

Torrance, California  
October 26, 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, October 26, 1954, at 8:00 o'clock 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.

At the request of Mayor Drale, Mrs. Lowe led the salute to Our Flag.

At the request of Mayor Drale, Councilman Schwab opened the meeting with an invocation.

Mayor Drale requested the minutes of October 13, 1954, be corrected to read that appropriate expenses be paid to all Councilmen and others authorized to attend the League of California Cities Convention which was held in Los Angeles last week.

Councilman Blount moved the minutes of October 13, 1954, be approved as corrected. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously.

Mayor Drale welcomed, on behalf of the Council, Mrs. Lowe's class for foreign-born people who were present at the meeting.

Mayor Drale announced the Council would now canvass the returns of the Special Bond Election held on October 19, 1954, and requested City Clerk Bartlett to proceed with the canvass of the votes. Clerk Bartlett asked if anyone in the audience wished to examine the envelopes to ascertain whether or not they had been opened. There being no one, the envelopes were opened and given to the members of the Council for canvassing. No errors were disclosed. The tally for the 32 precincts was as follows:

PROPOSITION NO. 1		
YES	NO	TOTAL
4273	870	5143

PROPOSITION NO. 2		
YES	NO	TOTAL
3857	1277	5134

City Clerk Bartlett announced that all the absentee ballots have been received, and in accordance with the Election Code they must be canvassed tonight.

City Clerk Bartlett was ordered to open the absentee ballots received for the Special Election held October 19, 1954. Ballots received totaled 35. The tally was as follows:

<u>PROPOSITION NO. 1</u>		
<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
24	11	35

<u>PROPOSITION NO. 2</u>		
<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
23	11	34

City Clerk Bartlett read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 2638

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, STATING THE RESULT OF THE CANVASS OF ELECTION RETURNS OF THE SPECIAL BOND ELECTION HELD OCTOBER 19, 1954.

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

Councilman Isen moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2638. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

The following is a statement of the result of said Election:

"STATEMENT OF THE CITY CLERK"

I, A. H. BARTLETT, City Clerk of the City of Torrance, California, DO HEREBY CERTIFY AND DECLARE that the City Council of the City of Torrance, at a regular meeting duly held on the 26th day of October, 1954, had duly and regularly canvassed the returns of the special bond election held in the City of Torrance on October 19, 1954, pursuant to Ordinance No. 706, and has declared the result of said election.

That the bond propositions voted upon at said election are as follows:

BOND PROPOSITION NO. 1: Shall the City of Torrance incur a bonded indebtedness in the principal amount of \$700,000 for the purpose of the acquisition and construction by said city of a certain municipal improvement, to wit: a building for municipal uses, such building to provide offices and quarters for the City officers and departments including quarters for the legislative and administrative officers, the police department, the city jail, and including the planting and landscaping of grounds and provisions for vehicle parking therefor, and the acquisition of all land, furniture, equipment and apparatus necessary therefor?

BOND PROPOSITION NO. 2: Shall the City of Torrance incur a bonded indebtedness in the principal amount of \$250,000 for the purpose of the acquisition and construction by said city of a certain municipal improvement, to wit: a swimming pool and bath-house, together with heating, water heating and purification facilities, dressing rooms, lockers, toilets and showers, including the planting and landscaping of grounds and provision for vehicle parking therefor, and the acquisition of all land, furniture, fixtures, equipment and other property necessary therefor?

That the absent voters ballots have been duly canvassed and counted, and the result of such count is hereinafter stated. That

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the total number of votes cast in each of the respective election precincts established for said election upon each of said propositions, and the number of votes therein for and against each of said propositions, the total number of absentee votes cast at said election upon each of said propositions and for and against each of said propositions, and the total number of votes cast in said city upon each of said propositions and for and against each of said propositions, are as follows:

CONSOLIDATED VOTING PRE- CINCT NO.	BOND PROPOSITION NO. 1			BOND PROPOSITION NO. 2		
	YES	NO	TOTAL	YES	NO	TOTAL
1	53	13	66	50	15	65
2	90	22	112	72	40	112
3	117	24	141	95	46	141
4	130	13	143	108	34	142
5	66	20	86	56	30	86
6	82	12	94	66	26	92
7	141	22	163	119	44	163
8	229	7	236	218	18	236
9	302	17	319	302	16	318
10	297	15	312	284	29	313
11	282	40	322	257	64	321
12	146	63	209	144	65	209
13	152	16	168	120	47	167
14	120	9	129	111	17	128
15	133	29	162	131	31	162
16	48	7	55	44	11	55
17	101	20	121	75	43	118
18	106	19	125	89	40	129
19	147	21	168	126	41	167
20	69	16	85	52	32	84
21	67	9	76	51	26	77
22	48	14	62	41	21	62
23	97	11	108	83	25	108
24	176	45	221	168	52	220
25	163	44	207	158	51	209
26	107	52	159	95	61	156
27	128	81	209	124	84	208
28	91	23	114	84	28	112
29	150	51	201	132	70	202
30	117	32	149	109	41	150
31	146	61	207	140	68	208
32	172	42	214	153	61	214
Total Votes in Precincts	4273	870	5143	3857	1277	5134
Absentee Votes						
Total Votes in- cluding Absentee Vote	24	11	35	23	11	34
	4297	881	5178	3880	1288	5168

That the votes of more than two-thirds of all of the voters voting upon each of said bond propositions were cast in favor of the adoption of each of said bond propositions, and each of said bonds propositions has been declared to be carried, and the City Council of the City of Torrance is authorized to issue bonds pursuant thereto as provided by law.

