

Torrance, California
March 13, 1956

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL

The City Council of the City of Torrance met in a regular meeting in the Council Chambers, City Hall, Torrance, California, at 8:00 P. M. March 13, 1956.

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

At the request of Mayor Isen, Mr. Kalbfleisch led the salute to our Flag.

The Reverend Taylor opened the meeting with an invocation.

Councilman Benstead moved to approve the Minutes of the regular meeting of the Council held March 6, 1956, as written. Motion seconded by Councilman Schwab, no objection, so ordered.

YUKON AVENUE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT:

Deputy City Clerk Hallanger presented the plans and specifications of the District, which were accepted and ordered filed.

Deputy City Clerk Hallanger then read:

RESOLUTION NO. 2886

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY
OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE
MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE THAT CERTAIN
CONTRACT BETWEEN THE CITY OF TORRANCE AND
BARNETT, HOPEN AND SMITH.

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

Councilman Drale asked if all property owners in the District are to be assessed, reminding the Council that at the time this first came up some of the property owners had been omitted, and the City Engineer at that time said there would be time later to be sure everyone became part of the District.

City Engineer Bishop was absent due to illness, and so the question was addressed to City Manager Stevens, who replied that he did not know. He did recall the events Councilman Drale referred to.

City Attorney Hall said the Council could approve the plans and specifications, which had been received, and discuss this question at the time this motion comes before the Council again.

Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

Councilman Benstead moved for adoption of Resolution No. 2886.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

RESOLUTION NO. 2887

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY
OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, APPROVAING AND ADOPTING
PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS AND ASSESSMENT DISTRICT
EXTERIOR BOUNDARIES FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE
YUKON AVENUE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT, BY THE CONSTRUCTION OF CONCRETE CURBS, GUTTERS, CROSS-GUTTERS, SIDEWALKS, OUTLET STRUCTURE, CORRUGATED METAL PIPE DRAIN AND A SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM THEREIN:

Councilman Schwab moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call

vote of those present.

Councilman Schwab moved for adoption of Resolution No. 2887.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

Mayor Isen ordered that the Minutes show that City Engineer Bishop is to give a written report on the question raised by Councilman Drale, as to whether all in the District boundaries are included in the Assessment District at the next meeting of the Council.

RESOLUTION NO. 2888

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, DECLARING ITS INTENTION TO ORDER THE CONSTRUCTION OF CONCRETE CURBS, GUTTERS, CROSS-GUTTERS, OUTLET STRUCTURE, SIDE-WALKS, CORRUGATED METAL PIPE DRAIN, AND A SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM AND APPURTENANT WORK IN YUKON AVENUE AND CERTAIN OTHER STREETS IN SAID CITY, WITHIN WHAT IS KNOWN AS THE YUKON AVENUE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT; DECLARING THE WORK TO BE OF MORE THAN LOCAL OR ORDINARY PUBLIC BENEFIT; AND DESCRIBING THE DISTRICT TO BE BENEFITTED BY SAID WORK AND TO PAY THE COSTS AND EXPENSES THEREOF; DETERMINING THAT BONDS SHALL BE ISSUED TO REPRESENT SAID COSTS AND EXPENSES; AND FIXING THE TIME AND PLACE SET FOR HEARING OBJECTIONS TO SAID WORK OR IMPROVEMENT, OR TO THE EXTENT OF THE DISTRICT TO BE ASSESSED OR BOTH;

Councilman Drale moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

Councilman Drale moved for adoption of Resolution No. 2888.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

Deputy City Clerk Hallanger then presented an estimate of cost of the proposed improvement in the amount of \$41,229.47.

Councilman Schwab moved that the estimate be received and filed.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Statement dated March 1, 1956, from Tide Water Associated Oil Company, for franchises covering 1955, with check in the amount of \$105.30. Attached franchise reports and supplemental statements.

Councilman Benstead moved that this material be filed as a matter of record and the check be accepted.

Motion seconded by Councilman Drale, no objection, so ordered.

