

Torrance, California  
February 26, 1957

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL

The City Council of the City of Torrance convened in a regular meeting at 8:00 P. M., Tuesday, February 26, 1957, in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Torrance, California.

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

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

The Reverend Milton Sippel opened the meeting with an invocation.

Councilman Drale moved to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Council held February 19, 1957, as written.

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

HEARINGS:

The Hearing on the Assessment for the improvement of Yukon Avenue Improvement District for construction of curbs, gutters, sidewalks and a sanitary sewer system in Yukon Avenue and other streets, was opened at 8:02 P. M.

Mayor Isen announced that 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, or the quality of work performed, or the legality of additions to or omissions from the contract or the correctness of the assessment or diagram.

Deputy City Clerk Hallanger presented the Affidavits of Publication, Mailing and Posting Notices of Filing of Assessment.

Councilman Benstead moved that the Affidavits be received and filed.

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

Mayor Isen then inquired if any written protests had been filed with the Clerk. Deputy City Clerk Hallanger reported that five protests had been filed with him prior to the time set for the hearing, and then read in full all protests as filed by:

C. R. Wilson, owner of NE corner of 174th St. & Yukon Ave.,  
Assessment No. 45;

Frederick A. Brown, 3535 W. 168th St., Assessment No. 16;

Andrew Bartok, 3541 W. 168th St., Assessment No. 17;

Edward and Gilberte Moras, 3553 W. 168th St., Assessment No. 19;

Alfred and Augustine Morasse, 3559 W. 168th St., Assessment No. 20.

Mayor Isen then asked if anyone present desired to be heard in this matter.

A verbal protest was made from the floor by Andrew Bartok, 3541 W. 168th Street.

Councilman Blount asked the City Engineer if he was familiar with the protests.

The City Engineer said he has read them, but does not think they are valid. He explained that the 25' they are being assessed for is a community cost which would be spread over all the lots in the District. He said these people would pay less than the others because the main in front of their homes was built by a subdivider, and was built without cost to them. He felt the cost of the main on Yukon should be a community cost.

Councilman Jahn asked if the 25' they are charged for extends into the District.

City Engineer Bishop said they have 50' frontage, but are charged only for 25', which is their share.

Mr. Bartok said these people are protesting because they had been put to expense by the delay in this District.

Councilman Drale asked if the people on 168th St. would have a sewer if the tract had not been built to the east of them.

City Engineer Bishop said until the tract was built they had only septic tanks and cesspools.

Councilman Drale asked if they had permission from the City to tie into the subdivider's sewer.

City Engineer Bishop said after the Resolution of Intention was adopted the status had to remain unchanged; they had to wait and come in under the District.

Councilman Drale asked if they are being charged a full share.

City Engineer Bishop said they are being charged one-half share. He said they are getting a longer lateral but are paying the same as the others.

Councilman Drale asked if the District does include these houses.

City Engineer Bishop said yes.

Councilman Benstead asked if they were assessed for the other sewer.

City Engineer Bishop said no, but they had paid about \$20 each.

Councilman Blount moved to continue this hearing to March 12, 1957, at 8:00 P. M., so the City Engineer can assess the validity of these protests.

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.

#### WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:

1. A letter dated February 18, 1957, from Gordon T. Nesvig, Chief Clerk, County Board of Supervisors, transmitted a resolution of the Board declaring a portion of Crenshaw Boulevard a part of the County System of Highways and requesting the consent of the City to its improvement.

Attached to this was a memorandum dated February 28, 1957, from City Attorney Remelmeyer approving of this, and submitting an Urgency Ordinance as required by the Streets & Highways Code.

Deputy City Clerk Hallanger read:

#### ORDINANCE NO. 857

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A PORTION OF CRENSHAW BOULEVARD, BETWEEN PACIFIC COAST HIGHWAY AND ROLLING HILLS ROAD, WITHIN THE CITY OF TORRANCE, AS A PART OF THE COUNTY SYSTEM OF HIGHWAYS AND CONSENTING TO THE IMPROVEMENT THEREOF BY THE COUNTY.

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 Urgency Ordinance No. 857 at its first and final reading.

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

2. A letter from Edward T. Telford, Asst. State Highway Engineer, received in the office of the City Manager on February 21, 1957, concerned the proposed closing of the median opening at Paseo de Gracia as part of the opening of Tulita Avenue into the Pacific Coast Highway. On the basis of the objections to such change as raised in the City Engineer's letter of February 13, 1957, the Division of Highways will withdraw the requirement that the City of Redondo Beach close the Paseo de Gracia opening.

