

Torrance, California
December 28, 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 Chambers, City Hall, Torrance, California, on Tuesday, December 28, 1954, at 8:00 P.M., Mayor Drale presiding.

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

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

Councilman Blount opened the meeting with an invocation.

Referring to the minutes of December 21st, Councilman Isen said there was a correction to be made on page 7, that wherever the word "Repeal" appears it should be corrected to "Appeal".

Councilman Isen moved the minutes of December 21, 1954, be approved as corrected. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried by those present.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

City Clerk Bartlett read the following:

Communication from the Southern California Edison Company requesting a Grant of Easement from the City for the proposed construction of an electric line necessary to provide service to the City's Fire Station at the southwest corner of Carson and Crenshaw Boulevard.

Councilman Blount moved the Easement be granted and the necessary Resolution prepared. Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

Communication from Superintendent of Building Russell recommending an addendum to the Uniform Building Code, (Section 2805).

Mayor Drale moved to concur with the recommendation of Mr. Russell and that the City Attorney be authorized to prepare the necessary ordinance to amend the Building Code. Motion, seconded by Councilman Isen, no objections, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

Recommendations of City Manager Stevens:

ACCEPTANCE OF BID:

That the bid of Warren Southwest, Inc., for the improvement of Crenshaw Boulevard between Carson Street and Sepulveda Boulevard, in the amount of \$26,645.30, be accepted as the lowest responsible bid and all other bids be rejected.

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

City Clerk Bartlett read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 2667

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE THAT CERTAIN CONTRACT BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY OF TORRANCE AND WARREN SOUTHWEST, INC.

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

Councilman Isen moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2667. Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

APPROVAL OF BONDS:

That the Performance Bond and the Labor and Material Bond, in the amount of \$194,362, furnished by the Fireman's Fund Indemnity Company for the Torrance Central Fire Station, be approved.

Councilman Isen moved the recommendation of City Manager Stevens be concurred with. Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

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CASE NO. 331: Transmittal form from the Planning Commission recommending approval of Case No. 331, request of Dominguez Estate Company for Change of Zone on 7 parcels of land within the boundary of 190th Street on the North; 203rd Street on the South; Hawthorne on the East, and western City boundary on the West, from A-1 to C-2.

Mayor Drale advised the Dominguez Estate Company requested this Case No. 331 be referred back to the Planning Commission.

Councilman Isen moved Case No. 331 be referred back to the Planning Commission on the request of the Dominguez Estate Company. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, no objections, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

CASE NO. 332: Transmittal form from the Planning Commission recommending approval of Case No. 332, application of R. D. McEwen for a Variance to operate a real estate office on the corner of Cabrillo and Sepulveda Boulevard, Lot 26, Block 2, Tract No. 14016, Zone R-1, subject to the following Special Condition: One sign only, 3' high and 6' wide, with a driveway from Cabrillo Avenue onto Reynosa Drive, per Exhibit "A".

Councilman Blount moved the Variance be granted with the stipulation the Special Condition be deleted and the size of sign allowed conform to the ordinance governing signs for home operated businesses. Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

CASE NO. 334: Transmittal form from the Planning Commission recommending approval of Case No. 334, application initiated by the Planning Commission for Change of Zone from A-1 (Light Agricultural) to R-1 (Single Family Residence) on all of Tracts 18957, 20010, 20011, 19736, 15915, 20165; Tract 18021 lots 5 thru 46 only; Tract 15917 lots 3 thru 22 only; Tract 19102 lots 1 thru 29, 31 thru 66 only; Tract 19425 lots 25 thru 28; portion Lots 1 thru 24, 29 and 30, Tract 20348 lots 7 thru 28 only; Tract 19101 Lots 1 thru 381 only; that portion of Lot 68 La Fresa Tract located on the southwest corner of 168th Street and Faysmith Avenue.

Councilman Blount moved Case No. 334 be referred back to the Planning Commission for the second hearing as their minutes indicate only one hearing was held on this proposed Change of Zone. Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab, no objections, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

CASE NO. 336: Transmittal form from the Planning Commission recommending approval of Case No. 336, as per map; South Torrance Change of Zone initiated by the Planning Commission for Change of Zone of undeveloped areas to C-1-2.

Mayor Drale set January 11, 1955, at 8:00 P.M., in the Council Chambers, City Hall, as the time and place for the third and final hearing on Case No. 336.

Mr. Clarence Hoyt, 24409 Park Street, said he thought there had been some changes from the motion that was made at the Planning Commission. He stated he had the most property on the West side of 244th Street, between Newton and 242nd, and the way they were going to rezone it would ruin his investment.

Mayor Drale advised him the Council would take no action on this case tonight, the hearing would be held on January 11, 1955, at which time he could protest if he so desired.

Mr. Hoyt said the recommendation was changed, it should be on the tape recorder. He said it was changed at the last meeting of the Planning Commission regarding this case.