2. Deputy City Clerk Hallanger read the following recommendation from the office of Norris Poulson, Mayor of the City of Los Angeles, dated March 7, 1956, and signed by Walter C. Peterson, City Clerk:

"We RECOMMEND that resolution by Councilman Gibson, regarding the paving of the center strip of Western Avenue from Torrance Boulevard to 256th Street, and requesting the Board of Public Works to determine the cost estimate and negotiate for participation in the financing of same with the City of Torrance and the County of Los Angeles, be adopted."

A copy of the Resolution named was attached to the letter.

Councilman Drale moved the communication and Resolution be referred to the City Manager, the City Engineer, and the City Street Superintendent for their recommendation at the next regular meeting of the Council.

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There were no objections, and it was so ordered.

Mayor Isen instructed the City Manager to reply to this letter as might be necessary.

3. Request from the Torrance Babe Ruth League, Inc., dated March 5, 1956 and signed by Ray Griff, Frank H. Williams and Paul Roetiger as members of the Leagues, that the City black top or oil the parking area adjacent to the ball park. This is located between Western and Border on Plaza Del Amo, and has an area of approximately 32,000 square feet.

Mr. Ray Griff was present, and spoke to the Council briefly, saying the State Play-offs of the Leagues would be held in Torrance this year and having this area paved would be a great convenience.

City Manager Stevens answered a question about the cost of this work by saying it would cost between three and four thousand dollars to pave the area.

Councilman Drale moved the request be granted, with the communication referred to City Manager Stevens and Street Superintendent Ralph Perkins for their immediate attention.

City Manager Stevens said this should be worked into the schedule, which is quite full now.

Councilman Drale agreed, saying his intent was to specify before the baseball season begins.

Mr. Griff said it gets under way in the last week of May.

Councilman Drale amended his motion to remove the word "immediately".

Councilman Benstead asked City Attorney Hall whether or not it would be legal for the City to do this, and the City Attorney said it could be done.

Mr. Houston Oliver of 5514 Central View, and Allied Gardens, addressed the Council about another park area near his home, and was told by Mayor Isen that he should appear before the Park and Recreation Commission with the request.

Councilman Schwab asked City Manager Stevens if the work under discussion could be done for \$4,000, and if it could be worked into the schedule.

City Manager Stevens said we do not have the money. He said the area could be oiled more cheaply than it could be paved.

Mayor Isen said the City could have this done and pay for it in July when money is available.

Councilman Schwab suggested that City Manager Stevens be given a week to study this proposal.

Councilman Drale asked if decomposed granite with a coat of seal would run 10¢ a foot, and the City Manager said it would probably run a little less.

Councilman Drale said that was his reason for suggesting that Street Superintendent Perkins consider this, adding that a study of the cost could be made.

Mr. Griff said an oil coating would be satisfactory.

Councilman Drale amended his motion to include the materials which are least expensive and still practical to make a parking area at the ball park.

Motion, seconded by Mayor Isen, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

4. Request from State Standard Blind Made Products, dated February 8, 1956, and signed by N. F. Roehrig, Manager, for permission to solicit orders for products made by the blind, with attached letters from the Torrance Chamber of Commerce and the Better Business Bureau.

Chief of Police Haslam spoke to the Council, saying he had held a conference recently with a Mr. Powell, who is a member of the State Board of Education for the blind, and was told that about six firms have contracts with the State to sell products made by the blind. Chief Haslam recommends that we consider a list of these firms, which is forthcoming, and after checking them with the Better Business Bureau and deciding which should be allowed to solicit business in Torrance, divide the City into areas and

allow each of the firms to solicit in one area. This would prevent duplicate solicitations.

There were no objections, and the request from State Standard Blind Made Products was referred to the City Clerk and Chief of Police for their recommendations.

Mayor Isen ordered Items 6-x and 6-bx on the Addendum to the Agenda made a part of the file on the Yukon Avenue Improvement District. These were a letter from Barnet, Hopen and Smith which was an addition to Mr. Patrick's letter and specifications which were attached.