Mayor Isen said this was a very welcome letter.

Councilman Jahn said the Council had passed a Resolution declaring their opposition to the closing of Paseo de Gracia, and asked how it had come about that Mr. Telford had not received a copy of this.

City Engineer Bishop said he did not know. He said he had told those concerned that the City of Torrance would object, and had written to Mr. Telford as directed.

Deputy City Clerk Hallanger said he could not recall, but would have to check back to see.

Councilman Drale suggested that on behalf of the Council a letter should be sent to Assemblyman Thomas and Mr. Telford thanking them for their help.

There were no objections, and Mayor Isen directed Mr. Mansfield to write such a letter for his signature.

3. A letter dated February 20, 1957, from Wilburn E. Baker, President of the Inter-City Highway Committee, submitted a copy of a resolution they adopted at their meeting of February 14, 1957, relative to sending representatives to Sacramento to appear before the State Highway Commission for the purpose of requesting an allocation of funds in the 1958-59 budget for the expediting of the San Diego Freeway, and urged the adoption of a similar resolution by the Council. The letter also urged that delegates be sent to Sacramento with their representatives.

Councilman Drale, as a member of this Committee, said they are trying to bring the San Diego Freeway to the priority it should have. It originally had No. 4 priority, and during the past few years it has gone down to about No. 12. He said sending this group to Sacramento was an effort to hasten the development of the Freeway. He commented that the Harbor Freeway from 182nd Street to San Pedro also seems to have hit a bottleneck. Both are important to our City, and he recommended that we sponsor this group. He explained that a hearing time and date has been set, and said the Committee is asking each City Council to send at least one representative.

Mayor Isen moved that Councilman Drale serve as the Torrance representative on this Committee, with appropriate expenses paid.

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

Councilman Jahn moved that appropriate expenses be paid for another representative to accompany Councilman Drale, suggesting that Councilman Blount accompany him.

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

Councilman Drale moved the proper Resolution as suggested here be prepared and be on the Agenda for next week's meeting.

There were no objections and it was so ordered.

4 and 5: Letters from the North Torrance Civic Improvement Association, dated February 12 and February 14, having to do with parking near North Torrance High School and the extension of Prairie Avenue to the Civic Center, were held over until later in the meeting, with the comment that it was intended a representative from the Association would be here to discuss these matters with the Council.

6. A letter dated February 19, 1957, from California Garden Clubs, Inc., signed by Mrs. R. O. Young, District Director, requested that March 7 be proclaimed as "Arbor Day" with appropriate planting of a tree in the Civic Center or other place in the City as designated, and encouraging the citizens to also plant on their own property.

Mayor Isen read a Proclamation proclaiming March 7th as Arbor Day, and requesting every citizen and organization in the City to take part in this annual event.

Councilman Blount moved to concur with the Proclamation.

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

Mayor Isen said Mrs. Young had called him, and he had told her that

all the Garden Clubs in the City should participate equally in planting on the Civic Center site, and asked the Council if they did not agree on this, and they did.

Mayor Isen suggested that Mr. Clemmer's approval of the location of the planting and the type of tree to be planted on the Civic Center be required.

There were no objections, and it was so ordered.

Mayor Isen directed Mr. Mansfield to write a letter to Mrs. Young to let her know this Council's action and to advise her to make the necessary arrangements with the Park Superintendent.

7. Letter dated February 18, 1957, from R. L. Peachee, attorney for M & M Transfer Co., advising of the revocation of Parking Privileges on M & M Transfer Co. property at Cabrillo Ave., as the property is being sold.

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

8. A request dated February 15, 1957, from Southwest Savings & Loan Association, signed by Eldon J. Bowen, Mgr., for permission to extend a temporary cable from the northeast corner of their building diagonally across the intersection of Marcelina and Cravens Ave., from March 15th to April 12, 1957. This will be for the purpose of suspending from it a banner proclaiming their grand opening of new Torrance facilities.

The letter stated they would assume any and all liability in the action and promptly remove the banner and cable at the expiration of their opening period.

Councilman Blount moved permission as requested be granted with them to assume any and all liability and subject to approval by the City Attorney of adequate insurance and approval by the Building Department of the cable.

