

# City Council Proceedings

Torrance City Council  
April 12, 1955

City Council meeting called to order at 8 p.m. Councilmen answering roll call: Victor E. Benstead Jr., Willis G. Blount, Nicholas O. Drale, Mervin M. Schwab, Mayor Albert Isen. At the request of the Mayor, Bernard Kemp Jr. led pledge of allegiance. Councilman Schwab offered invocation. Minutes of April 5 meeting approved with typographical corrections.

Payment of annual dues to Shoreline Planning Assn. approved.

Notification of County Regional Planning Commission hearing on change of zone held Tuesday filed.

Complaint of residents near Bay Manufacturing Co. at Arlington and 203rd St. objecting to noises created by the manufacturing firm at night referred to Planning Consultant George Powell for a survey and report.

Letter from Laurence C. Wing, 516 Via Monte d'Oro detailing purported damages to his property by sewer contractors in the area referred to City Attorney James Hall for study and a recommendation.

Recommendation that the walkway be abandoned between Brian Ave. and the Hillside Elementary School held up pending receipt of wishes on the matter from Board of Education.

Letter from Leo S. Girard concerning deed to City of Torrance for right of way at the southeasterly corner of Prairie and 171st referred to city attorney for legal survey, report, and recommendation.

Letter from State Department of Public Works, Division of Highways, saying that it was not considered advisable to provide an interchange at the point where the San Diego Freeway crosses Arlington Ave. read. On motion of Councilman Drale, Council voted to renew efforts of city to obtain on and off ramps at the intersection with the thought that Arlington will become a major artery into downtown Torrance in a short time according to present planning.

Letter from Vice Admiral F. S. Low, Commander Western Sea Frontier, saying operation

at Torrance Annex, Naval Supply Depot would be continued at a greater volume read and filed.

Request for damages to automobiles submitted by several officials and employees of Barrington Welding Works resulting from the spreading of asphalt on a parking area at Border Ave. near Torrance Blvd. denied and referred to the city's insurance carrier with the comment that the petitioners be advised concerning the firm which spread the material.

League of California Cities communication asking support for AB 2838, which authorizes levy by Board of Supervisors of a 1 per cent county sales and use tax, read. Council voted to request approval of such legislation as a matter of making taxes throughout the area uniform and instructed City Manager George Stevens to submit the Council's desires to Assemblyman Vincent Thomas immediately.

Council concurred in recommendation by city manager, attorney, and recreation director that the city oppose legislation which would divert Tidelands funds for uses other than beaches, shoreline development, and parks.

Airport property lease held by Gilman Corp. terminated at lessee's request effective at the end of April with the provision that payment of rents are in order at that time.

John R. Patrick, assistant to the city engineer, reported to the Council that bids for the resurfacing of Elm Ave. between Torrance Blvd. and Maricopa and Torrance Blvd. between Crenshaw and Madrona had been advertised and would be opened at 8 p.m. on April 20. Final hour for filing bids will be 5 p.m.

Resolution 2713 authorizing execution of contract with the firm of Barnett, Hopen, and Smith for assessment work in connection with Del Amo Improvement District adopted.

Resolution 2714 accepting easement from Watt Development Co. for street purposes on Prairie Ave. south of 176th St. adopted.

Final tract map No. 21036

submitted by Hazel F. Norris containing 37 lots approved. Tract will lie east and west of Ainsworth Ave. north of 174th St.

Tentative tract map No. 20445 submitted by Northern Properties Co. containing 43 lots approved with stipulation that compactness tests on fill area meet with approval of city engineering department.

Final tract map No. 20944 submitted by Grand Construction Co. for 61 lots approved with same stipulation regarding soil compaction tests. Tract will lie west of Arlington between the Dominguez Channel and 166th St.

Final tract map No. 20803 approved with stipulation that compactness tests be made. Tract submitted by Grand Construction Co. for 52 lots and lies immediately west of tract 20944.

Request of Masonic Temple Assn. for variance to construct temple at Cabrillo and Lincoln approved on recommendation of Planning Commission.

