

Torrance, California
July 31, 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 5:30 P. M. Tuesday, July 31, 1956, in the Council Chambers, City Hall, Torrance, California.

Those responding to roll call by the City Clerk were: COUNCILMEN: Benstead, Blount, Jahn, and Isen. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Drale. Also present were City Manager Stevens and Acting City Attorney Remelmeyer.

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

The Reverend Midthune opened the meeting with an invocation.

Mayor Isen thanked Reverend Midthune for his faithful attendance at the Council meetings for the last month, and asked him to extend to the Ministerial Association the thanks of the Council for their assistance.

Councilman Jahn moved to approve the Minutes of the regular meeting of the Council on July 24, 1956, as written.

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

Mayor Isen ordered the Resolution setting a new meeting place for the City Council taken up at this time. The Mayor said this Resolution as prepared does not reflect the wishes of the Council, who feel the time set for the new meeting place would cause the Dedication ceremonies to be an anti-climax. Mayor Isen suggested the time for the change of meeting place for the Council should be set as August 14, 1956, rather than August 4, 1956. There were no objections, and the Resolution was ordered corrected to show that date.

City Clerk Bartlett read:

RESOLUTION NO. 2975

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY
OF TORRANCE EFFECTING THE PLACE OF HOLDING
REGULAR AND SPECIAL MEETINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL.

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

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

Councilman Benstead moved for adoption of Resolution No. 2975, with the following amendment: "Commencing with August 14, 1956, and thereafter" rather than "on or after August 5, 1956" in Section I of the Resolution.

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

Mayor Isen took this opportunity to commend Lt. Cook of the Police Department for his work in preparation for the successful dedication ceremonies at the new Civic Center, and said Lt. Cook had a presentation to make.

Lt. Cook, on behalf of the Lions Club and the Torrance Mounted Police, presented hats to the Council, the City Manager, and the City Attorney, with the request that these be worn to publicize the rodeo and other ceremonies of dedication.

Mayor Isen thanked the donors for the Council and himself, and the Council donned the new headgear forthwith.

Lt. Cook, at the request of Mayor Isen, escorted Sandra McAbee and her mother into the Council Chambers.

Mayor Isen commended Sandra for her heroism in rescuing her charges from a fire when baby-sitting, and presented her with a Proclamation which he read, as follows:

PROCLAMATION

A PROCLAMATION OF THE MAYOR OF THE CITY
OF TORRANCE COMMENDING SANDRA (SANDY)
MCABEE AND HER PARENTS FOR HER HEROISM.

Mayor Isen said that several Torrance people had wished to present Sandra with gifts in recognition of the fine courage and presence of mind which she had displayed in the emergency she faced, and the Mayor then presented Mr. Don Nash.

Mr. Nash, President of the Torrance Peace Officers' Association, on behalf of his organization, presented Sandra with a United States Savings Bond.

Mr. Charles Gotts, President of the Retail Merchants' Association of Torrance, presented gifts to Sandra from the following merchants of our City:

Osborne Real Estate
Ruel's Paramount Service Station
The Gay Shop
Ray's Music Store
Moore's Dress Shop
Trend O' Fashion Shop
Bernard's Bootery
Gay Shop and Daniel's Cafe
Lawson's Jewelers
Burke's Bargain Spot
McLahan's Furniture Store

Sandra thanked the Mayor and Council, and the other people who were so generous to her, and said she would send "Thank You" notes promptly.

Lt. Cook then escorted the young lady and her mother from the Council Chamber.

Mayor Isen said Mr. Gotts, as President of the Retail Merchants, had been promised priority on the Agenda, as that group is especially interested in the answer the Council may give to their written request to the Council for permission to have the Torrance Municipal buses carry what is called a "spectacular advertisement" promoting downtown Torrance.

A letter from the Retail Merchants Association, dated July 25, 1956, and signed by Mr. Gotts as President of the Association, was on the Agenda.