5. A proposal from M & M Transfer Company to exchange their real estate holdings on Cabrillo Avenue and Border Avenue for 4-3/4 acres now City-owned; this was dated February 27th, 1956, and signed by Mark W. Moss. This was filed as a matter of record, with the comment by the Mayor that it had been discussed at the Pre-Council meeting.

6. Letter from the Department of Commerce, Civil Aeronautics Administration, advising deed of conveyance of the Lomita Flight Strip to the City is to be prepared when they receive easements for water and sewer lines from the Grantor, as well as easements on an access road. This was dated March 5, 1956, and signed by Thomas E. Flaherty, District Airport Engineer.

Councilman Schwab moved this be filed as a matter of record. There were no objections and it was so ordered.

7. Request from Torrance Patrol Service, signed by John Lo Buglio Sr. dated March 7, 1956, for a franchise to conduct patrol service within the boundary limits of the City of Torrance.

Chief of Police Haslam replied to a question by saying he had approved this request.

Councilman Drale moved the applicant be granted a license.

Motion, seconded by Mayor Isen, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

8. Request from Los Angeles County Sheriff Eugene Biscailuz, dated March 6, 1956, that Torrance provide transportation for under-privileged children from this area to the Al Malaikah Shrine-sponsored circus.

There was no objection and Mayor Isen referred this to the Bus Superintendent for his recommendation to the Council by the next regular meeting of that body.

Recommendations from the City Manager:

PERSONNEL:

1. The following employees were promoted from Fireman to Fire Engineer, effective March 1, 1956, at the second salary step, from an Eligible List, standing on list as indicated:
 1. Samuel A. Martin
 2. Dean W. White
 3. Ralph G. Collins
 4. Charles L. Robertson
2. The following men were appointed Park Maintenance Men on the dates shown, at the first salary step. From an Eligible List standing on list as indicated:
 2. Jose G. Solis - March 1, 1956
 3. Florentino G. Reyes - March 6, 1956
(No response received from person standing No. 1 on this Eligible List.)
3. The following man was employed as a Police Officer effective March 9, 1956, at the first salary step. From an Eligible List, standing on list as indicated:

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2. Paul E. Findley
(Appointment was refused at this time by
person standing No. 1 on this list.)

4. The following man was employed as Janitor effective March 9, 1956, at the first salary step. From an Eligible List, standing on list as indicated:
1. Joseph C. Phoenix.

Councilman Benstead moved to concur with Recommendations 1 through 4 of the City Manager.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

5. That Ronald W. Bishop, City Engineer, be permitted to attend the Western Public Works Conference in Oakland, April 15-17 inclusive, with appropriate expenses paid.

Councilman Benstead moved to concur with Recommendation 5 of the City Manager.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

APPROPRIATIONS:

1. That the City Bus Department be authorized to purchase a reconditioned GMC V-Drive Transmission, as described in M. A. Chamberlain's letter of March 5, 1956 - - - \$1850.00 plus freight and taxes.

Councilman Schwab moved to concur with this recommendation of the City Manager.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

2. An addition to the original contract cost for electrical power at the new Civic Center, as outlined in Mr. Varner's letter of March 2, 1956, and R. E. Payne's letter of March 1, 1956 - - - - - \$1650.50

Mayor Isen moved to concur with this recommendation of the City Manager.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

City Manager Stevens made one oral recommendation, that the City call for bids for installation of the curbs, driveways, and parking areas at the new Civic Center.

Councilman Drale moved to concur with the recommendation of the City Manager.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM PARK & RECREATION COMMISSION:

1. Letter from Park and Recreation Commission recommending approval of the use of the Civic Auditorium on Memorial Day by an organization known as the Spinning Wheels, for the purpose of holding their annual anniversary square dance, with the usual rental and custodial charges.

Councilman Benstead moved to concur with the recommendation of the Park and Recreation Commission.

Motion seconded by Councilman Schwab, no objection, so ordered.

2. A recommendation that the Torrance Terrace Gardens be granted free use of the auditorium and free custodial services from/the Commission.

April 27, 28, and 29, 1956.

Councilman Benstead moved to concur with the recommendation of the Park and Recreation Commission.

