G. Lynch Redondo Beach, Calif.	1954 Dodge CL-TA8-174 Chassis & Cab; 174" WB	4,291.60

Sales Tax to be Added to Above Prices

The Transportation Equipment Company, Los Angeles, submitted no bid, but extended an invitation to attend the National Truck and Trailer Show to be held at the Pan Pacific Auditorium June 24-27.

Councilman Benstead moved these bids be referred to the City Manager for study and recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

Mayor Drale announced this was the time and place for the hearing on Parking Meters. He explained this was a special hearing called to inform the people of parking conditions so that anyone who wished to protest might be heard. He stated an ordinance had been drawn, but there were corrections to be made in it, and the Council had not felt it proper to read it at this time. Later there will be two public hearings on the ordinance and the Council will then vote on it.

City Attorney Hall advised that the major change to be made was to provide for the revenue to go into the General Fund of the City instead of being turned over to the Parking Authority. This money would be used for the purchase of off-street parking, less the costs of maintenance and administrating of the parking meters and also to make payments on a contract the City would enter into.

Briefly, the ordinance provides a means by which the City can install parking meters within a limited portion of the City. The major question is where they would go and how many. That is to be determined by the City Council.

Mr. White, 3242 Torrance Boulevard, asked what percentage of the revenue would remain with the City and from whom the off-street parking facilities would be purchased.

Mayor Drale said all the money received from the parking meters would remain in the General Fund of the City. It is not known whether the businessmen will have to set up an Assessment District; however, any off-street parking lots purchased by this Assessment District will remain in the title of the City of Torrance.

Mr. Anthony Belloti, 18523 Ashley Avenue, representing the North Torrance Voters, said, "You state you don't know what part the businessman is going to play in the paying of these parking meters, and yet as I understand it there is an ordinance already drawn for parking meters whether or not the businessman pays any part of it. Is that so?"

Mayor Drale stated: We haven't at the present time a parking meter ordinance. We do have a Parking Authority adopted in accordance with the action taken by the Legislature of the State of California of citizens of the City of Torrance. It was through their legislation that we were permitted to appoint a parking authority.

Mr. Hall: This ordinance merely allows the City to place meters. It allows the City to get revenue. It allows the City, if it so chooses, to devote a portion of this revenue to the purchase of off-street parking. It does not compel the City to maintain parking meters. So long as the ordinance is in effect it would require that a portion of the funds go to the purchase of off-street parking, but this can be amended at any time. It just is a medium to allow the City to deal with a temporary situation. Now, so far as establishing an Assessment District, the entire cost of that is the liability of the property owners. It is not a liability of the City. The particular district that is formed incurs the entire obligation with respect to the bonds. Under the 1943 Parking Assessment District Act, there isn't anyone at large except an owner of a particular piece of property within the district that would incur any liability.

Mr. Belloti said: "As I see it, it is nothing but taxation on the part of the public. We are going to pay to promote business in the downtown area, what part of the parking meter installation and maintenance would the businessman pay other than the liability?"

Mr. Hall said: "You have got to consider that it costs all of us to park an automobile. It is a convenience. The more a business grows as far as developing your retail outlets, I think the more all of us prosper. It means more revenue for the City, more sales tax. I think it increases the Assessed Valuation within this particular area. I think we all benefit if we solve our parking problem. I don't know how you can eliminate paying a parking charge."

Mr. Isen stated: I think all of us can conceive that the parking revenue will never go to pay off or retire these bonds, or possibly not even pay the interest on them. Am I not correct that the property in this particular area underwrites that and is responsible and makes up the deficit year by year?

Mr. Hall replied: That is entirely correct unless the City so chooses to assist them.

Mr. Benstead said: I would like to say something too along this line. I think you are confusing the people. Mr. Hall tells the people that the money that comes out of the parking meters will go to pay for the lots. In the next breath he says they will set up an Assessment District and the businessman will pay it. In other words, that any money that comes from the parking meters would be buying off-street parking lots and parking meters would be placed in the area. Isn't that just exactly what you mean?

