

Torrance, California  
February 1, 1955

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, February 1, 1955, at 5:30 P.M., Mayor Drale presiding.

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

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

Councilman Blount moved the minutes of January 25, 1955, be approved as written. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, no objections, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

Mayor Drale announced this was the time and place fixed for the opening of bids for concrete cylinder pipe and valves for the Water Department.

City Clerk Bartlett said he had the Affidavit of Publication and opened the bids from the following companies:

FOR CONCRETE CYLINDER PIPE:

|   |          |        |     |
|---|----------|--------|-----|
| United Concrete Pipe Corporation.....       | 16" I.D. | \$4.83 | L/F |
|   | 20" I.D. | 5.70   | L/F |
| American Pipe and Construction Company..... | 16" I.D. | \$4.79 |     |
|   | 20" I.D. | 5.87   |     |

BIDS FOR VALVES:

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| Darling Valve & Manufacturing Company.....                             | 2,277.30 |
| Rensselaer Valve Company.....  | 2,361.05 |
| Rich Manufacturing Company.....  | 2,757.12 |
| Robert S. Stoddard.....  | 2,351.10 |
| Mueller Company.....   | 2,467.71 |
| Grinnell Company of the Pacific.....                                   | 3,267.83 |
| Alternate Bid.....   | 2,379.00 |
| Crane Company.....   | 2,852.45 |
| A. P. Smith Mfg.Co., represented by Western Water<br>Works Supply..... | 2,259.00 |

Councilman Schwab moved the bids be referred to the City Manager and Superintendent of the Water Department for study and recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, no objections, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

City Clerk Bartlett read the following:

Request of Clyde Beatty Circus for a business license, circus, one day, April 13, 1955, at 220th and Western Avenue.

Councilman Isen suggested that if this license is granted it should be subject to a cash bond, refundable after 30 days, to fuarantee they will comply with all their promises.

Councilman Blount moved this request be tabled for the present time. Motion, seconded by Councilman Isen, no objections, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

Communication from the Girl Scouts of Torrance thanking the City Council for use of the Civic Auditorium on December 20th for their Christmas Carol Sing.

Councilman Benstead moved the communication be filed as a matter of record. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, no objections, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

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Report of Franchise Earnings from Pacific Coast Gasoline Company, showing amount due for period July 11, 1953, to July 10, 1954, under Franchise Ordinance No. 389, dated June 10, 1947; with the subsequent assignment of a portion of this Franchise under Resolution No. 2194 dated July 10, 1951, accompain by check in the amount of \$552.60.

Councilman Blount moved the check be accepted and the report filed as a matter of record. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, no objections, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

Report of Walteria Lake Drainage Committee Meeting held on January 7, 1955,

Councilman Isen moved the report be filed and treated as any other Commission meeting. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, no objections, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

Four communications from Parent-Teacher Associations (Walteria Riviera, Torrance Elementary and Perry Schools) requesting further information regarding the proposed Rolling Hills annexation.

Councilman Isen moved that each of these Associations be notified that the City Council has nothing in writing to furnish them, but that a copy of the brochure regarding this annexation is available in the City Clerk's office and that they will be notified of the dates of the hearings so their delegates may be present. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, no objections, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

Mayor Drale requested City Clerk Bartlett to write these letters and to have a copy of the brochure available in his office for anyone wishing to read it.

Communication from Frank A. Schilling, 121 Via la Circula. Redondo Beach, requesting information regarding the proposed Rolling Hills annexation.

Councilman Isen moved Clerk Bartlett write the same type of letter to Mr. Schilling advising him of the dates of the hearing and that a copy of the brochure is available in his office. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, no objections, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

Request of the American Cancer Society that the month of April be proclaimed "American Cancer Crusade Month", and requesting permission to solicit funds in the City of Torrance.

Councilman Benstead moved Mayor Drale be authorized to proclaim the month of April as "American Cancer Crusade Month" and also permission granted to the American Cancer Society to place their containers in the stores in the City of Torrance. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, no objections, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

Request of Boy Scout Troop 240 and Cub Scout 240C for free use of the Civic Auditorium Thursday night, February 24, 1955, for a pot-luck dinner celebrating the anniversary of Scouting.

