

Torrance, California.  
October 9, 1956

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL

The City Council of the City of Torrance convened in a regular session at 8:00 P. M. Tuesday, October 9, 1956, in the Council Chambers, City Hall, Torrance, California.

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

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

The meeting was opened by an invocation led by the Reverend Bergesen of the Hope Evangelical Church.

Councilman Jahn moved to approve the Minutes of the regular meeting of the Council on October 2, 1956, as written.

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

BIDS:

Mayor Isen announced this was the time and place for opening the Bids for Corrugated Metal Pipe, 540 lineal feet of 54-inch 10-gauge pipe, and twenty 54-inch CMP Band Couplers.

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

City Clerk Bartlett opened and read the bids summarized here:

Consolidated Western Steel Div'n., United States Steel Corp., P. O. Box 2015, Terminal Annex, Los Angeles 54, California.	(accompanied by Bidders' Bond of \$1050)	\$ 9,441.60 plus applicable tax
Armco Drainage & Metal Prods., Inc. 6155 So. Malt Avenue Los Angeles 22, Calif.	(accompanied by Bidder's Bond of 10%)	\$ 9,447.20 plus applicable tax
Southern Pipe & Casing Co., P. O. Box C, Azusa, Calif.	(accompanied by Bidder's Bond of 10%)	\$ 9,889.00 plus applicable tax

Councilman Benstead moved these bids be referred to the City Engineer and the City Attorney for report and recommendation later in the evening. Motion seconded by Councilman Jahn, no objection, so ordered.

HEARINGS:

Vista Highlands Sewer District, 1911 Act. Hearing on Assessment.

Mayor Isen announced this was the time and place fixed for the Hearing of appeals from or objections to any act or determination of the Street Superintendent or Engineer of the quality of work performed, or the legality of additions to or omissions from the contract, or the correctness of the assessment or diagram.

City Clerk Bartlett presented the affidavits as to mailing, posting, and publication twice of Notice of Hearing.

Councilman Benstead moved these be accepted and filed.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Jahn, carried unanimously as follows:

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

Mayor Isen asked if any written protests have been filed.

City Clerk Bartlett reported one, and read in full a written protest from Richard T. Hale, 2773 Monterey Street, Torrance, Assessment No. 34, Lot 8, Block 22, Tract 2761.

Mayor Isen asked if anyone wished to be heard from the floor.

Mr. Chas. T. Rippy Jr., 1613 lm St., questioned whether several people in the area are not being omitted from the assessment.

City Engineer Bishop reported that where there is no benefit, there can be no assessment, and said some of the lots in the District are now served by private sewers.

Mr. Rippy agreed that this is so, but contended that the private sewer is not sufficient, and those people will eventually have to use the sewer this District has installed, and said he understands there is no way to assess property owners if they come into the District later.

Mayor Isen asked the City Attorney if this were correct, and City Attorney Remelmeyer said he believed the City Engineer, at his discretion, can assess them at that time.

City Attorney Remelmeyer said he is not yet an authority on the 1911 Act, but he knows of no way the Assessment District can be opened up, and that he believed anyone who does not pay now can be prevented from using the sewer.

City Engineer Bishop said there is an Ordinance under which such cases can be designated as "hardship case". He said such cases would have to come before the City Council. He went on to explain that the 4" sewer which now exists was approved by the City Building and Plumbing Dept., and said that so far as he knows, it is adequate.

Councilman Jahn asked how the City Engineer had arrived at the other exclusions.

City Engineer Bishop said the lots excluded are already served by a sewer.

At the request of Mayor Isen, Attorney Remelmeyer said he would check into this and report back next week.

Mayor Isen directed Mr. Rippy to check the map of the District with the City Engineer.

Mrs. Robt. Church of 1721 Juniper Street said that because of the way the sewer was put in, the lateral on her property had to be installed in such a way that it cost her more than it should have, and that she was assessed for the full frontage of her lot as well.

Councilman Drale asked if this was caused by the location of her house on her lot, and she said it was not.

Mrs. Church said this was caused by the angle at which the lateral had to be put in.

Councilman Jahn asked the Attorney if she can be relieved of any cost on this.

City Attorney Remelmeyer said he does not think there is, as long as all in the District are treated alike.

Mrs. Howard Wells, of Carson and Flower St., said the same situation holds true in her case as in that reported by Mrs. Church.

Councilman Drale suggested the Engineer study these two cases.

Mayor Isen asked if there were others with this problem.

City Engr. Bishop explained the sewer is of standard design, and has been constructed.

Councilman Blount moved this Hearing be continued for one week, so the City Engineer and the City Attorney can study this.

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

Mayor Isen directed all who are interested in this to contact the City Engineer's office.

Mrs. Church said the contractor who installed the sewer had used her driveway and damaged it.

Mayor Isen directed the City Engineer to consider this in connection with the release of the contractor's bond.

187

HEARING: El Nido Annexation

Mayor Isen announced this was the time and place for the Hearing on Resolution of Intention to call a Special Election, Resolution No. 3003, and asked if anyone wished to be heard on this.

