

Torrance, California
May 1, 1956

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL

The City Council of the City of Torrance, California, convened in a regular meeting at 5:30 P. M., Tuesday, May 1, 1956, in the Council Chambers, City Hall, Torrance, California.

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

Mr. John Ebbinghouse, President of the Chamber of Commerce, led the salute to our Flag.

Father McGinnis of the Nativity Catholic Church opened the meeting with an invocation.

At this time Mayor Isen announced that the Off-Street Parking Committee of the Chamber of Commerce had met with the Council ~~during the Pre-Council meeting~~ and advised the Council of the results that have been obtained by them in the signing of petitions to create the Off-Street Parking District. Mayor Isen invited Dean Sears of the Chamber's Committee to report to the Council.

Mr. Sears presented to the Deputy City Clerk the petitions which the Chamber of Commerce has circulated.

Mr. Sears reported that there was a total assessed valuation of land within the boundaries of the District amounting to \$857,700.00, and the petitions presented here tonight were signed by the owners of \$487,880.00 worth of that land, or 56.8% of the total amount.

see 5/4/56
~~Deputy City Clerk Hallanger accepted the petitions for filing, and handed them to City Attorney Hall for appropriate action to be taken at once.~~
The petitions were filed with the City Clerk for an examination as to the sufficiency of the petitions.
Mayor Isen extended the ~~thanks~~ of the Council to the Chamber of Commerce for their work, and said he believed this to be the beginning of the successful completion of this project.

Councilman Drale moved to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meetings of the City Council held April 17, 1956, and April 24, 1956.

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

BIDS:

Mayor Isen announced that this was the time for opening of Bids for Asphaltic Materials for street paving work.

Deputy City Clerk Hallanger presented the Affidavit of Publication, which was accepted and ordered filed.

The Deputy City Clerk opened and read the following bids, each of which was accompanied by a Bidders' Bond in the amount of 10% of the total bid.

CONTRACTORS ASPHALT SALES CO.,
18101 Hawthorne Boulevard,
Redondo Beach, California.

Item 1:	Price per ton in orders of 100 to 300 tons	\$6.00
	Price per ton in orders of 301 to 600 tons	5.80
	Price per ton in orders of 601 to 1000 tons	5.50

Item 2. Approximately 1200 tons of Cold Mix Patching Material which shall conform in grading and material to Sections 18, 19, 20 and 27 of Standard Specifications No. 151 of the City of Los Angeles; however, the asphaltic binder shall be SC-3 oil as outlined in Section 26 of the Standard Specifications No. 151.

This material is to be quoted on the basis of unit cost per ton delivered to the City Yard at 1730 Torrance Boulevard, Torrance, California, in minimum 8-ton loads on 24 hours notice. Price per ton delivered \$5.55.

Also to be bid on the basis of the City picking up this material at the supplier's plant, as needed. Price per ton \$5.00

G.G.FISHER PAVING CO., Inc.
4421 Mason Street
South Gate, California.

Item 1.	Price per ton in orders of 100 to 300 tons	\$6.44 per ton
	Price per ton in orders of 301 to 600 tons	5.96 per ton
	Price per ton in orders of 601 to 1000 tons	5.85 per ton

Item 2.	Price per ton delivered	\$5.50 (taxes included)
	Price per ton picked up	\$4.50 (taxes included)

GRIFFITH COMPANY
1060 South Broadway
Los Angeles, California.

Item 1.	Price per ton in orders of 100 to 300 tons	\$8.10
	Price per ton in orders of 301 to 600 tons	6.00
	Price per ton in orders of 601 to 1000 tons	5.75

Item 2.	Price per ton delivered	\$5.05
	Price per ton picked up	\$4.25

OSWALD BROTHERS CO.
366 East 58th Street
Los Angeles California.

Item 1.	Price per ton in orders of 100 to 300 tons	\$7.00
	Price per ton in orders of 301 to 600 tons	6.00
	Price per ton in orders of 601 to 1000 tons	5.75

Item 2.	Price per ton delivered	\$6.75 plus sales tax.
	Price per ton picked up	\$4.85 plus sales tax.

WARREN SOUTHWEST, INC.
20934 So. Normandie Avenue
Torrance, California

Item 1.	Price per ton in orders of 100 to 300 tons	\$5.60
	Price per ton in orders of 301 to 600 tons	5.60
	Price per ton in orders of 601 to 1000 tons	5.60

Item 2.	Price per ton delivered	\$5.10
	Price per ton picked up	\$4.60

City Manager Stevens was asked the use of this material, and replied that the City was taking these bids in an effort to get a firm price for the materials used during the next fiscal year to avoid a price rise which is expected.