Clerk Bartlett advised this request has been cleared with the Recreation Department.

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

Request of John Hudson, 2006 Arlington Avenue, for use of the Civic Auditorium for the purpose of organizing a Drama Club.

Councilman Isen moved this request be referred to the Recreation Commission for their recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, no objections, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

Communication from the Torrance Co-ordinating Council requesting that the City Council take action to require certain businesses to provide bicycle racks for their customers to eliminate sidewalk hazards for pedestrians.

Councilman Blount moved the communication be referred to Chief of Police Haslam for his recommendation. Motion, seconded by Mayor Drale, no objections, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

Communication from Construction Industries, Inc. referring to their contract with the City for engineering services on Storm Drain Project No. 241, and requesting the City to honor their invoice and authorize payment at this time.

City Manager Stevens advised that the County Flood Control District has approved the preliminary plans for the project and has authorized the City to bill the District for 80 per cent of its cost, however, this may take five or six weeks. Mr. Stevens stated the contract states "when the funds are available", it is a mere technicality, and that he would recommend this invoice be honored as the work has been done and the City will eventually receive the money from the District.

City Attorney Hall stated he would have no objections to honoring this invoice at this time if the funds are available to do so.

Councilman Isen moved to concur with the recommendations of the the City Manager and City Attorney and that payment be made as requested. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Request of Bob Bosnyak, contractor for the North Torrance Sewer District No. 2, for a second extension of thirty (30) days in which to complete the job.

City Engineer Bishop recommended an extension of twenty (20) days be granted with the City Engineer being allowed to grant an additional ten (10) days at his discretion, if he feels the work is being diligently prosecuted to completion.

Councilman Schwab moved to concur with the recommendation of City Engineer Bishop in granting this extension of time. Motion, seconded by Councilman Isen, no objections, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

Communications from the County of Los Angeles Regional Planning Commission transmitting prints showing the proposed Amendment Nos. 283 and 286 to the Master Plan of Highways, for the Council's approval.

Councilman Isen moved Amendment Nos. 283 and 286 to the Master Plan of Highways be approved. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, no objections, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

Communication from the Recreation Commission recommending the request of the Corn Stompers to hold a benefit square dance on a Sunday evening, in the Civic Auditorium, to aid the March of Dimes, be granted.

Councilman Benstead moved to concur with the recommendation. Motion, seconded by Mayor Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Communication from Harry B. Van Bellehem, Director of Recreation, regarding the request of the Corn Stompers to hold a benefit dance. Ordered filed as a matter of record.

Recommendations of City Manager Stevens:

PERSONNEL:

1. The following employees of the Street Department, having successfully passed a promotional examination, have been appointed to serve their probationary periods, effective February 1, 1955, in the classification and at the salary steps indicated:

Gilbert Bennett, Power Equipment Operator I, first salary step.  
 John C. Magee, " " " I, first salary step.  
 Donald E. Phoenix, " " " I, first salary step.  
 Carl Massie, Cement Finisher, first salary step.  
 William S. Camp, Street Maintenance Foreman, third salary step.

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

APPROPRIATIONS:

1. For the purchase of an electric typewriter for the Fire Department, the sum of \$425. (A Budget Item).

Councilman Isen moved to concur with the recommendation of City Manager Stevens, item one, under Appropriations, providing the typewriter is purchased locally, assuming it is the same price. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

ENGINEERING AND PLANNING COMMISSION MATTERS:

1. Report of City Engineer Bishop regarding the three homes in Tract No. 18416, namely 2742, 2726 and 2718 Dalemead, that have not been fixed as promised by the subdivider.

City Engineer Bishop reported this is a case of poor lot grading and he recommended the service porch floors be capped to raise them above the high grade, he said he was still trying to contact the subdivider but to date had been unable to do so.

Mayor Drale ordered the report filed and requested City Engineer Bishop to follow through on these three homes to see that they are fixed as the subdivider promised to do.

