

Torrance, California  
May 22, 1956

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL

The City Council of the City of Torrance convened in a regular meeting at 8:00 P. M., Tuesday, May 22, 1956, in the Council Chambers, City Hall, Torrance, California.

Those responding to roll call by City Clerk Bartlett were: COUNCILMEN: Benstead, Blount, Drale, Jahn, and Isen. City Manager Stevens and Assistant City Attorney Remelmeyer were also present.

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

Father McGuinness opened the meeting with an invocation.

Councilman Drale moved to approve the Minutes of the regular meeting of the Council held May 15, 1956, with the following correction: That the words "and the City's insurance carrier" in Paragraph 2, Item 1, under Written Communications, Page 1, be deleted, and a period be placed after the word "Department".

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

At this time Mayor Isen greeted the exchange students who were present by invitation, along with the people with whom these young students have lived during their stay in our Country.

Mayor Isen then read:

RESOLUTION NO. 2929

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, FELICITATING GLORIA MONTESINOS ON HER EXCELLENT RECORD AS AN EXCHANGE STUDENT, COMMENDING HER FOR HER SCHOLASTIC ACHIEVEMENTS AND EXEMPLARY CONDUCT, AND EXTENDING GREETINGS TO THE OFFICIALS AND HER HOME CITY OF MADRID, SPAIN.

Mayor Isen then read the Resolution in full, announcing that the content was similar to those prepared for Adriaan Willemsen and Arno Mehling.

Councilman Jahn moved for adoption of Resolution No. 2929.

Motion seconded by Councilman Blount.

Councilman Drale moved a copy of each of these Resolutions be sent through the mails to the officials of each City.

Councilman Jahn accepted this as an amendment to his motion.

Mayor Isen asked that the motion be amended to include a copy being sent to each of the families with whom these youngsters have lived in Torrance.

Councilman Benstead moved each of the students receive a copy for themselves to keep.

Councilman Jahn withdrew his motion, and moved for adoption of Resolution No. 2929, with the original copy to be presented to the student to deliver to the head of his City government, and additional copies to be presented: to the student to keep; through the mail to the chief official of the student's home City; and to the people in Torrance who have had the students living in their homes.\* one to be sent

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

Mayor Isen announced that Gloria Montesinos, in whose honor this Resolution has been adopted, has been living with Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Mosley, at 23846 Ward Street, WALTERIA.

Mayor Isen then read:

RESOLUTION NO. 2930

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, FELICITATING ADRIAAN WILLEMSSEN ON HIS EXCELLENT RECORD AS AN EXCHANGE STUDENT, COMMENDING HIM FOR HIS SCHOLASTIC ACHIEVEMENTS AND EXEMPLARY CONDUCT, AND EXTENDING GREETINGS TO THE BURGEMEESTER AND HIS HOME CITY OF HAGUE, THE NETHERLANDS.

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. 2930 with the same stipulations specified on Resolution No. 2929.

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

Mayor Isen announced that Adriaan Willemsen, in whose honor this Resolution is adopted, has been living with Mr. and Mrs. Francis Stoeckle, at 2612 West 175th Street.

Mayor Isen then read:

RESOLUTION NO. 2931

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, FELICITATING ARNO MEHLING ON HIS EXCELLENT RECORD AS AN EXCHANGE STUDENT, COMMENDING HIM FOR HIS SCHOLASTIC ACHIEVEMENTS AND EXEMPLARY CONDUCT, AND EXTENDING GREETINGS TO THE BUERGERMEISTER AND HIS HOME CITY OF WUERZBURG, GERMANY.

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

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

Councilman Jahn moved for adoption of Resolution No. 2931 with the same stipulations specified in the adoption of Resolution No. 2929.

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

Mayor Isen announced that Arno Mehling, in whose honor this Resolution is adopted, has been living with Mr. and Mrs. John Melville, of 1512 El Prado, and that as Mr. and Mrs. Melville are in Hawaii at present, Mrs. Ward has been living in their home to care for Arno.

Mayor Isen then presented the originals of the Resolutions to the various young people, and the press took photographs of the presentation.