Councilman Drale moved to refer these bids to the City Manager for his recommendation at the next meeting of the Council.

Motion seconded by Mayor Isen, no objections, so ordered.

YUKON AVENUE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT: Hearing on Resolution of Intention No. 2888 - Continued:

Mayor Isen announced that this was the time and place fixed for the continued hearing of all protests against the proposed work or against the extent of the district to be assessed.

Mayor Isen asked the City Engineer if the changes in the district as requested by the Council had been made, and City Engineer Bishop replied that they had been, as covered by his letter to the Council dated April 27, 1956.

Mayor Isen asked if anyone wished to be heard on this matter, and received no response.

Councilman Benstead moved that the hearing be closed.

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

Councilman Drale moved that all protests, both written and oral, be denied.

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

Deputy City Clerk Hallanger read:

RESOLUTION NO. 2914

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, DECLARING ITS INTENTION TO MAKE CERTAIN CHANGES IN THE BOUNDARY AND DEFINING HOW CERTAIN PARCELS ARE TO BE ASSESSED IN THE YUKON AVENUE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT AS DESCRIBED IN RESOLUTION OF INTENTION NO. 2888.

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

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

Councilman Benstead moved for adoption of Resolution No. 2914.

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

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:

1. A recommendation from Chief of Police W. H. Haslam under date of April 26, 1956, that the Little League Baseball Association be allowed to hold a parade prior to opening of the baseball season on May 5, 1956.

Councilman Jahn moved to concur with the recommendation of the Chief of Police.

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

2. Request from Chief of Police W. H. Haslam, dated April 26, 1956, that he be permitted to attend a Conference at San Diego, California, on May 21, 22, and 23, 1956, and that Policewoman R. R. Ryan be permitted to attend a Conference of Women Peace Officers at the same time and date, with necessary expenses paid in both instances.

Councilman Benstead moved to grant the request.

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

3. Recommendation from Chief of Police W. H. Haslam that the request of the Southern California Edison Company to park a demonstration truck in front of their place of business on May 16, 1956, between the hours of 8:00 A. M. and 5:00 P. M. be granted. The Chief's recommendation was dated April 26, 1956.

Councilman Drale moved that the request be granted.

There were no objections and it was so ordered.

4. A recommendation from the Traffic Division of the Police Department, presented by Chief Haslam under date of April 25, 1956, that suitable ordinances be prepared to allow STOP signs to be placed at a list of locations given.

The Chief of Police presented to the Deputy City Clerk a list of the locations covered by the recommendations.

Councilman Drale asked that a 4-way STOP sign be placed at the intersection where 166th Street and Cherry Street cross Crenshaw Boulevard.

CALGON

This recommendation was referred to the Chief of Police.

Councilman Drale moved to concur with the recommendations of the Traffic Division and the Chief of Police.

Motion seconded by Councilman Jahn.

There were no objections, and these recommendations were referred to the City Attorney for preparation of the necessary Ordinances.

Councilman Drale said it had been called to his attention that the red zone on Torrance Boulevard, just west of Crenshaw, which was to have been changed to a 15-minute parking zone has not yet been changed.

Mrs. Bertha McNeil, who owns a place of business at the location in question, also spoke to the Council, asking that this red paint be removed from the curbing and that the area be designated for 15-minute parking.

Councilman Benstead moved this request be granted.

Motion seconded by Councilman Jahn, no objections, so ordered.

Chief of Police Haslam said the order for this had gone in to the City Paint Department some time ago, and the work would be done very soon.

5. A request under date of April 10, 1956, from the Pacific Indemnity Company for cancellation of Southern California Edison Company Franchise Bond No. 32941, executed on April 1, 1930.

City Attorney Hall was asked about this, and recommended that it be done. He said the franchise procedure has been changed since 1930.

Councilman Jahn moved to concur with the recommendation of the City Attorney.

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

6. A request from the City of Hope, dated April 25, 1956, for permission to campaign for funds in the City of Torrance during the month of June. This was signed by Helen M. Fischer, Regional Director.

Mayor Isen moved the request be granted.

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

7. A letter dated April 2, 1956, from the Southwest Park Civic Association recommending park and recreation improvements in that area. This was signed by Jack Eckberg, Chairman of the Association.

There were no objections, and this was referred to the Park & Recreation Commission, with the Deputy City Clerk instructed to forward a copy of the letter to the Park & Recreation Commission.

8. A request from the Little League that they be allowed to operate a concession stand at Torrance's Little League and Babe Ruth Headquarters on Plaza Del Amo Boulevard. The letter was dated April 24, 1956, and signed by Paul Roettger, President of the American Little League in Torrance.

Councilman Jahn moved this be permitted, subject to the usual practices of the City.