There were no objections and it was so ordered.

3. At the request of the Mayor, Deputy City Clerk Hallanger read in full the following communication from the Park and Recreation Commission:

"At a meeting of the Parks & Recreation Commission on Wednesday, March 7, 1956, an excerpt from the City Council Minutes of March 6, 1956, was read by the Director of Recreation. The matter of acquiring additional acreage adjacent to the present civic center was referred to the Parks & Recreation Commission for study and recommendation.

After considerable discussion the Commission took the following action:

Commissioner Bilotti moved that the approximately 90 acres north of the existing civic center site bounded by Dominguez Water Company on the north, Madrona on the west, and Maple on the east, be recommended subject to immediate condemnation for City purchase for a park site, and that this recommendation be sent immediately to the City Council for action.

Motion seconded by Commissioner Tillim, unanimously carried."

Councilman Benstead noted that this says "90 acres", and asked if this was an error.

Mayor Isen said it is not an error, but the recommendation of the Parks & Recreation Commission.

Commissioner Tillim was asked by the Mayor to speak to the Council, and she outlined to them the proposed uses of this land, saying that all of it was considered necessary by the Commission to make a truly fine park adequate for the needs of our City, adding that this may be our last opportunity to procure such a fine location.

Commissioner Tillim went on to say that the Commission asks only that some action be taken to prevent someone else from buying this land until the City can raise the money to buy it, and they ask that the people be given an opportunity to say whether or not they want the park.

Councilman Drale asked how the Commission proposes to raise the money for such a park, saying that the land would cost not less than \$630,000 and the City does not have the money.

Mrs. Tillim replied that it would have to be done by bond issue.

Councilman Drale asked City Attorney Hall if the City had to have the money at once if they began condemnation proceedings, and the City Attorney said they did not.

Commissioner Tillim said the Commission asks only that this be put to a vote of the people.

Councilman Benstead said he felt that the City Council should make some move to tie up this land.

Councilman Benstead moved the City Attorney tie this up for condemnation at a future date.

Park and Recreation Commission Chairman Robert Almond spoke to the Council, saying that this was the import of the recommendation from that Commission. He emphasized that they simply want to hold this land so that it will not be sold for industrial sites before the people have an opportunity to vote on this.

Mayor Isen seconded the motion.

Councilman Schwab asked Councilman Drale if he had understood the figure Mr. Drale had used with reference to this land.

Councilman Drale said the figure of \$630,000 he had used was only a very rough guess.

Councilman Schwab asked Commissioner Tillim if the Commission is asking for a bond issue, and she replied that the money will have to be raised by bond issue if the citizens of Torrance want the park.

Councilman Drale asked the City Attorney how much money it will take to begin the necessary steps toward condemnation, and the City Attorney said it will require about \$125.00.

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Mayor Isen congratulated the Park and Recreation Commission and their Director, Harry Van Bellehem, on the analysis they have prepared of the park needs, and said this location is very near the exact center of our City. He said that having this land would make a unique and great Center for our City, and added that it is his belief that there will be an overwhelming sentiment in favor of the park if this is put to the vote of our citizens.

Councilman Benstead amended his motion as follows: That the City Attorney tie this land up immediately for condemnation.

Mayor Isen accepted the amendment.

Mr. Almond pointed out that the breakdown presented to the Council was based on the minimum requirements for a city as large as Torrance will be in the future.

Councilman Drale moved this be tabled for a week and the Mayor appoint a Committee to make an investigation.

Mayor Isen said an oral breakdown had been given here.

Councilman Drale said he needed time to study this.

City Attorney Hall replied to a question from Councilman Benstead by saying that the City could drop condemnation proceedings if they wished. He asked that the Minutes show that this will depend on a bond issue. There is a lot of studying to be done, he said, before this is begun. He added that this will affect development.

Councilman Drale thanked the Recreation Commission for the work they have done on this, but said he did not think we can condemn the land now.

Councilman Schwab said this was first suggested only a week ago, and he does not think there could have been time for a thorough study.