No one came forward.

Councilman Drale moved the Hearing be closed.

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

Councilman Drale moved to find that no protests were made.

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

Councilman Jahn moved the City Attorney be authorized to draw a Notice of Election.

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

HEARING: Zoning Plan for Victor Precinct

Mayor Isen announced that this was the time and place for the third and final Hearing to establish a comprehensive plan of zoning pertaining to that parcel of land formerly known as the "Victor Precinct", and for the purpose of determining whether or not future oil drilling shall be permitted.

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

City Clerk Bartlett presented letters from the following, all stating their individual preferences in this matter:

William L. Byrne, owner of the south 244' of Lot 45, Tract 3218, and the south 127' of Lot 20, Tract 2895.

Edward P. Albachten, owner of Lot 42, Tract 3218.

Mrs. Ethel Henning, 4530 Spencer Street.

John C. Hanrahan & Jerome J. Hanrahan Jr., owners of property at the northwest corner of Torrance Blvd. and Earl Street.

Dora Siegel, owner of the east 132' of Lot 7, Tract 3218.

Mayor Isen asked if anyone present wished to be heard.

Mr. George McCarthy, of 714 W. Olympic Blvd., Los Angeles, who owns the leasehold on 75 acres in the area, asked to have that portion of the zoning Ordinance recommendations prohibiting drilling within 300 feet north of the center line of Torrance Blvd. clarified. He asked if it is the intention of the Council to allow directional drilling.

Mr. Bert Lynn, President of the Torrance Planning Commission, was present, and Mayor Isen asked him the intent of the Planning Commission in their recommendation.

Mr. Lynn said the Planning Commission would recommend that directional drilling be allowed, but that no new surface equipment should be erected within 300' of the center line of Torrance Blvd. or Hawthorne Blvd.

Councilman Benstead asked Mr. Lynn if this meant the Planning Commission would allow whipstocking under the streets.

Mr. Lynn said no, only to the edge of the street. He said the "300' from center line" description was used because it is easy to find the center of the street, and this will mean the oil wells will be at least 250' from the property lines on Torrance and Hawthorne Blvds.

F. B. Bolles, of 20311 Valerie, asked if this oil well provision would affect his property, and was told that it would not.

Attorney Remelmeyer said he would have an Ordinance covering directional drilling for the next meeting of the Council if it was their wish.

Mayor Isen polled the Council, and it was unanimously agreed this should be done, with Councilman Benstead stipulating this should read "250' from the property line".

Councilman Benstead asked where the whipstocked wells would be bottomed, and Mr. McCarthy replied that the State body governing oil well drilling has a ruling no well can be bottomed closer than 75' to the property line.

Mr. John Harrison, representing the Title Insurance and Trust Co., said they own property in that District and have not seen the Resolution covering the zoning proposal. In that capacity, they should know what the zone is, he continued, and added they did not know about the other two Hearings.

Mayor Isen offered to let Mr. Harrison have a copy of the Ordinance to read, but said he should have known about the other Hearings.

At the request of Mayor Isen, Attorney Remelmeyer outlined the procedure followed in notifying property owners of Hearings.

Mr. Harrison said he had received his first notice just one week ago, and had received no notice from the Planning Commission.

Councilman Benstead asked Planning Director Powell if all property owners on record were notified, and Mr. Powell said they were.

Mayor Isen told Mr. Harrison the Council will call him before they vote on this, if he wished to leave the Chambers to read the Ordinance.

Mrs. Milligan of Torrance Blvd. and Victor St. questioned the 50' setback on Torrance Blvd. recommended by the Planning Commission.

Attorney Remelmeyer reported this recommendation had not been made a part of the Ordinance because the Council had indicated they did not wish to maintain that setback.

Councilman Drale said he had specifically asked that the setback along Torrance Blvd. be the same as that already maintained on comparable streets in other parts of the City.

Mayor Isen polled the Council, and they were unanimously in agreement with Mr. Drale.

At 8:50 P. M., Mayor Isen declared a recess, with the Council reconvening at 9:00 P. M.

Mayor Isen asked if anyone else wished to be heard regarding zoning in the Victor Precinct.

Mr. Otto Stevens, who said he owns the southwest corner of Del Amo and Hawthorne Blvd., asked what his present zone is and if it will be changed.

Planning Director Powell reported it is the recommendation of the Planning Commission that the whole area be rezoned to M-1.

Mayor Isen directed Mr. Stevens to get any information on zoning from the Planning Director at the City Hall.

Mayor Isen called in Mr. Harrison of the Title Insurance & Trust Co., who said he had read the proposed Ordinance, and asked that the Title Insurance & Trust Co. be placed on the mailing list.

Planning Director Powell asked Mr. Harrison to stop in any time at his office and review the mailing list on this case.

Councilman Benstead moved the Hearing be closed.

