

Torrance, California
September 18, 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, September 18, 1956, in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Torrance, California.

Those responding to roll call by City Clerk Bartlett were: COUNCILMEN: Benstead, Blount, Drale, Jahn, and Isen. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None. Assistant City Manager Don Mansfield and Acting City Attorney Remelmeyer were also present.

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

The meeting was opened with an invocation by Reverend Milton Sippel.

Councilman Drale moved to approve the Minutes of September 11, 1956, September 13, 1956, and September 14, 1956, as written.

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

BIDS:

Mayor Isen announced that this was the time and place for bids for the sale of a single-family two-bedroom, frame residence, with detached garage, located at 1517 Marcelina Avenue.

City Clerk Bartlett presented the affidavit of publication of notice calling for bids. There were no objections, and this was accepted and ordered filed.

City Clerk Bartlett opened and Assistant City Manager Mansfield read the following bids:

Arthur S. Moore (accompanied by cashier's check for 10% \$ 1,610.00
of the amount bid)

H. R. Burgess (accompanied by cashier's check for \$100) \$ 800.00

Councilman Drale moved the bid of Arthur S. Moore, in the amount of \$1,610.00 be accepted.

Motion seconded by Councilman Jahn.

Councilman Benstead asked if the residence had been appraised before it was offered for bid, but no one was sure of the answer.

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

Mayor Isen announced that this was the time and place for the opening of bids for the demolition of a two-story Class C building located at 1523 Cravens Avenue, formerly used as a fire station.

City Clerk Bartlett presented the affidavits of publication of notices calling for bids. There were no objections, and these were accepted and ordered filed.

Assistant City Manager Mansfield informed the Council that this bid had two alternates: Alternate A, for a sum to be paid to the contractor by the City, and Alternate B, for a sum to be paid to the City by the contractor for the building.

City Clerk Bartlett opened and Assistant City Manager Don Mansfield read the following bids:

<u>BIDDER</u>	<u>ALTERNATE & BOND</u>	<u>AMT. BID</u>
Freeway House Sales 12150 Studebaker Rd. Norwalk, California.	Alternate A (accompanied by bank money order for \$96.70)	\$ 967.00
Forsythe Excavating Co. 18158 Prairie Ave. Torrance, Calif.	Alternate A (accompanied by cashier's check for \$180.00)	1,800.00
Koontz Brothers 3097 Hackett Ave. Long Beach, Calif.	Alternate A (accompanied by bidders' bond for 10% of amount bid)	1,490.00
Horgan Company 1322 Hauser Blvd. Los Angeles, Calif.	Alternate A (accompanied by bidders' bond for 10% of amount bid.)	1,800.00
Moine Brothers 22400 Moneta Ave. Torrance, Calif.	Alternate B (accompanied by cashier's check in the amount of \$250.00)	2,490.00
San Fernando Valley Crane Service, Inc. 8441 Telfair Avenue Sun Valley, Calif.	Alternate A (accompanied by bidders' bond for 10% of amount bid)	4,050.00
G. A. & S. Contractors Rte. 2, Box 537-A Oxnard, Calif.	Alternate A (accompanied by bidders' bond for 10% of amount bid)	4,333.33
L. A. Wrecking Co. 810 E. Ninth St. Los Angeles, Calif.	Alternate A (accompanied by bidders' bond of 10% of amount bid)	4,654.00
Hugh F. Smith & Son 7129½ La Tijera Blvd. Los Angeles, Calif.	Alternate A (accompanied by cashier's check for \$110.00)	790.00
Walter E. Hesse 14800 Avalon Blvd. Gardena, Calif.	Alternate A (accompanied by bidders' bond of 10% of amount bid)	2,135.00
Charles B. Anderson 7525 Leescott Ave. Van Nuys, California.	Alternate A (not accompanied by bond or check)	8,300.00
Mox Wrecking Co., Ltd. 307 E. Jefferson Blvd. Los Angeles, Calif.	Alternate A (accompanied by cashier's check in the amount of \$217.50)	2,175.00

Councilman Blount moved the Assistant City Manager evaluate these bids and give the Council his recommendation later in the evening. There were no objections, and it was so ordered.

Councilman Drale said he would like to return to the bid on the residence on Marcellina Avenue taken earlier in the evening, and earmark the \$1610.00 received for it for the parking fund.