BIDS:

1. The Mayor announced that this was the time and place for opening bids on paving improvements at the Civic Center Site.

City Clerk Bartlett presented the affidavit of publication, which was accepted and ordered filed.

The following bids were opened and the totals read:

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	<u>ALTERNATE "A"</u>	<u>ALTERNATE "B"</u>
Warren Southwest, Inc. 20934 So. Normandie Avenue Torrance.	\$20,600.28	\$23,418.62
Sully-Miller Contracting Co. 1500 W. Seventh Street Long Beach 13.	\$27,199.80	\$31,098.53
Oswald Bros. 366 East 58th Street Los Angeles 11.	\$22,037.16	\$25,247.06
G. G. Fisher Paving Co. 4421 Mason Street South Gate.	\$23,676.07	\$27,213.99
E. J. Gould, General Contractor 19130 South Vermont Gardena.	\$24,184.58	\$27,767.22
Contractors Asphalt Sales Co. 18101 South Hawthorne Blvd. Redondo Beach.	\$26,909.45	\$30,387.00
Griffith Co. 1060 S. Broadway Los Angeles.	\$26,564.65	\$30,355.85

Each bid was accompanied by either a bidders' bond or a certified check in the amount of 10% of the amount bid.

Councilman Blount moved these be referred to the City Manager and the City Engineer's office for a recommendation later in the evening. Motion seconded by Councilman Benstead, no objections, so ordered.

2. Mayor Isen then announced this was the time and place for opening bids on floodlighting the baseball diamond at Torrance Park.

City Clerk Bartlett presented the affidavit of publication, which was ordered accepted and filed.

The following bids were opened and read:

	<u>TOTAL BID</u>
Richard B. Means, 1545 W. Compton Blvd. Gardena.	\$9,576.68
Electric & Machinery Service, Inc. 4493 Firestone Blvd. South Gate.	\$9,942.00
Charles O. Payne, 7810 Salt Lake Avenue Huntington Park.	\$9,625.00

Each bid was accompanied by either a bidders' bond or a cashiers check in the amount of 10% of the total bid.

City Manager Stevens was asked for a recommendation, and recommended that the low bid of R. B. Means, in the amount of \$9,576.68, be accepted as the lowest responsible bid, and that all other bids be rejected.

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

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

At 8:30 P. M., Mayor Isen declared a recess, with the Council reconvening at 8:40 P. M.

Mayor Isen welcomed to the meeting an Adult Civics class which was present, and a delegation from the Hollywood Riviera.

CANVASS OF RESULTS - SPECIAL ELECTION HELD MAY 15, 1956 - Proposed Annexation of "Dominguez-Hawthorne (Victor Parcel)".

City Clerk Bartlett read to the Council a memorandum from himself informing them that two absentee ballots had been issued and both had been returned in time to be counted.

The Clerk then announced the name of the voter. The identification envelope and the application for absentee ballot were examined by the Council, who found all in order. The Clerk then opened the envelope, removed the numbered stub and placed the ballot, still folded, in the ballot box.

The same procedure was followed with the other absentee ballot.

The ballots were then mixed in the ballot box, and were withdrawn one at a time.

City Clerk Bartlett called the vote to two Council members, who were supplied with tally sheets.

The Council then filled in the result of the votes, which were added under the heading "Absentee Votes" to the canvass of the precinct returns.

Councilman Blount then placed the cancelled and unused absent voter ballots in Envelope No. 1, which was sealed and signed by the Council, acting in their capacity as an Election Board.

Councilman Blount then placed the voted ballots in Envelope No. 2, which was sealed and signed by the Council.

The Council then called for the ballot from Victor Precinct No. 1 in order to canvass the vote.

As the material was not present, the Mayor declared a five-minute recess at 8:55 P. M. for the City Clerk to procure that ballot, which was in the City vault.

Council reconvened at 9:00 P. M., but as the City Clerk had not yet procured the election material from the vault, the Mayor took other business under consideration at that time.

Mr. Joseph Meece of 5418 Via del Valle, representing the citizens of Palos Verdes - Riviera area, complained to the Council that due to the excessive demands for water of the contractor of that home development, the residents were often without water. Mr. Meece outlined the problems which face residents of his neighborhood, stressing the health and fire hazards involved.

