

# CITY COUNCIL BRIEFS

Torrance City Council  
Oct. 5, 1954

Councilmen present: Mayor Nickolas O. Draie, Victor E. Benstead Jr., Willys G. Blount, Albert Isen, and Mervin Schwab. Others present: City Manager George Stevens, City Attorney James Hall, City Engineer Ronald Bishop, Police Chief W. H. Haslam, and Chief Plumbing Inspector Art Moore.

At the request of Mayor Draie, Chief Haslam led those assembled in pledge of allegiance. Councilman Schwab offered the invocation.

Mayor Draie requested those assembled to observe a half-minute of silence in tribute to Wallace Post, pioneer Torrance banker, who died Tuesday.

California Bank was accepted as low bidder for sale of City Tax Anticipation Warrants in the amount of \$200,000. A bid of .974 per cent interest, to be compounded annually on the principal, was low. Bank of America's bid of 1.5 per cent compounded annually was rejected.

Letter from G. R. G. Inc. referring to sewer connection costs on 46 lots at 182nd St. and St. Andrews Place, Tract No. 18716, referred to City Engineer for study and recommendation.

Letter from Mrs. Frank Vyzalek Jr. of Palos Verdes Estates disapproving removal of barricades on certain streets in the Hollywood Riviera district filed as a matter of record.

Letter from Engineering Service Corp. regarding dedication of a strip of land near Anza and 190th St. for continuation of Edison Co. power lines near to the city council. City Attorney asked to draw up resolutions.

Letter from Civil Service Commission regarding leave of absence for William Leetz, park maintenance man, accepted by the Council.

Letter from Water Superintendent Angus McVicar calling for a change in the method of securing guarantee deposits for water bills read. Superintendent recommended abolishment of present flat fee deposit required by water subscribers for the County plan of discontinuing service to subscribers who

default on payment. New plan would result in a saving to the District. Council concurred.

Letter read from the Los Angeles City Council asking the council to furnish Los Angeles with information leading to the adoption of a proposition which claimed the Hyperion sewage treatment plant was discharging a greasy substance into the waters of Santa Monica Bay. The letter pointed out that Los Angeles engineers say the treatment plant definitely does not contaminate the waters of the beaches. Letter filed as matter of record.

Petition signed by 150 Hollywood Riviera residents calling for action to lower dirt bank along Via Monte D' Oro, in that the dirt "destroys the view, depreciates the property, and will become a traffic hazard." Discussion held between representatives of Don-Jan-Ran Corp., residents of the area and the Council. Concerned parties were invited to meet at noon today, in Hollywood Riviera with the Council to view the situation.

Letter from the Airport Commission asking for approval on recommendation to lease a portion of land on Pacific Coast Hwy., 200 ft. east of the Halfway House restaurant, to Peter Auroia, operator of a Fish Farm, referred to City Manager for study and recommendation.

Letter from Police Chief Haslam requesting creation of position of Motor Officer with a pay schedule of \$391-408-426 for two motorcycle policemen, representing a \$15 monthly pay increase to provide for "extra uniforms, wear and tear on equipment, and hazard pay" in season referred to the Recreation Department.

Letter from the State Department of Public Works requesting the city to pay 50 per cent of installation costs of a traffic actuated signal system at Pacific Coast Hwy. and Crenshaw Blvd. read to the council. City agreed to payment of its share of the estimated \$15,000 installation cost.

Letter from Bernard E. Kemp representing Body's Restaurants, offering a revised lease option agreement for a portion of land at Pacific Coast Hwy. and Crenshaw Blvd. read to council. Proposal of Kemp calls for payment of \$350 per month for first 5 years, \$300 per month for second 5-year period, \$750 per month for third 5 years, \$850 per month for fourth 5-year period, and \$1000 per month for all remaining years in the 50-year lease. All other provisions heretofore agreed upon would be withstanding. City Attorney was authorized to prepare the lease.

Letter from Oil Workers Local 519 stating that all members residing within Torrance unanimously agreed to back Bond Propositions 1 and 2 at the Oct. 19 election, filed as matter of record.

Letter from Steelworkers Local 1414 CIO stating that all members residing within Torrance unanimously agreed to back Bond Propositions 1 and 2 at the Oct. 19 election, and the Proposals had the backing of the local legislative council of the United Steelworkers of America, filed as matter of record.

