

Torrance, California  
August 7, 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, August 7, 1956, in the Council Chambers, at the City Hall at 1511 Cravens Avenue, Torrance, California.

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

Mayor Isen commented that in all probability City Clerk Bartlett had led the salute to the Flag at the first meeting of the City Council in this Council Chamber, and asked if he would lead the salute to the Flag this evening, at the last meeting of the Council in this building. City Clerk Bartlett led the salute to our Flag.

Reverend Stanton opened the meeting with an invocation.

Councilman Blount asked to withhold approval of the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held July 31, 1956, because he had not received a copy of them.

As only Councilman Jahn had received copies of the Minutes, there were no objections to Councilman Blount's request, and it was so ordered.

Mayor Isen announced that the next meeting of the City Council will be held in the Council Chambers at the new City Hall at 3031 Torrance Boulevard at 8:00 P. M. Tuesday, August 14, 1956.

Mayor Isen said he has been advised there is not enough time to publish the Hearings set for August 14, and so they will necessarily be set over for the meeting of the Council to be held on Tuesday, August 28, 1956, at 8:00 P. M., in the Council Chambers at the new City Hall.

Councilman Jahn so moved.

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

Mayor Isen asked George Powell, Planning Director, to advise everyone interested of this change of time for those Hearings.

Mr. Powell said his office will notify everyone within 300 feet of the properties of the change of time of Hearings by postcard, even though this is not customary.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:

1. A letter of thanks to the Mayor and Council for the kindness and recognition shown Adriaan Willemsen, an Exchange Student, from the Burgomaster of The Hague, Netherlands, Adriaan's home. This letter was dated July 7, 1956, and also thanked the City of Torrance for the copy of the Resolution passed by the City Council concerning the student.

There were no objections, and Mayor Isen ordered this letter filed and the original preserved together with a similar letter from Germany which was received some time ago. The Mayor suggested this letter might be framed and hung in the Trophy Room at the new Civic Center.

2. The claim of F. M. Garvin for damages to automobile incurred June 29, 1956, was presented by Arthur W. Miller, attorney, of 4439 Atlantic Avenue, Long Beach, California.

Councilman Benstead moved this be denied and referred to the City Attorney.

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

3. A complaint dated July 30, 1956, from R. H. Holmes against noise and dust created by Seaside Rancho Little League baseball fans and participants; also against loud speaker used in connection with these activities.

Councilman Blount advised the Council that the Little League season is over, so that irritant to Mr. Holmes will not recur this year; he added that the loud speaker Mr. Holmes complained about is in a park in Redondo Beach and out of the jurisdiction of the City of Torrance; he pointed out that this is a drainage basin and cannot be grassed; he added that Mr. Holmes would also like to have planes and blimps refrain from travelling over his home.

Mayor Isen asked City Manager Stevens to report the above information to Mr. Holmes.

There being no objections, the letter was ordered filed.

4. Complaint dated June 14, 1956, from C. B. Wyatt, of 3605 W. 190th Street, Torrance, about the rubbish and weeds at 190th and Yukon, and saying that his neighbors feel, as he does, that the situation needed correction.

A memorandum from Ralph Perkins, Street Superintendent, to Don Mansfield, Administrative Assistant, regarding this complaint was dated August 1, 1956, and assured him that the northeast corner of Yukon and 190th Street had been cleaned and a sign posted there under Ordinance No. 471 forbidding dumping or littering.

There being no objections, both letters were ordered filed.

5. A letter dated August 2, 1956, from the Civil Service Board regarding certain changes the Council has requested in the Civil Service Ordinance.

Councilman Benstead moved this matter be held for an opinion from the Acting City Attorney when he returns from his sojourn at camp.

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

6. A letter dated August 8, 1956, from City Attorney Remelmeyer referred to the City-owned property within the Parking Assessment District. Mr. Remelmeyer said that after checking with City Manager Stevens, he believes the City does not wish to be assessed on the property the City owns within the District.

Mayor Isen asked Mr. Stevens for his opinion, and the City Manager replied he does not think it is the desire of the City to have their property assessed.

Councilman Benstead moved to concur with the City Manager that the City-owned property not be assessed.