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

9. Request from Alex Schreiber dated February 18, 1957, for permission to omit for the present the construction of curbs, gutters and sidewalks on Western Avenue and 220th St., at the Schreiber Bowl-O-Drome. It was explained the omission is requested until such time as adjacent property owners develop and install like work on their properties.

Mayor Isen asked if this had been reviewed by the Building Dept. or City Manager Stevens.

City Attorney Remelmeyer said such requests can be made to the Planning Commission.

Councilman Benstead moved the request be referred to the Planning Commission for recommendation.

Motion seconded by Councilman Drale.

The City Attorney said Section 3 of Ordinance 756 made exceptions to the owner of each commercial lot putting in curbs and gutters.

Councilman Blount said he did not think the Council can delegate such authority.

Councilman Drale said the Council has been very consistent in this demand. He recalled that a market in the northerly section of Torrance had made a similar request very recently, and had been required to conform to the Ordinance.

Mr. Schreiber was present, and came forward. He pointed out this request was only temporary. He said the request was referred here by Mr. Patrick of the Engineering Dept. He said there are no curbs, gutters, or sidewalks for miles on either side of his property on Western Ave. He said they are trying to open within 4 weeks, and will put in the curbs and gutters and sidewalks when the street is ready for them. He said they had hoped to put these in before the fall of 1958.

Councilman Drale said he was not against this request especially, but the Ordinance had been passed to make everyone comply for the best interest of the City.

Councilman Jahn said such a time extension as is requested here had recently been given to a gas station, with the owner of the station posting a bond guaranteeing to install the improvements when the grade of the street was established. He asked if Mr. Schreiber would post such a bond.

Mr. Schreiber said he would be glad to do so.

The communication was ordered referred to the Planning Commission as moved by Councilman Benstead, as there were no objections.

10. A statement of earnings from Franchise Ordinances Nos. 179, 781, and 351, covering the period November 1, 1955 to October 31, 1956, from General Petroleum Corporation. A check in the amount of \$663.51 was enclosed.

Councilman Blount moved the report be accepted and filed and the check be referred to the proper City office.

There were no objections and it was so ordered.

11. A request dated February 11, 1957, from A. E. McVicar, Supt. of the Water Dept., for permission to purchase a new meter testing machine. Mr. McVicar recommended that a Ford, Akron Type, testing machine, with complete attachments, at \$1,717 be purchased, and said this is the best obtainable and is made by only one concern.

Councilman Benstead said there are other machines made for such testing, and moved that bids be called for.

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

Communications from the City Manager:

Under date of February 21, 1957, the City Manager submitted the following recommendations for Council consideration and approval:

AWARD OF CONTRACTS:

1. Concrete Sidewalks at Civic Center: I recommend that the contract for the installation of sidewalks at the Civic Center be awarded to Star Construction Company, who submitted the lowest responsible bid in the amount of \$2,827.50, and that all other bids be rejected.
2. Sprinkler System at Civic Center: I recommend that the contract for the installation of Automatic Lawn Sprinkler System at the Civic Center be awarded to the D & M Sprinkler Company who submitted the lowest responsible bid in the amount of \$9,967.00, and that all other bids be rejected.

Councilman Drale moved to concur with the recommendation of the City Manager in Items 1 and 2 under "Award of Contracts".

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

Deputy City Clerk Hallanger read:

RESOLUTION NO. 3112

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE  
AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO  
EXECUTE THAT CERTAIN CONTRACT BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY  
OF TORRANCE AND STAR CONSTRUCTION COMPANY.

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

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

Councilman Drale moved for adoption of Resolution No. 3112.

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

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RESOLUTION NO. 3113

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE  
AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO  
EXECUTE THAT CERTAIN CONTRACT BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY  
OF TORRANCE AND D & M SPRINKLER COMPANY.

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

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

Councilman Benstead moved for adoption of Resolution No. 3113.

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

Communications from the City Attorney:

1. An opinion dated February 15, 1957, concerning verbatim transcripts of minutes, was to the effect that the public ought to furnish its own stenographic service in copying verbatim excerpts from the tape recordings of meetings.

Councilman Jahn moved to concur with the opinion of the City Attorney, with the stipulation that the tape recordings are not to leave the City Hall.

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

2. An opinion from the City Attorney, dated February 21, 1957, on a motion to reconsider the vote on tentative tract maps as taken when one member of the Council was absent and resulting in a tied vote, was that the motion to reconsider can only be made by one of the Councilmen who voted with the prevailing side. It was his opinion that the absent Councilman ought to be allowed to make the motion.