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

City Clerk Bartlett read:

ORDINANCE NO. 830

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ADOPTING A COMPREHENSIVE ZONING PLAN FOR THAT AREA ANNEXED TO THE CITY OF TORRANCE AND KNOWN AS DOMINGUEZ-HAWTHORNE (VICTOR PARCEL) AND DECLARING THE PRESENCE OF AN EMERGENCY.

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 Urgency Ordinance No. 830 at its first and final reading.

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

Attorney Remelmeyer directed the insertion of "No. 830" in Section 5 on Page 2 of the next Ordinance, which was done.

City Clerk Bartlett read:

ORDINANCE NO. 831

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ADOPTING A COMPREHENSIVE ZONING PLAN FOR THAT AREA ANNEXED TO THE CITY OF TORRANCE AND KNOWN AS DOMINGUEZ-HAWTHORNE (VICTOR PARCEL).

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

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

Councilman Jahn moved for adoption of Ordinance No. 831 at its first reading.

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

Councilman Jahn explained to the audience the reason for the adoption of both Urgency Ordinance No. 830 and then Ordinance No. 831.

Mayor Isen offered to answer questions if there were any, but there were none.

City Clerk Bartlett read:

ORDINANCE NO. 832

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING THE OIL WELL DRILLING MAP OF THE CITY SO AS TO PERMIT OIL WELL DRILLING IN CERTAIN PARTS OF THE "VICTOR PRECINCT".

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

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

Councilman Benstead moved for adoption of Ordinance No. 832 at its first reading.

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

HEARING: Minimum Lot Area in M-1 (Light Manufacturing) Zone.

Mayor Isen announced this was the time and place for the third and final Hearing to establish a minimum lot area of 10,000 square feet per lot or parcel of land used for residential purposes in an M-1 (Light Manufacturing) zone.

City Clerk Bartlett presented the affidavit of publication and notice of Hearing.

Councilman Jahn moved they be received and filed.

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

The City Clerk reported no written protests have been received.

Mayor Isen asked if anyone wished to be heard.

No one came forward.

Councilman Blount moved the Hearing be closed.

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

City Clerk Bartlett read:

ORDINANCE NO. 833

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING PARAGRAPH "D" OF SECTION 11 OF APPENDIX 1 (ADOPTED BY ORDINANCE NO. 791) OF "THE CODE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, 1954" RELATING TO LOT AREA REQUIRED IN AN M-1 ZONE AND DECLARING THE PRESENCE OF AN EMERGENCY.

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

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

Councilman Drale moved adoption of Urgency Ordinance No. 833 at its first and final reading.

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

Councilman Blount moved that Section 3 of the next Ordinance read "That Ordinance No. 833 of the City of Torrance," etc.

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

City Clerk Bartlett read:

ORDINANCE NO. 834

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING PARAGRAPH "D" OF SECTION 11 OF APPENDIX 1 (ADOPTED BY ORDINANCE NO. 791) OF "THE CODE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, 1954" RELATING TO LOT AREA REQUIRED IN AN M-1 ZONE.

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

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

Councilman Benstead moved for adoption of Ordinance No. 834 at its first reading.

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

Mayor Isen introduced Mr. Reid Bundy of the Torrance Herald, and asked him to report to the audience on what the newspapers and other groups had agreed to do for the City earlier this evening.

Mr. Bundy said that during the Pre-Council meeting, the Chief Life-guard of the County had spoken to the Council and assembled group, saying he is here to try to raise a thousand dollars in Torrance to help send a man to the Olympic Games in Australia. The Mayor had said the City could not afford this, and so the members of the press, along with City Manager Stevens, Recreation Director Van Bellehem, representatives of the Jr. Chamber of Commerce and the Torrance Mounted Police, had discussed this, and it was decided to hold a water polo event here in our new municipal plunge, with the U. S. Olympic Team and the Los Angeles Life Guard Team in the event. The show will take place Sunday, October 28, 1956, at 7:00 P. M., with tickets being sold for \$1.00 each. The man we send, he said, will have the name of our City on his uniform. He added this will be an excellent public relations gesture.

Mayor Isen said this will be a fine thing for the City of Torrance, and urged that everyone help in this worth-while project.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:

1. A request dated October 1, 1956, from the Salvation Army for permission to carry on their Christmas Kettle Campaign in the month of December in Torrance. This was signed by Lt. Will, Commanding Officer.

Councilman Blount moved the request be granted.

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

2. An invitation dated September 26, 1956, from the American Municipal Association, asking for representation of our City at their Municipal Congress in St. Louis, Mo., November 25 - 28. This was signed by their President, Robert F. Wagner, Mayor of New York City.

Councilman Benstead said he thinks our City should be represented, and probably that should be done by the Mayor, and inasmuch as he understands we are limited to one conference meeting a year, he moved the Mayor be sent to St. Louis for this conference with appropriate expenses paid, less the amount necessary for the League of California Cities conference in Los Angeles.

Motion seconded by Councilman Jahn.

Both Councilman Blount and Councilman Jahn said they would like to attend the conference in St. Louis.