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

7. A letter dated August 7, 1956, from Stanley E. Remelmeyer, Acting City Attorney, submitted for Council approval a statement from Mr. Robert Pannell for services as City Prosecutor for three weeks during the months of June and July, 1956, in the amount of \$187.50. The statement was approved by both City Manager Stevens and Acting City Attorney Remelmeyer.

Councilman Blount moved to approve payment to Mr. Pannell of the \$187.50.

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

8. A letter dated August 7, 1956, from Acting City Attorney Remelmeyer, submitted for approval payment due Mr. Irving Davidson for services as City Prosecutor for three weeks during the months of June and July, 1956, in the amount of \$187.50.

This statement was approved by both City Manager Stevens and Acting City Attorney Remelmeyer.

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Councilman Jahn asked if this was for the same period of time as Mr. Pannell's bill had been, and City Manager Stevens replied that the two statements covered a six-week period.

Councilman Blount moved to approve payment to Mr. Davidson of his statement of \$187.50.

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

Councilman Jahn asked if anything had been done about making Mr. Remelmeyer our City Attorney, and the City Manager said we are calling now for an examination.

9. A recommendation dated July 31, 1956, from Chief of Police W. H. Haslam regarding the School Board's request for Traffic Control on Plaza del Amo at the School District's property, recommended that 15-miles-per-hour signs be posted by the school property. The Chief of Police said the restrictions under which 25-miles-per-hour speed limit can be required do not exist on that street.

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

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

Councilman Jahn asked if there are restrictions on a 35-mile-per-hour zone, and the Chief of Police said no, when in the opinion of the Traffic Officer of the City such a speed limit is deemed necessary.

Councilman Jahn, at the invitation of the Mayor, introduced his brother Fred, who is visiting from Lee Center, Illinois.

Mayor Isen appointed Councilman Blount our City's representative to the Little League play-off in Santa Ana.

Mayor Isen appointed Mr. Reid Bundy of the Torrance Herald as a representative of the City on the South Bay Highways Committee, with the approval of the City Council.

Mr. Bundy accepted the appointment.

#### Recommendations of the City Manager:

##### PERSONNEL:

1. Joseph W. Roberts and Clarence J. Riebold were employed as Janitors, effective August 6, 1956, at the first salary step, being No. 1 and No. 2 on the Eligible List.
2. The following personnel were employed on a temporary basis in the Street Department at the first salary step, effective on the dates indicated:
  - (a) Raul R. Garcia -- July 23, 1956
  - (b) Arnie J. Leclercq -- August 1, 1956
  - (c) Joe White -- August 2, 1956
3. Michael J. Parrino was employed on a temporary basis for vacation relief as a Bus Operator, effective August 1, 1956, at the first salary step. (Mr. Parrino is not on the Eligible List, but no one on the List was willing to accept temporary employment.

Councilman Benstead moved to concur with recommendations 1, 2, and 3 under Personnel, as presented by the City Manager.

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

4. Leon Francois has been re-employed as a Bus Attendant for the period August 4 to August 31, 1956, inclusive, at the first salary step. His employment is necessary to fill in during the vacation period.

Councilman Jahn moved to concur with recommendation No. 4 of the City Manager under Personnel.

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

5. That J. A. Beasley be temporarily appointed as Land Use Investigator, effective August 16, 1956, at the first salary step, pending a Civil Service examination for the classification.

Councilman Jahn moved to concur with recommendation No. 5 of the City Manager under Personnel.

Councilman Blount asked the City Manager what he considers to be the sudden urgency of this job.

City Manager Stevens said the Planning Commission asked for the job to be filled, and it was their understanding that this applicant had applied for the job. The examination for this job has been called for, Mr. Stevens went on, but the posters are not out yet.

Mayor Isen seconded the motion, and said he had asked Planning Director Powell at the last meeting of the Council why the City has not been able to fully enforce the safety measures required for sumps, uncovered machinery, etc., and Mr. Powell had replied that only about 35% of his time could be spent in enforcement duties.

Mayor Isen asked Planning Director Powell for confirmation of this, and Mr. Powell said that had been his statement.

Mayor Isen said he feels there is urgency, if by this action we can have more adequate enforcement.

Councilman Blount asked whether Mr. Powell or this appointee will do the urgent work, and Mayor Isen replied that would be worked out in the office.