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

Mayor Isen said he had purposely refrained from introducing the gentlemen with Chief Benner until now, so they could see how we dispose of an old fire station.

Fire Chief Benner then presented to the Council Messrs. Marshall and Wilson, who are making a survey in the City for the Fire Underwriters, to see whether or not fire rates should be lowered.

Mayor Isen then introduced Mrs. Hinkley, saying she is an old-time resident of our neighboring community of Lomita, and is here on a cultural matter.

Mrs. Hinkley presented Mr. Cliff Webster, President of the Beach Cities Symphony Association, and President of the Manhattan Beach Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Webster addressed the Council briefly, saying that on September 28, 1956, in the Redondo Union High School, the Beach Cities Symphony Association will present a recital by a Torrance resident, Dale Rubak. Mr. Webster invited the Council to attend the presentation, saying that from a cultural point of view they will enjoy it, and they will be very proud of our resident, Dale Rubak.

Mayor Isen thanked Mr. Webster for the Council, and congratulated him upon the growth and activity of the City of Manhattan Beach.

Mrs. Hinkley thanked the Mayor for this opportunity to speak to the City Council.

YUKON AVENUE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT:

Mayor Isen announced that this was the time and place fixed for the public opening and reading of sealed proposals for performing the work for the improvement of Yukon Avenue.

City Clerk Bartlett presented affidavit of publication and posting of the "Notice Inviting Sealed Proposals".

Councilman Blount moved that the affidavits be received and filed, seconded by Councilman Jahn, and duly carried by unanimous roll call vote.

The City Clerk then publicly opened and read in full each sealed proposal, summarized as follows:

Sheets Construction Company 201 East Victoria Street Gardena, California.	\$ 40,801.67
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L. L. Craig 2241 Curry Street Long Beach, California.	\$ 46,855.30
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The City Attorney reported that all deposits accompanying the proposals were proper in form, sufficient in amount, and in conformity with the stipulated requirements.

Councilman Blount moved that these "Sealed Proposals" be referred to the City Engineer for analysis and that the Engineer be instructed to present his report later in the evening.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Jahn, carried unanimously by the following roll call vote:

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Benstead, Blount, Drale, Jahn, and Isen.

NOES: COUNCILMEN: None.

ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor Isen announced that a group was present from Onrado Avenue who have a problem they wish to present to the Council, and suggested they be heard at this time. Mayor Isen then presented Mr. Sparks.

Mr. Sparks introduced his neighbor, Mr. Hannum, who had been chosen to be the spokesman for these people.

Mr. Hannum addressed the Council. He told them that the City has a 5-foot easement at the back of the lots on the northern side of Onrado Street for drainage purposes. He went on to say that he had put up a fence in his back yard, two feet in from the easement, and had planted and improved his yard. The City has now begun digging a ditch in the easement, and has removed his fence and damaged it and his planting. Mr. Hannum went on to say he has two small daughters, and that the depth of the ditch being dug constitutes a hazard to them. It is the understanding of the residents that this is going to be an open ditch, which does not please them at all.

Mrs. Hessman of Onrado Street said she knew the Mayor and most of the Council had seen the ditch being dug and knew that it was what she termed "undesirable" and said the residents do not want it there.

At the request of Mayor Isen, Mr. George Powell, Planning Director, presented some pictures he took today of the ditch and the conditions causing this complaint from the residents.

City Engineer Bishop referred to the Minutes of the Council meeting of June 7, 1955, when the easement was discussed, and said that as he interprets these Minutes, it is not 100% clear that the City will build a ditch there. He said the City had accepted the easement for a drainage way to the pipe nearby.

The City Engineer went on to say that the contour map of the district shows the natural drainage moves northerly through the lots, and it is his opinion that this ditch is not vitally necessary to the tract, but added that the channel would provide a certain extra service.

Councilman Jahn asked who built the block wall which shows in the pictures taken by Mr. Powell, and Mr. Bishop replied that he thinks it was built by the residents to the North of this tract.

Councilman Jahn asked what the final depth of the ditch would be.

City Engineer Bishop replied it would be 3/10ths of a foot below the lowest point of the lots to the north.

Councilman Jahn asked how deep the ditch is, and the City Engineer replied from two to six feet. Mr. Bishop added that when this is done, it will be from four inches to about eighteen inches below the ground level, and will be about 400 feet long, draining to the pipe north of it.