Councilman Blount moved the City Council reconsider Tract Map No. 23151.

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

Councilman Jahn moved to approve Tract 23151 as submitted by the Planning Commission, with all special conditions to apply.

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

Councilman Blount moved the City Council reconsider Tract Map No. 18920.

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

Councilman Jahn moved Tract No. 18920 be approved with all special conditions to apply.

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

3. A letter dated February 21, 1957, from the City Attorney, submitted a Resolution accepting a Grant Deed from Walter Warner, Pauline Warner, Alter Realty and Insurance Co., and Nancy Joline Sanderson for the north 10' of the west 66' of Lot 10 in Tract No. 2895, in connection with the condemnation in Tract No. 16884.

Deputy City Clerk Hallanger read:

RESOLUTION NO. 3114

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 WALTER WARNER, PAULINE WARNER, ALTER REALTY AND INSURANCE (A CORPORATION) AND NANCY JOLINE SANDERSON.

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

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

Councilman Jahn moved for adoption of Resolution No. 3114.

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

Councilman Drale said he understood that this would cost the City nothing, and the City Attorney said that was right.

4. A letter from the City Attorney, dated February 21, 1957, submitted a Resolution in the action of the City vs Jack Burger, et al Superior Court No. 629998, condemnation, Ashley Avenue.

Deputy City Clerk Hallanger read:

RESOLUTION NO. 3115

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 HARRY L. SEAWARD AND DOLORES M. SEAWARD.

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. 3115.

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

5. A letter dated February 21, 1957, from the City Attorney, submitted a Resolution in the action of the City vs Jack Burger, et al, Superior Court No. 629998, condemnation, Ashley Avenue.

Deputy City Clerk Hallanger read:

RESOLUTION NO. 3116

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 M. FRIEDMAN.

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

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

Councilman Drale moved for adoption of Resolution No. 3116.

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

6. An opinion from the City Attorney, dated February 21, 1957, was to the effect that it is his opinion that the sale of Lot "X" was accomplished according to law and that a public hearing was unnecessary. This lot, behind the old City Hall, was sold to George L. Probert.

Councilman Drale moved this letter be filed as a matter of record. Motion seconded by Councilman Jahn, no objections, so ordered.

City Attorney Remelmeyer said the Engineering Dept. is now drawing up the legal description of Lot "X".

Mayor Isen said the rest of the property behind the old City Hall is now zoned R-1, but it is planned to zone it for parking. He moved that when the legal descriptions of the land are complete, that portion remaining with the Old City Hall be referred to the Planning Commission for a change of zone.

Councilman Blount protested against the motion.

Councilman Drale seconded the motion, saying he goes along with the Mayor on this.

Councilman Jahn commented that Lot "X" had been sold to Mr. Probert as a buffer against parking.

Mayor Isen said if the land there was zoned for commercial use, whoever buys it may try to build on it.

Councilman Jahn said if it is left R-1, whoever buys the property could legally sell it and allow a residence to be built on it.

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

#### Planning and Engineering Matters:

1. A letter dated February 21, 1957, from J. R. Patrick, Assistant to the City Engineer, submitted an easement for the widening of 182nd Street, given by the Christ the King Lutheran Church of Torrance.

Deputy City Clerk Hallanger read:

#### RESOLUTION NO. 3117

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE  
ACCEPTING, ON BEHALF OF THE CITY, THAT CERTAIN EASEMENT  
DEED FROM THE TRUSTEES OF CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN CHURCH  
OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA.

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

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

Councilman Jahn moved for adoption of Resolution No. 3117.

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

2. A letter dated February 21, 1957, from J. R. Patrick, Assistant to the City Engineer, submitted easements for the widening on the easterly side of Arlington Ave., from Max J. Morgan et al.

Deputy City Clerk Hallanger read:

#### RESOLUTION NO. 3118

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE  
ACCEPTING, ON BEHALF OF THE CITY THAT CERTAIN EASEMENT  
DEED FROM MAX J. MORGAN ET AL.

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

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

Councilman Drale moved for adoption of Resolution No. 3118.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 3119

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE  
ACCEPTING, ON BEHALF OF THE CITY, THAT CERTAIN EASEMENT  
DEED FROM MAX J. MORGAN ET AL.

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

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

Councilman Jahn moved for adoption of Resolution No. 3119.