City Manager Stevens said this type of advertising is becoming very popular, and showed the Council a photo of the type of ad which will be painted over the entire street side of the buses if the Council grants the request. He said part of the agreement would be that the Company who handles this has agreed to repaint the entire side of the buses when the sign is taken off. He added that part of the cost of the advertising will be born by the City by waiving their 40% of the revenue for such advertising. In this way, the merchants will get a most favorable price. Mr. Stevens added that the Bus Superintendent, Mr. Marshall Chamberlain, recommended agreement with this request, and said he himself would also recommend it, with the stipulation from them both that someplace on the sign the phrase "ride the bus", or a similar phrase, be painted.

Mr. Gotts said the merchants would agree to this stipulation.

Councilman Blount moved to concur with the recommendation of the City Manager, with the stipulation that the phrase "Ride the bus" or a similar phrase appear in the advertisement.

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

Councilman Blount asked Mr. Gotts his opinion of a proposed Ordinance to be presented later in the evening, which will prevent the installation of new signs in the City for some time. He asked if this will affect the Retail Merchants, saying he might vote against it for that reason.

Mr. Gotts said the Retail Merchants will not require any new signboards for their publicity, and that none will be available for their campaign until October.

A letter dated July 25, 1956, from the International Association of Fire Fighters, Local No. 1138, Torrance, requested a place on the Council Agenda at this meeting for a representative of the Torrance Fire Fighters Association. The letter said the time would be used for a discussion between their representative and the Council of a report submitted to the Council concerning working conditions prevalent in the Fire Department.

Mayor Isen asked if anyone was here from that group, and Mr. Glenn Price came forward.

Mayor Isen suggested that due to the length of the Agenda, Mr. Price be present to discuss this with the City Council at the Pre-Council meeting of August 7, 1956, at 5:00 P. M. Mayor Isen asked Chief Benner, who was present, if Mr. Price would be excused from his regular shift to appear at that time, and the Fire Chief said he could.

Mr. Price agreed to be present.

STORE PROPERTIES, INC.

Mayor Isen said that Mr. James Hall, ex-City Attorney, was present on the Coldwell, Banker & Company and Store Properties matter, and said it would be taken up at this time.

Mayor Isen asked Mr. Hall to make his recommendations to the City Council on this matter.

Mr. Hall asked to have the record show that there is no objection to the deletion of the "kick-out" clause from the lease.

Mr. Blount made the following suggestions on insurance: That Item 22 on Page 33, near the bottom of the page, be changed as follows: That a \$250,000 minimum be established for public liability, the \$500,000 be changed to \$1,000,000, and the \$50,000 be changed to \$100,000.

Mr. Hall said these changes would be satisfactory to the lessors.

Councilman Blount said further that on Page 20, also under insurance Paragraph 14 should provide that the City will be carried as an additional assured, with any loss payable to the Lessor, Lessee and Lender as their interests may appear.

Mr. Hall said this would also be satisfactory to the lessors, although it might be possible to refine the language somewhat.

Mr. Hall suggested that the Council approve the revised lease as being substantially the same, except for the findings of facts and the lender's rights against the lessee, and with no substantial change as affects the City.

Mayor Isen said as a matter of policy, the Council approves the lease.

Councilman Jahn moved the proper Resolution be drawn to introduce and approve this lease as amended here.

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

Mr. Hall said Store Properties has acceded to the request of the Council that they pay his expenses, transportation, and time, for work on this matter. He suggested that the correct method would be to have Store Properties pay the City, and the City reimburse him, as he will be working as the agent of the City.

The Council was polled on this, and agreed unanimously that it should be handled in this manner.

Mr. Blaine of Coldwell, Banker assured the Council they will have the development as soon as humanly possible.

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

Mayor Isen announced this was the time and place fixed by Resolution No. 2964 for the continued hearing on Resolution of Intention No. 2888.

Mayor Isen asked if there were any verbal protests, and there were none.

Councilman Blount moved to deny any and all protests, and continue the Hearing until August 14, 1956, at 8:00 P. M., California Daylight Saving Time, in the Council Chamber at the new City Hall, 3031 Torrance Boulevard, Torrance, California.

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

City Engineer Bishop reported that certain changes and modifications should be made in the boundaries of the assessment district and in the work proposed to be done as described in Resolution of Intention No. 2888.

The City Engineer then presented the drawings showing the proposed modifications for study by the Council.