Request of Dr. Robert F. Seaman for variance to operate medical office in R-1 zone at 4528 W. 191st St. held over for two weeks for study.

City Attorney Hall instructed to draw up new ordinance outlining city's policy on changing or natural topography of area, grade, contours, fill, and soil compaction specifications. Ordinance to be presented as urgency ordinance.

Michael Orend Jr., employed by the city in the park department, given temporary position of license and tax inspector to succeed C. N. Weber who has resigned effective tomorrow to the accounting department of the Disabled American Veterans. Council also authorized filling of three vacancies in the park department from existing lists for other departments if possible or from lists of applicants for Civil Service examinations.

Option to Hody's Restaurants for northwest corner of Pacific Coast Hwy. and Crenshaw Blvd. approved subject to approval of CAA.

Council approved recommendation of City Attorney Hall

that the legal firm of O'Melvaney and Meyers be retained to supervise formation of off-street parking assessment district in downtown Torrance. Hall said that the firm had a member of its staff who was considered an authority on such districts, and further that most bond buyers would require the approval of this legal firm of any bonds issued by the district.

Councilman Blount suggested that the existence of yellow parking zones within the metered district of the city was unfair, and on his motion, Council approved installation of parking meters on all yellow zones.

Council voted unanimously on motion of Councilman Blount that the city explore possibility of causing sales tax records of all business within the city to be audited to determine if the city is receiving all sales tax monies due it.

Chamber of Commerce Manager Tom V. Watson introduced to the Council and others attending the meeting.

Mayor Isen announced that he was stepping down as chairman of the fire and police commission and that he was naming Councilman Benstead to head the commission. He also

reported that he was assuming the function as official delegate of the Council on the County Sanitation District board and that Councilman Drale would be his alternate.

Francis P. Bartley, of 143 Paseo de Gracia, reported that someone had removed the "Flooded" sign from the low area of Paseo de Gracia. He also protested that the California Water Service was flushing mains frequently in the area above the low street and that the water stood for a considerable length of time in the street following each flushing. He also reported that city pumps were brought in on such occasion to pump the water out of the area. The matter was referred to the city attorney for action. City Manager Stevens said the "Flooded" signs would be restored.

At the request of E. S. Schoonover of south Torrance, City Engineer Ronald Bishop was asked to report next week on the status of work in the Cottage Grove tracts near Pacific Coast Hwy. and Crenshaw. Grading of some lots in the tract has been under protest for several months.

At the request of Schoonover, City Manager Stevens said city crews would attempt to drain the standing water near the flood control ditch in south Torrance.

City Manager Stevens reported that the city had requested that the light near Rolling Hills Road and Pacific Coast Hwy.

## Power Mower Taken

A power lawn mower was stolen from the display in front of the Torrance Hardware Store, 1515 Cabrillo Ave., Al Jessen told Torrance Police Thursday.

be moved nearer the intersection as a safety measure.

The Council adjourned after approving payment of all bills outstanding which had been properly audited.

## Equipment at Beach Slated

Playground equipment for children will be installed immediately at three County beaches, it was announced by Supervisor Burton W. Chase.

The Board of Supervisors last week approved appropriations for the purchase and installation of extensive playground equipment for youngsters at Zuma County Beach, Torrance Clifton County Beach, and El Porto County Beach.

The Mississippi delta area covers about 12,800 square miles.

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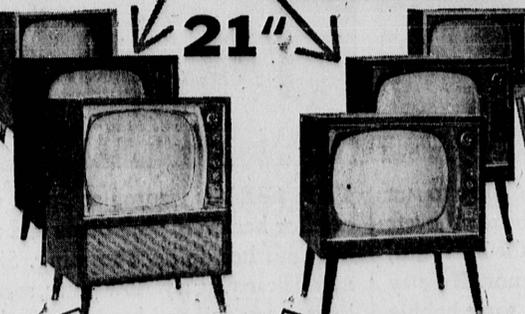
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