Mr. Hall explained: This ordinance is designed to aid in the establishing of off-street parking. In this type of procedure

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this ordinance at any time can be repealed. There is no firm commitment upon the City to maintain meters, nor to pay any portion of the revenue bonds or any other type of bonds that would be sold out of this district. Does that clarify it?

Mr. Benstead replied: To a certain extent. I know what you are driving at but I don't think the people do. You say the people will never have to pay for them. The money that they put in the parking meters goes into the off-street parking lots. Then the people are paying for the parking lots. I think it is very clear the way I stated it.

Mayor Drale: These are some of the things that we have to work out--as to how the Assessment District for the business area is to be applied and where the parking meters are going. We know that the money remains in the hands of the City of Torrance and all title to the property.

Mr. Isen: I would like to ask a general question here. If anyone here is interested in parking meters or against them, please tell us what we are supposed to do. Do you recognize a parking problem in the town? Are you willing to look ahead for future planning? If so, what is the alternative?

Mr. Bob White stated he did not represent any political body and that he was speaking for himself. He stated he had shopped in downtown Torrance and had never encountered difficulty in finding a parking place within a block or two of where he wanted to go. He thought the merchants should not only supply off-street parking like those in the Lakewood and Crenshaw area, but also do everything in their power to improve their merchandising facilities. He felt the city would be better off to promote the bond issue for moving the Civic Center out to Madrona and Torrance Boulevard.

Addis Thomas concurred in everything Mr. White had said. He stated several new shopping centers were being developed in various locations of the City at the present time, and if the Council would just wait a few months there would be plenty of parking space downtown.

Paul Loranger, President of the Chamber of Commerce, was in favor of installing the meters. He said, "As I understand it, the Assessment District would comprise only what we call our retail business district downtown, and only a portion of that to begin with. The Assessment District would be made up of the property owners in that area. Therefore the property owners through this Assessment District would be paying by assessment to them only and not the City at large for any property that may be purchased for public parking, is that correct?"

Mayor Drale said: "That is right."

Councilman Isen said: "The net revenue from the parking meters both on these lots and on the streets would be used for the purpose of helping retire the interest and principal on those bonds, if such were available. But the property owners at all times back it up in case the revenues are insufficient."

Mr. Loranger stated that the price of parking of one cent for twelve minutes or five cents and hour did not seem an excessive charge for parking. He read a communication outlining the need for parking facilities geared to three types of parkers, errand parkers, all-day parkers, and clientele parkers.

Clerk Bartlett read communications protesting installation of parking meters from John G. L. Crain and Ernest J. Robinson, President of the Pacific Hills Home Owners, Inc.

Councilman Benstead said that allowing two hours of parking for a dime would not solve the parking problem in the City of Torrance.

Councilman Isen stated he had opposed parking meters three years ago but if the measure had not been defeated at that time perhaps we would have some off-street parking lots now at a cheaper price than it may cost in the future. He asked, "Outside of these big markets that are coming up with free shopping area, what town are we going to go to near here that doesn't have meters."

Mr. Green from the audience opposed the meters and suggested stricter enforcement of existing parking regulations. He said he never had much trouble finding a parking place when he needed one.

Councilman Blount moved the hearing be closed. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, and Mayor Drale declared the hearing closed.

CASE NO. 320. Mayor Drale announced that the petition of the Torrance Hospital Association for a variance to expand hospital facilities in Lots 1, 2 and 3, Tract 7609, recommended for approval by the Planning Commission, would be considered at this time. (at the Regular Meeting of June 9, 1954, this case had been tabled for two weeks, pending further study by the Council.)

Mayor Drale explained there had been a motion on the floor which was still in order to concur with the recommendation of the Planning Commission. (Motion had been made by Councilman Blount, seconded by Councilman Schwab.)