Motion seconded by Councilman Drale, no objections, so ordered, with City Attorney Hall instructed by the Mayor to draw the necessary agreement.

9. A recommendation from A. H. Bartlett, City Clerk, dated April 26, 1956, that a refund of \$50.00 be made to Art Craft Neon Company, and business license No. 15305 be cancelled.

Councilman Benstead moved to concur with the recommendation of the City Clerk.

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

10. A claim against the City for damages to real property by Everett L. Smith and Juanita J. Smith.

Councilman Drale moved this be denied and referred to the City Attorney's office.

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

17. A letter to the City Council from the Co-ordinating Council of City Employees, dated April 26, 1956, and signed by J. R. Hollomon, Secretary. This letter asked the recognition of their group as a body representing approximately 90% of the Torrance City Employees, and asked to meet with the City Council on or about May 8th, 1956, to discuss several employee benefit problems.

The City Manager was asked about the Council, and replied that he believed it was composed of representatives of most Departments of the City exclusive of the Water Department.

The City Council has set the hour of 7:00 P. M. May 8, 1956, to meet with the Government and Civic Employees' Organizing Committee, Local 1135, and the question of whether or not these were the same group, was next asked of the City Manager. Mr. Stevens replied that he believes it is composed in part of the same members.

Councilman Benstead moved to recognize the Co-ordinating Council as being representatives of 90% of the City employees.

Motion seconded by Mayor Isen.

Councilman Drale said he thinks the Council should have a clarification from the other group as to whether or not they are represented on the Co-ordinating Council, and said that several Locals are involved and he would like to have their concurrence on this too.

Councilman Benstead amended his motion to make recognition of the Co-ordinating Council subject to the approval of the Locals involved.

Mayor Isen accepted the amendment.

There were no objections, and Deputy City Clerk Hallanger was then instructed to notify the Co-ordinating Council of the decision of the City Council.

18. A letter from Pat Palmieri, owner of the Boston Sea Food Market at 3858 Redondo Beach Boulevard, dated April 28, 1956, was read in full by Deputy City Clerk Hallanger. This letter protested having to install sidewalks and curbs in front of the store before a business license could be obtained.

Councilman Drale moved that in view of the circumstances involved the business license be granted without the necessity of making the improvements at this time.

Councilman Jahn asked if the other places of business in the area had sidewalks.

Councilman Drale said he thought not, and as the man was issued a building permit, he feels the request is fair.

Councilman Benstead asked the City Attorney if there is an Ordinance covering this point which was in effect at the time the building permit was issued.

City Attorney Hall replied that we had not, but that one is in effect now.

Councilman Jahn said that in the County such stipulations are a part of the building requirements and are a part of the final inspection of buildings.

City Manager Stevens said the building permit was probably issued before the Ordinance was passed.

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

At this time the Mayor called for the reports on the request of the Mental Health Foundation to conduct a fund drive during the month of May in the City of Torrance. This came before the Council at their last regular meeting and had been referred to the City Clerk and Chief of Police for recommendations.

Both the City Clerk and the Chief of Police approved this application.

Councilman Drale moved to grant the request.

Motion seconded by Mayor Isen.

Councilman Benstead asked to have more information about this, saying there seem to be campaigns for funds almost every week.

Councilman Blount said he suggested the Council read some of the bills this group is presenting before committing themselves to support the Foundation.

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11. A letter from Star Brick Company at 17799 So. Western Avenue, dated April 20, 1956, and signed by M. Graniczny, requesting permission to have a house trailer parked on their property for the use of their watchman.

Councilman Drale moved to grant the usual 90-day permit.
Motion seconded by Councilman Jahn, no objection, so ordered.

12. An application dated April 20, 1956, from the Ferraro Accordion Center for the use of the Civic Auditorium on Sunday, May 6, 1956. The City Clerk's office noted that this had cleared with the Recreation Department.

Councilman Drale moved the request be granted.
No objection, so ordered.

13. A memorandum from the City of Manhattan Beach under date of April 25, 1956, regarding the "Assembly Interim Committee on Marine Affairs Hearing on Harbors of Santa Monica Bay, to Include Nuisance and Pollution." A notation asking for a statement from the City of Torrance to the Committee, as well as representation of our community at the hearing would prove valuable. This was signed by Leland M. Swanson of Manhattan Beach.

City Attorney Hall was asked for information on this, and reported he would like to get more data about the meeting.

There were no objections, and this was referred to the City Attorney for a written report at the next regular meeting of the Council.

14. A protest from "Autolift Doors", dated April 24, 1956, and signed by H. Dale Priest against the non-proration of business license fee.