Councilman Jahn asked if covered pipe could be used and still maintain the fall.

Mr. Bishop replied this would not drain the lots to the north.

Councilman Blount asked if the block wall built there would not prevent water from flowing into the ditch.

Mr. Bishop said a few of the walls have weep holes.

Mayor Isen said he thinks the City is maintaining a nuisance there.

City Engineer Bishop agreed, saying that black-top does not do a good job without encroaching on the neighboring lots, and that to line the ditch with concrete would only provide "another place to fall into". He presented a design which would cost about \$1500 but would provide more satisfaction and service than the present plan, and recommended putting it in if the Council is so inclined.

Mayor Isen said the City does not have the money.

Councilman Jahn expressed a desire to look at the ditch.

City Engineer Bishop repeated that he did not feel the ditch is vitally needed there.

Mayor Isen suggested refilling the ditch and leaving it as it was.

City Engineer Bishop said he believes the lots to the North would still have fair drainage.

At 6:20 P. M., Mayor Isen declared a recess in order that Councilman Jahn might have the opportunity to inspect the ditch.

The Council re-convened at 6:32 P. M.

Councilman Jahn reported to the Council that it is his opinion there is no drainage problem in the area under discussion. He said all the lots facing Onrado have good fall to the street, and the lots facing the street to the north of this have good drainage into their back yards,

and even if any heavy rain caused water to stand there, it probably would not stand there for more than an hour or so. He said he could see no need for this ditch.

Councilman Benstead said a year ago we had a drainage problem at the lots north of this tract.

Councilman Jahn said the concrete block walls built there would not allow drainage.

Councilman Jahn moved the City put the dirt back where it was, sloping the easement at about a 1-1/2 to 1 slope, plant it, and leave it, forthwith.

City Engineer Bishop said that is what he suggested. He reiterated that he has never felt there is a need for an elaborate drainage structure there.

Mr. Sparks asked what is meant by a "1-1/2 to 1" slope, and Councilman Jahn said it will end up about a 45° angle.

Mr. Hannum pointed out that if action in that easement is only postponed, other residents will build fences and develop their back yards, and it will be more expensive for the City to do the work later.

Councilman Drale agreed, saying he would like to have the Engineering Department give the Council a drainage plan for that area, adding that if the Engineer, who is an expert on the subject, says no drainage ditch is necessary, that should be in the record.

A resident of the area protested, saying the easement was granted to the City to construct and maintain drainage facilities, so it is the City's responsibility.

City Attorney Remelmeyer said the City has no duty to maintain the land.

City Engineer Bishop said providing a drainage structure does not appear too vitally necessary.

A lady in the audience asked if they can build their fences at the side of the easement and ignore it, and the Mayor replied that they can.

Councilman Jahn said there are probably other 5-foot easements like this in the City, and if the Engineer says it is not vitally necessary for drainage structures to be put in at this time but we need to put one in later, the City will just have to go to the added expense of working between whatever fences have been installed.

Mayor Isen asked the City Engineer if he would say we do not have a problem that would justify going ahead with this ditch.

Mr. Bishop said yes.

Mayor Isen seconded Mr. Jahn's motion.

Councilman Benstead asked City Engineer Bishop if there had been drainage trouble in the neighborhood after the pipe was put in, and Mr. Bishop replied the pipe had drained the area. He said the lowest lot there drains to the sump.

Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote, with Councilman Drale qualifying his vote by saying he was voting "yes" on the recommendation of the City Engineer.

Mayor Isen said he thought it would be in order for Mr. Hannum to get help from the City for returning his yard to the condition it was in before this work started and in replacing his fence.

Councilman Drale moved the City put the yard back as it was.

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

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:

1. A memorandum dated September 12, 1956, from G. Whitacre, License Inspector, recommending release of Oil Well Bond No. 21-B-50917, in the amount of \$500, covering the north 264 feet of Lot 16, Tract 15, 231st Street and Arlington Avenue, listing the B. H. Sheldon Co. as principals. Mr. Whitacre reported the well was sold to C. O. Rodabaugh of 3573 Carlin Avenue, Lynwood, and is now covered by blanket bond #2481521 in the amount of \$1250, which meets the requirements of Ordinance No. 440.

Councilman Jahn moved to concur with the recommendation of the License Inspector to release Oil Well Bond No. 21-B-50917.