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

3. Letter dated February 20, 1957, from R. W. Bishop, City Engineer, submitted a memorandum of Agreement for the Fiscal Year 1958 from the State Division of Highways, covering the improvement of 190th Street from Hawthorne Avenue to Western Avenue.

RESOLUTION NO. 3120

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

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

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

Councilman Drale moved for adoption of Resolution No. 3120.

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

Councilman Jahn commented that two tracts had been approved tonight which involve joint water use agreements.

Councilman Drale moved the City Attorney be authorized to draw the necessary Resolution and put them on the Agenda of the next regular meeting.

There were no objections, and it was so ordered.

4. A letter dated February 21, 1957, from City Engineer Bishop, recommended release of the Bond in Tract No. 21725, Bond No. 520480 LA - \$264,000.00, subdivider, Kauffman-Wilson Construction Co.

A memorandum from Park Supt. Clemmer, dated Feb. 21, 1957, approved the trees in the parkways of the subject tract.

Councilman Drale moved to concur with the release of this bond as recommended by the City Engineer.

Motion seconded by Councilman Jahn.

Councilman Benstead asked whether the Superintendent of Parks had inspected the trees when they were planted or at the time of recommending release of the bond.

The City Manager said the policy has been to have the inspection just before the bond is released.

Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Benstead moved that in the future the Park Superintendent give the date of inspection of the trees when he makes similar recommendations to the Council.

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

Councilman Jahn commented that this motion has been made before.

5. A letter dated February 21, 1957, from City Engineer Bishop, gave an interim report on the proposed opening of Carson St. through High School

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The City Engineer reported that studies are being made, and that he did not believe that Remco or Mr. Findley would object to granting a reasonable street easement through this park.

Councilman Jahn moved to concur with the report of the City Engineer. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Benstead, Drale, Jahn, Isen. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Blount. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Drale moved that when the City Engineer receives a decision from Mr. Findley, the Mayor set a date for the Hearing on this. Motion seconded by Councilman Benstead, no objection, so ordered.

Deputy City Clerk Hallanger read:

RESOLUTION NO. 3121

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE WELCOMING "D" BATTERY, 865TH AAA MISSILE BATTALION TO TORRANCE.

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

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

Councilman Drale moved for adoption of Resolution No. 3121.

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

Mayor Isen directed Mr. Mansfield to write a letter to the Commanding Officer of the Battalion and enclose a copy of the Resolution. Mayor Isen said he would sign such a letter.

Mayor Isen commented that the Councilmen have received invitations to the Open House festivities of this installation. He said he understands there are about 75 Army men at this location.

RESOLUTION NO. 3122

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE TO EXECUTE THAT CERTAIN LEASE BETWEEN SAID CITY AND THE ALAMO CLUB OF TORRANCE.

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

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

Councilman Drale said any such lease should have a clause permitting the City to cancel it upon 30 days' written notice.

City Attorney Remelmeyer said the lease does have such a clause.

Councilman Benstead moved for adoption of Resolution No. 3122.

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

Mr. James L. Howell, 1754 Torrance Boulevard, saying he had been the custodian of that Club, asked who will sign the lease for the Club.

Mayor Isen said the proper officials will sign for the Club.

City Attorney Remelmeyer said the lease will be signed by the President and Secretary of the organization.

Mayor Isen directed the City Attorney to investigate and be sure the proper officials sign.

The City Attorney said he had met with the Board of Trustees of the Club about this lease.

Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

At 9:00 P. M., Mayor Isen declared a recess, with the Council reconvening at 9:15 P. M.

RESOLUTION NO. 3123

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE  
AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE THAT  
CERTAIN WATER SERVICE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY AND  
CIMARRON LAND COMPANY WITH REFERENCE TO TRACT NO. 21588.

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

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

Councilman Jahn moved for adoption of Resolution No. 3123.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 3124

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE  
AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE, ON  
BEHALF OF THE CITY, THAT CERTAIN AGREEMENT WITH HARRY  
KISSEL.

Mayor Isen moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution.

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

Councilman Benstead moved for adoption of Resolution No. 3124.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 3125

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 GRANT  
DEEDS FROM HARRY KISSEL AND DOROTHY KISSEL.

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. 3125.

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

REPORTS:

1. A letter dated February 21, 1957, from City Manager Stevens, reporting that the roofing on the City Hall and Police Station is guaranteed for two years, and that any failure will be taken care of. The Contractor will work on the roof over the car storage portion of the Police Station very soon. Other modifications were listed in the letter.