Councilman Drale moved the Superintendent of the Torrance Municipal Water Department be instructed to supply the residents of the area to the exclusion of the contractor if necessary.

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

Mayor Isen ordered copies of this portion of the Minutes to be sent to the Superintendent of the Water Department and to Dr. Kogan, Health Officer for the City.

City Manager Stevens was instructed by the Mayor to forward a copy of this portion of the Minutes to Mr. Kissel, the contractor in question, or to his assistant, Mr. Morning. Mr. Stevens was instructed to discuss the question with them to see what they can do to alleviate this problem.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:

In the absence of the City Clerk from the Council Chamber, Assistant City Attorney Remelmeyer was appointed by the Mayor as Acting City Clerk in order that the Council might proceed with this portion of the Agenda.

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1. A letter dated May 15, 1956, from the Hollywood Riviera Home-owners' Association, requesting an increase in police and fire personnel. The letter was signed by Gene Voorhees, Corresponding Secretary of the Association.

The communication was ordered filed, there being no objections, and City Manager Stevens was instructed to consider this request in connection with the budget for the next fiscal year.

2. A letter dated May 14, 1956, from the Los Angeles County Fair Association, requesting permission to place banners across our streets from September 14, 1956, through September 30, 1956, to advertise the Fair.

Councilman Drale moved this permission be granted with the usual stipulations.

No objections, so ordered.

3. A letter from the South Bay Cities Highway Committee, dated May 17, 1956, signed by E. J. Rea, Chairman. This requested the City of Torrance to advise the City of Los Angeles of certain hazards existing in Los Angeles Airport tunnel, and that the Council request the City of Los Angeles by Resolution to take steps to correct these conditions.

Councilman Blount moved that the City Attorney prepare the necessary Resolution.

There were no objections and it was so ordered.

4. A request from the Torrance Junior Chamber of Commerce for waiver of license fee for their Annual Community Fair, which is to be held July 13-17, 1956. This letter was dated May 17, 1956, and signed by Lou Schlanger, Community Fair Secretary.

Councilman Blount moved the request be granted.

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

5. A letter from the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, signed by Robert B. Houser, Assistant Administrative Officer, advising of appointment of Architect Kenneth S. Wing to prepare plans for the proposed County building to house the Torrance Branch of the South Bay Municipal Court to be located at the new Civic Center site. This letter also discussed the allocation of land and site requirements. The communication was dated May 14, 1956.

There were no objections, and the letter was ordered filed, with the City Manager being instructed to extend all necessary cooperation in this matter.

6. A letter dated May 15, 1956, from the County of Los Angeles Health Department re Health Services Contract #1657-H. This advised that the rate for the fiscal year of July 1, 1956, to June 30, 1957, will be \$2.91 per inspection or visit.

There were no objections, and the letter was ordered filed.

#### COMMUNICATIONS FROM DEPARTMENTS AND COMMISSIONS:

1. A request dated May 17, 1956, from J. J. Benner, Chief Engineer, Fire Department, requesting enactment of a contract with an agency for weed abatement on vacant property, and that the cost of such abatement appear on property tax notices.

Councilman Drale moved for approval of the recommendation of the Fire Chief, subject to the preparation of the necessary ordinance by the City Attorney.

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

2. A memorandum dated May 15, 1956, from C. W. Clemmer, Park Foreman, to City Manager Stevens, with regard to a row of trees on Madrid Avenue which the residents would like to have removed. Mr. Clemmer said

the residents are willing to pay \$3.00 each for trees to replace those removed.

Councilman Benstead moved for approval of the request.

Motion seconded by Councilman Drale, no objection so ordered.

3. A recommendation from the Parks and Recreation Commission, dated May 17, 1956, signed by Robert M. Almond, Chairman, for the immediate leveling of the southwest park site in order to provide a play and recreation area.

Councilman Benstead moved to concur with the recommendation.

Motion seconded by Councilman Jahn.

City Manager Stevens said the City does not yet have a plan on this area, and explained that it is deemed desirable to have a grading plan before grading such areas.