Councilman Schwab seconded Councilman Drale's motion to table.

Councilman Benstead offered to withdraw his motion.

Motion to table for a week carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Benstead, Drale, Schwab. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Isen.

ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Blount.

Mayor Isen instructed Deputy City Clerk Hallanger to put this on the Agenda of the next regular meeting of the Council.

ORAL REPORTS:

1. A report was due this evening from R. W. Bishop, City Engineer, regarding the erosion problem in Victoria Knolls on Portobello Drive. Mr. Bishop was absent due to illness, so the report was held over until the next regular meeting of the Council.

2. A report from John V. Russell, Superintendent of Building, dated March 6, 1956, regarding the request of the Council for inspection and recommendation on enlarging the Adult Recreation Building. Mr. Russell reported that it would be possible to enlarge the building.

Councilman Schwab moved to concur with the recommendations of the Superintendent of Building.

Motion seconded by Councilman Drale, no objection, so ordered.

3. A letter from George C. Powell, Planning Director, dated March 9, 1956, containing two reports, was presented, with the following action:

- a. Victor Precinct Zoning: A report covering action taken and recommendations from the Planning Commission on the proposed zoning of Victor Precinct.

Councilman Drale moved the report be filed.
No objection, so ordered.

- b. Ajax Oil Company: Mr Powell reported on his work with regard to the oil wells owned by the Ajax Oil Company in Torrance. He said his report on this will be available by March 20, 1956.

There was no objection, and this report was ordered filed.

4. The Mayor announced that there is available in the City Clerk's office a report made by the Air Pollution Control District to the County Board of Supervisors under date of March 1, 1956.

5. Deputy City Clerk Hallanger read in full a report from George C. Powell regarding the proposed gymnasium at the Hollywood Riviera Club. This was dated March 13, 1956, and addressed to City Manager Stevens. The letter to Mr. Stevens gave a resume of the matter to date.

Mr. Powell spoke to the Council briefly on this, saying he would not recommend that a license be granted.

Mayor Isen said matters reaching the Council as late as this had were of no value to the Council.

Deputy City Clerk Hallanger said Friday noon is supposed to be the deadline for material to go on the Agenda, but that some of this had reached the City Clerk's office as late as 4:55 P. M.

Mayor Isen said unless material coming in late is certified by City Manager Stevens as being urgent, it should not be on the Agenda.

Mr. Powell commented that the letter is addressed to City Manager Stevens and not to the Council, and was given to them for information.

Mayor Isen said he wants everyone to adhere to the rule that Friday noon is the deadline for Council material from now on.

Mayor Isen asked that this be held over until next week, and be on the Agenda of the next regular meeting of the Council.

There were no objections, and it was so ordered.

6. A report from the Planning Commission regarding the vacation for an extension of Lomita Boulevard was ordered held over for the next regular meeting of the Council, with no objections.

ENGINEERING AND PLANNING COMMISSION MATTERS:

1. Letter from John R. Patrick, Assistant to the City Engineer, dated March 9, 1956, asking permission to submit a request to the State Division of Highways for expenditure of State Gas Tax monies on Crenshaw Boulevard from Carson Street to Dominguez Street. The letter also asked that the City Engineer be authorized to ask for bids as soon as the project is granted and State money is made available.

The improvements outlined by Mr. Patrick include removal of existing curbs and sidewalks, and the reconstruction of curb and gutter at 32 feet on either side of the centerline, increasing the width of Crenshaw Boulevard. Also planned is the paving of the added width of the street and resurfacing the existing concrete paving.

A letter of March 12, 1956, from Mr. Patrick was attached, amending the cost of the resurfacing to allow for the recently increased cost of asphalt.

Councilman Schwab moved to concur with the recommendation of the Assistant City Engineer.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

2. Letter dated March 6, 1956, from R. W. Bishop, City Engineer, recommending release of Subdivision Improvement Bond on Tract 20651. Attached were (a) Copy of letter from C. W. Clemmer, Park Foreman, and (b) Sketch of tract.