I CERTIFY that the foregoing statement of result is a full, true and correct statement of the facts of said canvass and of the results of said election, and that as soon as the result was declared the aforesaid statement was duly entered by me, the City Clerk of the City of Torrance, on the records of said City Council.

ENTERED October 26, 1954.

(SEAL)

/s/ A. H. Bartlett  
City Clerk of the City of  
Torrance, California"

Councilman Benstead moved the statement be filed as a matter of record. Motion, seconded by Councilman Isen, carried unanimously.

The following is the City Clerk's certificate regarding mailing polling place cards and true copy of official ballot:

"CERTIFICATE RE MAILING POLLING  
PLACE CARDS AND TRUE COPY OF  
OFFICIAL BALLOT

I, A. H. Bartlett, City Clerk of the City of Torrance, California, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that on the 4th day of October, 1954, I commenced to mail to each voter in said city, postage prepaid, a card stating the location of the precinct polling place of each such voter for the special bond election held on October 19, 1954, and the mailing of said cards to every registered voter in said city was completed on the 8th day of October, 1954. The cards were the same in every respect, except as to precinct designations and polling places stated therein, which designations and polling places were different as to each several precincts. One of said cards is attached hereto and made a part hereof.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that attached hereto is a full, true and correct copy of the ballot used at said election.

WITNESS MY hand and the seal of the City of Torrance this 26th day of October, 1954.

City Clerk of the City of  
Torrance, California"

(SEAL)

Councilman Benstead moved the certificate be filed as a matter of record. Motion, seconded by Councilman Isen, carried unanimously.

At 8:35 p.m. Mayor Drale declared a recess. City Clerk Bartlett left the meeting at this time. The meeting reconvened at 8:50 p.m.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

Deputy Clerk Hallanger read the following:

Request of the Disabled American Veterans, Box 503, Torrance to distribute forget-me-not flowers on November 8,9,10,12 and 13, which days are designated as "Forget-me-not" days.

Councilman Benstead moved their request be granted. Motion, seconded by Councilman Isen, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Deputy Clerk Hallanger stated the Clerk's office had received a Summons in the case of Steven Marcotte vs John Doe DeGouche, Adam Roe DeGouche and the City of Torrance.

Councilman Isen moved this be referred to the City Attorney for attention. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, no objections, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

Petition of residents in the vicinity of Newton Street and Highgrove Avenue requesting the following boulevard stops:

- (a) At the intersection of Newton and Highgrove on Newton for traffic going West;

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- (b) At the above intersection; for traffic going East;
- (c) At the intersection of Highgrove and Newton on Highgrove for traffic going South.

Councilman Benstead moved this petition be referred to the Traffic Commission for study and recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, no objections so ordered by Mayor Drale.

Chief of Police Haslam stated the next Traffic Commission meeting would be held on Wednesday, November 3rd, at 4:00 o'clock p.m.

Communication from John M. Wren protesting diagonal parking on Crenshaw Boulevard between 172nd and 174th Streets.

Mr. Wren spoke at great length protesting this diagonal parking. He stated the residents of this area had previously requested parallel parking on both the East and West sides of Crenshaw Boulevard in the block bounded by 172nd Street on the north and 174th Street on the south; however, the City has now painted the diagonal parking spaces on a portion of Crenshaw Boulevard. He said the residents are not satisfied with this diagonal parking as they feel it is unnecessary, dangerous and hazardous.

After a lengthy discussion Councilman Isen moved this matter be referred to the Traffic Commission for study and recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, no objections, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

Communication from W. E. Kilgrove, 22704 Earl Street, inquiring when the City was going to pave Earl Street as they promised to do and also to widen the street to 25 feet, using the 10 feet that had been dedicated to the City.

City Manager Stevens advised the Council this has not been done due to the fact that the water and gas mains were being installed; however, this paving should be done within the next few weeks.

Councilman Benstead moved Mr. Kilgrove be notified this will be done in the near future. Motion, seconded by Mayor Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Notice of Hearing to be held before the Public Utilities Commission of the State of California on November 29, 1954; Application No. 35729: Application of the State of California, Department of Public Works, for an order or orders authorizing and requiring the widening, reconstruction, alteration and improving of the crossing of Hawthorne Branch Line of the Atchison Topeka and Santa Fe Railway Company sometimes referred to as "El Nido Underpass" and designating the portions of the work to be done, respectively, by said Applicant, State of California, Department of Public Works, and by said railroad corporation and for determination and allocation of the costs thereof and authorizing Applicant to commence the immediate construction of proposed improvements and requiring said railroad corporation of proceed forthwith with railroad work.

Matter of record.

Report of survey made by Chief of Police Haslam regarding the installation of crossing signals in some sections of the City.

Mayor Drale requested Deputy Clerk Hallanger to furnish all the Council members with a copy of this report.

Report filed as a matter of record.

Communication from C. N. Weber, License Inspector, approving request of Roy & Dennis, 2576 Carson Street, for refund of Business License No. 4184; also affidavit from Howard E. Dennis which states that no business was transacted by this firm during the period covered by the license.