Councilman Blount asked that the record show it is his belief and statement that the appointment of Mr. Beasley without a civil service examination is the payment of a political debt contracted prior to the last election, and that's his opinion. There is no urgency for this, he went on, but we are manufacturing an urgency for it, but he can't possibly see how one member of the Council who has always been the first to speak up that we should have civil service examinations for all jobs, can see his way clear to vote for this thing unless it is just exactly what he has termed it.

Mayor Isen pointed out that this is Mr. Blount's opinion.

Councilman Blount agreed.

Mayor Isen directed the record to show it is simply Councilman Blount's opinion.

Councilman Jahn said everyone is entitled to his opinion, and so he respects Councilman Blount's opinion, however, whether this is payment of a political debt or not has no bearing on the case when there is a need for a man to do a job. He said he travels through the oil fields every day, and notices the improvements going on, and would like to see them cleaned up faster and faster.

Councilman Blount asked what would happen if this man does not pass the examination.

Councilman Jahn replied that in case that should happen, he would cease his employment.

Councilman Blount said "I have seen it happen otherwise."

Councilman Jahn assured Councilman Blount that if Mr. Beasley does not pass the examination, he will go along with Councilman Blount on it, but he is in favor of this whether it is in political payment or not.

Councilman Drale, who had just joined the meeting, asked if this was set up in the budget.

City Manager Stevens said the job description was approved by the City Council after the tentative budget was set up, and it will be provided for in the final budget.

Councilman Drale asked if we need the services of a Land Use Investigator at the present time.

City Manager Stevens said that was under discussion.

Councilman Jahn said other areas than the oil fields need cleaning up.

Councilman Drale suggested calling for an examination.

Councilman Benstead said that would take months.

Councilman Blount asked if an examination for the job had been ordered.

City Manager Stevens said yes, and that normally it takes about six weeks or two months to get an Eligible list.

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

Councilman Drale moved that as this is a new job, the City Manager call for an examination immediately, within 30 days if possible.

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

Councilman Drale asked if this leaves a vacancy on the Planning Commission, and suggested that if it does, Kenny Uyeda of North Torrance would make an excellent member of that Commission.

Mayor Isen said he would consider the suggestion.

#### APPROPRIATIONS:

1. The Bus Department will take delivery on two new buses on or about August 15, 1956, at Pontiac, Mich. The Department estimates that \$170 per bus can be saved by sending Department drivers to the factory to drive the buses to Torrance. I recommend that \$600 be authorized to send the drivers to Pontiac for the buses.

Councilman Jahn asked the City Manager if this means \$300 each for sending the drivers to Pontiac, and the City Manager replied that was correct.

Councilman Jahn moved to concur with the recommendation as corrected. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

2. For the purchase of the following equipment for the Fire Department, the sum of \$45,777.50 plus sales tax: (From Unappropriated Reserve)
  - (a) One only Mack Model B30P Rescue Truck.
  - (b) One only Mack Model B125-1, 250-gallon Class A Triple Combination Pumper.

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

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

3. To Barclay Surveying Company for engineering services during the month of June, 1956, the sum of \$1,761.38.

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

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

IMPROVEMENT OF BLUFF STREET:

A communication from Eldorado Estates, Inc. regarding the improvement of Bluff Street was attached to the City Manager's recommendation, which read as follows:

"The City's policy on the improvement of dedicated streets has been to require the abutting property owners to pay for the installation of curb, gutter and sidewalk. The pavement then being installed by the City. I recommend that this policy be followed on the improvement of Bluff Street."

Mr. Dudley Gray of 1331 Gardena Blvd., a representative of Eldorado Estates, explained to the Council that they have asked the City to install the curbs and gutters along a portion of Bluff Street because Eldorado Estates is building there, and is installing curbs and gutters. They have extended the street past its former ending point, where there are no curbs and gutters, but where there are several residences. Mr. Gray said this will cause the water to drain off the street where Eldorado Estates are putting in curbs and gutters onto the property already developed there.

Mayor Isen asked if the Councilmen wished to hold this over to go back to the City Manager and City Engineer for their investigation and recommendation.

Councilman Blount said if we start improving streets, which has not been the policy of the City, there will be a long list of streets needing such improvements at the next meeting.

Councilman Blount moved to concur with the recommendation of the City Manager on the street improvements adding that Mr. Gray could circulate petitions around up there if the people want curbs and gutters.