The City Manager recommended that the funds being withheld from the contractor be paid.

Councilman Jahn moved to concur with the City Manager's recommendation that the funds being withheld be paid, and that City Manager Stevens keep a watchful eye on the work needed to be sure it is done before the guarantee runs out.

Councilman Benstead said he understands the heating and cooling system at the Police Station is not working.

Mayor Isen seconded Councilman Jahn's motion.

City Manager Stevens said he will see that this work is all done.

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

2. The office of the City Clerk reported to the Council that the City has received Secured Realty Taxes for the Fiscal Year 1956-1957 the following amount:

|                     |         |   |                     |         |
|---------------------|---------|---|---------------------|---------|
|                     | T.D. #1 | - | \$148,090.37        |         |
|                     | T.D. #2 | - | \$301,338.97        |         |
|                     |         |   | <u>\$449,429.34</u> | - Gross |
| Less Tax Advance    |         | - | \$200,000.00        |         |
| February 1, 1957    |         | - | \$249,429.34        |         |
| Net Amount Received |         | - | \$248,305.77        |         |

3. The office of the City Clerk reported that the report of the General Manager and Chief Engineer of the Metropolitan Water District and of the Controller for that District, for the month of January 1957, are on file in the City Clerk's office.

Mayor Isen read a Proclamation proclaiming the week of February 25, 1957, as "HOSPITAL WEEK IN TORRANCE" and called upon every family in our City to make as large a contribution as possible toward the construction of the Little Company of Mary Hospital.

Councilman Drale moved to concur in the Proclamation. Motion seconded by Councilman Benstead, no objections, so ordered.

Mayor Isen read a Proclamation proclaiming the week of March 9th to March 16th as Girl Scout Week in Torrance, and commended the South Bay Council of Girl Scouts for their moral and patriotic activity.

Councilman Drale moved to concur with the Proclamation. Motion seconded by Councilman Benstead, no objections, so ordered.

Mayor Isen asked if anyone from the North Torrance Civic Improvement Association was present to discuss their requests.

There was no such person present, so Mayor Isen ordered Items G4 and G5 to the Agenda of the next meeting of the Council, and instructed the Deputy City Clerk to write to them and tell them of this action.

Councilman Jahn said a recommendation is needed on Item G4.

Councilman Drale said it should go to the Traffic Commission.

Mayor Isen ordered this referred to the Traffic Commission and to be back on the Agenda next week, with a recommendation from the Commission if that is possible.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

City Manager Stevens told the Council that as a result of good luck and a good safety program, we have had a good year in our State Compensation Fund. He said we got a large dividend, and had a 10% reduction in the policy to start with. He said this was due partly to the Safety Program.

City Attorney Remelmeyer said he had been asked to make a report on the City Dump. He reported that he understands that the dangers to be avoided would be from the bulldozing operation or from the edge of the dump caving in. He had received recommendations from various City-officials on these. One is that the City post signs at the entrance and inside the dump to the effect that children be kept in vehicles, and all persons stay inside vehicles on the dump property except those essential to the operation; another is that we consider giving cards or handbills to all vehicles entering the property giving information as to how to avoid the hazards; another is that we have an attendant there on the week-ends to enforce the rules. It was suggested that a Police Officer or Reserve Officer enforce the signs, and that an Ordinance be passed if necessary. The problem of identification was also brought up, and it was pointed out that many people who use the dump are not residents of this City. Outside of requiring identification, there is no way this could be stopped.

The City Attorney went on to say that avoiding any responsibility at the dump is a legal problem, and we can only attempt to cut down the

number of accidents by using some of the measures suggested.

Mr. Remelmeyer said he felt such a program would belong in the City Manager's office rather than the Attorney's office.

Mayor Isen directed the City Manager to study the recommendations made here and see what could be suggested.

City Attorney Remelmeyer said he had been instructed to inquire into a change of electrical rate zone for the City. He attended the initial hearings on the utility company's request for a rate increase, and said there will be more hearings. He said this problem we have is primarily one of presenting certain factual information to show that due to the growth of population we should be in another zone. He said this will require a considerable amount of study.

The City Attorney reported that Manhattan Beach is going to attempt to work towards getting the zone changed, as well, and suggested we induce the Beach Cities and perhaps Palos Verdes as well to go along with us and hire someone to do this work for all the cities at once.