City Clerk Bartlett read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 2971

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING DRAWINGS SHOWING PROPOSED CHANGES AND MODIFICATIONS IN THE BOUNDARY AND THE WORK TO BE DONE IN THE YUKON AVENUE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT AS DESCRIBED IN RESOLUTION OF INTENTION NO. 2888.

Councilman Benstead moved to waive further reading of the Resolution.

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

Councilman Benstead moved for adoption of Resolution No. 2971.

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

City Engineer Bishop presented the detailed estimate of cost showing costs of work to be added to the original estimated project cost, and costs of work eliminated to be deducted from the original estimate and showing the net increase or decrease in cost from the original estimate. This estimate showed a decrease of \$3,633.10 from the estimate forming a part of the Debit Limit Report.

City Clerk Bartlett read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 2972

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, DECLARING ITS INTENTION TO MAKE CERTAIN CHANGES IN THE BOUNDARY AND THE WORK TO BE DONE IN THE YUKON AVENUE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT AS DESCRIBED IN RESOLUTION OF INTENTION NO. 2888.

Councilman Jahn moved to waive further reading of the Resolution.

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

Councilman Jahn moved for adoption of Resolution No. 2972.

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

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:

1. A letter dated July 20, 1956, from Coldwell, Banker & Co., signed by Miles W. Blaine, was taken up during the earlier discussion with Mr. Hall.

A letter from MacFaden, Browne & Hall, signed by James M. Hall, concerning the Store Properties lease, was taken up at the same time. This was dated July 24, 1956, and outlined the revisions in the lease suggested by Store Properties, Inc., and the necessity of Mr. Hall going to Washington D. C. to present the matters which must be cleared up to get this revised lease into operation.

2. A letter dated July 19, 1956, from Chas. T. Rippey, regarding the North 150 feet of Lot 71, Tract 639, located at 230th and Pennsylvania Avenue, protested action of the Planning Commission with reference to his request for splitting the land.

Attached to this was a letter from George C. Powell, Planning Director, dated July 27, 1956, recommending that this matter be referred back to the Planning Commission meeting on August 1, 1956, and that Mr. Rippey be invited to appear and present his case.

Councilman Jahn moved to approve Mr. Powell's recommendation. Motion seconded by Councilman Benstead, no objection, so ordered.

3. Claim from Lawrence Green for damages incurred on June 6, 1956, presented by Rafter and Fredricks.

Councilman Benstead moved this be denied and referred to the Legal Department.

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

4. A letter dated July 17, 1956, from North Torrance Civic Improvement Association requesting certain traffic control measures for their area, signed by John Kesson, President of the Association.

Attached to this was a letter dated July 23, 1956, from Chief of Police Haslam, to the Association, with a note attached saying the Chief recommended this letter be mailed to the Association in reply to their letter.

Also appended thereto was a copy of a petition presented at the Council meeting of July 17, 1956, which was ordered filed with the Chief of Police to bring before the Traffic Commission for study.

Attached also were the various memoranda and final authorization to place all of this material on the Agenda, with the letter from the North Torrance Civic Improvement Association.

Mayor Isen commented that at a recent convention of Claimants' attorneys held in Los Angeles, they agreed with the remark of Chief Haslam that signals seem to be focal points for accidents, and read an excerpt from a Los Angeles newspaper containing that information.

Councilman Benstead moved the request be filed.

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

5. A request from William W. Blackwood to solicit for magazine subscriptions in the City of Torrance, under date of July 27, 1956.

A recommendation for denial under Ordinance No. 624, Sec. 6, but recommending this section of the Ordinance be amended, signed by Mr. Whitacre, License Inspector, was attached.

Mayor Isen asked Mr. Whitacre if he had any further comments to make.

Mr. Whitacre said the Ordinance as it now stands prohibits soliciting by local as well as out of town people. He said that is not practical, and added that there is some question of its legality. Mr. Whitacre reported that he and the Police Department have many complaints about soliciting, and especially in tracts. He said similar cities in the area are controlling soliciting by issuance of licenses.

Councilman Benstead questioned whether this Ordinance applies to disabled veterans, saying he believes they are permitted to solicit anywhere.