Mayor Isen asked Councilman Benstead if he would amend his motion to include any Councilman who can go, with the stipulation on expenses unchanged.

Councilman Benstead accepted the amendment to his motion.

Councilman Jahn accepted the amendment to his second.

Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Mayor Isen said anyone who plans to go should say so now, and both Councilman Blount and Councilman Jahn said they planned to go.

3. Letter dated October 3, 1956, from the County Boundary Commission with regard to referral to County Boundary Commission of Boundaries of Proposed Annexation to a City.

Councilman Drale moved this be filed as a matter of record, with copies being retained by the City Attorney, the City Engineer, and the City Manager.

There were no objections and it was so ordered.

4. A letter from Charles Gotts, President of the Retail Merchants Division of the Chamber of Commerce, with an outline of their plans for the Christmas Decorations for the central business area of our City, and requesting the City supply the electric power for lighting the decorations, and the use of El Prado Park for a Santa Land similar to the one they had there last year.

Mayor Isen moved to concur with the requests on the same conditions observed last year.

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

5. A letter complimenting the City upon the employment of Mr. Dorsey as a traffic and parking consultant from Mr. George Binder of 404 No. Roxbury Drive, Beverly Hills, California.

There were no objections, and this was ordered filed.

6. A letter dated September 26, 1956, from the Hampton Players, signed by Mrs. Dorothy Tunis, Secretary, requested the City either donate them a site to build a little theatre on or lease to them, for a nominal fee, on a long-term basis, such a site.

Mayor Isen said he was aware of the need for such a theatre, and that another similar group also needed such a theatre.

Mrs. Ledwidge asked to be heard, saying she was here as a spokesman for the Hampton Players. She said they had held most of their meetings in El Retiro Park. The outdoor theatre planned for that Park will not fill their need. She pointed out that this is a non-profit organization dedicated to the development of culture. She suggested they lease a site at El Retiro Park.

Mayor Isen asked City Attorney Remelmeyer if this could be done, and the City Attorney said El Retiro is a public park, and such leases cannot be granted on dedicated land.

Mayor Isen suggested this be referred to the Parks & Recreation Commission for study and recommendation.

Mrs. Ledwidge said the Hampton Players have nothing to do with that Commission.

Mayor Isen suggested that they get together with other interested groups and see if something can be worked out.

There being no objection, the Mayor referred this to the Parks & Recreation Commission.

7. A request for relinquishment by the City of seven easements for water lines no longer used by the City; this from Chanslor-Western Oil and Development Co., Chanslor-Canfield Midway Div'n., 4549 Produce Plaza, Los Angeles 58. This was dated September 25, 1956, and signed by R. N. McMaster, Chief Engineer.

Attached was a memorandum dated October 1, 1956, from A. E. McVicar, Supt. of the Torrance Water Dept., recommending the vacations be granted. Mr. McVicar said the request has been checked as nearly as possible, and these are 'point to point' easements, giving no width or actual right-of-way, and represent water lines long since abandoned.

A recommendation dated October 5, 1956, from City Manager Stevens concurred with that given by Mr. McVicar.

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

Councilman Jahn asked why we are considering releasing the easements.

City Manager Stevens said the easements are of no use to us, and have been abandoned. These were granted many years ago to the old Torrance Water, Light & Power Company. They cloud the title of the land, and are only line easements.

Councilman Jahn pointed out that he had recently paid \$550 for an easement.

Councilman Benstead withdrew his motion.

City Manager Stevens said CCMO had prepared the necessary documents.

Councilman Jahn moved to concur with the recommendation of the City Manager that the easements be released, with the stipulation that this should be at no expense whatever to the City.

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

8. An offer from L. J. Still & Sons, 17103 S. Main St., Gardena, dated October 2, 1956, as follows: for Bus 401 \$75.00 (no motor); and for Bus 502, \$100.00. This offer does not cover tires or tubes, and was accompanied by a check for the full amount of the offer.

A memorandum dated October 2, 1956, from M. A. Chamberlain, Bus Supt., explained that both these buses are in very bad condition, and recommended that the offer from L. J. Still & Sons be accepted.

A memorandum dated October 5, 1956, from City Manager Stevens, concurred with the recommendation made by Mr. Chamberlain.

Councilman Blount moved to concur with the recommendation made by the City Manager and accept the offer of L. J. Still & Sons for Buses 401 and 502.

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

9. A memorandum of Civic Center dedication expenses in the amount of \$3020.86 prepared by I. J. Hallanger was presented for information.

Councilman Drale moved that all such bills properly audited be paid.

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

10. A memorandum dated October 5, 1956, from H. B. Van Bellehem, Recreation Director, recommended the National Cash Resiter Model 1943 (3 S) AT-1C for the sum of \$1034 plus taxes be purchased for the

swimming pool, with delivery on March 1, 1957.

City Manager Stevens concurred with Mr. Van Bellehem in this recommendation, saying this is the only one conforming with the specifications.

Councilman Benstead moved to concur with the recommendations of the City Manager.