Councilman Benstead moved this request be referred back to Mr. Bartlett for his recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab, carried.

Request of Fred Adair, 4738 West 169th Street, Lawndale, California, for refund in the amount of \$6.00 on Business License No. 6492, due to the fact the City Council revoked his produce license.

Councilman Isen moved the \$6.00 be refunded to Mr. Adair. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Request of Sunlight Mission, 124 Marine Street, Santa Monica, California, for permission to visit from house to house in the City of Torrance; advising their object is to win others for the Lord and that gifts are acceptable.

Councilman Blount moved the request be denied. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Resolution of the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors advocating the enactment of legislation which would enable the Supervisors to levy a sales tax in the unincorporated area of the County; and cities and counties authorized to contract with the State for the collection of locally levied sales tax.

Councilman Isen moved the letter be referred to the City Attorney for recommendation and in that connection he see how far it follows the recommendation of the League of California Cities. Motion, died for lack of a second.

Councilman Benstead moved the communication be tabled. Motion, seconded by Mayor Drale, no objections, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

Resolution of the Air Pollution Control Board of the Air Pollution Control District of the County of Los Angeles, recommending that rubbish burning in open fires or single-chamber incinerators, both in unincorporated areas and within the cities, should be prohibited as soon as possible and in any event, within one year.

Councilman Blount moved the communication be filed. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, no objections, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

Communication from the City Clerk of Los Angeles advising the Los Angeles City Council has adopted a resolution instructing their city attorney to prepare an ordinance changing the hours for burning incinerators from the present 6 a.m. to 10 a.m., to 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.; said ordinance to be effective November 10, 1954, for a period of 90 days to see if this measure will ameliorate the smog problem; and requesting the City of Torrance to consider the adoption of similar legislation.

Councilman Isen moved the letter be filed as a matter of record and that they be advised the City of Torrance has a rubbish collection. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, no objections, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

Communication from the California Transit Advertising Inc., requesting the completion of a new advertising lease with the City with the following proposals:

- (a) The lease be prepared for a three-year period, commencing November 1, 1954, or as soon thereafter as practical.
- (b) The percentage of payment to the City be based upon 4.0% of the net amount collected. "Net Amount" to be defined the gross amount collected less any Advertising Agency Commission paid, not to exceed 15%, and any cash discounts paid advertisers or agencies, not to exceed 2%.

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City Manager Stevens explained that what they want to do is to put a man in the field who will try and fill up our card spaces instead of having them idle. He said it was his opinion the City would receive more revenue this way and he would recommend that this be done. He stated Marshall Chamberlain, Bus Superintendent, also recommended this advertising lease with the City.

Councilman Benstead moved to concur with the recommendation of City Manager Stevens and Bus Superintendent Chamberlain to enter into a new advertising lease with the California Transit Advertising Inc. Motion, seconded by Councilman Isen, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Communication from the Recreation Commission forwarding check in the amount of \$1503.37, representing money collected in connection with the craft program of the Recreation Department during the past summer; and recommending that this money be re-allocated to the Recreation Department budget for craft supplies during the present fiscal year, and that the money be added to the present budget.

Councilman Benstead moved to concur with the recommendation of the Recreation Commission. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Request of the Los Angeles County Heart Association for permission to conduct their fund raising campaign in the City of Torrance during the month of February, 1955.

Councilman Isen moved their request be granted. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Request of the school crossing guards that their wages be raised from \$1.20 per hour to \$1.50 per hour, retroactive to September 20, 1954.

Mayor Drale moved the request be granted. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Benstead moved that shelters be provided for all crossing guards. Motion, seconded by Mayor Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Communication from Bob L. Haggard forwarding proposal of the Mayflower Trailer Company to lease approximately six acres of land situated at the Torrance Municipal Airport.

Councilman Isen moved the communication be referred to the City Manager. Mayor Drale said he thought it should be referred to the Airport Commission. Councilman Isen withdrew his motion.

Councilman Isen moved the communication be referred to the Airport Commission for study and recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blouht, no objections, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

#### Recommendations of City Manager Stevens:

##### PERSONNEL:

1. That Mary H. Andrus be appointed to serve her probationary period as Stenographic Secretary in the Engineering Department, effective October 5, 1954, in the second salary step. (Selected from an eligible list.)
2. That Cy G. Bailey be appointed to serve his probationary period as Painter in the Paint Department, effective October 1, 1954, in the first salary step. (Selected from eligible list.)

3. That William Russell be appointed to serve his probationary period as Engineer in the Fire Department, effective October 16, 1954, in the second salary step. (Selected from eligible list.)
4. That Evelyn M. Neely be appointed to serve her probationary period as Accounting Machine Operator, in the Water Department, effective October 1, 1954, in the third salary step. (Selected from eligible list.)
5. That the following persons, having successfully passed the Civil Service Examination, be appointed to serve their probationary periods as Assistant Building Inspectors in the Building Department, effective October 16, 1954, in the first salary step:
- (a) Everett L. Snow
  - (b) Ray D Archibald
  - (c) Michael M. McMahon
  - (d) Harold D. Walsh
6. That Bernard C. Wendt, having successfully passed the Civil Service examination, be appointed to serve his probationary period as Assistant Electrical Inspector in the Building Department, effective October 16, 1954, in the first salary step.
7. That Marvin W. Davis, having successfully passed the Civil Service examination, be appointed to serve his probationary period as Assistant Plumbing Inspector in the Building Department, effective November 1, 1954, in the first salary step.
8. That Edwin S. Parker, Jr., be appointed to serve his probationary period as Laborer in the Water Department, effective October 21, 1954, in the first salary step. (Selected from eligible list.)
9. That Charlotte M. Smith, having successfully passed the Civil Service examination, be appointed to serve her probationary period as P.B.X. Operator in the Administrative Department, effective October 16, 1954, in the first salary step.