City Clerk Bartlett read a communication from the Torrance Hospital Association advising that the Association was willing to modify its application for a variance, to accept a setback to conform with the church buildings on either side of their property. This concession was being made in the hope no further delay would be necessary, as their Association had an application on file with the Bureau of Hospitals of California for Federal Aid which was expected to be acted upon immediately.

Another communication from the Advisory Building Committee of the Torrance Hospital Staff, consisting of Doctors Howard A. Wood, Chairman, Gerald M. Eastham, Chief of Staff, Eugene L. Cook, George C. Anderson and John W. Beeman, giving pertinent facts relating to the proposed expansion and advising that the old Christian Church building cannot be made to conform to the standards set up by the Bureau of Hospitals of the Department of Health of the State of California, was not read; as all the Councilmen had received copies.

Councilman Isen said in part, "\*\*\*\*\*the City and also the Hospital Association is losing a terrific opportunity to have a beautiful hospital, well proportioned, and an asset to the community if it were to expand on the lot adjoining which has been made available to them. \*\*\*\*\*However, since they have not seen fit to make any attempt to acquire the extra building site, I think it is commendable that they have reached a compromise with reference to the variance on the building to be constructed upon the existing area, and therefore I would move to amend the motion by adding to it that the variance be granted, subject to the following three conditions: First, that the proposed construction must be set back to conform to the existing structures on either side, in line with the letter from the Hospital Association; secondly, that all walls paralleling the adjoining property be of soundproof construction without openings; and thirdly, that the plans which are to be submitted by the Association are to be approved by the Building Department as conforming to these conditions. Councilman Benstead seconded the motion.

Dr. John Beeman, 1518 El Prado, stated that the Bureau of Hospitals would not permit the building of wings without windows. This type of construction is very specifically outlined.

Councilman Blount asked Mayor Drale, "I believe you said my motion was still in order."

Councilman Isen said the precedent is with the amendment.

Councilman Blount stated he would withdraw his motion.

Councilman Isen said it was too late to withdraw the motion,

City Attorney Hall said, "I have always understood a motion could be withdrawn prior to passage. A motion can be withdrawn with the consent of the second."

Mr. White stated the amendment has to be taken care of before the original motion because it is now amended.

Councilman Isen amended the second condition of his amendment to the motion as follows: The walls paralleling the adjoining property to be of sound-proof construction without openings in the event that this requirement meets with the laws in the

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erection of hospitals.

Councilman Schwab stated he did not withdraw his second to the original motion, because he wanted to get somewhere in this situation.

Father McGinnis of the Nativity Catholic Church was willing to compromise, but he urged that conditions be made so that the church and hospital could function in harmony. He stated the Church had curtailed its activities because of its proximity to the hospital. He requested that the hospital be soundproofed to the extent allowed by the State Laws of California.

Mayor Drale requested Clerk Bartlett to call roll on the amendment to the motion, explaining that the motion could not be withdrawn until action has been taken on the amendment.

Councilman Blount stated, "I can't vote. I want to know what I am voting on. I still want an answer not from the audience or from a member of the City Council. I want an answer from the City Attorney as to parliamentary procedure. Can I withdraw a motion that I made two weeks ago in the interest of knowing what I am voting on because at the moment I certainly don't."

City Attorney Hall requested Councilman Isen to repeat his amendment to the motion so that Councilman Blount would know what he was voting on.

Councilman Isen said: "When you have such a situation, the maker and the second of the motion are powerless to withdraw it."

Councilman Isen repeated his amendment as follows, "I move to amend the motion of two weeks ago by inserting the following conditions: (1) That the proposed construction must be set back to conform to the existing structures on either side; (2) That all walls paralleling the adjoining property be of soundproof construction without openings providing that this can be done under State Laws; (3) That all the plans for the hospital construction must be approved by the Building Department as conforming to these conditions."