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

2. A memorandum dated September 13, 1956, from G. Whitacre, License Inspector, recommending release of oil well bond #7066507 pending issuance of new bond in the amount of \$500 to cover Ham #1, as requested by Paul A. Medearis, operator. The letter from Mr. Whitacre explained that the present bond covers three wells, two of which have been abandoned, and the release of bond on them approved by Staff Secretary Geo. Powell. Mr. Whitacre reported this meets the requirements of Ordinance No. 440.

It was the wish of the Council that the new bond be received before bond #7066507 is released, and Mr. Whitacre agreed to bring this back to the Council at that time.

Mayor Isen said Mr. Guenser's attorney was waiting for the Council's action on the Guenser land, and suggested this be considered now. The Mayor complimented the City Attorney and Mr. Guenser's attorney on the agreement as finally worked out.

City Clerk Bartlett read:

RESOLUTION NO. 3007

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE
GRANTING A VARIANCE FOR CERTAIN PROPERTY IN THE MC DONALD
TRACT, BEING CASE NO. 394 OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION.

Councilman Jahn moved to dispense with further reading of Resolution No. 3007.

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

Councilman Jahn moved for adoption of Resolution No. 3007.

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

3. A communication dated September 14, 1956, from Mrs. Jack W. Day of 2607 West 182nd Street requesting that the street in front of her house be paved, and saying she has waited for a year for the work to be done.

A memorandum from R. W. Bishop, City Engineer, was appended under date of September 14, 1956, saying this work is scheduled by the Street Department and will be done soon.

Mayor Isen directed the Assistant City Manager to write to Mrs. Day and tell her the work will be done soon.

4. Mayor Isen said the next communication, from Norris Poulson, Mayor of Los Angeles, dated September 12, 1956, was in reply to a letter transmitting to him the Council's Resolution of congratulation to Los Angeles on its 175th birthday, and asked to have it read in full.

City Clerk Bartlett read in full the letter of thanks from Mayor Poulson of Los Angeles.

There were no objections and the letter was ordered filed.

5. A request dated September 6, 1956, from the Torrance Branch of the YMCA asking for the use of the Civic Auditorium on Saturday, October 27, 1956, from 4:00 A. M. until 1:30 P. M for their annual Good Neighbor breakfast. The YMCA asked that fees be waived.

A memorandum from H. B. Van Bellehem was attached, saying that it is the policy of the Parks & Recreation Commission that custodial fees be paid unless otherwise recommended by the City's chief custodian.

A recommendation from G. R. High, chief custodian, was also attached, and recommended waiving fees for use of the Auditorium, including facilities, with the understanding the applicant pay custodial fees.

Councilman Drale moved the permission be granted and fees waived, except custodial fees, which must be paid.

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

6. A letter dated September 13, 1956, from the Torrance Unified School District, repeating their request for permission to use the west half of Plaza del Amo as a parking area.

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

Motion died for lack of a second.

Councilman Drale moved to refer this to the Traffic Commission for their recommendation.

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

7. A memorandum from Stanley E. Remelmeyer, Acting City Attorney submitting for Council approval payment due Mr. Robert Pannell for his services as City Prosecutor for four weeks during July and August, 1956, in the amount of \$200.00. Mr. Remelmeyer said the statement has the approval of City Manager Stevens and himself.

Councilman Jahn moved to concur with the recommendation of the City Attorney that Mr. Pannell's statement be paid.

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

8. Memorandum from Stanley E. Remelmeyer, Acting City Attorney, dated September 14, 1956, recommending payment to Irving Davidson for services as City Prosecutor for the week of August 5, 1956, in the amount of \$62.50. Also, \$100.00 due him for the work he did as special Prosecutor on the Riviera Floor Covering Co. case. Mr. Remelmeyer said both he and Mr. Stevens, the City Manager, approve payment of this statement, copy of which was attached to the letter from the City Attorney.

Mayor Isen moved to concur with the recommendation of the Acting City Attorney.

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

9. A letter from the County of Los Angeles Department of Parks re allocation of recreation funds for the fiscal year of 1956-57, dated September 7, 1956, advised that our Resolution No. 2980 was approved by the Board of Supervisors and that a completed contract will be available for Torrance within the very near future. This was signed by Seymour Greven, Business Manager, for N. S. Johnson, Director, Department of Parks and Recreation.