The firm that has been representing us also represents many other cities, and the City Attorney said he thought our advocate at the Hearings should represent only the Cities in this area.

City Manager Stevens said the City Manager in Redondo Beach had, at one time, indicated their willingness to share this effort with us.

Mr. Stevens also said he had a report from the company now representing us at these hearings, and he would have the report duplicated and sent to the Council.

Mayor Isen directed the City Attorney to explore this matter further and report back to the Council.

City Attorney Remelmeyer reported finally that the Examiner in the case had said we would have an opportunity to present our information in May or June.

Mayor Isen asked if we have heard from the Fire Underwriters.

City Manager Stevens said we should hear sometime very soon, but we have not yet.

Councilman Blount said some weeks ago he had suggested to the Police Commission that they take into consideration adding to our police force young ladies to take care of the parking meters downtown, that is, issue tickets to violators, etc. He pointed out that this is being done in a neighboring city now. He asked if the Council agreed with him that this would be beneficial.

Councilman Drale said he would agree with a motion for a classification for young ladies to patrol these meters.

Councilman Blount so moved.

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

City Manager Stevens said Mr. Dorsey favors such patrol action.

Councilman Blount asked Chief of Police Haslam the status of Mr. Gee with the City.

Chief Haslam said Mr. Gee is through, and has turned in all the warrants in his possession. He said an investigator from the District Attorney's office is now checking the records of our Police Department and of the South Bay Court, and is finding about the same amount of error in each set of records. The investigator is not yet through with his work.

Chief Haslam said he would be glad to have a directive from the Council as to what they want him to do about Mr. Gee.

Councilman Benstead asked if he is a member of our Police Force.

Chief Haslam said he is a sworn officer of the City.

Councilman Blount asked if Mr. Gee has civil service status, and the Chief said he has not.

Councilman Blount said he did not think the Council could do anything but dispense with Mr. Gee's services, and that he did not think Mr. Gee should be a member of the Torrance Police Department.

Councilman Drale moved the services of Mr. Gee be dispensed with at once.

Motion seconded by Councilman Benstead.

Mayor Isen asked if this is a personnel matter over which the Council has no jurisdiction.

City Manager Stevens said he would have to take part of the blame for Mr. Gee working for the City, because of the money. Mr. Gee has been doing work for the City by collecting and he does a terrific job. The City Manager went on to say that since we have moved away from downtown Torrance, we have had no trouble. He said he had told Chief Haslam last week we would have to dispense with Mr. Gee's services. The City Council can add to that if they wish, but it is not necessary. Mr. Gee did a better job than the City has been able to do of collecting, and brought in from two to three thousand dollars a month for the City.

The case which has caused this problem is an old case, Mr. Stevens said, however, the City cannot keep Mr. Gee.

Councilman Benstead rescinded his second to the motion.

Councilman Drale changed his motion to concur with the City Manager's action.

Councilman Drale said if the funds collected by Mr. Gee amount to thousands of dollars each month, it may be worth while to set up a classification for a collector.

Chief Haslam disagreed, saying this would have to be done by trial and error. He said some people can do it well and others cannot. He recommended this be done within the Department by finding the man who can do the work best.

Councilman Blount asked the City Attorney where we stand on the new Civil Service Ordinance.

City Attorney Remelmeyer said this will be re-drafted this week to conform with certain suggestions of the employees. Then it will be sent out to the employees, and another meeting will be held with them and he hopes they will agree with the provisions of the ordinance at that time, and then he will bring it back to the Council.

The City Attorney said this is now on his secretary's desk and has priority.

Councilman Drale asked if any progress has been made toward acquiring the easements on Prairie Avenue.

City Engineer Bishop said we have a Right of Way Agent working with his Department on this now.

Councilman Drale asked if that will expedite the installation of the curbs, gutters and sidewalks on that street.

City Engineer Bishop said it will not be long until this can be undertaken.

Councilman Jahn asked the City Engineer about Hollywood-Riviera Sewer District No. 2, and when this work would begin. He said it was a real need, and that a health problem is arising in the area.

City Engineer Bishop said the design of the pumping station is taking longer than he had thought it would. Some of the rights of way necessary will have to be condemned. He explained that he is very short of workmen in his department at present, and that an examination had been given for draftsmen last Saturday and only three men took it.