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

AWARD OF BIDS:

That the bids of the following companies, who submitted the lowest responsible bid for the item indicated, be accepted, and all other bids be rejected. This is in concurrence with the recommendations of the Water Superintendent:

- (1) Air Compressor to Crook Company for a Le Roi 85-G1-E Compressor, in the amount of \$1780 plus sales tax.

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

- (2) 3/4 Ton Pickup Truck to Paul's Chevrolet for a 1954 3/4 Ton Pickup Truck, in the amount of \$1282.16 plus sales tax, after allowance for trade in of 1948 3/4 ton Dodge pickup.

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Councilman Benstead moved to concur with the recommendation of City Manager Stevens, item two, under Award of Bids. Motion, seconded by Mayor Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

- (3) Utility Compartments to the Jumbo Equipment Company for Model u-48 compartments to fit 3/4 ton pickup truck, in the amount of \$179.50 plus sales tax.

Councilman Benstead moved to concur with the recommendation of City Manager Stevens, item three, under Award of Bids. Motion, seconded by Mayor Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

City Manager Stevens advised the Council Water Superintendent McVicar had requesting the accepting of bid for the tractor and dozer be held up for another week pending a demonstration.

#### PARKING METERS:

In conformance with the recommendation of the City Council, a committee of engineers from local industries was chosen to study the parking meters demonstrated by the companies who submitted bids for furnishing parking meters to the City of Torrance. Two meetings were held by the committee. At the first meeting each bidder was given a period of at least thirty minutes to explain the merits of his product and to demonstrate its operation. After a demonstration by all the bidders, the committee chose three meters, all of the automatic type, for further study and final selection. A second meeting was held, at which time the three meters selected were studied and operated by the committee. The committee was composed of the following engineers:

Melvin G. Gunn.....National Supply Co.  
Max Ogborne.....Columbia Steel  
Bill Healy.....General Petroleum  
William Stowel.....National Supply Co.

At the conclusion of the committee's discussion and study, the following recommendation was made:

<u>Committee Member</u>	<u>First Choice</u>	<u>Second Choice</u>	<u>Third Choice</u>
No. 1	Duncan-Automaton	Dual	Park-O-Meter
No. 2	Duncan-Automaton	Dual	Park-O-Meter
No. 3	Duncan-Automaton	Dual	Park-O-Meter
No. 4	Dual	Park-O-Meter	Duncan-Automaton

Councilman Benstead moved all bids be rejected and the City Council go on record as opposing parking meters for the City of Torrance. Motion died for lack of a second.

Mayor Drale moved the City Council accept the recommendation of the committee that was appointed and that the Duncan-Automaton Company be given the contract to supply parking meters for the City of Torrance on a trial basis. Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab.

Councilman Isen said he would like to discuss this for awhile. He inquired if the committee considered a single meter or a double meter and what the difference was in the cost of the meters.

City Manager Stevens advised him this was the vote of the committee after they studied all of them.

Mrs. Leonard Young stated that at one time the citizens of Torrance voted against having parking meters and inquired why they were being put in now.

Mayor Drale advised her that this issue was never voted on by ballot; there had been petitions circulated protesting the meters. He stated they were only trying to solve the problem.

If they are not satisfactory the Council has the right to remove them.

Mr. Herbert J. Lieberman inquired what this experiment would cost the City.

City Manager Stevens stated it would <sup>not</sup> cost the city anything. Councilman Benstead said the statement had been made that these would be on a trial basis. He stated that he had never seen anything in writing from the parking meter people that they will install them on a trial basis.

City Manager Stevens stated that in the bids they say they are on a trial basis.

Councilman Isen moved to table the motion until a written report is given at the next meeting regarding the costs and the comparisons of these different type meters. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, was defeated by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Benstead and Isen. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Blount, Schwab and Drale. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Isen said he would like to see something that would show him how the committee decided what was best. He inquired how much a complete installation of a Duncan-Automaton would cost.

City Manager Stevens said he would have to get his figures; however, the committee was not governed by price alone. He stated if the low bid was what the Council was interested in they should have just accepted the lowest bidder.

At 10:00 p.m. Mayor Drale declared a recess. The meeting reconvened at 10:10 p.m.

Mayor Drale called for a roll call vote on the motion to accept the recommendation of the committee that was appointed.

Councilman Isen said it was his understanding he had a point of information. He inquired how much the single installation, one standard, one meter of the Automaton costs, complete; and how much the double meter on one standard would cost.