Acting City Attorney Remelmeyer said there is some question as to whether the law of the State in this matter applies in a chartered city and in the teeth of our Ordinance.

Mayor Isen asked to hold this over for a week for further information.

Councilman Jahn said he believed we would be able to lessen this nuisance of soliciting by asking for a proper fee.

Mayor Isen said a proper Ordinance should be prepared to work this out.

Councilman Blount said there is no use drawing such an Ordinance that will not pass, and said he would vote against it.

Mr. Whitacre said our Ordinance prohibits soliciting in any form. He said only one comparable City in the area has a similarly stringent Ordinance, and that is the City of Palos Verdes. He said all 17 of the comparable cities in the area which he has canvassed on this matter grant free licenses to disabled veterans upon their showing proof of their disability. He pointed out that he considered this a good feature.

Mayor Isen again suggested this be left until Acting City Attorney Remelmeyer gives the Council a report on that point, asking that it be made before he leaves for camp.

Councilman Benstead moved Mr. Remelmeyer be asked to give the information to the License Inspector and instruct him to notify the applicant in this case accordingly.

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

Mayor Isen said it would be just as well to let the matter drop right there unless we could issue such a license, unless the Inspector wishes to introduce an amendment to permit free licenses for disabled veterans.

Mr. Whitacre said our present Ordinance is not practical. He added that there is soliciting in the City and he and the Police have to run down any solicitors, and after finding them can't do anything about it.

The Mayor suggested that Mr. Whitacre and the City Attorney make suggestions in writing as to amendments to the present Ordinance to make it more workable, not preparing a new Ordinance.

6. A letter dated July 25, 1956, from Chief of Police W. H. Haslam transmitted a petition containing thirty-two signatures requesting angle parking on Torrance Boulevard westerly from Cota Avenue to Beech.

Mayor Isen asked the Chief why all of Torrance Boulevard should not have this, and why the parking there cannot be uniform.

Chief Haslam said there is already some angle parking in the vicinity of this; the area is now limited to parallel parking and it will require an Ordinance to change it. Some parts of the Boulevard are too narrow to allow angle parking, he explained.

Councilman Blount asked why this was not referred to the Traffic Committee.

Councilman Jahn moved this be referred to the Traffic Committee.

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

7. A July 23, 1956, letter from the Los Angeles Board of Supervisors advised the Council that a Notice of Intention to circulate a petition for the incorporation of the City of Lomita was filed by proponents, and a legal description of the area proposed to be incorporated was enclosed.

There were no objections and this was ordered filed.

8. A letter dated July 20, 1956, from the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors advising that Notice of Intention to circulate a petition for the incorporation of a new city to be known as City of Rancho Vista was filed by proponents, and transmitting legal description of the area.

There were no objections and this was ordered filed.

9. A letter dated July 25, 1956, from the Retail Merchants Association referring to advertising on the Torrance buses, signed by Charles Gotts, President, was taken care of earlier in the meeting.

10. A petition signed by thirteen property owners along Elgar Avenue requested that their area be included in the proposed Storm Drain Bond Issue, dated July 21, 1956, was accompanied by a recommendation from the City Manager that this matter be referred to the Engineering Department for a cost estimate on the improvements requested.

There were no objections, and this was referred to the Engineering Department for the estimate recommended by the City Manager.

11. A letter dated July 23, 1956, from Ardanaz Brothers requesting an answer to their previous request for an extension of their agricultural lease at Torrance Municipal Airport, bore a recommendation from the City Manager that this be referred to the Airport Commission with a request for an early decision. The City Manager reported that this lease has produced more revenue for the City over the years than has any other lease to date, and that another advantage in having the agricultural lease is that the unused land is kept under cultivation and in relatively good shape throughout the year.

Councilman Jahn said the Airport Commission would not meet for another month, and that time was of the essence in this matter. He said Ardanaz Brothers do a good job, and have waited patiently for an answer on this.

Councilman Jahn moved, because the Airport Commission will not meet to act on this for another month, and as time is of the essence in farming procedures, that we grant this renewal in accordance with the request from Ardanaz Brothers.

Councilman Blount pointed out that they had asked for a lease to run coincident with Collins-Dietrich's lease.