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

Communications from the City Manager:

PERSONNEL:

1. That James D. Wertz has been employed as a Park Maintenance man, on a temporary basis for a month or six weeks, commencing October 5, 1956, at the first salary step. Mr. Wertz is not on the Eligible List; no one on the List was willing to accept temporary work.
2. That Robert M. Wilson has been employed as a Draftsman in the Engineering Department commencing October 4, 1956, at the first salary step. He is No. 2 on the Eligible List; the No. 1 man having refused appointment.

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

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

3. Under the provisions of Article VII, Section 5, Paragraph (e) of the City Charter for Consolidation of Duties and Functions of Employees, I recommend that the Street Painting operations of the Paint Department be transferred to the Street Department effective October 16, 1956.

The painting of center line and lane stripes, crosswalks, warning and regulatory signs on streets, alleys and curbs logically should be under the jurisdiction of the Street Department where it can be coordinated with the construction, maintenance and repair of the streets. The Paint crews occasionally are used for painting tables, benches and equipment in parks and playgrounds. The employees transferred will be under the supervision of Ralph Perkins, Street and Park Superintendent.

Councilman Blount moved to concur with recommendation No. 3 as presented by the City Manager under Personnel.

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

APPROPRIATIONS:

1. To Arrow Engineering Company, the sum of \$375.00 for engineering services during the month of September, 1956.

Councilman Jahn asked where these people are located, and the City Manager said on West 173rd Street, Torrance.

City Engineer Bishop said this company is owned by Mr. Dave Bate, formerly with Barclay Engineering Company.

Councilman Jahn moved Arrow Engineering Company be paid the sum of \$375.00 for engineering services during the month of September, 1956.

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

AWARD OF CONTRACT:

1. After consideration of the bids for auditing services for the year 1956-57 and in consideration of our plans to establish a Finance Department early in 1957, I recommend that Bid #1 of Cotton & Francisco in the amount of \$4,625.00 be accepted.

This decision is based on the fact that this Company has performed satisfactory services over the past years. Consideration has been given to the inadvisability of changing auditing firms at this time when it may develop that the Finance Department will want to make changes again at the start of the next fiscal year. I believe that it would not be advisable to undergo changes at this time and then perhaps make a complete change again at the start of the next fiscal year.

Councilman Benstead moved to concur with the recommendation of the City Manager that Bid #1 of Cotton and Francisco in the amount of \$4625.00 for auditing services for the year 1956-57 be accepted.

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

TRANSFER OF FUNDS:

I recommend that a transfer of funds be made, effective October 10, 1956, as follows:

1. From General Fund to Park & Recreation Fund \$ 46,000.00

From Park & Recreation Fund to 1955 Bond  
Construction Fund \$ 45,870.71

Final payments of all commitments of the 1955 Bond Construction Fund will now be paid and the account closed.

2. From Park & Recreation Fund to 1954 Bond  
Construction Fund \$ 10,000.00

A final transfer of funds will be necessary to make final payments and close the account in the latter part of November.

Councilman Benstead moved to concur with the recommendations for Transfer of Funds as presented by the City Manager.

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

City Manager Stevens reported to the Council that the City Engineer recommends the bid of Consolidated Western Steel Div'n. of United States Steel Corporation be accepted for the pipe bid on, this in the sum of \$9,441.60 plus applicable taxes.

The City Attorney reported that he had checked and found all bids in order.

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

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

Communications from the City Attorney:

1. Under date of October 3, 1956, the City Attorney submitted an opinion on "The Law Relating to the Civil Service System in Torrance."

Mayor Isen asked if the Civil Service Board had seen this, and City Attorney Remelmeyer said they had.

Mayor Isen said all the Council can do is study this opinion further and renew their request for a valid Civil Service Ordinance.

City Attorney Remelmeyer said he had such an Ordinance prepared by Mr. Hall when he was the City Attorney, but it was not acceptable to the Civil Service Board.

Mayor Isen suggested it be placed on the Agenda of the next Council meeting, so the Council can study it and have public hearings on it.

Councilman Benstead protested, saying it was prepared several years ago and he thinks City Attorney Remelmeyer should prepare a new one.

There was no objection, and Mayor Isen directed City Attorney Remelmeyer to take 30 days to prepare a good Ordinance for the Council to study.

Mr. Ralph Gompertz of the "Torrance Press" told the Mayor and Council that copies of this opinion had not been made available to the press, and asked if he might have a copy for study.

City Attorney Remelmeyer said he has copies in his office and will be glad to furnish them.

Engineering & Planning Commission Matters:

1. A memorandum dated October 4, 1956, from John R. Patrick, Assistant to the City Engineer, recommended that a 'future street' in Tract 21676, between Lots 113 and 114, be accepted.

Councilman Blount moved to concur with Mr. Patrick's recommendation, and that the Resolution be presented at the next regular meeting of the Council.

Councilman Benstead asked if the motion included sidewalks and curbs.

Councilman Blount made that a condition of his motion.