City Manager Stevens said the bid for the Duncan-Automaton, installed, was \$56.42 each. There were two companies that bid on the dual installation, one was the Kar-Park twinomatic, cost \$97.00 complete; the dual double, \$96.00 complete, that is the automatic. The lowest bid for any meter was \$51.00 for the Volkenson, it was a manual meter. On the single heads for the three that were named by the committee the Park-O-Meter was \$65.50 each; the Duncan-Automaton was \$56.42 each; and the single on the Dual was \$62.50 each.

Councilman Isen said he would like to know if the committee considered the cost of these meters, or if they considered the aesthetic value of the streets, or whether they considered that at all.

Mayor Drale called for a roll call vote on the motion which was previously made and seconded -- that the City Council accept the recommendation of the committee that was appointed and that the Duncan-Automaton Company be given the contract to supply parking meters for the City of Torrance on a trial basis.

Motion, carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Blount, Schwab and Drale. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Benstead and Isen. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Isen moved in this particular matter, that no contract regarding parking meters be approved unless <sup>it</sup> than six months specifically and that no money is to be paid until the expiration of that six month period and during the six months period the City will have <sup>contains</sup> the right to reject at its option. <sup>clauses that we are on a trial period</sup>

Motion died for lack of a second.

Councilman Isen inquired if it was the intent of the Council for not that these meters be on a trial basis. He said he would like it less to be a matter of record.

Mayor Drale stated it was a matter of record.

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STATE EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM:

## Recommendations of City Manager Stevens:

The Board of Administration of the State Employees' Retirement System has submitted forms, which are to be filled out indicating the City's desire to determine the cost involved in bringing the Water District's and the City's contract up to date, including the amendments of 1953.

I recommend that a survey be authorized for the Water District employees to determine the cost of bringing their benefits on a par with those of other City employees. The cost of such a survey would be \$135.

I also recommend that a survey be authorized to determine the cost to the City for adopting the latest benefits for the employees of the City proper. The cost of this survey will be \$276.90.

Councilman Blount moved to concur with the recommendations of City Manager Stevens. Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

PLANNING COMMISSION AND ENGINEERING MATTERS:

CASE NO. 328. Application of Harold D. Rebadow for a Variance to construct and operate a real estate, insurance and contractor's office at 1227 Crenshaw Blvd., R-2 Zone, Tract No. 4070.

Mayor Drale stated this case was before the City Council on October 13, but as there was a tie vote on it, it was placed on the agenda for this meeting. The Planning Commission recommended denial.

Mr. Walter Weidman, 1225 Crenshaw Boulevard, stated it was illegal for this Variance to be granted as Mr. Rebadow was living in Florida and he was the owner of this property, this Variance was being sought by another party other than the owner. He also stated this would devalue his property.

Mrs. Young stated the people would not be opposed to this if the whole street was rezoned, what they were opposing was spot zoning.

Councilman Schwab: Inasmuch as our Planning Commission is making a study of rezoning in South Torrance at the present time which will be followed by a study of rezoning in North Torrance and I understand they will follow that with a study of Central Torrance, which will take in the part that we are talking about this evening, I move that this be referred back to the Planning Commission for further study and that they give this priority over the others on the rezoning of Crenshaw Boulevard, from Dominguez through to Carson. It's coming up sooner or later and I think we might just as well face it and I think they should face it too and study it and come up with what they think is the proper zoning for this area. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN; Benstead, Schwab, and Drale. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Blount and Isen.

(Councilman Isen expalined his "No" vote by saying he did not care to dodge the issue. Councilman Blount originally voted "Aye" but changed his vote to "no" with the remark, "Let's face the issue.")

Councilman Isen said he would like to comment for a minute: Reading the Planning Commission minutes, they were inclined to consider the rezoning of Crenshaw Boulevard at such time in the future as the street is widened, that project is way, way off and I wanted the record to know so the Planning Commission will know, that I am in favor of an immediate study there and an immediate rezoning. I am in favor of an immediate consideration of the problem and not to defer it until there is a widening of Crenshaw. I didn't want them to think because of my "No" vote that I was against rezoning for business in that area.

Communication from the Planning Commission regarding the extension of Carson Street in connection with Tract No. 20473.

Mayor Drale asked that this communication be made a part of the Tract file on No. 20473.

Communication from the Planning Commission recommending the vacation of a portion of 242nd Street. The Planning Commission acted on a petition from the property owners asking that 10 feet be vacated on the South side of 242nd Street, from Ocean Avenue to Neece Avenue. This vacationing action was made with the approval of the Engineering Department per letter dated October 20, 1954, from Mr. John R. Patrick.

Councilman Schwab moved to concur with the recommendation of the Planning Commission in the vacationing of a portion of 242nd Street. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Communication from the Planning Commission recommending the request of Martin Burton to divide Lots 1 and 2, portions of Block 297, Tract 1952, be granted, per plot plan marked Exhibit "A".

Councilman Blount moved to concur with the recommendation of the Planning Commission. Motion, seconded by Councilman Isen, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Mayor Drale moved that communications from the Planning Commission be accompanied by the signatures of the President of the Planning Commission and the Secretary so that both parties are aware of what is being sent to the Council. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, no objections, so ordered.

Mayor Drale said this was merely so there would not be a mix-up on any of the matters and was not a reflection in any way.

Communication from City Engineer Bishop submitting Resolution authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to execute that certain agreement with the County of Los Angeles for the installation and maintenance of traffic signal lights at Redondo Beach Boulevard and Yukon Avenue.

