

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

Torrance, California,  
May 3, 1926.

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the City of Torrance was held in the Council Chambers at Torrance, California, May 3, 1926, and was called to order at 8:00 p.m. by President Dennis. The following Trustees were present: Brooks, Foley, Inman, Wolfe and Dennis. Absent: None.

The minutes of the regular meeting of April 19, 1926, were read and approved as read.

Under written communications, the letter from Mr. Cuffley, regarding the auditing of the City books, was referred to the Finance committee.

Attorney Briney's report on the petition of the California Veterans Welfare Board was read by the Clerk, after which Attorney Briney read:

RESOLUTION NO. 285

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of the City of Torrance that the assessments against Lot 23, Block 16, Torrance Tract, be paid by the City of Torrance and that the County Tax Collector of the County of Los Angeles be requested to cancel the assessments against said lot--sufficient evidence having been presented that same has been purchased by the California Veterans Welfare Board.

Trustee Foley moved that Resolution No. 285 be adopted as read and same filed in the office of the City Clerk. Trustee Inman seconded the motion which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES; Trustees: Brooks, Foley, Inman, Wolfe and Dennis.  
NOES; Trustees: None.  
ABSENT; Trustees: None.

Some letters referring to the business standing of two of the bidders on the Fire house addition were read and laid over until after recess.

The Chanslor-Canfield Midway Oil Co. submitted a petition praying for the vacation of certain streets and alleys as set forth on an attached map.

Some discussion of the proposition followed. The questions of the maintenance of crossings and of rededications were brought out; also Attorney Briney stated the company would file a written agreement concerning the keeping open of certain streets and setting a time limit for rededications. The main reason for asking the City to vacate was to avoid taking the matter up with the Railroad Commission thereby avoiding red tape and much loss of time.

The Board was to look over the ground and the Attorney was to have proceedings ready for the next regular meeting, in case the Board decided to act favorably.

A petition, signed by many residents, requesting the appointment of Wm. G. Phillips as City Marshal was read by the Clerk. Same was referred to the Police committee for recommendation.

Chief of Police Patterson's resignation was read.

Trustee Inman moved that Mr. Patterson's resignation be accepted to take effect May 5, 1926. Trustee Foley seconded the motion which was duly carried.

Trustee Brooks stated that, although he had voted to accept the above resignation, he was of the opinion that the Chief had really earned every dollar that had been paid to him; that the 1926 budget estimate for fines was \$6000.00, but that the fines had not reached that amount by over \$3000.00, same being directly due to the efficiency of the Police department and that, personally, he wanted

to go on record as being very sorry to see Mr. Patterson's services terminated.

Trustee Inman stated that those were his sentiments too and that he was sure it was that of the entire Board; that no member of the Board held any but kindly feeling for Mr. Patterson.

Mr. Gilbert stated, under oral communications, that a very acute situation obtained in the 4070 district on account of there being no sewer; that the Health Department had given until the 13th of the current month to change from open toilets to cess pools; that the building of cess pools would be a dead loss to the residents if there was any possibility of the sewer system being extended into that territory in the near future; that 40 or 50 families would ultimately be affected by the order of the Board of Health; that he would like to have this Board take some definite action tonight.

President Dennis promised that the Board would take this matter into consideration at the same time they looked over the C C M O proposition and that, in the mean time, he would make arrangements with the Board of Health to postpone the action taken by them.

Trustee Foley reported that the budget was running on schedule as far as total expenditures were concerned, but that some of the accounts were varying--some being behind and others ahead of the estimates.

Attorney Briney reported that, in his opinion, the water company could be required to lower the 33 inch pipe line if an ordinance were passed, but that he thought the matter could be worked out on a practical basis without such summary action; that if the City would give a reasonable time limit so the water company's convenience could be taken into consideration, he thought that litigation would be unnecessary;

also that as to road tax due from the County, the County had agreed with the figures compiled by Mr. Hyde and that a check for some \$2100.00 would be received in due time; that he believed the old street committee had intended to spend this money for road purposes in the district from which it originated.

Engineer Jessup reported along the same lines as Attorney Briney concerning the 33 inch water main; that public work was progressing satisfactorially; that nothing definite had been done regarding the Redondo Blvd lights.

Trustee Brooks asked if the proposed Palos Verdes-Hollywood boulevard would necessitate the tearing out of the pavement now being laid on Cedar Avenue: Engineer Jessup stated that this matter had been thought of and he figured the street, as it now stood, might be used as the east side of the boulevard and additional land acquired on the west to complete the full width.