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

Items 10 and 11, next listed, were considered jointly, as they bore on the same matter.

10. Letter dated September 13, 1956, from Belcher, Kearney & Fargo, attorneys, regarding the alleyway in Tract 18911. This was a supplement to their letter of September 11, 1956, which was referred to this Council meeting from that of September 11, 1956.

11. A letter from Belcher, Kearney & Fargo, attorneys, dated September 11, 1956, protesting the opinion of the City Attorney that the builders of Tract No. 18911 were liable to pave the said alleyway at their own expense. Attached to this were: (a) Opinion dated September 7, 1956, from S. E. Remelmeyer, City Attorney; (b) Letter from Hipoint Homes, Rosa Linda Homes, and Grande Vista Homes, signed by Tony Parravano, President, and dated August 14, 1956; (c) memorandum dated August 15, 1956, from J. R. Patrick; (d) Excerpts from Minutes of August 28, 1956, and September 11, 1956.

This had been referred to this meeting from the Council meeting of September 11, 1956.

Acting City Attorney Remelmeyer told the Council that this matter was here prematurely.

There were no objections, and this was referred, along with Item 10 on the Agenda, to the City Attorney's office.

12. An excerpt from the Civil Service Board Meeting of September 5, 1956, re classification of "Land Use Inspector", disapproving the job description approved by the Council and referred to this Board for study and concurrence, and a resume of the action taken by the board on this matter.

Councilman Jahn asked the Assistant City Manager for his comments and advice on this.

Mr. Mansfield replied by outlining the procedure customary in most areas where Civil Service exists, saying that in most of them, when a new job opening is made necessary, a person is employed on a temporary basis to do the work. That person, under the supervision of a skilled and capable supervisor, does the work necessary, keeping a "diary" or "log" of his duties as performed. This record must be accurate and detailed. After a specified length of time, the Personnel Officer, after study and analysis of the record, keeping in mind the standards of the Civil Service Board and the future requirements of the position being filled, writes a job description. This is submitted to the Civil Service Board, who, when they have approved the job description, call for the examination.

Mr. Mansfield recommended that this course be followed on the job in question.

Councilman Jahn moved to concur with the recommendation of the Acting City Manager.

Motion seconded by Mayor Isen.

Councilman Blount protested, saying this sounded to him as if we wrote the job description to fit the job the person does.

Assistant City Manager Mansfield said the job description for this job is hard to write any other way.

Councilman Blount asked Mr. Mansfield if he could not consult the similar jobs in other cities, and Mr. Mansfield said he had not been able to find one.

Councilman Blount asked if what Mr. Mansfield means is that an adequate record be kept on the individual doing the job, and from that norm a job description could be set.

Mr. Mansfield said the City has certain standards and they must be maintained.

Councilman Blount protested again, saying the job description called only for a high school education.

Councilman Drale asked the Attorney what part the Civil Service Board plays if the Personnel Director orders the classification and examination.

Acting City Attorney Remelmeyer said it is almost impossible to determine the line of demarcation between the authority of the City Manager and his Assistant and the Civil Service Board under our present laws.

Councilman Jahn said in this instance, the Civil Service Board set up the position we are now discussing. He outlined his memory of the matter in full, and said he thought Mr. Mansfield's recommendation is a good one.

Councilman Drale asked the Attorney if the Civil Service Board has the authority to over-rule the qualifications set up by the Personnel Director and approved by the Council.

Acting City Attorney Remelmeyer said that is not clear to him without some study.

Councilman Benstead asked if there is anything in our Ordinances that says the Civil Service Board can set up a job classification.

Acting City Attorney Remelmeyer said yes; he went on to add he is now working on an omnibus opinion on the civil services ordinances of the City and will try to answer these questions, among others.

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

Councilman Drale moved the City Attorney give the Council a written opinion as to whether the Civil Service Board has jurisdiction over the Personnel Officer for setting up job descriptions in any classification. Mr. Remelmeyer said he would attempt to do this.

Recommendations of the City Manager:

In the absence of George Stevens, City Manager, the following recommendations were prepared by his assistant, Don Mansfield.