Deputy Clerk Hallanger read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 2639

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE THAT CERTAIN INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF TORRANCE AND THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES.

Councilman Blount moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution. (Mayor Drale declined to vote on this Resolution.) Motion, seconded by Councilman Isen, carried unanimously by the four other members of the Council.

Councilman Blount moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2639. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Benstead, Blount, Isen and Schwab. DECLINED TO VOTE: Mayor Drale.

Communication from Assistant to City Engineer Patrick submitting easement from the City of Torrance to the Southern California Edison Company for a right-of-way to provide service to Sheridan Grey, Inc. plant that is being constructed on the Torrance Municipal Airport. Matter of record.

Deputy Clerk Hallanger read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 2640

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE THAT CERTAIN GRANT OF EASEMENT FROM THE CITY OF TORRANCE TO THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON COMPANY.

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

Councilman Benstead moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2640. Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Transmittal form from the Planning Commission and City Engineer recommending approval of Final Tract Map No. 17150, consisting of 31 lots to be developed by John E. Kettler, westerly of Western Avenue and northerly of Tract No. 15915; subject to the drainage as outlined in letters from Assistant City Engineer Patrick, addressed to the Planning Commission, dated September 22, 1954; and subject to the following special condition: approved by the Planning Commission with the stipulation that Ordinance Nos. 440 and 593 be complied with.

Councilman Blount moved to concur with the recommendation of the Planning Commission in approving Final Tract Map No. 17150, subject to the conditions as listed. Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Transmittal form from the Planning Commission and City Engineer recommending approval of Final Tract Map No. 17390, consisting of 522 lots to be developed by the Milton Kauffman Construction Company, westerly of Hawthorne Avenue and northerly of Del Amo Boulevard, subject to the special conditions: Approved by Planning Commission with the stipulation that Ordinances No. 440 and 593 be complied with.

Councilman Isen moved to concur with the recommendation of the Planning Commission in approving Final Tract Map No. 17390, subject to the conditions as listed. Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab, carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Benstead, Isen, Schwab and Drale. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Blount.

Transmittal form from the Planning Commission and City Engineer recommending approval of Tentative Tract Map No. 18747, consisting of 154 lots to be developed by the Home Savings & Loan Association, northerly of Carson Street, westerly of Maple Avenue and easterly of Madrona Avenue; subject to the drainage as outlined in City Engineer's letter of September 23, 1954, addressed to the Planning Commission; subject to special conditions: Approved by Planning Commission with stipulation that Ordinances No. 440 and 593 be complied with.

Councilman Blount moved to concur with the recommendation of the Planning Commission in approving Tentative Tract Map No. 18747, subject to the drainage and special conditions as noted. Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab, carried by roll call vote.

Transmittal form from the Planning Commission and City Engineer recommending approval of Tentative Tract Map No. 20163, consisting of 91 lots to be developed by the Yukon Land Company, northerly of 171st Street, southerly of 168th Street, westerly of Yukon Avenue and easterly of Tract No. 18609.

Councilman Benstead moved to concur with the recommendations of the Planning Commission in approving Tract No. 20163 (Tentative). Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Transmittal form from the Planning Commission and City Engineering recommending approval of Tentative Tract Map No. 20473, consisting of 1541 lots to be developed by the Milton Kauffman Construction Corporation, southerly of Torrance Boulevard, northerly of Sepulveda Boulevard, easterly of the westerly Torrance City limits and westerly of the prolongation of Anza Avenue; subject to the special conditions: Approved by Planning Commission with stipulation that it conform with Ordinances No. 440 and 593.

Councilman Blount moved to concur with the recommendation of the Planning Commission in approving Tentative Tract Map No. 20473. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead.

Councilman Isen said he would like to amend the motion by adding, specifically the conditions as set forth in the minutes of the Planning Commission of October 20th with reference to this Tract, particularly 80 foot street from Hawthorne Boulevard to Palos Verdes Boulevard and 80 foot street from Sepulveda Boulevard to Torrance Boulevard and that the map conform with Ordinances No. 440 and 593.

Councilman Blount accepted the amendment to his motion. Motion, as amended, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Transmittal form from the Planning Commission and City Engineer recommending approval of Tentative Tract Map No. 20624, consisting of 45 lots to be developed by Kensions, Inc., southerly of 182nd Street, westerly and northerly of Tract No. 17560.

Councilman Blount moved to concur with the recommendation of the Planning Commission in approving Tentative Tract Map No. 20624. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Deputy Clerk Hallanger read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 2641

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE CHANGING THE NAMES OF CERTAIN STREETS IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE.

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

Councilman Benstead moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2641. Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

ORDINANCE NO. 710

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE GRANTING TO CALIFORNIA WATER SERVICE COMPANY, A CORPORATION, A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, LAY, OPERATE, AND MAINTAIN WATER PIPE LINES IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE.

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

Councilman Benstead moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 710 at its first reading. Motion, seconded by Mayor Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

ORDINANCE NO. 711

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE REGULATING THE INSTALLATION, ARRANGEMENT, ALTERATION, REPAIR, USE AND OPERATION OF ELECTRIC WIRING, CONNECTIONS, FIXTURES AND OTHER ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES ON PREMISES WITHIN THE CITY; CREATING THE POSITION OF CHIEF ELECTRICAL INSPECTOR; REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 428 AND ALL OTHER ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT THEREWITH.