Councilman Isen moved an enlarged map of the area showing the exact action taken by the Planning Commission regarding this case be furnished for the hearing January 11th, and if necessary the Engineering Department prepare this map. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, no objections, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

Mrs. Bessie Slonecker inquired if the Council had received petitions protesting any Change of Zone in this district. City Clerk Bartlett said they had been received and were made part of the file on this Case and would be presented at the time of the hearing on January 11, 1955.

Mr. W. M. Crow, 24249 Ward Street, inquired if a copy of the proposed changes and the Planning Commission action, could be forwarded to the WALTERIA Civic Association. Mayor Drale said they were welcome to his copy of the proceedings.

Letter of Transmittal from the Planning Commission and City Engineer recommending approval of Final Tract Map No. 21149, consisting of 52 lots to be developed by the R. G. C. Corporation, Inc., westerly of Arlington Avenue between 236th Street and 237th Street. This was formerly Tract No. 18180 but because of the lapse of time this tract number has been changed to 21149, it covers the same piece of property.

Councilman Schwab moved to concur with the recommendation of the Planning Commission in approving Final Tract Map No. 21149. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

Communication from Chief of Police Haslam recommending that Ordinance Nos. 367 and 406, relating to the issuance of bicycle licenses, be repealed.

Councilman Blount moved this communication be referred to the next regular meeting. Motion, seconded by Mayor Drale, no objections, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

City Clerk Bartlett read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 2668

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF TORRANCE AND PRIDE OF TORRANCE, A CALIFORNIA CORPORATION, WITH RESPECT TO A DECLARATION OF USE OF CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY.

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

Councilman Isen inquired if this Declaration would be recorded. City Attorney Hall advised him yes, this was a recordable document.

Councilman Isen moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2668. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

RESOLUTION NO. 2669

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 G. R. G., INC.

City Attorney Hall advised this was a hold-over for many many months, he could not state personally what the agreement was with the City but it was his understanding this particular developer paid for sewers that he would not have ordinarily had to put in, with an oral understanding he would be reimbursed pursuant to an ordinance. The ordinance was subsequently adopted and this agreement is the result.

City Manager Stevens said this off-site sewer was a long length of sewer to serve a small tract South of 182nd Street and in our discussion with these principals, and two or three others, the Council agreed to pass an ordinance and set up a district and try to reimburse them for their share that would normally fall to other users.

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

As the motion to dispense with further reading was not unanimous City Clerk Bartlett read Resolution No. 2669 in its entirety.

Councilman Blount moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2669. Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab, was a tie vote by the following roll call: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Blount and Schwab. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Isen and Drale. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Benstead.

Councilman Isen moved this matter be placed on the agenda for the next regular meeting and that each Councilman be furnished with a copy of the agreement. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, no objections, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

ORDINANCE NO. 717

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ORDERING THE VACATION OF CERTAIN PORTIONS OF 244th STREET IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE.

Councilman Blount moved to dispense with further reading of Ordinance No. 717. Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

Councilman Blount moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 717 at its second and final reading. Motion, seconded by Mayor Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

ORDINANCE NO. 718

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ORDERING THE VACATION OF A CERTAIN PORTION OF NEWTON STREET IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE.

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

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Mayor Drale moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 718 at its first reading. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

ORDINANCE NO. 719

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ORDERING THE VACATION OF CERTAIN PORTIONS OF 242nd STREET IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE.

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

Councilman Blount moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 719 at its first reading. Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

ORDINANCE NO. 720

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING THE WATER DEPARTMENT OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE TO SUPPLY WATER SERVICE TO TRACT NO. 15926 AND TO HOLD MONETA WATER COMPANY FREE AND HARMLESS FROM ANY AND ALL CLAIMS ARISING THEREFROM.

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

Councilman Isen moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 720 at its first and final reading. Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

ORDINANCE NO. 721

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING AND REPEALING CERTAIN OF ITS CIVIL SERVICE ORDINANCES AND ADOPTING A SINGLE COMPREHENSIVE PERSONNEL ORDINANCE.

Councilman Isen moved this Ordinance be held over for one week for further study. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, no objections, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

City Manager Stevens reported he had received a communication from the County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County enclosing proposed amendments and additions to the County Sanitation District Act, and advising if no written objections to the amendments are received within five days they shall proceed as authorized by the resolution of December 8, 1954, to present the amendments to the Legislature urging passage.

The Council directed the communication be filed as a matter of record.

At 8:55 P.M., Mayor Drale declared a recess. Councilman Schwab left the meeting during the recess. The meeting reconvened at 9:00 P.M.

City Manager Stevens reported that on August 24, 1954, the Council ordered a 45-passenger G.M.C. bus, and at that time they did not have the price, the bus is now ready for delivery and he recommended that \$18,301, which includes State sales tax, be appropriated for the purchase of this bus.

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

City Manager Stevens said the Parking Committee of the Chamber of Commerce has requested that the City pay the expense of the title report on the assessed valuation of the Parking District that was formed, which will amount to approximately \$200.