2. Transmittal form from the Planning Commission and City Engineer recommending approval of Final Tract Map No. 20623 (formerly Tract Map No. 20263), consisting of 48 lots to be developed by the Stanford Construction Company, westerly of Crenshaw Boulevard, southerly of Southern California Edison Company Right-of-Way, northerly of Tract No. 19626; accompanied by communication from Asst. to City Engineer Patrick to the Planning Commission, dated January 5, 1955.

(This tract map was held over from the January 18, 1955 meeting).

This tract map was tentatively approved by the City Council with the stipulation that 178th Street right-of-way be obtained across the Edison property to Glenburn Avenue and the subdivider had agreed to pay the cost of acquiring this property.

City Manager Stevens reported the Edison Company has advised him they need every square foot of this particular property and they do not want to dispose of it.

A lengthy discussion was held regarding the streets in this tract, Mr. Barclay, engineer for this subdivision, explained the map in detail to the Council.

Councilman Blount moved to concur with the recommendation of the Planning Commission and City Engineer in approving Final Tract Map No. 20623, providing the curb line on 178th Street, from Crenshaw to Glenburn Avenue, is moved back to the South two (2) feet, which in effect will provide a pavement two (2) feet wider than the normal pavement, except in the area where the land is not available. Motion, seconded by Councilman Isen, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

3. Transmittal form from the Planning Commission and City Engineer recommending approval of Final Tract Map No. 19723, consisting of 38 lots to be developed by Earnest Giese, northerly of 182nd Street, easterly of Crenshaw Boulevard and westerly of Casimir Avenue; this transmittal form was accompanied by letter signed by Assistant to City Engineer Patrick, dated January 5, 1955, stating his office would recommend approval from an engineering standpoint.

This tract map was held over from the meeting of January 25, 1955.

Mr. Giese and Mr. Barclay presented several maps and explained them in detail to the City Council.

Councilman Schwab moved to concur with the recommendation of the Planning Commission in approving Tract Map No. 19723, subject to the stipulations as noted on Exhibit "E" as just presented to the Council. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

4. Communication from the Planning Commission recommending approval of request of Gale A. Ford, 26315 Alta Vista, Harbor City, for waiver of front setback for Lot 17, Block L, Tract 10304, from 20' to 10', for a garage, per letter and plot plan submitted to the Planning Commission at their regular meeting January 19, 1955.

Councilman Blount moved to concur with the recommendation of the Planning Commission in granting the waiver requested by Gale A. Ford. Motion, seconded by Councilman Isen, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

City Clerk Bartlett read title to the following:

RESOLUTION NO. 2681

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE THAT CERTAIN QUITCLAIM DEED TO THE OWNERS OF RECORD OF TRACT NO. 16133 OF ANY AND ALL EASEMENTS RESERVED IN ORDINANCE OF VACATION NO. 636 OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE.

This Resolution was held over from the January 25, 1955, meeting for clarification. Councilman Blount stated that as long as this Resolution has not been clarified he would move it be held over until next week. Motion, seconded by Councilman Isen, no objections, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

RESOLUTION NO. 2684

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE THAT CERTAIN QUITCLAIM DEED TO VARIOUS OWNERS OF RECORD.

This Resolution was held over from the January 25, 1955, meeting. City Manager Stevens advised these were old easements on the Quandt property and Mr. McVicar had recommended this to clear title for the new owners because the City has no further use for these easements.

Councilman Blount moved this Resolution be held over until the next meeting. Motion, seconded by Councilman Isen, no objections, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

RESOLUTION NO. 2685

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE TO ACCEPT THAT CERTAIN ROAD DEED FROM H. J. EARLY AND DAISY LEE EARLY.

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

Councilman Benstead moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2685. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 2686

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING THE OPENING OF AN ESCROW FOR THE PURCHASE OF CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY TO BE USED AS A FUTURE PARK AND RECREATIONAL AREA.

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Councilman Isen 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. 2686. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

ORDINANCE NO. 730

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF  
TORRANCE REPEALING ORDINANCE NOS. 367 AND 406.