City Clerk Bartlett called the roll on the amendment, which carried by the following vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Benstead, Isen, Schwab and Drale. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Blount. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Clerk Bartlett then called the roll on the motion of Councilman Blount to concur in the recommendation of the Planning Commission for approval of CASE NO. 310, as amended, which carried unanimously.

At 9:20 p.m. Mayor Drale called a ten-minute recess. The meeting reconvened at 9:28 p.m.

City Clerk Bartlett read a communication from Assistant to City Engineer Patrick submitting a Resolution adopting plans and specifications for the Hollywood Riviera Sewer District No. 1, and also a Resolution requesting the consent of the City Council of the City of Redondo Beach for jurisdiction over portions of Palos Verdes Boulevard. Matter of Record.

City Engineer Bishop presented the plans and specifications for the construction of the Hollywood Riviera Sewer District No. 1.

Councilman Benstead moved to receive and file the plans and specifications. Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

City Engineer Bishop presented the Resolution approving plans and specifications for Hollywood Riviera Sewer District No. 1.

City Clerk Bartlett read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 2585

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 HOLLYWOOD RIVIERA SEWER DISTRICT NO. ONE (1), BY THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM THEREIN.

Councilman Blount moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution. Motion, seconded by Councilman Isen, carried un-animously.

Councilman Blount moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2585. Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

City Engineer Bishop presented the Resolution requesting the consent of the City Council of the City of Redondo Beach for juris-diction over a portion of Palos Verdes Boulevard.

City Clerk Bartlett read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 2586

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, REQUESTING THE CONSENT OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF REDONDO BEACH TO THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM IN A PORTION OF PALOS VERDES BOULEVARD IN THE CITY OF REDONDO BEACH IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE "HOLLY-WOOD RIVIERA SEWER DISTRICT NO. ONE", IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA.

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

Councilman Benstead moved for adoption of Resolution No. 2586. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

Clerk Bartlett read the following:

Communication from Ambassador Construction Company, requesting refund of \$3,878.52, paid under protest in accordance with require-ments of Ordinance No. 631 on Tract No. 20165.

City Attorney Hall explained that this relates to the ordinance which requires either a certain fee be paid to the City, or a certain amount of land be donated to the City for park and recreational pur-poses in all new subdivisions. This communication relates to the legality of that ordinance and states that that ordinance is invalid and not enforceable and requests that the money be returned to the subdivider.

Attorney Hall advised that this question has been debated among many cities in the state. There are several cities which have ordinances similar to this one. The opinion of the League of Cali-fornia Cities is divided. Mr. Carpenter of the League think the ordinance is legal. Mr. Keller of the League does not. Our ordi-nance has been examined by the League, the County of Los Angeles had a similar type ordinance. The Attorney General's opinion was to the effect that the County ordinance was invalid. It would be my opinion that if this ordinance was challenged in your lower courts, that it would not be sustained--that is in your Superior and Appellate Courts. I don't know what attitude the Supreme Court of the State of California would take if the matter went that high. I think that there is a possibility they **might** uphold it.

He stated the ordinance had been submitted to the League of California Cities prior to its passage, and at that time the League thought it was all right. There have been some subsequent debates on it, and he had asked whether the League had anything additional and that's when it came out that there was a split in the League itself as to whether or not the ordinance was valid.

City Attorney Hall said, "We are hopeful that all money that has been paid in has not been paid under protest and even if the ordinance is not valid, when you declare an ordinance or any law unconstitutional, it's not unconstitutional for all purposes. We have better than even chance of keeping the funds, but it's a risk. This money was paid under protest, and if the City saw fit

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to rely on the courts we would have to pay this back. There is no question of that."

Attorney Hall stated: a refund in this case would kill the ordinance. He stated this was a matter of policy. He stated, "No attorney likes to see an ordinance challenged without making some court effort to sustain it, but I can't say we would succeed in either the Superior or Appellate Court. It would seem to me our best chance would lie in taking it all the way up to the Supreme Court."