Recommendation by the Council that letters received pertaining to Bond Issue be released to the newspapers to receive greatest publicity, approved.

Letter from Torrance Babe Ruth League thanking the council for cooperation in allowing use of Torrance Ball Park for games, and granting of permission to run a concession at the games to pay for equipment read to the Council. Request by League to use facilities next in season referred to the Recreation Department.

Recommendation by City Manager to concur with request of the Traffic Commission asking for 35-mile-per-hour speed limit on 182nd St. between Western and Hawthorne Aves.; establishment of one-hour parking in all center-street parking areas in downtown locations; and erection of two-way stop sign on Palos Verdes Blvd. at the western boundary of the city. Council approved recommendation.

City Engineer Bishop reported he had surveyed the drainage problem at Tract 18416, and that 10 driveways facing Cren-

shaw Blvd. in the January tract needed lowering to provide adequate drainage. Council recommended that contractor must provide adequate drainage before the city will release street improvement bonds.

Approval of a Del Amo Blvd. Assessment District for improvement of Del Amo Blvd. (203rd St.) from Crenshaw Blvd to the Catholic Church granted by the Council. Petitions representing 67 per cent of the residents were received calling for creating of the district. Curbs, sewers, and gutters in the amount of \$1780 will be constructed.

Oswald Bros. awarded low bid of \$11,056.28 for improvement of Crenshaw Blvd. from Dalemead St., 894 feet south, in the Cottage Grove Tract district. Check in amount of \$9,242.55 received by city as payment by contractor for street improvements on same portion of road easement.

Resolution 2631 determining that the public interest and necessity require acquisition of certain public improvements on Paseo de Gracia, for construction and installation of a sewage basin over and across certain real property, adopted.

Resolution 2632 authorizing and approving certain amendments to lease agreement with the Sheridan-Gray, Inc., approved.

Resolution 2633 endorsing Bond Issues 1 and 2 at the Oct. 19 election, for construction of certain civic center developments, including city hall, police station (Bond Prop. 1) and swimming pool (Bond Prop. 2), adopted.

Resolution 2634 requesting the County Board of Supervisors to improve portions of Avenue "E" located in County territory, between the City of Torrance boundary line and Tulita Ave., Redondo Beach, approved.

Discussion followed regarding removal of barricades from Ave. "E" at the City of Torrance boundary line. Residents of the area protested that removal of barricades would allow heavy traffic to operate on the street, and because of a lack of sidewalks and curbs, children were required to walk in the streets going to and from school.

Councilman Isen requested the Torrance Board of Education be furnished pictures of new School Crossing Flashing Signals installed by the Los Angeles Board of Education and the Los

# Nine Scouts Get 43 Merit Badges

Two father-son combinations were among those much in evidence at the Court of Honor of Troops 219 and 219x Thursday night.

Explorer Scout Bill Sells Jr., led the list of boys winning merit badges, taking home 10. He also received a senior crew leaders' badge, while his father, William Sells Sr. was given his badge as Explorer adviser.

Winner of three merit badges, Michael Gurrola was named secretary of the Explorer Scouts and a junior assistant scoutmaster, while his father, Mike R. Gurrola, was awarded a Scoutmaster's badge.

Nine boys received 43 merit badges. Beside Sells and Gurrola, they were Jack McNeal, nine; Charles Schwaeker, six; Frank Montez and Fred A. Cameron Jr., four; Sherdean Swift and Billy Snyder, three, and Leo Robinson, one.

Michael Zupparde, Tom Hood, Newell Robinson, and Robert Schott received tenderfoot badges, and John McCarthy won a second class badge. Officer badges were given to Troop 219 leaders—Leo Robinson, senior patrol leader; Robert Scott, quartermaster; Thomas Ziaket, scribe, and Stephan Gilbert, Francis Gately, and John McCarthy, patrol leaders.

Jack McNeal received a deputy Angeles Department of Public Works. He suggested such an installation here might result in saving of money by allowing release of certain street crossing guards at plainly marked intersections.

The Council agreed to meet with the Recreation Department, and Supervisor Chace, to discuss an improvement project at Torrance Beach. Meeting set for Tuesday, Oct. 26.

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