Councilman Benstead withdrew his motion.

Councilman Drale moved that the request be sent to the Engineering Department for preparation of the grading plan.

Mrs. Tillim of the Park and Recreation Commission was present, and said the Commission asked only that the weeds be knocked down and the ground leveled to provide a safe play area.

Councilman Drale withdrew his motion, and moved to concur with the request.

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

4. A communication dated May 17, 1956, from the Parks and Recreation Commission, signed by Robert M. Almond, Chairman, calling to the attention of the City Council the policy of not waiving custodial fees as established by the Parks and Recreation Commission. This was in connection with Council action taken waiving such fees for the Boy Scouts of America due to the fact that the boys could not have the dance they had planned, but were forced to hold a "sock hop" instead because of the condition of the Auditorium floor on March 23, 1956.

Mayor Isen ordered this filed.

Councilman Blount objected, saying the use of the Auditorium without fee had been granted to a presidential candidate, and that he felt the Scouts deserved equal or better treatment.

Mayor Isen pointed out that the fees to the Scouts had already been waived, and ordered the communication filed.

At 9:25 P. M., City Clerk Bartlett returned to the Council Chambers with the election material he had taken from the vault, and the Council at once returned to the matter of the election.

City Clerk Bartlett slit two envelopes of this material by mistake, and Mayor Isen ordered the record to show that this was done in error, and added that the envelopes are to be re-sealed with masking tape and the Councilmen will sign across this closure to signify that the material inside the envelopes was not disturbed.

The Mayor then read the following in full:

"The City Council herewith declares and finds:

(1) That a special election was held in the area known as "Dominguez-Hawthorne (Victor Parcel)" on Tuesday, May 15, 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)" pursuant to Resolution No. 2903 of the City Council of the City of Torrance.

(2) That the following proposition was submitted to the voters at said election, "Shall the territory designated 'Dominguez-Hawthorne (Victor Parcel)' be annexed to the City of Torrance?"

(3) That this City Council has this date canvassed the returns of said election.

(4) That the total number of votes cast, including absentee ballots, in said election was 134.

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- (5) That the number of votes cast for annexation was 70.  
 (6) That the number of votes cast against annexation was 64."

Councilman Blount then placed one tally list in Envelope No. 3, which was sealed and signed by the Council in their capacity as an Election Board.

The torn off stubs, identification envelopes, challenge list, and other tally list were then placed in Envelope No. 4 and sealed and signed by the Council in their capacity as an Election Board.

City Clerk Bartlett then read:

ORDINANCE NO. 807

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE APPROVING THE ANNEXATION TO THE CITY OF TORRANCE OF THAT CERTAIN TERRITORY IN THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DESIGNATED AS "DOMINGUEZ-HAWTHORNE (VICTOR PARCEL)."

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

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

Councilman Drale moved for adoption of Ordinance No. 807 at its first reading.

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

HEARINGS:

YUKON AVENUE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT. Hearing on Resolution No. 2914, Intention to Make Certain Changes in Boundary, etc.

Mayor Isen announced that this was the time and place fixed for the hearing of all protests against the extent of the district to be assessed and/or the modifications described in Resolution No. 2914.

There were no written protests, and the Mayor asked if anyone wished to be heard from the floor.

No one came forward.

Councilman Benstead moved the hearing be closed.

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

Councilman Blount moved all protests be denied.

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

City Clerk Bartlett read:

RESOLUTION NO. 2932

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, ORDERING CERTAIN CHANGES, ALTERATIONS AND MODIFICATIONS IN THE PROCEEDINGS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF CERTAIN STREET IMPROVEMENTS AND A SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM IN THE YUKON AVENUE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT AS DESCRIBED IN RESOLUTION OF INTENTION NO. 2888.

