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CITY COUNCIL BRIEFS

Torrance City Council
 November 30, 1954

Councilmen present: Victor E. Bonstead Jr., Willys G. Blount, Albert Isen, Marvin M. Schwab, and Mayor Nicholas O. Dralle. Others present: City Clerk A. H. Bartlett, City Manager George Stevens, City Attorney James M. Hall, City Engineer Ronald W. Bishop, Fire Chief J. J. Benner, Police Chief Willard H. Haslam, and Planning Commission Secretary George Powell.

Request of Kemp and Albright for an option on airport property fronting on the west side of Crenshaw returned to Airport Commission for continued study until a more definite appraisal of the land's value for leasing can be determined.

Edward F. Koelg, representing the Engineering Service Corp., met with the Councilmen to discuss his firm's proposal to annex 400 acres of Rolling Hills property to the city of Torrance. Councilmen expressed almost unanimous opinion that they would need more information on the amount of taxable development to go into the area and the cost of the city services to be provided before making a decision. City Manager Stevens is to gather data for presentation to Council.

Claim of Jeanette Robertson for \$22,000 for damages and injuries allegedly received when her car ran off the north end of Maple Ave. north of Maricopa St. denied and referred to the city's insurance carrier.

Recommendation of the Recreation Commission that the usual \$35 nightly fee be charged Torrance auto dealers for the use of the Torrance Civic Auditorium during the three-day auto show here tomorrow, Saturday, and Sunday approved.

Selection of the triangle park at Cravens Ave. and Torrance Blvd. or Marcelina and Cabrillo as a possible site for the proposed Junior Chamber of Commerce traffic safety bulletin board approved by the Council. City Manager Stevens instructed to notify Jaycee President Fred Hansen of the Council's action.

Request of Walter Superintendent A. E. McVlear for authority to begin laying a new main in Hawthorne Ave. using salvagable material from the main now being rendered useless by the reconstruction of the highway approved by the Council.

Action of the City Council in protesting issuance of an on-sale liquor license for 1118 Crenshaw Blvd. discussed by Mrs. Thomas McNeill, owner of the property, who was accompanied by Jack Flint, president of the company planning the business. Following a general discussion of the matter, the Council voted to send petitions and letters received subsequent to their action, to the State Board of Equalization to assure that both sides would be represented in any hearing.

W. P. Fitzgerald, western division manager for the John Wiley & Sons Co., appeared before the Council asking consideration of his company's request to have an agreement with the city modified to allow them to continue operation of their chlorine bottling plants at their present Border Ave. address. An agreement of a year ago called for the end of 1955. Councilmen delayed a decision on the matter until reports of the fire department and health department could be received, and until the persons living in the area who had been responsible for the original protests had been given an opportunity to be heard on the matter.

Recommendation of the Torrance Recreation Commission that certain job classifications within the Recreation Department be given new salary ranges held over pending the receipt of a salary survey being prepared by City Manager Stevens. Approved.

Recommendations of City Manager Stevens for appropriations including \$3638 for the new fire department radio transmitter and mobile receivers approved.

Recommendation of Superintendent of Building John E. Russell that a building permit issued for 18706 Hawthorne Ave. and not used be refunded in the amount of 80 per cent approved. Checking fees amounting to \$10 also retained by the city.

Communication from William and Eileen Hardesty commending the Councilmen for the stand in moving to outlaw cigarette corner books filed as a matter of record.

Communication from Chief J. J. Benner about violations existing at a North Torrance cabinet and fixture shop presented to Council. City Attorney Hall advised Council that the case was being turned over to City Prosecutor Boris E. Woolley for investigation and prosecution if warranted.

Proposal of Leo Katz to build a 41-unit hotel to be known as "Friede of Torrance Hotel" approved on the condition that a declaration of use be made a part of the land deeds to insure that property set aside for parking at the hotel will be restricted to that use.

Request of G & G Construction Co. for a waiver of lot setbacks on its home development in South Torrance because of the irregular shape of the lots approved.

Recommendation of the Recreation Commission that the Girl Scouts be given free use of the Civic Auditorium for a Christmas program approved.

Tract Map 18911 given final approval with the condition that the adjacent land, not included in the tract, be condemned for alley purposes and that the subdivider pay the entire costs of the condemnation.

Resolution 2654 noting the city's intention to vacate a portion of Newton St. adopted.

Resolution 2655 noting the city's intention to vacate a portion of 242nd St. adopted.

Ordinance 713 an ordinance regulating the care of trees in the city, adopted at its final reading.

City Attorney Hall given authority to attempt to collect a claim from the driver of an automobile which inflicted damages to a police car proved futile. He said the driver of the auto had five children, was driving a 1935 automobile, was living in a rented house, carried no insurance, and that the husband of the family was unemployed. Councilmen agreed to charge it off.

City Manager George Stevens advised the Council of new water rates to cities being put in effect by Metropolitan Water District. Under the new rates, the city will pay \$18 an acre-foot for water during the winter months and \$22 during the summer. The move was made, MWV officials said, to force some cities to spread their water use over the year instead of buying only in the summer months.

PUC Continues Hearings on Road Widening

Hearings on the proposed widening of the Hawthorne Ave. underpass on the Santa Fe rail road right-of-way at 190th St. has been delayed until Jan. 1 following arguments were made at a hearing in Los Angeles last week.

Examiner Grant E. Syphe of the State Public Utilities Commission continued the case after the Commission's counsel asked that the hearing consider the two issues together. The railroad attorneys asked for separate hearings on:

1. If there is a public need for the improvement?
2. How should cost of the work be allocated?

Widening of Hawthorne Ave. from 174th St. to Pacific Coast Hwy. has been proceeding at a rapid pace but the 190th St. underpass will be a bottleneck until the Commission determines the need for widening and decide who will pay for the project.

With 5 Wins Mudhens Still Only Unbeaten Pee Wee Team

Walteria Park's Mudhens won this week, as they downed the Torrance Panthers, 9-0 in the Pee-Wee league play.

The victory gave the Mudhens a 5-0 record in play to date.

The up and coming Bees tripped up the Panthers, 19-14, to strengthen their hold on a tie for second place, with the Preps who clobbered the El Real gang, 41-0.

In the only other game, the Walruses knocked out their first win of the season, as they turned aside the Eagles, 20-7.

which might be leveled off to handle the increasing load of Christmas shopping traffic was ordered at the request of Councilman Schwab.

Request of Councilman Isen that all business streets not covered by parking meters be limited to one-hour parking approved.

Councilmen requested that the Arlington Heights area in North Torrance be served by Torrance Municipal Water District as approved by the Council in August. Hall said the switch-over had been awaiting completion of a "hold-harmless" agreement with Moneta Water Co., now serving the area. The switch-over was ordered put into effect.

Mayor Nicholas O. Dralle proclaimed the date of Dec. 15, SD (Safe Driving Day) in cooperation with a state and national program to make this date an accident-free day in the United States.

Mrs. Herma Tillim, manager of the Torrance Personnel Agency active worker with youth groups, was named by Mayor Dralle to succeed Darwin Parrish as a member of the Torrance Recreation Commission.

A check of downtown lots

SHOP EARLY *Early Bird Shoppers* **CHRISTMAS SHOPPING STARTS NOW** *Avoid the rush... SHOP EARLY*

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