Councilman Benstead moved to dispense with further reading of the ordinance. Motion, seconded by Mayor Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Benstead moved for the adoption of Urgency Ordinance No. 711 at its first and final reading. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

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Deputy Clerk Hallanger said he had one other communication from Mr. George Binder requesting the City Council to take the lead in formulating and coordinating a first class parking plan for the City, and advising the majority of the downtown property owners and merchants are in favor of an assessment district and will help towards this program.

Mayor Drale said that according to the information from City Attorney Hall the Council's next step would be to have a meeting with all the property owners in this assessment district. He requested City Manager Stevens to arrange a meeting with these property owners and the Council for next Wednesday, November 3, at 6:30 p.m.

#### ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

City Manager Stevens recommended the plans and specifications for the Central Fire Station, as presented by Mr. Varner, be approved and that we advertise for bids and the bids be received on Tuesday, November 23, 1954.

Councilman Blount moved to concur with the recommendation of City Manager Stevens. Motion, seconded by Councilman Isen, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

City Manager Stevens said he would like to be authorized to employ Howard S. Martin to make the appraisal at the Airport as that is one of the things that is needed now to complete our compliance to the C.A.A. (this is on the triangle at the airport.)

Councilman Blount moved City Manager Stevens be authorized to employ Howard S. Martin, Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

City Manager Stevens requested authority to proceed with the revamping of the lighting system in the library, which will cost approximately \$800.

Mayor Drale moved his request be granted. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

City Attorney Hall said he would like to meet briefly with the Council some night this week with respect to the final lease at the airport. Mayor Drale set 5:00 o'clock p.m., Wednesday, October 27, as the time of the meeting.

City Attorney Hall stated he would advise the Council if the final lease was not received.

Councilman Benstead moved City Manager Stevens be given a vote of thanks for the manner in which he put over the bond issues. The Council concurred and Mayor Drale thanked everyone who helped in the Bond Issues.

Councilman Benstead said he thought something should be done about the way the voting polls have been set up. He moved Mr. Bartlett be requested to check these polling places and see that they are set up properly in the future to avoid traveling way across town to vote. Motion, seconded by Mayor Drale, no objections, so ordered.

Councilman Isen said speaking of the election, it was difficult to single out individuals to thank, but he thought the Mayor had a lot to do with putting it across and he also thought the City should be proud of the 25% votes cast at a special bond election.

Councilman Isen said regarding the Waste Products that was to be cleaned up by October 10, He moved the matter be referred to the City Attorney, the Fire Department and the Health Department for immediate action.

City Attorney Hall advised that pursuant to Section 372 of the Penal Code, Mr. Sol Burns had been served with a Notice to Abate Nuisance; however, he had not personally inspected the property.

Councilman Isen requested City Manager Stevens to see that immediate action was taken by the right department to see that the fence surrounding this Waste Products Company is removed. He said there was never a permit taken out for this fence.

Councilman Isen moved City Attorney Hall prepare the appropriate ordinance to enable the City Council to meet on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 8:00 o'clock p.m.; and the first, third and fifth Tuesdays of each month to meet at 5:30 p.m. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Schwab said the Council had instructed Mr. Weber, the License Inspector, to do some spot checking regarding sales tax revenues, and as far as he could remember he made one check and nothing has been done since. He stated he did not think he should take one merchant and stop there.

Councilman Schwab moved Mr. Weber give a report at the next Council meeting as to what has been done. Motion, seconded by Councilman Isen, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Isen said he would like to inquire what has been done with reference to one case of sales tax liability. Councilman Blount said it has never come back before the Council.

Mayor Drale requested Councilman Schwab to include in his motion that Mr. Weber also give a report on the one case of sales tax liability he checked. Councilman Schwab so amended his motion. Motion, as amended, carried by roll call vote.

Mayor Drale said he would like to have the Council concur with him regarding the Walteria Lake Park. He said there has been a lot of discussion about this particular matter but some people are very enthused about reclaiming this inundated land known as Walteria Lake. He stated it is part of the Flood Control program to have a retention basin in this particular area. Mayor Drale said he, and he hoped the majority of the Council felt, that this might develop into a nice park at some time; and we might get some assistance from the County Flood Control and the State with their off-shore oil royalties and get some money diverted into this particular area. He stated he would like to appoint a committee to do some surveying and get the thing "rolling". He appointed the following committee:

Mr. Beasley, Chairman  
 Mr. Jack Brown, Walteria Merchant  
 Mr. Wagner, Recreation Commission  
 Mrs. Thomas, West Torrance  
 Mr. Baxter, Sepulveda Gardens Civic Assoc.  
 Councilman Benstead, Councilman in charge  
 of park and recreation

Mayor Drale said this committee will function to a point where they will get the data necessary for the development of this particular area and then report back to the City Council.

Mr. Herbert J. Lieberman, 5428 Palos Verdes Boulevard, inquired of Chief of Police Haslam what had been done about the Allied Gardens Homeowners' request for stop signs at Linda Drive, Clear-site and Linda Drive and Sunnyview.

Chief of Police Haslam said that with the investigation he had made he did not feel disposed to recommend the signs just yet; however, he stated this matter would be taken up with the Traffic Commission.