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

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

Councilman Benstead moved for adoption of Resolution No. 2932.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 2933

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, ORDERING THE WORK OF IMPROVING THE YUKON AVENUE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT, IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE, BY THE CONSTRUCTION AND INSTALLATION THEREIN OF CERTAIN STREET IMPROVEMENTS AND A SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM AND DIRECTING THE CITY CLERK TO POST AND PUBLISH A NOTICE INVITING SEALED PROPOSALS:

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

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

Councilman Benstead moved for adoption of Resolution No. 2933.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 2934

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, ASCERTAINING THE PREVAILING RATE OF PER DIEM WAGES FOR EACH TYPE OR CRAFT OF WORKMAN NEEDED TO EXECUTE THE CONTRACT FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE YUKON AVENUE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT, IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE, BY THE CONSTRUCTION AND INSTALLATION THEREIN OF CERTAIN STREET IMPROVEMENTS, OF A SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM AND ALL OTHER ITEMS OR WORK INCIDENTAL OR APPURTENANT THERETO:

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

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

Councilman Drale moved for adoption of Resolution No. 2934.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 2935

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, DIRECTING THAT THE ASSESSMENT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF CERTAIN STREET IMPROVEMENTS AND A SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM IN THE YUKON AVENUE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT, IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE, BE MADE BY THE CITY ENGINEER OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE.

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

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

Councilman Benstead moved for adoption of Resolution No. 2935.

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

DEL AMO BOULEVARD IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT. Hearing on Assessment for Construction of Curbs, Gutters, Driveway Aprons and Sidewalks.

City Engineer Bishop requested that this hearing be continued for a week in order that he might make a further survey of the area.

Councilman Drale moved to continue the hearing to the meeting of the Council to be held May 29, 1956.

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

Recommendations of the City Manager:

PERSONNEL:

1. Lester F. Inman employed as Lubrication and Tire Man at the City Garage, commencing May 12, at the first salary step, in a temporary capacity pending a Civil Service examination, there being no Eligible List at the present time.
2. George M. Papac employed as a Bus Operator (for vacation relief) commencing May 17, at the first salary step. He is No. 1 on the Eligible List.

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

Motion, seconded by Councilman Jahn, carried as follows: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Blount, Drale, Jahn, Isen. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None. Councilman Benstead voted "NO" on No. 1, "YES" on No. 2, saying he saw no reason for there not being an Eligible List.

APPROPRIATIONS:

1. For the purchase of an IBM Electromatic typewriter for the Engineering Department, the sum of \$425.00 plus tax.
2. To Barclay Surveying Company for engineering services during the month of April, the sum of \$1342.00.

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

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

Airport Commission Matters:

1. A letter dated May 15, 1956, from the Airport Commission, signed by Jack E. White, President, recommending that a pressure check be put on the partly deteriorated water mains at the Airport, and if breaks are revealed, they be repaired.

Councilman Drale moved to concur with the recommendation, and that this be referred to the Superintendent of the Water Department, and the Manager of the Torrance Airport.

No objections, so ordered.

2. A letter from the Airport Commission, dated May 15, 1956, and signed by Jack E. White, President of that Commission, recommending that a contract be let to Mack Truck Company for installation of a 4-step Byron Jackson high-pressure pump with two reels of 150 feet of high pressure hose and fog guns, completely equipped and installed for the sum of \$3,266.40.

Councilman Jahn explained that this recommendation was made only after surveys and study by both the Fire Chief and the City Manager.

Councilman Blount moved to concur with the recommendation of the Commission with the stipulation that the money be taken from the Airport Funds.

Motion seconded by Councilman Jahn.

Councilman Benstead said he thought bids should be taken on this.

Councilman Jahn explained that this pump fits the equipment now available.

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

3. A request from the Airport Commission dated May 15, 1956, signed by Jack E. White, President, that the Council take the necessary steps to adopt an amendment to Ordinance No. 439, as recommended by City Attorney Hall, by the addition thereto of an express misdemeanor sentence providing for a court fine and/or County Jail sentence for violations. Ordinance No. 439 adopts field rules and regulations covering operation of the Torrance Municipal Airport.

Councilman Drale moved to concur with the recommendation, with the City Attorney instructed to prepare the necessary amendment.

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

#### HEARING:

Mayor Isen announced that this was the time and place for the Public Hearing on adoption of the "Uniform Plumbing Code, 1955 Edition, as Amended".

There were no objections, and Councilman Blount moved the Hearing be closed.