Councilman Jahn said there is no reason they should not have this for the full term of the Collins-Dietrich lease, and made that a part of his motion.

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

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER:

1. A report dated July 27, 1956, on the use of City-owned vehicles and equipment by City employees, as requested by Councilman Blount at the meeting of July 24, 1956, was tendered by the City Manager.

There were no objections, and this was ordered filed as a matter of record.

2. The following recommendations were submitted for consideration and approval:

PERSONNEL:

1. John Higginbotham, who has been employed as a vacation relief Bus Operator, has been appointed to serve his probationary period as Bus Operator effective July 22, 1956, at the first salary step. (He is No. 1 on the Eligible List).
2. John B. Hoffman has been appointed to serve his probationary period as Park Maintenance Man, effective July 26, 1956, at the first salary step. (He is No. 1 on the Eligible List).
3. The following personnel have been employed as Park Maintenance Men, in a temporary capacity, at the first salary step and on the dates indicated.
 - (a) Harold A. Philip, effective July 25, 1956;
 - (b) Ronald E. Hogan, effective July 24, 1956;
 - (c) Edwin L. Cortelyou, effective July 24, 1956.

(Harold Philip in No. 6 position on the Eligible List and the only one on the list willing to accept temporary work at this time).

Councilman Jahn moved to concur with Recommendations 1 through 3, inclusive, of the City Manager, under Personnel.

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

4. That Casper Clemmer be authorized to attend the American Institute of Park Executives' Conference in Seattle, September 9 to 14, 1956, with appropriate expenses paid. Mr. Clemmer will take a portion of his vacation to attend the Conference.

Councilman Benstead moved to concur with this recommendation.

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

For Consideration:

1. Under the Street and Highway Code, under which our Parking District is formed, the employment of engineers, attorneys, and other persons necessary or convenient for doing of any act authorized by the Code is permitted. The Council should determine the source of payment for the incidental expenses, so that the Assessment Engineer may include them in his report. Expenses may be charged to the Assessment District or may be paid from other funds, which in our case would logically be Parking Meter funds.

City Manager Stevens said it should be decided at this time whether to charge incidental expenses of the Parking District to the Engineer, Legal Department, etc., or to the Parking District Fund. Mr. Stevens said normally this should be charged to the District, and he thinks it should be.

Councilman Benstead so moved.

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

2. It has been recommended that license fees for the rodeo, catering service, and concessions at the Civic Center during the Dedication ceremonies August 11 and 12 be waived.

Councilman Jahn moved to concur with this recommendation.

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

3. Immediate consideration should be given to purchasing additional fire-fighting equipment as outlined in a letter presented to Council, in order to avoid a price increase which is almost surely to occur.

Mayor Isen asked if the City Manager would prepare a proper recommendation.

City Manager Stevens said we would not be able to get delivery on these items until almost a year from now, and that the money would have to come out of unappropriated funds. He went on to say that if time is taken to prepare a recommendation for the next regular meeting of the Council, it might be too late to take advantage of present prices.

Councilman Benstead suggested that the Fire Committee meet this week with the Fire Chief and City Manager to consider these recommendations. He suggested they meet Wednesday morning, August 1, 1956, in the City Manager's office at 10:00 A. M.

Chief Benner and Mayor Isen said they would be there.

City Manager Stevens recommended that the Council authorize this Committee to order the equipment if they think it proper after that meeting.

Councilman Benstead moved that the Committee be so authorized.

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

Councilman Jahn asked the City Manager if the pump truck for the Airport would be ready soon.

Chief Benner answered, saying it would be here about the middle of August.

City Manager Stevens presented to the Council a preliminary budget for the dedication ceremonies at the new Civic Center, estimating the cost for the ceremonies to be about \$2500.00. Mr. Stevens said this estimate is based on study only, but he feels this event is of such importance that it should be done right in all respects.

Councilman Jahn demurred, saying he doubted this would be enough money. He agreed with the thought that these events were most important, and said he would hate to see them "flop".

City Manager Stevens said it might be a good idea to set the budget at \$3,000.00.

Mrs. Tillim, Chairman of the Recreation Commission, said they have reserved Harry Babbitt and a 7-piece orchestra for the dance at that event.