Councilman Benstead seconded the motion, which carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Drale moved the City Engineer be authorized to make an investigation of the problem on the property under discussion and report back to the Council on it.

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

ENGINEERING AND PLANNING COMMISSION MATTERS:

1. CASE NO. 394: Petition of Henry M. Guenser for Variance to remove clay from a defined area in Lot 72, McDonald Tract, Zone M-1, recommended for approval by Planning Commission.

NOTE: This Case was submitted to the Council at their meeting of May 24. Motion by Councilman Jahn to concur with the recommendations of the Planning Commission with certain stipulations made by Councilman Jahn, seconded by Mayor Isen, was ordered tabled for two weeks for a report from the City Attorney.

Mr. Irving Davidson of 1331 Gardena Blvd., attorney, representing Mr. and Mrs. Henry M. Guenser, spoke to the Council.

Mr. Davidson said he has checked the Resolution of the Council very carefully, and there are only one or two areas of disagreement.

The first, he said, was that while they do not object to the City of Torrance dumping refuse there on the property, they do not want the City to have such rights exclusively, and would like to have that portion requiring such rights for the City re-worded.

He added that Mr. and Mrs. Guenser are willing that the City get this property when work is completed, but that no one ever knows what a tax court will do, and for this reason, they would like to prepare and record a contract calling for delivery of the deeds when the work is completed rather than put the deeds into escrow now. In case they die before the land is delivered to the City, their estate will pay any probate costs, etc., incurred by presentation of the contract calling for delivery of the deeds.

Councilman Drale asked if the Guenser's had considered posting a cash bond, and Mr. Davidson said not that he knew about.

Councilman Drale asked what would happen if such a contract was prepared and they changed their minds about this, and Mayor Isen said the Probate Court would respect the contract.

Mr. Davidson said he is familiar with the plans of Mr. and Mrs. Guenser, and that he has discussed this with Acting City Attorney Remelmeyer; he added he is willing to personally vouch that the Guenser's are going to do what they say they will.

Mr. Davidson told the Council the Guenser's have asked if he will be allowed to draw the agreement, and they would like for him to do so.

Mayor Isen asked the Councilmen to express themselves as to whether or not they are willing to accept a recorded contract in lieu of the deeds.

Councilman Benstead said he would like to have the opinion of our own City Attorney before deciding on this, and other Councilmen agreed with him.

Mayor Isen directed that this will be held over until Mr. Remelmeyer returns from military duty, about two weeks, for any decision.

Mr. Davidson asked that Item 5 of Councilman Jahn's stipulations on Page 11 of the Council Minutes of the meeting of July 24, 1956, be clarified; he added that this is a matter of policy.

Councilman Jahn said that assuming what Mr. Davison says is correct, he will go along with the suggestion, otherwise he will not.

Councilmen Benstead and Blount reiterated that they would wait until they hear from the City Attorney on the matter.

Councilman Drale said Mr. Guenser's word is good, and under the conditions, he will go along, but he wants to be sure the parcel of land Mr. Guenser is working on now is turned over to the City when the fill is completed.

Mayor Isen directed Mr. Davidson to contact Mr. Remelmeyer to discuss this and get the agreement drawn up, and it will be considered at the first meeting of the Council after Mr. Remelmeyer's return, with Mr. Remelmeyer's office to see that it is on the Agenda.

At 6:12 P. M., the Mayor declared a 5-minute recess, with the Council re-convening at 6:17 P. M.

2. A letter dated August 3, 1956, from John R. Patrick, Ass't. to the City Engineer, submitting an easement for a storm drain in Tract 21189.

City Clerk Bartlett read:

RESOLUTION NO. 2978

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE TO ACCEPT THAT CERTAIN GRANT OF EASEMENT FROM MILTON KAUFFMAN, INC.

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. 2978.

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

3. A letter dated August 3, 1956, from John R. Patrick, Ass't. to the City Engineer, re-submitting easements for construction of sewer in Hollywood Riviera Sewer District No. 2. This was re-submitted for the reason that some of the tract numbers shown in Resolution No. 2968, accepting these easements, were incorrect, and this Resolution re-accepts these easements and repeals Resolution No. 2968.

City Clerk Bartlett read:

RESOLUTION NO. 2979

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO ACCEPT, ON BEHALF OF THE CITY, THOSE CERTAIN EASEMENT DEEDS IN THE HOLLYWOOD RIVIERA AREA AND REPEALING RESOLUTION NO. 2968.