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

2. A letter from John R. Patrick, Assistant to City Engineer, under date of October 5, 1956, submitting an easement from Carl W. Crain and Lona M. Crain for a sanitary sewer easement at the rear of Lot 13 in Tract 17132.

City Clerk Bartlett read:

RESOLUTION NO. 3015

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, THAT CERTAIN EASEMENT  
DEED FROM CARL W. CRAIN AND LONA M. CRAIN.

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. 3015.

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

3. Letter dated October 5, 1956, from R. W. Bishop, City Engineer, submitted Resolution of Intention to vacate Abalone Avenue and Indra Avenue in Tract No. 19308. He recommended this Resolution be adopted and the condition made, before these streets are actually vacated, that the drainage be conveyed in covered channels through the drainage easements reserved.

Councilman Jahn asked what guarantee we would have of a covered drainage channel.

City Engineer Bishop said a bond.

Councilman Blount asked what we are doing, and why.

The City Engineer replied the Planning Commission recommended it.

Planning Director Powell explained when the tract was originally approved, it included filled land where the old City Dump was, and the tract was reduced in size that much because the dump could not be built on.

Councilman Benstead asked why not sell the lots to the builder. Director Powell explained they are in a new tract now being built. Councilman Blount asked if these are old streets, and Mr. Powell said no, they are a part of the tract, and when the size of the tract was reduced, these two 'stub' streets were left.

Councilman Blount said actually, then, we are not giving him our old, dedicated streets.

City Engineer Bishop said that was correct.

Councilman Blount said we have a request from the Engineering Dept. for a 5' easement, and he thinks Mr. Gray will be more than glad to have the covered drainage channel put in.

Councilman Benstead asked to have action on the Resolution postponed until Mr. Gray has agreed to do this.

Councilman Drale asked Mr. Bishop to contact Mr. Gray and ask for a written agreement to install covered drainage there at his own expense.

Councilman Jahn protested that the area will drain the water to City-owned property.

City Engineer Bishop said it will drain onto land Mr. Gray owns.

Councilman Jahn expressed doubt that it would be wise to concentrate the drainage.

There were no objections, and Mayor Isen ordered this held over for a week with the extra provisions already noted, and the Resolution to be numbered No. 3016.

CASE NO. 410: Transmittal form from the Planning Commission, recommending approval of request of Richard B. Wilson (Mary Martz, Owner) for Variance to operate a Real Estate Business at 4509 Torrance Blvd.

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

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

City Clerk Bartlett read in full:

RESOLUTION NO. 3017

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF  
TORRANCE CONGRATULATING THE CITY OF GLENDALE ON  
ITS GOLDEN JUBILEE

WHEREAS, the City of Glendale was founded fifty years ago; and

WHEREAS, during the week of October 14, 1956, through October 20, 1956, the City of Glendale will celebrate its Golden Jubilee; and

WHEREAS, for the past fifty years the residents of Glendale have enjoyed the benefits of an excellent municipal administration and have prospered so as to become the third largest city in Los Angeles County; and

WHEREAS, the City of Torrance wishes to pay tribute to a sister City for its outstanding achievements;

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Torrance congratulates the City of Glendale on this its Golden Jubilee and extends to it its best wishes for a continued growth and prosperity.

Councilman Drale moved for adoption of Resolution No. 3017.

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

Mayor Isen directed Don Mansfield to write an appropriate letter for him and send a certified copy of this Resolution to the City of Glendale.

RESOLUTION NO. 3018

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 THAT CERTAIN GRANT DEED FROM MARY SORENSEN, KATHARINE H. A. SORENSEN AND LAURA J. D. SORENSEN WALKER.

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

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

Mayor Isen asked which land this is, and City Attorney Remelmeyer said it is for the extension of Arlington Avenue.

Councilman Jahn moved for adoption of Resolution No. 3018.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 828

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE PROHIBITING BULL FIGHTING OR ANY OTHER SIMILAR CONTEST OR PROMOTION OR ADVERTISING THEREOF.

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

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

Councilman Benstead moved for adoption of Ordinance No. 828 at its second and final reading.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 829

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING CERTAIN SECTIONS OF CHAPTER 16 ENTITLED "LICENSING AND REGULATION OF BUSINESSES AND TRADES" OF "THE CODE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, 1954" RELATING TO THE ISSUING OF PLATES FOR BUSINESS VEHICLES, COIN-OPERATED MACHINES AND LICENSE FEES FOR TRADES AND OCCUPATIONS.

Councilman Jahn moved to dispense with further reading of Ordinance No. 829.

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

Councilman Jahn moved for adoption of Ordinance No. 829, at its second and final reading.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 835

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE PROHIBITING THE PLACING OF ADVERTISING MATERIAL ON CITY OWNED PROPERTY.

Councilman Jahn moved to dispense with further reading of Ordinance No. 835.

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

Councilman Jahn moved for adoption of Ordinance No. 835 at its first reading.