City Manager Stevens told the Council that this matter should be discussed, as both the Building Department and the License Department have said they believe it would be advisable to pro-rate these licenses on a quarterly basis.

Mayor Isen asked for reports from these Department and a report on what other cities are doing, for the next meeting of the Council.

The letter was ordered held over for consideration in the light of the reports.

Councilman Blount joined the meeting at 5:58 P. M.

15. A recommendation from John V. Russell, Superintendent of Building, that a refund of \$4.80 on Permit No. 10569B, dated March 6, 1956, be made to Mrs. O. L. Scheibeler due to the circumstances involved.

Councilman Drale moved the refund be granted.
Motion seconded by Councilman Benstead, no objection, so ordered.

16. Mayor Isen presented to the Deputy City Clerk, who read in full, a letter from C. Leo Benstead, Chairman of the Committee for Kefauver, dated April 30, 1956. This letter asked for use of the Civic Auditorium May 9, 1956, at 11:00 A. M. for the Honorable Estes Kefauver to make one of his major speeches.

Councilman Benstead said he has checked and found the auditorium is available at that time, and he moved this request be granted without fee.

Motion seconded by Councilman Jahn.

Councilman Blount asked if this meant that the usual custodial fees would be paid, and Councilman Benstead replied that it meant the custodial fees would be waived.

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

Councilman Blount explained his "No" vote by saying he would not vote yes unless the custodial fees were to be paid.

Mayor Isen said he feels that any major presidential candidate would be extended this same courtesy by the City.

Mayor Isen then proclaimed the day of May 9, 1956, Estes Kefauver Day in Torrance, and directed the City Attorney's office to prepare the Proclamation at once.

Councilman Benstead moved to table this request for a week to allow the City Clerk and the Chief of Police to get more information.

Motion seconded by Councilman Jahn, no objection so ordered.

Mayor Isen instructed Deputy City Clerk Hallanger to get more information and submit a report in writing to the Council at their next meeting.

Recommendations from the City Manager:

PERSONNEL:

1. Marjorie Moss promoted from Stenographer-Clerk to Stenographic-Secretary in the City Clerk's Department, effective April 16, 1956, at the first salary step. Mrs. Moss is No. 1 on the Eligible List.
2. That Deputy City Clerk Hallanger be authorized to attend the City Clerk's Institute at San Jose June 13-15 inclusive, 1956, with appropriate expenses paid.

Councilman Benstead moved to concur with recommendations of the City Manager, Nos. 1 and 2 under Personnel.

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

APPROPRIATIONS:

1. For purchase of an electric typewriter for the Police Department, the sum of \$475.00 plus sales tax.
2. For the purchase of a new motor for the GMC fire engine, the sum of \$428.16. (A budget item).

Councilman Blount moved to concur with the recommendations of the City Manager, Nos. 1 and 2 under Appropriations.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Jahn, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

MISCELLANEOUS:

1. The new Mack 750-gallon pumper was delivered to the Fire Department on April 12, 1956. The pumper has successfully met all requirements for performance established by the Board of Fire Underwriters. Final payment on the unit should now be made.
2. Chanslor Canfield Midway Oil has applied for permission to extend the sanitary sewer line in Maple Avenue 600 feet from its present terminus, to serve an industrial site for Warren-Southwest, Inc. Their request has been referred to the Engineering Department for proper permits and inspection. Upon completion, the 600 feet of 10-inch sewer and man-holes will become the property of the City as do other sewers constructed in our City streets.

Councilman Drale moved to concur with these recommendations of the City Manager, Nos. 1 and 2, Miscellaneous.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

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RECREATION AND PARK DEPARTMENT MATTERS:

1. A recommendation dated April 27, 1956, signed by Harry B. Van Bellehem, Recreation Director, for renewing the infield night lighting system on the Torrance Park ball diamond, at an approximate cost of \$9,000.00. This letter from Mr. Van Bellehem asked for authority to prepare specifications and call for bids as soon as possible.

Councilman Drale moved to refer this to the City Manager for his recommendation.

Motion seconded by Councilman Benstead.

City Manager Stevens said he was prepared to make his recommendation at this time, and recommended that the request be granted.

Councilman Drale rescinded his motion, and moved to concur with the recommendation of the City Manager.

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

2. A letter dated April 27, 1956, signed by Robert M. Almond, Chairman, reporting action of the Parks & Recreation Commission recommending that five park sites be named. The letter suggested that they be named by school children in a contest in which the children will be invited to participate, and that the Commission be given permission to set up the rules of the contest.

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

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

3. A recommendation from the Park and Recreation Commission, dated April 26, 1956, and signed by Robert M. Almond, Chairman, that the Director of Recreation be given an assistant.