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

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

4. A letter dated August 7, 1956, from Planning Director George Powell, regarding the request of the Council for a Zone to protect the existing parking lots. This letter explained that some members of the Planning Commission felt that the proposed zone change is a very delicate one, and asked the opinion of the Council as to whether all of the parcels indicated on the map designated Exhibit A should be considered on this rezoning study.

Mr. Powell presented Exhibit A to the Council for their study. He explained that Parcel C shown on this map was excluded, as it is City property. Mr. Powell said the Planning Commission has instructed him to prepare a list of the property owners and start the zone changing action if it is the wish of the Council.

Councilman Blount said the map is not correct, and Mr. Powell replied that with the one exception of Parcel C, previously explained, it is correct.

Councilman Blount said the original motion did not include such lots as one owned by an apartment house for its tenants, but lots used for public parking. He pointed out that Parcels J and K on the map presented by Mr. Powell were such privately used parking lots.

After some discussion, the Mayor directed that the record show that after an informal discussion, Mr. Powell had the feeling of the Council on this matter and could go ahead accordingly.

Councilman Blount asked that the record show no private parking lots are included.

Mayor Isen asked that it be shown this inquiry from the Planning Commission was answered in open meeting by informal discussion.

CASE NO. 400:

Transmittal form from Planning Commission, recommending approval of request of J. E. Kettler for Variance to permit construction and operation of a trailer park at 238th Street and Western Avenue in Land Use Zone A-1.

Councilman Blount said he objected to this type of development because it does not pay its own way, yet asks just as much service from the City as other homes demand. He asked Mr. Kettler, who was present, if he had any suggestions.

Mr. J. E. Kettler of 24227 Western Avenue, said he proposed the following stipulation:

"That the operator himself cover all expenses and costs of the normal City services, such as trash pickup, garbage disposal and combustible rubbish pickup.

Mr. Kettler went on to say he has investigated the matter to see if the fee charged for trailers would cover the cost of this work, and said there are contractors in the County doing this sort of collection who are

\* Councilman Jahn moved for adoption of Resolution No. 2979.

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

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anxious to do the work for him at this trailer park, and said he is willing to make this obligatory.

Mayor Isen asked if the home owners on the North had been notified.

Mr. Kettler said they had; either he or his representative have contacted the owners of all those homes within 300 feet except two (one of whom is an absentee owner and one of whom is in a sanitarium) and received approval from them of this proposed trailer park. He said he had turned over to the Planning Commission a statement signed by 28 of the 30 saying they would not protest the trailer park.

Mayor Isen verified with Mr. Kettler that he is willing to have a stipulation added that Mr. Kettler or his heirs or assigns will forever agree to pay for the services Mr. Kettler has mentioned here.

Mayor Isen asked if Mr. Kettler is willing to add that the annual renewal of the license for this trailer court will be dependent upon such agreement being kept, and Mr. Kettler said he is.

Councilman Drale asked Planning Director Powell if all property owners within 300 feet were notified, and Mr. Powell said they were.

Councilman Blount asked about the houses to the south of the area.

Mr. Kettler said they are not yet occupied, but each buyer is being told that the trailer park is planned. Mr. Kettler explained he intends to bring in a small subdivision of about 9 lots north of 238th Street that will fill the area, but said he will put a masonry wall between the houses and the trailer park.

Mayor Isen said the trailer park should be there before the houses are built.

Mr. Kettler said work on the trailer park will begin from 60 to 90 days after the permit is received.

Councilman Benstead asked who would run this park, and Mr. Kettler said he will, adding he intends to maintain and operate this park for adults only.

Councilman Drale moved to concur with the recommendation of the Planning Commission and grant the Variance in accordance with the stipulation as shown and agreed to here, being shown as Stipulation No. 8.

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

Mayor Isen said the Agreement approved by Resolution No. 2980 should be amended as follows:

- (d) will refer solely to the President of the Armory Board of the Torrance Armory, and that one-half of their annual allotment, \$250, will be paid before August 11, 1956, and the other one-half of their annual allotment, \$250, will be paid to them on February 15, 1957.
- (e) shall refer to the Torrance Mounted Police and shall be exactly as it is written in Item (d) of the Agreement as it is now written.