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

Mayor Isen then read:

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

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

Councilman Blount moved for adoption of Ordinance No. 804 at its first reading.

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

#### Oral recommendations - City Manager:

Mayor Isen asked City Manager Stevens for his oral recommendations.

1. City Manager Stevens recommended the following purchases for the Park Department, with the statement that all items are covered by the Department's budget:

a. One 76-inch Professional, Toro, powered motor with semi-pneumatic tires. \$1275.00 plus sales tax.

b. One Soil-aire trac-lift type cultivating, renovating and aerating machine for Ford or Ferguson tractors. \$385.00 plus sales tax.

c. One Homelite direct drive chain saw, 5 H. P., 19 pounds. \$250.20 plus sales tax.

Councilman Drale moved the City Manager be authorized to make these three purchases for the Park Department.

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

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2. The City Manager recommended that the bid of Warren-Southwest for paving and sidewalks at the new Civic Center be accepted as the lowest responsible bid, and all other bids be rejected, the amount of the bid accepted being \$23,418.62.

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

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

3. The City Manager asked to be authorized to make final payment of \$7,040.00 to Construction Industries, Inc. on Storm Drain Project No. 241.

Councilman Drale moved the City Manager be authorized to make the final payment on Storm Drain Project No. 241.

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

4. The City Manager recommended that he be authorized to advertise for bids on carpets and draperies for the new Civic Center.

Councilman Drale moved to concur with this recommendation.

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

#### ENGINEERING AND PLANNING COMMISSION MATTERS:

1. A letter dated May 18, 1956, from George C. Powell, Planning Director, transmitted the following recommendations from the Planning Commission:

a. Recommendation for approval of a request from B & A Investment Company for permission to install a six-foot redwood fence instead of a masonry fence, in Tract 19581. Mr. Powell's letter said this recommendation was made in order to afford uniformity. A letter from the B & A Investment Company explaining their reason for asking this change was attached.

Councilman Benstead questioned this change, and the request was held over to the May 29, 1956, meeting of the Council, with the request that Mr. Powell be present to explain this to the Council.

b. That the name of a portion of Via Colusa be changed to Calle de Arena. A letter from Polly di Mayle, Planning Commission Street Naming Division, was attached, explaining that Calle de Arena is the name of the street to the north and south of the portion mentioned.

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

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

2. TENTATIVE TRACT MAP NO. 22821. Transmittal form from Planning Commission and Engineering Department recommending approval of Tentative Tract Map No. 22821, located southerly of Sepulveda Boulevard and easterly of Hawthorne Avenue, containing 12 lots, presented by G & G Construction Company. Attached: (a) Letter from G. C. Powell, Planning Director, dated May 11, 1956; (b) Letter from California Engineering Company, Inc., dated May 4, 1956; (c) Excerpt from Planning Commission Minutes of May 2, 1956; (d) Excerpt from Planning Commission Minutes of April 4, 1956; (e) Letter from State Division of Highways dated April 4, 1956; (f) Letter from L. A. County Flood Control District dated March 26, 1956; (g) Letter from John R. Patrick, Assistant to City Engineer, dated March 20, 1956; (h) Sketch of tract.

This tract had been held over by the Council from their May 15, 1956, meeting for a ruling from the City Attorney regarding time of payment of the filing fee.

The conclusion of the City Attorney's office read as follows: "It is my opinion that the said tentative tract was filed in sufficient time to be within the provisions of the old Land Use Ordinance, so that 5000 square foot lots are acceptable." The analysis of the Attorney's office was that the map should not be rejected, as the City has waived the requirement that the filing fee be paid in advance.

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

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

3. FINAL TRACT MAP NO. 20163. Transmittal form from Planning Commission and Engineering Department recommending approval of Final Tract Map No. 20163, located northerly of 171st Street, southerly of 168th Street, westerly of Yukon Avenue and easterly of 18609, containing 49 lots, presented by Grand Construction Company. Attached: (a) Letter from Southern California Edison Company, Ltd., dated May 18, 1956, regarding utility poles; (b) Excerpt from Planning Commission Minutes of April 4, 1956; (c) Letter from John R. Patrick, Assistant to City Engineer, dated April 4, 1956; (d) Sketch of tract.