Mayor Isen referred this to the City Manager for study and consideration in connection with the new budget.

ENGINEERING AND PLANNING COMMISSION MATTERS:

1. A letter dated April 27, 1956, from George C. Powell, Planning Director, submitting the request of the Planning Commission that a street be established within the City of Torrance to be known as "Santa Cruz Court", with letter and sketch attached.

Councilman Drale asked if this street is now in existence, and Mr. Powell said it is not, but it is recommended that it be created.

Councilman Benstead asked if it was intended to split lots and put in cesspools instead of sewers at this location.

Mr. Powell said he did not know of such plans.

Councilman Drale asked what the street is for, and commented that it is not a full street. Mr. Powell said the owner of the land asked for this.

Councilman Drale moved to refer this back to the Planning Commission for clarification.

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

2. A recommendation from Planning Director George Powell, submitting recommendation of the Planning Commission, Recreation Commission and Tax Industry Committee that a Liaison Committee be formed to study the trends in the growth of our City, its possible future development and the contribution which recreation areas may give to a well-planned City. This letter was dated April 27, 1956.

The letter also contained suggestions as to the number of members to be appointed to such a Liaison Committee.

Councilman Benstead moved this recommendation be filed.

Motion seconded by Councilman Blount, no objections, so ordered.

3. A letter dated April 27, 1956, from George C. Powell, referring to complaints on an oil well known as Via Roi Baxter, Torrance License No. 266. Mr. Powell outlined the existing conditions, and gave the legal description of the location of the well as Lot 51, Tract 588.

Councilman Jahn moved that Mr. Powell proceed with a complaint against the owners of the well.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Mayor Isen instructed Mr. Powell to proceed forthwith to correct the existing conditions as reported here.

At 6:30 P. M., Mayor Isen declared a 10-minute recess, with the Council re-convening at 6:40 P. M.

4. CASE NO. 381. Transmittal form from Planning Commission recommending approval of petition of E. E. Marsh for Variance and Conditional Permit to construct a Post Office Building located in portion of Lot 4, Tract 3458, on Torrance Boulevard between Amie and Madrona.

Councilman Drale moved to concur with the recommendation of the Planning Commission.

Councilman Jahn asked if the parking was for both employees and the public.

Mr. Powell answered the question by showing the Council a map of the proposed Post Office, which he said is what is called a "working sub-station"

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

5. CASE NO. 384. Transmittal form from Planning Commission recommending approval of request by Bekins Van & Storage Company to operate transfer station and storage station on property located on the east side of Hawthorne Avenue between 227th and 230th Street (Easterly 186.23 feet of southerly 150 feet of the north half of Lot 26, Meadow Park Tract), Land Use Zone A-1.

Councilman Jahn moved to concur with the recommendation of the Planning Commission.

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

6. CASE NO. 385. Transmittal form from Planning Commission recommending approval of request by Richard H. Sprout for Variance to build second dwelling on one lot located at 2260 - 239th Street (West 82.5 feet of Lot 27, Tract 297) in Land Use Zone A-1.

Councilman Blount moved to concur with the recommendation of the Planning Commission.

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

7. FINAL TRACT MAP NO. 19835. Transmittal form from Planning Commission and Engineering Department recommending approval of Final Tract Map No. 19835, located westerly of Arlington Avenue and northerly of 174th Street, containing 43 lots, and presented by Property Management Corporation. Attached: (a) Letter from Property Management Corporation dated April 26, 1956, regarding utility poles; (b) Letter from John R. Patrick, Asst. to City Engineer, dated April 18, 1956; (c) Excerpt from Planning Commission Minutes of April 18, 1956; (d) Sketch of tract.

Councilman Blount moved to concur with the recommendation of the Planning Commission.

Motion seconded by Councilman Jahn, who asked if there was any change from the Tentative map, and there was none.

Councilman Benstead asked what lies to the south of this tract. Mr. George Powell, Planning Director, said the North Torrance School is at the southwest corner, and the rest of the land is vacant except for one old frame house. Mr. Powell showed the Council a map of the area, showing them where the school is. Mr. Powell added that the vacant land will come before the Planning Commission at their next meeting for consideration as a commercial zone.

Motion ~~carried by the following~~ roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Benstead, Blount, Jahn. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Isen. ABSTAIN: COUNCILMEN: Drale. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None. *see 5/8/56*

Councilman Drale said he abstained from voting because of a commission involved.

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Mayor Isen said he was voting "No" because he had voted "No" on the tentative map of this tract.

Councilman Benstead withdrew his "Yes" vote until the City Attorney gives the Council a legal opinion as to whether or not a man on the Council may refuse to vote because he has a financial interest in a subdivision.