There were no objections, and the corrections were ordered.  
City Clerk Bartlett read:

RESOLUTION NO. 2980

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE TO EXECUTE THAT CERTAIN AGREEMENT BETWEEN SAID CITY AND THE TORRANCE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE RELATIVE TO ADVERTISING AND PROMOTING THE CITY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 1956-1957.

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

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

Councilman Jahn moved for adopted of Resolution No. 2980 with the corrections in the Agreement as ordered.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried by the following

roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Blount, Drale, Jahn, Isen. NOES:  
COUNCILMEN: Benstead. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

City Clerk Bartlett read from the Minutes of the July 24, 1956, meeting of the City Council a motion by Councilman Drale to table Resolution No. 2970 for two weeks for study, motion seconded by Mayor Isen, no objection, so ordered.

City Clerk Bartlett then read:

RESOLUTION NO. 2970

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE PRESCRIBING RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE USE OF PARK AND RECREATION FACILITIES OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AND ESTABLISHING A SCHEDULE OF FEES TO BE CHARGED FOR SUCH USE.

Councilman Jahn moved for adoption of Resolution No. 2970.

Motion, seconded by Mayor Isen.

Councilman Drale asked if the schedules pertain to the little buildings at various parks such as the one at El retiro and North Torrance Park, saying he doesn't think that would be right. Councilman Jahn pointed out the exception of non-profit organizations, etc., from the proposed charges.

Mayor Isen suggested that this be held over and Recreation Director Van Bellehem be asked to attend the next meeting of the Council to discuss this.

Councilman Jahn withdrew his motion, Mayor Isen withdrew his second.

There were no objections, and this was ordered held for the next meeting of the Council, with Mr. Van Bellehem to be asked to be in attendance at that meeting.

RESOLUTION NO. 2982

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE PRESCRIBING RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE USE OF THE MUNICIPAL PLUNGE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AND ESTABLISHING A SCHEDULE OF FEES TO BE CHARGED FOR SUCH USE.

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

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

Councilman Benstead moved for adoption of Resolution No. 2982.

Motion seconded by Councilman Drale.

Councilman Jahn asked if it is necessary for these fees to be so high.

City Manager Stevens said we will have a very short season at the plunge this year, and that the fees are patterned after those charged by other cities in the area.

Councilman Drale asked if a program of some kind setting up a 'season ticket' or something of that type could be arranged.

City Manager Stevens said perhaps something can be worked out when the pool is taking in money, but there will be such a short season this year that it would be unreasonable.

Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

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 Benstead moved to dispense with further reading of the Ordinance.

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

Councilman Benstead moved for adoption of Ordinance No. 817 at its second and final reading.

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

#### 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<sup>4</sup> LIMITING THE CONSTRUCTION OF DRIVEWAYS ON THROUGH LOTS FROM MAJOR AND SECONDARY STREETS AND HIGHWAYS.

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

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

Councilman Jahn moved for adoption of Ordinance No. 818 at its second and final reading.

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

#### ORAL COMMUNICATION

City Engineer Bishop said Mr. Gray would like to say something which the City Engineer has the supporting data on.

Mayor Isen told Mr. Bishop Mr. Gray would be able to speak to the Council later when the floor is opened for communication.

Councilman Drale said there was a request from 166th and Crenshaw and 168th and Cherry for traffic regulation devices, saying he had seen a letter which Mr. Miles sent in asking about this. Councilman Drale added when the majority of the people in an area want a safety device of that sort, he believes they should have it.

Mayor Isen said the letter was ordered filed because another point of view was presented at the same time, and seemed logical.

Councilman Drale asked if the Traffic Committee has given it any study.

Councilman Blount said they have never met, and that he wants to have a meeting.

Councilman Drale moved the Traffic Commission meet within the next week and make a recommendation at the next meeting of the Council on this.

Chief of Police Haslam said it had been agreed here by common consent that this traffic control device was unnecessary.

The Chief of Police went on to say he had called meetings of the Traffic Commission and none of the members appear.

Mayor Isen said he will yield to Mr. Blount on this Committee.

Under the Ordinance, the Mayor said, there should be one member of the Council, one from the Police Dept., one from the Engineering Department, one from the City Attorney's office on the Traffic Committee. He pointed out that there had been one too many members from the Council on that Commission. Mayor Isen suggested they meet when Stanley Remelmeyer, Acting City Attorney, returned from his annual two-week tour of duty as a Major, Artillery, USAR.