Inspector Hobson reported that he had an informal application to build a six foot addition on to a building now on Lot 10, Block 17; that the way the property was zoned at present, a permit could not well be refused--being in the business district, but not in Fire district No. 1.

Trustee Brooks moved that a permit be granted, if applied for. Trustee Foley seconded the motion which was duly carried.

President Dennis stated that the Dominguez Land Co. had asked him for definite action on the proposition of the buying of a parcel of land for play grounds--price being \$12500.00.

From the discussion that followed it seemed that all the Board except Trustee Brooks considered the price too high. Trustee Brooks thought that, as the sewer farm had been appraised as worth \$2000.00 per acre, the price submitted on this 2 7/8 acre parcel was not too high, and that it never could be acquired again at that price.

Trustee Inman moved that the Dominguez Land Co's offer be rejected. Trustee Wolfe seconded the motion which was duly carried.

Street Superintendent Gascoigne reported progress.

Treasurer Dolley had no report, but plenty of money.

On request of President Dennis, Clerk Bartlett explained that the garbage contract did not include the territory west of Madrid; that it had become necessary to collect garbage from that vicinity and that the present collector had offered to make three trips a week--two for garbage and one for cans--for an additional \$25.00 per month, the time to be from April 15 to June 30, 1926.

Attorney Briney presented a lease--the interested parties being Mrs. Jennis Welch, lessor, and the County of Los Angeles and the City of Torrance, lessees--for the library building whereby the City is to pay \$35.00 per month as its share of the rent, total rental being \$75.00 per month, but suggested that two words "and City" be stricken from the lease so as not to make the City liable for the total rental of \$75.00 per month.

The suggestion meeting with favor, Trustee Brooks moved that the President of the Board be authorized to execute the above mentioned lease. Trustee Foley seconded the motion which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES; Trustees: Brooks, Foley, Inman, Wolfe and Dennis.

NOES; Trustees: None.

ABSENT; Trustees: None.

A five minute recess was declared, after which Attorney Briney read:

ORDINANCE NO. 134  
VACATING A PORTION OF THE ALLEY  
IN BLOCK 15, TORRANCE TRACT

Trustee Brooks moved that Ordinance No. 134 be adopted as read for its final reading and same filed in the office of the City Clerk. Trustee Foley seconded the motion which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES; Trustees: Brooks, Foley, Inman, Wolfe and Dennis.

NOES; Trustees: None.

ABSENT; Trustees: None.

The Road department of the County of Los Angeles transmitted a resolution to be adopted by this Board as required under the County Improvement Act of 1921, for the improvement of Hawthorne Avenue.

Same was referred to the Street committee.

Trustee Inman moved that \$25.00 per month be allowed Mr. King for the extra collection of garbage and cans west of Madrid Avenue; payment to be retroactive from April 15, 1926, and to continue until June 30, 1926. Trustee Foley seconded the motion which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES; Trustees: Brooks, Foley, Inman, Wolfe and Dennis.

NOES; Trustees: None.

ABSENT; Trustees: None.

The awarding of the contract to build the new fire station came up at this time. Jules W. Markel & Son was the lowest bidder. Mr. Markel, being present, was asked for a word. He assured the Board that local material and labor would be used as far as possible and that the work would take from 90 to 100 days.

Trustee Foley moved that the contract be awarded to Jules W. Markel & Son and that the President of the Board be authorized to execute the contract. Trustee Wolfe seconded the motion which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES; Trustees: Brooks, Foley, Inman, Wolfe and Dennis.

NOES; Trustees: None.

ABSENT; Trustees: None.

Trustee Foley moved that the bids of G. P. Kristenson and Harry J. Rinnert be rejected. Trustee Wolfe seconded the motion which was duly carried.

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Trustee Foley moved that all bills, properly audited, be paid. Trustee Wolfe seconded the motion which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES; Trustees: Brooks, Foley, Inman, Wolfe and Dennis.

NOES; Trustees: None.

ABSENT; Trustees: None.

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At 10:10 p.m., Trustee Foley moved to adjourn until 7:15 p.m. Wednesday May 5, 1926. Trustee Inman seconded the motion which was duly carried.

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

Approved:

John Dennis  
President of the Board of Trustees  
of the City of Torrance.