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

Councilman Benstead moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 730 at its first reading. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Benstead, Blount, Isen and Schwab. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Drale.

ORDINANCE NO. 731

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF  
TORRANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT AND  
APPOINTMENT OF AN AIRPORT COMMISSION FOR THE  
CITY OF TORRANCE, DEFINING THE POWERS AND DUTIES  
OF SUCH COMMISSION AND REPEALING RESOLUTION NO. 2584.

Councilman Isen moved this Ordinance be held over until the next meeting. Motion, seconded by Mayor Drale, no objections, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

City Manager Stevens said he had one communication which should be taken care of, recommendation of Director of Recreation Harry B. Van Bellehem that the request of the Torrance Council of Parents and Teachers, for free use of the Civic Auditorium for the purpose of having a breakfast and installation of new officers on May 10, 1955, be granted.

Councilman Blount moved to concur with the recommendation of Mr. Van Bellehem. Motion, seconded by Mayor Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

City Manager Stevens reported that escrow instructions have been sent to the Title Insurance & Trust Company on the Civic Center site and requested that a Resolution be authorized for the next meeting, authorizing the signing, etc.

Councilman Isen moved such a Resolution be authorized. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, no objections, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

City Manager Stevens advised that Director of Recreation Van Bellehem has been requested to present a paper at the Recreation Association Meeting in Santa Cruz on Monday, February 14, 1955. Mr. Van Bellehem would like permission to attend, he would be gone Monday and Tuesday and has offered to pay all his own expenses.

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

Councilman Isen moved that Mr. Van Bellehem be allowed reasonable expenses for this trip. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

City Manager Stevens reported he has been working with the Edison Company on the exchange of rights-of-way and that he will have a report for the Council at the next meeting.

City Manager Stevens advised he has been working with the State in the preparation of a new trailer park ordinance, which Mr. Hall has approved, which would give the City of Torrance complete jurisdiction, as the ordinance is now the State is responsible for certain inspections. The changes are rather minor except that we would adopt the new plumbing regulations. Mr. Stevens said a draft had been prepared and if the Council so desired a copy of the draft could be mailed to them.

Mayor Drale requested the Council be furnished with a copy of the draft of the proposed trailer park ordinance.

City Manager Stevens recommended the plans for the South Torrance Fire Station, as submitted, be approved, and requested authorization to advertise for bids.

Councilman Benstead moved the plans be approved as submitted and that City Manager Stevens be authorized to advertise for bids. Motion, seconded by Councilman Isen, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Benstead inquired if anything had happened to the tank as water was running down Arlington to Torrance Boulevard. Water Superintendent McVicar advised they were cleaning and repairing the tank.

Councilman Isen moved the Off-Street Parking Assessment District Committee be requested to give a report to the City Council as to their progress and their anticipated progress. Motion, seconded by Mayor Drale, no objections, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

Councilman Blount and Councilman Isen left the meeting at 6:50 P.M.

Mr. Schoonover reported a hazardous condition existing at the new school and requested "Slow Signs" be erected at Rolling Hills Road and Dalemead and also at Crenshaw and Dalemead.

Chief of Police Haslam reported this was being taken care of.

Superintendent of Water McVicar recommended the bid for concrete pipe be awarded to United Concrete Pipe Corporation as the lowest responsible bidder and having the best delivery. Mr. McVicar recommended the bid of either A. P. Smith Manufacturing Company or the Rensselaer Valve Company be accepted for the bid for valves. He stated there was only a few dollars difference on these two bids.

Councilman Benstead moved the bid of United Concrete Pipe Corporation for concrete pipe be accepted as the lowest responsible bidder and that all other bids be rejected. Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

Mayor Drale moved the bid of A. P. Smith Manufacturing Company be accepted and all other bids be rejected for the valves. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

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

Mayor Drale introduced Mr. Ross Sciarotta, Sr., new member of the Civil Service Board.

At 7:00 P.M., Councilman Benstead moved to adjourn. Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab, carried.

  
City Clerk of the City of Torrance

APPROVED:

  
Mayor of the City of Torrance

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