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

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

4. A letter from John R. Patrick, Assistant to the City Engineer, submitting a memorandum of Agreement for Expenditure of Gas Tax Allocation for fiscal year 1956-57. The letter from Mr. Patrick was dated May 18, 1956, and ended with the following sentence: "This is for the construction of traffic signals at 174th Street and Yukon Avenue".

City Clerk Bartlett then read:

RESOLUTION NO. 2937

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY  
OF TORRANCE ADOPTING BUDGET AND APPROVING  
MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT FOR EXPENDITURE OF  
GAS TAX ALLOCATION FOR MAJOR CITY STREETS.

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

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

Councilman Drale moved for adoption of Resolution No. 2937.

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

REPORTS & OPINIONS:

1. An oral report by City Clerk Bartlett that a complaint and summons was received by the City Clerk on May 15, 1956, at 10:20 A. M., from attorneys Hirshorn and Horn, and Albert Grossman, 117 West 9th Street, Los Angeles 15, California; Plaintiff, James Gilbert Peterson, infant, by his guardian, Gilbert G. Peterson. Complaint stated boy was riding a motor scooter February 7, 1956, on Palos Verdes Boulevard, and struck hole in pavement.

The City Clerk said this had been denied by the City Council on March 20, 1956, and referred to the City Attorney's office.

2. An oral report by City Clerk Bartlett that complaint and summons was received May 17, 1956, at 3:40 P. M., from Kenneth M. Garcelon, Attorney for Plaintiffs Adolph and Grace Noeth for property damage resulting from flood waters.

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The City Clerk reported that this had also been denied by the City Council on February 21, 1956, and referred to the office of the City Attorney.

3. An opinion dated May 18, 1956, from the office of the City Attorney, signed by Stanley E. Remelmeyer, Assistant City Attorney, with reference to a claim by Mrs. Anna Milori. It was the opinion of the City Attorney's office that the claim should be denied.

Mrs. Milori had not entered a formal claim, but had made her claim directly to the Council at their meeting of April 3, 1956, when the matter was referred to the City Attorney and the City Engineer.

Mayor Isen ordered that a copy of the opinion from Mr. Remelmeyer be forwarded to Mrs. Milori, and that the opinion be filed.

4. An opinion dated May 14, 1956, from the office of the City Attorney, signed by James M. Hall, City Attorney, re "LEGALITY OF THE CITY ENTERING INTO A CONTRACT WITH A UNION." It was the City Attorney's opinion that the City cannot enter into a contract with a union concerning working conditions and pay of City employees.

Councilman Drale moved the letter be filed as a matter of record, with copies being sent to organizations of the City's employees.

There were no objections and it was so ordered.

5. The Agenda showed that recommendations were to be made by the City Manager for appointments to the "Southland Water Committee."

These appointments have been made, with Mr. Mervin M. Schwab being appointed as Chairman of the Committee, and were approved informally by the Council. Time was of the essence in the importance of these appointments; the Committee has met, and its work is now under way.

City Clerk Bartlett read:

RESOLUTION NO. 2936

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE FINDING AND DETERMINING THAT THE PUBLIC INTEREST AND NECESSITY REQUIRE THE ACQUISITION, CONSTRUCTION AND COMPLETION BY THE SAID CITY OF TORRANCE OF CERTAIN PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS, TO WIT: THE CONSTRUCTION AND INSTALLATION OF A PUBLIC STREET OVER AND ACROSS CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE: AND DIRECTING THE CITY ATTORNEY TO BRING AND PROSECUTE AN ACTION IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE CONDEMNATION THEREOF.

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

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

Councilman Jahn moved for adoption of Resolution No. 2428.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 808

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. 379.

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

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

Councilman Drale moved for adoption of Ordinance No. 808 at its first reading.

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

#### ORDINANCE NO. 809

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 16 OF THE TORRANCE CITY CODE RELATING TO THE LICENSING AND REGULATING OF BUSINESSES AND TRADES TO PROVIDE THAT LICENSE FEES SHALL BE PRO-RATED ON A QUARTERLY BASIS AND AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 743.