Councilman Benstead asked, "It would be your suggestion to test this case in court?"

City Attorney Hall replied, "From the City's point of view, yes."

Councilman Benstead moved the request of the Ambassador Construction Company for a refund of \$3,878.52 be denied. Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Isen moved Ordinance No. 631 be referred to the City Attorney for study and suggestions as to its improvement. Councilman Benstead seconded the motion, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

At this point Mr. Henry Griswold stated he had tried to reason in this matter, but apparently the City wanted to take the case to court. He said it would be determined if the City is also liable, or if the City employees are liable in this case. He then left the meeting.

City Attorney Hall stated the Ordinance could be improved but he did not see how the basic objection to it could be eliminated.

Councilman Isen spoke with reference to the threats directed at the Councilmen.

He stated at a convention recently attended by three of the Councilmen, Mr. Carpenter, the Legal Authority and Director of the League, pointed out the individual responsibility of Councilmen in money damages in cases where an illegality of some sort takes place. There may be situations where the City isn't responsible and the individual Councilman is, although he has acted in good faith. Councilman Isen stated he had tried to find out whether or not there were some indemnity policies that would safeguard the Councilman, and he had been told that the City has a general policy which also protects the city officials. He requested that the Councilmen be given a report as soon as possible as to how far this protection goes and how far the Councilman is protected in his private capacity for things that are done in an official capacity without malice, in good faith, and for the benefit of the City.

City Manager Stevens advised that the City has a Public Liability and Property Damage Comprehensive Policy. The Councilman's name is protected. He did not know what that covered.

Councilman Isen requested City Manager Stevens to find out for the Councilmen how far this coverage extends, and recommended more coverage if it does not go far enough.

Communication from Recreation Director Van Bellehem, making certain recommendations on the proposed use of the City Dump as a site for Ball Diamond and Playfield.

Councilman Benstead moved this communication be referred to the next Agenda Meeting. Motion, seconded by Councilman Isen, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

Communication from James G. Crawford requesting a five-year lease at the Torrance Airport for a Golf Driving Range on the easterly eight acres.

Councilman Isen moved to refer the communication to the City Manager for recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

Vegas Air Lease. At this time City Manager Stevens presented plans submitted by Vegas Air, Inc. in connection with their pro-

posed lease at the Torrance Airport. He advised the representative for Vegas was present.

The Council examined the plans and held an informal discussion regarding it.

Councilman Blount stated the Councilmen had a draft of the proposed lease, and also a single piece of paper with possible additions.

City Manager Stevens explained that all these leases are subject to the approval of the C.A.A. Also, in all these leases where a growing crop is destroyed, there is a charge of \$100 per acre. This should be stipulated in the lease. In this particular case the farmer planted at his own risk so that would not apply.

The representative for Vegas advised that so far as Vegas Air was concerned, they were in perfect agreement with the City. There was a typographical error on page five in which a part of a phrase was left out that should be corrected, with regard to the "recapture clause."

Councilman Blount moved that in addition to present paragraph 24, Section One of the possible additions be inserted therein. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Blount asked that Item Two of the possible additions be discussed.

Councilman Isen read from the suggestions and additions Item Two:

"At the present time the scheduled construction of a cafe or night club is unknown. Perhaps a time limit of some sort should be stipulated whereby the land will revert to the City if actual construction is not started within a specified time."

The representative for Vegas advised that it would be virtually impossible for them to fix a time limit on this item because it would be contingent upon their securing a liquor license. He said his firm is willing to set a time limit upon other improvements.

Councilman Blount said his reason for bringing it up was that the City is insisting upon a setting a time limit on leases for three other potential lessors who are putting in large installations at the Airport and that the Council's thinking has been that there be a time limit.

Councilman Isen moved that the City execute the Land Use Agreement with the Vegas Air, Inc., together with the corrections as noted, subject to Vegas constructing their hangars, office buildings, and that is all, within the limits that they have set forth-- that is that the proper lease be executed and signed, subject to C.A.A. approval. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously.