Councilman Benstead moved to concur with the recommendation that up to \$3,000.00 be allowed for these festivities.

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

Mayor Isen asked the City Manager for his oral recommendations.

City Manager Stevens said about two weeks ago, a petition had been given the Council requesting the removal of trees on Plaza Del Amo, and a letter from the Board of Education had tendered a similar request, as well as a request for certain traffic control measures in that area.

The City Manager said several people are here who are interested in that matter.

The City Manager reminded the Council that the matter had been referred to the Parks & Recreation Commission for a recommendation, and an estimate of the costs which would be incurred as requested by Councilman Jahn.

The City Manager reported that he had called for bids on the removal of these trees and stumps, and clearing the land, and got only one bid, which was in the amount of \$8298.00, which included removing the stumps and debris to a public dump and disposing of them.

The Park Foreman, Casper Clemmer, said if his Department was allowed to do this in the rainy season, when they have ample time, they can do this at a cost of between \$2500.00 and \$3,000.00.

Councilman Jahn commented that the bid received from outside is not very high.

The City Manager agreed, saying the disposal of these in the public dumps would cost about \$3.00 per stump.

City Manager Stevens referred to a letter from the Parks and Recreation Commission recommending the trees be saved and had been topped.

Mrs. Burr, who lives on Plaza Del Amo, said the trees have not been topped for about 15 years. She said they lean over her house and cause litter and a dangerous condition. She asked if the request of the Board of Education had not been granted.

City Manager Stevens said the requests for traffic control had been granted, as had that portion of the request asking for permission to put in curbs, gutters, and sidewalks on the east side of the street.

Chief of Police Haslam said there are many complaints about people dumping rubbish there, and there is a lot of parking there.

Mrs. Burr said it has been a rendezvous for drinking and petting, and the trees should be taken down.

Joe Radolovich of 3222 Arlington concurred in the request for the removal of the trees, saying they create many nuisance conditions.

Mrs. Tillim said a mistake had been made in the letter from the Parks and Recreation Commission, and Park Foreman Clemmer should not be blamed for it. She said he had suggested the trees be topped, he had not said they had already been topped. She said the Commission feels the people

will be sorry if these trees are removed, as the view will not be good, and the trees serve as a windbreak. She said tree-lined streets such as Plaza del Amo add to the beauty of our City. She said they would like to see the trees saved, but if it is the will of the people that the trees be removed, then the Parks and Recreation Commission will not object.

Mr. Guy King of 1961 Plaza Del Amo asked the trees be removed and the street beautified.

Councilman Jahn asked if these trees are on City property, and the City Manager said they are.

Councilman Benstead cited the beauty of the trees in question expressed the hope they can be saved.

Mr. Radolovich asked the Council to come down and look at the trees and see the conditions that exist.

Mrs. Burr concurred with Mr. Radolovich, asking the street be made to conform to the appearance of it between Arlington and Border, where she thinks it is a beautiful street.

Mr. Barra of 2227 Arlington pointed up the cost to the City of keeping nearby City property clean.

Councilman Benstead moved this be held over for a week and the City Council go and look at the trees.

Mayor Isen seconded the motion.

Councilman Benstead withdrew his motion, and Mayor Isen withdrew his second.

Councilman Blount moved to remove the trees and improve the street as we have the funds available.

Motion died for lack of a second.

Councilman Blount moved the Parks and Recreation Commission be instructed to remove the trees as quickly as they can.

Motion died for lack of a second.

Councilman Blount moved the matter be filed.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Benstead, Blount, Jahn. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Isen. ABSENT: Drale.

Mayor Isen suggested the people come back next week and see if any action is taken on this.

A letter from the Parks and Recreation Commission dated July 26, 1956, asked for a clarification from the Council of the allocation for the Torrance Area Youth Band, and asked for a definite recommendation.

Mayor Isen said he thought the motion carried in the Council Minutes of the meeting of July 3, Page 1, quite clear.

Commissioner Tillim said there was some doubt as to whether it was meant that this would be under the Commission or under the Department.