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

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

Councilman Drale moved for adoption of Ordinance No. 809 at its first reading.

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

Mayor Isen read a Proclamation proclaiming the month of June as Public Recreation Month.

Mayor Isen read a Proclamation proclaiming the month of June, 1956, as "City of Hope Month", and Sunday, June 3, 1956, as "Hope Sunday" in Torrance.

#### ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Councilman Drale said that with regard to the citation Councilman Jahn has received, he wished to concur with the recommendation of the City Attorney that Councilman Jahn should be offered defense by the City.

Councilman Drale then moved that a sum not to exceed \$500.00 for Attorney's fees be authorized for defense of Councilman Jahn in the matter of the recent City Election. This was in reference to the recount.

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

Councilman Jahn asked that the Council instruct the City Engineer to collect the filing fees at the time tentative maps are filed from this time on.

There were no objections, and it was so ordered.

Councilman Jahn asked that from now on, when Improvement Districts are sent to the Council, a sketch be attached.

There were no objections and it was so ordered.

Councilman Jahn asked the City Manager if it would be possible for the City Council to order an industrial survey made of the City, to find exactly how much land in our City is zoned M-1 & M-2 and available, how much is privately owned and not available, and possibly the number of commercial electric meters compared to the residential meters, as well as the number of people employed in Torrance in industrial enterprises.

City Manager Stevens said the City could furnish some of this information, and that there are firms making this type of survey. He said he would be glad to get cost estimates of such a survey for the Council.

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Councilman Jahn then read the following prepared statement in full, and filed copies with the City Clerk: (COPY)

STATEMENT CONCERNING CIVIC CENTER SITE  
and  
CONDEMNATION FOR PARK

Because of a lot of misunderstanding through publicity regarding an action of this council to condemn an area of M-zoning adjacent to the Civic Center site, I would like to make this statement:

"The new Civic Center, which originated from a bond issue, was approved by the people of Torrance. This council represents these people. The electorate also approved the present site."

"The taxpayers of Torrance have invested over one million dollars in this project, and this amount will grow larger as time passes. It is my belief, and it is supported by others, that this investment should be protected."

"There are several ways to do this. One would be to surround, as far as possible, the site with a park-like atmosphere. This is the method chosen by this council. However, if this had not been done, I would be ready to initiate action to change the Zone of this same area to a Zone that would afford this same protection. The change of Zone would not, however, make available to the people of Torrance, a beautiful park site. Also it seems to be good planning to extend the park-like atmosphere of the City Hall and Swimming Pool to an adjacent park."

"I believe that Councilman Benstead used good judgement in initiating this condemnation action."

Both Mayor Isen and Councilman Benstead expressed themselves as being in agreement with this statement.

Mayor Isen spoke to Mr. Remelmeyer, saying the Court had ordered the condemnation started on the land for the Park at the Civic Center, and asked if that would not require a Resolution.

Assistant City Attorney Remelmeyer said it would, and that he would have to receive a legal description from the Engineering Department before this Resolution is prepared. He said as soon as the description is made available, the Resolution will be prepared.

City Engineer Bishop said this has been begun, and that the condemnation would leave a strip of land only about 175 feet wide between the park and the property of the Dominguez Land Company.

Councilman Benstead moved this land be included in the condemnation proceedings.

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

Mayor Isen instructed the City Attorney's office to get the proper Resolution to the Council as soon as may be possible.

Mayor Isen referred to City Manager Stevens a letter from the Los Angeles County Road Department on the subject of Aid to Cities money for 1956-57.

City Manager Stevens said he had received a copy of this, and would apply for the money at a later date.

The Mayor reported to the Council that the Palos Verdes Federal Savings and Loan Company had requested a Resolution by the City Council recognizing them. He asked the wishes of the Council.

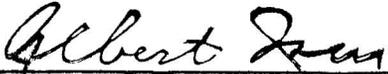
Councilman Jahn moved the request be filed as a matter of record. There were no objections and it was so ordered.

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

The meeting adjourned at 10:20 P. M.

  
City Clerk of the City of Torrance

APPROVED:

  
Mayor of the City of Torrance

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