City Clerk Bartlett read the following communications:

- a. Request from C. E. Severson, Pixie Baby Shoppe, for refund of \$12.00 on Business License No. 5398.
- b. Request of Cecil J. Kelly, Good Luck Riding, Academy, for refund of \$12.00 on Business License No. 6894.
- c. Request of Edwin A. Mach, for refund on \$18.00 on Business License No. 6817, whose application for liquor license had been denied by the State Board of Equalization.

Clerk Bartlett recommended the refunds be granted.

Councilman Schwab moved the refunds in the amounts as stated above be granted. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously.

Petition containing forty-one signatures from the Arlington Plaza Community Betterment Group, requesting transfer from the Moneta Water Company to the Torrance Water District.

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A spokesman from the group asked the Council's help by some positive action instead of referring the matter to Water Superintendent McVicar.

Councilman Blount moved that all legal steps possible be taken to get these people water service in the Torrance Municipal Water District. Motion, seconded by Councilman Isen carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Communication from Hollywood Riviera Homeowners Association requesting that steps be taken to provide automatic traffic control at the intersection of Highway 101 and Calle Mayor.

Mayor Drale stated this would take a letter to the State.

City Manager Stevens stated the City has a request before the State on this matter. He said he had received two telegrams saying the State is making a survey.

Councilman Schwab moved this letter be answered by the City Manager to advise them what action has been taken. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

Communication from Hollywood Riviera Homeowners Association requesting highway street crossing lines be painted at all intersections in the Hollywood Riviera District of Calle Mayor and stop signs be erected at such intersections.

Councilman Schwab moved this communication be referred to the Traffic Commission. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

Request from the Torrance Herald for renewal of contract for advertising for fiscal year 1954-55.

Councilman Isen moved the contract be executed. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously.

Communication from California Blind Products requesting free permit to solicit products made by California Industries for the blind.

City Clerk Bartlett recommended denial of the permit and explained that this organization is an agency which buys and sells for profit products made by the blind.

Councilman Benstead moved that the request be denied. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

Memorandum from I. J. Hallanger, Accountant, requesting repayment of loan in the amount of \$95,000.00, which money was advanced by Torrance Municipal Water District #3; and advising the Water Department was now being billed in the amount of \$15,000 for Franchise Fees for the Calendar year 1953-54.

Councilman Blount moved to concur with the recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Mayor Drale read a communication from City Clerk Bartlett recommending the purchase of a Model R G Pitman-Bowes Postage Machine at a price of \$525.00 plus tax and rental of a meter at \$11.00 per month.

City Manager Stevens recommended the postage machine be purchased.

Councilman Isen moved to concur in the recommendation of City Clerk Bartlett. Motion, seconded by Mayor Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Clerk Bartlett advised he was in receipt of a Supplemental of Agreement and a Resolution submitted by the State Division of Highways for Gas Tax Allocation for the 1955 Fiscal Year.

City Manager Stevens explained there are three projects covered in the Agreement: (1) The grading and paving of Torrance Boulevard from Madrona to Crenshaw; (2) Traffic signals and safety lights at Sepulveda and Hawthorne; and (3) Maintenance. We take thirty per cent of the money for maintenance and the re-

mainder of the money will go for the improvement of Crenshaw and Carson.

Clerk Bartlett read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 2587

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 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. 2587. Motion, seconded by Councilman Isen, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

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Communication from Assistant to City Engineer Patrick submitting an easement for the purpose of widening 168th Street west of Faysmith.

Councilman Schwab moved the communication be filed as a matter of record.

Clerk Bartlett read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 2588

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 PETE GEORGE GADIS AND IRENE P. GADIS, HUSBAND AND WIFE.

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

Councilman Schwab moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2588. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Recommendation of the City Manager.