The City Engineer went on to say that at the present time, Bob Kibbey is working on this continuously; he said he feels that Mr. Kibbey is very reliable and capable, and is our best man for the job.

Councilman Jahn asked the City Manager if it would be possible to hire anyone.

City Manager Stevens said an examination has been given, and we can try to get the results of it very quickly.

City Engineer Bishop said he has asked to see the applications of the men who took the examination, and will be prepared to act quickly upon receiving the results of the examination.

City Manager Stevens explained that it is hard to hire engineers just now. He said we might employ a consulting firm to help with the pumping station.

Councilman Jahn moved for extra funds or whatever might be necessary to speed this project on its way.

City Engineer Bishop asked that such action be withheld until next week at least.

Councilman Benstead suggested that Councilman Jahn discuss this with the Engineer before the meeting, to save time.

Councilman Jahn asked if the Council would go along with him in making it mandatory for all new construction to have garbage disposals. He pointed out that our garbage collection contract will soon expire, and that the cost of such service will increase.

Councilman Drale seconded the motion, with the comment that he had made such a motion some time ago.

This was ordered referred to the City Attorney for a recommendation on whether or not 'construction' as used here was too inclusive.

Councilman Jahn said he had noted a letter from an Inglewood official on last week's agenda about a Civil Defense matter. He said he feels it might be well to explore the possibility of setting up regular meetings of the Councils and Mayors of the cities in the West Basin Water District for discussion of many mutual problems. He pointed out that the League of California Cities is set up on a state-wide basis, and has little interest in special local problems. He feels that such an organizational set-up as he is proposing here would be of great importance and of the utmost good. He said he would like to have the possibilities of the suggestion explored.

He asked if the Council would concur in asking the City Manager to explore the possibilities outlined here.

Mayor Isen suggested that the matter be given some thought before any action is taken.

Councilman Jahn asked if the action started on the old Mayfair Creamery building has been completed.

The City Attorney said nothing has been done. We made an offer, and it was not accepted. He asked for a counter offer. Day before yesterday he had called their attorney, who said they decided they would not make a counter offer. He said he still has a directive from the Council to condemn that land.

City Manager Stevens said this will be discussed Monday.

Councilman Blount referred to Ordinance 756, Section 3, Paragraph 1, reading "and in accordance with such rules as the Planning Commission may adopt, may except any of the said lots, and the owner or owners of an interest or interests therein, from the application of this ordinance, etc.", be changed to give the Planning Commission authority to make recommendations to the Council, and the power to except anyone from the ordinance be retained by the Council, and so moved.

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

Mayor Isen said the G & G Construction Co. was first billed in May, 1956, for \$600 for correcting the slope in a tract they built. They have informally agreed to pay half that cost. Mayor Isen said he could bear witness to that agreement. He felt the City should now sue for the \$600.50 cost or the \$300.25 which is one-half the cost and which they have orally agreed to pay.

Councilman Jahn said he could also bear witness that they agreed informally to pay part of this cost.

Mayor Isen moved to sue Mr. Griswold on his promise to pay \$300.25 if he does not pay it when called once more.

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

Mayor Isen said Mrs. Blore, at 2227 Plaza del Amo, had contacted him about the trees on Plaza del Amo. She had reminded him that the Council had ordered the area around these trees to be cleaned and graded and the trees to be trimmed, and would like to know when it will be done.

City Manager Stevens said he did not know, but would have a check made to see about it.

Mayor Isen asked that Mrs. Blore be given a report.

Mayor Isen said someone on Winlock Road had a dog which bit eleven people. We do have an ordinance requiring all dogs to be given rabies shots, he said, so he requested the City Attorney to tell the Council who should institute proceedings under that ordinance.

The City Attorney said the South Bay Humane Society should call such items to the attention of his office or the City Prosecutor, who would file a complaint. He went on to say it is estimated there are 1200 dogs in the City which have not been licensed. He recommended the South Bay Humane Society vigorously pursue enforcement of the law. He said a complaint will be drawn against the owner of the dog mentioned by the Mayor.

Mayor Isen agreed that the owners of the dog were probably suffering enough punishment now, and probably a suspended sentence would be ample when this goes to court, but we have a law and should enforce it.

Councilman Benstead moved all bills properly audited be paid.

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

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 P. M.

A. H. Bartlett, City Clerk

By Irvin J. Hallanger

Deputy City Clerk of the City of Torrance

APPROVED:

*Albert Isen*

Mayor of the City of Torrance