Councilman Jahn gave Chief Haslam a similar request from the Thriftmart on Sepulveda Boulevard for study at that meeting.

Councilman Drale moved that his motion to re-instate the Civil Service Board to its full trial board status be taken off the table.

Councilman Jahn asked Councilman Drale to re-frame the motion.

Councilman Drale moved that the Civil Service Board be re-instated to its official capacity under the Ordinances of the City of Torrance as a trial board for the employees of the City of Torrance.

Councilman Drale said many requests now being received from City employees by the Council should be referred to the Civil Service Board.

Councilman Blount had seconded the motion when it was originally made by Councilman Drale.

Councilman Benstead moved to table the motion for more time to study it.

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

Councilman Jahn said he believes the manner of posting subdivision improvement bonds in our City is rather backward; he asked if this was a matter of policy or if it needed to be changed by Ordinance or Resolution.

City Engineer Bishop replied this has been a matter of policy, which was in effect for many years before he came here. He added that he keeps a list of the good bonding companies on hand to prevent any mistakes.

Councilman Jahn moved this be referred to the City Attorney for suggestions.

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

Councilman Drale said he wished to invite the City Council, the City Engineer, and the newly appointed member of the South Bay Highways Committee to the meeting Thursday night, August 9, 1956, in Hermosa Beach, as this is a most important meeting.

Mr. Dudley Gray of 1331 Gardena Boulevard came forward. He told the Council that he has a Tract, No. 19308, which was recommended for approval by the Planning Commission on June 6, 1956, and which, due to one thing and another, has been held up. He said he is ready to go ahead with the Tract, and his financial commitments will expire prior to the next meeting of the Council, which would work a hardship on him.

City Engineer Bishop distributed copies of the letter of transmittal for Final Approval of the Subdivision to the Council.

Councilman Jahn asked Mr. Bishop if this tract conforms to the City's requirements.

City Engineer Bishop said this is a good tract.

In response to a question from Councilman Blount, Mr. Gray said this tract had originally been planned as a much larger one, but it was planned to be built partly on filled ground; he said this final map is much smaller, but it is on solid ground.

Mayor Isen moved to approve this Final Tract Map on Tract 19308.

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

Mrs. L. D. Burt of 22305 Warmside said letters had been sent to the Council from the Torrance Terrace Garden Club and the Greenthumber's Garden Club recommending an official tree for Torrance.

The letters have not been received as yet, but Mayor Isen asked the City Manager to notify these groups when their recommendations will be on the Agenda.

Councilman Drale so moved, no objection, so ordered.

Councilman Drale asked what had been done about the trees on Plaza del Amo.

Councilman Blount moved the City remove the trees on Plaza del Amo and improve the street as they can.

Motion seconded by Councilman Drale.

Mr. Gus King of 1961 Plaza del Amo asked that the trees be removed, and expounded the feelings of the residents on that street who agree with him that it would be better to remove the trees and beautify the whole street in the manner it has been done between Arlington and Border. Mr. King added that some of the offending trees had been topped within the past week.

Councilman Drale asked the motion be amended to read that the trees be removed and replaced with whatever tree is recommended by the Torrance Terrace Garden Club and the Greenthumbers' Garden Club as the official City tree be planted in their stead.

The amendment was not accepted.

Councilman Benstead protested the removal of any trees.

Mrs. Herma Tillim, Chairman of the Parks & Recreation Commission, said she had investigated the situation on Plaza del Amo within the past week, and found the trees beautiful. She asked that they be preserved.

Councilman Drale said if the street was fully paved it would be a beautiful wide street. He said it could be a double, one-way street if it was carried on through, and he considers it good planning to do it that way.

Mrs. Tillim said at Camarillo they have such a street with eucalyptus down the center, and it is one of the most beautiful streets she has ever seen.

Mayor Isen said this was tabled until the Council had a chance to look at the street and trees, and there has been no opportunity for them to do so.

Mayor Isen moved this be tabled until the Council can go out and look at the conditions along this street.

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

Mayor Isen said the group should get together and go at one time.

Councilman Benstead moved all bills properly audited be paid.

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 P. M.

APPROVED:

  
City Clerk of the City of Torrance



Mayor of the City of Torrance