PERSONNEL:

1. George Papac, who was employed as a Bus Operator for vacation relief, has been appointed to start his probationary period, effective September 1, 1956, at the first salary step. (No. 1 on Eligible List.)
2. Augustine G. Solis has been promoted from Park Maintenance Man to Tree Trimmer, effective September 1, 1956, at the second salary step. (No. 1 on Eligible List.)
3. Donald Phoenix has been promoted from Power Equipment Operator No. 1 to Power Equipment Operator No. 2, effective September 1, 1956, at the second salary step. (No. 2 on Eligible List. No. 1 man declined appointment at this time.)
4. James J. Lynch and Charles V. Riggio have been promoted from Laborer to Water Serviceman, effective September 1, 1956, at the first salary step. (Nos. 1 and 2 on Eligible List.)
5. Richard J. Cosgrove, who has been temporarily employed as Laborer in the Street Department, has been appointed to serve his probationary period, effective September 1, 1956, at the first salary step. (No. 1 on Eligible List.)

Councilman Benstead moved to concur with recommendations 1 - 5 inclusive under "Personnel".

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

Parks & Recreation Commission:

The Commission submitted the following names for parks as chosen by the school children of Torrance for the parks herein described, as a result of a recent Park Naming Contest held by the Parks & Recreation Commission:

<u>Park Site</u>	<u>Winner</u>	<u>Park Name</u>
Hollywood Riviera 5101 Calle De Ricardo	Taylor Wood 24607 Madison St.	Los Arboles (meaning "The Trees")
Seaside Park Site 22730 Lupine	Sharon Bradbury 2608 El Dorado	Sea-Aire Park
Carl Steele School Area 19501 Inglewood Ave.	Sharon Case 3764 - 244th St.	La Romeria (meaning "The Picnic")
Kaufman Tract 5806 Lee Street	Wayne Hiltgen 18907 Cranbrook Ave.	Paradise Park
Civic Center 3031 Torrance Blvd.	Kristie Weingarten 1415 Rolling Knolls Harbor City	Civic Center Park
Swimming Pool 3331 Torrance Blvd.	A name was suggested by John Meinhardt	

Councilman Drale moved the swimming pool at 3331 Torrance Boulevard be named the Victor E. Benstead Plunge, as per his motion of September 11, 1956.

Motion seconded by Councilman Jahn.

Mayor Isen suggested Councilman Drale amend his motion to include the word "Municipal".

The Councilman refused the amendment to his motion.

Councilman Drale moved to concur with the recommendations of the Parks & Recreation Commission as amended by his motion of September 11.

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

Mayor Isen asked Assistant City Manager Mansfield if he was prepared to make a recommendation on the bids for demolition of the old fire station.

Mr. Mansfield recommended that the bid of Moine Bros., on Alternate B, the sum of \$2490 to be paid to the City, be accepted for the removal of the building at 1523 Cravens, known as the old fire station.

Councilman Benstead moved to concur with this recommendation.

Councilman Jahn asked what could be done if this bid was made in error, and Acting City Attorney Remelmeyer said Moine Bros. would be required to show some positive proof that it was an error.

Mayor Isen said if this was an error, he did not believe it would be the wish of the Council to go to court with the matter.

Councilman Jahn suggested holding the bids for study and recommendation by the Assistant City Manager.

Mr. Mansfield recommended this course be followed.

Councilman Blount said he agrees with Councilman Benstead. The bids are very clear, he added, and he does not believe it is up to the Council to tell a bidder his business.

Councilman Blount seconded Councilman Benstead's motion.

Mayor Isen moved to table this for a week.

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

Motion to award the bid to Moine Bros. carried unanimously by roll call vote.

ENGINEERING AND PLANNING COMMISSION MATTERS:

1. Hollywood Riviera Sewer District No. 2: Letter from R. W. Bishop, City Engineer, submitting easements for construction of sewer in Hollywood Riviera Sewer District No. 2. Attached: Location sketches.

City Clerk Bartlett read:

RESOLUTION NO. 3006

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.

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. 3006.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Jahn, carried unanimously by roll

call vote.

APPROVED:

Albert Isen

A. H. Bartlett
City Clerk of the City of Torrance

Mayor of the City of Torrance

2. TRACT NO. 22842: Letter of Transmittal from Planning Commission and Engineering Department recommending denial of Tract No. 22842, located northerly of Emerald Street and 329 feet easterly of Earl Street, containing 16 lots, presented by B & B Construction Company. Attached:
- (a) Excerpt of Planning Commission Minutes dated September 5, 1956;
 - (b) Copy of letter from John R. Patrick, Ass't. to City Engineer, dated September 5, 1956;
 - (c) Copy of letter from Barclay Engineering Company dated July 17;
 - (d) Location sketch.