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

An ordinance prepared by City Attorney Remelmeyer concerning regulation of dogs, the public Pounds, etc., was ordered held over for two weeks for study, there being no objections. The Mayor directed this to be returned to the Agenda at that time.

Councilman Drale moved a 30-day period of grace for licensing of dogs be granted to the people in the "Victor Precinct".

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

Mayor Isen asked to have the "sign ordinance" presented here held over for a week and explained at the Pre-Council meeting next week.

Attorney Remelmeyer explained that we have an Ordinance now which will expire on October 13, 1956, when we revert back to the old sign Ordinance. For that reason, he explained, he worked the recommendations of the Staff into this Ordinance, to prevent the City having to revert to that old Ordinance.

Mr. McNish, representing the Home Builders' Institute, asked what they were referring to.

The City Attorney said an Urgency Ordinance and a regular Ordinance controlling signs were on the Agenda of this meeting.

Mayor Isen expressed dissatisfaction with the Ordinances presented here, and asked if the Ordinance now in effect could not be extended.

Mr. Herb Goodwin of the Marvin Guenser Sign Company said this would work a hardship on builders in the area.

Mayor Isen asked Mr. Powell, Planning Director, what this Ordinance does to outdoor signs.

Mr. Powell replied this sets up a procedure for temporary signs.

City Attorney Remelmeyer said a builder can put up all the signs he wants on his own property, but only six in the City under this Ordinance. He said the Ordinance does not prohibit outdoor advertising.

Councilman Benstead said he wants to outlaw billboards in the City.

Mayor Isen said he would prefer to study this Ordinance at some length, and in the meantime re-enact the moratorium the City now has in effect on signs.

Councilman Blount said the Council should take the Attorney's word that this is a workable Ordinance.

Attorney Remelmeyer said he was working under a deadline of October 13, 1956.

Mayor Isen said he is against the big signs and thinks the people are. He said this Ordinance allows those signs; so far as he is concerned, he went on, it does not express his policy.

Councilman Jahn asked the City Manager if, in his opinion, the sign moratorium now in effect has done any harm to the local businessmen.

City Manager Stevens replied that he believes the present Ordinance permits signs for a business on the property.

Councilman Jahn asked if that meant builders could put up signs on their own property to sell their houses.

City Manager Stevens said he believed so.

Mr. Goodwin said the signs are put up to guide people to the City and the tracts.

Mr. McNish said he has worked with other municipalities on this problem, and would be glad to help our City. He said he would be glad to work with whoever is going to set final amendments to this ordinance.

Councilman Benstead asked Mr. McNish for his full name and address.

He replied his name is R. D. McNish, field representative for the Home Builders' Institute, 4015 Wilshire Boulevard. He stated he is a paid employee of that group.

Mayor Isen polled the Council on whether they wished to continue discussion on the Ordinance presented or have the City Attorney prepare an Ordinance which would continue the present moratorium on signs for another 30 days, allowing time for study of the Ordinance before them.

Attorney Remelmeyer repeated that he could not say whether or not this Ordinance reflected the policy of the Council, but because of the October 13 deadline, he had prepared it from recommendations made by the Staff.

Councilman Drale said he would vote for the Ordinance presented here tonight.

Councilman Benstead said he would not.

Mayor Isen said he favored a 30-day extension of the moratorium on signs.

Councilman Jahn asked for a recess.

Mayor Isen instructed the City Attorney to prepare an Urgency Ordinance extending the present moratorium on signs for 30 days, and declared a recess at 10:17 P. M.

The Council re-convened at 10:25 P. M.

Mayor Isen introduced Mr. Roberts, a representative of the Oil Information Committee of the American Petroleum Institute, and, with the concurrence of the Council, proclaimed Oil Progress Week in Torrance from October 14 to 20, inclusive.

Mayor Isen, with the concurrence of the Council, proclaimed October 24, 1956, as United Nations Day in Torrance. He announced that this Proclamation was copied from the one signed by President Eisenhower.

Mayor Isen, with the concurrence of the Council, proclaimed Saturday, October 27th, as Good Neighbor Day, in recognition of our warm friendships throughout the community, and urged the YMCA to choose another citizen as "Good Neighbor for 1956".

Mayor Isen asked the City Clerk to poll the Council on the appointment of Herbert Albright to the Park & Recreation Commission to replace Mr. Billotti, whose resignation was accepted by the Council at their last regular meeting.

Upon being polled, the Council unanimously concurred in the appointment of Mr. Albright to this Commission.

City Manager Stevens reported to the Council that the contractor will probably have the work completed on the Civic Center by the end of the week.

Councilman Jahn expressed continued dissatisfaction with the public address system in the Council Chamber, and asked the City Manager to see what could be done about using a different type of microphone.

Mayor Isen announced he had been presented with an Urgency Ordinance which would extend the present moratorium on signs for 30 days.

Councilman Drale said the Ordinance originally presented here tonight was a good Ordinance, and he felt it should be considered.

Mayor Isen disagreed, saying it allows bill boards to be erected in the City, and said he does not favor this, nor does he think the people of Torrance do.