Mayor Isen spoke to the City Attorney, saying this is a Final Tract Map, but that he wants to be on record as intending to vote "No" on any Tentative Tract that comes before the Council if a member of the Council has a financial interest in such Tentative map.

Mayor Isen said he would like a ruling, even though it might be too late for this tract.

City Attorney Hall said he would have to take time for a ruling.

Mayor Isen asked for a written ruling.

Councilman Jahn asked the City Attorney to advise the Council if there was any chance the Council would put themselves in a position where they would be in trouble by this.

There being no further objections, Mayor Isen ordered this tract held over for a week until the ruling from the City Attorney is presented to the Council.

At this point Mr. Joe Barton, representing Property Management Corporation, spoke to the Council, saying it is important to their company to get this tract approved tonight for financial reasons.

City Attorney Hall said he would have a ruling on this question next week.

8. FINAL TRACT MAP NO. 22495. Transmittal form from Planning Commission and Engineering Department recommending approval of Final Tract Map No. 22495, located northerly of 170th Street, southerly of Dominguez Channel and easterly of Tract 18852, containing 21 lots presented by Property Management Corporation. Attached: (a) Letter from Property Management Corporation, dated April 26, 1956, regarding utility poles; (b) Letter from John R. Patrick, Assistant to City Engineer, dated April 18, 1956; (c) Excerpt from Planning Commission Minutes of April 18, 1956; (d) Sketch of tract.

Mayor Isen ordered this tract held over until the City Attorney has presented the ruling asked for in action on the previous tract before the Council tonight.

9. FINAL TRACT MAP NO. 22413. Transmittal form from Planning Commission and Engineering Department recommending approval of Final Tract Map No. 22413, located on 179th Street between Crenshaw Boulevard and Casimir Avenue, containing 49 lots presented by Anderson and Janssen. Attached: (a) Letter from Anderson-Janssen dated April 24, 1956, regarding utility poles; (b) Letter from John R. Patrick, Assistant to City Engineer, dated March 20, 1956; (c) Excerpt from Planning Commission Minutes of March 21, 1956; (d) Sketch of tract.

Mayor Isen ordered this tract held over until the City Attorney has presented the ruling asked for in action on the previous tracts before the Council tonight.

10. FINAL TRACT MAP NO. 22109. Transmittal form from Planning Commission and Engineering Department recommending approval of Final Tract Map No. 22109, located easterly of Ardath Avenue, northerly of Tract 18852 and southerly of Dominguez Channel, containing 13 lots, presented by Grand Construction Company. ATTACHED: (a) Letter from R. W. Bishop, City Engineer, re. street repairs, as requested by Council at meeting of March 6, 1956; (b) Copy of Council Minutes of March 6, 1956; (c) Letter from Southern California Edison Company dated February 28, 1956; (d) Letter from Grand Construction Company, Inc., dated February 28, 1956; (e) Excerpt from Planning Commission Minutes dated January 4, 1956; (f) Letter from John R. Patrick dated January 4, 1956; (g) Sketch of tract.

Mayor Isen moved to hold this over until the proper easements have been made.

Jack Spahn of Barclay Engineering, representing the builder, told the Mayor the easements are customarily written up after the tract is recorded.

Councilman Jahn moved to concur with the recommendation of the Planning Commission.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

11. FINAL TRACT MAP NO. 22758. Transmittal form from Planning Commission and Engineering Department recommending approval of Final Tract Map No. 22758, located northerly of 182nd Street, southerly of 178th Street and westerly of Arlington Avenue, containing 60 lots, presented by R. A. Watt Construction Company. Attached: (a) Excerpt from Planning Commission Minutes of April 18, 1956; (b) Letter from Southern California Edison Company dated April 27, 1956; (c) Letter from John R. Patrick dated April 18, 1956; (d) Sketch of tract.

Councilman Jahn moved to approve this final Tract Map.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

12. FINAL TRACT MAP NO. 21744. Transmittal form from Planning Commission and Engineering Department recommending approval of Final Tract Map No. 21744, located southerly of 182nd Street, northerly of 186th Street and easterly of Prairie Avenue, containing 173 lots, presented by R. A. Watt Construction Company. Attached: (a) Letter from Southern California Edison Company dated April 27, 1956; (b) Excerpt from Planning Commission Minutes of March 21, 1956; (c) Letter from John R. Patrick dated March 20, 1956; (d) Sketch of tract.