Councilman Jahn asked if it was not the policy of the Council to honor the County's acceptance of such a tract just before the annexation of the Victor area.

Mr. Powell, Planning Director, explained that he had not known this tract was coming in.

Councilman Benstead said this was submitted after we had annexed the area.

Mr. Jack Spahn of Barclay Engineering said the negotiations for the purchase of this land began two years ago. He said it was submitted to the Regional Planning Board in March, 1956. They approved the tract and its grading plan. The tract was recorded and presented to the Board of Supervisors, who accepted it on June 27, 1956. He pointed out that if this had been processed by the County a week sooner, there would have been no question about it.

Councilman Benstead said the County doesn't seem to think we must accept it.

Mr. Spahn presented a copy of the recorded map, pointing out the date of recording.

City Attorney Remelmeyer said we have jurisdiction on this because it was recorded after our annexation proceedings were filed with the Secretary of State, although it was before they were finally filed with the County. He said that legally the Council may accept or reject this tract. They have the right, he said, to reject it under our Ordinance requiring 6,000 square feet, but they need not do so.

Councilman Drale quoted that portion of Mr. Patrick's letter having to do with drainage, and asked Mr. Spahn if the builders had made final drainage arrangements with the owners of the land north of this tract, where it is planned to drain the land.

Mr. Spahn said the negotiations on this have been going on for over two years, and offered to furnish copies of the correspondence.

Councilman Drale suggested sending this back to the Planning Commission for further study.

Councilman Blount protested against the street that is going in, saying it is not up to our standards.

Councilman Jahn moved the tract be approved with the stipulations that the letters concerning drainage be sent to the City Engineer to be kept on file, that a standard cul de sac be designed in place of the dead-end street planned, and that the bond be transferred.

Councilman Drale pointed out that there will be no sewers in this tract.

Mr. Spahn said he had letters from the Health Department, signed by Roy O. Gilbert, Health Officer, containing his recommendations on methods of sewage disposal in the tract.

Councilman Benstead asked if there was not a contour map on the tract.

Mr. Spahn said he had sent the original linen contour map and the drainage plan as approved by the Drainage Authority of the County to the Engineering Department.

Councilman Benstead pointed out that the tract would get water service from the Dominguez Land Company.

Councilman Drale seconded the motion, with the stipulation that the sewage disposal meet our requirements.

Councilman Jahn accepted the amendment to his motion, but asked if the building permits would not cover that point.

Mr. Spahn said the builder has agreed to meet all specifications.

Mr. Spahn asked that the City accept the street, Mansel Avenue, as a public street.

Councilman Jahn made that an amendment to his motion, and Councilman Drale accepted it in his second to the motion.

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

City Clerk Bartlett read:

ORDINANCE NO. 824

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. 388.

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

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

Councilman Jahn moved for adoption of Ordinance No. 824 at its first reading.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 825

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. 401.

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

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

Councilman Jahn moved for adoption of Ordinance No. 825 at its first reading.

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

At the request of Mayor Isen, City Clerk Bartlett read in full the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION NO. 3008

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE CONGRATULATING THE CITY OF HUNTINGTON PARK ON ITS 50TH BIRTHDAY.

Councilman Drale moved for adoption of Resolution No. 3008.

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

Mayor Isen directed the Acting City Attorney to send an appropriate letter to the City of Huntington Park, enclosing a certified copy of the Resolution.

At the request of Mayor Isen, Clerk Bartlett read in full the following Proclamation:

PROCLAMATION

A PROCLAMATION OF THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE COMMENDING MISS LUTE FRASER.

Councilman Drale moved to concur with the Proclamation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Mayor Isen directed the City Clerk to send a certified copy of this Proclamation to Miss Fraser.

City Clerk Bartlett read:

PROCLAMATION

PROCLAMATION OF THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE PROCLAIMING THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 1, 1956, THROUGH OCTOBER 7, 1956, AS TORRANCE P. T. A. MEMBERSHIP WEEK.

Councilman Benstead moved concurrence with the Proclamation. There were no objections, and it was so ordered.