Councilman Drale said he did not remember any groups of people asking for an Ordinance prohibiting signs, and he does not think it is good to prohibit them.

City Attorney Remelmeyer read in full:

ORDINANCE NO. 838

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE EXTENDING FOR A FURTHER PERIOD OF 30 DAYS THE PROVISIONS OF ORDINANCE NO. 821 PROHIBITING THE ERECTION OF ANY OUTDOOR SIGNS OR SIGN STRUCTURES, WITH EXCEPTIONS, IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE.

Councilman Benstead moved for adoption of Urgency Ordinance No. 838 at its first and final reading.

Councilman Jahn questioned sub-section (a) of Section 2, saying such signs were to be on the site of such business.

Councilman Benstead included that in his motion.

Motion seconded by Councilman Jahn.

Motion on Urgency Ordinance No. 838 failed by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Benstead, Jahn, Isen. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Blount and Drale. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

City Clerk Bartlett read:

ORDINANCE NO. 836

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE REPEALING CHAPTER 24 OF "THE CODE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, 1954" (AS ADOPTED BY ORDINANCE NO. 795) AND AMENDMENTS THERETO AND SUBSTITUTING A NEW CHAPTER 24 OF SAID CODE RELATING TO SIGNS AND DECLARING THE PRESENCE OF AN EMERGENCY.

Mayor Isen moved to dispense with further reading of Ordinance No. 836.

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

Mayor Isen pointed out that this Ordinance and the one following allow signs to be erected in Torrance.

Councilman Drale pointed out that these Ordinances confined signs to M-1 and commercial zones.

Councilman Drale moved for adoption of Urgency Ordinance No. 836 at its first and final reading.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 837

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE REPEALING CHAPTER 24 OF "THE CODE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, 1954" (AS ADOPTED BY ORDINANCE NO. 795) AND AMENDMENTS THERETO AND SUBSTITUTING A NEW CHAPTER 24 OF SAID CODE RELATING TO SIGNS.

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

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

Councilman Blount moved for adoption of Ordinance No. 837 at its first reading.

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

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Councilman Benstead asked if the ventilating unit at the jail has been put in order.

Chief of Police Haslam said the adjustments of the thermostats are still to be made.

Councilman Benstead asked if ventilation had been put in order in the Matron's quarters.

Chief Haslam said not yet, and that some of the jail locks still need repair.

Councilman Benstead asked if the wooden frame on a steel door there was to be replaced with a steel frame, and asked to have a report on all these conditions at the next meeting of the Council.

Councilman Drale said he wished to bring up once more the matter of City employees receiving Social Security protection, which he said had been mentioned before by Councilman Benstead and himself. He asked if anything had been done on that.

City Manager Stevens reported it is possible for them to have it. He said it can be supplemental to the protection now furnished, costing the employees the percentage now due and the City 2-1/2%, or it can be integrated with the employees and the City paying about what they pay now and with the benefits being about the same except for survivorship benefits, which he said would be greater with Social Security. In order to implement either plan, he said, it will be necessary to have a survey made by the State, and have the employees of the City vote on whether or not they want this.

Councilman Drale asked if the City Manager's office would make a study as to the approximate cost to both the City and the employee if either program should be adopted.

City Manager Stevens said this would be done, but emphasized that it would be an approximate figure.

City Manager Stevens reported that the Fire and Police Departments cannot be covered, so this would benefit only miscellaneous employees.

Councilman Benstead asked if it would be necessary to have the survey made by the State when Social Security is a Federal matter.

City Manager Stevens said it is, if we are going to enter into a contract. He said the cost of such a survey would be figured on a per capita basis.

Councilman Drale repeated his request for approximate costs, and the City Manager said they would be furnished.

Councilman Jahn asked the City Manager if progress is being made toward finding someone to make a survey of the park needs of the City.

City Manager Stevens said two firms have been contacted.

Councilman Jahn asked if either of them had given any indication of the time needed for such a survey.

City Manager Stevens said one had indicated it would be quite a full study.

Councilman Jahn asked if City Manager Stevens would give the Council some report of what it would cost in taxes for the 55 acres back of the City Hall, and what it would cost if this is used for a park.

Councilman Jahn then addressed the City Attorney and asked whether the Santa Fe Railway had answered the condemnation suit by asking for time.

City Attorney Remelmeyer said they had, and were given 90 days.

Councilman Jahn asked if they can answer sooner than that, and have it ready to go.

City Attorney Remelmeyer outlined the time elements involved, saying a trial date would then be set.

Mayor Isen asked that the record show, as a courtesy to the Commissions, Department Heads, and other City employees who have reason to attend Council meetings, they are invited to sit as close to the front of the room as possible when they attend Council meetings.

The Council concurred with the Mayor in the invitation.

Mayor Isen asked the City Manager to issue a communication giving this information.

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

The meeting adjourned at 11:10 P. M.

APPROVED:

*Albert Isen*

Mayor of the City of Torrance

*A. H. Barthel*

City Clerk of the City of Torrance