APPROPRIATIONS:

- 1. For the purchase of 16 cu. yd. Garwood Load Packer complete including mounting and prime paint coat, the sum of .....Plus sales tax.....\$5,052.00
- 2. One (1) 12' x 8' steel, flat bed Truck Body with Hoist complete with special headboard, cab height, with window grill and State required accessories.....1,079.00  
Plus sales tax

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

CASE NO. 314. Transmittal from the Planning Commission recommending approval of application of Charles Sterns for a variance to construct a 76-unit Trailer Park at 174th Street between Western Avenue and Gramercy Place, located in Lot 73 of the McDonald Tract.

Councilman Isen moved to concur in the recommendation of the Planning Commission for approval of the variance. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried by the following roll call

vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Benstead, Isen, Schwab and Drale. NOES:  
COUNCILMEN: Blount. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

CASE NO. 321. Transmittal from the Planning Commission recommending approval of application of Allen L. Nelson et al for a variance to erect a four-family dwelling on the north half of Lot 44, McDonald Tract, subject to the condition that ten feet or more separate all buildings.

Councilman Isen moved to concur in the recommendation of the Planning Commission for approval of the variance, subject to the special condition that ten feet or more separate all buildings. Motion, seconded by Mayor Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

City Clerk Bartlett read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 2589

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE THAT CERTAIN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF TORRANCE AND WILLIAM WOOLLETT.

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

Councilman Benstead moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2589. Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 2590

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE THAT CERTAIN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF TORRANCE AND MICHIE CITY PUBLICATIONS COMPANY OF LOS ANGELES.

Councilman Isen moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution, provided that a brief synopsis of the Resolution was given.

City Attorney Hall explained that this Resolution covered an agreement whereby all the City Ordinances will be analyzed and put into book form.

Councilman Schwab seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Councilman Isen moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2590. Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 2591

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE DIRECTING OFFICIAL AND PUBLIC ATTENTION TO CONTAMINATION OF OCEAN WATER IN THE AREA OF THE HYPERION SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT.

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

Councilman Benstead moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2591. Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

ORDINANCE NO. 697

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ESTABLISHING CERTAIN TRAFFIC CONTROL MEASURES PURSUANT TO ARTICLE IV, ORDINANCE NO. 446.

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

Councilman Isen moved for the adoption of urgency Ordinance No. 697 at its first and final reading. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

ORDINANCE NO. 698

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 326 TO PROVIDE THAT ANY EMPLOYEE IN THE CLASSIFIED SERVICE IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE WHO REFUSES TO TESTIFY BEFORE THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY GRAND JURY IS SUBJECT TO DISMISSAL.

Councilman Isen moved to dispense with further reading of the Ordinance. Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Isen moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 698 at its first reading. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Clerk Bartlett announced this would be the last time Mrs. Lee would be taking the Council Minutes.

City Manager Stevens advised he had spoken with Mrs. Giaquinto but he did not know whether she would be able to take them either. He said she would probably take them until the Council could find somebody else.

Mayor Drale recommended that Mrs. Giaquinto take over until the Council finds someone else.

City Manager Stevens advised he had received a communication from Ronald Moran of the South Bay Property Management Corporation requesting a lease to construct a golf range at the Airport.

Clerk Bartlett read the communication.

Councilman Benstead moved this request be referred to the City Manager for study. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

Councilman Isen asked what had been done with regard to the suggested changes in the Resolution regarding the formation of an Airport Commission.

Mayor Drale requested City Attorney Hall to have this Resolution with the suggested changes read for the Council meeting next Tuesday.

Councilman Isen requested City Attorney Hall to have the Ordinance on the Use Tax ready for the next meeting.

Councilman Isen said he had asked for a report on Ashley Avenue.

City Attorney Hall advised the condemnation had been filed, and letters had been addressed to the residents in the area, preliminary to serving the complaint. He said there had been some protests and he had been soliciting their cooperation. He said that it is necessary to first get the appraisal, after which time the percentage for each home is posted.