Councilman Schwab moved to concur with the recommendation of the City Engineer on the release of the Bond.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

3. TENTATIVE TRACT MAP NO. 22762: A letter dated March 9, 1956, from the South Bay Engineering Company requesting that Tentative Tract Map No. 22762 be referred back to the Planning Commission for further study. Attached were (a) Letter from South Bay Engineering Company to City Engineer regarding the sump in the tract; (b) Copy of calculations making such verification; (c) Transmittal from Planning Commission and Engineering Department recommending denial of Tentative Tract Map No. 22762 at their

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meeting of February 29, 1956; attached to Item (c) were copy of a letter from John R. Patrick, dated February 12, 1956 and a sketch of the tract.

Councilman Drale moved to concur with this request.
Motion seconded by Councilman Schwab, no objection, so ordered.

4. FOR STUDY ONLY: TRACT NO. 21676: Transmittal form from Engineering Department and Planning Commission (for study only) containing 735 lots and presented by Kauffman-Wilson Company, with the following attachments: (1) Excerpts from Planning Commission Minutes of August 10, 1955, and March 7, 1956; (2) copy of letter from John R. Patrick, Assistant to the City Engineer, to Planning Commission dated March 6, 1956; (3) copy of letter from L. A. County Flood Control District dated February 29, 1956; (4) copy of letter from Kauffman-Wilson Company dated March 7, 1956, confirming ownership; and (5) copy of letter from Kauffman-Wilson Company date March 7, 1956, regarding placement of utility poles at rear of lots.
The Council took this Tract to study only.

Deputy City Clerk Hallanger read:

ORDINANCE NO. 800

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ORDERING THE VACATION OF A CERTAIN PORTION OF FLORENCE AVENUE IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE.

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

Councilman Benstead moved for adoption of Ordinance No. 800 at its second and final reading.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

ORDINANCE NO. 801

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING APPENDIX I OF "THE CODE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, 1954" (ADOPTED BY ORDINANCE NO. 791), RECLASSIFYING THAT CERTAIN PROPERTY DESCRIBED IN PLANNING COMMISSION CASE NO. 374.

Councilman Drale moved to dispense with further reading of the Ordinance.

Motion, seconded by Mayor Isen, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

Councilman Drale moved for adoption of Ordinance No. 801 at its second and final reading.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

Mayor Isen then set the date of May 15, 1956, for the election regarding the proposed annexation of Victor Precinct.

RESOLUTION NO. 2889

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE CALLING A SPECIAL ELECTION TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, THE 15TH DAY OF MAY, 1956, IN CERTAIN TERRITORY IN THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES PROPOSED TO BE ANNEXED TO THE CITY OF TORRANCE AND DESIGNATED AS "DOMINGUEZ-HAWTHORNE (VICTOR PARCEL)" AND SUBMITTING TO THE ELECTORS RESIDING IN SUCH TERRITORY THE QUESTION WHETHER SUCH TERRITORY SHALL BE ANNEXED TO THE CITY OF TORRANCE. AND ESTABLISHING THE MECHANICS OF THE ELECTION:

Councilman Schwab moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

Councilman Schwab moved for adoption of Resolution No. 2889.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

RESOLUTION NO. 2890

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY
OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING THAT NEGOTIATIONS
BE INSTITUTED TO CONVEY TO SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
EDISON COMPANY CERTAIN ELECTRICAL FACILITIES
WHICH WILL BE INSTALLED AT THE NEW TORRANCE
CIVIC CENTER.

Councilman Schwab moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution.

Motion, seconded by Mayor Isen, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

Councilman Schwab moved for adoption of Resolution No. 2890.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

The Council recessed at 9:05 P. M., re-convening at 9:15 P. M.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Councilman Benstead presented a petition signed by ³⁸ residents of the Victoria Terrace, Tract 15272, asking for City bus service. Councilman Benstead asked that the petition be referred to the Superintendent of the Municipal Bus Lines for his recommendation at the next Council meeting. Councilman Benstead added that he hoped this recommendation would be favorable.

No objection, so ordered.