Councilman Blount moved to concur with the recommendation of the Planning Commission.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Jahn, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

13. TENTATIVE TRACT MAP NO. 22798. Transmittal form from Planning Commission and Engineering Department recommending approval of Tentative Tract Map No. 22798, located south of Palos Verdes-Torrance boundary line, and east of Wilmington Road, containing 23 lots, presented by Mr. Dudley Gray. Attached: (a) Excerpt from Planning Commission Minutes of April 4, 1956; (b) Letter of L. A. County Flood Control District dated April 3, 1956; (c) Letter of John R. Patrick, Assistant to City Engineer, dated March 20, 1956; (d) Sketch of tract.

City Manager Stevens presented to the Council a revised tentative map of this tract, which showed one extra lot.

Mr. Dudley Gray was present, and explained to the Council that he had intended to build his own house on this corner lot, but had decided not to do so; he had, therefore, split the lot, which he said is still a 7,000-foot lot.

Councilman Jahn asked Mr. Gray about the drainage problems at this tract, and Mr. Gray said he planned to provide drainage by means of drainage structures approved by the City Engineer.

Mr. Gray elaborated by saying he could not definitely answer this point now because the drainage would have to be engineered, and he explained that he cannot make the investment necessary for this until the tentative map has been approved by the Council.

Mayor Isen asked City Attorney Hall about a ruling covering action on a Final map after the Tentative has been approved.

City Attorney Hall said it is a matter of mandamus if the tract concurs with all ordinances.

Councilman Jahn said it seemed to him the water is going to be dumped illegally into the streets of the City of Torrance; he asked the City Attorney if that is not aiding an illegal thing.

City Attorney Hall said this is approved by the Engineering Department.

Mr. Gray outlined the history of the drainage in the area where the tract is located.

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Councilman Jahn moved for approval of the tentative map of Tract 22798.

Mayor Isen seconded the motion.

Councilman Benstead asked about the vacationing of streets in the area, and Mr. Gray said as these streets now exist they are too steep for use.

Councilman Drale asked if this tract would be covered by the new Grading and Compaction Ordinance.

Mr. Gray agreed to conform to this Ordinance.

City Engineer Bishop asked if the tract could be passed subject to the approval of the grading plan by the Engineering Department, and Mr. Gray agreed.

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

REPORTS, OPINIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. The first item under this heading, a request from the Mental Health Foundation to conduct a fund drive in Torrance, was taken up early in the evening, under the heading of Written Communications.

2. A report dated April 27, 1956, from Ronald W. Bishop, City Engineer, on the correction of Portobello Drive Erosion Problem, Tract No. 20165, Victoria Knolls, was the next item. Mr. Bishop reported to the Council, in reply to their request for information, that it would cost about \$600.00 to repair the upper slide area behind the Berwanger property.

Mayor Isen moved to approve the report, and that the City follow through and expend no greater sum than the \$600.00 to repair this and that a bill for the amount of money spent be sent to the G & G Construction Company for these services.

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

Councilman Drale said he voted "No" because there was no Ordinance covering such work at the time the subdivider built the tract.

3. An opinion from the City Attorney, dated April 27, 1956, in response to a query from the Council for information as to whether or not Torrance should enter into an agreement with the County Sanitation District regarding refuse and disposal as proposed by the District.

The City Attorney's opinion was that the City should enter into this contract.

City Manager Stevens concurred with this opinion when asked by the Council.

Councilman Blount moved to concur with the opinion of the City Attorney and enter into the agreement.

Motion seconded by Mayor Isen, no objections, so ordered.

Deputy City Clerk Hallanger read:

RESOLUTION NO. 2915

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF DEED FROM THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, DATED MARCH 22, 1956, AND AUTHORIZING THE RECORDATION THEREOF.

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

Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Blount moved for adoption of Resolution No. 2915.
Motion, seconded by Councilman Jahn, carried unanimously by roll
call vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 2916

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY
OF TORRANCE EXPRESSING ITS APPRECIATION FOR
THE OUTSTANDING SERVICES RENDERED BY
WILLIAM ROY SELBY
AS AN OUTSTANDING PUBLIC SERVANT.

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

Councilman Blount moved for adoption of Resolution No. 2916.
Motion, seconded by Councilman Jahn, carried unanimously by roll call
vote.

Mayor Isen instructed Deputy City Clerk Hallanger to send a copy of
this Resolution to Mr. Selby.

ORDINANCE NO. 804

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY
OF TORRANCE ADOPTING THE "UNIFORM PLUMBING CODE,
1955 EDITION" AS AMENDED AND REPEALING CHAPTER 21
OF "THE CODE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, 1954".

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

RESOLUTION NO. 2917

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY
OF TORRANCE SETTING THE TIME AND PLACE FOR
HEARING ON THE ADOPTION OF THE "UNIFORM PLUMBING
CODE, 1955 EDITION" AS AMENDED; AND PROVIDING FOR
THE PUBLICATION OF THE NOTICE THEREOF.