Councilman Isen requested action as soon as possible on this matter.

Councilman Isen asked if the Walteria Ditch ever got cleaned out?

City Manager Stevens did not know. He explained he knew how limited Ralph Perkins' crew is. He could not just send down crews. He does not have them.

Councilman Isen requested Mr. Stevens to submit a report on this matter.

Councilman Isen said there was a large sign advertising a Trailer

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Park next to the Neon Sign at the entrance to Torrance via Western Avenue which was an eyesore. He asked if this was Torrance property.

City Manager Stevens said if it is in the street it is public property and if it is on the land it belongs to the City of Torrance. Councilman Isen wondered if that could be investigated.

Councilman Isen moved that the entrance to Torrance at Western Avenue be cleaned up, as it is overgrown with weeds. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

Councilman Isen moved that the Pacific Electric Company be sent a letter requesting that they do their share of cleaning up the entrance to Torrance at Western Avenue in the area of the P.E. tracks.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

Councilman Isen said he had been advised that there is haphazard planning with reference to putting down hangars and moved in buildings on the Airport proper. He asked if that was going on without control, and if so, he suggested that this be controlled.

City Manager Stevens stated that this was not correct. He said some second-hand buildings had been moved in in the past, and just tonight the Council approved several going in on the Vegas Air lease, but that every effort was being made not to have any more used buildings come in there. He had informed Mr. Dietrich not to approve the use of used materials in the future.

Mr. Stevens said the City should have a policy in this regard, and stated an attempt is being made to put into effect a policy whereby only new material be used, on the exterior at least, of any building at the Airport.

Councilman Isen asked if the reference to the Federal Exemption Certificate when a bid is read applies to all motor vehicles.

City Manager Stevens replied that the City does not pay Federal Excise Tax on motor vehicles or on tires.

Mayor Drale advised he had received a letter from M. L. Hoffenberg, 365 Calle Miramar, protesting the formation of an Assessment District in lower Hollywood Riviera.

Mayor Drale read a communication from C.C. Morgan, General Superintendent, Columbia-Geneva Steel Division, requesting the City to widen the storm drain at the intersection of Cravens Avenue and Santa Clara Street for a distance of 200 feet east of the intersection.

Mayor Drale's understanding was that City Manager Stevens has referred a copy of this communication to the Engineering Department. He said this should be a matter of record.

Mr. Anthony Belloti requested specific information as to what had been done with reference to the wall on Ashley Avenue.

City Attorney Hall said the action had been filed. He said it would be easier if the property owners would voluntarily give the City a deed to their property whereby the City could pay some small consideration. Letters have been written to all of the property owners along this line of thought. "There is a method whereby we can by posting a certain amount take immediate possession of the property, and that, apparently is what the Council has directed me to do tonight. Instead of waiting for the normal channels of serving the complaint, I am to arrange to file the affidavit, get the appraisals, and take immediate possession.

Councilman Isen so moved that immediate possession be taken by making the necessary deposits. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Benstead, Isen and Drale. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Blount and Schwab. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor Drale read a communication advising of the resignation of Mr. R. J. Deininger from the Planning Commission.

Mayor Drale requested City Clerk Bartlett to write a letter to Mr. Deininger thanking him for his services.

Mayor Drale appointed Bert Lynn to fill the unexpired term of Mr. Deininger.

Mayor Drale recommended action on a communication from the License Department be withheld until next week.

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

Mayor Drale announced there would be a Budget Hearing Thursday night, June 24, 1954, at 8:00 p.m.

At 10:55 p.m. Councilman Benstead moved to adjourn to Tuesday, June 29, 1954, at 8:00 p.m.. Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab, carried unanimously.

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A. H. Bartlett  
City Clerk of the City of Torrance

APPROVED:

Nicholas O. Drale  
Mayor of the City of Torrance