Mayor Isen presented to City Clerk Bartlett a letter he had received addressed to this Council from Mr. George Binder, which he directed the City Clerk to place on the Agenda for the next meeting of the Council.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Fire Chief Benner said he had two new fire stations to be dedicated, and that some of the local groups are interested in participation. He asked if any of the Councilmen would find it possible to attend such ceremonies on a Saturday in the near future.

After a short discussion, the Mayor directed the Fire Chief to set a date.

Acting City Attorney Remelmeyer said a suit has been brought against the City by the Mayer interests, regarding the denial of the City of the Mayer application for re-zoning of property they own to allow them to mine dicalite. He said the City would need the testimony of expert witnesses in this case, and asked for authorization to employ them, saying the costs of such retainers could run as high as \$3,000.00.

Councilman Drale moved the City Attorney be authorized to hire such experts as he may need to protect the City in this matter.

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

Councilman Jahn asked City Engineer Bishop whether he has made any plans for securing the other 25 easements needed for the Hollywood Riviera Sewer District, saying he understands the man who has been working on this is leaving.

Mr. Bishop said the man is leaving, but that someone will be found to follow through on this and make every effort to secure the balance of the necessary easements.

Mayor Isen said he has a communication from the Parks & Recreation Commission advising that Mr. Almond has resigned.

Councilman Drale moved a letter of thanks be sent to Mr. Almond.

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

Mayor Isen said when there is an appointment to be made, he will ordinarily announce it one week and poll the Council on it the next week. He said he would make an exception in this instance, however, because he believes the man he is going to suggest meets with approval of the entire Council.

Mayor Isen then named Mr. George Viko to the Parks & Recreation Commission to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Mr. Almond, and asked the City Clerk to poll the Council on this appointment.

The Council unanimously concurred with this appointment.

Mayor Isen directed City Clerk Bartlett to notify Mr. Viko of the appointment.

YUKON AVENUE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT:

City Engineer Bishop presented his analysis of the sealed Proposals submitted to him for analysis and report, naming the Sheets Construction Company as the lowest responsible bidder, in the sum of \$40,801.67, and recommended that the contract be awarded to the Sheets Construction Company.

Councilman Blount moved that the Engineer's analysis and recommendation be received and filed. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jahn, carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Benstead, Blount, Drale, Jahn, Isen.

NOES: COUNCILMEN: None.

ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

The City Clerk then presented:

RESOLUTION NO. 3005

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, AWARDED THE CONTRACT FOR THE IMPROVING OF YUKON AVENUE AND CERTAIN OTHER STREETS IN SAID CITY, IN WHAT IS KNOWN AS YUKON AVENUE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT, BY THE CONSTRUCTION AND INSTALLATION THEREIN OF CONCRETE CURBS, GUTTERS, CROSS-GUTTERS, DRAIN OUTLET STRUCTURE, SIDEWALKS, CORRUGATED METAL PIPE DRAIN, AND A SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM AND ALL OTHER ITEMS OR WORK INCIDENTAL OR APPURTENANT THERETO, AND DIRECTING THE CITY CLERK TO PUBLISH A NOTICE OF SAID AWARD.

Councilman Jahn moved to dispense with further reading of Resolution No. 3005.

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

Councilman Jahn moved that Resolution No. 3005 be passed and adopted, motion seconded by Councilman Benstead. Upon roll call it was adopted by the following vote:

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Benstead, Blount, Drale, Jahn, Isen.

NOES: COUNCILMEN: None

ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor Isen moved the City Attorney be authorized to prepare a proper ordinance to make the placing of advertising on City property a misdemeanor unless permission is obtained from the City Manager.

Motion seconded by Councilman Drale, so ordered.

Mayor Isen said he had suggested, when he first came on the Council, that the City clean up the approach to Torrance from Western Avenue along Torrance Boulevard; it is no better now, he said, and he feels it to be a civic disgrace. Now is the time, the Mayor said, for the City to proceed to clean and widen that entrance to the business section of our City.

Mayor Isen then moved the matter be referred to the City Engineer, the Superintendent of Parks, and the Assistant City Manager for their prompt recommendations and action on cleaning, widening and beautifying that entrance to the City.

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

Councilman Benstead moved all bills properly audited be paid.

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 P. M.

APPROVED:

Albert Isen

Mayor of the City of Torrance

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A. N. Bartlett
September 18, 1956
City Clerk of the City of Torrance