Mayor Isen explained to Mrs. Tillim that all of this is under the jurisdiction of the Commission, and through them, under the Director of the Recreation Department.

Commissioner Tillim said they would like to have their instructions in writing.

Mayor Isen said a copy of this portion of the Minutes of this meeting will be referred to the Parks and Recreation Commission.

City Manager Stevens said the funds would have to be allocated to the Department.

Mayor Isen said the Commission and the Director could work this out.

At 6:58 P. M., Mayor Isen declared a short recess, with the Council re-convening at 7:05 P. M.

Councilman Benstead failed to appear at 7:05 P. M.

ENGINEERING AND PLANNING COMMISSION MATTERS:

1. A letter from R. W. Bishop, City Engineer, recommending release of improvement bond on Tract No. 19891 was dated July 25, 1956. Attached

were a letter from the Park Foreman approving the trees planted in the parkways of this tract and a location sketch.

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

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

Councilman Benstead entered at 7:06 P. M.

2. A letter dated July 27, 1956, from John R. Patrick, Ass't. to City Engineer, requesting re-approval of Final Tract Map No. 22109, located easterly of Ardath Avenue and northerly of Tract 18852, due to change of ownership. Attached were (a) letter from Theodore Kleiner; (b) location sketch.

City Engineer Bishop said the stipulations made on this tract had been complied with.

Councilman Jahn asked if the bond had been changed, and City Engineer Bishop said it had not been paid, and it was not the custom to have the bond presented until the final map is approved.

Councilman Jahn asked if this should not be changed, but the Council said there has never been any trouble about this.

City Engineer Bishop said his signature is withheld until the bond is received.

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

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

3. A letter dated July 27, 1956, from John R. Patrick, Ass't. to the City Engineer, submitting Resolution authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the contract between the City and Warren-Southwest for the improvement of Crenshaw Boulevard, with summary of bids attached. Councilman Jahn moved to concur.

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

City Clerk Bartlett read:

RESOLUTION NO. 2973

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

Councilman 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. 2973.

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

4. Letter dated July 27, 1956, from John R. Patrick, Ass't. to City Engineer, submitting Resolution authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the contract between the City and Warren-Southwest for the improvement of Carson and Post $\frac{1}{2}$ summary of bids attached.

Councilman Benstead moved to concur.

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

City Clerk Bartlett read:

RESOLUTION NO. 2974

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

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

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

Councilman Jahn moved for adoption of Resolution No. 2974.

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

5. Letter from John Patrick, Ass't. to City Engineer, dated July 27, 1956, regarding City of Torrance participation in \$150,000,000 proposed County Bond Issue for street and highway improvement, and submitting for approval a recommended list of streets in the City that the Engineering Department feels should be placed for construction in this bond issue. Attached was a report covering these latter.

Councilman Jahn moved to concur with the recommendations, and that this be sent to the proper office by personal messenger tomorrow morning to get it there in time.

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

6. FINAL TRACT MAP NO. 22654. Transmittal form from Planning Commission and Engineering Department recommending approval of Final Tract Map No. 22654, located northerly of proposed San Diego Freeway, southerly of 182nd Street and approximately 390 feet westerly of Arlington Avenue, containing 51 lots, presented by Property Management Corporation. Attached:
- (a) Excerpt from Planning Commission Minutes of July 18, 1956;
 - (b) Letter from John R. Patrick, Ass't. to City Engineer, dated July 18, 1956.
 - (c) Location sketch.

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

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

7. CASE NO. 388: Transmittal form from Planning Commission recommending approval of petition instituted by Planning Commission for Change of Zone on property adjoining Crenshaw Boulevard, between 164th Street and 167th Street to Zone C-2.

Mayor Isen set the date for the Hearing as August 14, 1956, in the Council Chambers at the new City Hall at 3031 Torrance Boulevard.

The date was approved unanimously by a voice poll of the Council.

8. CASE NO. 396: Transmittal form from Planning Commission recommending approval of petition of Harry S. Miller for Change of Zone on Lots 1 to 10, Tract 19626, Lots 10 to 13, Tract 18911, from Land Use Zone R-2 to Controlled Commercial Zoning, on Crenshaw Boulevard between 178th and 181st Streets.