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

Councilman Benstead moved for adoption of Resolution No. 2917.
Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll
call vote.

Mayor Isen directed the record to show that the Council has set the
Hearing on Ordinance No. 804, the title of which was read, for 8:00 P. M.
May 22, 1956.

RESOLUTION NO. 2918

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY
OF TORRANCE REPEALING RESOLUTION NO. 2717
AND DESIGNATING ALTERNATE MEMBER TO BOARDS
OF DIRECTORS OF COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT NO.
5 AND SOUTH BAY CITIES SANITATION DISTRICT OF
LOS ANGELES COUNTY.

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

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Mayor Isen moved for adoption of Resolution No. 2918.
Motion, seconded by Councilman Jahn, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

ORDINANCE NO. 802

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE REPEALING ARTICLE II OF CHAPTER 25 OF "THE CODE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, 1954", AND SUBSTITUTING A NEW ARTICLE II, CHAPTER 25 TO SAID CODE RELATING TO EXCAVATIONS, FILLING AND OTHER GRADING OF REAL PROPERTY.

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

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

Councilman Jahn moved for adoption of Ordinance No. 802 at its second and final reading.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 803

AN ORDINANCE REGULATING THE MAKING AND REFILLING OF EXCAVATIONS, CUTS AND FILLS IN STREETS AND OTHER PUBLIC PLACES.

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

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

Councilman Benstead moved for adoption of Ordinance No. 803 at its second and final reading.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Jahn, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

City Attorney Hall asked for authority to order the necessary title reports on property which will become a part of our Off-Street Parking District.

Councilman Jahn moved to authorize the City Attorney to make these title searches.

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

Councilman Blount asked if the City Manager has information regarding the drainage project at Torrance Boulevard and Border Avenue and at Five Points.

City Manager Stevens explained to the Council the effect of the rains we have had on the construction under way, but said it is planned to be through on Cabrillo and Carson within three weeks, at which time the final and permanent paving through Five Points will be put in.

Mr. Stevens said the construction people are filling in as they go on Border.

Councilman Blount asked the City Manager about a traffic light that has been installed at Crenshaw and 174th Street but which is not working.

City Manager Stevens said the delay is on the part of the Edison Company.

Councilman Blount moved the City Manager write to Mr. Blanchard of the Edison Company and ask why his company has not given us service at this light.

There were no objections and it was so ordered.

Councilman Drale said that Beverly Smith, who has just resigned from the Planning Commission, was his appointment, and that he wished to appoint John Kesson, President of the North Torrance Civic Association, to the Planning Commission to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Mr. Smith.

Motion seconded by Councilman Blount.

Mayor Isen ruled that Councilman Drale's motion was out of order, as all appointments to that Commission are to be made by the Mayor.

Mayor Isen appointed William E. King Jr. of 1751 Greenwood Street to the Planning Commission to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Mr. Smith.

Mayor Isen then called for a poll of the Council on the appointment. Following is the poll: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Benstead, Jahn, Isen. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Blount, Drale.

Councilman Jahn asked if there is an Ordinance covering control of noise from vehicles.

City Attorney Hall said he would have to check this, as he did not have the information off-hand.

Councilman Jahn said he is wondering because of the train whistles blowing as the trains go through Torrance at night, and asked the City Attorney to furnish him this information.

Mr. John J. Buffalo of 2455 Del Amo Boulevard protested the condition of the concrete aprons along his street, and also protested the condition of land in his area which he said is owned by either the City or the County. He said this land has been plowed, and that cars use it for a place to turn around, and raise dust. He asked that this area be fenced to prevent cars from driving on the land.

Councilman Benstead said he had taken John Patrick of the Engineering Department to the location, and Mr. Patrick is supposed to have a report forthcoming on this.

City Engineer Bishop said he had seen the conditions mentioned here, and he agrees that they are bad.

The City Engineer was directed to make a report at once on the condition of the street.

Mr. Buffalo referred again to the 50 feet of land owned by the County or the City, and asked if this could be fenced to prevent people driving on it.

Mayor Isen referred this to the City Engineer, asking for a recommendation on the Agenda next week.

City Engineer Bishop agreed to prepare the report.

Warren L. Pancake of 19428 Anza told the Council that he is a Scoutmaster in his area, and asked to use City buses to take the boys for outings.

Mr. Pancake was told that our buses are of the transit type, and completely unsuitable for such use. The policy of the City has been to refuse all requests of this type for the reason that the buses are not adaptable.

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 7:30 P. M.

By Irvin J. Hallanger

Irvin J. Hallanger
DEPUTY City Clerk of the City of Torrance

APPROVED:

Albert Isen
Mayor of the City of Torrance

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