Mr. John Wehrman requested the City Council to accept Health Permit #33982 issued by the Los Angeles County Health Department; and as provided for in Section 2, Article V, of Torrance City Ordinance No. 624; and that the License Inspector be ordered to

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issue him a license as a peanut vendor to operate anywhere within the city limits of Torrance - the location of the business to be shown as his home address, 22916 Berendo, Torrance.

After a general discussion regarding the difference between fruit and vegetable stands, peanut stands, candy stands, etc., Councilman Blount moved Mr. Wehrman be denied the permit. Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab, carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Blount, Schwab and Drale. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Benstead and Isen.

Mr. Wehrman requested the Council to amend Ordinance No. 624 so that this type of business would be prohibited.

Mr. Herbert J. Lieberman, 5428 Plaso Verdes Boulevard, inquired when the Allied Gardens Homeowners Association could expect the City Attorney to have the ordinance prepared which would require all subdividers to install street lights in subdivisions.

Mayor Drale informed him this had not been referred to the City Attorney for an ordinance, it had been referred to the Planning Commission for study and recommendation.

City Attorney Hall said they were probably referring to the question they raised as to whether they could have an assessment district on a certain type of standard and the one that requires the underground installation, he said there was no question about it. It can be done under one of the assessment acts. He said where the overhead wiring is used he understood it has been a matter of policy with Edison - that they own the particular facilities. Under an Assessment District the City owns the facilities. Therefore, on the basis of policy on these overheads, Edison is owner, and its installation does require that the homeowners bear an immediate portion of the cost of installation. He thought that technically they could do overhead on an assessment basis, but that was something that we would have to have further information on to see how practical it would be for the City to let that type of thing out to bid.

Mr. Sherman Miller, Silas Whitman and Lester Clouch, representing the bus operators of Torrance, protested the wage scale set for the bus operators. They stated they had met with Mr. Stevens over six weeks ago and they were of the opinion the Council would take some action on this matter. They ~~were not the~~ <sup>-----claimed</sup> highest paid operators in the State when everything was taken into consideration, considering poor equipment, split shifts, etc.

Mr. Stevens said he had talked with this group. He had received data from other cities, and that personally he did not agree with their arguments. He said for one thing there never was an agreement between the Council and the bus operators that they would be paid more than truck operators. This is not a matter of record. Mr. Stevens thought the Council should look into this very thoroughly before taking any action on this.

Councilman Blount left the meeting at 11:30 p.m.

Mr. Miller said the Torrance school bus operators receive more compensation than the City bus operators, have better equipment and better hours, and they do not have any peak loads, shorter runs, etc.

Councilman Isen said he was willing to go on record as being in favor of raising the wages of the bus operators in line with the school bus operators.

A lengthy discussion followed regarding the pay scale in other cities, after which Mayor Drale moved that City Manager Stevens have a report for the next meeting giving comparisons with other cities and also the school bus operators. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, no objections, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

Mayor Drale said as far as equipment is concerned the City is doing the best it can. It is buying one new bus a year.

Mr. George M. Tibbets, 2413 West 171st Street, said it was his intention to present to the Council for their consideration the idea of preserving the old fire truck. He said it appeared to him to be of great historical value and of great interest to the people. He asked that the Council consider this and he would have a concrete proposal to make at a later date.

At 11:55 p.m., Councilman Benstead left the meeting.

Mr. Schoonover and Mr. Robinson, representing Pacific Hills Homeowners' Association reported at great length on the drainage problem in Tract No. 18416, and requested that the City Engineer or someone from the City, go down and look this situation over, and try and get some action.

Mayor Drale directed City Engineer Bishop to investigate this tract and see if the contractor has complied with all specifications and ordinances. He said this Council's recommendation was to lower these driveways.

Mr. C. J. Dalgetty, 2725 Normalin Street, handed Mr. Stevens for the records, a copy of the release the contractor wanted the people in this tract to sign.

City Engineer Bishop said he would have this report as soon as possible.

Mr. Schoonover said they still did not have any action on the two narrow streets down there, the island is still in there.

Mayor Drale said Mr. Perkins would fix the ridge in Newton Street; however, the Council did have a report back on the widening of the streets, and it was too expensive to condemn the adjoining properties. He said the Traffic Commission would consider making this a one-way street.

Mayor Drale said that sometime ago the City of Torrance entered into an agreement with the Rudy Mayer Properties, Inc., and we vacated a portion of Palos Verdes Parkway and in return the Board of Education of the City school system was supposed to get a ten acre parcel of land. He said this area is being developed now, and this matter should be looked into to see that the Board of Education gets the land that was promised them.

City Manager Stevens said he would check on this; however, he requested he be given two weeks as with all the other matters referred to him he doubted if he could have this ready by next week.

Councilman Schwab moved all bills properly audited be paid. Motion, seconded by Councilman Isen, carried unanimously by those present.

Mayor Drale reminded the Council of the meeting Wednesday, November 3, at 6:30 with the property owners regarding the forming of an Assessment District for off-street parking.

At 12:10 p.m., Councilman Isen moved to adjourn to 8:00 p.m. Wednesday, November 3, 1954. Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab carried by those present.

  
City Clerk of the City of Torrance

APPROVED:

  
Mayor of the City of Torrance

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