Councilman Isen moved to appropriate not more than \$200 to pay for the title company's report with reference to the Parking Assessment District. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

City Manager Stevens reported the parking meters have brought several new problems, one of them is handling quantities of coins. He said they had a separating and counting machine in the office today, which cost \$825. He wanted to bring this matter to the attention of the Council.

A general discussion was held regarding the different methods of handling these coins. Mr. Stevens said he would get more information on the different type of machines and report to the Council.

City Manager Stevens said he had one matter to bring up which will be discussed at the next meeting. He stated the City had today received \$5,500 from the Federal government as a refund on our fire engine. The Board of Fire Underwriters, because somebody else owns a part of this fire engine, take 30% of our rating away from us on this particular engine. The \$5500 represents 20% of the cost. He said the Fire Chief would be at the next meeting and give more data on the subject.

City Manager Stevens reported that in laying out the parking meters they left five loading zones un-metered and metered all other loading zones. He recommended that all loading zones be metered.

Mayor Drale moved to concur with the recommendation of City Manager Stevens that all loading zones be metered. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, no objections, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

City Manager Stevens said he would like to be authorized to attend the Spring Conference of City Managers, to be held the latter part of February in the Bay area.

Councilman Blount moved City Manager Stevens be authorized to attend this conference with appropriate expenses paid. Motion, seconded by Mayor Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

City Manager Stevens said Mr. Newville would like to bring up the matter of a meeting with a committee of Councilmen and a committee from the Planning Commission to do a lot of ground work on the proposed Rolling Hills Annexation. Mr. Stevens said he has spent several hours with the interested parties and there is a tremendous amount of work to be done.

Mayor Drale said he thought anything as important as this should be attended by all Council members, and he also thought the principals of the interested companies should be present to give the answers to some of the questions raised.

Mr. J. R. Newville said he represented the Engineering Service Corporation, and that they are also engineers for the two developers who are planning to develop in the area, namely, McCarthy Company and the Grand View Building Company. Mr. Newville said he was authorized to speak for them. He stated he had also been authorized by Mr. Bill Kulow of the Capitol Company and Mr. Hanson of the Great Lakes Carbon Company to keep them advised of anything that goes on at these meetings; however, he was not authorized to make commitments for them.

Mayor Drale set Tuesday, January 4, 1955, at 5:30 P.M., in the Council Chambers, as the time and place for a meeting with the principals of the companies involved, the Council, and the committee from the Planning Commission, regarding the proposed Rolling Hills Annexation.

City Attorney Hall referred to an old franchise that National Supply Company had going across 213th Street, which is a spur track. He said the ordinance which granted the franchise expired in 1949 and it is time that it was renewed. Mr. Hall said he would not suggest

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advertising as no one else would be interested, however, he said the Council may want to ask some consideration for it.

Councilman Blount moved the City Attorney be instructed to draw up a franchise agreement and in the meantime negotiate, if he can, an equitable consideration between the two parties and report back to the Council. Motion, seconded by Mayor Drale, no objections, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

City Attorney Hall reported there have been complaints with respect to his ruling as to sales tax, which has been that our tax is applicable wherever title passes in the City. Mr. Hall said this works a hardship on some of the manufacturing plants, when a particular customer will pick up the product here in the City he has ruled title changes here. He said the City of Los Angeles gets around it by having a Certificate of Pickup, which exempts certain articles from sales tax. Mr. Hall said he was making no recommendation, he merely was presenting the problem to the Council as to whether or not they want to consider amending our ordinance.

City Clerk Bartlett recommended this be done.

Mayor Drale moved the City Attorney be instructed to prepare the necessary amendment to the ordinance regarding the particular matter in question, which would apply strictly to manufacturing situations. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Blount and Drale. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Isen. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Benstead and Schwab.

Councilman Isen said he would like more information regarding this matter before he voted to amend the ordinance.

Councilman Isen reported that a parking meter and post, between the Unemployment Office and the Torrance Herald, have been placed at a 45° angle.

Councilman Isen referred to the matter of fines in connection with the violations of over-parking, the ordinance provides for a \$1.00 fine for over-parking. A general discussion was held regarding the method for collecting these fines. Councilman Isen said he had read about the Fine-O-Meters, which are manufactured by the Duncan Parking Meter Corporation, which allows motorists to place their fines in these meters, and he suggested the City work out something for the convenience of the public, something that could be taken care of in Torrance.

Councilman Isen requested City Attorney Hall to explore this idea and make a recommendation to the Council.

Mr. Schoonover reported a condition which exists at Winlock and Newton, by the telephone booth, he said someone had dug a hole under the fence and it is quite a hazard. City Manager Stevens said he would have this checked.

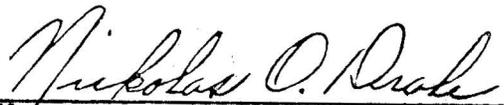
Councilman Blount moved all bills properly audited be paid. Motion, seconded by Mayor Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

At 9:45 P.M., Councilman Blount moved to adjourn. Motion, seconded by Councilman Isen, carried.



 City Clerk of the City of Torrance

APPROVED:



 Mayor of the City of Torrance