Mayor Isen set the date for the Hearing as August 14, 1956, in the Council Chambers at the new City Hall.

The date was approved unanimously by a voice poll of the Council.

9. A letter dated July 27, 1956, from the Planning Commission, with two Ordinances attached, recommends that these be approved. One of the Ordinances establishes maximum width of curb cuts, and provides for a parking island between driveways, and the other prohibits an opening onto a major street from a lot where the principal access is to another street. Both of these ordinances were prepared at the behest of the City Council.

City Clerk Bartlett read:

ORDINANCE NO. 817

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 25 OF "THE CODE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, 1954", PROVIDING A LIMITATION ON THE WIDTH OF DRIVEWAYS USED FOR RESIDENTIAL PURPOSES.

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

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

Mayor Isen moved for adoption of Ordinance No. 817 at its first reading.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 818

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 25 OF "THE CODE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, 1954" LIMITING THE CONSTRUCTION OF DRIVEWAYS ON THROUGH LOTS FROM MAJOR AND SECONDARY STREETS AND HIGHWAYS.

Councilman Jahn moved to dispense with further reading of Ordinance No. 818.

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

Councilman Jahn moved for adoption of Ordinance No. 818 at its first reading.

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

Mayor Isen read a report from the office of the City Clerk, advising that there is on file in that office a report for the Air Pollution Control District on SMOG AND THE AUTO EXHAUST (No. 18) and HYDROCARBONS (No. 4) are available in the office for anyone who cares to examine them.

City Clerk Bartlett read:

RESOLUTION NO. 2976

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE FINDING AND DETERMINING THAT THE PUBLIC INTEREST AND NECESSITY REQUIRE THE ACQUISITION BY THE SAID CITY OF TORRANCE OF CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY, IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE, FOR A PUBLIC PARK SITE; AND DIRECTING THE CITY ATTORNEY TO BRING AND PROSECUTE AN ACTION IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE CONDEMNATION THEREOF; AND REPEALING RESOLUTION NO. 2947.

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

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

Councilman Jahn asked if this would set in motion the machinery for the condemnation of the site north of the Civic Center.

Mr. Remelmeyer said it would, and that it had been passed once, but this Resolution contains a re-description by the Title Company.

Councilman Jahn asked if the Council could still make variations in the lines, the amount of acreage, etc.

Mr. Remelmeyer said the can and might, when we make our negotiations with the present owners of the land.

Councilman Benstead moved for adoption of Resolution No. 2976.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Jahn, carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Benstead, Jahn, Isen. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Blount. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Drale.

RESOLUTION NO. 2977

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 of those present.

Councilman Jahn moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2977.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 819

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE PROHIBITING THE ERECTION OF ANY SIGNS OR SIGN STRUCTURES IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE FOR A SIXTY (60) DAY PERIOD.

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

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

Councilman Jahn moved for adoption of Urgency Ordinance No. 819 at its first and final reading.

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

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

City Manager Stevens said the City Council had authorized the condemnation of a portion of Calle Mayor and Anza, and the proceedings have gone forward. The appraisal value of the property is \$10,000.00, which will have to be paid. He said this would have to be paid out of the Unappropriated Reserve.

City Attorney Remelmeyer said when he comes back from camp, he will have further information on the park which he thinks should be considered further than filing suit.

Councilman Benstead asked City Manager Stevens if Arlington Avenue, from the south boundary of the City to Sepulveda, would be widened and re-surfaced soon.

The City Manager said there is a street project now in Sacramento which, upon approval, will permit us to call for bids to re-surface Arlington. He said to widen the street we will need additional right of way, but the re-surfacing will fit into any future widening of the street.

Councilman Benstead asked about curbs, gutters, and sidewalks on the East side of Arlington, and the City Manager said any such moved would have to come from the people.

Councilman Blount asked to have the record show that Councilman Drale is on his vacation, and that the Council has this evening welcomed Councilman Benstead home from his vacation.

Councilman Jahn asked if the Councilmen had received copies of the proposed Master Plan for the Torrance Airport, and the answer was that they had.

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:25 P. M.

APPROVED:



City Clerk of the City of Torrance



Mayor of the City of Torrance