Councilman Drale asked City Manager Stevens for his views regarding the model Resolution given the Council for information only on Federal aid for airports, and suggested that copies of this Resolution go to the Airport Commission.

City Manager Stevens told the Council that he had received this at the League of Cities meeting he recently attended, and said they urge all Cities to adopt this.

The City Manager told the Councilmen that copies of this would go to the Airport Commission at their next meeting.

Councilman Drale read a prepared statement outlining extensive street and highway improvements within the City. This was dated March 13, 1956, and Councilman Drale presented a copy to the Deputy City Clerk.

Councilman Drale moved that the City Council instruct the City Manager to use all haste in bringing to reality such a program.

Mayor Isen said the suggestions embraced a wide program, and he would like to have it in writing to study before voting on it.

Councilman Schwab said he believed this to be a "big order".

Councilman Drale said he did not expect to accomplish all this overnight.

Motion died for lack of a second.

Mayor Isen read a Proclamation proclaiming the week of March 19th to 25th, 1956, to be Torrance Moose Week, filing the Proclamation with Deputy City Clerk Hallanger.

Mayor Isen then brought to the attention of the Council the fatalities resulting from accidents in our City this year.

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The Mayor suggested this might be due to improper protection, lack of public safety education, lack of safety observance, or any number of reasons.

The Mayor went on to say he had attended a meeting with Chief of Police Haslam and Sgt. Miles of the Police Department from which he expected our City to gain great benefits. He said Traffic Safety Councils and even some Junior Traffic Safety Councils are doing good work in other communities. The Mayor said that with the inherent authority of the position of Mayor, he is setting up a Traffic Safety Council in our City, making the following six appointments, and with the suggestion that they enlarge the Council to eleven members by adding other interested citizens to the Committee.

G. S. Evans - Temporary Chairman
Ed Nobbe
Val Miletich
Father Percy
James Wittmer
Robert Surber

The Mayor instructed the Minutes to show he had made the appointments, and asked for the concurrence of the Council.

Councilman Benstead moved to concur with the Mayor's appointments.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

Councilman Drale said his suggestions on highway improvements would help out in this.

Councilman Schwab brought up the fact that while we are faced with a parking problem we lose parking spaces to new buildings. He asked George Powell, Planning Director, if the Planning Commission is giving any thought to this fact.

Mr. Powell said the Planning Commission is studying a new Ordinance which they have just received, and will present it very soon.

Councilman Schwab said he had heard a good many complaints about the down-town traffic situation lately, and asked Chief of Police Haslam if he had any report on this.

Chief Haslam said the problem is common to our area, and that most cities of our size suffer from it. Our own situation is aggravated, he added, by the fact that all traffic is routed through the down-town streets even during the very heaviest hours of shopping.

Chief Haslam suggested that a good traffic engineer be retained to make a survey and recommendations on our problems, and recommended Mr. Dorsey.

Councilman Benstead asked Chief Haslam if traffic would move more freely if there were officers to direct it.

Chief Haslam said the greatest benefit would accrue from having through traffic out of the shopping area.

Mayor Isen directed Chief Haslam to check the possibility of getting Mr. Dorsey to make such a survey.

Mr. Schoonover of 3546 Senefeld Drive said he has once more been chosen to represent the Pacific Hills Homeowners Association, and thanked the Council for the courtesy shown him during his past tenure of this job.

Mr. Schoonover said his group is vitally interested in these three things, and hopes the Council will consider them favorably:

1. Flood control from the edge of Lomita to Hawthorne Boulevard south of Highway 101.
2. Police protection and patrol action improved in the Pacific Hills area.
3. The group objects to having the fire station moved away from Walteria. They contend that moving the fire apparatus away from Walteria leaves the area unprotected, and that a house could burn before the fire engines reach it.

Councilman Benstead moved that all bills properly audited be paid. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

The meeting adjourned at 9:40 P. M.

By Irvin J. Hallanger *A. N. Bartlett*
DEPUTY City Clerk of the City of Torrance

APPROVED:

Albert D. ...
Mayor of the City of Torrance

CAA011